



**02 Nights- 03 Days Itinerary
Bharatpur
Hotel Shiv Vilas Palace**

Option 01:-

Day 01:-

Drive to Bharatpur. Check in at Hotel Shiv Vilas Palace around 1300 Hrs. Take lunch and have some relax in the room. Then proceed to Deeg Palace (35 KM). 01 hours drive by road. It will take around 3-4 hours to visit the palace. After visit back to hotel Shiv Vilas Palace. Enjoy your drinks in well stocked bar “Tequila” or outside areas on the rooftop. Take your Dinner and overnight stay at Hotel.

Deeg Palace :- (Distance 35 KM.)



Introduction:-

Deeg Palace is situated near Bharatpur in Rajasthan state in India. Deeg palace is set around by formal Mughal gardens and is consider by some to be the second only to the Taj Mahal in their beauty and symmetry. Deeg finds mention in ancient texts as Dirgha or Dirghapura. It is known for its famous water palaces, aesthetic gardens and fountains.

Deeg was the first capital of the Jat people with Badan Singh being proclaimed its ruler in 1722. He was responsible for conceiving and constructing the royal palace on the southern side of the garden, now called Purana Mahal or old palace. Because of it s strategic location and proximity to Mathura and Agra, Deeg was vulnerable to repeated attacks by invaders. In 1730, crown prince Surajmal is reported to have erected the strong fortress with towering walls and a deepwater moat with high ramparts about 20 feet wide in the southern portion of the town.

Although Surajmal shifted his capital to Bharatpur, he continued to lavish attention on Deeg. He built elegant palaces clustered around a garden complex, with multiple fountains in front and enormous water bodies in the rear. The architecture of Deeg is mainly represented by the mansions called the Bhawans popularly known as Gopal Bhawan, Suraj Bhawan, Kishan Bhawan, Nand Bhawan, Keshav Bhawan, Hardev Bhawan. The striking features of these palaces are balanced outlines, fine proportions, commodious halls, attractive and logically disposed arcades, alluring greenery, charming tanks and canals with fountains.

Day 02:-

Good morning with an early wakeup call around 06:00 AM, enjoy the shower and Take your healthy B/fast in the Restaurant “Machaan”. And proceed for full day sightseeing to Agra & Fatehpur Sikri. Distance 55 KM from Hotel Shiv Vilas Palace Bharatpur.

Full Day Sightseeing Agra & Fatehpur Sikri:-

1. Taj Mahal :-



Brief History:-

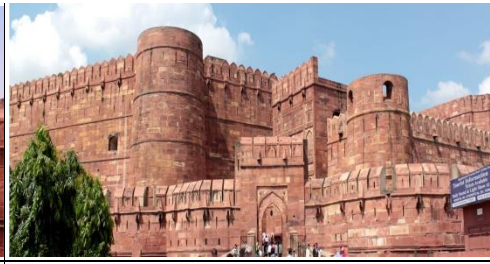
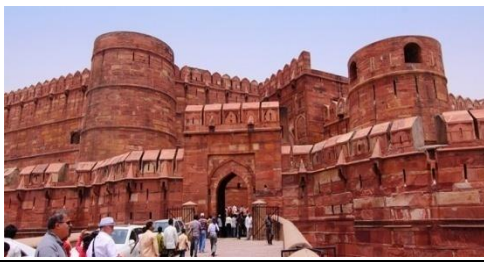
The Taj Mahal of Agra is one of the Seven Wonders of the World, for reasons more than just looking magnificent. It's the history of Taj Mahal that adds a soul to its magnificence: a soul that is filled with love, loss, remorse, and love again. Because if it was not for love, the world would have been robbed of a fine example upon which people base their relationships. An example of how deeply a man loved his wife, that even after she remained but a memory, he made sure that this memory would never fade away. This man was the Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan, who was head-over-heels in love with Mumtaz Mahal, his dear wife. She was a Muslim Persian princess (her name Arjumand Banu Begum before marriage) and he was the son of the Mughal Emperor Jehangir and grandson of Akbar the Great. It was at the age of 14 that he met Mumtaz and fell in love with her. Five years later in the year 1612, they got married.

Mumtaz Mahal, an inseparable companion of Shah Jahan, died in 1631, while giving birth to their 14th child. It was in the memory of his beloved wife that Shah Jahan built a magnificent monument as a tribute to her, which we today know as the "Taj Mahal". The construction of Taj Mahal started in the year 1631. Masons, stonecutters, inlayers, carvers, painters, calligraphers, dome-builders and other artisans were requisitioned from the whole of the empire and also from Central Asia and Iran, and it took approximately 22 years to build what we see today. An epitome of love, it made use of the services of 22,000 laborers and 1,000 elephants. The monument was built entirely out of white marble, which was brought in from all over India and central Asia. After an expenditure of approximately 32 million rupees, Taj Mahal was finally completed in the year 1653.

It was soon after the completion of Taj Mahal that Shah Jahan was deposed by his own son Aurangzeb and was put under house arrest at nearby Agra Fort. Shah Jahan, himself also, lies entombed in this mausoleum along with his wife. Moving further down the history, it was at the end of the 19th century that British Viceroy Lord Curzon ordered a sweeping restoration project, which was completed in 1908, as a measure to restore what was lost during the Indian rebellion of 1857: Taj being blemished by British soldiers and government officials who also deprived the monument of its immaculate beauty by chiseling out precious stones and lapis lazuli from its walls. Also, the British style lawns that we see today adding on to the beauty of Taj were remodeled around the same time. Despite prevailing controversies, past and present threats from Indo-Pak war and environmental pollution, this epitome of love continuous to shine and attract people from all over the world.

2. Break for Shopping and Lunch

3. Red Fort Agra:-



Brief History:-

Agra Fort is a UNESCO World Heritage site located in Agra, India. The fort is also known as Lal Qila, Fort Rouge and Red Fort of Agra. It is about 2.5 km northwest of its much more famous sister monument, the Taj Mahal. The fort can be more accurately described as a walled palatial city.

Agra Fort built by Akbar in Red Sandstone when he was through with the consolidation of his power after accession to power in 1654, Agra Fort worked both as a military strategic point as well as the royal residence.

. Ever since Babur defeated and killed Ibrahim Lodi at Panipat in 1526, Agra played an important center of Mughal Empire it was in a ruined condition and Akbar decided to make it his capital and arrived in Agra in 1558 Akbar had it rebuilt with red sandstone. Architects laid the foundation and it was built with bricks in the inner core with sandstone on external surfaces. Some 1,444,000 builders worked on it for eight years, completing it in 1573.

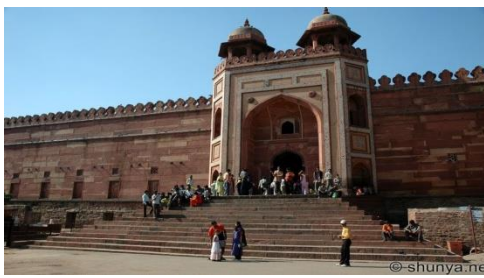
At the end of his life, his son, Aurangzeb, in the fort, a punishment that might not seem so harsh, considering the luxury of the fort, imprisoned Shah Jahan. It is rumored that Shah Jahan died in Musamman Burj, a tower with a marble balcony with an excellent view of the Taj Mahal.

The fort contains splendid palaces both in red sandstone and white marble built by two generations of prolific builders Akbar and later Jehangir and Shahjahan. Of the nearly 500 Akbari buildings built in the Bengal and Gujarati traditions only a few have survived, arrayed in a band on the riverfront.

Some of the exquisite structures that deserve a mention are:

Sheesh Mahal - Literally meaning 'Glass Palace' it was the royal dressing room adorned by tiny mirror-like glass-mosaic decorations on the walls. **The Diwan-i-Am** - Which was used as a communications ground between the public and the aristocracy and once housed the Peacock Throne. **Diwan-i-Khas** - A hall of private audience, it was used to welcome kings and dignitaries. **The Anguri Bagh** - It houses 85 square, geometrically arranged lush gardens. **Khas Mahal** - An immaculate white marble palace. **Mina Masjid** - Literally meaning 'Heavenly Mosque' it is a tiny mosque closed to the public. **Nagina Masjid** - Literally meaning 'Gem Mosque' it was designed exclusively for the ladies of the court. **Musamman Burj** - A large, octagonal tower with a balcony facing the Taj Mahal.

4. Fatehpur Sikri :



Brief history:-

Fatehpur Sikri is a fascinating ghost city built in the 16th century; 37 km from Agra Akbar the great, who at 26 years did not have an heir, founded this historic site.

Fatehpur Sikri He went to a saint, Shaikh Salim Chishti who lived in a city called Sikri. His blessing gave Akbar 3 sons. As a gesture, Akbar built a whole new city in Sikri. Akbar named his new capital Fatehpur Sikri or the City of Victory

.Fatehpur Sikri is one of the finest examples of Mughal architectural splendour at its height.

It was built between 1569 and 1585 and was intended to be the joint capital with Agra, but was soon deserted because the water system could not support any residents. It remained untouched for over 400 years now and its palaces are a remainder of the extravagance of the Mughals Fatehpur Sikri is the best example of the culmination of Hindu and Muslim architecture.

Fatehpur Sikri Mosque is said to be a copy of the mosque in Mecca and has designs, derived from the Persian & Hindu architecture.

After this within 20 years, the capital of Mughals was shifted to Lahore

Diwan-i-Khas- Hall: Popularly known as the “Ekstambha Prasada”, the Diwan-i-Khas served as the royal chamber of Emperor Akbar. It is designed according to the Persian style of architecture and is decorated with fine sculpture and precious stones. There are 4 kiosks, which are located in the middle of the court.

Panch Mahal: The Panch Mahal ranks among the most fascinating buildings in Fatehpur Sikri. It is a five-storey building which was meant to be the shelter of the royal ladies and mistresses. The top story of the building offers a panoramic view of the surrounding area.

Tomb of Salim Chisti: The tomb of renowned Sufi saint Salim Chisti is located here. The tomb is well known for its delicate carvings and draws hundreds of pilgrims.

Buland Darwaza: It ranks among the important monuments in the place. This enormous gateway has a height of 54 meters and is largest gateway in the world. It was made in the year 1575 to celebrate Emperor Akbar's success in conquering Gujarat and is a fine blend of Persian and mughal architecture. Apart from these prime Attractions in Fatehpur Sikri are Diwan-I-Am, Turkish Sultana's House, The Treasury, Daulat khana-I-khas, Palace of Jodha Bai, Hawa Mahal And Nagina Masjid, Birbal's Palace, Sunehra Makan and The Jama Masjid.

Today regarded as one of the most important buildings amongst a list of World Heritage Structures, which has been brought forward by the UNESCO, a visit to the Fatehpur Sikri in Agra in India remains one of the fondest dreams of Indians from all around the world.

After full day sightseeing back to hotel Shiv Vilas Palace Bharatpur. Relax in your room for some time and then enjoy the Drinks with your friends/Group in Bar “Tequila” or open rooftop area. Take your dinner and overnight stay at Hotel Shiv Vilas Palace.

Day 03:-

Good morning with an early wakeup call around 05:30 AM, take your bath and then proceed for the Keoladeo National Park for Birds watching. Only 01 KM from the Hotel Shiv Vilas Palace. Also known as “Ghana Birds Sanctuary”. It will take around 2-3 hours for visit.

Bird Sanctuary: - (Distance 1 KM from Hotel)



Introduction:

The Bharatpur National Park (Keoladeo Ghana National Park) or well known as Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary lies between two of India's most historic cities, Agra and Jaipur. This north Indian sanctuary is situated in the country's northwestern state of Rajasthan, about 180 km from the national capital of Delhi.

Bharatpur national park is a bird watcher's paradise. Bird Watching Trips are very exciting. The park, with its rich Bio-geographic diversity, is home to more than 380 species of birds - about quarter of the total species found in the entire Indian subcontinent! It is considered one of the true bird parks of the world. Migratory birds at Bharatpur bird sanctuary include, several species of Cranes, Pelicans, Geese, Ducks, Eagles, Hawks, Shanks, Stints, Wagtails, Warblers, Wheat ears, Flycatchers, Buntings, Larks and Pipits, etc. The numerous water bodies provide an ideal habitat for Ducks and Waders which are migratory. The park forms a natural crossroad and meeting ground for avian species from high altitude areas, plains and eastern and western regions.

Because of this unique location, the bird population is pretty high throughout the year, with winter visitors, summer visitors, attitudinal migrants, passage migrants and local migrants. The park is an avid bird watcher's destination.

There are well-defined forest trails, which can easily be covered on foot or on a cycle or you can also hire a rickshaw that are available on hire. Rickshaw pullers have been trained by the park management in bird watching and are quite knowledgeable. Boats are also available on hire. A early morning boat trip or a evening one is quite a rewarding experience to check out the hidden surprises of Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary.

After visit back to Hotel Shiv Vilas Palace, take your healthy B/fast in Restaurant "Machaan". Checkout from hotel for your next destination.

Option 02:-

Day 01:-

Drive to Bharatpur. Check in at Hotel Shiv Vilas Palace around 1300 Hrs. Take lunch and have some relax in the room. Then proceed to Village Safari by Jeeps. Distance aprox. 10 KM from Hotel. It will take around 2-3 hours for visit.

Village Safari (By Jeeps)



Introduction:-

Evening Village safari is organized by the hotel to nearby village which is approx 10 KM from the Hotel. Visit to a school in the village where guest get chance to interact with the students & teachers, Visit to the village where guest will have interaction with the village Head & other villagers about the Village Life. Tea (Chai) with cookies will be served during visit at local house.

Attractions:-

- 1. Primary Health Centre:** - A Village Hospital, where villagers can get free medicines and treatments. It's a govt. Unit providing services in all rural areas/ small villages. Guests can interact with the doctors and patients as well.
- 2. Oil Mill:** - Bharatpur is the largest area in production of **Mustard seeds**. It's a winter crop. Guest can visit the oil Mill and see how to prepared oil from mustard seeds. During the process of production, wastage called Mustard Cake can be used as a feed for animals. As well used as a natural fertilizer for plants.
- 3. Potter Demonstration:** - Live demo, how to prepare the clay pots with the help of a heavy Stone Wheel (Chawk). A particular kind of clay is used in this process. It's a unique technique and these all pots can be used in Indian Houses.
- 4. Mat Weaver Demonstration:** - Live demo, how to prepare the mats in local style with all local equipments.
- 5. Village School:** - Guest can visit the village school and interact with the students and teacher. They can have a small meeting with the children's. Can get some experience and enjoy the moment.
- 6. Agriculture Farm Visit:** - Guest can visit a local dairy farm and see how to make butter, ghee, curd and cheese with local process.

7. **Local assembly (Panchayat):**-There is a special place called (Panchayat Ghar). A local court, can take all the decisions regarding the development of their village.
8. **Tea Break:** - At the end of visit group will take a tea break. Tea with cookies will be served in local house at village. Tea (Chai) will be served in “kullad” a tea cup made of clay. During tea break guest can interact with village head and others peoples.
9. **English speaking Guide:** - We will send English speaking guide with the GIT/FIT as well who can explain everything to the clients or their Escort. It can make the village safari more attractive in Bharatpur.

After visit back to hotel Shiv Vilas Palace. Enjoy your drinks in well stocked bar “Tequila” or outside areas on the rooftop. Take your Dinner and overnight stay at Hotel.

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