

# WILD FRONTIERS



## Taj, Temples and Tigers (Heritage Hotels Tour) Rajasthan - India

Our classic Rajasthan tour has been designed to give you a balanced, varied and full experience of the state, and of India. We'll visit the immaculate and essential Taj Mahal before criss-crossing our way south to take in the wonderful highlights and some delightful secrets away from the traditional tourist sights. We'll show you the other side of this colourful state - the unspoilt rural villages, out of the way temples, hidden lakes and spectacular hilltop forts - all the while providing you with comfortable and characterful accommodation in charming, family-run heritage hotels. By travelling through better known, as well as more remote regions, on exciting dawn and dusk jeep safaris, you will have the chance to spot some of India's most elusive wildlife, including the rare black buck, chinkaras, nilgais, civet cats and tigers. On this itinerary you will witness all the colour, culture and beauty of Rajasthan as well as getting away from the madding crowds.

"Many thanks for giving us such a wonderful visit to Rajasthan - you took us to some magical places." *Ian Colqhoun*

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Agra and the Taj Mahal
- The historic old town of Jaipur
- Spotting tigers at Ranthambore
- Heritage Palace accommodation
- Udaipur, Venice of the East

Duration: 16 Days

Average group size: 5 - 12

Start: Sat 17 Nov 12

Finish: Sun 2 Dec 12



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# Why Wild Frontiers?

As a young, innovative company, Wild Frontiers is delighted to have been voted one of the 'Top 10 Tour Operators' by the readers of both Wanderlust and National Geographic Adventure. We are frequently asked what makes us different from other tour operators, and feel that the factors below answer this important question.

**The Traveller's Ethos:** WF is a company that has been set up by travellers for travellers, and our ethos is to help adventurous souls get to incredible and inaccessible places in safety and as much comfort as local conditions allow. We are firm believers that travelling is all about the experience and it's the details that make the trip - we specialise in drawing on our own extensive local knowledge and array of contacts to give our clients the very best experience possible.

**Personal Service:** Our London office is manned by experienced expedition leaders and every trip we run stems from their extensive knowledge - in short, we run the kind of trips that as passionate travellers, we like to do ourselves! When you ring our office, you can be guaranteed to chat to someone that knows the trips and the terrain, and is able to offer sound and practical advice.

**Authentic Experiences:** Our unique, original itineraries allow our clients to take journeys that venture beneath the surface of the region. Unlike the plethora of 'world specialists' out there who purport to know a hundred destinations, we concentrate on the locations we know and love. We don't run the same tour over and over, thus running the risk of creating a 'tourist circuit' and spoiling untouched regions. Instead, we rarely run any tour more than a couple of times a year and they are on routes we have discovered for ourselves, meaning we are able to give a truly authentic, off-the-beaten-track experience.

**Be the First:** Our style of travel is all about exploration, and nothing excites us more than opening up new routes to genuine travellers. We keep abreast of new destinations and are often the first to return to places that have vanished from the tourist map. We were the first back into Pakistan after 9/11, the first to return to Kashmir after a decade of tourist isolation, and the first to run a commercial travel trip to Afghanistan for almost 30 years. Since then we have helped bring Colombia, Yemen and Georgia back into the tourist fold, specialising in groundbreaking reconnaissance trips and imaginative expeditions.

**Small Group Size:** We believe it is imperative to keep the group sizes small. Most trips are limited to a maximum of approximately 12 travellers, thus giving you more access to fragile cultures, better opportunities to interact with local people, and the knowledge you are making less of an impact while there.

**Cost of Tours:** We believe in an honest, upfront pricing system so you know exactly what the tour will cost before you book. We avoid local payments, 'optional extras' or forcing our clients to split every meal bill. Our tours are provided on a predominantly full board basis, with mineral water, government permits, entrance fees and transport all included.

**Added Value:** We aim to give our clients the very best (not the least expensive) experience through whatever facilities are available to us. We always try to provide accommodation that is interesting, characterful and convenient, and transport - another important part of any tour - that is as varied and comfortable as possible.

**Our clients:** Your companions can make or break a trip, and it's lucky therefore that our clients are our greatest asset. Travelling to remote regions is not for everyone, and as such we tend to attract open-minded travellers looking for genuine experiences, and a desire to reach those hard to get to places.

**Responsible Travel:** Awarded 5 star status by AITO (Association of Independent Tour operators), responsible tourism has always been an integral part of our company ethos and our adventures are designed with the local people, culture and eco-system in mind. For further details please refer to the RT section on this dossier.



**Day 1: Delhi:** The tour starts at our joining hotel in time for lunch after which there will be a visit to the Old Town. Here we will take a wander from the Red Fort, down Chandi Chowk - the old town's main thoroughfare - through the narrow alleyways of Shahjehanabad, to emerge at the beautiful Jama Masjid Mosque, from where we will go on to Connaught Place to see the New Town before dinner.  
*Claridges Hotel (L, D)*

**Day 2: Delhi - Agra:** Departing early we will catch the train to Agra, visiting the mighty riverside Agra Fort comprising of exquisite palaces and mosques followed by lunch. After checking into our hotel and taking a rest, we will head to the iconic Taj Mahal for sun down - an extraordinary time of day to visit as the marble takes on gold and pink hues. Dinner will be at a good local restaurant.  
*Hilton Trident (B, L, D)*

**Day 3: Agra - Ranthambore:** After an early breakfast we'll depart Agra and visit the magnificent fortified ghost city of Fatehpur Sikri. Built by the great Mughal Akbar, and abandoned in 1585 due to water shortages, the well-preserved remains are a fascinating stop. From here we will connect with the train from Bharatpur to Sawai Madhopur, giving us a great opportunity to interact with the locals. On arrival we will be picked up by jeeps and driven the short distance to our hotel and once we have settled in, we will take an afternoon game drive in the

Ranthambore wildlife park where the possibility of seeing a tiger as well as many wild animals is as high as anywhere in India. Dinner will be at the hotel.  
*Ranthambore Regency Hotel (B, L, D)*

**Day 4: Ranthambore - Jaipur:** Early in the morning while the mist is still rising we'll head into the park again for another look for the tiger, and to soak up the beautiful atmosphere. After this we'll return to the hotel for a breakfast and then drive to the pink city of Jaipur. The journey will take around 5 hrs including stops for lunch, meaning we should arrive in the mid-afternoon. After checking into our hotel there will be free time to relax or explore the city before dinner at the hotel.  
*Khandela Haveli Hotel (B, L, D)*

**Day 5: Jaipur:** In the morning we will visit the Palace of Winds on the way to the great palace at Amber, the Rajput masterpiece perched on a hillside, overlooking the city. After exploring the palace, we return to Jaipur and visit the fascinating and beautifully ornate City Palace Museum, built by the founder and namesake of the modern city Jai Singh II, and the Royal Observatory. After lunch in town, the afternoon will be free to visit the local bazaar or just relax at the hotel before free evening for dinner at client's own expense.  
*Khandela Haveli Hotel (B, L)*

**Day 6: Jaipur - Pushkar:** After breakfast we'll drive west to Pushkar, the charming and peaceful Hindu pilgrimage centre and home of the only temple in India dedicated to the god of creation Lord Brahma. Dinner will be at the hotel. Journey time is around 3½ hours including stops.  
*Pushkar Palace (B, L, D)*

**Day 7: Pushkar - Jodhpur:** In the morning we continue on to Jodhpur arriving at our hotel in time for a late lunch and a relaxed afternoon. We will be able to take look around the colourful bazaar and through the labyrinth of streets that make up the famous 'blue quarter'. Dinner will be at the hotel or a fine local restaurant.  
*Karni Bhawan (B, L, D)*

**Day 8: Jodhpur - Bhenswara:** This morning we will visit the famous

Meherangarh Fort, situated high above the town on a spectacular sandstone cliff, before we head on towards Rawla Bhenswara. On the way we will stop to visit the one of the Bishnoi Tribes - known as the world's first environmentalists. While visiting their villages and homes, we should hopefully see the wild antelope that has befriended the tribe as well as the local handmade carpet known as *dhurry*. From here we drive on to Rawla Bhenswara, which is one of the most interesting of Rajasthan's heritage properties. Surrounded by arid hills and farmland, the region here is populated by the Rabari, a semi-nomadic shepherd tribe.

*Hotel Rawla Bhenswara (B, L, D)*

**Day 9: Bhenswara:** Taking all day to explore the area, the morning will be free to relax and to take walks through the village. In the afternoon we will do a 'leopard and shepherd' safari, taking jeeps through the region to visit the Rabari and learn about their way of life, before embarking on a night time drive where we hope to spot the family of leopards that have made their home in the nearby hills.

*Hotel Rawla Bhenswara (B, L, D)*

**Day 10: Bhenswara - Jojawar:** In the late morning we will drive to Phulad Junction to catch the regional train to Khamli Ghat. Made famous by Rudyard Kipling's classic tale, *The Man Who Would Be King*, this wonderful two-hour train journey takes you high up through the spectacular Khamli Ghats and onto the central Aravalli plateau. Not only is it a nostalgic journey taking you back in time, it is also a little known route that has only just beginning to be used by tourists. Our transport will be waiting for us at the station from where we will be taken to the Rawla Jojawar, another sensational heritage hotel. Dinner at the hotel.

*Rawla Jojawar (B, L, D)*

**Day 11: Jojawar - Bijaipur:** After breakfast we drive on to one of our favourite spots in Rajasthan - Castle Bijaipur. Saving the best till last, this wonderful castle - parts of which date back 360 years - is run by the ruling family, our friend Narendra Singh and his clan, and is the perfect place to relax. The journey will take around 5 hours so as long as we leave in good time we

should be here in time for a late lunch. The afternoon will be free to enjoy the pool and other hotel facilities.

*Hotel Castle Bijaipur (B, L, D)*

**Day 12 & 13: Bijaipur** - Here you have two whole days to relax. You might like to take a dawn walk with Narendra to spot many of the amazing birds that frequent these parts, a bicycle ride in the surrounding countryside or take some of the fabulous Marwari horses (optional) and head out through the hills and forests. You will pass through some of the most unspoilt villages in the whole of Rajasthan. Alternatively you may like to chill by the pool with a cold drink and employ the services of the local guru for a yoga or massage session. In the evening we'll go for a village jeep drive in the surrounding area.

*Hotel Castle Bijaipur (B, L, D)*

**Day 14: Udaipur:** After breakfast we drive to Chittorgarh to visit this colossal fort that most represents the doomed idea of Rajput chivalry. Three times, Chittorgarh was attacked and taken by Muslim invaders and always with the same result; *Jauhar* being declared and while the men donned the saffron robes of martyrdom and rode out to certain death, the women consigned themselves to the flames on a huge funeral pyre. We'll have lunch in Chittor and then drive on to Udaipur, a journey of approximately 2 hours. Tonight we will have dinner at the hotel.

*Swaroop Vilas (B, L, D)*

**Day 15: Udaipur:** Another free day in Udaipur. Although we used to return to Delhi today we have found that with the new flight times our guests greatly prefer to enjoy another whole day in the beautiful town rather than having the hassle of another day blighted by air travel. Lunch will be at the client's expense to aid flexibility for the day. There are many things to do such as visit the Monsoon Palace or even the famous Jain temples Ranakpur. We will have a last night dinner at one of the better restaurants in town.

*Swaroop Vilas (B, D)*

**Day 16: Udaipur:** The tour ends after breakfast in Udaipur.

*(B)*

*Transfers are available to join the suggested internal flight. See 'getting there' section for details.*

#### **Wild Extensions:**

Arrive early to adjust to a new time zone or just to get a feel for the country before your tour starts. Explore the country after your tour on a bespoke Wild Extension or just allow a few days to relax afterwards. Maybe choose all of the above and get cheaper flights mid-week?

There are so many options its hard to know where to begin, but here are a few ideas:

- A few days in Kerala or Goa
- Visit another of the nearby Tiger Parks
- Even head up to the Himalayas

**Contact the office for extension specifics.**

#### **TOUR DETAILS**

**Tour Code:** TTT/D

**Tour price:** All our tours are priced on a LAND ONLY basis, giving you maximum flexibility when deciding how to get to and from your tour.

**Single Supplements:** These are NOT compulsory for any Wild Frontiers tour. Where single supplements are available please note that a single room cannot always be guaranteed for every night of the tour as depending on the destination, rooms may be limited. On this tour we are happy to offer an optional single supplement that will cover you for all nights of the tour.

**Flights:** If you would like us to send you a quote for the suggested tour flight (see GETTING THERE) or on any alternative flight that may suit you better, please let us know.

In all cases, for the latest prices, please refer to our website or contact the office.

**Please remember that all Wild Frontiers tour prices mean NO hidden extras, NO local payments or kitty and NO compulsory single supplements.**

#### **WHAT IS INCLUDED?**

- Full services of a Wild Frontiers Tour Leader with local guides and drivers.
- Meal plan as detailed in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner) with mineral water as required.
- All transport as outlined in the itinerary.
- All accommodation
- All entrance fees, as per itinerary.

#### **WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED?**

- Visas
- Local airport taxes
- Tips
- Beverages & any costs of a personal nature.
- International Flights
- Airport transfers (unless booking suggested flights through WF office)

#### **GETTING THERE**

For this trip our suggested flights are:

16NOV 9W121 LHR-DEL 20:45/10:00+1  
02DEC 9W373 UDR-DEL 07:40/09:45  
02DEC 9W122 DEL-LHR 12:55/16:55

Key:

LHR - London Heathrow  
DEL - Delhi  
UDR - Udaipur  
9W - Jet Airways

**NB** If you wish to arrange your own flights you are completely free to do so and in this case we can arrange any transfers or supplementary accommodation that you may require.

**Please note that if you are making your own flight arrangements, we recommend that you only purchase flights that are totally flexible and refundable as due to the nature of adventure travel, itineraries can change at any time. For more information, please refer to our booking conditions.**

#### **PRACTICALITIES**

**Accommodation:** In Rajasthan you will experience some of the finest accommodation the subcontinent can offer. From wonderful converted palaces, castles and forts - you will not be disappointed.

Indeed the accommodation that one uses in Rajasthan is one of the main joys of visiting the land of Kings. However this is still India and heritage properties are old buildings, and although possessing great character, certain forts' facilities are sometimes not quite up to a Western standards and therefore patience is occasionally required.

Any accommodation mentioned in the itinerary is subject to availability and if not available substitutes will be of a similar quality.

Transport will be in mini-bus coasters.

#### Trip Grading:

Adventure Rating ❖❖❖❖❖

Comfort Grade ❖❖❖❖❖

Fitness Level ❖❖❖❖❖

Cultural Interest ❖❖❖❖❖

Please note that this grading is an indication only and should you have any concerns please contact the office.

#### Fitness...

Anyone in a reasonable state of health should enjoy this tour.

#### It may sound obvious but...

Wild Frontiers tours are not always for everyone and it is important to us that the tour you choose is the most suitable. Please therefore take time to read the dossier carefully. All our tours are graded to give an overall picture of the trip but these are only guidelines and you should check the daily itinerary. Should you have any concerns about your ability to partake in any aspect of the tour then please contact the office.

**Insurance:** Insurance that provides cover for emergency repatriation in case of a medical emergency is compulsory for all tours. You should be aware that many standard insurance policies may not cover you adequately for all aspects of a Wild Frontiers trip and so we strongly recommend that you purchase a suitably designed insurance policy. One such policy is the "Wild Frontiers" policy underwritten by Travel & General Insurance Company plc, which is available to UK and Republic of Ireland residents through our website or via the insurance company direct on 0845 408 0583. Under

this policy there are two different levels of cover available and for this trip the minimum requirement would be the Standard policy.

#### Cover explained:

**Standard policy:** a comprehensive travel insurance policy that provides cover for all Wild Frontiers activities, including trekking up to 6,000m. This policy does not provide cover for travel to areas where the FCO is advising against all or all but essential travel.

**Elite policy:** provides the same comprehensive level of cover as the standard policy. In addition the Elite policy also provides cover for travel to areas where the FCO is advising against all or all but essential travel. The policy will not provide cover for any claims arising from or relating to the reasons why the FCO is advising against travel.

If purchasing the Elite policy you also have the option to **extend the cover** provided by the policy to include cover for claims arising from a terrorist act in an area where the FCO is advising against travel. You can add this cover to your policy when purchasing online or over the telephone.

These policies are only available to those travelling on a Wild Frontiers holiday.

For more information and to purchase your policy online please visit the Insurance section of our website.

The cover is underwritten by the International Insurance Company of Hannover Limited (IICH), who are authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority (FSA). Wild Frontiers Limited is an Introducer Appointed Representative of Travel & General Insurance Company plc, details of which can be found at the FSA's website [www.fsa.gov.uk](http://www.fsa.gov.uk).

If you do decide to purchase alternative insurance, then you must ensure that it covers you for every aspect of this trip.

**Visas:** Visas are necessary for many of the destinations we travel to and while we aim to provide you with the most up-to-date information, requirements

frequently change and as such we advise that you check with the relevant embassies or contact our recommended visa agency, Travcour (020 7223 5295) [www.travcour.com](http://www.travcour.com) for the latest advice.

For this tour, UK passport holders currently require a visa for India.

Non-UK passport holders should contact the relevant embassies for individual requirements.

Further details will be sent out to you on booking, however ensuring that correct and valid visas are obtained remains the sole responsibility of the client.

**Responsible Travel:** Responsible travel and sustainable tourism are fundamental ideas that Wild Frontiers has been committed to since our birth. It is our strong belief that these words should not be simply 'tagged on' to dossiers and websites but should be at the very core of each trip, and our adventures are therefore designed with the local people, culture and eco-system in mind. We believe that a successful trip not only delivers a unique and unsurpassable journey for our clients, but that it also benefits the peoples whose lands we are privileged to visit.

**The Wild Frontiers Foundation:** In order to facilitate a structured and enduring support structure for the communities we visit, and to show a commitment to these values, Wild Frontiers has set up a charitable foundation through which we can channel funds to both existing NGOs and our own development projects. In addition to organising ethically sensitive tours, having our own charitable foundation allows us to raise money - through the cost of our tours, charity trips and fund raising events - which can then be used to fund various projects in education, sanitation, reforestations and a number of other important issues facing developing communities. Wherever possible we are happy for our clients to visit these projects to see for themselves where and how this money is being spent. For a comprehensive list of all partner NGOs please visit our website.

Should you wish to donate to the foundation please contact the office for details.

**The Environment:** Trying to do our bit for the environment, in 2005 we were among the first UK-based travel companies to automatically offset every client's international flight (if booked with us) with a payment to Carbon Clear to help promote sustainable energy.

**Foreign Commonwealth Office (FCO):** The FCO Travel advice highlights potential hazards people might experience when travelling abroad. Given the nature of destinations offered by Wild Frontiers it is inevitable that from time to time some itineraries contravene this advice. Whilst WF takes the safety and security of its clients extremely seriously, we will not necessarily cancel a trip because of the FCO advice. It is recommended therefore that clients check this advice before booking and contact us if they have any queries or concerns. Please see our website for further information.

**Climate:** The temperature should be very pleasant, with a day time average of around 25C dropping in the evening to around 15C.

**Further information:**  
When you make a confirmed booking with Wild Frontiers we will send you our confirmation pack with complete pre-departure information giving you details on visas, health and vaccinations, packing lists, suggested reading on the region, insurance, photography and other useful tips to make your trip more enjoyable.

## RAJASTHAN - THE FACTS

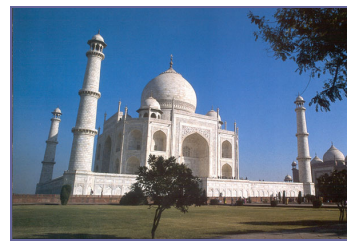


**Delhi:** Capital of modern India, of the British Raj and the Mughul empire, Delhi - the City of Djinns - is a fascinating place to explore, bursting with centuries of colourful history, of old imperial splendour and modern manic mayhem. From the chaotic, narrow alleyways of the old town to the relative tranquillity of the new, at almost every corner there is something - a fort, a mosque, an imperial palace - to excite and amaze the visitor. To wander unhindered down Rajpath - the Kingsway - from India Gate to Rashtrapati Bhawan, stopping for a while in the shade of the sheltering neem trees to feast your eyes on Lutyens' extraordinary work of architecture will have even the most seasoned traveller gasping in awe. But just as impressive, and arguably a lot more fun, is to take a walk through the old town; down the bustling Chandi Chowk and off into the narrow, sunless alleyways that make up Shahjehanabad. Here, among the jewellery, fabric and wedding bazaars you will find a world barely changed from that of the Moghul times. With plenty more sight-seeing trips available to the Qutab Minar, Lodhi Gardens, the Lotus Temple or the awesome Humayan's Tomb - inspiration for the Taj Mahal; shopping expeditions on Janpath, Santoshti or Khan Markets; or a quiet cup of tea at the Imperial... Delhi can have you busy for days. All our groups stay at excellent hotels, usually situated close to Connaught Place, the thriving heart of New Delhi.



**Agra:** The Taj Mahal was built by the Muslim Emperor Shah Jahan, (died 1666 C.E.), as a mausoleum and in the memory of his adored wife and queen Mumtaz. It is an "elegy in marble" or some say an expression of a "dream." The grave of Shah Jahan was added to it later. The queen's real name was Arjumand Banu. In the tradition of the Mughals, important ladies of the royal family were given

another name at their marriage or at some other significant event in their lives, and the public commonly used that new name. Shah Jahan ascended to the throne in 1628. The Taj Mahal was constructed over a period of twenty-two years, employing twenty thousand workers. It was completed in 1648 C.E. at a cost of 32 Million Rupees. Regarded as one of the eight manmade wonders of the world the Taj has a certain and indescribable magic to it that you can only understand when you experience it.



Built entirely of white marble, at dawn and sunset the colours are spectacular and in the moonlight it is otherworldly.

**Jaipur:** Sawai Jai Singh, the sovereign of Amber, built Jaipur in the eighteenth century. At about the same time the Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb died and the decline of the Mughal Empire set in. Jai Singh had started distancing himself from the affairs of the Mughal Court and he began concentrating the magnificent and spectacular building fort at Amber. His search for a safe place for the increasing population of Amber resulted in Jaipur. It was planned in a grid system with wide straight avenues, roads, streets and lanes and uniform rows of shops on either side of the main roads, all arranged in nine rectangular city sectors (chokdis). The city is surrounded by a wall of seven gates and was built for protection from invading armies and wild animals that lurked just outside in the jungles that surrounded the city in those days. Today it is a teeming place packed with culture, history and commerce and the Capital of Rajasthan State.



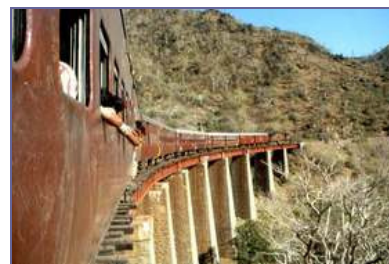
**Ranthambore:** Standing a few kilometres from the railway at Sawai Madhopur, Ranthambore lies in some beautiful virgin jungle country on the eastern edge of Rajasthan under the Aravali and Vindhya Hills. Originally a hunting ground of the Maharaja of Jaipur, Ranthambore was declared a game sanctuary in 1955. In the 1980s, it became a national park and was listed among the reserves protected under Project Tiger (1973). Presently the Kaila Devi Sanctuary, also famous for its tigers, and the Man Singh Sanctuary form a part of Ranthambore Reserve. While it is most famous for its tigers it is also full of a huge variety of other species of other birds and mammals and it is worth being reminded, to avoid disappointment that as ever with wild animals, there is no guarantee of seeing a tiger.



**Jodhpur:** Still run by the Maharaja of Jodhpur, Meherangarh, the Majestic Fort, is just that. Sprawled across a 125m-high hill, it is perhaps the most formidable fort in all of Rajasthan. It has been added to over the centuries by reigning Jodhpur Maharajas - it now even has a lift - but Rao Jodha, after whom it takes its name, built the original in 1459. A winding road leads up to the entrance from the city, 5km below. The second gate is still scarred by cannonball shot, proving it was a fort that earned its keep. After a look around this impressive building we will wander down through the old blue town and take a look at the colourful bazaar.



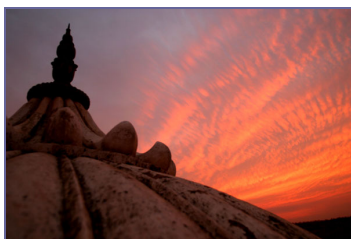
**Marwar Junction and the train to Khamli Ghat:** *'It all began at Marwar Junction, three long summers and a thousand years ago.'* So begins Rudyard Kipling's, *The Man That Would Be King*; a classic tale from the golden age of Victorian adventure that saw two British rouges, Peachey Carnehan and Daniel Dravot, depart on a perilous journey to the pagan lands of Kafiristan in the hope of becoming kings. We, on the other hand, travel a little more sedately, on the local train, 3<sup>rd</sup> class, for a wonderful two-hour journey up from the plains, over the Khamli Ghats and onto the cool Aravali plateau. Climbing 700 metres through khaki hills of acacia, neem and jacaranda - not to mention the cheeky Langur monkeys - the trip is sure to be one of the most picturesque train journeys you're ever likely to take. And unlike Peachey and Danny at whose destination saw them cop a terrible fate, waiting for us at Khamli Ghat station will be met by our transport and driven to the charming heritage property of Deogarh.



**The Bishnoi:** The Bishnoi are regarded by many as the first conservationists, practicing a strict form of Hinduism where all living things are sacred - animal and vegetable - the Bishnoi will kill nothing. One old lady refused to leave a doomed tree that was waiting for the axe, only to get chopped down herself. The blue buck is now so trusting of the Bishnoi that if it senses danger it will actually run towards the village, knowing there it will receive sanctuary. To visit a

Bishnoi village is a fascinating experience.

**Kumblegarh & Chittorgarh:** The two great citadels of south western Rajasthan are both epic medieval fortresses strategically positioned on the crests of imposing rocky outcrops high above the plains and share similarly colourful histories. Epitomising the doomed ideal of Rajput chivalry, Chittorgarh was attacked and taken three times with exactly the same result each time; *Jauhar* being declared and while the men donned the saffron robes of martyrdom and rode out to certain death, the women consigned themselves to the flames on a huge funeral pyre. Inside both outer walls - Kumblegarh's stretching for more than 36kms - there are many interesting temples, palaces and gardens. With a strange lack of tourism at both sites, it is easy to stand on either of the battlements, stare down on the plains and let your mind drift back to medieval times.



**Deogarh and Bijaipur:** With a third of all international tourists to India travelling to Rajasthan, visiting the Land of Kings can leave you with the rather deflating feeling of being little more than one of a crowd. This doesn't have to be. At Wild Frontiers we try our hardest to make your trip, wherever it may be, as unique and unusual as possible, leaving you feeling special. Therefore we have gone to all lengths possible to seek out the more secret places, off the beaten track, that we think show you the other side to this colourful state: unspoilt rural villages, out of the way temples and lakes, remote trekking and wildlife safaris and sensational family-run heritage hotels. All of the places mentioned above are fabulous forts or palaces now converted into hotels, owned and run by the former royal families, all with unique charm and different selling points. In Bijaipur we can go horse riding to a 5<sup>th</sup> century sun worshiper's temple, go for a bullock ride,

or practice yoga with the local guru. Or we can just wander through any of these villages, well away from the madding crowds, simply watching India's unspoilt traditional rural life taking place. With a couple of notable exceptions, the major cities of Rajasthan are all very much the same. Out in the sticks you'll find another world.

**How to book:**

In order to confirm your booking we need to have a completed signed booking form for each client together with a £400 deposit per person. You can either return your booking form to us by post or by booking online at [www.wildfrontiers.co.uk](http://www.wildfrontiers.co.uk)

You can contact the office by email to [info@wildfrontiers.co.uk](mailto:info@wildfrontiers.co.uk) or we are very happy to take your call on **020 7736 3968**.

Wild Frontiers is a fully licensed and bonded tour operator and our ATOL number is 5975. You can book your holiday with Wild Frontiers in complete confidence that all monies you pay to us for your tour are fully protected.

We are also bonded with the Association of Independent Tour Operators (AITO). AITO members comply with the highest standards of consumer protection. Every AITO holiday is backed not only by AITO's Quality Charter but also by full financial protection.

We do recommend that you take out adequate travel insurance at the time of booking in the event that you are no longer able to travel as all deposits are non-refundable - full booking conditions can be found on the booking form and online at our website.