

Pushkar Camel Fair with Dev Diwali at Varanasi

6 – 19 November 2022

Susan Moss is a Perth-based award winning photographer. This will be her fifth visit to India and third to Rajasthan. She met Atik, who represents Colours of Rajasthan Tours, on a photography tour in 2017 and he has created this tour especially for her and 10 photographers. Susan has hosted two very successful tours to China in 2018/19.

On Susan's tours there is not a professional photographer, with the group sharing their knowledge and assisting each other and enjoying the experience of being with like-minded people at fabulous destinations.

Images by Susan, Atik, and Holi images from Pixabay.com



**A journey is not about
the places you visit,
but the stories you
bring home to share**



This tour will take you on adventure that is guaranteed to exceed your expectations and to guide you through the cacophony of amazing cultures, sights, sounds, colours, tastes and smells that is India. You will experience the best this country has to offer, visit incredible locations and at the best time of day and night!

Rajasthan, literally translated, means "land of great Rajput kings". Rich in history, steeped in tradition, and hauntingly beautiful, Rajasthan is truly the jewel in the crown of this fascinating sub-continent. Our tour begins in and ends in Delhi then runs anticlockwise through some of the most charming, vibrant and "photo friendly" places one could ever wish for.

Day 3 – 8 Nov Varanasi - Dev Diwali

(B D)

Early morning, you will be taken for a boat ride on the Ganges. Enjoy Subah-e-Banaras in Varanasi. It is a mystical and spiritual experience as you watch people taking holy dip in the Ganges, performing rituals, offering water to the Sun etc - it all happens in Subah-e-Banaras. You will visit all the famous Ghats of Varanasi via boat and after the Boat Ride you will have the walking tour in old part of the city. After walk on Ghats we will come back to our hotel for breakfast.

After breakfast take some rest and after we will go to visit the most religious Kashi Vishwanath temple, Annapurna Temple and then drive out to visit more temples - Bharat Mata temple, Durga temple, Sankat Mochan (Hanuman temple) , Tulsi Manas Mandir, New Vishwanath temple also known as Birla temple located in Banaras Hindu University.

Later Afternoon – now it's the time for the most memorable experience of Dev Diwali on the Bank of the Ganges. Dev Deepavali or Dev Dipawali is one of the most widely held festivals of Hindu Religion which is celebrated every year in Varanasi in the month of Kartika Purnima or Full Moon of Kartika Month of Hindu calendar, 15 days after Diwali - Festival of Lights. It is celebrated and observed by the people with the great trumpet blast and overwhelms. Dev Deepavali is celebrated in the respect of Mother Ganges and also in the belief that Gods descend on the Earth on this grand occasion. There is another myth of celebrating Dev Deepavali that, at this day, demon Tripurasur was killed by the Gods, so it is named as Dev Deepavali and celebrated as a victory day of the Gods on the Kartika Purnima.

We will go to Harishchandra Ghat where an Exclusive Boat is waiting for us on the bank. We will board the Boat and move towards Dashashwamedh Ghat and witness the most memorable experience and once in a lifetime experience. All the Ghats on the riverfront of the Ganges are lit with millions of Diya's (earthen lamps). Not only the Ghats of Ganges but also all temples of Varanasi are lit with millions of Diya's. People flowing thousands of Diyas (earthen lamps) in the holy water of Ganges dedicating to their Gods according to the ritual beliefs and culture. It's really a special evening; offers most beautiful view of the cultural things. After the mesmerising Dev Diwali experience you will return back to Ghat and then drive back to the hotel.



Day 10 – 15 Nov Mandawa

Hotel Castle Mandawa or Similar

(B L)

This morning after breakfast drive of 3.5 hours to Mandawa. Arrive Mandawa and check-in at hotel. Later visit Mandawa, founded 1755 by Thakur Nawal Singh and still the home of his descendants has beautiful frescoes, Havelis and mansions. Mandawa castle one of the finest castles of Rajasthan, is now a hotel and house of collection of armories, costumes of ancestors, canons from 1820 ancient coins, numismatic collection and many other interesting items, preserved in a museum.



Day 11 – 16 Nov Jaipur

Hotel Traditional Haveli

(B L)

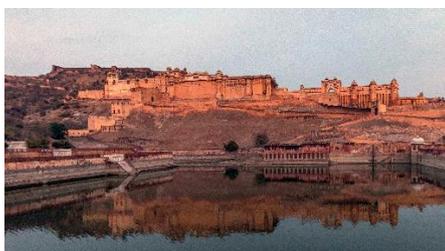
We go for early morning street photography. After street walk we will come back to hotel and have breakfast. After breakfast a 2.5 hour drive to **Jaipur**. Once we reach to Jaipur we will check in hotel and have lunch at hotel. After Lunch we go to the main city visiting the famous Jal Mahal. Explore other historical monuments like City Palace, Hawa Mahal and Jantar Mantar.

The City Palace Complex is located in the heart of the city. The palace complex includes several courtyards, buildings, pavilions, gardens, and temples. The famous Govind Dev Ji Temple is located within the palace complex. The City Palace was built by Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II.

The Hawa Mahal is one of the main attractions of Jaipur city tour. Built from red and pink sandstone, the palace sits at the edge of the City Palace. The Hawa Mahal was built in 1799 by the Maharaja Sawai Pratap Singh, the grandson of Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh, who founded the city of Jaipur. This 5-storeyed-structure contains 953 small Windows known called Jharokhas decorated with intricate latticework.

The Jantar Mantar Observatory (a UNESCO World Heritage Site) is another attraction in the city that you will visit today. It has a collection of 19 astronomical instruments remarkable at their time. Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II built this royal observatory.

Later in evening we will go for sunset to Jal Mahal. Dinner in town.



Day 12 – 17 Nov Jaipur

(B D)

After breakfast, embark on an exciting start with visiting the Amer Fort, a grand hill fort that was built by Raja Man Singh in 1592. Enjoy an elephant ride is option to reach the entrance of the Amer Fort, situated atop a hill in the outskirts of the city. You will get amazed to see the amazing beauty of the fort complex. It is a pristine example of Rajput and Mughal architectural styles and is made from sandstone and marble. The fort overlooks the entire Pink City and is declared as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Afternoon is free for some shopping or take rest in hotel. Evening we will go for street walk and visit a vegetable market and OLD JAIPUR (Pink City).

Day 13 – 18 Nov Delhi

Hotel Roseate Aerocity or similar

(B D)

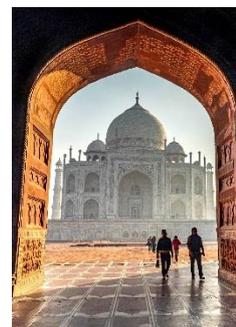
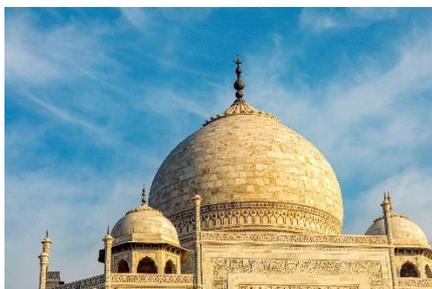
After breakfast we will leave for New Delhi, 5 hours driving. Dinner will be at the hotel in New Delhi.

Day 14 – 19 Nov Delhi

(B)

After breakfast drive to airport to catch your flight to home with sweet memories

Optional



If you would like to visit Agra and the Taj Mahal we will organise transport and stay from Jaipur to Agra and then onto New Delhi following day.

Agra: Hotel Crystal Sarovar

TRIP NOTES

Dev Diwali

The festival is known as Dev Deepawali because it was the day that devas celebrated Deepawali after Lord Shiva defeated the asuras. Lord Shiva primarily defeated the asura Tripurasura and that is why, Dev Deepawali is also referred to as Tripurotsav. It takes place fifteen days after Diwali. Set a new world record for lighting the maximum number of earthen lamps. Around 9 lakh diyas lit up the banks of the Saryu, setting a Guinness World Record.

Pushkar Camel Fair

It is the most colorful fairs of India and it is one of the world's largest camel fairs. Apart from the buying and selling of livestock, it has become an important tourist attraction.

Competitions such as the 'matka phod', 'longest moustache' and 'bridal competition'. This traditional festival of India displays 30,000 camels shaved, dressed and adorned with vibrant jewelry. These camels participate in the beauty contests, parade and race organised for them during the fair.

INCLUSIONS

- International economy flights from any Australian capital city to New Delhi return with Singapore Airlines*
- All flights 30kg checked luggage allowance
- Services, accommodation and meals as described in itinerary above
- Gratuities

OPTIONS

International flights can be upgraded to premium economy or business class where available, for an additional cost. Prices vary, please let us know if you would like to consider this option when booking.

**Travellers residing outside of Australia are welcome to join this tour. Please contact reservations@mcnallytravel.com to confirm your departure city for flight and payment options available to you.*

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- Meals where not stated
- Alcoholic beverages, laundry or personal items
- Indian visa
- Comprehensive travel insurance / trip cancellation insurance (required), please let us know if we can offer you a competitive quote.

PRICING

Option 1 – Single

AUD 8,974 per person (ex-PER)

AUD 9,174 per person (ex-ADL, DRW, BNE, SYD, MEL, HBA)

Deposit required to secure place: AUD 3,868 per person

Option 2 – Twin Share

AUD 8,205 per person (ex-PER)

AUD 8,405 per person (ex-ADL, DRW, BNE, SYD, MEL, HBA)

Deposit required to secure place: AUD 3,676 per person

Add-on

Agra/Taj Mahal extra day with overnight
AUD 475 per person

Final Balance

Final balance due: 2 September 2022

HOW TO BOOK

If you would like to join this wonderful photo tour with Susan Moss, the mechanics of booking your trip are made easy. Here is a secure link to provide your travel details and reserve your place on the **Pushkar Camel Fair with Dev Diwali at Varanasi Tour**

Go to secure [BOOKING FORM](#)