

RAJASTHAN HERITAGE TOUR

A cultural journey created and led by Rudy Decanini, with local trilingual guide Niraj Kumar Dubey.

September 2026 – 13-day itinerary

Rajasthan is an authentic land, full of history and striking contrasts. Its forts rise from the desert, its cities shift in colour with the light, its markets are vibrant, its old palaces impressive, and its quiet moments unexpected.

The focus of this trip is not flashy luxury, but true comfort: we will stay in charming heritage places that feel cared for and inviting, with peaceful evenings and the level of quality needed to unwind after busy days exploring.

It is a solid, carefully arranged itinerary for anyone wishing to discover India in a genuine way, without giving up security or comfort.

"यहाँ सब कुछ दिल से देखा जाता है."
(Here, everything is seen with the heart.)

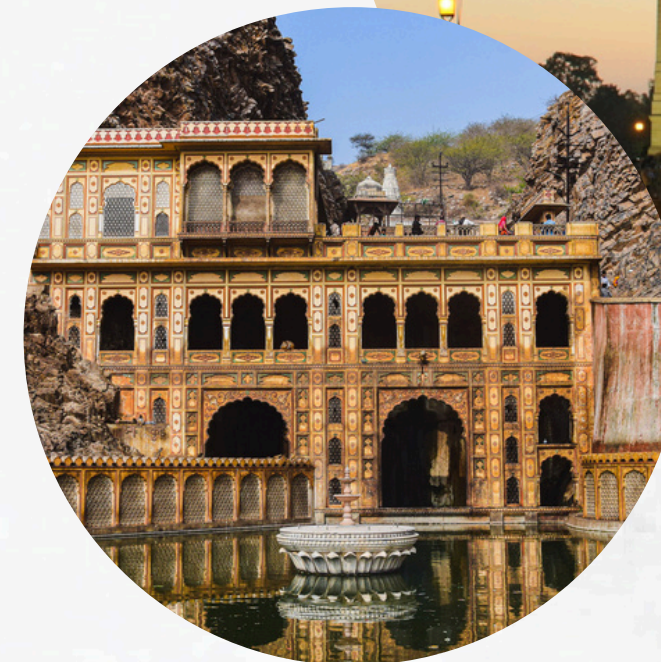


THE ESSENCE OF INDIA

India doesn't follow a logical order.
It's simultaneous: past, present and future all in the same instant.

Rajasthan is its most epic form:
deserts, dynasties, blue cities, lake palaces, and impossible
fortresses.

"India lives in several centuries at the same time."
Arundhati Roy



WHY THIS TOUR

This trip is designed to take you through Rajasthan in the most authentic, readable way possible. It is not built as a commercial tour, but as a cultural journey shaped with careful attention to pace, places, people and stories. The itinerary brings together Rajput forts, Mughal architecture, sacred cities, palaces on the water and deserts that shift in colour—without forcing the rhythm or adding pointless stops.

The purpose of the trip is to help you understand what you're seeing: to observe, listen, walk, photograph, ask questions and learn. It is made for those who want direct contact with Rajasthan, while still enjoying genuine comfort, calm evenings and an organised set-up that lets you experience the journey without stress.



THE TOUR GUIDES

The trip is led by two complementary figures: a Western voice that interprets, contextualises and translates the complexity of Rajasthan for travellers, and a local voice that opens the doors to the land itself-its relationships, traditions and cultural nuances.

The cultural accompanist stays with the group from start to finish, offering a continuous reading of places, pace and the historical and social dynamics at play.

The local guide, **Niraj Dubey**, speaks Hindi, English and Italian and is a reliable point of reference for understanding Rajasthan's spaces, architecture, everyday life and customs. The combination of these two perspectives allows the group to move with safety, depth and awareness.



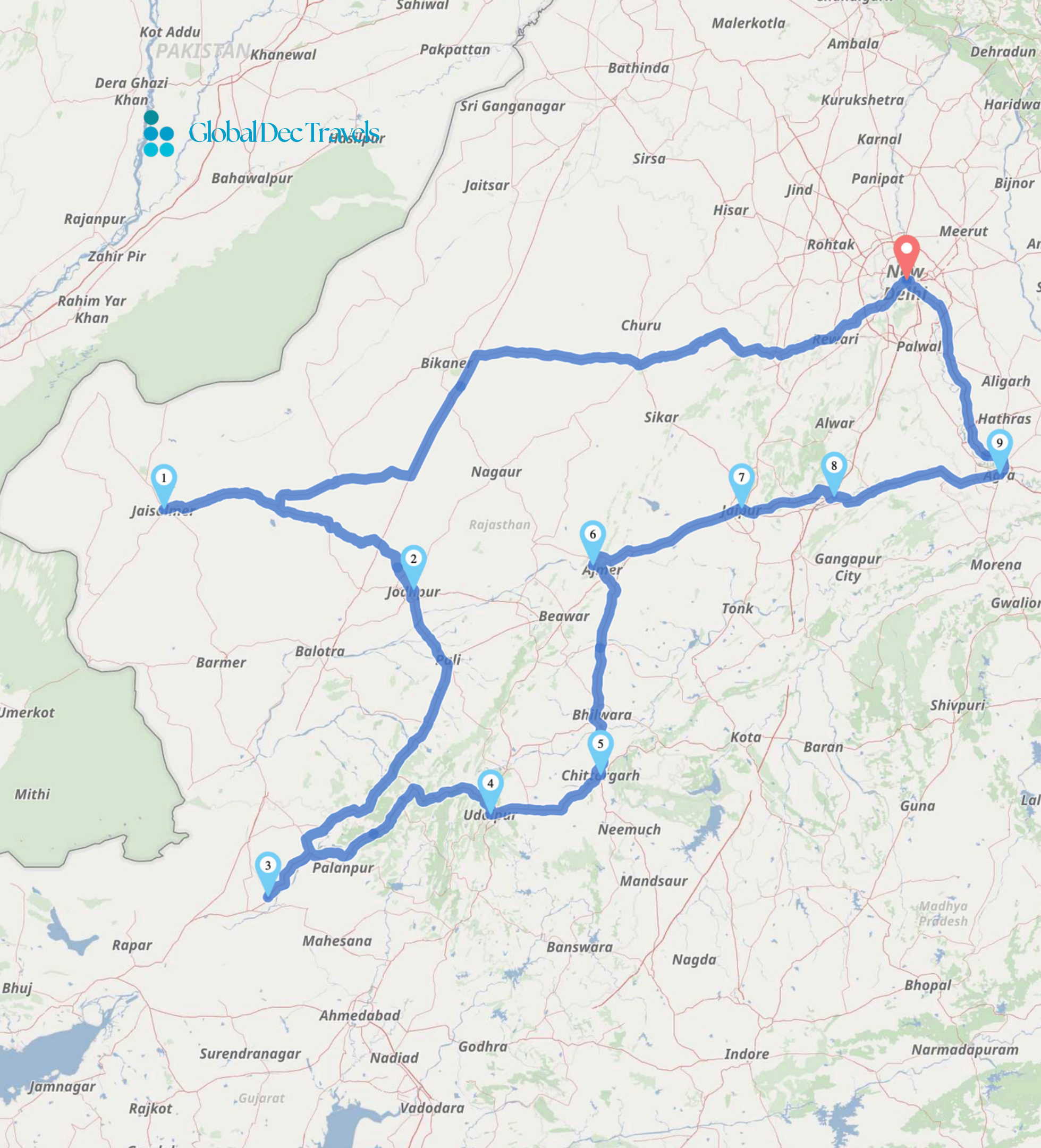


WHY SEPTEMBER

September is one of the best months to travel across Rajasthan: the monsoon is retreating, the weather settles, and temperatures become manageable again. The cities feel calmer, colours are sharper, and heritage properties tend to have better availability than during peak season. It's a time when India lets itself be seen, without you having to chase it.

Travelling in this month means experiencing Rajasthan in near-ideal conditions: fewer crowds, more space, more light, and an overall balance that works strongly in your favour.

"To understand India, timing is everything."
V.S. Naipaul



GENERAL ITINERARY

The itinerary crosses Rajasthan from west to east, starting in Delhi and reaching Jaisalmer, the desert's Golden City; continuing on to Jodhpur, the Blue City set beneath one of India's largest fortresses; passing through the white marble temple of Ranakpur and the lake palaces of Udaipur; climbing up to the epic fort of Chittorgarh and descending into the spiritual stillness of Pushkar; on to the royal geometries of Jaipur and the millennia-old stepwell of Abhaneri, before ending with sunrise over the Taj Mahal in Agra, then returning to Delhi.

It's a route designed to unfold with harmony-like a narrative that begins in the desert and closes on carved stone.

31 AUGUST - 1 SEPTEMBER

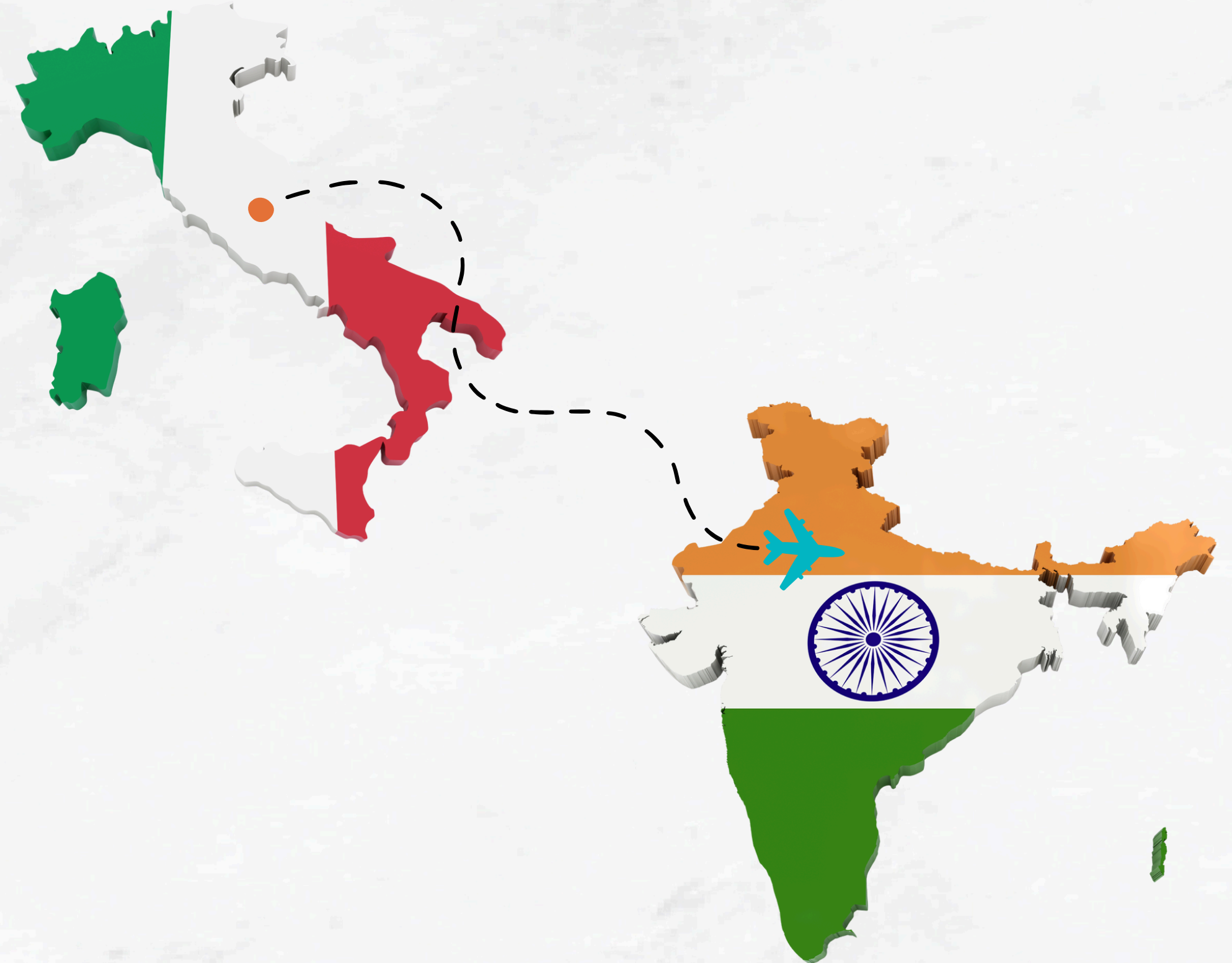
DEPARTURE

ARRIVAL IN DELHI
AND OVERNIGHT
STAY

The trip begins on **31 August**, with departure from Italy to **Delhi**.

Arrival is during the night, when the capital reveals itself only through the terminal lights and the quiet of airport corridors. It's a practical arrival, designed to avoid unnecessary strain and allow the group to rest before the journey into Rajasthan properly begins.

The night is spent at a hotel, to regain energy after the long-haul flight and ease into the time difference.



1 SEPTEMBER DELHI

1 September allows for a brief but meaningful first look at Delhi.

You move through the city's central districts, where Mughal architecture sits alongside Lutyens' colonial avenues and monumental spaces such as India Gate, Parliament House and the broad boulevards that shape the capital. It's an essential introduction-useful for grasping the historical complexity behind contemporary India.





2 SEPTEMBER

DELHI → JAISALMER

2 September marks the group's proper entry into Rajasthan. The **Delhi → Jaisalmer** leg will be covered by a short domestic flight of around 1 hour 40 minutes. The shift from capital to desert is immediate: Jaisalmer appears like a golden city carved out of sand, dominated by its millennia-old fort.

After arrival and check-in at a heritage hotel, the city offers its first impressions: sandstone lanes, traditional workshops, ancient walls, and the desert's warm light.

3 SEPTEMBER JAISALMER

A day in Jaisalmer takes you into the heart of the **Golden City**.

Jaisalmer Fort, inhabited for centuries, houses palaces such as the Raj Mahal and Rang Mahal, narrow corridors, sandstone courtyards, and Jain temples with an almost hypnotic precision. The historic havelis—Patwon ki Haveli and Nathmal ki Haveli—tell the story of the merchant families who made the city flourish along the desert's caravan routes.

In the afternoon, Rajasthan opens out towards the **Thar Desert**, with a light that shifts continuously. Sunset on the dunes reveals one of north-western India's most distinctive landscapes: a dry, silent beauty that stays with you.





4 SEPTEMBER

JAISALMER → JODHPUR

The transfer to Jodhpur introduces a landscape that shifts gradually, from desert to the first hills of the Aravalli range. Arrival in the **"Blue City"** is immediate: a spread of azure-painted houses climbing up beneath the imposing walls of Mehrangarh. In the afternoon, you delve into the historic quarters, observing local life around the clock tower and Sardar Market, amid spices, textiles, artisans and small shops. Jodhpur has a different kind of vitality—more urban, more concentrated, yet just as deeply rooted in Rajput tradition.

4 SEPTEMBER JODHPUR

The day is devoted to a full exploration of the city. **Mehrangarh Fort**, founded by Rao Jodha in the 15th century, dominates the entire skyline and is one of India's most impressive fortresses. Its interior halls—such as Moti Mahal and Phool Mahal—show the elegance of Rajput culture, while the ramparts, courtyards and walkways give a tangible sense of the power of the Kingdom of Marwar.

After visiting the fort, you head to **Jaswant Thada**, the white marble memorial, before returning to the blue lanes, alive with trade and craftsmanship.





5 SEPTEMBER

JODHPUR → RANAKPUR → UDAIPUR

The road to **Ranakpur** crosses green valleys and rural landscapes.

The Adinath Jain Temple, carved in pale marble in the 15th century, is one of the finest expressions of Jain architecture: 1,444 columns, each one different-stonework that is almost impossible to imagine.

In the afternoon we arrive in Udaipur, the City of Lakes, where the water mirrors white palaces and gentle hills. A walk along Lake Pichola immediately sets a slower, more refined atmosphere-very different from the desert and the fortified cities.

6 SEPTEMBER UDAIPUR

Udaipur reveals its elegance in the **City Palace**, a complex built from 1559 onwards and expanded over the centuries by the Sisodia dynasty.

Mirror-lined halls, raised courtyards, terraces overlooking the water and stone carvings speak of an aristocratic city with a deep regard for art.

In the afternoon, you delve into the historic bazaars, finding miniature-painting schools, artisan workshops and small shops that keep a distinctive Rajasthani aesthetic tradition alive.

Sunset over the lake brings the day to a close with an image of luminous calm.





7 SEPTEMBER

UDAIPUR → CHITTORGARH → PUSHKAR

Leaving Udaipur, you head to one of Rajasthan's most symbolic places: **Chittorgarh Fort**, the largest in India.

Its towers-Vijay Stambha and Kirti Stambha-and palaces such as Rani Padmini's tell centuries of resistance, sieges, heroism and sacrifice by the Rajput dynasties.

In the early afternoon, the journey continues to **Pushkar**, one of India's sacred cities, built around the lake that tradition attributes to the god Brahma.

The atmosphere is more intimate and slow, almost suspended-a perfect pause in the rhythm of the trip.

8 SEPTEMBER PUSHKAR → JAIPUR

The morning in Pushkar offers the chance to observe daily life around the ghats, the small markets and the central lanes.

You set off again around midday for Jaipur, Rajasthan's capital, arriving in the early afternoon.

The first impact is the sight of **Hawa Mahal**, the "Palace of Winds", whose pink façade is one of India's most recognisable symbols.

A walk through the old city lets you grasp the logic of the "**Pink City**", laid out in the 18th century according to mathematical and astronomical principles.





9 SEPTEMBER JAIPUR

The visit in Jaipur takes you to **Amber Fort**, a monumental complex of courtyards and ramparts, home to the iconic Sheesh Mahal-the Hall of Mirrors.

The day continues at the City Palace, still the residence of the Kachwaha royal family, and at the Jantar Mantar astronomical complex, a UNESCO World Heritage Site that shows the level of scientific precision achieved in the 18th century.

Jaipur brings together aesthetics, mathematics, politics and architecture in a way that is hard to find anywhere else.

10 SEPTEMBER

JAIPUR → ABHANERI → AGRA

The morning takes you out of the city to **Abhaneri**, home to the famous **Chand Baori**-a 9th-century stepwell with hypnotic geometries, built to collect rainwater using engineering that was remarkably advanced for its time.

After the visit, you continue on to **Agra**, arriving in the late afternoon.

Even from a distance, the city already carries the echo of the masterpiece we will see at sunrise.





11 SEPTEMBER

AGRA

Sunrise at the **Taj Mahal** is one of the most powerful moments of the trip.

The mausoleum built by Shah Jahan for Mumtaz Mahal shifts colour with the morning light, revealing a symmetry and architectural precision that are truly unique.

The visit continues with Agra Fort, the Mughal imperial residence and a testament to the power of the dynasty that shaped much of northern India.

The rest of the day is set aside for reflection, rest, and preparing for the journey home.

12 SEPTEMBER

AGRA → DELHI

The morning is devoted to returning to **Delhi** along an efficient route that combines modern motorways with views of the rural landscape. Arriving in the capital leaves plenty of time to prepare, without rush, for **the return flight** scheduled for the evening or overnight. It's a well-ordered ending—closing a journey designed to be intense yet always balanced: rich, but never frenetic, able to alternate discovery with rest.



ESSENTIALS

REGISTRATION AND PAYMENTS

Registrations are processed on a first-come, first-served basis.

Deadlines and conditions:

- **Bookings by 30 January** → standard price.
- **Bookings from 31 January to 20 February** → price increased by €150.
- **Bookings after 20 February, if accepted** → variable cost and possible limitations on rooms and services.

The group can run in the standard configuration (12–20 participants) or be extended up to 30 people, with a possible split into two sub-groups to maintain smooth logistics and the overall quality of the experience.



ESSENTIALS FEES

GROUP OF **12 PARTICIPANTS** (+1 accompanist)*

Price per person in a **double/twin room: €1,917**

Price per person in a **single room: €2,647**

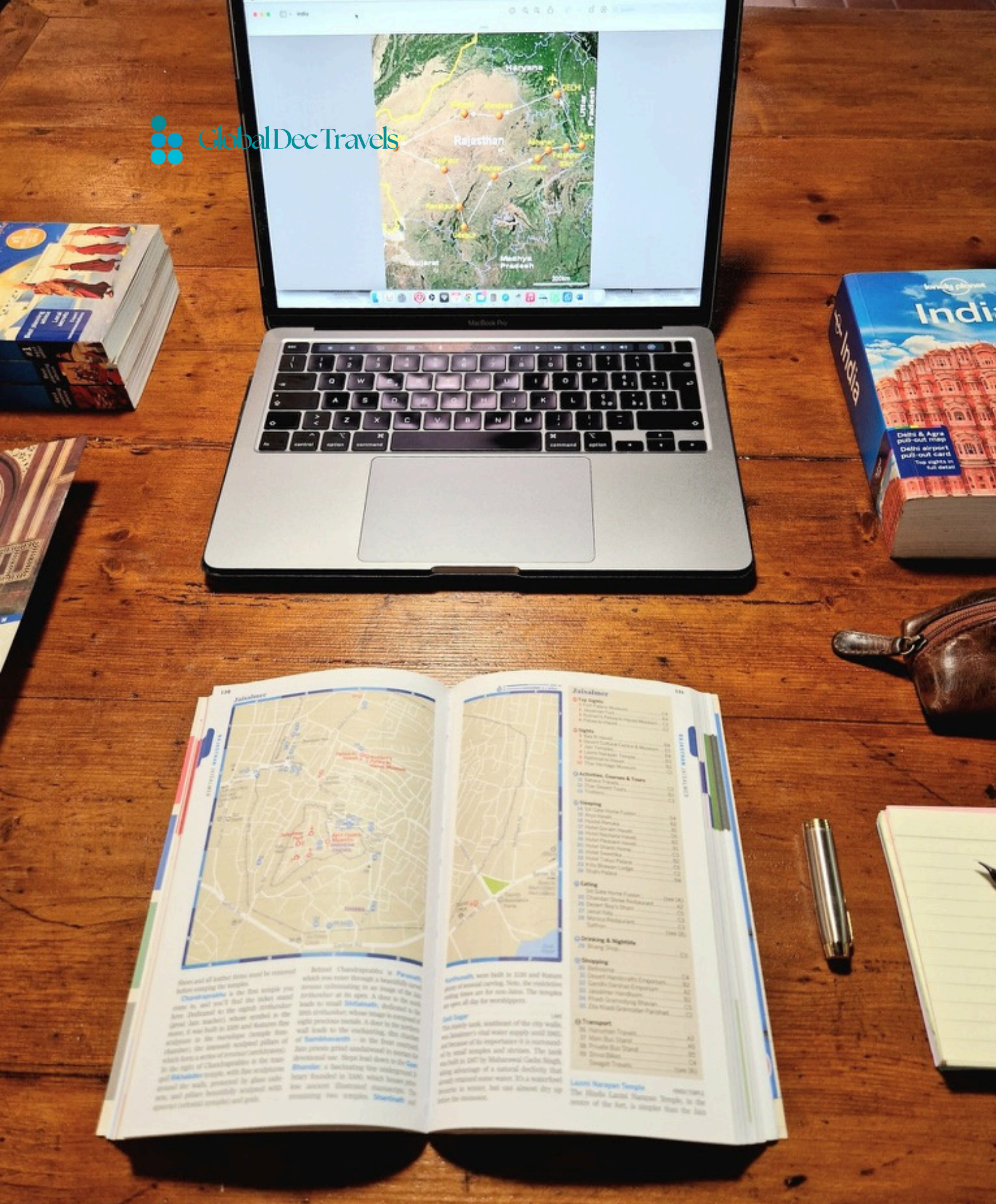
In this configuration, fixed costs are spread across 12 people, so the price is slightly higher.

GROUP OF **15 PARTICIPANTS** (+1 accompanist)*

Price per person in a **double/twin room: €1,803**

Price per person in a **single room: €2,533**

With 15 participants, the price decreases because the overall costs are shared among a larger number of people, while hotels, services and the quality of the trip remain unchanged.



ESSENTIALS

BOOKING DAY AND FLIGHT ARRANGEMENTS

Booking Day is when all participants purchase their international flights in a coordinated way, following the same routes and timings.

It's designed to avoid mismatches, staggered arrivals, or logistical issues during the first 24 hours of the trip.

Two official dates are scheduled:

- 31 January
- 21 February

On Booking Day, you will be given the recommended flight, any acceptable alternatives, the ideal time window, and the steps to complete the purchase.

Each ticket is purchased individually (no intermediation), but coordination is collective—so the whole group departs together and arrives together.



ESSENTIALS INSTALMENT PLAN

The ground package follows the standard structure used for international cultural travel:

- a **deposit** to convert the booking into a real deposit with suppliers
- a **final balance** to close all ground contracts

This procedure is necessary because heritage hotels, private transport, coaches, drivers and guides require advance confirmation.

After the official deadlines, costs automatically increase to reflect updated local rates.

TABELLA RATEIZZAZIONE

Payment stage	When	Amount	What it secures
Deposit	By 30 January	€500	It is converted into a real deposit with the heritage hotels, private coach, driver and services. It keeps the standard price.
Final balance	By 31 March	12 participants: €1,417 (shared)/€2,147 (single) 15 participants: €1,303 (shared)/€2,033 (single)	Final confirmation of all ground services: hotels, transport, guide, entrances, logistics.
Price increase	From 31 January	+ €150 on the ground package price	Adjustment to updated supplier prices and reduced availability.
Late registrations	After 20 February	Tailored price (potentially higher)	Bookings are possible only if rooms and services are still available.
Flight Booking Day	31 January and 21 February	—	Coordinated purchase of the international flight (each participant buys individually, but with compatible timings).

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Accommodation in selected heritage hotels, double or twin room
- Breakfasts and dinners for the entire duration of the trip
- Private internal transport with dedicated coach and driver
- Trilingual local guide (Hindi–Italian–English) for the full itinerary
- Cultural accompanist throughout the trip
- Entrance fees to the monuments, forts, temples and sites included in the programme
- Transfers in India to/from airports, stations and hotels
- Private van/coach with driver
- Pre-departure and on-the-ground organisational support
- Full logistical management (timings, internal tickets, coordination between stops)
- Support during Booking Days for the purchase of international flights

NOT INCLUDED

- International return flights Italy–India
- Airport taxes for the international flight
- Tourist visa for India
- Travel insurance (medical, baggage and cancellation)
- Lunches and any extra snacks/drinks
- Any single-room supplements or room upgrades
- Any optional additional insurance cover
- Personal expenses (souvenirs, laundry, additional tips not included)
- Anything not expressly stated under “What’s included”

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