



SERVICE DIRECTORY

About Jaipur



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JAIPUR

THE PINK CITY

Jaipur, popularly known as the Pink City, is the capital and largest city of the Indian state of Rajasthan. Founded on 18 November, 1727 by Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II, the ruler of Amber, the city today has a population of more than 3.1 million.

Jaipur, located in the semi-desert lands of Rajasthan, is one of India's finest planned cities. The city, which was once the capital of the royalty, is now the capital city of Rajasthan. The very plan of Jaipur is according to the tastes of the Rajputs and the Royal families. At present, Jaipur is a major business centre with all requisites of a metropolitan city.

The city is remarkable among pre-modern Indian cities for the width and regularity of its streets which are laid out into six sectors and separated by broad streets, 111 ft (34 m) wide. The urban quarters are further divided by networks of gridded streets. Five quarters wrap around the east, south and west sides of a central Palace quarter, with a sixth quarter immediately to the east. The Palace quarter encloses a sprawling palace complex, (Hawa Mahal), formal gardens and a small lake. Nahargarh Fort, which was the residence of King Sawai Jai Singh II, crowns the hill in the northwest corner of the old city. The observatory, Jantar Mantar, is a World Heritage Site. Jaipur is a popular tourist destination. Modern Jaipur was founded in 1727 by Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II, who ruled from 1699 to 1744 from his one-time capital Amber, which lies at a distance of 11 km from Jaipur. However, with the increase in population and growing scarcity of water, he soon felt the need to shift his capital city. The construction of Jaipur started in 1727. It took

around four years to complete the major palaces, roads and square. The city was built following the principles of Shilpa Shastra, the science of Indian Architecture. The city was divided into nine blocks, of which two consist of the state buildings and palaces. The remaining seven were allotted to the public. Huge fortification walls were built alongside, with seven strong gates. The architecture of the town was very advanced for the time and certainly the best in the Indian subcontinent. In 1876, when the Prince of Wales visited Jaipur, the whole city was painted pink to welcome him during the regime of Sawai Ram Singh. Today, avenues painted in pink, provide a distinctive appearance to the city.

JAIPUR AT A GLANCE:

Area	: 484.6 sq km (187.10 sq mi)
Coordinates	: 26°9' 24" N 75°7' 73" E
Population	: 3,110,570 (2011)
Density	: 15,522 /sq km (40,202 /sq m)
Languages	: Hindi
Time Zone	: IST (UTC+05:30)
Elevation	: 431 m (1,414 ft) Summer
Temperature	: 45°C max - 25°C min
Winter Temperature	: 22°C max - 05°C min

PLACES OF INTEREST IN JAIPUR

CITY PALACE

The City Palace is a historic landmark. Its carved arches are supported by grey white marble columns studded with floral motifs in gold and coloured stones. Two elephants carved in marble guard the entrance where retainers whose families have served generations of rulers are at hand to serve as guides. The Palace interior houses a Museum containing a select collection of various types of Rajasthani dresses and a fascinating armoury of Mughal and Rajput weapons including swords of all shapes and sizes, with chased handles, some of them inlaid, enamelled, some encrusted with jewels and encased in bold and magnificent scabbards. It also has an art gallery with a fine collection of paintings, carpets, royal paraphernalia and rare astronomical works in Arabic, Persian, Latin and Sanskrit, acquired by Sawai Jai Singh II for his study of planets and their movements.

JANTAR MANTAR

Jantar Mantar is one of Jai Singh's five remarkable observatories. Built with stone and marble, its complex instruments whose settings and shapes are precisely and scientifically designed, represent the high points of Medieval Indian astronomy. The Ram Yantras used for gauging altitudes are unique. This is the largest of the five observatories founded by Sawai Jai Singh II in various parts of the country. It has been listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

HAWA MAHAL

Hawa Mahal was built by the poet king Sawai Pratap Singh. It is the most striking monument in Jaipur. Its delicate stone carved jali screens were conceived to provide an adequate arrangement for the women of the Palace – it allowed them to view the royal processions passing through the bazaar below.

AMER FORT

Amer Fort served as the seat of the Kachhwaha rulers of the old state of Dhundhar for seven long centuries before Jaipur was built. Amer Fort includes the complex of palaces, halls, pavilions, gardens and temples, which were built by Raja Man Singh, Mirza Raja Jai Singh and Sawai Jai Singh over a period of about two centuries. The Palace complex rising from the placid waters of the Mootha Lake is approached through a steep path, but is now often traversed by tourists on elephant-back to Singh Palace and Jaleb Chowk. Two flights of stairs rise from one end to the Chowk: one leading to the elegant temple of Shila Mata and other to the Palace complex. The front courtyard of the Palace complex is dominated by the spectacular pillared hall of the Diwan-e-Aam and the double storied painted gateway Ganesh Pole. Beyond the corridors and galleries on either side of a small elegant Charbagh style garden are Sukh Niwas to its right and Jas Mandir to its left. The Jas Mandir on the upper floor combines the finest elements of Mughal architecture and interior decoration in a Rajput setting with intricately carved jali screens, delicate mirror and stucco

works and painted and carved dadodes. The older and simpler structures at the far end were built by Raja Man Singh in the later years of the 16th Century.

JAIGARH FORT

The western skyline is dominated by the extensive parkotas (walls), watchtowers and gateways of Jaigarh. It is one of the few best preserved military structures of medieval India. The fort consists of palaces, gardens, open and covered reservoirs, a granary, an armoury, a well-planned cannon foundry, several temples, a tall tower and a giant mounted cannon – the Jai Ban – the largest in the country.

NAHARGARH FORT

Beyond the hills of Jaigarh, stands the Fort of Nahargarh like a watchful sentinel guarding Sawai Jai Singh's beautiful city. Much of the original structures are now in ruins, but the lovely buildings added by Sawai Ram Singh II and Sawai Madho Singh II still survive.

ALBERT HALL MUSEUM

An absolute joy to look at, this landmark adorns the more modern boundaries for this wonder was laid on 6th Feb 1876, and not only is it a time machine into the bygone era, you can find it beautified in wonderful colours every evening. What's more, it also houses one of the 6 Egyptian Mummies in India

STREET SHOPPING IN JAIPUR

JOHARI BAZAAR

Speciality: Jewellery with precious gemstones, and handmade necklaces. Traditional Jewellery includes Kundan, Polki, Minakari. Distance: 6.0 Km Hours Open: 11:00 AM-11:00 PM (All 7 days)

Famous Shops: Rattan Deep, Rana's, Motisons, Kishori Prints

TRIPOLIA BAZAR

Speciality: Bangles made up of Lac jewellery (bright colour and glass work) Distance: 4.5 Km Hours Open: 12:00 PM-8:00 PM Famous Shops: Raj Rani, Satguru, New Nabila Bangles

CHANDPOLE BAZAAR & NEHRU BAZAAR:

Speciality: Handicrafts, carvings Rajasthani Jutis, Blue made out of marble and Pottery Items, other hand-looms. Distance: 4.9 Km, Hours Open: 11:00 AM-8:00 PM

SIREH DEORI BAZAR

Speciality: Camel leather products, shoes, puppets, and knick-knacks. Distance: 5.7 Km Hours Open: 11:00 AM-8:00 PM

KISHANPOL BAZAR

Speciality: Textiles, particularly bandhani (tie-dye). Distance: 4.5 Km Hours Open: 11:00 AM-8:00 PM

BAPU BAZAAR

Speciality: Jaipur textile goods, saris, joothis and is a good place to buy trinkets. Distance: 5.0 Km Hours Open: 11:00 AM-8:00 pm Famous Shops: Saraogi Mansion, Pratap Sons, Nagra Shoe Store (Shop No 21) Mangalmayee (Shop No 4)

MIRZA ISMAIL ROAD (MI ROAD)

Speciality: Colorful pots and wooden souvenirs
Distance: 3 Km Hours Open: 11:00 AM-8:00 PM