

THE CHALLENGE OF A LIFETIME,
FOR THE CHARITY OF YOUR CHOICE...

INDIA CYCLE

JOIN US AS WE RIDE ACROSS
RAJASTHAN - "THE LAND OF
THE KINGS"!



 **GLOBAL
ADVENTURE
CHALLENGES®**

01244 676 454

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KEY INFO

Duration: 10 days

Distance: 350km approx.

Challenge Grade: Challenging ①

Location: India

CHALLENGE HIGHLIGHTS

- Visit the Amber Fort palace complex just outside Jaipur
- See the UNESCO World Heritage Site of the Taj Mahal
- Cycle off the tourist trail and get a true feel for the area of Rajasthan
- Visit Ranthambore National Park and experience a Tiger Safari!

THE CHALLENGE

On this incredible cycling adventure we experience the amazing sights and sounds of Rajasthan! We explore the bustling city of Jaipur including a visit to the magnificent palace complex of Amber Fort, and even visit a Tiger Safari in Ranthambore National Park. Cycling far from the tourist trail we get a true feel for this incredible region, cycling through local villages full of vibrant colours and surrounded by lush green fields, to the contrast of the arid landscapes of the Aravalli Hills. We complete our challenge in Agra, with a visit to the majestic Taj Mahal – one of the masterpieces of world heritage!

Day 1

Depart UK

We depart the UK for our flight to India.

Day 2

We land and transfer to our hotel in Jaipur, where we'll settle in and get used to our new surroundings.

Day 3

Jaipur

Today we explore the fantastic sights and sounds that Jaipur has to offer! We visit the Amber Fort and Sheesh Mahal in the morning, and once we return to Jaipur we visit the Jantar Mantar astronomical monument, Maharaj's City Palace and the palace of Hawa Mahal.

Day 4

Jaipur to Abhaneri

Our cycle challenge begins! We set off from the grounds next to the Jamwai Mata Temple, located downstream from the dried up Lake Ramgarh - once the main source of water for Jaipur. Riding through the arid countryside of the Aravalli Hills we pass small villages, worlds away from the crowds of Jaipur and reach the village of Abhaneri and our campsite by evening. Abhaneri is famous for its 'Chand Baori' or step wells, built by locals to harvest rainwater. Not only is it considered one of Rajasthan's most attractive landmarks, it is also one of the deepest and largest step wells in India!

Cycling distance – approx. 78km / 5 - 6 hours

Day 5

Abhaneri to Ranthambore National Park

Today we'll experience the local village life of Rajasthan, cycling along tracks that take us through small villages and along green fields. After lunch the landscape becomes more barren, traffic reduces and shade becomes harder to find, but the cycling is easier. Once we reach the town of Lalsot, we negotiate the narrow alleys like a puzzle maze before we reach the main road and transfer to Ranthambore National Park. Famous for its conservation of Bengal Tigers, this is one of the best places in India to see the tigers in their natural habitat!

Cycling distance – approx. 82km / 5-6 hours

Day 6

Ranthambore National Park to Karauli

It's an early start for us today as we need to leave our hotel by 6:30am for our Tiger Safari. Taking place in canters (open body buses/vehicles) we'll have a bumpy ride, but we may be rewarded by some tiger sightings! The park is home to 62 tigers, but also to the Indian leopard, nilgai, wild boar, sambar, striped hyena, sloth bear and mugger crocodiles, as well as one of India's largest Banyan trees! We aim to complete the safari by 10am and transfer back to our hotel for breakfast and a quick shower before transferring to our cycling start point. Our cycling today is easier than other days as we ride on flat tarmac roads all the way to our accommodation in Karauli.

Cycling distance – approx. 70km / 5-6 hours



LEAVE THE TOURIST TRAIL AND GET A TRUE FEEL FOR THE INCREDIBLE AREA OF RAJASTHAN!

Day 7

Baretha Bund back to Karauli

After a hearty breakfast we set off on a 2-hour bus ride to the picturesque spot of Baretha Dam, a 230 year old dam built on the River Kukand. We cycle for 15km before turning southwards, where the terrain becomes much hillier. We notice as the colour of the landscape changes and also see how local houses use red stones as building blocks, including doors and windows. Once we reach the village of Masaalpur, the cycling is all downhill until we reach our hotel in Karauli for the night.

Cycling distance – approx. 70km / 6 hours

Day 8

Karauli to Agra

After a much-needed rest we say our goodbyes to Karauli and begin the final 40km cycle of our challenge. The cycling is much easier today as we ride on flat tarmac roads towards our finish line on the outskirts of Basantpura. When we have completed our celebrations we hop into our waiting vehicle and take the transfer to Agra - home of the majestic Taj Mahal!

Cycling distance – approx. 50km / 2 hours

Day 9

Agra to Delhi

This morning we visit the Taj Mahal - a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Built by Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan in memory of his wife Mumtaz Begum between 1631 and 1648, it is one of the world's most beautiful and celebrated monuments. After our visit we take the chance to indulge in some last minute shopping before our transfer to Delhi. This evening we look back on our incredible achievements over a celebratory meal!

Day 10

Return to UK

We transfer to Delhi Airport for our flight back to the UK. We then say our final goodbyes as a group before our onward journeys home.

Please note, this is a complex itinerary and is subject to change.

DID YOU KNOW? THE TAJ MAHAL WAS BUILT BY SHAH JAHAN AS A MAUSOLEUM FOR HIS WIFE MUMTAZ, AFTER SHE DIED GIVING BIRTH TO THE COUPLE'S 14TH CHILD. MORE THAN 20,000 WORKERS WERE INVOLVED IN THE COMPLEX'S CONSTRUCTION.

YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED...

Is this trip for me?

ABSOLUTELY! This cycle is suitable for all ages with the correct training. The minimum age for this cycle is 18 years old (14-17 year olds must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian). The one thing everyone will have in common is a great sense of adventure and a desire to help a charity. Whether you are taking part as an individual or as a team with friends, team spirit will be flying high on the challenge!

How fit do I need to be?

This cycle ride has been graded as Challenging (1) on our challenge grading scheme, and is designed to be challenging but achievable by anyone as long as you fitness train beforehand. Remember, you are cycling for 5 days and in hot temperatures – the fitter you are the more you will enjoy this challenge. Cycling training tips can be found on the Global Adventure Challenges website to point you in the right direction and why not sign up for one of our training weekends - they're a great opportunity for you to meet our team and fellow participants!

What is the challenge grading scheme?

All of our challenges are graded on a scale from 1 to 3 to indicate the level of difficulty, 1 being the lowest challenge grade and 3 being the most challenging. (1 = Challenging, 2 = Tough and 3 = Extreme).

Where will we stay?

We will be staying mostly in local hotels with en-suite washing facilities, usually two people to a room, and on one night our accommodation is at a tented Safari Camp. Please be aware that some of these lodges and hotels are more basic than what we are used to in the UK - remember, this is a challenge!

Do I need specialist kit?

We will supply you with a kit list of what to take once you register to take part. Apart from some cycling shorts, a cycling helmet and maybe some cycling gloves, you do not need any specialist kit. Participants can bring their own pedals, bar-ends and any other personal cycling equipment they see fit to modify the bikes supplied, although it is not compulsory.

Do I have to carry my own luggage?

No. All luggage will be transported from accommodation to accommodation by our support vehicles. You will need a small saddle bag/bum bag/'camel bak' while cycling, to carry items such as camera, sunscreen, tissues, personal First Aid kit etc. Some people find wearing a backpack uncomfortable due to the heat and humidity, but it is up to you.

Food Matters...

All meals will be provided on the challenge, from dinner on day 2 to breakfast on day 10, with the exception of lunch on day 3. Food will be predominantly North Indian with a good selection of meat and vegetables, and there will be some Western cuisine at the hotels in the evenings. We cater for most dietary requirements so long as we know in advance – just fill in the appropriate section on your registration form.

What's included?

- Return flights from a London airport to India
- All accommodation and all meals, from dinner on day 2 to breakfast on day 10, with the exception of lunch on day 3
- Drinking water, snacks and fruit for all cycling days
- Private vehicles for backup, support and transfers
- Local English-speaking guides
- Mechanical and medical support
- Local bike hire with spares
- Global Adventure Challenges leader from the UK and full and comprehensive first aid kits

What's not included?

- Airport taxes and fuel surcharge – these are approximately £250 and payable 8 weeks prior to departure
- Visa for India
- Tips and gratuities
- Lunch on day 3
- Alcoholic drinks and drinks during meals
- Personal travel insurance – it is strongly advised to take this through Global Adventure Challenges

Can I stay in India after the challenge?

All extensions are strictly limited, subject to availability and are given on a first come, first served basis. Those wanting to request an extension should contact Global Adventure Challenges at customer.care@globaladventurechallenges.com. There is a minimum charge of £60 + VAT for having your return airline ticket extended. Please note, the final decision always rests with the airline.

What support is there on the challenge?

There will be a strong support team with a professional Global Adventure Challenges leader from the UK, as well as local guides. Full, comprehensive first aid kits will be taken and we are never too far away from hospitals. A vehicle will accompany the group providing support if needed.

What happens if I get tired?

There will be regular rest stops for drinks and snacks – there is no problem if you need to take more rest stops. A guide will be bringing up the rear of the group on the cycle ride ensuring no-one is left alone – remember though, this is not a race!

How do I go about raising the sponsorship?

Once you have signed up you will receive a fundraising pack from your charity in order to make your fundraising as easy as possible. You will also receive a few tips and ideas from Global Adventure Challenges to help you on your way.

I'm interested... what do I do now?

Places are limited and go on a first come, first served basis, so try to register as soon as you can! You can register online at www.globaladventurechallenges.com or fill in the enclosed registration form and medical questionnaire and post it back to Global Adventure Challenges along with the registration fee – all payment options and costs are explained on the enclosed information sheet. Once your registration is received, Global Adventure Challenges will write to you sending you further information on what to expect from this awesome adventure! Your charity will also be in touch with you to discuss your fundraising.

REGISTER ONLINE TODAY!

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