

Table Of Content

Geographical location	4
Neighbouring cities/countries	5
Significance	6
History	7
Cultural identity	8
Natural resources	9
Key site seeing places (paid and free)	10
- Paid	10
-- Jaisalmer Fort	10
-- Patwon Ki Haveliyan	10
-- Badal Mahal	10
-- Desert National Park	11
-- Desert Cultural Centre	11
-- Salim Singh Ki Haveli	11
-- The Thar Heritage	12
-- Khaba Fort	12
-- Folklore Museum	12
- Free	14
-- Jaisalmer War Museum	14
-- Shri Tanot Mata Temple	14
-- Bada Bagh	14
-- Sam Sand Dunes	14
-- Vyas Chhatri	15
-- Kuldhara	15
-- Longewala-The Battlefield	15
-- Amar Sagar	15
-- Fort Pokaran	16
-- Mandir Palace	16
-- Baba Ramdev Vidhya Mandir	16
-- Jaisalmer Art Palace	17
-- Sadar Bazar	17

-- Bellissima Corative Shop	17
-- SILK ROUTE ART GALLERY	18
-- Jaisalmer Handloom	18
-- The Khadi Gramoyug Bhavan	18
Key sites sports & adventure	19
Spas and relaxation	20
Events calendar	21
Key local guides and tours	24
Transportation hubs	25
Transportation cost	26
Baggage allowance	27
Restaurant & Nightlife	28
Average meal cost	30
Shopping	31
Tourist benefits	32
Essential local apps	33
Driving	34
Travel essentials	35
Essential clothes	36
Local currency	37
Change vendor's commission, ATM charges	38
Staying connected	39
Time Zone	40
Languages	41
Political Scenario	42
Economic Scenario	43
Religious belief	44
Visa requirements	45
Essential vaccination	46
Theft and Safety	47
Embassy/Consulate	48
Accessibility	49
Emergencies	50

Do's and Don'ts 51

Tipping basics 52

Pet info 53

Conclusion 54

Disclaimer 55



Index

1. Geographical location

Declared as a World Heritage site, the city of Jaisalmer is one of the premier tourist destinations in the state of Rajasthan. In terms of location, Jaisalmer is one of the largest districts in the country; it is the largest in Rajasthan. The city of Jaisalmer is an arid desert area and that's why its climate in summer and winter registers extreme temperatures. In summertime the mercury can soar up to 49 degrees Celsius whereas in winter, it dips down as low as 5 degrees Celsius. The region's vegetation is mainly the rain crops.



Index

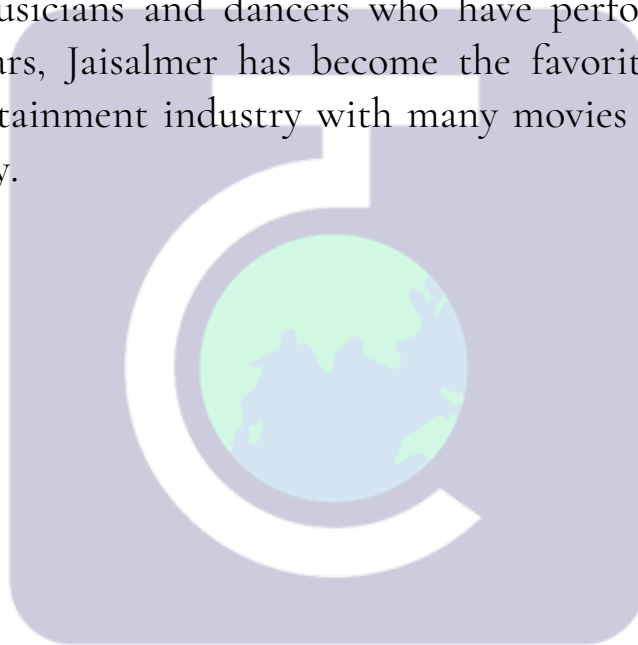
2. Neighbouring cities/countries

Interestingly, In Its West & South-west Jaisalmer Shares Borders With Pakistan. Jaipur, The State Capital Of Rajasthan Is Situated Approximately 575kms Away From Jaisalmer In The West. The District Of Bikaner Boundaries The City Through The North-east Region And The Barmer District Surrounds It From The South.



3. Significance

Listed as a World Heritage Site, the Golden City Jaisalmer lies near the India-Pakistan border. It is a strategically important city for India due to its proximity to the international border. The area is a reservoir of natural gas. Primarily a desert region, Jaisalmer is now one of the most sought after international tourist destinations in India. Culturally also the city has been a significant place with several renowned musicians and dancers who have performed all around the world. In recent years, Jaisalmer has become the favorite location for event organizers and entertainment industry with many movies and TV shows being shot in this sandy city.



Index

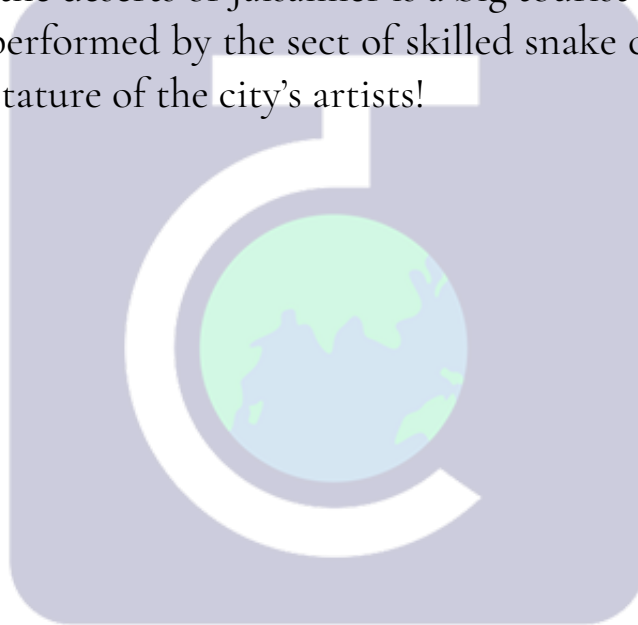
4. History

In 1154 AD, the fort and town of Jaisalmer were discovered by Maharawal Jaisal. This discovery came about after he moved his kingdom's capital from Ludharva (18 Kms away from Jaisalmer) to a safer venue. Before becoming the city that it is today, Jaisalmer was amongst the Rajputana States to come under British control and protection. After a series of many other events in the pre-independence era, Jaisalmer was reintegrated into the Rajasthan State in 1949. In the same year, it was also declared as an independent district falling in the Jodhpur division.



Index**5. Cultural identity**

The city of Jaisalmer is a cultural powerhouse. Not just its art and architecture's the city's culture is highly vibrant and well-known. All of the festivals and traditions which are observed or celebrated by Jaisalmer's inhabitants, they are all staged in perfect harmony. The folk music dance and art are the strongest pillars of Jaisalmer's cultural being. The mix of folk dancing, singing and classical music on the sand dunes of the deserts of Jaisalmer is a big tourist attraction. Moreover, the Kalbeliya dance performed by the sect of skilled snake charmers display's the artistic and creative stature of the city's artists!



Index

6. Natural resources

Jaisalmer district is renowned for its mineral wealth. It occupies a significant position on the mineral map of the state. It possesses a wide range of mineral resources and offers considerable potential for further. With the discovery of steel grade limestone and cement grade limestone, the district has come into limelight and already six areas have been offered for major cement plants. Jaisalmer has also shown positive evidence of Hydrocarbon accumulation (Natural Gas).



Index

7. Key site seeing places (paid and free)**7.1. Paid****7.1.1. Jaisalmer Fort**

Address : Fort Rd, Amar Sagar Pol, Jaisalmer, Rajasthan 345001

Zipcode : 345001

Location : 26.9123826, 70.9123253

Contact : 099502 51462

Nearest Public Transport : Main Bus stop

Entry Fee : INR 250

Open & Close Timing : Daily 09:00hrs-18:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.2. Patwon Ki Haveliyan

Address : Patwon Ki Haveli Amar Sagar Pol, Jaisalmer, Rajasthan 345001

Zipcode : 345001

Location : 26.9163918, 70.914330699

Nearest Public Transport : Main Bus Station

Entry Fee : Indian – INR 10 Foreigner – INR 50

Open & Close Timing : Daily 08:00hrs-18:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 5 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.3. Badal Mahal

Address : Gandhi Chowk Rd, Sadar Bazar, Jaisalmer, Rajasthan 345001

Zipcode : 345001

Location : 25.1490334, 73.5803533

Entry Fee : Indian – INR 10 Foreigner – INR 50

Open & Close Timing : Daily 06:00hrs-17:00hrs

Time Required : 4

Expected Wait Time : 15 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.4. Desert National Park

Address : Sam Sand Dunes, Sam, Rajasthan 345001

Zipcode : 345001

Location : 26.9157487, 70.908344299

Contact : +91-9784844524

Entry Fee : INR 100 per person

Open & Close Timing : Daily 10:00hrs-17:00hrs

Time Required : 3

Expected Wait Time : 5 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.5. Desert Cultural Centre

Address : Gadisar Rd, Amar Sagar Pol, Jaisalmer, Rajasthan 345001

Zipcode : 345001

Location : 26.9107, 70.918999999

Nearest Public Transport : Main Bus Station

Entry Fee : Puppet Show – INR 35

Open & Close Timing : Daily 10:30hrs-18:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 5 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.6. Salim Singh Ki Haveli

Address : Asani road, Amar Sagar Pol, Jaisalmer, Rajasthan 345001

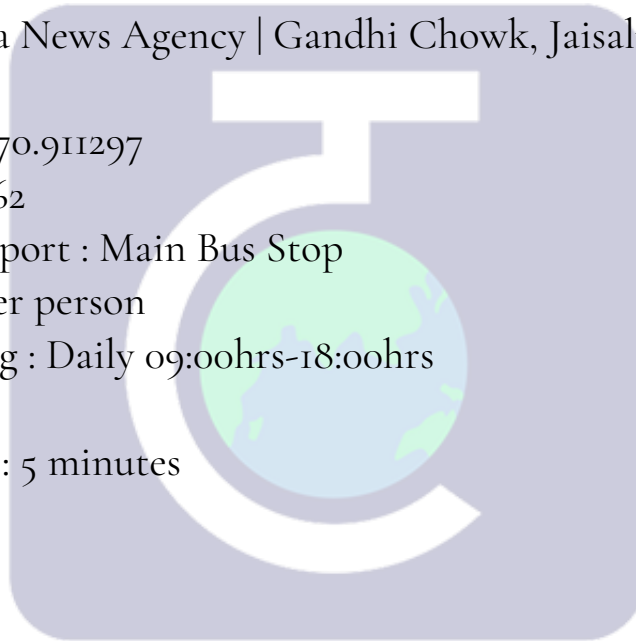
Zipcode : 345001

Location : 26.9137232, 70.9160936


Nearest Public Transport : Main Bus Station
Entry Fee : Indian – INR 10 Foreigner – INR 50
Open & Close Timing : Daily 06:00hrs-17:00hrs
Time Required : 2
Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes
Buy Ticket : No

7.1.7. The Thar Heritage

Address : Near Bhatia News Agency | Gandhi Chowk, Jaisalmer 345001, India
Zipcode : 345001
Location : 26.915365, 70.911297
Contact : 919414150762
Nearest Public Transport : Main Bus Stop
Entry Fee : INR 40 per person
Open & Close Timing : Daily 09:00hrs-18:00hrs
Time Required : 2
Expected Wait Time : 5 minutes
Buy Ticket : No



7.1.8. Khaba Fort

Address : Dedha, Rajasthan 345001 
Zipcode : 345001
Location : 26.8114837, 70.673401199
Nearest Public Transport : Main Bus Station
Entry Fee : INR 50 per person
Open & Close Timing : Daily 06:00hrs-17:00hrs
Time Required : 3
Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes
Buy Ticket : No

7.1.9. Folklore Museum

Address : Gadisar Lake Rd, Postal Colony, Jaisalmer, Rajasthan 345001

Zipcode : 345001

Location : 26.9093022, 70.92036

Nearest Public Transport : Thevara College Bus Stop

Entry Fee : Indian – INR 10 Foreigner – INR 50

Open & Close Timing : Daily 10:00hrs-18:00hrs

Time Required : 1

Expected Wait Time : 5 minutes

Buy Ticket : No



7.2. Free

7.2.1. Jaisalmer War Museum

Address : Jaisalmer Jodhpur Highway, Thaiyat, Rajasthan 345001

Zipcode : 345001

Location : 26.9414426, 71.0256471

Time Required : 1.5

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.2. Shri Tanot Mata Temple

Address : Tanot, Rajasthan 345022

Zipcode : 345022

Location : 27.7958003, 70.3525293

Contact : +91-0972796834

Nearest Public Transport : Tanot Bus Stop

Open & Close Timing : Daily 05:00hrs-20:00hrs

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.3. Bada Bagh

Address : Jethwai, Rajasthan 345001

Zipcode : 345001

Location : 26.9619095, 70.8844581

Open & Close Timing : Daily 06:00hrs-17:00hrs

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.4. Sam Sand Dunes

Address : Sam Sand Dunes, Jaisalmer 345001

Zipcode : 345001

Location : 26.864881, 70.564681
Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours
Time Required : 4
Buy Ticket : No

7.2.5. Vyas Chhatri

Address : Dr. K. L. Achalvanshi Colony, Jaisalmer, Rajasthan 345001
Zipcode : 345001
Location : 26.9223705, 70.9065662
Nearest Public Transport : New Bus Stop
Open & Close Timing : Daily 08:00hrs-19:30hrs
Time Required : 2
Buy Ticket : No

7.2.6. Kuldhara

Address : Jiyai, Rajasthan 345001
Zipcode : 345001
Location : 26.808632, 70.8030759
Open & Close Timing : Daily 08:00hrs-18:00hrs
Time Required : 5
Buy Ticket : No

7.2.7. Longewala-The Battlefield

Address : Longewala, Rajasthan 335803
Zipcode : 335803
Location : 27.523257899, 70.1561259
Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours
Time Required : 1.5
Buy Ticket : No

7.2.8. Amar Sagar

Address : Amar Sagar, Lodurva, Rajasthan 345001

Zipcode : 345001

Location : 26.9310277, 70.8710813

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.9. Fort Pokaran

Address : Sardar Bazar Rd, Pokhran, Rajasthan 345001

Zipcode : 345001

Location : 26.9204583, 71.9148768

Contact : 02-994222274

Website : <http://www.fortpokaran.com/>

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.10. Mandir Palace

Address : Sadar Bazar, Jaisalmer, Rajasthan 345001

Zipcode : 345001

Location : 26.9161547, 70.909568799

Contact : 02992 252 788

Nearest Public Transport : Sadar Bazar Bus Stop

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.11. Baba Ramdev Vidhya Mandir

Address : Temple Road, Near Ram Sarovar Pond, Jaisalmer, Ramdevra, Rajasthan 345023

Zipcode : 345023

Location : 27.0086354, 71.9274748

Contact : 097990 19415

Website : <http://www.ramdevdarshan.com/index.htm>

Nearest Public Transport : Ramdevra Train Station

Open & Close Timing : Daily 05:00hrs-12:00hrs; 16:00hrs-21:00hrs

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.12. Jaisalmer Art Palace

Address : Jaisalmer, Rajasthan 345001

Zipcode : 345001

Location : 26.916657, 70.914127

Contact : 02992 256 406

Nearest Public Transport : Sadar Bazaar Bus Stop

Open & Close Timing : Daily 09:00hrs-20:00hrs

Time Required : 0.5

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.13. Sadar Bazar

Address : Jaisalmer, Rajasthan 345001

Zipcode : 345001

Location : 26.9150059, 70.91083909999998

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.14. Bellissima Corative Shop

Zipcode : 0

Location : 26.9130966, 70.91201130000002

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.15. SILK ROUTE ART GALLERY

Address : Kalakar Colony, Patwa Haveli Road, Malka Pol,, Jaisalmer, Rajasthan

345001

Zipcode : 345001

Location : 26.919551, 70.91305899999998

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.16. Jaisalmer Handloom

Address : Fort Rd, Amar Sagar Pol, Jaisalmer, Rajasthan 345001

Zipcode : 345001

Location : 26.91368, 70.911304

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.17. The Khadi Gramoyug Bhavan

Zipcode : 0

Location : 26.918422, 70.914761

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No



Index

8. Key sites sports & adventure

The golden deserts of Jaisalmer offer a wide array of thrilling adventure sports for people of all ages. Choose from camping, jeep safaris, camel safaris, horse safaris, paragliding, and hot air ballooning.

- **Boating -**

Address : Postal Colony, Jaisalmer, Rajasthan 345001

Location : 26.9085788,70.9231001

Nearest Public Transport : Main Bus Stop

Entry Fees : Boat Rides – INR 500

Open / Close Time : Daily 07:00hrs-19:00hrs

Time Required : 1.00



9. Spas and relaxation

- **The Gulaal Hotel:**

Address : Bera Road, Opp Nagarpalika, Jaisalmer 345001, India

Location : 26.9045447,70.912060800

Contact No : 02992 251 450

Website : <http://www.thegulaal.com/>

- **Suryagarh Hotel:**

Address : Kahala Phata, Sam Road, Jaisalmer 345001, India

Location : 26.9212132,70.894490500

Contact No : 02992 269 269

Website : <http://www.suryagarh.com/>

- **Rait - The Spa:**

Address : Ram Kund, Jaisalmer, Rajasthan 345001

Location : 26.9214188,70.894303999

10. Events calendar

Month

Events

Camel Festival @ Junagarh Fort

A festival that is held to determine the fastest camel and the most decorated one with locals performing folk dances.

Desert Festival @ Thar Desert

A festival that is held at the desert with lots of activities going on like camel racing with locals dressed in traditional clothes.

Holi (The Festival of Colours) @ Agra

It is a very colourful festival celebrated to mark the beginning of spring with bonfires and people chucking colour to each other.

Gangaur festival @ Jaisalmer

A very important traditional festival with lots of cultural music and rituals with the unmarried praying for a spouse.

Summer Festival @ Jaisalmer

A festival held to give thanks for

protection and to usher in the summer season.

Vat Pournima festival @ Jaisalmer

This is a Hindu festival where married women give thanks for their husbands and pray for them.

Rath Yantra @ Jaisalmer (6th)

A festival that Hindus celebrate the return of Lord Jagannath and carry him in a chariot.

Independence Day @ Jaisalmer

A national holiday celebrated with civic parades and fireworks all over the city.

Krishna Janmaashtami festival @ Jaisalmer

A Hindu festival held to celebrate the birthday of Lord Krishna with the Hindus fasting on that day.

Gandhi Jayanti @ Jaisalmer

A national holiday that was established to celebrate the birthday of the father of nation with exhibitions of civic parades and the nation's accomplishments.

Pushkar Fair @ Jaisalmer

An event with lots of sport activities and camel beauty contest, dances and races. Delightful Jaisalmer @ Jaisalmer

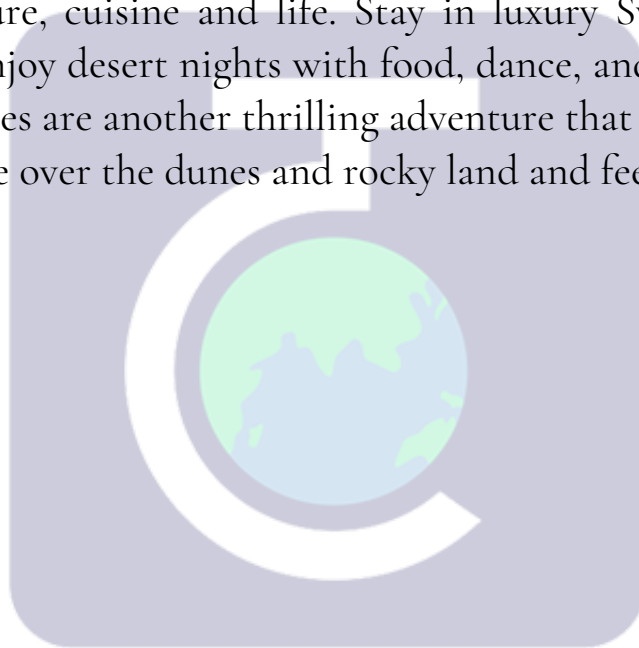
An event organized so that visitors get to discover the desert, the sand dunes and all about it.



Index

11. Key local guides and tours

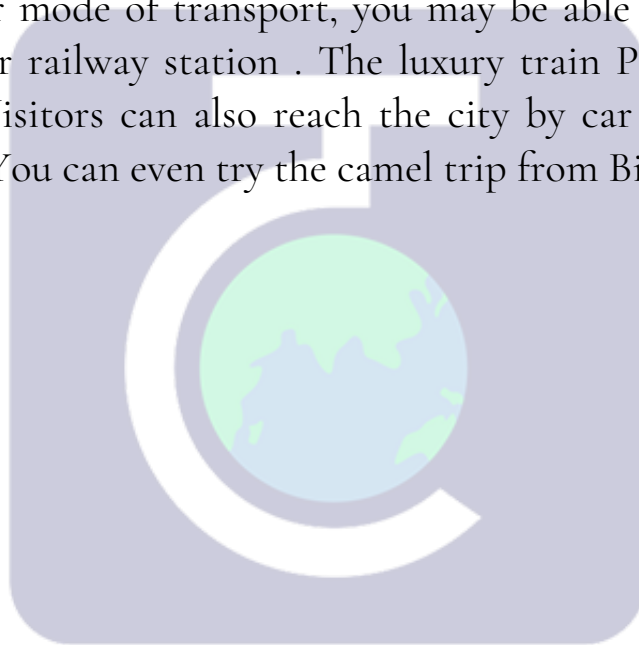
Though a small city, Jaisalmer is a treasure chest of sights and tourist attractions. Different types of packages are offered to tourists according to their likes and interests. Camel safaris offer a breathtaking view of the golden sandy deserts that stretch across to the horizon without any vegetation. Sunset safaris are quite mind-blowing and awe-inspiring. Desert camping tours bring the visitors closer to the regional culture, cuisine and life. Stay in luxury Swiss tents or normal camping tents and enjoy desert nights with food, dance, and music. Quad biking tours in the sand dunes are another thrilling adventure that Jaisalmer has in store for you. Ride the bike over the dunes and rocky land and feel like a hero.



Index

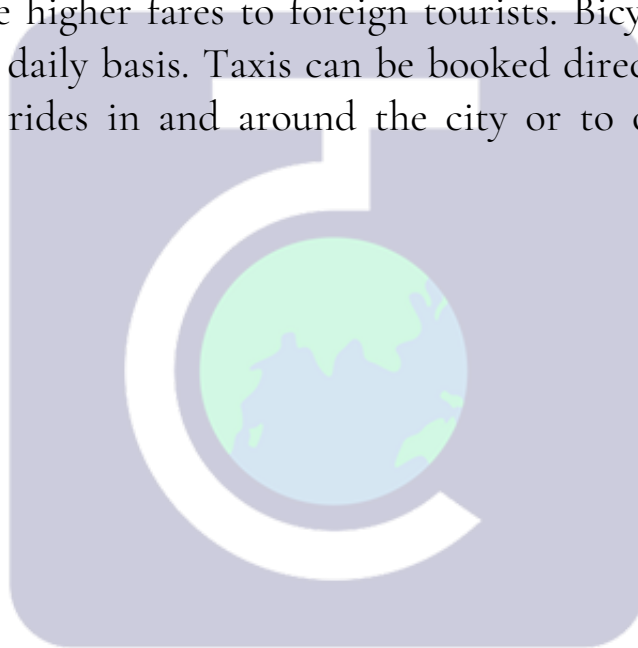
12. Transportation hubs

There is no public airport in Jaisalmer ruling out the option to fly to the city. The city is connected to Jaipur and other cities in Rajasthan by bus and train. Rajasthan State Transport Corporation and other private operators run buses between Jaisalmer and the various Rajasthan cities. There are some direct trains from Delhi through Jaipur. The train fare is around 450 rupees. If you reach Jaipur by some other mode of transport, you may be able to catch the train to Jaisalmer from Jaipur railway station . The luxury train Palace on Wheels also stops at Jaisalmer. Visitors can also reach the city by car from Delhi or other places in Rajasthan. You can even try the camel trip from Bikaner .



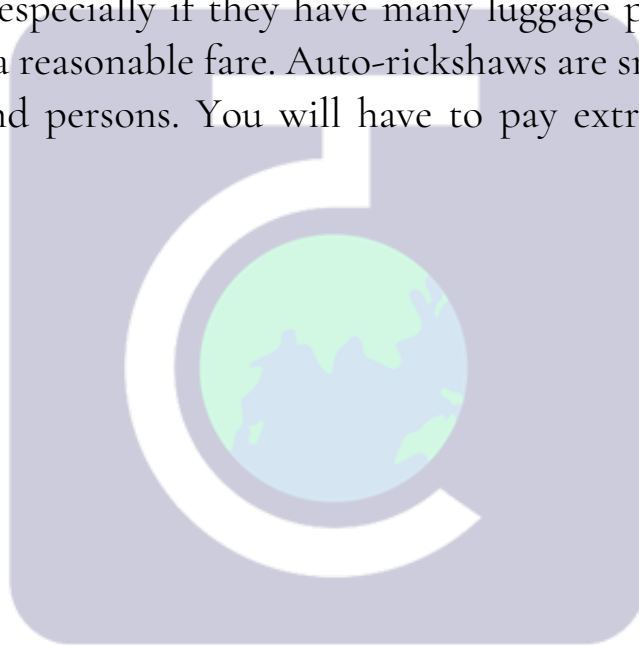
Index**13. Transportation cost**

Travelers can fly to Jodhpur from the Delhi Airport and then take train or bus to Jaisalmer. The direct train service to Jaisalmer from Delhi costs about 450 rupees. Most of the city can be covered by foot. Still, if you want to take any mode of transport within the city, auto-rickshaws are plenty. The fare is nominal. However, you will have to bargain especially during the tourist season as the drivers tend to quote higher fares to foreign tourists. Bicycles are available for rent on an hourly or daily basis. Taxis can be booked directly or through travel agents or hotels for rides in and around the city or to other destinations in Rajasthan.



Index**14. Baggage allowance**

Travelling with luggage in Jaisalmer will not be a problem as it is a small city. You can leave your luggage at the hotel or at the railway cloakroom while you explore the city. If you plan to take the luggage with you, it is better to travel in taxis if there is more number of bags or the luggage is huge or heavy. Normally there is no extra charge for luggage. But taxi drivers are known to charge the tourists for luggage, especially if they have many luggage pieces. Bargain before the journey to get at a reasonable fare. Auto-rickshaws are small and cannot carry too much luggage and persons. You will have to pay extra fare for taking the luggage also.



Index**15. Restaurant & Nightlife**

Jaisalmer is famous for its wonderful Rajasthani cuisine and traditional dishes. You shall find most of the restaurants near the Amar Sagar area.

Food -

Jaisalmer is famous for its wonderful Rajasthani cuisine and traditional dishes. You shall find most of the restaurants near the Amar Sagar area.

- **The Trio:**

Address : Mandir Palace, Gandhi Chowk, Near Bank of Baroda, Jaisalmer, Rajasthan 345001

Location : 26.9162272,70.909986

Contact No : 02992 252 733

Open / Close Time : Daily 12:00hrs-15:30hrs; 18:30hrs-22:30hrs

- **Desert Boy's Dhani:**

Address : Near Nagar Palika, Jaisalmer, Rajasthan 345001

Location : 26.9097287,70.913705100

Contact No : 094622 50149

Open / Close Time : Daily 11:00hrs-16:00hrs; 18:00hrs-23:00hrs

- **Natraj Restaurant:**

Address : Aasani Road, Near Salam Singh Haveli, Amar Sagar Pol, Jaisalmer, Rajasthan 345001

Location : 26.9136006,70.915911499

Contact No : 088901 11597

Open / Close Time : Daily 08:00hrs-23:00hrs

- **Jaisal Italy Restaurant:**

Address : Fort Rd, Manak Chowk, Khejer Para, Manak Chowk, Amar Sagar Pol, Jaisalmer, Rajasthan 345001

Location : 26.913351799,70.914131399

Contact No : 099285 92525

Website : <http://jaisalitaly.com/>

Open / Close Time : Daily 08:30hrs-22:30hrs

- **Cafe The Kaku:**

Address : Malka Pol, near suli dungar, Jaisalmer, Rajasthan 345001

Location : 26.9199415,70.913392700

Contact No : 096727 03070

Website : <http://www.cafethekaku.com/>

Open / Close Time : Daily 09:00hrs-23:00hrs

- **Gaji's Restaurant:**

Address : Near Sunset Point, Kalakar Colony, Jaisalmer, Jaisalmer, Rajasthan 345001

Location : 26.91901,70.911562

Contact No : 098290 30701

Website : <http://hotelgajiandrestaurant.blogspot.in/>

Open / Close Time : Daily 07:00hrs-23:00hrs

Index**16. Average meal cost**

A lunch or a dinner is available at 200 rupees – 600 rupees. A pint of beer is approximately at 110 rupees. A meal for 2 people shall cost around 900 rupees.

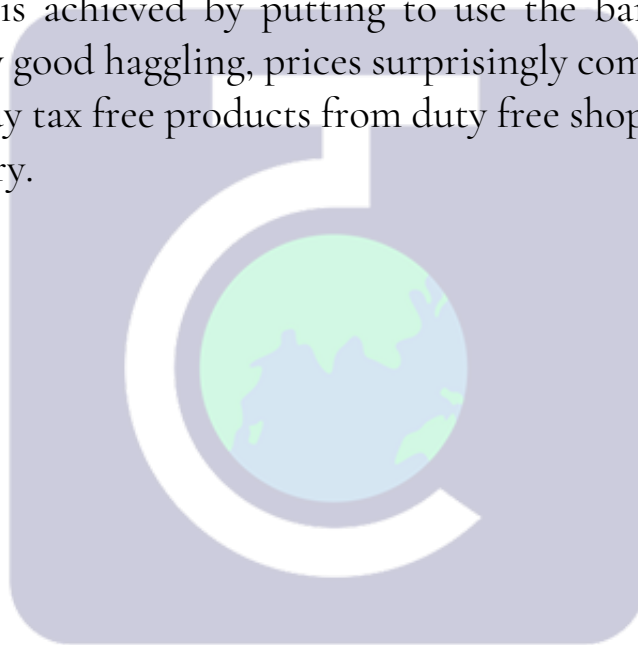


17. Shopping

Sadar Bazaar is a versatile marketplace. Be it local handicrafts paintings, wood-carved goods, souvenirs, jewelry. You will find everything here. You can also check out the spread of carpets and hand-embroidered goods. The market is also a must-see if you want to see some great ornamental items! There are very huge markets that are lined with jewelry shops. If you want to purchase some good quality pieces of ethnic jewelry pieces, this is the place to go to. Be it silver, gold, precious or semi-precious – all kinds of jewelry buys are possible in this shopping spot. Also, there are versatile marketplaces which are bustling with infectious energy of shoppers. The shops are lined with goods of different varieties including cotton and silk embroideries and leather goods, and much more! If you are interested in seeing or purchasing the traditional patchworks, rugs, bags or paintings, you need to try Bellissima or the Silk Route Art Gallery as both are very good art and craft shops. Jaisalmer Handloom is famous for tapestries, bedspreads and various other textiles. The Khadi Gramoyug Bhavan is famous for carpets, khadi and shawls.

Index**18. Tourist benefits**

Tax refund scheme for international tourists is currently not in practice in India. Discounts and deals are offered by shops and manufacturers from time to time. Mostly these coincide with festival and holiday seasons. In some popular tourist destinations, shopping benefits are available during the peak tourist season. It is best to visit the region's local markets and sellers to avail discounts and lower prices. Usually, this is achieved by putting to use the bargaining skills of the visitors. After a really good haggling, prices surprisingly come down to an average rate. Travelers can buy tax free products from duty free shops at the international airports in the country.



Index**19. Essential local apps**

You must Redbus app for booking buses or searching for bus tickets. There are various payment methods that can help you make online payments directly through the app. Desi Calendar shall help you to keep updated with the latest events and festivals in Jaisalmer. If you are planning to watch a movie or book air or train ticket, then get the Ngpay app.



20. Driving

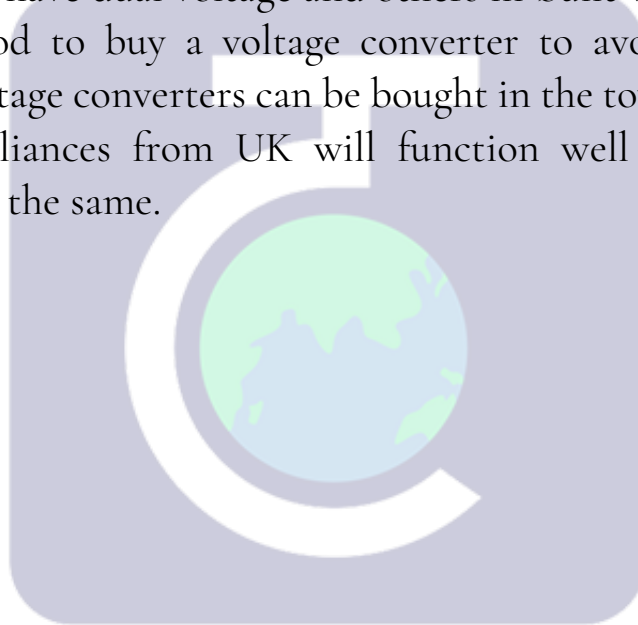
Driving in Jaisalmer is not really enjoyable as the state of the roads is not so good. However, if you opt to driving on your own, an international driving permit, valid foreign driving license, vehicle insurance certificate, vehicle registration certificate and pollution under control certificate for vehicles more than one year old are the required. To rent a car or truck, an international driving permit will also be required. You must be 18 years and above for you to rent a vehicle in this city. An international driving permit can easily be applied for in your country of origin where you got your local driving license. The permit is valid for only one year.



Index

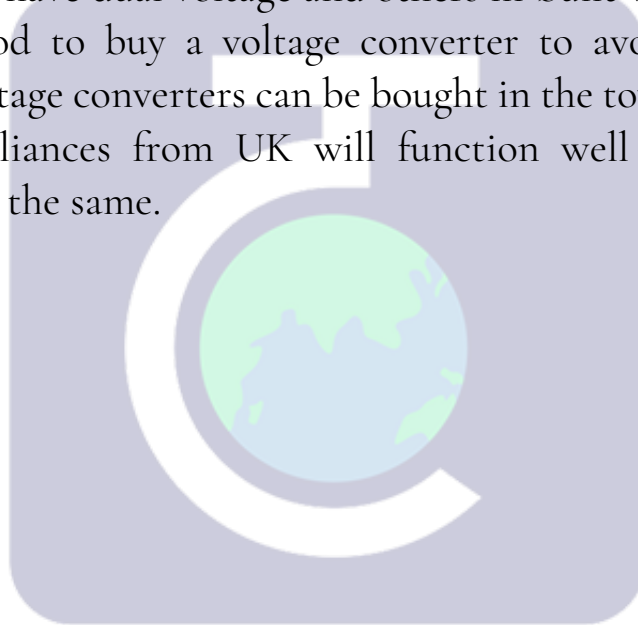
21. Travel essentials

The standard voltage in Jaisalmer town is 220 volts with a frequency of 50 hertz. Most sockets found in this town are the two pin plugs with round holes. So a travel adapter is required to fit the different types of plugs available in the hotels and other places in the town. Electric gadgets that do not match with the town's voltage will require a voltage converter for them to function properly. There are some appliances that have dual voltage and others in-built voltage but if they are not shown, it is good to buy a voltage converter to avoid blowing up your appliances. These voltage converters can be bought in the town as they are readily available. Many appliances from UK will function well in the town as the standard voltages are the same.



22. Essential clothes

The standard voltage in Jaisalmer town is 220 volts with a frequency of 50 hertz. Most sockets found in this town are the two pin plugs with round holes. So a travel adapter is required to fit the different types of plugs available in the hotels and other places in the town. Electric gadgets that do not match with the town's voltage will require a voltage converter for them to function properly. There are some appliances that have dual voltage and others in-built voltage but if they are not shown, it is good to buy a voltage converter to avoid blowing up your appliances. These voltage converters can be bought in the town as they are readily available. Many appliances from UK will function well in the town as the standard voltages are the same.



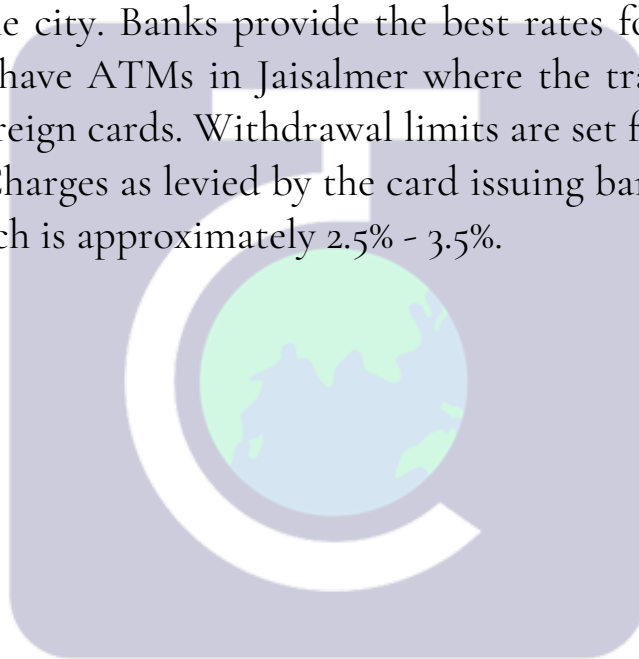
Index**23. Local currency**

The local currency of Jaisalmer is Indian Rupee. It is denoted as INR. 1 USD = INR 66.91.



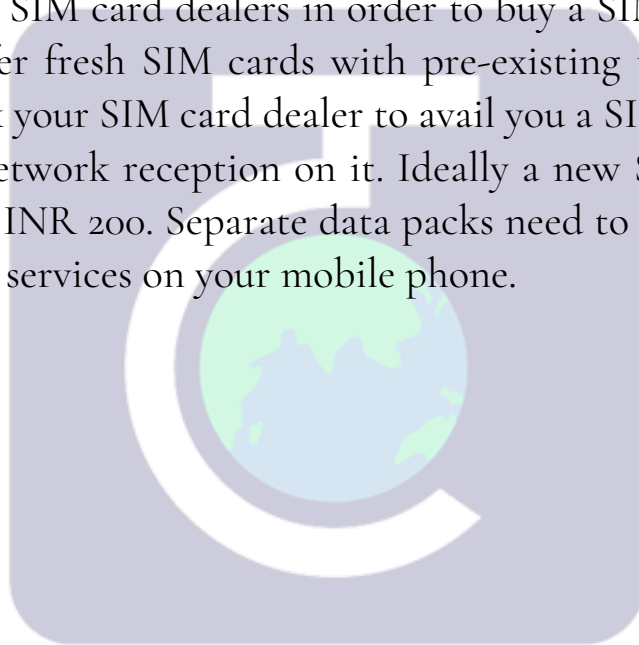
Index**24. Change vendor's commission, ATM charges**

Money exchanges are found near railway station and bus stand. Many agencies have kiosks at these locations. Always go to the government authorized agents for better rates and reliable service. They also charge a lower commission than the unauthorized ones. Rates can vary from agent to agent. All the major hotels in the city also have money exchange services. There is also an international money transfer service in the city. Banks provide the best rates for foreign currencies. Major Indian banks have ATMs in Jaisalmer where the travelers can withdraw money using their foreign cards. Withdrawal limits are set for transaction on per use and daily basis. Charges as levied by the card issuing banks are applicable for each transaction which is approximately 2.5% - 3.5%.



25. Staying connected

Landlines, mobile phones and Internet connectivity are available and accessible in the city of Jaisalmer. If travelers already possess a SIM card which belongs to the Rajasthan Circle, they need to not purchase a fresh SIM card, however, if there is a requirement for buying a new phone SIM, Jaisalmer has telecom and mobile outlets which are well-spread across the city. Travelers must carry and display their ID-proof to the SIM card dealers in order to buy a SIM Card. Most mobile service operators offer fresh SIM cards with pre-existing talk-time and calling minutes in them. Ask your SIM card dealer to avail you a SIM card which has the best talk-time and network reception on it. Ideally a new SIM card should cost between INR 50 and INR 200. Separate data packs need to be purchased if you'd like activate Internet services on your mobile phone.



26. Time Zone

Jaisalmer follows Indian Standard Time Zone (IST) with UTC + 09:00 hours.



Index**27. Languages**

Rajasthani and Hindi are widely spoken in Jaisalmer. Urdu is the following language.



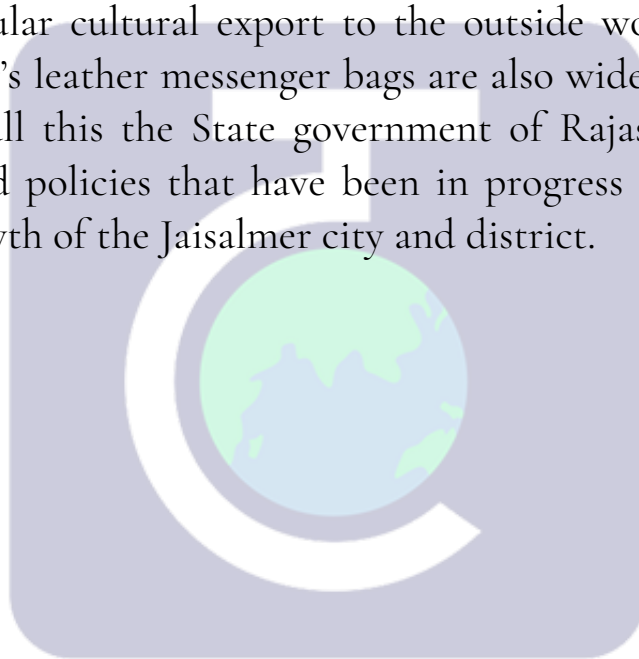
28. Political Scenario

As a district, Jaisalmer has three sub-divisions namely Jaisalmer, Pokaran and Fatehgarh. The overall development of the district, sub-districts and the villages which come in its region, is overseen by the three Panchayat Samities, i.e. Jaisalmer, Sam and Sankra.



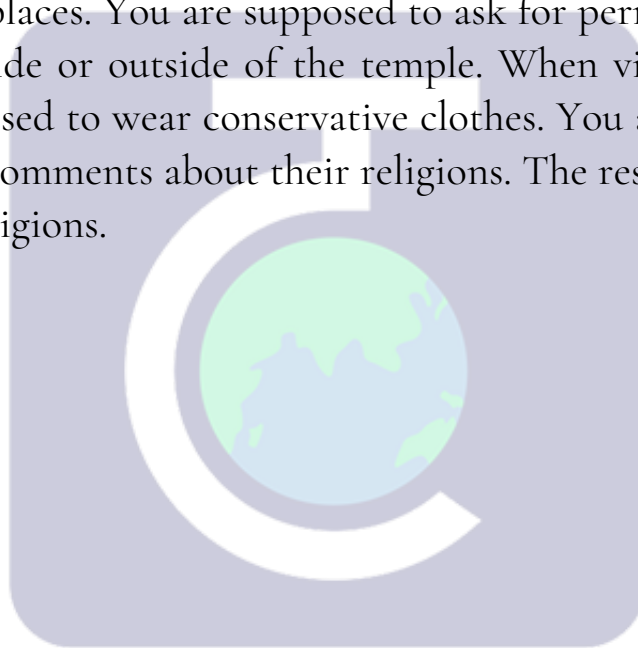
29. Economic Scenario

Jaisalmer's economy largely drives its revenue from the tourism sector. Owing to its historical and cultural legacy, Jaisalmer is a top tourist location and sees an influx of travelers coming from across the worldwide. Other than tourism, Jaisalmer's economy rests on the exports of the natural gas which was discovered in the Jaisalmer basin in 1988. Jaisalmer performing artistes – musicians and dancers - are a popular cultural export to the outside world. It is also worth noting that Jaisalmer's leather messenger bags are also widely popular across the world. Apart from all this the State government of Rajasthan has number of ongoing schemes and policies that have been in progress to ensure the overall social-economic growth of the Jaisalmer city and district.



Index**30. Religious belief**

The major religions in Jaisalmer are Hinduism, Islam and Jainism. Other religions growing in the city are Christianity and Buddhism. Most Hindus are vaishnavas and Durga. A few people in this town worship the sun god and most are the Gurjars. A few others do not identify with a specific religion. The residents here respect the worship places very much and you are supposed to remove your shoes when entering such places. You are supposed to ask for permission before taking any photographs inside or outside of the temple. When visiting these religious places, you are supposed to wear conservative clothes. You are also not supposed to make unpleasant comments about their religions. The residents live peacefully regardless of their religions.



Index

31. Visa requirements

For foreigners to be granted a tourist travel visa for visiting India, they'd need to file a visa application form the Indian Visa Application Center (IVAC). Upon successful review of a visa-request, the authorities follow-up and provide the date of interview. For the interview, applicants' must carry their relevant documentation. After approval, the authorities will issue an India tourist visa which has the maximum validity of six months (180 days.) In order to know about the procedure in detail go to <https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/visa/index.html>.



Index**32. Essential vaccination**

The following vaccines will be required before travelling to Jaisalmer; polio, diphtheria, measles, mumps, rubella and tetanus vaccines. Cholera, typhoid, hepatitis A, hepatitis B and Japanese encephalitis vaccines are recommended as there is a high risk of these diseases in the city.



Index**33. Theft and Safety**

Jaisalmer is probably considered as safe and it is because it has a major military base. There is no such violent crimes are recorded. It is quite safe for girls but still if they are alone then they have to be cautious about their safety and wellbeing. Petty thefts can be the major part of the robbery but if you are extra cautious then there is nothing to be worried. Crime rate is not so high.



Index**34. Embassy/Consulate**

There are no foreign embassies and consulates in Jaisalmer. You can find information of the same around the town at <http://embassy.goabroad.com/embassies-in/india>.



Index**35. Accessibility**

Most buildings in Jaisalmer town are not designed in a way that can be accessed by the disabled. Most buildings have stairs at the entrance making it very difficult for the wheelchair bound persons. However, there are some hotels that are quite accessible with wooden ramps, wide doorways, bathtubs and other facilities that assist the disabled move around. It is advisable to call these hotels before travelling and make advance bookings.



Index**36. Emergencies**

In case of an emergency in Jaisalmer, you can call 102 for ambulance services, 100 for police services and 101 in case of a fire. Shri Maheswari Hospital and Research Centre is a great hospital to visit in case of an emergency. It has modernized equipment and accepts travel medical insurance.

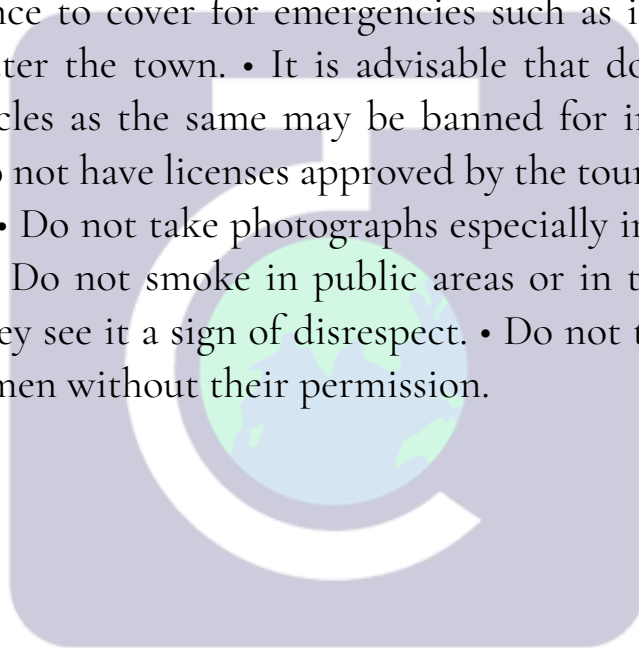


Index

37. Do's and Don'ts

Do's - • Be careful with the street sellers as some are thieves. • Label your luggage with your address and name. • Always carry with you your passport and other travel documents. • Dress decently when visiting religious places. • It is advisable to carry a certified doctor's prescription along with the medicines to ensure hassle free import clearance. • Take note of the permitted places for taking photographs. • Take travel insurance to cover for emergencies such as illness, theft and loss.

Don'ts - • Do not litter the town. • It is advisable that do not carry unsealed/unbranded food articles as the same may be banned for import. • Do not hire tourist guides that do not have licenses approved by the tourism department • Do not drink and drive. • Do not take photographs especially in the temples as most temples prohibit it • Do not smoke in public areas or in the temples. • Do not point the locals as they see it a sign of disrespect. • Do not take pictures of other people especially women without their permission.



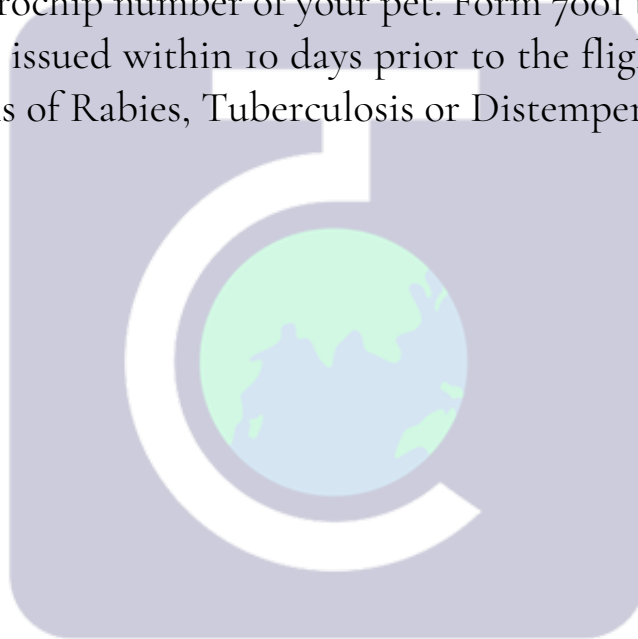
Index**38.Tipping basics**

In Jaisalmer, tipping is not a tradition but it is slowly becoming common. Hotels and restaurants often include a service fee in the bill which means you are not supposed to tip. However, those that do not include it, a 10% of the total bill tip is acceptable. It is also good to tip the camel guides as they earn very little wages.



Index**39.Pet info**

Jaisalmer is pet friendly and allows the tourist to visit the city with their pets. Finding pet friendly hotels in Jaisalmer is very easy. There are various pet care centers that offer to take care of your pet when you are touring through the city. It is necessary to microchip your pet. You need to carry Rabies Vaccination Certificate and a Vet Health Certificate. The Rabies Vaccination Certificate must include the microchip number of your pet. Form 7001 that is the Vet Health Certificate should be issued within 10 days prior to the flight. It should mention that there are no signs of Rabies, Tuberculosis or Distemper in your pet.



Index

Conclusion – Why to select this destination

If you want to be away from the madding crowd of the big cities and enjoy life on a slower pace, Jaisalmer is the perfect place. This small town has a refreshing and rejuvenating feel. With its magnificent fort and beautiful natural surroundings, Jaisalmer offers the visitor a very relaxed atmosphere to unwind. The Jaisalmer Fort, an iconic symbol of Jaisalmer, also known as the Sonar Qila (the Golden Fortress), is a historically important place that has seen many battles being fought. The sandstone walls turn take an enchanting golden hue during sunset, turning the entire fort into a golden structure true to its name. The cultural flavor of Rajasthan is reflected in the folk dances and songs of the desert people in Jaisalmer. There are also many museums in the city taking the visitors to the historical and cultural past of the region. The desert itself is a magic box of endless activities. From a leisurely stroll to adrenalin pumping extreme sports, it has everything to satisfy all kinds of people. The sunsets on the deserts are best enjoyed on a camel back. Don't be surprised to find great shopping opportunities in the midst of desert. Jaisalmer is famous for its leather products, traditional silver jewelry, and elaborate embroidery on silk and cotton. Never leave Jaisalmer without the handcrafted bed sheets made by the female folk of the villages. Another unique experience is the visit to the Indo-Pak border to see the international border between the two countries. If you are a wildlife enthusiast, there is the Desert National Park which is home to many indigenous species like the endangered great Indian bustard, chinkara, sandgrouse, and many other desert animals.

Index

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