

# Five Relaxed Days by the Lakes of Udaipur

Udaipur, Rajasthan — The City of Lakes

A gentle, moderate-paced family trip built around Udaipur's lakes, palaces and evening cultural shows, with a full day trip out to Kumbhalgarh Fort for those who want to see the Aravallis beyond the city. Designed so grandparents and small children aren't rushed, with plenty of sit-down thali meals and low-stress mornings.

Suits: Three-generation families and small friend groups who want culture, food and lake views without a punishing pace

## What it costs, per person

Stay: Rs 9,000 · Food: Rs 4,100 · Local transport: Rs 2,830 · Tickets: Rs 1,520 · **Total: Rs 17,450**

## Day 1 · Palace, Temple and the Old City's Craft Museums

*City Palace and old city heritage*

### 09:30 City Palace visit

Arrive right at opening to beat the mid-morning queues. Walk through the courtyards and mirrored halls at an unhurried pace; skip the separately-ticketed Crystal Gallery unless someone in the group is especially keen, since it adds significant cost for a short viewing.

City Palace, eastern bank of Lake Pichola · 120 min · Rs 300

With family: Zigzagging corridors and several flights of stairs with worn stone - keep small children's hands held and go slowly with elderly parents. Child ticket is approx 150 INR.

### 11:40 Jagdish Temple

A short stroll from the palace gate to this large Vishnu temple with an elaborately carved 79-foot spire. Shoes come off at the base of the marble steps.

Near City Palace main gate · 30 min · Rs 0 · Walk, 5 minutes, free

With family: The entrance steps are steep marble and can be slippery in bare feet - worth a steadying hand for older parents or toddlers.

### 12:20 Vintage and Classic Car Collection

A quick, air-conditioned break to see the Mewar royal family's vintage cars, including a couple used in old films. Good pacing after two heritage-heavy stops.

Near City Palace, Lake Pichola road · 45 min · Rs 200 · Walk, 10 minutes, free

With family: Flat, indoor, easy for anyone tired from the palace stairs. Child ticket approx 100 INR.

### 18:00 Bagore ki Haveli evening folk dance show

An 18th-century lakeside haveli with a well-loved hour-long folk dance and puppetry show most evenings. Arrive by 17:45 to get a decent seat since it's first-come-first-served.

Gangori Ghat · 90 min · Rs 120 · Auto from hotel, 15 minutes, approx 100 INR

With family: Upstairs venue with no lift - not ideal if a grandparent has serious knee or mobility issues, though seating is on the floor and easy to reach with support. Child ticket approx 60 INR.

## Where to eat

Breakfast: Hotel breakfast — Hotel Hill Park Udaipur (Rs 200)

Lunch: Unlimited Rajasthani thali with dal baati churma — A busy thali house near City Palace road (Rs 250)

Dinner: Rooftop dinner with a lake and palace view — A rooftop restaurant overlooking Lake Pichola (Rs 450)

## Where to stay

Hotel Hill Park Udaipur, Central Udaipur, near Fateh Sagar — Rs 2,250 a night. Business-standard rooms with easy multi-room booking for families, central enough to reach the old city and Fateh Sagar quickly.

Save a little: Skip the City Palace's separate Crystal Gallery ticket - the main palace already gives a full sense of the Mewar court, and the crystal collection is priced steeply for a short stop.

**Day total, per person: Rs 4,020**

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## Day 2 · Boats, Gardens and a Sunset Over the Lakes

*Lake Pichola, Fateh Sagar and Sajjangarh sunset*

### 10:00 Lake Pichola boat ride with Jagmandir stop

A canopied boat ride out to Jagmandir Island Palace and back, with time to walk around the gardens and elephant sculptures on the island. Buy tickets at the official counter near the ghat to avoid touts pushing pricier 'upgraded' packages.

Boat jetty near City Palace · 60 min · Rs 400

With family: Jetty steps and getting in and out of the boat need a steady hand for elderly parents; boats seat 6-8 under a canopy and are fine for small children. Child ticket approx 200 INR.

### 11:30 Saheliyon ki Bari (Garden of the Maidens)

A flat, easy garden with fountains and a lotus pool, built for the royal women of the court - a relaxed stop with no stairs to navigate.

Near Fateh Sagar Lake · 60 min · Rs 20 · Auto, 15 minutes, approx 100 INR

With family: One of the easiest stops in the city for both toddlers and grandparents - flat paths throughout.

### 14:00 Fateh Sagar Lake promenade and Nehru Island boat ride

A quieter, more local lake than Pichola with a pleasant lakefront walk and a jet fountain. An optional short boat ride out to Nehru Island's garden is a nice low-key add for young kids.

Fateh Sagar Lake · 60 min · Rs 100 · Auto, 10 minutes, approx 80 INR

With family: The lakefront itself is free and stroller/wheelchair-friendly; only the Nehru Island boat ride costs extra.

### 16:30 Sajjangarh (Monsoon Palace) sunset viewpoint

A hilltop marble palace with a winding approach road, visited mainly for the sunset view over both of Udaipur's lakes. Go by car rather than auto given the climb, and time arrival about an hour before closing.

Hilltop above the city, Sajjangarh Wildlife Sanctuary · 90 min · Rs 130 · Car (shared), 30 minutes, approx 200 INR round trip

With family: There's usually a small extra vehicle charge beyond the entry ticket; the winding road can be uncomfortable for anyone prone to car sickness, so keep snacks and water handy.

### Where to eat

Breakfast: Hotel breakfast — Hotel Hill Park Udaipur (Rs 200)

Lunch: Simple vegetarian thali — A local eatery near Saheliyon ki Bari (Rs 300)

Dinner: Sit-down dinner after the sunset drive back — A mid-range restaurant near Fateh Sagar (Rs 400)

### Where to stay

Hotel Hill Park Udaipur, Central Udaipur, near Fateh Sagar — Rs 2,250 a night. Same central base keeps the day's back-and-forth between the two lakes short and simple.

Save a little: Agree the Sajjangarh car fare (including the vehicle charge at the gate) with your hotel before setting off, rather than negotiating fresh at the base of the hill where rates run higher.

**Day total, per person: Rs 4,180**

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## Day 3 · Crafts, Markets and an Evening by the Ghats

*Rural arts village and old city shopping*

### 11:00 Shilpgram rural arts and crafts village

A spread-out, mostly flat crafts village showcasing folk architecture and performances from Rajasthan and neighbouring states. Check ahead for any craft fair or live performance scheduled that day.

Edge of Udaipur city · 90 min · Rs 50

With family: Flat and spacious, comfortable for strollers and slow walkers alike; there's some shade but carry water in warmer months.

### 14:30 Shopping at Hathi Pol and Bapu Bazaar

The main old city shopping lanes for miniature paintings, block-printed textiles, silver jewellery and leather mojari shoes. Compare prices at two or three shops before settling, since first quotes for tourists run high.

Old city, near City Palace · 90 min · Rs 0 · Auto, 20 minutes, approx 150 INR

With family: Narrow, crowded lanes shared with autos and cows - hold small children's hands rather than letting them walk ahead.

### 17:30 Evening walk along Gangori Ghat and the lake promenade

A relaxed, unticketed sunset walk along the ghats near Bagore ki Haveli, watching boats come in and the palace lights come on across the water - a good low-effort close to the day.

Gangori Ghat, Lake Pichola · 60 min · Rs 0 · Walk, 10 minutes, free

*With family: Comfortable and well-lit in the evening, generally an easy stretch for grandparents and young kids alike.*

#### Where to eat

Breakfast: Hotel breakfast — Hotel Hill Park Udaipur (Rs 200)

Lunch: Thali lunch after Shilpgram — A local eatery near Shilpgram or on the way back (Rs 300)

Dinner: Kachori and mirchi bada from a busy stall, followed by a light sit-down dinner — Old city street stall plus a nearby restaurant (Rs 400)

#### Where to stay

Hotel Hill Park Udaipur, Central Udaipur, near Fateh Sagar — Rs 2,250 a night. Continuing the same base avoids repacking mid-trip.

*Save a little: Pick street snacks only from stalls with a visible local crowd - it's both safer and usually cheaper than the tourist-facing stalls right at the ghats.*

**Day total, per person: Rs 3,550**

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## Day 4 · Day Trip to Kumbhalgarh Fort

*A day beyond the city, into the Aravalli hills*

### 07:30 Drive to Kumbhalgarh Fort

An early start for the roughly two-hour drive through the Aravalli foothills. Book the car through your hotel a day ahead rather than negotiating with an app cab, since coverage this far out is unreliable.

Udaipur to Kumbhalgarh · 120 min · Rs 0

*With family: Carry water, snacks and any motion-sickness tablets for kids or elderly parents given the winding hill roads.*

### 10:00 Kumbhalgarh Fort visit

A vast hilltop fort famous for its long defensive wall, second only in scale to the Great Wall of China among such structures. Walk the main ramparts and courtyards at a gentle pace; the full outer wall trek is not necessary to enjoy the visit.

Kumbhalgarh · 150 min · Rs 200 · Car, arriving directly, included in day's car hire

*With family: Uneven stone paths and some genuinely steep sections - not ideal for anyone with serious mobility issues; stick to the lower courtyards if needed. Ticket price is approximate and may vary.*

### 13:00 Lunch and rest before the drive back

A relaxed lunch stop at a highway dhaba or hotel restaurant near the fort before the return drive.

Near Kumbhalgarh · 60 min · Rs 0 · Walk, 5 minutes, free

### 14:30 Return drive to Udaipur

The drive back, timed to reach the city before dark given the winding rural roads.

Kumbhalgarh to Udaipur · 130 min · Rs 0 · Car, part of the same day's hire

*With family: Plan for a quiet evening back at the hotel after the long day out.*

#### Where to eat

Breakfast: Early hotel breakfast or packed sandwiches before departure — Hotel Hill Park Udaipur (Rs 200)

Lunch: Thali or simple vegetarian meal at a highway restaurant — Near Kumbhalgarh Fort (Rs 350)

Dinner: Light dinner back in Udaipur after a long day — A restaurant near the hotel (Rs 350)

#### Where to stay

Hotel Hill Park Udaipur, Central Udaipur, near Fateh Sagar — Rs 2,250 a night. Returning to base rather than staying overnight near Kumbhalgarh keeps logistics simple for a family group.

*Save a little: Negotiate one flat, all-inclusive fare for the full-day Kumbhalgarh car hire (including waiting time) through your hotel rather than paying by the hour.*

**Day total, per person: Rs 4,500**

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## Day 5 · A Slow Morning and Departure

*Last look at the old city before heading out*

### 08:00 Morning visit to Jagdish Temple

An unhurried revisit to the temple in the cooler morning hours, when it's quieter and easier to move around with elderly parents.

Near City Palace main gate · 30 min · Rs 0

*With family: Mornings are noticeably less crowded here than midday.*

### 09:00 Last-minute shopping at Hathi Pol Bazaar

A final stop for miniature paintings, textiles or mojari shoes before checking out, with time built in to pack purchases carefully.

Old city, near City Palace · 60 min · Rs 0 · Walk, 5 minutes, free

### 12:00 Check out and transfer to airport or railway station

Book this transfer through your hotel in advance rather than relying on an app cab, since pickups from residential or hotel areas outside the main tourist belt can get cancelled or upcharged.

Hotel to Maharana Pratap Airport or Udaipur City railway station · 45 min · Rs 0 · Auto to hotel, 10 minutes, approx 100 INR

*With family: Build in extra buffer time given occasional slow traffic near the old city gates.*

### Where to eat

Breakfast: Hotel breakfast before checkout — Hotel Hill Park Udaipur (Rs 200)

Lunch: Quick thali or light meal before departure — Near the old city or at the station/airport (Rs 300)

### Where to stay

Hotel Hill Park Udaipur, Central Udaipur, near Fateh Sagar — Rs 0 a night. Checkout day - no additional night stayed.

*Save a little: Have the hotel arrange the airport or station car the night before at a fixed fare, which is usually cheaper and far more reliable than a same-morning app cab booking.*

**Day total, per person: Rs 1,200**

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## Pack for this trip

- Comfortable, closed walking shoes for uneven stone and marble at the City Palace, Jagdish Temple and Kumbhalgarh
  - A light shawl or stole for temple visits where shoulders should be covered
  - Sun hats, sunscreen and refillable water bottles, especially for the Kumbhalgarh day trip and any outdoor garden stops
  - A small first-aid kit with motion-sickness tablets for the winding roads to Sajjangarh and Kumbhalgarh
  - Layered clothing if travelling in winter months, since evenings by the lake can get cool
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## Stay safe

- The City Palace and several havelis involve stairs and slippery marble - go slowly with toddlers who need carrying or elderly parents with knee issues
  - Hold small children's hands in the old city lanes, which are shared with autos, bikes and the occasional cow
  - Buy boat and attraction tickets at the official counters near the ghats to avoid touts pushing 'upgraded' packages or unnecessary guides
  - Avoid the April-June months altogether with young children or older travellers, since daytime heat can bring on exhaustion quickly during monument visits
  - Book cars for early morning airport or station runs through your hotel rather than a same-day app cab, since pickups outside the main tourist belt are unreliable
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## Local courtesies

- Remove shoes before entering temples such as Jagdish Temple, and dress modestly with shoulders and knees covered
- Agree auto fares before getting in rather than after the ride, since meters are rarely used
- Bargaining is expected in the bazaars, but keep it friendly - comparing two or three shops works better than aggressive haggling
- Udaipur is a strongly vegetarian city, and Jain (no onion-garlic) requests are almost always understood and accommodated without fuss

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### If it rains

- Swap outdoor stops like Fateh Sagar promenade or Sajjangarh for indoor options such as the Vintage and Classic Car Collection or the City Palace's covered courtyards
- The Bagore ki Haveli evening show is indoors on an upper floor and continues comfortably through light rain
- Old city lanes can get slippery and muddy near the ghats after rain, so time market visits for a lull in the showers
- Monsoon months bring dramatic full lakes and fewer crowds, so a rained-out morning can simply be shifted to the following day without losing much