

Three unhurried days in Jaipur with the family

Jaipur, Rajasthan — The Pink City

A moderately paced Jaipur trip that covers the hilltop forts, the pink old city, and one slow evening at Chokhi Dhani, with enough breathing room for grandparents and kids alike. Expect thalis, kachoris, bargaining in the bazaars, and a fair bit of walking on uneven fort steps, balanced against rest time each afternoon.

Suits: Mid-range travelling families or friend groups who want the core Jaipur experience without sprinting between monuments, including groups with elderly parents or young children who need built-in rest breaks.

What it costs, per person

Stay: Rs 4,200 · Food: Rs 2,050 · Local transport: Rs 1,150 · Tickets: Rs 1,390 · **Total: Rs 8,790**

Day 1 · The Forts: Amer, Jaigarh and a sunset at Nahargarh

Fort day with a car for the whole day to avoid stitching together autos

08:00 Amer Fort visit

Arrive right at opening to beat both the heat and the tour-group crush. Walk the main courtyards and the mirror-inlaid Sheesh Mahal; the walk up involves a steady climb and several flights of stairs inside.

Amer Fort, about 11 km from central Jaipur · 150 min · Rs 100 · Car with driver from hotel, approx 30-40 minutes, fare bundled into the day's car hire

With family: For elderly parents or anyone with knee trouble, take the jeep ride up rather than walking or the elephant ride, and budget extra time on the stairs inside.

10:30 Jaigarh Fort

Connected to Amer by a walkway/short drive on the hill above; home to Jaivana, the world's largest wheeled cannon, and good views back down over Amer and Maota Lake.

Jaigarh Fort, hill above Amer · 75 min · Rs 100 · Short drive along the connecting hill road, about 10 minutes, included in day's car hire

With family: More stairs and uneven ramparts; older kids interested in the giant cannon will enjoy this more than very small children.

13:30 Jal Mahal photo stop

A five-minute roadside photo stop at the lake palace on the way back toward the city; the interior isn't open, so this is purely a viewing/photo pause.

Man Sagar Lake, on the Amer-to-city road · 15 min · Rs 0 · Drive from Amer area, about 20 minutes, included in day's car hire

With family: Hold children's hands crossing to the viewing side; the road here carries fast traffic.

16:00 Nahargarh Fort sunset viewpoint

Less crowded than Amer, and Jaipur's best-known sunset point over the city. There's a wax museum and a couple of restaurants inside if the family wants to linger past the view.

Nahargarh Fort, Aravalli hills above Jaipur · 90 min · Rs 50 · Drive from hotel/city, about 20-25 minutes, included in day's car hire

With family: Gates close at 17:30, so arrive by 16:00 to comfortably enjoy the view before closing rather than rushing for exact sunset timing.

Where to eat

Breakfast: Hotel breakfast before the early start — Hotel (Rs 150)

Lunch: Rajasthani thali at a mid-range restaurant near Amer — Near Amer Fort (Rs 350)

Dinner: Sit-down Rajasthani or North Indian restaurant back in the city — MI Road area (Rs 350)

Where to stay

Umaid Bhawan Heritage Style Boutique Hotel, Bani Park — Rs 2,800 a night. Heritage-styled mid-range property with character, centrally located for both the forts and the old city; cost shown is per room, roughly 1400 per person on double occupancy.

to your account <https://chalega.tours/itinerary/c1eb8496cc>

Save a little: Split the day's car hire (approx 1500-2500 total) across 3-4 travellers rather than taking separate autos to

Amer, Jaigarh and Nahargarh; it works out cheaper and far less stressful with elderly parents.

Day total, per person: Rs 3,000

Day 2 · The Pink City: Hawa Mahal, City Palace and the bazaars

Old city culture and shopping, all within walking distance of each other

07:00 Hawa Mahal, viewed from the street

The five-storey pink facade is best photographed from the street outside at sunrise, when the light is best and the road is emptiest; the interior is bare and quick to see if you want to go in.

Hawa Mahal, Badi Choupad · 45 min · Rs 50 · Cab or auto from hotel, about 15-20 minutes, approx 100-150

With family: Going this early avoids both the heat and the worst of the scooter/hawker crush on this stretch.

09:30 City Palace

Still partly home to the royal family; wander the courtyards and museums covering royal costumes, weapons and Rajput-Mughal architecture.

City Palace, old city · 120 min · Rs 300 · Walk, about 800 metres, 10 minutes

With family: Mostly flat and stroller/wheelchair-manageable, a good stop for grandparents after the fort exertions of day one.

11:45 Jantar Mantar

The 18th-century observatory next door, with oversized stone instruments including the world's largest sundial; more engaging with someone along who can explain what each instrument measures.

Jantar Mantar, adjacent to City Palace · 60 min · Rs 50 · Walk, about 5 minutes

With family: Can feel repetitive to younger children without context; keep this visit brief if attention spans are flagging.

14:30 Johari Bazaar & Bapu Bazaar

Jewellery and gemstones in Johari Bazaar, textiles, block prints and juttis in Bapu Bazaar. Bargain everywhere except clearly fixed-price shops, and have a rough target price in mind before starting.

Old city market lanes · 120 min · Rs 0 · Walk, about 10 minutes from City Palace

With family: Hold small children's hands throughout; these lanes mix scooters, hand-carts and cows with no real separation. Ignore anyone claiming a shop is a 'government emporium' pushing you toward a commission sale.

Where to eat

Breakfast: Pyaaz kachori and mirchi bada from a street stall near Hawa Mahal — Old city street stall (Rs 100)

Lunch: Dal-baati-churma or gatte ki sabzi thali at an old city restaurant — Johari Bazaar area (Rs 300)

Dinner: Mid-range restaurant for laal maas or a vegetarian thali — MI Road (Rs 350)

Where to stay

Umaid Bhawan Heritage Style Boutique Hotel, Bani Park — Rs 2,800 a night. Same central base as day one, keeping the family from packing and moving hotels mid-trip; roughly 1400 per person on double occupancy.

Save a little: Walking between Hawa Mahal, City Palace, Jantar Mantar and the bazaars covers almost all of today's ground, so transport costs stay minimal; save the car hire budget for the fort day instead.

Day total, per person: Rs 2,800

Day 3 · A slower day: museum, temple, and an evening at Chokhi Dhani

Indoor/outdoor balance in the morning, then a relaxed folk-culture evening with dinner included

09:30 Albert Hall Museum

Jaipur's oldest museum, holding miniature paintings, metalwork, carpets and an Egyptian mummy, set in the green Ram Niwas Garden. A good indoor option if the weather is hot.

Ram Niwas Garden · 60 min · Rs 40 · Cab from hotel, about 15 minutes, approx 100

With family: Mostly flat, indoor, and air-conditioned in parts, a comfortable pace-changer for elderly members.

11:00 Birla Mandir

A calm white marble temple with clean grounds and good elevated city views, a quieter stop than the main monument circuit.

Birla Mandir · 45 min · Rs 0 · Short drive, about 10 minutes

With family: Free entry and generally uncrowded; a good stop to slow the pace down before lunch.

17:00 Chokhi Dhani evening

An ethnic-village theme resort on the city outskirts with folk performances, camel and bullock cart rides, and an unlimited traditional thali dinner included in the ticket price.

Chokhi Dhani, outskirts of Jaipur · 180 min · Rs 700 · Drive from hotel, about 30-40 minutes

With family: Reliably enjoyable for children with the rides and performances; plan to leave by around 21:00 if travelling with young kids or elderly parents rather than staying till closing at 23:00.

Where to eat

Breakfast: Hotel breakfast — Hotel (Rs 150)

Lunch: Mid-range restaurant near Ram Niwas Garden — Central Jaipur (Rs 300)

Dinner: Unlimited traditional thali included in Chokhi Dhani entry — Chokhi Dhani (Rs 0)

Where to stay

Umaid Bhawan Heritage Style Boutique Hotel, Bani Park — Rs 2,800 a night. Same base for the full stay avoids repacking; roughly 1400 per person on double occupancy for this last night.

Save a little: Chokhi Dhani's ticket already includes an unlimited dinner, so skip a separate paid dinner elsewhere that evening; it also saves you hunting for a restaurant after a full day out.

Day total, per person: Rs 2,990

Pack for this trip

- Comfortable, closed walking shoes for fort stairs and uneven bazaar lanes
- A hat, sunglasses and sunscreen even in cooler months, since fort visits mean time in open sun
- A light shawl or stole for temple visits and for women covering shoulders/head where expected
- A small day bag with water bottles, since Amer and Jaigarh have limited shaded rest spots
- Cash in small denominations for street food, autos and bazaar bargaining

Stay safe

- Hold small children's hands at all times in old-city lanes and bazaars; scooters, hand-carts, cows and tour buses share the same space with no real separation
- Amer Fort involves a steady uphill walk and several flights of interior stairs; elderly parents with knee trouble should take the jeep up and budget extra time inside
- Ignore anyone claiming a monument is 'closed' and offering to redirect you elsewhere, and be wary of anyone claiming to represent a 'government' gem or fabric emporium, these are commission setups
- Insist on the meter or a fixed fare before getting into an auto, especially near Hawa Mahal and Amer Fort where tourist-rate quoting is routine
- Wind down street wandering in tourist areas by 9-10pm rather than later, as is sensible in any Indian city

Local courtesies

- Bargaining is expected in Johari Bazaar and Bapu Bazaar except at clearly fixed-price shops; have a rough target price before you start
- Dress modestly at temples like Birla Mandir; a shawl covering shoulders is appreciated
- Jain and onion-garlic-free food requests are completely normal here and easy to ask for at any restaurant
- Remove shoes before entering temple premises; keep an eye on where footwear stalls are to avoid a long walk back in socks

If it rains

- Swap an outdoor fort stop for Albert Hall Museum or the City Palace's covered museum sections
- Old city bazaars have covered stretches and shop awnings, so shopping afternoons are largely rain-proof
- Chokhi Dhani has several indoor/covered dining and performance areas, so the evening plan usually still works in light rain
- Avoid Nahargarh or Jaigarh's open ramparts in heavy rain, as stone steps and walkways get slippery