

Yangla e.K.
Yangla Tours ● Nana Ziesche
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Rajasthan

Intense-creative: Bikaner and around with camel-safari

Grouptour for 4-10 participants

Foreword/Remarks

The concept of an intense-creative-tour is new. Therefore we'd first like to explain what you can expect.

Using creative methods, we can get an insight into a foreign area much deeper than it would be possible doing an „ordinary journey“. Being occupied in the creative process, how we can turn our impressions into something, we deal with with the daily experiences in a different way. We have to see, listen, feel, sense very carefully, what is important for us, how we want to communicate this process – wether it is just for ourself or with an audience. The methods are not important – wether it will be words (poems, stories, journalistic, snippets), pictures (photos, drawings, cartoons, paintings) or sounds (music, words, noises) or a mix of these things. We could start thinking about a product (coffeetable book, multimedia-piece, exhibition, collage) or just try some methods; we can be specialist in something or haven't use our creativity before – this tour is open for everyone, who like to get engaged into the process. The process to get engaged in a more intense way with everything we meet – landscape, people, ourselves.

We take guidance by the following questions: what do I see? What do I experience? What is in the foreground – is it, what is there or is there something else behind, what might be more interesting? What is cliché, what is really there, what do I project? Which extracts do I want to pass on? How do I experience Rajasthan? Etc.

To have this process mostly fruitful, it is important to have time for yourself – wether it is in contact with “the outside” or the reflection and transformation in “the inside”, same as the time with others for collective experiences and the exchange about these. The itinerary is created so that it gives many flexible possibilities. There is a fixed frame, but in this we are free to do as we like. The below itinerary is therefore a bit skimp and offers a good orientation.

We have chosen the area in and around Bikaner as it offers quite many different experiences and there is a local family, which accompanies us with their own unique warmhearted way and shares

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their daily life with us. An intense experience, which offers space to have a look below the surface of Rajasthan.

20.01.19

Bikaner

Individual arrival in Bikaner (for sure we help with the organisation of travelling there). There we meet as a group for the dinner. We get to know each other and talk about the tour.

Accommodation: Bhairon Vilas

Meals: dinner

Others: -



21.01.19

Bikaner

Sightseeing tour through Bikaner with the gorgeous Junagarh Fort and the fascinating old town in which offers behind every lanes something new and maybe surprising. After that we visit the camel research institute, where we learn a lot about camels and can try camelmilk-icecream. In the evening we talk about our wishes and how to create the next day.

Accommodation: Bhairon Vilas

Meals: breakfast, dinner

Others: entrance-fees, car

22.01.19

Bikaner

Today we get to know the local family and spend the day with them. We can choose between different activities: turban-binding, dancing, cooking-class, wearing traditional dress and go to the photo-studio, shopping with assistance, beauty parlour, talking... Lunch- and dinner we get from the family.

Accommodation: Bhairon Vilas

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner

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Others: car

23.01.19

Bikaner - Siana

70 km / 1,5 – 2 hrs.

Drive into the village area of Thar-desert. On the way we stop at Karni Mata Tempel in Deshnok. It is famous being called the "rat-temple" - countless rats are the reincarnations of earlier people of a special "tribe". The thrilling story we'll hear on the spot. Driving through small villages we head to the village Siana. There we move into the homestay and discover the village with our hosts. We get to know the work of the villagers, visit the schools, explore the water-system and join the ceremony in the evening in the village temple.

Accommodation: Siana Sojourn

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner

Others: car, entrance-fees



24.01.19

Siana

We continue with the experiences in the village. In the early morning we can visit a family of camel-breeders. Also we can see how the children are learning in the village-school, accompany the villagers during their daily-life, care for the animals, walk around and see what will be there spontaneously.

Accommodation: Siana Sojourn

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner

Others: car, entrance-fees

25. - 28.10.17

Cameltour

We start for a cameltour in the non-touristic part of the Thar-desert. Directly at the homestay-door will be our departure and then we continue the next 4 days riding on the camel, walk beside the camel or sit on the camelcart in the nature. For sure we can change during the day – just like it fits you best. During the tour we meet some Dhannis (small houses next to the fields), where we can

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stopp for tea and chat with the people. In the desert there is plenty of time as everything slows down and is more relaxed. For lunch we stopp at some place in the shadow and enjoy the freshly cooked rajasthani delicacys. We don't have to cover a fixed route but decide every day where and how far to go. In the evening we usually stopp at a small sanddune next to a village and pitch the tents or crawl into the sleeping-bag. For sure you can sleep under the stars (maybe on the camel-cart). The nights in the desert are something special, the soft air, gentle noises of the grasing camels and millions of stars.

Übernachtung: tent or under the stars
Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner
Others: camel, camel cart, staff



29.01.19

Camel-Sanddune - Siana

After enjoying the last breakfast in the desert we drive back to Siana. We have time to assimilate our creative results, catch up what we haven't done the previous time in Siana, relax....

Accommodation: Siana Sojourn
Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner
Others: car

30.01.19

Siana - Bikaner

We leave the village-world of Siana and drive back to Bikaner. Also here we have time to assimilate our creative results and catch-up with what we havn't had time the previous visit. There are still outstanding activities with the family, the Jain-temple, the vegetable market, drinking coffee/tea in the Laxmi Niwas Palace, the Chhatris of the late Maharajas at the lake Devi Kund – Bikaner has so many different parts!

Accommodation: Bhairon Vilas
Meals: breakfast, dinner
Others: car, entrance-fees

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31.01.19

Bikaner – Kolayat - Bikaner

Trip with local transport to the small pilgrimage town of Kolayat, 50 km away. One sector we take the local bus, the other by train. Kolayat is centre of pilgrims as – after the vedic sage Kapila, a holy hindu, left his body under the Peepul-tree. Temples and pavilions edge the 52 ghats around an artificial lake.

Accommodation: Bhairon Vilas

Meals: breakfast, dinner

Others: Bus, trainticket



01.02.19

Bikaner – Gajner - Bikaner

The last day we use to do a trip. First we go to Gajner, 35 km away fromn Bikaner. It is the location of a gorgeous palace, turned into a hotel, at an artificial lake. The area of 6.000 ha was turned into a small nature sanctuary. We swing up the bicycles and explore the area. Lunch we have in the palace. Back in Bikaner there will be enough time to watch each others creative work and talk about it.

Accommodation: Bhairon Vilas

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner

Others: bicycle, car

02.02.19

Bikaner – xxx

After a last breakfast together it is time for the bye-bye. (for sure we can assist for the organisation of travelling back or continue the journey)

Accommodation: -

Meals: breakfast

Others: -

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Costs

1.760 Euro per person

by own arrival

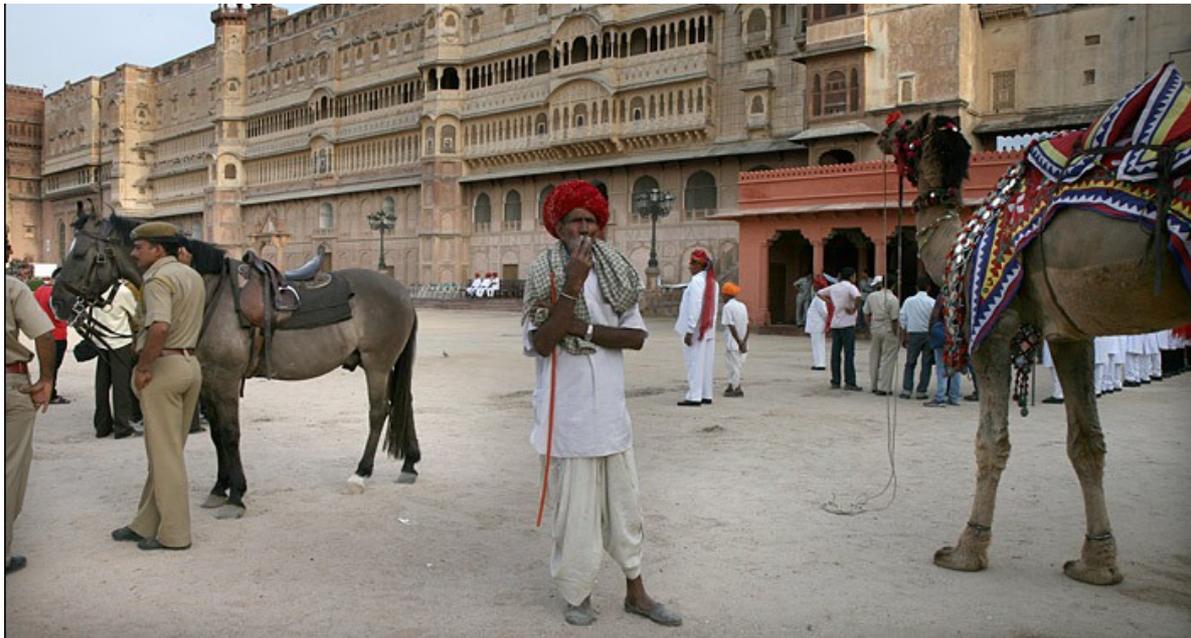
Single suppl.: 195 Euro

Included:

All drives and transfers (Tempo Traveller for longer distances, Autorikshaw in Bikaner), accommodation in 3-***-Hotel, Homestay in Siana, meals as mentioned, all entrance-fees, full cameltour (one riding camel for each participant, luggage camels with carts, tents, thick mats, blankets, staff, guide, full-meals, drinking-water), local english-speaking guide, german tourleader

Not incl.

Arrival/departure, additional meals, activities not listed with "Others", Visa, Tipp



Remarks:

Participants: 4-10 people

We prefer a small group so that we can react flexible to opportunities on the spot, contacts to the locals are easier and we can consider individual wishes. Who likes to engage oneself with creative methods, finds good opportunities here. We will always find time to talk about our process, follow ideas, contemplate in silence. Who doesn't like to do this is welcome, too, if you like to engage intensely with an area in Rajasthan.

The group is international with a translation service for the germans.

Cameltour: We have an extra information-sheet, ask for it at info@yangla-tours.de or check on the website.

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Accommodations: The Bhairon Vilas is unique with very differently decorated rooms – a very old royal house. Siana Sojourn is a very cosy homestay, the only accommodation in Siana. For the tent (or sleeping under the stars) there are mats and blankets. Especially for the outside-sleepers it is nice to have an own sleeping-bag or at least an inlet.

Tourleader: Nana Ziesche, born 1963, graduate in educational sciences, travel agent and photographer. For myself I prefer the camera and short texts to express myself. Often I struggled in the process, when I didn't find an expression, which felt coherent for me. But I got a deep satisfaction, when I achieved what felt good. Especially while travelling I especially liked the creative contemplation being lively and exciting. I also like to accompany others on their trail. Since 2011 I do the project Kamerakidz – children taking photos in India (www.kamerakidz.com)

Traveltime: In January it is nice and warm at daytime (up to 30°C), but AirCon is not really necessary. As the air is dry the feeling of heat is different than in more humid areas. In the evening and at night it can be quite cold. Jacket, sweater and/or fleece-jacket are good to have.

The process after: Usually we are more collecting material on such a tour, which we only can use at home to do a complete work. To be not alone during this process, for sure there will be possibilities of feedback also after the tour.

