



African & Indian  
Explorations

## **PALACE HOTELS IN RAJASTHAN & NORTH INDIA**

What does it feel like to be Royalty? A stay at these hotels will provide an inkling. These hotels differ from the other smaller heritage hotels primarily by size and their 'large hotel' feel, although some are borderline like Devigarh and the Dovecote Rooms.

### **THE IMPERIAL, NEW DELHI**



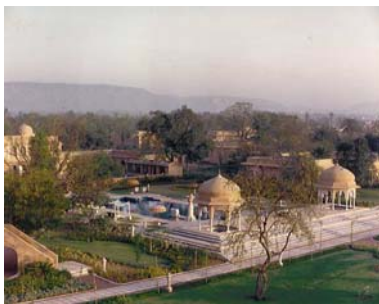
Colonial era hotel in the heart in the heart of New Delhi. Recently refurbished to high standards but retaining its old world ambience. Although not a palace by any means, it harks back to the era of Princely India.

### **AMAR VILAS, AGRA**



One of the sumptuous Oberoi Vilas Hotels with every room overlooking the Taj Mahal.

### **RAJ VILAS, JAIPUR**



A recreated Rajput Fort on the outskirts of Jaipur with superb rooms, villas and tents like no other.



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### **RAMBAGH, JAIPUR**



The Maharaja of Jaipur's hunting lodge and 'country' retreat converted into a Magnificent Palace hotel which once hosted the Mountbatten's and even today attracts high society who flock to Jaipur during the polo season. Superb grounds, newly refurbished rooms and history make this one of the great hotels.

### **AMANBAGH**



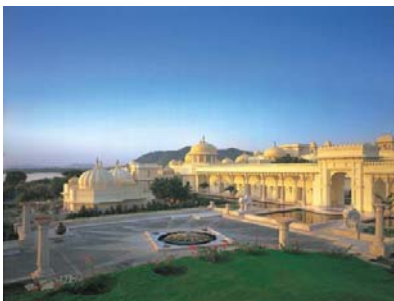
A restrained and aesthetically delightful oasis with all of Aman's sensitive styling. Lot's to do for the active and a wonderful place to re-charge batteries. This wonderful hotel is located in a historically significant and scenically beautiful area. Aman does have a knack in getting it just right!

### **UMAID BHAVAN**



The magnificent 1930's palace built by the then Maharaja of Jodhpur to provide employment during a period of drought. Used to the present day by the Maharaja as his residence. To sit on the terrace of an evening looking out over the city towards the great bulk of Meherangarh Fort darkening against the skyline is a memorable experience.

### **UDAI VILAS, UDAIPUR**



Another superlative Oberoi Vilas hotel on the shores of Lake Pichhola with magical views towards the City Palace across the water. Like the two other Vilas properties it seeks to replicate the style and grandeur of a Rajput palace and succeeds superbly.



### **DEVIGARH FORT, UDAIPUR**



An incredible combination of late medieval Rajput architecture and elegant minimalist interiors. It commands superb views over the country-side and is quite definitely an attraction by itself, 45 minutes from Udaipur.

### **SHIV NIWAS PALACE, UDAIPUR**



The Maharana of Udaipur's guest house and entertainment palace within the City palace complex. Huge, highly decorated suites command incredible views either over the lake or the City. Situated right next to the City palace Museum and above the old city, it provides wonderful flexibility for exploring the medieval parts of the city, wandering through the markets and checking out the many restaurants.

### **FATEH PRAKASH DOVECOTE ROOMS, UDAIPUR**



Another Palace conversion within the Udaipur City palace complex, the Dovecote rooms are almost at Lake level looking out over the water. Has the same advantages of location as Shiv Niwas but at a lower price.

### **LAKE PALACE, UDAIPUR**



The ultimate romantic location, this was once the 18<sup>th</sup> century summer palace of the Udaipur rulers in the middle of lake Pichhola and surrounded by the hills and the vast, gleaming complex of the City Palace. One of the world's most famous hotels, although sometimes feels quite busy. It does have some lovely quiet corners, though.