

Suryagarh ...a boutique luxury Fort – Fact Sheet



Suryagarh

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Suryagarh

The Fort...

Suryagarh makes an unforgettable tryst with luxury, history and geography, at a scale that is larger than life.

Suryagarh, the brand new boutique luxury Fort-style architecture blends with palatial interiors offering intimate, serene and luxurious accommodations in a grand Rajputana environment that is purpose built to remind one of the richness and glory of times past. The tranquil Suryagarh is for discerning travellers who are looking for a boutique luxury desert experience. It is just a 10-minutes drive away from hustle and bustle of Jaisalmer and is surrounded by the shifting golden sands of the tranquil Thar Desert. Owned by a mining and infrastructure company 'The MRS Group' Suryagarh is its first brand new hotel venture. Their hospitality division also operates the historic Laxmi Niwas Palace in Bikaner, Rajasthan.

Location

10-minutes drive away from the Fort of Jaisalmer towards Sam Sand dunes near Jaisalmer, Rajasthan.

Transportation

During winter months (Nov to Feb) flights may be operated to Jaisalmer Airport (please check with relevant airline) from Aurangabad via Jodhpur and Udaipur, followed by a 30-minute car journey. Regular flights are operated year round to Jodhpur Airport from Delhi, Mumbai, Jaipur, Udaipur, followed by a 4 hour (305 km) car journey.

By Train

To Jaisalmer train station direct from Jodhpur & Delhi via Jodhpur-Jaipur-Alwar. Bikaner and Jaipur. Followed by 30-minute car journey.

By Road

From Jodhpur (305 km), Bikaner (355 km), (Pushkar (524 km), Udaipur (574 Km), Jaipur (645 km)

Transfers

Suryagarh is happy to arrange transfers (at extra cost) from Jodhpur or Jaisalmer Airport or railway station or from Bikaner.

Arrival Information

Check-in: 1200 Noon. Check-out: 1200 Noon. 12.00 pm.
Extended check-out subject to negotiation/availability.

Parking

Complimentary Parking is available for guests.

Hotel Details

Nestled in an austere landscape, the 62 luxurious rooms and suites are bastions of sheer luxury. Plush kilims, dark polished wooden floors, painstakingly restored period furniture and pristine bed linens are but a few of the accoutrements. Artworks rescued from forgotten attics are accentuated by muted interiors that vie for attention. They are plush, yet stately, grand and imposing and yet

European Representation & Marketing Office

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impeccably tasteful with immaculate bathrooms and latest facilities. **Room rates include breakfast.**

Luxury Room

An out-and-out expression of lavishness, the Luxury Room is plush, yet stately, grand and imposing, and at the same time, impeccably tasteful.

Palace Rooms

The 'Palace Rooms with its gold and blue panelling harkens guests back to Rajasthan's princely residences. However, fifteenth century embellishments have been thoughtfully juxtaposed with every modern convenience you could imagine.

Junior Suites

Junior Suites are a petite, albeit a cosy arrangement that mirrors the fondness for restrained opulence. Separate sitting area and balcony overlooking the desert.

Historical Suite

Historical Suites pays homage to the state of Jaisalmer that never once succumbed to invaders or foreign rule, these well-appointed suites are full of historic memorabilia and objet d'art. Separate sitting room and balcony overlooking the desert.

Presidential Suite

The Presidential Suite - the trappings of royalty are to be found across this expansive suite. The suite comprises a living room, dining room, his and hers dressing areas and a grand bathroom. From Frette linens to Belgian glassware, necessary luxuries complement period furniture, lovingly restored art work, and rich drapes.

General Room Amenities

- Air-conditioning
- Direct dialling telephones
- LCD flat-screen televisions
- Overhead fan
- Tea and coffee making machines
- Bathrooms with bath-tub & showers
- Bottled water
- Bathrobes & slippers
- Hairdryer
- Writing desk & chair
- Bath amenities
- In-rooms safes
- Access to broadband Internet connection

Amenities on Request

The following amenities may be available on request.

- Iron & ironing board
- Crib

Child Policy

Maximum 1 child under 5 years stay free when sharing with adults without extra bed.

Restaurants

Two restaurants serving traditional Rajasthani, Indian and Continental cuisine.

Nosh-the coffee shop overlooks the central courtyard.

Alfresco Poolside service.

Formal dining room serving lunch and dinner.

Room service is available.

The Bar

'Drāksh - The bar beckons the thirsty traveller with its white walls highlighted with gold and burnt-red accents to unwind under amber lights and indulge in the finest spirits from around the world.

During the evening open Bars are also set-up on the terraces, ideal for sundowners overlooking the shifting sands of the Thar Desert.

Guest Services

- Laundry (chargeable)
- Internet Access & Email (free)
- Physician on call

Recreation Facilities

- **Swimming Pool:** Beautifully designed the pool resonates luxury and serenity. Alongside is an open Jacuzzi for those who just want to relax and enjoy the elemental pleasure of water. The heated pool helps one work up an appetite, or conversely, shed the calories that accrue after sampling the guilt-inducing fare at Suryagarh's restaurants.
- **Akhara: The Gym:** A holiday need no longer mean a break from your fitness regimen; the gym is complete with complimentary weights, cardio machines and an array of weight training machines and in-house personal trainers.
- **Taash:** The Card & Billiards Room re-creates the restrained stiff upper lip feel of London's gentleman's clubs with comfy leather-upholstered chairs and wood-panelled walls with pristine green baize of the billiards table.
- **Business Centre:** Make the most of ergonomically designed work stations, projectors and AV equipment. Ideal for pitch perfect presentation or a working holiday.
- **Excursions:** Day trips to Jaisalmer, tours of the dunes of Sam, visits to the Gadisagar Lake and guided tours of the Desert National Park and the spectacular ruins of Kuldhara may all be organised with prior notice.

Spa, Wellness therapies & Massages

- **Maya:** True to its name the spa personifies illusion. It is beyond description and simply has to be experienced to understand pampering of all the senses. With five treatment rooms, a range of holistic treatments and specialized staff, a steam room, Jacuzzi, chilled showers and sauna, one is spoilt with pampering choices.

Experiences at Suryagarh

Suryagarh can go from being an idler's idyll to a maelstrom of activity, at a moment's notice.

Talwar Baazi -The valorous Rajputs lived and died by the sword. With on-hand training, shields and good deal of pluck, you may actually last five minutes in a mock medieval duel, much to the amazement of the wife and kids.

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Cooking-From 'lal maas' to 'daal vati choorma', the earthy cuisine of rustic Rajasthan is whipped up for you by the rural folk who thrive on it. You are advised to pay attention, for you will have to stomach your mistakes.

Art Room- Fancy a crafts vacation? Learn tile painting, batik, tie n' dye and other indigenous crafts. Discover tie-dyeing, enamelling and lacquer painting from distinguished practitioners of these art forms. Better still, you get to keep your work. That's one less souvenir to buy.

Dirt Biking- BMX bandits may relive their adventures on sandy dunes. Kicking up a dust storm, throwing caution to the wind, and loads of adrenalin are par for this course.

Local attractions / possible excursions

Jaisalmer itself has a lot to offer.

Sam Dunes

The constantly changing sands of Sam are an exhilarating experience on camelback. The dunes at twilight, immersed in a laid back haze are truly mesmerising.

Gadisagar Tank

The spectacular Gadisagar Tank also known as Gadsisar, an ingenious man-made reservoir was built in 1376 by erstwhile Maharaja of Jaisalmer, Maharwal Gadai Singh to collect precious rain water. At present Gadisagar gets water from Indira Gandhi Canal so it never dries. Beautiful yellow sandstone ghats, chatris (carved domes), and the famed yellow sandstone gateway **Tilon-ki-Pol**, This is a beautifully carved gate way to the Gadisagar Lake said to have been built by a famous courtesan, Tilon, who converted it to a temple by installing a statue of Lord Satya Narain (Krishan) to save it being demolished by the royal household as she was very close to the prince. Serene and beautiful early morning or evenings are the best times to visit Gadisagar. During the winter migrating birds flock at the water hole during the winters.

Boating facility is available in this lake where charges vary from type of boat and based on duration of boating. Sikaras are also available to go around the lake.

Sonar Quila: The Golden Fort is a mass of intricately carved buildings, facades and elaborate balconies is the oldest living Fort in the world. Various entrances Ganesh Pol, Suraj Pol, Bhoota Pol, and the Hava Pol guard the Megh Durbar and the Jawahar Mahal. Main attractions inside are Raj Mahal (Royal palace), the Lakshminath temple, and the Jain temples which built between 12th and 15th centuries are dedicated to Rikhabdev and Sambhavanth.

Havelis of Jaisalmer: The intricately latticed havelis built by wealthy merchants. Do take time strolling around the side streets to see more of these unique havelis which are still occupied by the same family for generations. Main havelis:

Patwon-ki-Haveli: Built by Guman Chand Patwa (and later by his five sons), a wealthy merchant. This ornate five-storey complex took fifty years to complete. This is the largest, the most magnificent, and the most elaborate of Jaisalmer havelis. **Salim Singh-ki-Haveli:** Built by Prime Minister Salim Singh in 1815, it has a beautifully arched roof capped with blue cupolas and carved brackets in the form of peacocks. **Nathmalji-ki-Haveli:** Built by a Prime Minister of princely state of Jaisalmer, its facade is has ornately carved

flowers, birds, elephants, soldiers, a bicycle and even a steam engine.

Khuri village and Desert National Park near Sam is well worth a quick visit. A geologist's haven, the Desert National Park showcases the resilient albeit fragile ecosystem of the Thar Desert. Natural rock formations and compact salt lake bottoms house a wealth of fauna. On any given day one can see the Great Indian Bustard, kestrels, eagles and falcons all within a photographers zooming distance. Black buck, wolves and desert cats make the park their stomping ground. Reptiles like spiny-tailed lizard, monitor lizard, saw scaled-viper, Russel viper and krait are also to seen.

Lodurva: The ancient capital of the Bhattis is 16 km from Jaisalmer. Its ruins are visited for the great Jain temple and the Kalpataru, a mythical tree of wish fulfilment.

Kuldhara and Khaba: The abandoned 13th century villages are 18 and 30 km southwest of Jaisalmer. About 100 years ago Paliwal Brahmins abandoned these villages in a single night due to the atrocities of Salim Khan the Prime Minister. Today this place has the ruins and rubbles of hundreds of abandoned houses.

Akal Wood Fossil Park: A 21-hectare preserved area when whole Thar region lay under the sea. Fossilized logs of trees trunks.

Desert Festival: During these colourful festival musicians, traditional gymnasts, captivating folk dances and music recitals, various competitions, camel polo and camel dances are held. The whole city of Jaisalmer is full of excitement during the Desert Festival.

Desert Festival dates:

16-18 February, 2011; 05-07 February 2012; 23-25 February 2013; 12-14 February 2014; 01-03 February 2015

Conference facilities

Conference room: With customized seating arrangements, great acoustics drop down screens. Modern audio-visual equipment and a range of amenities, Suryagarh is well equipped to handle corporate meetings, banquets on and off-site.

Internet Access

Guests of Suryagarh will enjoy internet connectivity in all guest rooms and hotel is Wi-Fi enabled.

Length of stay

3 to 4 nights stay is recommended to enjoy a total desert experience as Jaisalmer has plenty to offer to keep one interested and enjoy a relaxed holiday.

Dress Code

There is no official dress code. It is very relaxed. Guests are asked not to walk around bare-chested or in swimwear, other than by the pool.

When to go/Climate

Rajasthan has some major climatic fluctuations. Lasting from April to October, summers experience an average temperature in the range of the 41.6° C (max) to 25° C (min). At times, the temperature may even rise to 45° C.

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During the winter months of December, January and February the days are warm and sunny but warm clothes are essential for the mornings and evenings as the average temperature varies between 23.6° C (max) to 7.9° C (min). Jaisalmer does not receive much of rainfall. The annual average rainfall is approximately 15 cm. Best time to visit Jaisalmer is during the period of October to March. *Suryagarh remains open year round.*

Mosquitoes

Mosquitoes tend to be around for about an hour in the evenings. The retreat combats this by burning of citronella incense and anti-mosquito oils. Guests are also provided with mosquito repellent if required.

Electricity

220 volts. The standard two / three pin adaptors work.

Mobile Phones

Mobile phones work here.

Credit Cards / Currency

American Express, Visa and MasterCard. Sterling, Euro and Dollars are accepted. Suryagarh offers a money changing facility.

Payment/Cancellation Policy

Full payment is required 30 days prior to arrival.

Mandatory Gala Dinner

Mandatory Gala Dinner on 31st Dec.

Taxes

Rates are subject to service charge and government taxes.

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