

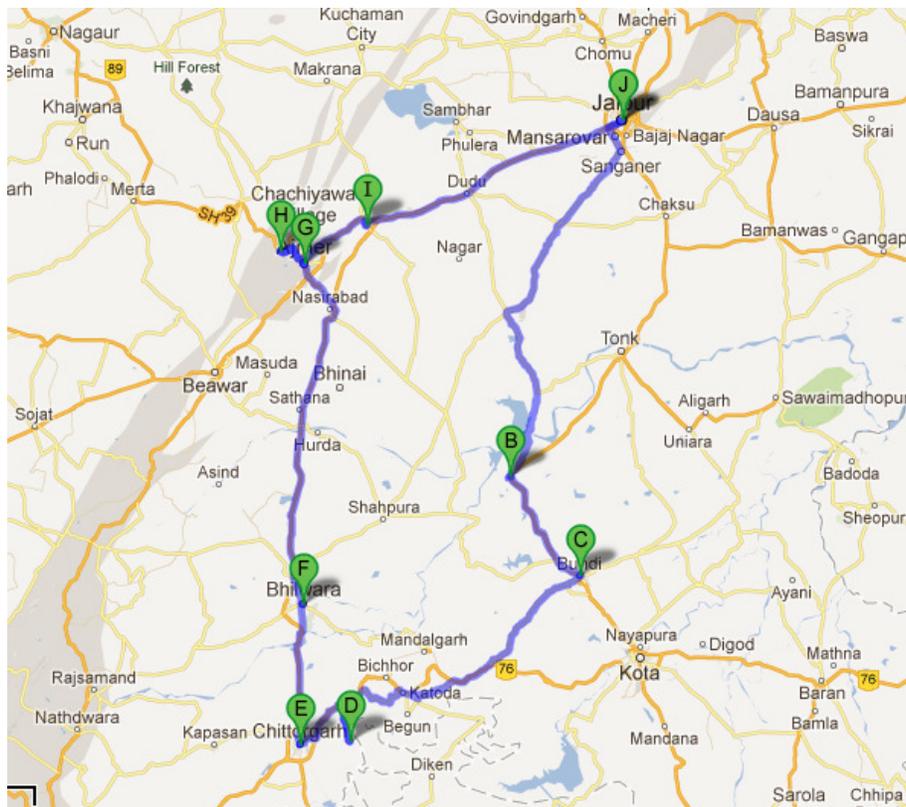
Sound Travels

MUSICAL EXPEDITIONS THROUGH INDIA

7-day Music, Arts and Craft tour of Rajasthan

Jaipur – Bundi – Bijaipur – Chittorgarh – Bhilwara – Pushkar – Ajmer – Jaipur

A leisurely seven-day loop through some of Rajasthan's most inspiring landscapes, featuring beautiful palaces, stunning havelis, and a touch of luxury. We'll encounter some of Rajasthan's finest musicians, and learn about the fascinating and contrasting stories of Miniature Painting in Kishangarh and Phad making in Bhilwara. Partying in Bijaipur Castle and drumming by lake Pushkar, from the glorious Chittorgarh fort to the mesmeric Ajmer Sharif, this will be a completely unique adventure, guided by musician and anthropologist Georgie Pope.



Day 1 – Jaipur – Deoli – Bundi

We leave Jaipur at 10am and head south towards Tonk where we'll see the fascinating felt-making techniques practiced here.

As the sun sets, we'll head towards the beautiful town of Bundi and check in to our lovely haveli hotel, Bundi Vilas, where we'll be spending the next two nights.

Day 2 – Bundi

Although small, Bundi has so much to see. Today we'll visit the mysterious palace and abandoned mosque which face each other across the town, and a stunning step well in the town centre. Our rooftop dinner will be accompanied by music from local *dholi* musicians.

Day 3 - Bundi - Bijaipur

Today we head towards the stunning Bijaipur Castle, stopping on the way in the village of Bassi where artists create *kawad* – brightly painted folding wooden mobile temples used by worshippers and owned by *Kawadiya Bhaat* story-tellers. We spend the night at Bijaipur Castle.

Day 4 – Bijaipur – Chittorgarh – Bijaipur

In the morning we'll make the short drive to the seventh century city of Chittorgarh, home to the biggest fort in Asia, incredibly beautiful architecture and a fascinating Rajput history. The evening will be spent with local musicians back at Bijaipur Castle.

Day 5 – Bijaipur – Bhilwara – Pushkar

Today we begin our ascent north, towards Ajmer, stopping off in Bhilwara to meet Shrilalji and discover the art of *phad* painting and its fascinating links to the musical tradition of the *bhopa* community. After a two-hour drive which passes through the Aravelli mountain range, we'll check into our hotel in Pushkar.

Day 6 – Pushkar

Pushkar is the home town of renowned musician Nathoo Lal Solanki, and he will be our host for our time here. After an optional drumming workshop by the side of Lake Pushkar, you will have some time to wander around the city, shop, do yoga, or just sip a *lassi* and soak up the atmosphere of this very holy city. In the evening we'll have some more musical surprises for you, on moonlit banks of Lake Pushkar.

Day 7 – Wednesday 23rd January Pushkar - Jaipur

Today we'll head to Kishangarh, home to the famous Kishangarh school of painting, for a sundowner at the beautiful Phool Mahal Palace, before dropping you back in Jaipur.