









#### Exploring Jaipur - Past, Present and Fascinating Trivia

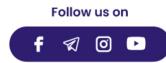
Hey Aspirants! We're back with another blog on the blog series 'Know Your City'. The city you're going to learn about is '**Jaipur**'. So, without a further delay, let's start exploring the city.

**Jaipur**, known as the **Pink City**, is the capital of the northwestern Indian state of Rajasthan. This historically rich city is celebrated for its vibrant culture, magnificent palaces, and impressive architecture. Jaipur is located at 26.9124° N latitude and 75.7873° E longitude in the northern part of India.

Before looking at the different aspects, one must know the City symbols of the particular city. The city symbols of Jaipur are:

Jaipur	
State	Rajasthan
Official Language	Hindi, Rajasthani
City Bird	Indian Roller
City Tree	Royal Palmyra Palm
Chief Minister	Ashok Gehlot
Mayor	Somya Gurjar Munesh Gurjar
Member of Parliament	Ramcharan Bohra Rajyavardhan Rathore



















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[Source: Adventure Nation]

So now, let's move on to the first aspect of the blog i.e. History of Jaipur.

# **History of Jaipur**

Jaipur's history is as rich and captivating as its architecture. Founded in 1727 by Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II, the city was carefully designed according to Vastu Shastra, an ancient Indian architectural science. Jaipur has a fascinating history that unfolds in multiple periods:

- Foundation: Jaipur was established as the new capital of the Kachwaha Rajput rulers after moving from the nearby city of Amber.
- Colonial Era: The city was painted pink in 1876 to welcome the Prince of Wales, giving it the nickname "Pink City".
- Independence: After India gained independence in 1947, Jaipur became the capital of the state of Rajasthan.
- Modern Era: Today, Jaipur is a thriving city, known for its architectural heritage, palaces, and cultural festivals like Diwali and Holi.

## Timeline for the major events that occurred in the History of Jaipur:

- 1727: Jaipur was founded by Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II and established as the new capital of the Kachwaha Rajput rulers.
- 1734: The construction of Jaipur's City Palace, a grand architectural masterpiece, began.
- 1799: The construction of Hawa Mahal, also known as the "Palace of Winds," was completed. It was built for the royal women to observe street festivals without being seen by the public.
- 1863: Jaipur became the first city in India to have its streets and houses lit by gas lamps.
- 1876: The entire city was painted pink to welcome the Prince of Wales, giving it the nickname "Pink City."
- 1947: After India gained independence, Jaipur became the capital of the newly-formed state of Rajasthan.
- 2019: The historic centre of Jaipur, including its iconic City Palace and Jantar Mantar, was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

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[Source: Jaipur Stuff]

These are some of the key events that have shaped the history of Jaipur. The city's rich heritage, culture, and architecture continue to attract visitors from around the world.

# **Geographical Aspects of Jaipur**

Jaipur's geographical features are unique and contribute to its charm:

- Elevation: Jaipur's elevation is approximately 431 metres (1,415 feet) above sea level, offering a pleasant climate.
- Aravalli Range: The city is nestled within the Aravalli Range, providing a picturesque backdrop.
- **Weather:** Jaipur experiences a semi-arid climate, with hot summers and mild winters. Summer temperatures can reach 40-45°C (104-113°F), while winter temperatures can drop to 5-10°C (41-50°F).
- Rainfall: Jaipur receives limited rainfall, with an annual average of around 650 millimetres (25.6 inches).
- Natural Beauty: The city's scenic lakes and gardens, such as Jal Mahal and Sisodia Rani Garden, add to its natural beauty.

## **Demographic Snapshots:**

Jaipur's demographics reflect its dynamic and diverse population:

- Population: Jaipur is home to over 3 million people, making it one of India's most populous cities.
- Urban Density: The city is densely populated, with over 6,000 people per square kilometre.
- Gender Ratio: Jaipur's gender ratio is approximately 900 females per 1,000 males.

## **Physiographic Aspects:**

The physiographic characteristics of Jaipur contribute to its unique environment:

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3

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- **Natural Oases:** Despite its arid climate, Jaipur boasts natural oases like Sisodia Rani Garden and Ram Niwas Garden, with lush greenery, fountains, and serene walkways.
- Man Sagar Lake: This artificial lake, housing the Jal Mahal palace, is a prominent feature of Jaipur's landscape.
- Nahargarh Biological Park: Located on the Aravalli Hills, this park is home to diverse wildlife, including leopards, bears, and birds.



[Source: Flamingo Travels]

## **Soil and Vegetation:**

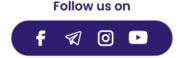
Jaipur's soil is sandy and alkaline, typical of arid regions, while its vegetation is characterised by thorny bushes and scrubs, reflecting its semi-arid climate. Efforts to protect the environment and promote afforestation aim to preserve the city's remaining natural habitats, particularly in the Aravalli hills.

Jaipur boasts remarkable landmarks. The Hawa Mahal's intricate windows, Amber Fort's grandeur, and Jantar Mantar's astronomical precision are just a glimpse. City Palace, Nahargarh Fort, and Albert Hall Museum reveal the city's history. Birla Mandir's elegance and Galtaji Temple's serene springs add to Jaipur's allure.

Now let's move on to the political aspects of Jaipur.

# **Political Aspects of Jaipur**

Jaipur is politically significant and serves as the administrative and political hub of Rajasthan:



4

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- The **Jaipur Municipal Corporation (JMC)**, established in 1994, covers a vast area of 467 square km, operating under the Rajasthan Municipality Act of 1959. Recently, it was divided into two entities: **Greater Jaipur Municipal Corporation** and **Jaipur Heritage Municipal Corporation**, each with 150 and 100 wards, respectively.
- The 2022-23 municipal budget is estimated at ₹8950 lakhs, primarily funded through taxes, including House tax and Urban Development tax, alongside fees and user charges.
- In the legislative assembly, Jaipur comprises two parliamentary constituencies, with the Indian National Congress holding a majority.
- The city police, under the Rajasthan State Department, is led by Police Commissioner Anand Srivastava, while the District Collector is Prakash Rajpurohit.
- This dynamic blend of municipal and state governance shapes Jaipur's political tapestry.



[Source: NDTV]

Now, let's discuss the culture of Jaipur.

# **Culture of Jaipur**

Jaipur's culture is a splendid blend of traditions, art, and heritage:

- Language: Rajasthani is widely spoken, with Hindi and English being common languages.
- Festivals: The city comes alive during festivals like Diwali, Holi, and Teej, offering a glimpse of Rajasthani traditions.
- **Handicraft:** Jaipur is renowned for its traditional arts and crafts, including block printing, blue pottery, and gemstone jewellery.
- Cuisine: Rajasthani cuisine, with its delectable dishes like dal baati churma and gatte ki sabzi, is a culinary delight.
- Music and Dance: The city resonates with Rajasthani folk music, dance forms like Ghoomar, and melodious tunes played on traditional instruments.
- Monuments: Jaipur's architecture is a testament to its culture, with iconic landmarks like the Hawa Mahal and City
- Attire: Traditional attire in Jaipur is colourful and reflects the vibrant culture of Rajasthan. Men often wear turbans, known as "pagdis," and women don beautiful, colourful sarees and jewellery.
- Temples: The city is dotted with temples, including the famous Birla Mandir and Govind Dev Ji Temple, showcasing

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[Source: Flamingo Travels]

Now let's talk about the next aspect i.e. Environment in Jaipur.

# **Environment in Jaipur**

Jaipur's environment boasts a blend of urban life and natural beauty:

**Urban Biodiversity:** The city's urban landscape supports a variety of bird and butterfly species.

Green Cover: Jaipur is adorned with parks and gardens, providing green spaces for residents and visitors.

**Lakes and Water Bodies:** Man Sagar Lake, Anasagar Lake, and Sambhar Lake offer scenic beauty and support wildlife. **Flora and Fauna:** Jaipur's surroundings are home to diverse plant and animal species, including desert flora and wildlife like nilgai and peacocks.

Let's talk about the economic aspects of the city Jaipur.

# **Economy of Jaipur**

Jaipur's economy is vibrant and diverse, reflecting its role as the capital of Rajasthan and a major centre for education, administration, and tourism.

- GDP: The estimated GDP of Jaipur for the fiscal year 2023-24 is ₹135,546 crore (US\$17.2 billion), representing a growth of 11.0% over the previous fiscal year.
- **Tourism:** Jaipur is a prominent tourist destination, with its historical sites, palaces, and vibrant culture attracting visitors from all over the world.
- **Gemstone and Jewellery:** The city is renowned for gemstone cutting and the manufacture of exquisite jewellery, contributing significantly to its economy.
- **Information Technology:** Jaipur is emerging as an IT hub, with companies like Infosys, Wipro, and Genpact operating in the city.
- Manufacturing: It is home to manufacturing plants of major companies like JCB, Hero MotoCorp, and Robert Bosch GmbH, as well as chemical manufacturers.
- · Arte and Crafte. The city is a hub for arte and crafts offering a wide range of products including hand-knotted rugs

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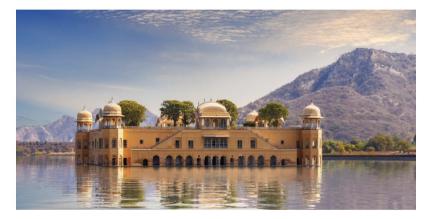
[Source: Pinterest]

In recent years, Jaipur has diversified its economic landscape, making it a growing and dynamic city in India.

Now let's delve into a few Interesting Facts about Jaipur.

# Interesting Facts about Jaipur

- Jaipur is one of the most planned cities in India, designed based on Vastu Shastra and city planning principles.
- The pink colour of Jaipur isn't just for aesthetics; it's believed to symbolise hospitality, as the city was painted pink to welcome dignitaries.
- Due to the city's architecture and the depth of its water table, it's nearly impossible to construct basements in Jaipur.
- Jaipur hosts an annual Elephant Festival, where elephants are beautifully adorned and paraded through the city streets.
- The city houses the oldest operating mint in India, where coins are still produced.



[Source: Viator]

7



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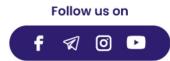


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In conclusion, Jaipur, the Pink City of India, is a captivating blend of history, culture, and modernity. Founded in 1727, it's a city with a fascinating past, from its carefully planned architecture to its transformation into a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Nestled in the Aravalli Range, its geography provides a picturesque backdrop.

With a population of over 3 million, Jaipur's demographics are diverse. It's a city of vibrant traditions, where Rajasthani culture comes alive through language, festivals, arts, and cuisine. Its economy thrives through tourism, gemstone cutting, IT, and manufacturing. And amidst all this, Jaipur remains a city of stunning architecture and natural beauty.





8

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