

The Ranthambhore Bagh

HOW TO GET HERE

Sawai Madhopur lies on the Eastern edge of the North Indian state of Rajasthan. It is 480 km southwest of Delhi and 190 km southeast of Jaipur, the capital of Rajasthan. Sawai Madhopur has good road connections with Delhi (8 hours journey), Jaipur (3 hours drive), Agra (6 hours drive) and Bharatpur (5 hours drive). It also has a good road connection to Jhansi and Orcha (7 hours drive).

The closest airport is in Jaipur, 170 kilometers away by road. The town has excellent rail connections with Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Jaipur, Jodhpur, Agra, Udaipur etc. Sawai Madhopur lies on the main Delhi - Mumbai rail link and so, there are regular trains every day to Mumbai and Delhi. Visitors from Delhi and Mumbai are seriously advised to take a train, which is not only cheaper and faster but also much more comfortable.

How to get here:

1. From Delhi: Delhi is 440 kilometers from Sawai Madhopur by road and it takes about 8 hours to get here from Delhi via Jaipur and Tonk. From Delhi it takes about 4 hours to get to Jaipur, about half an hour to cross Jaipur and about three and a half hours to get to Sawai Madhopur from Jaipur via Tonk.

However, we recommend taking a train from Delhi to Sawai Madhopur. It is faster, less tiring and cheaper but you would have to book in advance. The trains that we recommend from Delhi to Sawai Madhopur station are the Golden Temple Mail (departure New Delhi at 0800 hours and arrival at 1300 hours), Kota Jan Shatabdi (departure Nizamuddin Delhi at 1310 and arrival at 1800 hours), August Kranti Rajdhani (departure Nizamuddin Delhi at 1710 and arrival at 2020 hours) and the Dehradun Express (departure New Delhi at 2120 and arrival at 0515 hours).

2. From Jaipur: Jaipur is 180 kilometers from Sawai Madhopur by road and it takes about three and a half hours to get here via Tonk. The road till Tonk is excellent but has a fair amount of traffic. From the Tonk bypass (you do not have to go inside the town) there is a diversion to Sawai Madhopur. This road is not all that great but there is no traffic.

You could also take a train from Jaipur to here and we recommend the Intercity Express from Jodhpur to Sawai Madhopur via Jaipur (departure Jaipur at 1050 and arrival at 1325 hours) and JP-BCT Superfast (departure 1405 and arrival at 1600 hours). There are a few other South India bound trains that leave Jaipur at 1930 hours and arrive here at 2130 hours.

3. From Agra / Bharatpur: Sawai Madhopur is about 300 kilometers from Agra via Bharatpur (which is one hours drive from Agra), Dausa and Lalsot and it takes about 6 hours to get here from Agra (5 hours from Bharatpur). You could drive to Bharatpur and take a train from there to here. All the trains that come from Delhi to Sawai Madhopur also stop at Bharatpur (except for August Kranti Rajdhani), which is about the mid-point of the journey.

There are a few trains from Agra to Sawai Madhopur but they are not very convenient. The only convenient train is the Avadh Express (departure at 0510 and

arrival at 0925 hours).

4. Mumbai: There are excellent train connections from Mumbai to Sawai Madhopur. The trains that we recommend are Golden Temple mail (departure at 2125 from Mumbai Central and arrival at 1245 hours), Jaipur Superfast (departure from Bandra at 1545 and arrival at 0820), BCT Jaipur Express (departure from Mumbai Central at 1850 and arrival at 1005 hours) and August Kranti Rajdhani express (departure Mumbai Central at 1740 and arrival 0635 hours). You could also take a flight from Mumbai to Jaipur and then drive down to Sawai Madhopur.

5. Udaipur: Udaipur is about 450 kilometers (9 hours drive) from Sawai Madhopur. There are two routes - one from Udaipur to Chittor to Bundi to Lakheri to Sawai Madhopur - and the other from Udaipur to Chittor to Bhilwara to Devli to Tonk to Sawai Madhopur. The first route is more scenic though the road condition is not very good. There are good train connections between Udaipur and Sawai Madhopur. The trains that we recommend from Udaipur are Mewar Express (departure at 1845 and arrival at 0100 hours) and Udaipur Jaipur Superfast (departure at 2140 and arrival at 0450 hours).

6. Jodhpur: Jodhpur is 475 kilometers from Sawai Madhopur (about 9 hours drive) and the route is from Jodhpur to Beawar to Devli to Tonk to Sawai Madhopur. There is one good train from Jodhpur to Sawai Madhopur - the Ranthambhore Express or Jodhpur Intercity Express (departure at 0545 and arrival at 1325 hours).

For more details about trains check the official Indian railways website (www.indianrail.gov.in) or call your local railway enquiry (telephone number 131). The rain timings given here are subject to change and it would be best if you check the timings a few days before your trip. You can book train tickets online through the Indian Railways website. Otherwise we can book the trains and courier the tickets to you for a small service charge.

How to get there by road from Delhi, Agra and Jaipur

From Delhi / Jaipur to Sawai Madhopur by road:

There are two ways to get from Delhi to Sawai Madhopur – one is via Jaipur and the other via Mathura. Either ways the distance between Delhi and Sawai Madhopur is around 450 kilometers but the drive via Mathura takes about an hour more than the drive via Jaipur. Delhi to Jaipur: The distance between Delhi and Jaipur is about 260 kilometers and one has to take the national Highway 8, which is a fantastic four-lane toll highway. It takes less than 4 hours to get to Jaipur. A good place to halt for a break on this highway is the Rajasthan Tourism run RTDC Midway at Behror (about half way between Delhi and Jaipur).

Jaipur to Tonk: From the outskirts of Jaipur one has to take the bypass that joins up with the Tonk Road and drive to Tonk (about 90 kilometers from Jaipur) via Chaksu and Newai. On the outskirts of Tonk there is a bypass that leads to Kota and at the end of this bypass there is a left turn that leads to Sawai Madhopur. This left turn on the Tonk bypass is not very prominent and it is advisable to check up with someone on the Tonk bypass. The road from Jaipur to Tonk is a two-lane State highway and is pretty good, though not as good as the road between Delhi and Jaipur. It takes slightly

less than one and a half hours to get to Tonk from Jaipur. From Jaipur you could also drive to Dausa (on the Jaipur Agra highway about 60 kilometers or slightly over an hour from Jaipur) and then take the road from Dausa to Sawai Madhopur via Lalsot (about 2 hours from Dausa).

<http://maps.google.co.in/maps/ms?hl=en&ie=UTF8&msa=0&msid=102549049735892612911.000474dc0d410f36acaef&ll=27.327855,76.514282&spn=2.966855,4.416504&z=8>

Tonk to Sawai Madhopur: From Tonk to Sawai Madhopur is about 90 kilometers via Uniara and Aligarh. This is a single lane road that is not very well paved but there is hardly any traffic on this road. It takes over one and a half hours to get from Tonk to Sawai Madhopur.

<http://maps.google.co.in/maps/ms?hl=en&ie=UTF8&msa=0&msid=102549049735892612911.000474dba96e0954bad3d&ll=27.327855,76.508789&spn=2.966855,4.416504&z=8>

From Delhi / Mathura / Bharatpur to Sawai Madhopur by road:

The alternate route from Delhi to Sawai Madhopur is via Mathura (140 kilometers and good road) – Bharatpur (40 kilometers and bad road) – Dausa (130 kilometers and good road) – Lalsot (30 kilometers and good road) – Sawai Madhopur (90 kilometers, good road that is bad in small patches). It takes slightly over 8 hours to get to Sawai Madhopur from Delhi from this route.

From Agra / Bharatpur to Sawai Madhopur by road:

Sawai Madhopur is 300 km from Agra and it takes about 6 hours to drive down. Agra is around 50 kilometers from Bharatpur (about an hours drive) and from Bharatpur it takes a further 5 hours to drive down to Sawai Madhopur via Dausa and Lalsot.

<http://maps.google.co.in/maps/ms?hl=en&ie=UTF8&msa=0&msid=102549049735892612911.000474dc1613c15eda72a&ll=27.327855,77.008667&spn=2.966855,4.416504&z=8>

For assistance drop a mail to us or call The Ranthambhore Bagh :

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