

# FT HOW TO SPEND IT

2022

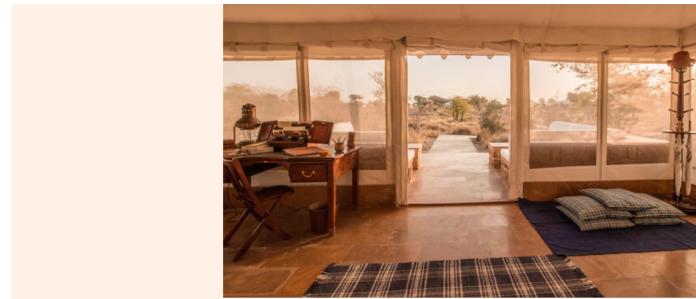
## Five Fabulous Desert Escapes-Where to find sun, sand – and solitude – in 2022



Maria Shollenbarger JANUARY 14 2022

### Indian desert repose

It extends across western Rajasthan, up into Punjab province and Sindh in Pakistan; and despite its seas of sand and blazing temperatures, India's [Thar desert](#) is home to more than 80 people per square kilometre, making it the most populous in the world. Nagaur and Jodhpur are its eastern gateways and, though much of it is wilderness by Indian standards, as elsewhere across the northern subcontinent there's a rich intersection of Hindu, Muslim and Sikh culture alongside nomadic tribes with their own traditions of music and food. Here and there, a fort or tumbledown temple; and, further west, miles of saffron-hued dunes, and camel caravans that pass in slow motion on the horizon, and (relative) emptiness to contemplate.



The Serai's 21 tents range up to 2,000sq ft

**Sleep:** For a desert-adjacent, city-palace stay, [Narendra Bhawan](#) in Bikaner offers a plush, if slightly zany, take on five-star service and accoutrements. If a proper camp out in the desert is what you're after, [Sujān The Serai](#) delivers the full fantasy, its 21 tents ranging up to 2,100sq ft, some with plunge pools, its food exceptional – and its guides leading historical tours of the 10th-century desert kingdom of Jaisalmer, birdwatching expeditions and stargazing excursions at night. *Suites from £680*