

# Best Suites



## Taj Lake Palace, Udaipur, India

IDEAL FOR A SPECIAL HOLIDAY, THE RE-splendent Taj Lake Palace, Udaipur overlooks the silvery Lake Pichola, with the Aravalli mountains as its backdrop. Originally built in 1746 by Maharana Jagat Singh II, the 62nd successor of the legendary Mewar dynasty, the palace is now managed by Taj Hotels Resorts and Palaces ([www.tajhotels.com](http://www.tajhotels.com)), and the group has spared no expense in offering guests a taste of royal India. The Taj Lake Palace, Udaipur is spread across four acres and boasts numerous courtyards, pavilions, ponds, gardens, patios, and fountains, creating an idyllic setting both inside and outside its walls.

Taj conducted extensive research in local history, architecture, and crafts when refurbishing the palace's interiors, taking great pains to

preserve its glorious heritage. Guests will marvel at the original and restored glass, mirror and pietra dure inlays, frescoes, sculpted stone and decorative gilt molding, artifacts, chandeliers, and carved and inlaid furniture. Each room and suite, distinct in design, exudes a historic, regal, and contemporary ambience.

The palace hotel is home to a variety of opulent suites. The Sajjan Niwas suite, built between 1874 and 1884, retains an old-world charm in its lamps, portraits, glass mosaic inlays, traditional cloth fans, and mirror-surfaced doors. The bedroom, decorated with frescoes depicting the Hindu deity Krishna, is suffused with romance. The Sajjan Niwas suite's terrace overlooks the lake, mountains, and Jagmandir Island. The

Jag Mandir Darshan suite offers a picturesque view of the palace on Jagmandir Island, built by Maharana Karan Singh in the early 17th century. The Mughal Prince Khurram, later Emperor Shah Jehan, sought refuge there in 1623, and it is said it was the inspiration for the Taj Mahal at Agra. The Chandra Prakash (or Luster of the Moon) Suite has a celestial glow, with golden chandeliers and lamps that softly light the decorative gilt molding, sinuously sculpted marble, fine fretted screens, inlaid floor, and frescoed ceiling. In its grand suites and through its gracious service, the Taj Lake Palace, Udaipur makes every visitor feel like a personal guest of the Maharana. ●

*The Sajjan Niwas suite (above); the Jag Mandir Darshan suite (below)*

