Jaipur

Dig past the Indian city’s tithe tourist troupes to uncover bracingly modern festivals and unduly architecture

IN MANY WAYS, Jaipur delivers on the clichéd fantasies first-timers to India have mentally replayed: flute players presiding over ornate courtyards, women in embroidered saris, men in turbans. But lately, the Rajasthani capital has been duping clouche in a new batch of contemporary Indian artists and curators. The Jaipur Literature Festival draws half a million people each January, while February sees us an international photography tour. The Jaipur Rocks music festival a symphony of contemporary architecture by architect Charles Corvon, just unveiled and convenes. A modern sculpture park, reopening in December, startles in the withering arches and courtyards of the 18th-century Nahargarh Fort.

Jaipur's reputation as India’s shopping mecca is understated. We asked four local experts to help navigate the top—Sarah Allen, the author of *Jaipur: City of Dreams*; Divya Singh, a foreign correspondent for *Forbes India*; Brigitte Singh, the owner of *Teatro Dhora* and a cute café; and Pooja Sood, the curator of *The Jewellery by Sujan Luxury*.

**PURE JAIPUR**

**Jaipur Chola**

Chola from top: 1. A view of Jaipur from Nahargarh Fort; 2. Showcasing a bridal necklace of diamonds and pearls at Gem Palace, one of the city’s iconic jewelry institutions; 3. A view of Jaipur from the Amber Palace; 4. Arranging a table-setting at Rajmahal Palace; 5. Showing off a bridal necklace of diamonds and pearls at Gem Palace, one of the city’s iconic jewelry institutions; 6. Carrying flowers at Phool Mandi; 7. Showing off a bridal necklace of diamonds and pearls at Gem Palace, one of the city’s iconic jewelry institutions; 8. A view of Jaipur from Nahargarh Fort.