# Knowledge Roots A

## Rajasthan

Rajasthan, often referred to as the "Land of Kings," is a majestic state in the northwestern part of India. It is renowned for its vibrant culture, rich history, and stunning landscapes. Rajasthan, the largest state in India



## **Geography**

Rajasthan is a northwestern state in India, and it shares its borders with several other Indian states as well as an international border with Pakistan. Rajasthan shares its border with Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pardesh, Madhya Pardesh, Gujarat.

Rajasthan is known for its diverse geography, which includes a range of landscapes, from the vast Thar desert to the Aravalli Range and the fertile plains.

#### **Climate**

Rajasthan experiences a diverse and extreme climate due to its vast size and varying geographical features.

Rajasthan is known for its scorching summers, with temperatures often soaring above 40°C in many parts of the state. Some areas in the Thar desert can even see temperatures exceeding 45°C.

Winters in Rajasthan are generally mild and pleasant, with temperatures ranging from 10°C to 27°C.

The southwest monsoon brings relief from the scorching heat in Rajasthan. It receives most of its rainfall during the period of July to September.

Cities like Churu, Bikaner, and Jaisalmer are known to experience extremely high temperatures during the summer months.



The hill station of Mount Abu, which is the only hill station in Rajasthan, experiences the coldest temperatures during the winter months.

## **Rajasthan State's Symbols**

#### **State Tree**

The Khejri is the state tree of Rajasthan. It is also known as the Indian desert golden tree.





#### **State Flower**

Rohida a bright red flower is the state of Rajasthan.

#### **State Animal**

Indian Gazelle, or Chinkara is the state animal of Rajasthan.





**State Bird** 

Godawan is the state bird of Rajasthan.

## **Natural Vegetation**

The state's vegetation is primarily adapted to survive in arid conditions and includes various types of plants, shrubs, and trees.

Some of the key elements of Rajasthan's natural vegetation are

- Thorn Forests
- Sand Dunes Vegetation
- Mountain Vegetation

## **Delicacies of Rajasthan**

Rajasthani cuisine is famous for its rich and flavorful, and indulgent dishes. The state's cuisine reflects its history, culture, and arid climate, with a focus on preserving food for longer periods.

- 1. Dal Baati Churma is the most iconic dish of Rajasthan. Baati is round wheat flour bread, which is traditionally baked in an open flame or over cow dung cakes. It is served with dal and churma (a sweet dish made from coarsely ground wheat, ghee, and sugar).
- 2. Gatte ki Sabzi are gram flour dumplings that are cooked in a spicy yogurt-based gravy. It's a classic Rajasthani dish and is often served with rice or roti.





- 3. **Ker Sangri** are wild berries and beans native to the desert regions of Rajasthan. They are cooked together with spices to create a unique and flavorful dish.
- **4. Pyaaz Kachori** is a deep-fried pastry filled with a spicy mixture of onions and spices. It's a popular snack in Rajasthan, particularly in Jaipur.
- **5. Laal Maas** is a fiery red mutton curry made with lots of red chilies and other spices. It's a favorite among meat lovers and is known for its spiciness.
- **6. Rajasthani Kadhi** is dish made from yogurt and besan (gram flour) and is usually spiced with cloves, bay leaves, and cinnamon.
- 7. Mawa Kachori a sweet and rich pastry stuffed with a mixture of mawa (khoya), nuts, and sugar. It's a special treat during festivals



## **Dialects of Rajasthan**

Hindi is the official language of Rajasthan while people in Rajasthan speak several dialects and languages.

**Rajasthani** is the most widely spoken language in the state and has several dialects of its own, including Marwari (spoken in Marwar), Mewari (spoken in Mewar region), and Shekhawati (spoken in the Shekhawati region).

**Dhundhari** is a dialect of Rajasthani and is primarily spoken in the Jaipur region and surrounding areas.

**Mewati** is another Rajasthani dialect spoken in parts of Alwar and Bharatpur districts in Rajasthan.

**Harauti** is a dialect spoken in Hadoti, which includes the districts of Kota, Bundi, Baran, and Jhalawar.

**Bagri** is spoken in the Bagar tract of northwestern Rajasthan, which includes districts like Hanumangarh and parts of Bikaner and Ganganagar.

## **Musical instruments used in Rajasthan**

Rajasthan has a rich musical tradition, and the state is known for its vibrant folk music, which is often accompanied by a variety of traditional musical instruments.

The **Ravanahatha** is one of the oldest known bowed instruments and is believed to be the predecessor of the violin.

The **dholak** is a two-headed hand drum that is widely used in Haryanvi folk music. It provides rhythm and beats to the music.

The **Harmonium**, a keyboard instrument that produces sound by blowing air through reeds.

The **Morchang** is a jaw harp made from metal. It is a unique instrument that is played by twanging a metal tongue, and it produces a distinctive twangy sound.

The **sarangi** is a stringed instrument, similar to a violin, that is used to provide melodic accompaniment to vocal performances in Rajasthani music.

**Kartal** is a traditional percussion instrument made of wooden blocks with jingles attached to them.

The **Nagara** is a traditional Indian drum with a unique shape. It is used to produce powerful beats and rhythms in folk songs, especially during festive occasions and celebrations.



## **Crops grown in Rajasthan**

Crops are grown in various regions of Rajasthan, and the choice of crops is influenced by factors like climate, soil type, and water availability.

**Wheat** is predominantly grown in the northwestern and western regions of Rajasthan, including districts like Bikaner, Churu, and Sri Ganganagar.





**Barley** is also cultivated in northern Rajasthan, particularly in the districts of Sri Ganganagar, Hanumangarh, and Churu.

**Maize** is grown in various regions of Rajasthan, including parts of the western and southern districts.





**Guar** is grown in various regions of Rajasthan, with significant cultivation in districts like Jodhpur and Barmer.

**Mustard** is grown in the eastern and southeastern parts of Rajasthan, including districts like Bharatpur and Alwar.



**Millets** like bajra (pearl millet) and jowar (sorghum) are well-suited to the arid and semi-arid regions of Rajasthan, and they are grown throughout the state.





**Moth Beans or Matki** are grown in parts of Rajasthan, particularly in the districts of Jodhpur and Barmer.

## **Dresses of Rajasthan**

Rajasthan is known for its vibrant and colorful traditional attire, which reflects the cultural richness and heritage of the state.

**Lehenga Choli:** The lehenga choli is a popular traditional outfit for women in Rajasthan. It consists of a flared skirt (lehenga), a fitted blouse (choli), and a long, flowing scarf or dupatta.

**Saree:** The saree is another common attire for women in Rajasthan. Rajasthani sarees are known for their bright colors and unique prints.

Odhni or Chunari: Women in Rajasthan often cover their heads with an odhni or chunari, which is a long piece of cloth, usually brightly colored and decorated with various designs and patterns.

Achkan: The achkan is a traditional attire for men, particularly during weddings and special occasions. It is a long, coat-like garment that is typically worn with churidar pants.

**Dhoti and Kurta:** The dhoti and kurta is a common outfit for men in Rajasthan. The dhoti is a piece of cloth wrapped around the waist, while the kurta is a long shirt.

**Safa (Turban):** The turban, or safa, is an integral part of men's attire in Rajasthan. Turbans are known for their intricate and colorful designs and are often used to indicate a person's social or regional identity.

Jodhpuri Suit: The Jodhpuri suit is a formal ensemble that includes a tailored jacket with fitted trousers. It is named after the city of Jodhpur in Rajasthan and is popular for weddings and events.

**Bandhej and Leheriya:** These are traditional print patterns commonly found in Rajasthani clothing. Bandhej involves tie-dye techniques to create intricate patterns, while Leheriya features wave-like patterns.



Naples India Pitampura, Delhi- 110034