



BEHIND THE SCENES

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Amidst the raucous Rajasthani performers

Kapur and GQ video model Miranda gear up for an authentic Rajasthani experience

The King suite at The Serai boasts a personal pool

Hair and makeup expert Deepa Verma grooms Aditya Roy Kapur

Photographer Hari Nair clicks away at the break of dawn

GQ Fashion Advisor Vinodha Khosla puts the finishing touches on Kapur's look

Refreshed by the view, the pool with a cocktail in hand and panoramic views

Stunning views, a glass of the finest bubbly and a splendid pool - the perfect way to kick back and relax

GQ video model Miranda is bathed in the orange light of dusk

GQ Assistant Stylist Janya Verma tries on with a headpiece covered for the shoot

The Serai team is treated to a musical extravaganza

Kapur looks every inch a Rajasthani royal

SCALING THE DUNES THE GQ DIARY

When the dunes call, soak in the splendour of Jaisalmer at The Serai, an exquisite desert retreat, which served as the ideal setting for an exclusive fashion shoot with actor Aditya Roy Kapur

Day 1
3:00 pm
Post a beautiful drive from Jodhpur, we arrived at The Serai Jaisalmer and were instantly taken in by the hotel's inviting interiors. The luxury resort, surrounded by 100 acres of desert scrub is a vibrant mix of traditional Rajputana charm and contemporary architecture featuring 21 tent-suites - complete with rustic-chic bathrooms, gentlemen's writing tables and comfortable recliners. After checking in, Aditya Roy Kapur promptly made his way to the pool, having come off a long-haul flight (read: New York-Mumbai-Jodhpur) a refreshing dip was just what the actor needed. Add to that a luxurious massage at The Serai's popular Sujay Spa, and Kapur was raring to go. "I felt recharged and rejuvenated. I could've started shooting right away."

8:00 pm
The team came together for dinner in The Serai's lounge dining area. On offer was a sumptuous authentic Rajasthani thali with spiced lamb *lai maas*, *badri*, *ghee* and desert fruit.

Day 2
5:00 am
Photographer Hari Nair wanted to capture Kapur in the early morning light, so we set up at the crack of dawn and were treated to a refreshing breeze and the calming rustle of acacias. After getting some incredible images inside and outside the tents, we broke for a sumptuous English breakfast. Then, it was back to work.

3:00 pm
We travelled around The Serai to capture a range of images. An automobile enthusiast, Kapur took to the wheel of the team's jeep and zoomed around with model Miranda in tow, much to the delight of GQ videographer Rohan Hoole. With the day's shooting complete, we decided to do a spot of sightseeing. A 40-minute drive took us to the Jaisalmer Fort - situated near a bustling bazaar that stocked beautiful ethnic finery from traditional clothes and silver jewellery to leather bags and jootis.

7:30 pm
Back at The Serai, we settled in for a spectacular folk music performance by members of the Manganiyar community of Rajasthan. As we joined in to the singing and dancing around the bonfire, we couldn't resist taking a few more snaps of Kapur.
Dinner included a delicious sage ravioli and Pad Thai noodles. A fitting end to a fantastic day.

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Bherwa, Chandan, District Jaisalmer, Rajasthan 345001
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the-serai.com

GQ recommends:

- Get a holistic treatment at the **Sujan Spa**
- Visit the stunning **Jain temples** of the area
- Take The Serai's tour of the fabled 12th-century desert kingdom of **Jaisalmer**. Watch the sunset on the dunes and spot chinkara gazelles leaping in the distance
- For honeymooners, The Serai offers special packages that include a glass of champagne on arrival, a complimentary couple's massage and a private dinner