

CONTENTS

Introduction	6		
1 Beginning of the empire	28		
Babur (1526 – 1530)	32		
Babur in Sikri	36		
Humayun (1530 – 1556)	39		
Akbar at Panipat	41		
Influential Women	44		
2 The jewel of the empire	52		
A Mughal Monarch	57		
A Hunger for Land	61		
A Saint on a Hill	64		
Akbar the Builder	65		
BUILDING FATEHPUR SIKRI	68		
Leaving the City	78		
A Man called Akbar	82		
3 The imperial centre	94		
In a Mughal Style	98		
A Beautiful Synthesis	105		
Planning a Citadel	110		
THE DAULAT KHANA-I-KHAS	117		
Walls and Gates	120		
Diwan-i-Aam	123		
Diwan-i-Khas	125		
Ankh Michauli	129		
The Treasury Kiosk	130		
Panch Mahal and Pachisi Board	132		
Anup Talao	137		
Khwabgah	138		
Turkish Sultana's Palace	142		
Daftar Khana	144		
THE HARAMSARA	146		
Jodh Bai's Palace	151		
Hawa Mahal	153		
Sunahra Makan	154		
Birbal's Palace	156		
Minor Haramsara	159		
4 A matter of faith	160		
Salim Chishti and the Chishtiya Order	167		
The Jami Masjid	172		
Sheikh Salim Chishti's Tomb	177		
Buland Darwaza	186		
Ibadat Khana	190		
The Stone Cutter's Mosque	192		
Rang Mahal	194		
Fatehpur Sikri after Akbar	195		
5 A courtly city for a king	198		
A People's King	204		
Living in the City	207		
Royal Luxury and Plebeian Misery	211		
A Matter of Faith	217		
The Royal Historian	222		
Bejewelled Books	223		
The Karkhanas of Sikri	226		
The Navaratnas	228		
The Battle for the Dargah	234		
Index	238		
Getting There	244		