

# Tiger Country

The tiger, king of India's jungles, symbolises all of its wildlife. Visits to four renowned national parks maximises the chances of seeing this increasingly rare, elusive and endangered cat. These parks are home to a great variety of wildlife and birds, indeed the marshlands of **Bharatpur** and **Chambal** are an ornithologist's paradise. The tour also includes historic and cultural interest with Old & New Delhi, the Taj Mahal in Agra, Gwalior's magnificent fort and **Orchha's** superb temples.

## Day 1 Arrive Delhi

Arrive Delhi and transfer to your hotel. Overnight at the Taj Palace.

## Day 2 Delhi to Ranthambhore

Sightseeing in Old and New Delhi, visiting Humayun's Tomb, Qutab Minar, Red Fort, Jama Masjid Mosque, Chandni Chowk (Moonlight Square) and India Gate. Afternoon train to Sawai Madhopur. Overnight at Taj Sawai Madhopur Lodge. (B, L, D)

## Day 3 Ranthambhore

Morning and afternoon game viewing. Ranthambhore National Park is rightly famous for daytime sightings of tiger. Overnight at Taj Sawai Madhopur Lodge. (B, L, D)

## Day 4 Ranthambhore

Morning and afternoon game viewing. Overnight at Taj Sawai Madhopur Lodge. (B, L, D)

## Day 5 Ranthambhore to Bharatpur

Drive to Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary, one of the finest in Asia, with over 350 species of birds. Afternoon bird watching by cycle rickshaw or on foot. Overnight at The Bagh. (B)

## Day 6 Bharatpur to Chambal Safari Lodge (Jarar)

On to Chambal Safari Lodge, an oasis of calm and tranquility in a heritage plantation. En-route visit the Taj Mahal in Agra. Evening nature walk with a resident naturalist. Overnight at Chambal Safari Lodge. (B, L, D)

## Day 7 Chambal Safari Lodge

Game viewing by boat on the Chambal River. Afternoon camel safari along riverbanks, through villages and up to Fort Ater, an historic stronghold in Mughal times. Overnight at Chambal Safari Lodge. (B, L, D)

## Day 8 Chambal Safari Lodge to Gwalior

Drive to Gwalior, dating from the 8th century and noted for its magnificent fort. Evening sound and light show at Gwalior Fort. Overnight at Taj Usha Kiran Palace. (B)

## Day 9 Gwalior to Orchha

On to the medieval city of Orchha, former capital of the Bundela Rajputs and virtually undisturbed by time. Afternoon sightseeing. Overnight at Amar Mahal. (B)

## Day 10 Orchha to Panna

Drive to Panna National Park. Afternoon game viewing. Overnight at Ken River Lodge. (B, L, D)

## Day 11 Panna National Park

Morning and evening game viewing, seeking tiger, jungle cat, leopard, desert cat and civet, plus nilgai, sambhar deer, cheetal, chausingha, chinkara and wild boar. Overnight at Ken River Lodge. (B, L, D)

## Day 12 Panna to Bandhavgarh

Drive to Bandhavgarh National Park, with the highest known density of tigers in India. Afternoon game viewing. Overnight at King's Lodge. (B, L, D)



## Day 13 Bandhavgarh National Park

Morning and afternoon game viewing. Overnight at King's Lodge. (B, L, D)

## Day 14 Bandhavgarh to Kanha

By road to Kanha National Park, whose lush landscape inspired Rudyard Kipling's "Jungle Book". An excellent park, abundant with animal and bird life. Afternoon game viewing. Overnight at Chitvan Jungle Lodge. (B, L, D)

## Day 15 Kanha National Park

Morning and afternoon game viewing. Overnight at Chitvan Jungle Lodge. (B, L, D)

## Day 16 Kanha to Delhi

Drive to Jabalpur and fly to Delhi. Farewell dinner. Overnight at the Taj Palace. (B, D)

## Day 17 Delhi and Departure

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.



Gharials



# Wild Wonders

A superb opportunity to observe the **natural world**, this tour visits the cream of India's wildlife reserves in just ten days. Bandhavgarh, Kanha and Ranthambhore offer the best chances of **tiger sightings**, and are home to an extensive variety of predatory and grazing creatures. Indigenous and migratory **bird life is prolific**, especially at Bharatpur, a world-renowned bird sanctuary.



Above from left: Leopard, Nilgiri Tahr, Rhino



Main image: Indian Roller

## Day 1 Arrive Delhi

Arrive Delhi and transfer to your hotel. Remainder of the day at leisure. Overnight at The Imperial.

## Day 2 Delhi to Bandhavgarh

Fly to Khajuraho then drive to Bandhavgarh. This "Project Tiger" reserve is small but has India's highest density of tigers. Afternoon game viewing. Overnight at Mahua Kothi (B, L, D)

## Day 3 Bandhavgarh

Morning and afternoon game viewing. Overnight at Mahua Kothi (B, L, D)

## Day 4 Bandhavgarh

Morning and afternoon game viewing. Overnight at Mahua Kothi. (B, L, D)

## Day 5 Bandhavgarh to Kanha

Drive to Kanha National Park, noted for langur, sambar, barking deer, wild boar and gaur. Predators include leopard, wild dog and, of course, tiger. Afternoon game viewing. Overnight at Banjaar Tola. (B, L, D)

## Day 6 Kanha

Morning and afternoon game viewing. Kanha has excellent bird watching, including painted partridges, shaheen falcons, serpent eagles and golden orioles. Overnight at Banjaar Tola. (B, L, D)

## Day 7 Kanha to Delhi

Transfer to Jabalpur for flight to Delhi. Overnight at The Imperial.(B)

## Day 8 Delhi to Agra

Drive to Agra en-route visiting Sikandra, the tomb of Akbar. Later visit Agra Fort and, at sunset, the Taj Mahal, the memorial built by Shahjahan for his beloved wife. Overnight at The Oberoi Amarvilas. (B)

## Day 9 Agra to Delhi

Visit Taj Mahal at sunrise. Drive to Delhi. Farewell dinner. Overnight at The Imperial (B, D)

## Day 10 Delhi and Departure

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.



## Wildlife Parks

India is rich with Wildlife Parks and we have included many of the best in the itineraries in this brochure. However, there are many others and we would be delighted to discuss them with you. Here are a few excellent examples.

### Corbett National Park (Uttarakhand)

This superb park in the Himalayan foothills is spread over 1,300 sq km of diverse habitats, where you will find an abundance of wild life. Its 350 species of birds, mammals, fish and reptiles include tiger, leopard, bear, crocodile, elephant and deer. It offers safaris on elephant back.

### Satpura National Park (Madhya Pradesh)

Satpura National Park in central India, not far from Bhopal, is densely forested with evergreen sal, teak and bamboo. Its mountain peaks, forests, deep valleys, rivulets and waterfalls are home to bison, tiger, leopard, bear, four-horned deer, blue-bull and a rich variety of birds.

### Sundarbans National Park (West Bengal)

Southwest of Kolkata, this unique wildlife park is spread across the vast Ganges delta. It covers 10,000 sq km and contains the world's largest mangrove forest. Sunarbans is home to a number of rare and endangered species. Here you can find tiger, jungle cat, fishing cat, axis deer, monitor lizard, wild boar, rhesus monkey, mongoose, crocodile, heron, egret, cormorant, fishing eagle, sea eagle, tern and kingfisher.

### Gjr National Park (Gujarat)

Covering 1,412 sq km of mainly deciduous forest, it is the sole home of the endangered Asiatic lion. Also found here are leopard, spotted deer, jackle, striped hyena, jungle cat and over 250 species of bird. The sanctuary has large water bodies that attract crocodiles and migrating birds, and with about 300 lions and 300 leopards it is one of the major big-cat concentrations in India.

### Desert National Park (Rajasthan)

Situated near Jaisalmer in the heart of the Thar Desert, it covers an area of 3,162 sq km. There is an abundance of birdlife including the endangered great Indian bustard, eagles, harriers, falcons, buzzards, kestrels and vultures. Other notable inhabitants include black buck, desert fox, wolf, spiny-tailed lizard, monitor lizard and desert cat. Safaris are arranged from Jaisalmer.



Asiatic Lions