

BIG SIX MAMMAL EXCLUSIVE TRIPS

Day 1: Depart from home

We take a connecting flight to Delhi . (Meals Aloft)

Day 2 Delhi

Arrival at Delhi , International airport Welcome by Representative of Tiger Expeditions and transfers to Hotel - Shanti Palace New Delhi . (B, L, D)

Day 3 Delhi - Ramnagar

Following breakfast we'll explore the great city of Delhi . We visit the Qutab Minar and Humayun's Tomb, UNESCO World Heritage Monuments . We will have lunch at famous Mughal kitchen called

Karim's. We'll drive through Market before arriving at old Delhi Railway station to board link express to Ramnagar. Dinner and over night in the train.

Day 4 Ramnagar - Corbett National Park

The said train arrive Ramnagar railway station at 0545hrs. Which is Corbett National Park 's head office, so we could only take the entry pass from Ramnagar gate at 10:00 hrs (as we are staying inside the core area of park). Upon arrival transfer to forest lodge Dhikala and after noon excursion and overnight in Dhikala forest lodge

Day 4/ 5 Corbett National Park

Morning and afternoon safari at Corbett National Park and overnight in Dhikala Forest Lodge.

Corbett Tiger Reserve. The Kumaun region consists of a large lower Himalayan tract spread right upto Tibet. Corbett is situated in Kumaon hills of Nainital district of Uttranchal. The lower hilly & hilly land forms a charming panorama by Sal trees, grasslands and bamboo forest. The park is named after the famous hunter and naturalist, Jim Corbett who recounts many fascinating tales of hunting down the man-eating tigers.

The Fauna & Flora

Fauna. Tigers, Elephants, Leopards / Panthers, Jungle cats, Fishing Cats, Leopard cats, Himalayan black bears, Sloth bears, Jackals, Martens, Dholes, Civets, Mongooses, Otters, Hares, Porcupines, Chital (spotted deer), Sambar deer, Hog deer, Barking deer, Ghorals, Wild Boars, Pangolins, Macaques, Langurs and Blue Bulls (Nilgais).

Flora . The Corbett National Park is known for its varied vegetation that ranges from dense Mixed, Sal and Sheesham forests interwoven with bamboo thickets, short and tall grasses that offer favorable haunts for wild animals.

Birds. Herons, Darters, Cormorants, Lapwings, Paradise Flycatchers, Munias, Weaver birds, Fishing eagles, Serpent eagles, Spotted Eagles, Black throated Payas, Mynas.

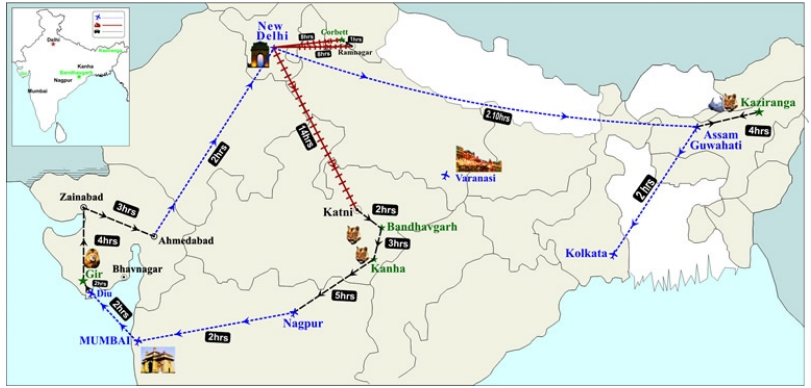
Fish. Goonch, Mahaseer, Trout and many other smaller species.

Reptiles. Gharials (fish eating Crocodiles), Mugger Crocodiles, Monitor Lizards, turtles, Cobras, Pythons and the Sal forest Tortoise.

Jeep Safari in Corbett National Park . Jeep safari is one integral part of the trip to Corbett National Park.

Day 6 Corbett National Park - Delhi

Full morning excursion into the park and after lunch transfer to Ramnagar Railway station to board in train #5013 Link Exp. to Delhi .



Day 7 Delhi - Katni

The said train arrives Delhi at 0430 hrs. Transfer to hotel shanti Place. Breakfast in hotel. Check out hotel at noon to drive in Delhi for Lunch at The Karims Restaurant - Famous mughal Kitchen. Transfer to Nizamuddin railway station to board in train for Katni at 1525 hrs. (Train #2412, Gondwana Super Fast Express in 1st AC private coupe). Dinner and over night in the train.

Day 8 Katni - Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve

Arrive Katni at 0515 hrs and then drive through forest to Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve by 0715 hrs. Bandhavgarh is one of India's prestige wildlife areas. The forests, grasslands and streams are home to a great variety of wildlife. Explore the park in safari jeeps in search of nilgai, sambar deer, chital and troops of langurs. Keep an eye open for the park's greatest prize: tigers. For the next Three nights our home will be ECO Lodge (B, L, D)

Day 8/10 Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve

We enjoy morning and afternoon wildlife excursions daily. Wildlife viewing is by open four-wheel drive vehicle and possibly from the back of an elephant. Boarding elephants is easy, and the cushioned platforms are very comfortable. Since most animals, including tigers, have little fear of elephants or the people mounted on them, this is ideal for wildlife viewing. Overnights Ecolodge Bandhavgarh.(B, L, D Daily)

BANDHAVGARH TIGER RESERVE

Set among the Vindhya Hills in the state of Madhya Pradesh, Bandhavgarh consists of 1161 square kilometers biologically very diverse tiger habitat because of the wide-range of landscape with numerous perennial river streams resulting into varied type of sustainable ecosystems with the result this area has highest density of tigers in the world. Consisting of Sal trees and mixed forest with large stretches of bamboo, grassland, hills, springs and marshy meadows with eight feet tall elephant grass.

More than 37 species of mammals including spotted, sambar, barking deer, Nilgai (blue bull) biggest antelope, wild boar, wild dog, Indian civet, palm squirrel, Jackal, Sloth Bears, Leopards, tigers, Jungle Cats etc. Common langurs and rhesus macaque represent the primate group.



Reptilians include cobra, krait, viper, python, turtle and a number of lizard varieties, including varanus.

There are some 250 species of birds, including blue-bearded bee-eaters and white-browed fantails, and the Malabar hornbill.

There is morning and afternoon wildlife excursions and we have the option to visit the fort. A 35-foot statue of the reclining Vishnu, resting beside a rectangular pool of spring water, heads the path to the imposing main gate. In addition to 10th Century rock images of the incarnation of Vishnu, Bandhavgarh Fort, at the parks center, 1,000 feet above the surrounding countryside offers breathtaking views and excellent game viewing.

Mode of Safaris:

- 1) We will observe the wildlife from 4X4 wheel driven open Suzuki Jeeps and
- 2) Elephant back- In addition to tiger watching in the morning one afternoon we will also go for elephant safari into the forest.
- 3) One afternoon we will also visit to elephant camp situated in the core area.

Excursion Timings: Park can be accessed from dawn to dusk except few hours in the after noon when it is quite warm for wildlife to move. For this time each day we cover the following activities:

- 1)Bandhavgarh Fort visit may be stay here till late afternoon.
- 2)Visit to Galpuri Lake for bird watching and picnic lunch.
- 3)School visit

Evening Activities:

- 1) Share the experiences and encounters in the wild with peoples living here.
- 2)Astronomy: Study of star constellation and planets with telescope.
- 3) Nocturnal birds & animals in case of any movement we will try to experience it.

Day 11 Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve - Kanha Tiger Reserve

After morning game drive Transfer to Kanha National Park . On reaching check into Kanha Safari Lodge

Dedicated game drives from dawn to dusk in personal 4x4 open safari vehicle & on elephant back with picnics in wooded areas & exotic places. Our home for the next Two nights will be Kanha Safari Lodge (B, L, D Daily)

Day 11 /12 Kanha Tiger Reserve

No better place than Bandhavgarh & Kanha Tiger Reserves to explore the fascinating world of Tigers & its habitat. Delivering breathtaking exclusive wilderness setting, amidst rich riverine forests. Dedicated game drives from dawn to dusk in personal 4 x 4 WD open safari vehicle and on elephant back with picnic in wooded areas and exotic places. (B, L, D Daily)

KANHA TIGER RESERVE: is situated in the heart of Sal forest of the Central high lands of India. It has a sparsely wooded grassy plateau, sprawling slopes with lush green trees and many streams, which are edged by large groves of willowy bamboo. The landscape presents a mesmerizing view and is eminently suitable for providing shelter to a variety of mammals and birds.

This vast 1941 Square Kilometers National Park was not only set aside to protect the tiger, but to save the endangered Barasingha (swamp deer) as well. In addition, Kanha is one of the best places in the world to view the secretive Indian Gaur and the rare Dhole, or Asiatic Wild dog.

Mammals: more than 37 species: spotted, sambar, barking deer, Nilgai (blue bull) biggest antelope, wild boar, palm squirrel, Jackal, Sloth Bears, leopards, tigers, Jungle Cats etc. Common langurs and rhesus macaque represent the primate group.

Reptilians include cobra, krait, viper, python, turtle and a number of lizard varieties, including varanus.

There are nearly 260 bird species such as storks, teals, pintails, egrets, peafowl, partridges, doves, pigeons, cuckoos, eagles, kites, etc.

Mode of Safaris:

- 1) We will observe the wildlife from 4X4 wheel driven open Suzuki Jeeps and
- 2)Elephant back- Seeing these rare and majestic Tigers in their natural habitat is truly an unforgettable wildlife experience and boarding elephant and the cushioned platforms are comfortable. Since most animals, including tigers, Have little fear of (but respect for) elephants or the people mounted on them, this mode of transportation is ideal for wildlife viewing.

Elephants: every morning about an hour before dawn the elephants leave their respective camps for tracking the Tigers. Once the tiger is located, the elephants are used as very convenient point for watching & photographing the tigers.

Excursion Timings: Park can be accessed from dawn to dusk except few hours in the after noon when it is quite warm for wildlife to move. For this time each day we cover the following activities:

- 1) Local Schools Visit.
- 2) Nature Walks: For bird watching and studying of flora and fauna.
- 3) Elephant washing: assist mahouts (elephant riders) to wash tracking elephants in the river.

Evening Activities:

- 1) Address to the questions of our participants and talk on the conservation, wildlife and other related queries of our member participants.
- 2)Astronomy: Study of star constellation and planets with telescope.
- 3) Nocturnal birds, animals in case of any movement we will try to experience it, especially tiger's movement can be felt with stress calls of deer's & monkeys and sometimes his vocalized Growling

Day 13 Kanha Tiger Reserve - Nagpur

After morning jungle excursion drive to Nagpur with a picnic lunch enroute. Dinner and overnight at hotel in Nagpur .

Day 14 Nagpur - Mumbai - Diu (Gir National Park)

Early morning flight to Mumbai (Bombay) where we connect with our Jet Airways flight to Diu, We enjoy lunch at a beach resort hotel and an afternoon tour of historic Diu, before driving to Gir Safari Lodge .



Day 15/17 Gir National Park

The next two days are spent exploring Gir Sanctuary, home of the last remaining population of Asiatic lions. Our morning and afternoon jungle excursions by jeep will be devoted to finding these rare lions. Other species include sambar, four horned antelope, hyena, jackal foxes and wild boar.

Sasan Gir: Established in 1965, the total area of 1412 km² is located about 65 km to the south-east of Junagadh district in the Kathiawar peninsula of Gujarat state, India.

The seven major perennial rivers which are passing via Gir region are Hiran, Saraswati, Dataradi, Shingoda, Machhundri, Ghodavari and Raval. The four reservoirs of the area are at four dams, one each on Hiran, Machhundri, Raval and Shingoda rivers, including the biggest reservoir in the area, the Kamleshwar Dam, dubbed 'the lifeline of Gir'. However, there is acute shortage of water during summer season.

An important part of the Gir Protected Area is known as the Gir Interpretation Zone, about 12 km from Sasan village, the headquarters of the park. Gir stretches over 1,153.4 sq km with 259 sq km forming the core area of the national park. It is famous for being the last natural home of the Asiatic lion, although it has a healthy population of other animals too. However, one of the best routes to be taken for a safari is Sasan-Khokra-Sisvan-Devadungar-Gambliamba-Kamleshwar Dam-Mindholiwada-Sasan.

Flora and Fauna.

Flora : More than 400 plant species were recorded in the survey of Gir forest by 1965. The Botany department of M.S. University of Baroda has revised the count to 507 during their re-survey. It is the largest dry deciduous forest in western India. Teak bearing areas are mainly in the eastern portion of the forest, which constitutes nearly half of the total area.

Fauna: The count of 2,375 distinct fauna species of Gir includes about 38 species of mammals, around 300 species of birds, 37 species of reptiles and more than 2,000 species of insects. The carnivores group mainly consists of Asiatic lions, Indian Leopards, Jungle cat, Striped Hyenas, Golden Jackals, Mongoose, Civet cats, and Rats. Desert cats and Rusty-spotted cats also exist but are rarely seen.

The main herbivores of Gir are Chital, Nilgai (or Bluebull), Sambar, Four-horned Antelope, Chinkara and Wild boar. Blackbucks from the surrounding area are sometimes seen in the sanctuary.

Day 18 Gir National Park - Zainabad

After breakfast, proceed to Zainabad visiting Lothal on the way. Overnight stay at hotel in Zainabad. Zainabad is a small town, on the edge of the Little Rann of Kutch. Zainabad is famous for its unique wildlife and bird populations including the rare **Asiatic Wild Ass** and the **Hubara Bustard**. Zainabad is regarded as the perfect base to explore the Little Rann of Kutch.

In addition to wildlife, Zainabad is also known for its rich cultural heritage.

Day 19 Zainabad - Ahmedabad - Delhi

After morning excursion drive to Ahmedabad for a city tour. Lunch at a local restaurant before our flight to Delhi. Upon arrival, transfer to the Hotel Shanti Place Delhi. Overnight in the hotel (B, L, D)

Day 20 Delhi - Guwahati - Kaziranga National Park

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for our flight at 1015 hrs to arrive Guwahati at 1225 hrs. Upon arrival, drive for 4 hrs to Kaziranga National Park, where it becomes apparent that the people of Assam have a more pronounced Asian influence than those of any place visited. Assam is the biological crossroads for the flora and fauna of the Malay Peninsula, China, Himalayas and the Indian subcontinent. Here, the forests are primarily tropical evergreen rather than the deciduous type found in dryer areas. Arrive late afternoon at the Bon Habi Resort. (B, L, D)

Days 20/21 Kaziranga National Park

Exploring the park by open 4X4 WD Jeep and on elephant back. Accommodation at Bon Habi Resort. (B, L, D Daily)

Kaziranga National Park. Located on the bank of mighty Brahmaputra River in the far North East of India, Assam, Kaziranga National Park covers an area of approximately 430-sq-kms. It was declared as wildlife sanctuary in 1940. In the heart of Assam, this park is one of the last areas in eastern India undisturbed by a human presence. It is inhabited by the world's largest



Population of one-horned rhinoceroses, elephants, wild buffalos and tigers. In the latest animal census there were about 1800 wild buffaloes in Kaziranga.

Flora & Fauna

Flora There is a difference in altitude between the eastern and western areas of the park The western side being at a lower altitude. The western reaches of the park are dominated by grasslands. Tall elephant grass is found on higher ground, while short grasses cover the lower grounds surrounding the reeds or flood-created ponds. Annual flooding, grazing by herbivores, and controlled burning maintain and fertilize the grasslands. Common tall grasses are sugarcane, spear grass, elephant grass, and the common reed. Numerous Forbs are present along with the grasses. Amidst the grasses, providing cover and shade are scattered trees dominant species including kumbhi, Indian gooseberry, the cotton tree (in savanna woodlands), and elephant apple (in inundated grasslands). **Fauna** Fauna includes one horned rhinoceros, wild buffalo, Indian elephant, royal Bengal tiger, Indian wild boar, eastern mole, pangolin,

Reptiles . Different types of snakes and lizards.

Day 22 Kaziranga National Park - Guwahati - Calcutta or Delhi - Back home

After breakfast, depart for Guwahati to board a flight to either Calcutta (Kolkata) or Delhi . Upon arrival, transfer to the Hotel for dinner before departing on our late evening flight to back home (B, L, D)



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