

CATS EXPEDITION

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 - The Shanti Place, New Delhi . (B, L, D)

Day 3 Delhi - Katni

After breakfast check out from hotel and 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 4 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 4/6 Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve

Morning and afternoon excursion in the park. Begin park treks and view the breathtaking jungle and wildlife of Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve. Wildlife viewing is by open 4x4 WD vehicles and on 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. (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.

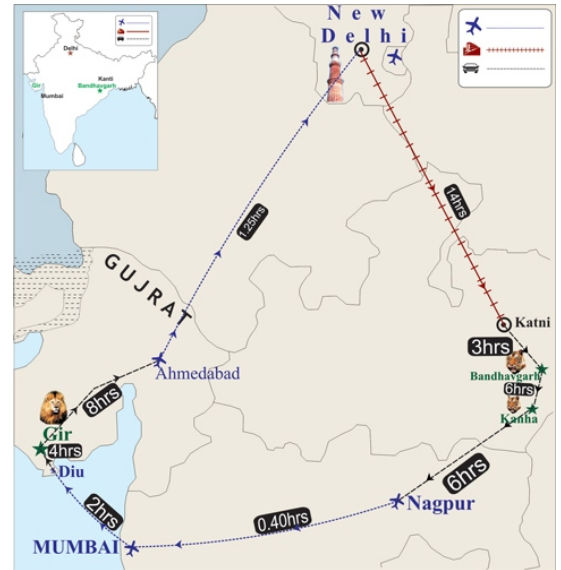
More than 37 species of mammals including spotted, sambar, barking deer, Nilgai (blue bull) biggest antelope, wild boar, wild dog, Indian civet, palm squirrel, Jackal, Sloth Bears, leopards, tigers, Jungle Cats etc. Common langurs and rhesus macaque represent the primate group.

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 7 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 three nights will be Kanha Safari Lodge (B, L, D)

Day 7/9 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 10 Kanha Tiger Reserve - Nagpur

After morning jungle excursion drive to Nagpur with a picnic lunch enroute. Overnight at hotel in Nagpur . (B, L, D)

Day 11 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 for the next 3 nights. (B, L, D)

Day 11/13 Gir National Park

The next three 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. (B, L, D Daily)

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, Datardi, 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 Ratels. 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 14 Gir National Park - Zainabad

After breakfast, proceed to Zainabad visiting Lothal on the way. Overnight stay at hotel in Zainabad. (B, L, D)
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 15 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 for dinner before departing on our late evening flight. (B, L, D)

Day 16 Delhi - Our Flight Home

Meet our connecting international flight. (Meals Aloft)



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