

INDO-NEPAL WILDLIFE TRIP

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 - Keoladeo National Park

After breakfast at about 0900 hrs drive for 185 kms / 4 hrs to Bharatpur N.P. Garden lunch at hotel Country Inn Kosi. Kosi is a place located in rural area on National Highway # 2 about 2 hrs drive time from Delhi . Which is quite calm and away from hectic life of Delhi ? So it will be an ease surface drive in two parts without any loss of time any where. Afternoon excursions to the Bharatpur Sanctuary. Overnight at Uday Vilas Palace . (B, L, D)

Day 4 Keoladeo National Park

Morning and Afternoon Excursion in the Park and other related activities. (B, L, D DAILY)

Keoladeo national park Unesco World heritage centre Keoladeo national park which is in India 's Rajasthan state At Bharatpur .its covered area 29 sq km. It is the only wintering site for the siberian Crane in the Indian subcontinent. Two-thirds of the Park lies under water and the remaining one-third is covered in dry deciduous forests and extensive grasslands.

Birds: Bharatpur is the real kingdom of Avian fauna in India with not less than 377 bird species already spotted. If your luck permits it is not too tough to spot 50 to 100 species in a day. Over 350 species of birds find a refuge in the 11 sq miles (29km) of shallow lakes and woodland that makes up the park. A third of them are migrants, many of whom winter in Bharatpur before returning to their breeding grounds as far away as siberia and Central Asia . some 120 species nest in the park and the heronry at keoladeo Ghana is said to be one of the finest in the world. The birds seen are as colorful as their names -pintail ducks, red-crested pochards, and open-billed, painted, and black-necked storks.

Mammals : The National park is also known for large mammals. Blue bull-India's largest antelope is and animal of dry land. India's largest deer, Sambar is re-establishing itself. India 's commonest deer- chital or Axis deer, does not like water. It remains confined to upland areas of the park. There are about 500 heads of chital.

Reptiles : The park is well known for the opportunities to observe Indian python, Indian porcupine, fishing cat, Indian civet, and three species of mongoose.

Mode of safari : Flat-bottomed boats, bicycle rickshaws and bicycle.

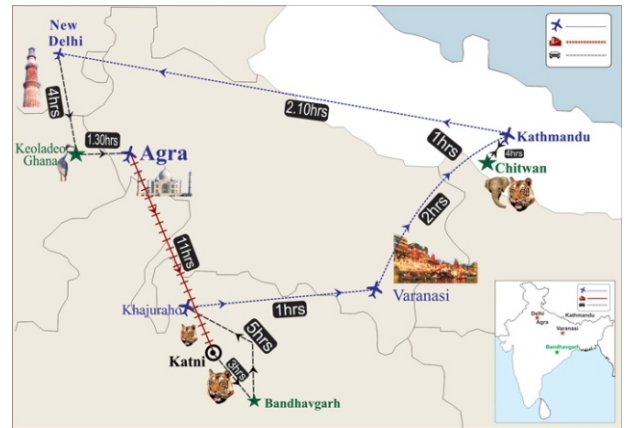
Day 5 Keoladeo National Park - Agra

After breakfast, drive to Agra , stopping en route at Fatehpur Sikri (Victory City), a UNESCO heritage site monument. After lunch check in at- the Utkarsh Vilas Tour of Agra , visiting the Agra Fort which is

UNESCO heritage site monument of red sand stone . (B, L, D)

Day 6 Agra - Katni

Visit the spectacular Taj Mahal, a UNESCO heritage site monument early in the morning to catch the sunrise and also contemplate all the color changes of Taj Mahal's white marble due to reflection happening during sun rise. After late breakfast opportunities for shopping and lunch in the traditional market. Catch the Gondwana Express at 1850 hours to Katni. Over night on the train with lunch box dinner in private air conditioned cabin. (B, L, D)



Day 7/9 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)

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 10 Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve - Khajuraho

After breakfast we take a morning drive to Khajuraho (approx. 5 hours) whose amazing UNESCO World Heritage Site are adorned with vivid erotic stone carvings, showing ancient scenes and myths. We visit some of the temples in the afternoon and remaining in the next morning. Spend the night at the hotel Ramada . (B, L, D).

Day 11 Khajuraho - Varanasi (Flight)

After breakfast transfer to Airport to catch flight to Varanasi . On arrival in Varanasi transfer to hotel. In the afternoon take an excursion to Sarnath. Overnight at hotel. (B, L, D)

Day 12 Varanasi

Breakfast in hotel visit bathing ghats, which line the western ghats of River Ganges, enjoy boat ride at dawn. Also visit the Tulsi Manas Temple , Alamgir Temple , and Bharat Mata Temple . Overnight at hotel (B, L, D)

Day 13 Varanasi - Kathmandu (Nepal) - Royal Chitwan National Park

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for our flight at 1210 hrs to arrive Katmandu at 1315 hrs. Upon arrival, drive for 4 hrs to Royal Chitwan National Park . (B, L, D)

Day 14/15 Royal Chitwan National Park

Morning and afternoon excursion in the park. Overnight at hotel. (B, L, D Daily)

ROYAL CHITWAN NATIONAL PARK is home to some of the most endangered wildlife species in the world which is situated in the South-Central Nepal along the international borders with India . Till recent past this park was a playground of Nepal 's elite who has used it for hunting freely and today it is the most protected forest zone in the country. Chitwan derives its name from the local word Chituwa Ban or Leopard Forest . But there are many more exceptions to this theory. According to another theory, the park derives its name from Sita Ban (forest of Sita), after the heroine of great Hindu epic Ramayana. To substantiate this legend, there is Balmiki Ashram at Triveni where it is said that Sita resided while in exile.

The park was officially established in 1973. In 1984, it became a World Heritage Site as notified by UNESCO. Drained by two major rivers Rapti and Narayani, the park covers subtropical forests housing a variety of wildlife including elephants, royal Bengal tigers, one-horned rhinoceros, leopard, sloth bear, and wild bison. Migration of wildlife across the borders to Valmiki National Park in India is a common thing.

Flora : Park is well protected, one can still experience the feeling of a real-life jungle. Sub-tropical jungles, elephant grasslands, hilly areas, and flood plains are all an integral part of park landscape.

There are two types of forest. The vegetation of Chitwan is tropical moist deciduous and two main types of forest may be recognized i.e. Sal forest and the flood plain forest. On high ground and in the hills where the drainage is good and flooding does not occur is the sal forest so called after the dominant tree sal (*Shorea robusta*). This forest covers roughly three to fourth of the park area and attains a height of 130 ft. Giant vines and creepers, such as *debrehara* and *bhorla* twine upwards using the larger trees for support.

Mammals : In terms of seeing the wildlife, the floodplain belt is the best as it harbors a larger concentration of animals than the sal forest. Chitwan's estimated 450 rhinos are found almost wholly in the grass land and reverine forest. In the Shivalik hills we find Gaur, of the four species of deer found in Chitwan, the hog deer is restricted in grassland, Chital to the low land part and Sambar and Barking deer are found in the entire the park. Besides ,other wild animals are The tiger, the leopard, and the wild dogs etc.

An elephant ride through the park gives you the opportunity to sight the denizens from close quarters, Boat ride on the river through the jungles can be an exciting affair and a good option to move deep inside.

Excursion Sites : The Gharial Breeding Centre is an important step towards the conservation and research on Gharial, one of the most endangered species. Lamital and Devital are two lakes flocked by migratory birds during winters. Bikram Baba is a Hindu religious site while Sauraha is the major commercial hub in the park region. The Elephant Breeding Centre is a response from the park authorities to increase the number of pachyderms who felicitate visitors transportation inside the park. Dumaria and Khagendramalli are the particularly good spot for seeing them in February - April.

Day 16 Royal Chitwan National Park - Kathmandu - Delhi

After breakfast, depart for Katmandu to board a flight to Delhi . Upon arrival, transfer to the Hotel for dinner before departing on our late evening flight. (B, L, D)



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