



Bird Watching & Tiger Safari Tour

15 Nights / 16 Days

Delhi - Ranthambhore - Jaipur - Bharatpur - Agra - Bandhavgarh - Delhi

Day 1 : Arrive Delhi- Delhi the capital of india, is a historical city, which attracts the tourists because of its historical past. This city is one of the oldest city with lots of monuments and temples that are a sight to watch. Any visitor's visit to this city will go incomplete without a visit to these historical places. Delhi is a 1000 years old city with great market places which fancy of a lot of exquisite stuff which is worth having a glimpse of. When you arrive at the airport in Delhi, you will be received by the representatives of Nature Safari who will then take you to the hotel booked for you. Overnight in Delhi.



Day 2 : Delhi- Full day tour of the city. Morning: Visit the Old City of Delhi to see the historic Red Fort and the Jama Masjid, India's largest mosque from the outside. See the colourful bazaar of Chandni Chowk and take a cycle rickshaw ride through the back streets of Old Delhi to get a first hand experience of the hustle and bustle of this traditional city. This ride through the small by-lanes will be most fascinating. Return to the hotel for lunch or eat at an interesting restaurant in town. Afternoon: Visit New Delhi, seeing the Qutab Minar, a tower of victory built in the 12th century and India Gate - the war memorial. Drive past the Rashtrapathi Bhawan, the residence of the President of India, the houses of Parliament and the Government Secretariat buildings. Overnight in Delhi.

Day 3 : Delhi - Ranthambore- Morning transfer to the Railway station to board the train for Sawai Madhopur. Leave Delhi for Sawai Madhopur by Golden Temple Mail (0755/ 1310 hrs). Meeting and assistance on arrival at Sawai Madhopur Railway station and transfer to the Lodge
Ranthambore: With an area of 400 sq. km encompassing rocky hill crests which descend to open valleys between the Aravalli and Vindhya ranges, dotted with water pools and fruit trees, this park gets its name from the thousand year old fortress, which looms above the forest. Well known for the diurnal activity of tigers, Ranthambore is a very special and unusual area where a natural present meets a historical past. Sambar, cheetal, chinkara, nilgai and langur. The elusive leopard and tigers are found in this reserve with tourists standing a very good chance of seeing tigers during the day. (The Park is closed from 01 July till 30 September.) Dotted across the landscape are the crumbling ruins of its past glory, be it chatris or cupolas, like palaces or old guard posts, all of which reinforce the magical and ethereal quality of this great wilderness. Lunch at the lodge; visit the sanctuary by Jeep with an English-speaking Naturalist. Dinner and overnight in Resort.

Day 4 : Ranthambore- Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner at the lodge. Morning and afternoon visit the sanctuary by Jeep with an English-speaking Naturalist. Dinner and overnight in Resort.

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Day 5 : Ranthambore- Day five begins with a wake up call by the resort official. After you have taken your shower, your breakfast will be served to you and then you will be taken to the sanctuary by one of our naturalists, who is well versed with English. The mode of travel will be in a jeep. After going around the park, you will come back to the resort for lunch and after lunch, your safari to the park in the jeep will again continue. You will come back to the resort for dinner in the night. Stay in the Ranthambore forest resort will be memorable because of a lot of reasons.

Day 6 : Ranthambore - Jaipur Morning drive to Jaipur (170 kms). This journey is over very good roads, through rural Rajasthan and would take about 3 hours. On arrival check into the hotel. Jaipur - the capital of Rajasthan, is colour washed pink - the colour associated with hospitality in Rajput culture. This Pink City of fairy tale palaces, rugged fortresses perched on barren hills and broad avenues, is picturesque. The first planned city of its time, Jaipur is encircled by a formidable wall. Overnight in Jaipur JAI MAHAL PALACE / THE TRIDENT.

Day 7 : Jaipur- Morning proceed on an excursion to Amber Fort with an Elephant ride up to the top of the Fort. Drive past Hawa Mahal, known popularly as the Palace of Winds, is a facade built for the Ladies of the Royal household in the 19th century. The Amber Fort, the capital of the erstwhile State of Jaipur until 1728 is perched on a hill. It has halls of Public and Private audience, a Sheesh Mahal (hall of mirrors) various marble palaces which are marvelous examples of ancient Rajput architecture. The Temple of Amba (Mother Goddess), the patron deity of the Royal family is at the entrance to the palace. Ride an elephant to ascend the hill on which the Fort is situated. Return to the town in the afternoon enroute visiting the City Palace - the former royal residence built in a blend of Rajasthani and Mughal styles which houses a museum with a superb collection of Rajasthani costumes and armoury of the Mughals and Rajputs, including swords of different shapes and sizes with ornate handles. It has an art gallery with an excellent collection of miniature paintings, carpets, royal paraphernalia and rare astronomical works in Arabic, Persian, Latin and Sanskrit. Also visit the Jantar Mantar - an astrological and astronomical observatory built by Maharaja Jai Singh in the 18th century, which is remarkable for its accuracy even in the present times. Overnight in Jaipur JAI MAHAL PALACE/THE TRIDENT.

Day 8 : Jaipur - Bharatpur - Morning drive to Bharatpur (176 kms). On arrival, check into the hotel.

Bharatpur is popular for its bird sanctuary - the Keoladeo Ghana National Park - finest in Asia, in which over 400 species of water birds. The sanctuary covers an area of 40 sq. km of swampy, lightly wooded terrain that was once the private hunting and shooting preserve of the Maharaja of Bharatpur. Today it is the protected breeding ground for many species of birds and also the home of migratory birds, especially of the Siberian Crane, that spends its winter here. Colonies of cormorants, spoonbills, storks, egrets, herons, pelicans, ibis and grey herons can be spotted all over the park, besides a fairly rich habitation of deer and snakes. [The best time to visit the park is from October through March] The

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park can be explored either by cycle rickshaws (the drivers are all very capable naturalists) or by boats on the lake. Late Afternoon : Visit the Sanctuary by boats - an excellent way to see the birds and watch the spectacular sunset. Overnight in Bharatpur at Udai Vilas Palace.

Day 9 : Bharatpur - Fatehpur Sikri - Agra- Morning : Visit the Bharatpur Keoladeo Ghana Bird Sanctuary by cycle rickshaws (the rickshaw drivers are all very capable naturalists). Afternoon drive to Agra enroute visiting Fatehpur Sikri (12 kms) Fatehpur Sikri - This exquisite city built by Akbar the Great in 1569, in red sandstone, with its forts, palaces and mosques was abandoned 14 years after its creation due to political reasons. The Diwan-i-am - a vast courtyard in which the emperor gave daily public audience; Diwan-i-khas - a large quadrangle which contained all the major functions of the Palace, Pachisi court, the Emperors private living quarter, Jodha Bhai's Palace, Mariam's Palace, Birbal's Palace, Hawa Mahal and Panch Mahal are some of the important buildings of this residential complex. The Friday Mosque and the exquisite tomb of Sheik Salim Chisti are in the religious grounds set aside in a separate enclosure adjacent to the secular buildings. Continue drive to Agra after visiting Fatehpur Sikri (49 kms). On arrival, check in to the hotel. Agra is famous as the home to one of the Seven Wonders of the World - the Taj Mahal. The architectural splendour of the mausoleums, the fort and the palaces in Agra is a vivid reminder of the opulence of the legendary Mughal Empire. Agra was their capital for nearly a hundred years from 1564. A pleasant town, with a comparatively easy pace, Agra is known for its superb inlay work on marble and soapstone by artisans who are hereditary crafts persons. The city is also famous for its carpets, gold thread embroidery and leather shoes. Overnight in Agra THE TRIDENT / JAYPEE PALACE.

Day 10 : Agra - Umaria/Katni (Bandhavgarh)- Morning : Proceed on a city tour of Agra. Visit the Agra Fort, built by three Mughal Emperors starting from Akbar the Great in 1565 AD, which is a masterpiece of design and construction. Within the fort are a number of exquisite buildings including the Moti Masjid, Jahangir's Palace, Khas Mahal and the Sheesh Mahal, Diwane-i-Am, Diwane-i-Khas and Musamman Burj, where Emperor Shah Jahan, the fifth Mughal Emperor, died a prisoner. Later visit the Taj Mahal - the inimitable poem in white marble. Built over a period of 22 years, by the Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan in 1630, for his Queen Mumtaz Mahal to enshrine her mortal remains, it is one of the seven modern wonders of the World. [The Taj is closed on Friday. Afternoon : Transfer to Railway station to board the train for Umaria. Leave Agra for Umaria by Utkal Kalinga Express at 1540hrs. Overnight enroute on board the train.

Day 11 : Arrive Umaria/Katni - Bandhavgarh- Arrive Umaria at 0600 hrs. A quiet little village that is gently awakening to the sounds of birds and cows. Arriving at this village, nestled in the "buffer zone" of the Bandavgarh National Park, is an experience in itself. Meeting on arrival by our jeep from the lodge, transfer to the Bandhavgarh (45 kms), driving through rural Madhya Pradesh and through the forests, with a good The density of the tiger population at Bandhavgarh is relatively high. The possibility of spotting Sloth Bear, Wild Boar, Leopard and Tiger is very good. The park is also densely populated with animals

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like the Chital (Spotted Deer), Sambar, Barking Deer, Nilgai (Blue Bull), Chowsingha (Four Horned Antelope) and is rich in bird life. [The Park is closed from 01 July till 30 September.

The terrain is rocky, rising sharply from the swampy and densely forested valley. The finest of these hills is Bhadhavgarh, which is bounded by great cliffs and eroded rocks. The Bandhavgarh Fort, believed to be 2000 years old, stands at the highest point. There is a temple at the fort that can be visited by jeeps. Scattered throughout the park, particularly around the fort, are numerous caves containing shrines with ancient Sanskrit inscriptions. The ramparts of the fort provide a home for vultures, blue rock thrushes and crag martins. Lunch at the Lodge and visit the sanctuary by Jeep with an English-speaking Naturalist. Dinner and overnight in Bandhavgarh at The Celebration Van Vilas.

Day 12 : Bandhavgarh- Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner at the Lodge. Morning and afternoon game drives into the sanctuary. We can also arrange an excursion to see the imposing fort that is located inside the sanctuary. This Fort, or "Garh", from which the park gets its name, is fascinating and involves a relatively easy climb to the temple located on its summit, dedicated to Lord Rama. The view from here is equally fascinating. Dinner and overnight in Bandhavgarh at The Celebration Van Vilas.

Day 13: Bandhavgarh- Breakfast and Lunch at the Lodge. Morning and afternoon visit the sanctuary by Jeep with an English-speaking Naturalist. Overnight at The Celebration Van Vilas.

Day 14: Bandhavgarh -Umaria/Katni -Delhi- Breakfast and Lunch at the Lodge. Morning and afternoon visit the sanctuary by Jeep with an English-speaking Naturalist. (Check out time 1200 noon). Late evening drive to Umaria to board the train for Delhi. Leave Umaria for Delhi by Utkal Kalinga Express at 2200 hrs. Overnight enroute on board train.

Day 15: Arrive Delhi- Arrive Delhi at 1330 hrs. Meeting and assistance upon arrival at New Delhi Railway station and transfer to the hotel. (Room to be provided for Day Use till departure). Evening: We shall provide Farewell Dinner at a nice restaurant in the town. After the Dinner,you will be taken to the airport by our representatives to the Airport to board the flight for abroad.

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