

WILDLIFE PROGRAM

Delhi - Jaipur - Ranthambore - Bharatpur - Agra – Jhansi – Orchha - Khajuraho - Bandhavgarh - Kanha -Jabalpur - Delhi 14 Nights / 15 Days

Travel Proposal

Ref No. 38405





About the Program

There are several places where this elusive and endangered creature still roams in its natural habitat. This includes Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan, and even Siberia. However, the primary residence for jungle royalty is still India. With a magnificent network of national parks and reserves and expert local guides on your trip, India is way up there in terms of being the best place to see tigers.

When you look at national parks in India, it is still the best place to see tigers and other wildlife in terms of sightings and safari backup. These national parks are spread out in a line from the north to the south of the country. In this program, go on a journey to sight the elusive Royal Bengal Tiger in Ranthambore National Park, Bandhavgarh National Park, and Kanha National Park. If you love birdwatching, spend some quality time in Bharatpur National Park and witness the beauty of migratory birds here. Apart from this, discover the true meaning of life and Indianness in the Golden Triangle circuit, one of India's most sought-after tourist circuits, comprising Delhi, Jaipur, and Agra. To experience the quaint towns of India, enjoy the visit of Orchha, one of the most peaceful yet historic towns in central India. In this program, you can get rendezvous with erotic temples of India at Khajuraho.



Program Details:

Day 01 Arrive at Delhi

Arrive in Delhi. On arrival, you will be greeted and assisted by our representative and transferred to the hotel. **(Rooms will be available from 14:00 Hrs)**

DELHI - It is a city that bridges two different worlds. Old Delhi, once the capital of Islamic India, is a labyrinth of narrow lanes lined with crumbling havelis and formidable mosques. In contrast, the imperial city of New Delhi created by the British Raj is composed of spacious, tree-lined avenues and imposing government buildings. Delhi has been the seat of power for several rulers and many empires for about a millennium. Many a times the city was built, destroyed and then rebuilt here. Interestingly, a number of Delhi's rulers played a dual role, first as destroyers and then as creators

On arrival in Delhi, transfer to hotel.

Overnight at the hotel.

Day 02 Delhi

After breakfast enjoy the visit of Delhi including fallowing:

Jama Masjid - This great mosque of Old Delhi is the largest in India, with a courtyard capable of holding 25,000 devotees. It was begun in 1644 and ended up being the final architectural extravagance of Shah Jahan, the Mughal emperor who built the Taj Mahal and the Red Fort. The highly decorative mosque has three great gates, four towers and two 40 m-high minarets constructed of strips of red sandstone and white marble. The interior of the prayer hall is divided into aisles by arches. The walls and floors are of marble inlay panels.

Red Fort - The Red Fort, Shah Jahan's elegant citadel in red sandstone, was built on the western bank of the river Yamuna. Shahjahan, started the construction of this massive fort in 1638, when he shifted the capital from Agra to Delhi. The Red sandstone walls of the massive Red Fort rise 33-m above the clamour of Old Delhi as a reminder of the magnificent power and pomp of the Mughals. Inside is a veritable treasure trove of buildings, including the Drum House, the Hall of Public and Private Audiences, the Pearl Mosque, Royal Baths and Palace of Color. *(It remains closed on Mondays).*



Raj Ghat - Raj Ghat is a memorial to Mahatma Gandhi. It is a black marble platform that marks the spot of Mahatma Gandhi's cremation, on 31 January 1948, a day after his assassination. It is left open to the sky while an eternal flame burns perpetually at one end. It is located on the banks of the river Yamuna in Delhi on Ring Road officially known as Mahatma Gandhi Road. A stone footpath flanked by lawns leads to the walled enclosure that houses the



memorial.

Drive Past Govt. Buildings - New Delhi houses several government buildings and official residences reminiscent of the British colonial architecture. Today we will drive past few of them, like The Parliament House, designed by Baker is 173m in diameter, the Rashtrapati Bhawan once the Viceroy's residence is now the official residence of the President of India. Designed by Lutyens, it combines western and eastern styles.

Photo Stop at India Gate - At the centre of New Delhi stands the 42 m high India Gate, an "Arc-de-Triumph" like



archway in the middle of a crossroad. Almost similar to its French counterpart, it commemorates the 70,000 Indian soldiers who lost their lives fighting for the British Army during the World War I. The memorial bears the names of more than 13,516 British and Indian soldiers killed in the North-western Frontier in the Afghan war of 1919. Under the arch, the Amar Jawan Jyoti commemorating Indian armed forces' losses in the Indo-Pakistan war of 1971.

Humayun Tomb - Humayun's Tomb is probably one of the most innovative and experimental monuments of its time, incorporating within it Indo-Islamic architectural styles. This magnificent garden tomb is the first substantial example of Mughal architecture in India. It was built in 1565 A.D. nine years after the death of Humayun, by his senior widow Bega Begam. Inside the walled enclosure the most notable features are the garden squares (Charbagh) with pathways water channels, centrally located well proportional mausoleum topped by double dome.

Overnight at the hotel.

Day 03 Delhi / Jaipur (278 Kms around 05 hrs drive)

After breakfast, drive to Jaipur.

JAIPUR - The fascinating capital of the marvellous state of Rajasthan.

Jaipur is popularly known as the Pink City, thanks to the colour of its buildings. It was built in 1727 A.D by Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II, followed a grid system, which made it the only planned city of its time. A young Bengali architect Vidhyadhar Bhattacharya designed the city in accordance with Shilp Shastra - an ancient Hindu treatise on architecture. There are innumerable sagas and stories of culture, traditions, practices and velour. This diverse land of rich cultural heritage is a royal treat for tourists all over the world.

On arrival in Jaipur transfer to hotel.

Overnight at the hotel.

Day 04 Jaipur

After breakfast, enjoy visit of Jaipur including following:

Photo Stop at Hawa Mahal Palace - The poet king Sawai Pratap Singh built this palace of winds. This is easily the most well-known landmarks of Jaipur and is also its icon. This five-storey building overlooking the busy bazaar



street is a fascinating example of Rajput architecture and artistry with its delicately honeycombed 953 pink sandstone windows known as 'jharokhas'. It was originally built for the ladies of the royal household to watch everyday life and processions in the city from their veiled comfort.

Elephant / Jeep ride to Amber Fort – Enjoy Elephant ride up to the Amber Fort like the royalty of Rajasthan once did. Mount the animal from a raised platform and sit comfortably in a specially designed, secure seat as the majestic



animal winds its way up the ramparts of the fort. The Elephants look beautiful as the mahouts (the person who drives the elephants) decorate them, especially the trunk, with floral and geometric patterns using colored chalk and powders.

Amber Fort - The Amber Fort set in picturesque and rugged hills is a fascinating blend of Hindu and Mughal architecture. Constructed by Raja Man Singh I in 1592 and completed by Mirja Raja Jai Singh, the fort was made in red sand stone and white marble. Amber is the classic and romantic fort-palace with a magnificent aura. The interior wall of the palace depicts expressive painting scenes with carvings, precious stones and mirror settings. Built mainly for the warring enemies as a safe place, the heavily structured walls could defend the residents within the



ramparts of the fort.

City Palace - Located in the heart of the walled city, the City Palace Complex gives you an idea about the farsightedness of the founder of Jaipur Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh. He left behind a legacy of some of the most imposing and magnificent architecture in the city. Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh built many buildings but some of the structures were also built by later rulers. The palace is a blend of Mughal and Rajput architecture and the ex-royal family still lives in a part of the palace.

Jantar Mantar - The Jantar Mantar is a collection of architectural astronomical instruments, built by Maharaja (King) Jai Singh II between 1727 and 1734. It is modelled after the one that he had built for him at Delhi. He had constructed a total of five such facilities at different locations, including the ones at Delhi and Jaipur. The Jaipur observatory is the largest and best preserved of these. It has been inscribed on the World Heritage List as "an expression of the astronomical skills and cosmological concepts of the court of a scholarly prince at the end of the Mughal period".

Overnight at the hotel.

Day 05

Jaipur / Ranthambore (147 kms / 04 ½ hrs drive approx)

After breakfast, drive to Ranthambore.

RANTHAMBORE - Ranthambore National Park is one of the largest and most famous national parks in North India. It is named after the historic Ranthambore fortress that is found within the park. The park covers an area of 392 sq km. Bound to the north by the Banas River and to the south by the Chambal river, Ranthambore lies at the edge of a plateau. There are several lakes here and it is home to a variety of plants and animals. However, Ranthambore's pride is the population of tigers prowling in their own natural habitat. The other fascinating wildlife, you can see include Leopards, Striped Hyenas, Chital, Chinkara, Sambhar deer, langurs, Civets, Macaques, Sloth bears, Black bucks, Indian Wild Boar, Five-striped Palm Squirrels, Indian Flying Foxes and mongoose to name a few with. A visit to Ranthambore National Park can surely be a rewarding experience for all wildlife enthusiasts.

On arrival in Ranthambore, transfer to hotel.

Lunch, Dinner & Overnight at the hotel.



Day 06 Ranthambore

Enjoy morning; enjoy a shared Jeep Safari in Ranthambore National Park.

After safari return back to hotel for breakfast.



Enjoy lunch in the hotel.

Later enjoy afternoon shared jeep Safari in the park.

Lunch, Dinner and Overnight at the hotel.



Day 07 Ranthambore / Bharatpur (Train)/ Agra (65 Kms around 02 hrs drive)

Early morning transfer to Railway Station to board Train for Bharatpur. (*Train: 12060 NZM Jan Shatabdi07:05/ 09:23 hrs*).

On arrival in Bharatpur, drive to Agra.

On the way enjoy the visit of **Fatehpur-Sikri** - The beautiful and deserted medieval city built by Akbar the Great in the 16th century to serve as the capital of his vast empire. The complex consists of religious, residential and administrative buildings. The Mosque is considered a copy for the Mosque at Mecca and is extremely elegant, containing elements of Hindu and Persian design. Housed here is the Shrine of Sheikh Salim Chisti one of the greatest of Sufi saints of the Muslim world.

After visit drive to Agra.

AGRA - The city of the inimitable "TAJ MAHAL".

The architectural splendour of the mausoleums, the fort and the palaces is vivid reminder of the opulence of the legendary Mughal Empire. While its significance as a political center ended with the transfer of the capital to Delhi in 1634 by Shah Jahan, its architectural wealth has secured its place on the international map. A pleasant town with a comparatively slow pace, Agra is known for its superb inlay work on marble and soapstone by craftsmen who are descendants of those who worked under the Mughals.

On arrival in Agra, transfer to hotel.

Overnight at the hotel.

Day 08 Agra

After breakfast enjoy the visit of Agra including following:



Taj Mahal - Taj Mahal or Crown of Palaces is a white marble mausoleum, built by Mughal Emperor Shahjahan as a memorial to his beloved wife Mumtaz Mahal. A world-renowned wonder, Taj Mahal looks the same from all the four



sides and is widely recognized as "the jewel of Muslim art in India and one of the universally admired masterpieces of the world's heritage". The Taj Mahal is phenomenal not in the beauty alone but in the deep planning and design that went into its making. This enchanting mausoleum started in 1631 and it took 22 years to complete with the help of an estimated 20000 workers. *(It remains closed on Fridays).*

Agra Fort - The great Mughal Emperor Akbar commissioned the construction of the Agra Fort in 1666, A.D. although additions were made till the time of his grandson Shahjahan. The forbidding exteriors of this fort hide an inner paradise. There are a number of exquisite buildings like Moti Masjid - a white marble mosque akin to a perfect pearl; Diwan-I-Am, Diwan-I-Khaas, Musamman Burj - where Shahjahan died in 1666 A.D. Jahangir's Palace; Khaas Mahal and Shish Mahal. The massive Agra fort is 2.5 km long and is considered as the predecessor of the Delhi Red fort.



Mehtab Bagh - Mehtab Bagh is located on the left bank of river Yamuna opposite to the Taj Mahal. The garden complex is a huge square measuring approximately 300m X 300m and in straight alignment with the Taj Mahal. The excavation has revealed a huge octagonal tank on the southern periphery: baradaris or pavilion on the east and west: a small octagonal tank at the center and a gateway at the northern wall. The garden provides excellent views of the Taj Mahal.

Overnight at the hotel.

Day 09

Agra / Jhansi (Train) / Orchha / Khajuraho (Approx 175 Kms / 03 ½ hrs drive)

After breakfast transfer to Agra railway station to board train to Jhansi. (Train: 12002, Bhopal Shatabdi from 08:02 / 10:45 Hrs)

On arrival in Jhansi, drive to Khajuraho. On the way, enjoy visit of Orchha.

Orchha Fort - The main attraction of Orchha is the Orchha fort complex, located on an island on River Betwa, having a number of palaces to visit within it. A four-arched bridge leads to the fort complex on the island. **The Jahangir Mahal**, which was built by Bir Singh Deo in the early part pf the 17th century to mark the visit of the Mughal Emperor, is an important monument of this fort. It is known for its delicate work on one hand and balanced with strong masonry on the other. Raj Mahal, the second palace in this fort complex is well known for its murals, depicting religious themes. The Rai Parveen Mahal, dedicated to the 17th-century poetess-musician, is the third palace within this complex and is set amongst well-laid gardens.

Ram Raja Temple - The Ram Raja Temple is a temple in Orchha, Madhya Pradesh, India. It is one of the most popular tourist attractions in the city. In Orchha, as well as the whole country, this is the only temple where Lord Rama is worshipped as a king and that also in a palace. You will have the opportunity to witness the evening ceremony today which is worth to attend.

After the visits, continue drive to Khajuraho.

KHAJURAHO - The name Khajuraho, ancient "Kharjuravāhaka", is derived from the Sanskrit words kharjura = date palm and vāhaka = "one who carries". The Khajuraho Group of Monuments has been listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and is considered to be one of the "seven wonders" of India.

The Temple town of Khajuraho is much different from any other temple city of India. It is not about religion and



worshipping and deities. The temples of Khajuraho are instead famous for the eroticism etched on its walls in the form of sculptures. These temples were built by the rulers of the Chandela dynasty over a span of 200 years, from 950 to 1150. There were originally over 80 Hindu temples, of which only 25 now stand in a reasonable state of preservation, scattered over an area of about 20 square kilometres (8 sq mi). Today, the temples serve as fine examples of Indian architectural styles that have gained popularity due to their explicit depiction of sexual life during medieval times.



On arrival in Khajuraho, transfer to hotel.

Overnight at the hotel.

Day 10

Khajuraho / Bandhavgarh (230 kms / 06 hrs drive approx)

After breakfast, enjoy visit of **Eastern and Western Groups of Temple.** - Eastern Group of temples mainly dedicated to the Jain teachers-tirthankaras. The Parsvanatha Temple. Also visit the Western Group of temples, which consist of a group of artistic (erotic) temples built in sandstone. The sculptures of Hindu deities, dancers and



musicians appear to be so natural as if they would come alive any time.

After visit drive to Bandhavgarh.

BANDHAVGARH - It is one of the finest and most picturesque tiger reserves of India, located in the scenic surroundings of the Vindhya hill ranges and the eastern flank of Satpura hill ranges (in all 32 hills surround this beautiful park) in Madhya Pradesh. Spread over an area of around 448.84 sq km, Bandhavgarh Wildlife Sanctuary was notified as a National Park in 1968 and included in the famous Project Tiger in 1993. The Bandhavgarh National Park is known for its tiger population whose number is now estimated between 45-50. Other important wild animals include Leopards, Wild dogs or Dholes, Sloth Bears, Rhesus Macaques, Sambar, Chital, Indian Muntjac, Chausingha (4-horned antelope) among many others. Bandhavgarh National Park also shelters a sizable population of birds and reptiles.

On arrival in Bandhavgarh, transfer to hotel.

Dinner & Overnight at the hotel.

Day 11 Bandhavgarh

Early morning enjoy a shared Jeep Safari in Bandhavgarh National Park.

After safari return back to hotel for breakfast

Later in the afternoon, enjoy another shared jeep Safari in the park.

Lunch, Dinner and Overnight at the hotel

Note: M.P. Parks are closed for Wednesday Afternoon Safari, Diwali & Holi festival.

Day 12

Bandhavgarh / Kanha (280 kms / 06 hrs drive approx)

After breakfast, drive to Kanha.



KANHA NATIONAL PARK - It is the largest of the original tiger reserves. Located in the Mandla district of Madhya Pradesh, Kanha National Park is known for its exceptional natural beauty and the unique and diverse flora and



fauna. The immense natural beauty of Kanha even inspired the famous author Rudyard Kipling to write his all time classic Jungle Book. Kanha is well known for its Tigers and local herd of endangered Barasinghas (Swamp Deer). According to recent surveys, the tiger population in the Kanha Tiger Reserve stands around 70-75, promising better opportunities for sighting tigers in their own habitat.

On arrival in Kanha, transfer to hotel.

Dinner & Overnight at the hotel.

Day 13 Kanha

Early morning enjoy a shared Jeep Safari in Kanha National Park.



After safari return back to hotel for breakfast

Later in the afternoon, enjoy another shared jeep Safari in the park.

Lunch, Dinner and Overnight at the hotel.

Note: M.P. Parks are closed for Wednesday Afternoon Safari, Diwali & Holi festival.

Day 14

Kanha / Jabalpur / (165 km around 04 1/2 hrs drive) / Delhi (Flight)

After breakfast, drive to Jabalpur.

On arrival in Jabalpur, transfer to the Airport to board Flight for Delhi.

On arrival in Delhi, transfer to hotel.

Overnight at the hotel.

Day 15 Delhi Departure

After breakfast, transfer to the airport to take flight back home / onward destination. (Rooms will be available till 12:00 hrs)

End of Services