

Tour Itinerary

Totally Tigers + Optional Extension

Feb - Jun 2016 or Oct 2016 - June 2017, 11 days, various dates available

2016 Price: Totally Tigers £2495 per person, single supplement £475

Taj Mahal and other extensions please enquire

This 11-day tour to central India visits some of India's, and indeed the world's top tiger viewing destinations. With its prime tiger habitat and healthy prey populations, Bandhavgarh National Park is home to one of the highest densities of the striped cat, and easily offers the best chances of sightings anywhere in India. The landscape is also spectacular, dominated by the Bandhavgarh fort in the centre of the park. Birding here is excellent with 300 species recorded and after a 4 night stay, we continue to Kanha National Park. Kanha was the inspiration for Rudyard Kipling's jungle book. The forest is dominated by fine stands of sal, interspersed with meadows that are managed by the forest department and provide ideal stalking cover for the park's large tiger population. As well as tiger, Kanha has healthy numbers of leopard, sloth bear and wild dog. It is also the only home of the hard ground barasingha. 3 nights are included in Kanha National Park, with the option of an extension of a further 5 nights which will greatly increase the chance of special encounters with its more elusive inhabitants.

At some point during the tour, a presentation will be given on tips and techniques to improve your photography and get the most out of your time in the field.

Detailed Itinerary

Totally Tigers

Day 1 *Depart home country for overnight flight to Delhi*

Day 2 *Arrive Delhi and transfer to city hotel*

Upon arrival at Delhi's international airport you will be transferred to a city hotel for an overnight stay.

Day 3 *Fly Delhi-Jabalpur and transfer to Bandhavgarh*

Early morning transfer to airport for flight to Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh (a rail transfer option is also available - please enquire). Morning arrival in Madhya Pradesh and road connection to Bandhavgarh National Park. Check-in to Bandhav Vilas. Afternoon safari optional, depending on time of arrival. Meals and overnight at Bandhav Vilas.

Day 4 *Bandhavgarh National Park*

The first full day exploring Bandhavgarh. The morning safaris will usually be in 'Tala' - the central zone of the park which is home to the park's highest tiger density. You will see a good cross-section of prey species as well as good chances of sighting one of Tala's tigers which are a highlight. Sloth bears can also be seen at this time or year and rangers may offer the opportunity to observe tigers from elephant back. The morning drive will be followed by breakfast. You will then have some free time to enjoy the lodge facilities which include pool, spa and massage. The village of Tala can also be visited if you wish to purchase souvenirs - paintings and art offered here are of an excellent standard. Lunch will be followed by the afternoon drive where we often explore other zones of the park. After dinner we will recap on the days sightings and events. Overnight at Bandhav Vilas.

Day 5 *Bandhavgarh National Park*

Morning and evening safaris. Meals and overnight at Bandhav Vilas.

Day 6 *Bandhavgarh National Park*

Morning and evening safaris. Meals and overnight at Bandhav Vilas.

Day 7 *Bandhavgarh - Kanha*

Early morning departure from Bandhavgarh. Transfer to Kanha National Park and check in to Tuli Tiger Resort. Lunch followed by afternoon game drive.

Day 8 *Kanha National Park*

Our first full day exploring Kanha, the setting of Rudyard Kipling's 'Jungle Book'. In addition to the birds and mammals found in Bandhavgarh, Kanha has healthy populations of Indian bison and is the only home of the hard-ground subspecies of

barasingha (swamp deer). With its mature stands of sal interspersed with managed meadows the park is famed for its 'dappled light' and is a photographer's dream. The morning drive is followed by breakfast. You then have some time to rest and enjoy the facilities available at Tuli which include a pool and outdoor lounge area. Lunch then follows into the evening drive. Dinner at the lodge will be followed by a recap of the days sights and sounds. Overnight at Tuli Tiger Resort.

Day 9 *Kanha National Park*

Morning safari. The park is closed on Wednesday afternoons so other activities will be offered to fill this time. Meals and overnight at Tuli Tiger Resort.

Day 10 *Kanha National Park - Delhi*

Early breakfast is followed by transfer to Jabalpur and onward connection to Delhi. You have the option of spending the day in the city if you have a late return flight or staying overnight if you have an early flight the following day.

Day 11 *Arrive in home country*

Arrival in home country, depending on your flight timings.

Accommodation:

Bandhavgarh - Bandhav Vilas

Kanha - Tuli Tiger Resort

Delhi - to be confirmed - a mid range hotel of a good standard will be provided on the first night.

Exclusions:

Please note that this tour does not include flights, travel insurance, alcoholic drinks, tips/gratuities, camera fees, entrance fees for monuments or meals in cities (which are ordered on an al a carte basis). Use of elephants is also not included and will be optional (if they are made available by park rangers). Accommodation in Delhi on your final night can be booked for an extra charge if it is required. You also need to make your own arrangements for visas, travel insurance and vaccinations/malaria prophylaxis.

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