

Indian Wildlife Safari

with Himanshu Bagde

India is a tourists' paradise - the land of sages, Kamasutra, rivers, mountains and a huge variety of wildlife. The Land of the 'BIG 5'- tigers, leopards, Asiatic Lions, Asian Elephants and One Horned Rhinoceros plus the five great holy rivers - Ganga, Yamuna, Godavari, Saraswati and Narmada. The Indian subcontinent is truly a hotspot for jungle safari enthusiasts. With a wide species of Big Cats (India is the only nation that has a lion and tiger population), sloth and grizzly bears, wolves, a variety of ape species, plus flying snakes and squirrels.

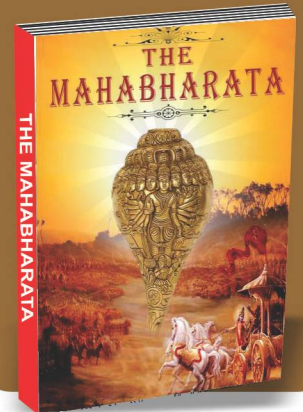
The topography that traverses the nation ranges from wooded jungles, rainforests, mangrove swamps and arid deserts with varied flora and fauna that beats the African continent. As a traveller, you are literally spoilt for choice.

The intermingling of cultures, rich heritage, numerous festivals, multiple religions, a wide array of languages and safety for travellers makes India one of the most sought after, intriguing, vibrant and colourful destinations across the globe.

I offer you a holiday that is mesmerizing, memorable and potentially life changing. You choose what you want to do in India and I will tailor the itinerary for you to suit your style, trip duration and budget. I'm fluent in English, Hindi and Marathi. I am committed to saving the environment and promoting wildlife tourism for a more sustainable rural community. You become a conservationist by default when you travel India with me.

Do not cut down the forests with its tigers and do not banish the tigers from the forest. The tiger perishes without the forest, and the forest perishes without its tigers. Therefore the tigers should stand guard over the forest and the forest should protect all its tigers.

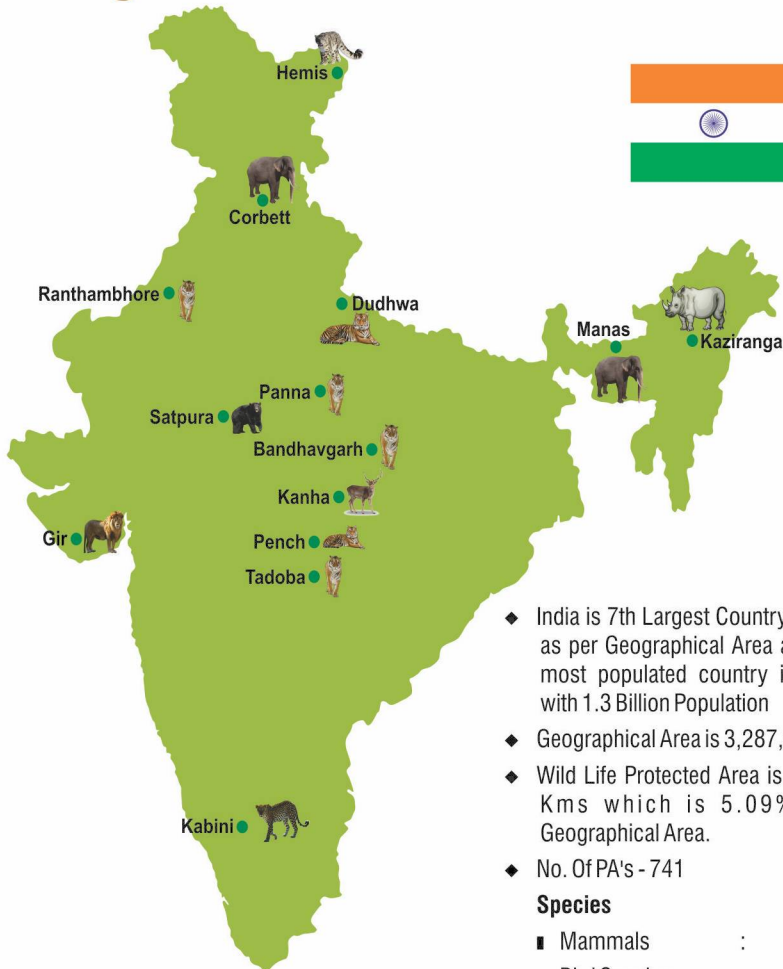
From the Mahabharata, Udyogaparvan, 29, 47-48 (circa 400 B.C.E.)



Passion | Professionalism | Product Knowledge | Innovation | Sincerity | Good Conduct & Mutual Respect

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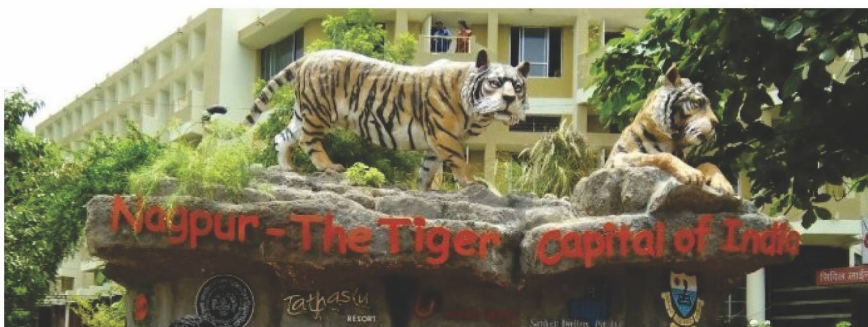
Major Indian Wildlife Parks



- ◆ India is 7th Largest Country in the world as per Geographical Area and the 2nd most populated country in the World with 1.3 Billion Population
- ◆ Geographical Area is 3,287,263 Sq Kms.
- ◆ Wild Life Protected Area is 167,409 Sq Kms which is 5.09% of Total Geographical Area.
- ◆ No. Of PA's - 741

Species

■ Mammals	:	410
■ Bird Species	:	1250
■ Reptiles	:	610
■ Amphibians	:	410



Nagpur the Tiger Capital

Around 70% of the remaining world tiger population survives in India. Nagpur - referred to as the city of oranges - is now well established as the 'Tiger Capital of the World'. A city that has an international airport, excellent road connectivity, strategic railway lines criss-crossing the nation, the Zero Milestone of India, various categories of hotels, a range of car types for transportation plus Tiger Reserves and National Parks in close proximity. Travel in comfort by air, rail or road; stay in style at hotels or resorts when you come to see the Bengal Tiger in its natural habitat.

Nagpur, the second capital of the state of Maharashtra, is a central location from which to visit Tiger Reserves or National Parks in Central India. The closest Tiger Reserve is merely 50 kms from Nagpur, while the farthest is about 500km from Nagpur - in Madhya Pradesh.

Highlights

TADOBA :

My Favourite and the best park for tigers and leopard with fewer tourist.

BANDHAVGARH :

A small park, but one of the best for tiger sightings and photography.

KANHA :

A large park, good for tigers and a wealth of other wildlife.

PENCH :

Dry deciduous forest near Nagpur and good to tigers and birding.

RANTHAMBORE :

One of the most accessible park for Tigers.

PANNA :

A small park which has regain tiger population.

KABINI :

Black leopard, Tigers, Elephants and endemic birds of south India.

SATPURA :

Very Scenic and rich in wildlife especially sloth bear.

CORBETT :

Named after Jim Corbett. Rich in flora and fauna. Best for elephants.

KAZIRANGA :

UNESCO world heritage site. Best for elephants & One Horned Rhinoceros.

MANAS :

UNESCO world heritage site. Best for elephants, Clouded leopard and Great Hornbill.

GIR :

The only park with rich Asiatic Lion Population.

AGRA :

The home for Taj Mahal and Ara Fort.

DELHI :

The National Capital.

NAGPUR :

The Tiger Capital of India.



“THE WORLD IS A BOOK AND THOSE WHO DO NOT TRAVEL READ ONLY A PAGE.”

Recommended Destinations



TADoba NATIONAL PARK :

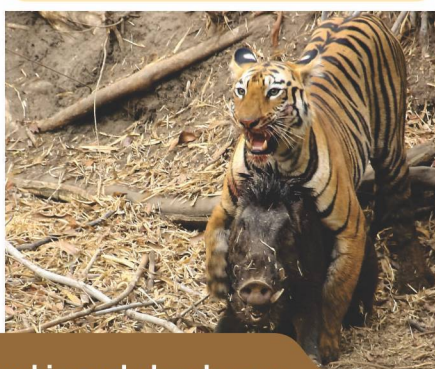
Tadoba is relatively little visited but is currently the best place in India to see tigers, as well as other sought-after mammals such as leopard, sloth bear, Gaur (Indian bison) and Dhols (Indian Wild Dogs). Tadoba protects a habitat of tropical dry deciduous forest, largely made up of Teak and Bamboo. It is reputed to support a population of up to 100 Bengal Tigers (106 tiger a per 2018 census) with abundant prey species. This forest supports plentiful prey species such as Common Langur monkeys, Sambar and Spotted Deer. Other animals that may also be seen are Jungle Cat and Chousingha (Four horned antelope), as well as abundant birdlife. Tadoba is just two hours by car from Nagpur and works well in combination with visits to Pench, Satpura and Kanha National Parks.

Best time to visit Tadoba :

October to June

Nearest Airport/Railway Station :
Nagpur

Recommended Accommodation :
Tadoba Vanya Vilas; Irai Safari Retreat; Limban Resort; Taaru Vann.



BANDHAVGARH NATIONAL PARK:

Bandhavgarh is a compact yet very attractive park, where Tigers are concentrated and sightings of them are as good as anywhere. It lies in the Vindhya Hills, a two hour drive from Katni, the nearest railway station. The predominant Sal and Bamboo forest is interspersed with open grassland, with vegetation becoming mixed towards the upper reaches of the park's hills. Bandhavgarh is explored primarily by jeep, via a series of interconnecting tracks revealing pools and streams - features that are vital for the park's wildlife. A large population of Spotted Deer serve as the main prey for the park's tigers, while leopard, and sloth bear are among other large mammals that may be seen alongside a supporting cast of Wild Boar; Nilgai; Chinkara; Golden Jackal; Jungle Cat; Rhesus Macaque and Common Langur monkeys, plus mongoose and squirrel species. Grey Headed Fish Eagle; Malabar Pied Hornbill; Greater Racket-tailed Drongo and Asian Paradise Flycatcher are among the 300 or so bird species recorded in the park.

Best time to visit Bandhavgarh:

Mid October to Mid-June

Nearest Airport/Railway Station :
Jabalpur / Katni

Recommended Accommodation :
Nature Heritage; Kings Lodge;
Bandhav Vilas; MahuaKothi

KANHA NATIONAL PARK :

Set on a plateau in the Maikal range covering 1,945 SqKms, Kanha is one of India's largest and finest National Parks. It offers a wide variety of habitat, including Sal and mixed deciduous forest as well as large tracts of bamboo, but it is the park's grassland meadows that allow for such excellent wildlife viewing and, in particular, its tigers. Small pools and a perennial lake provide drinking sources year-round for the animals, of which the resident population of the hard-ground race of Swamp Deer (Barasingha) is particularly noteworthy as it occurs nowhere else in the world. While tiger sightings are the main attraction, a wide variety of other interesting mammals may be seen here including Gaur; Wild Boar; Golden Jackal and, with luck, leopard; Dhols (Indian Wild Dogs); Sloth Bear and two of India's lowland antelopes - Chousingha and the beautiful Blackbuck. Raptor sightings are good and will likely include Black-Shoulder Kite; Chested Hawk Eagle; White Eye Buzzard; Crested Serpent Eagle; Shikra and a variety of Vultures. Nagpur is the main access hub and it's easy to combine time here with other Tiger Reserves - Bandhavgarh to the north, Pench and Satpura to the west and Tadoba to the south.

Best time to visit Kanha :

November to May

Nearest Airport/Railway Station:
Nagpur /Jabalpur

Recommended Accommodation:
The Courtyard House;
Celebration Van Vilas;
Flame of the Forest

“TRAVEL IS THE ONLY THING YOU BUY THAT MAKES YOU RICHER.”



PENCH NATIONAL PARK :

Lying towards the southern end of the Satpura Hills and cloaked in extensive tracts of southern moist deciduous forest and extensive dry deciduous teak woodland, Pench is a rugged and beautiful park thought to have been the inspiration for Kipling's "Jungle Book". Designated a Tiger Reserve in 1992 as part of the 'Project Tiger' initiative and covering 758 SqKms, Pench is just a two hour drive from Nagpur Airport and is a handy starting point for any wildlife tour of Central India. The southern boundary of the park, around the Pench River Dam, is a great location for water birds and also mammals such as Sambar and Spotted Deer; Gaur; Nilgai and Golden Jackal. Mammal species that require more luck and patience to see include Dhohes, Sloth Bear and Leopard. Tigers are best viewed here during hot summer months between March and May when the forest vegetation is least dense and mammals are concentrated around limited pools of water. The BBC's world famous documentary "Tiger - Spy in the Jungle" was filmed at Pench National Park.

Best time to visit Pench :

October to June

Nearest Airport/Railway Station :

Nagpur

Recommended Accommodation :

Pench Jungle Camp; Tathastu; Vanraj Resort; Jungle Home Resort; Tiger & Woods



SATPURA NATIONAL PARK :

This National Park is the most spectacular and peaceful of Central India's Tiger Reserves. Though classic 'Tiger Country', the tigers here are not accustomed to people due to a lack of tourists and consequently shy and difficult to see. Whilst a tiger sighting would be a real bonus, other special mammals such as leopard; Sloth Bear; Gaur; Indian Giant Squirrel and even Blackbuck are frequently encountered. Best of all, in Satpura you are not limited to jeep safaris for your exploration of the park's diverse habitats. Jungle walks with an expert naturalist guide are a particular highlight and exploring the area's bird-rich wetlands by canoe or motorboat is a must for keen birders, allowing exceptional views of Indian Skimmers; Bar-headed Geese and a wealth of terns, waders and wildfowl. The traditional jeep safari is still the best way to see Satpura's larger mammals, and such special forest birds as Grey Jungle fowl; Red and Painted Spur fowl; Malabar Pied Hornbill; Blue-bearded Bee-eater and Tawny-bellied Babbler. Also night-drives are another treat - the rare Rusty-spotted cat; Jungle Cat; Common Palm and Indian Civet; Eagle Owl and Mottled Wood Owl are among target species.

Best time to visit Satpura :

November to May

Nearest Airport/Railway Station:

Nagpur/ Pipariya

Recommended Accommodation:

Reni Pani; Denwha Back Water; Satpura Retreat

PANNA TIGER RESERVE :

Lush emerald green forest, deep open plateaus and cascading waterfalls welcome you. Panna is also a park of epic and well documented conservation struggles. Diamond and sandstone mining was gravely affecting the park and by the 1990's it was in deep trouble. Experts turned around its fortunes by the end of the century, but by 2009 tigers were again poached to extinction. Recent relocation efforts have been remarkably successful and tiger numbers grow year on year with over 40 individual adult tigers today, many accustomed to visitors. However leopard and striped hyena still abound, alongside a good population of Sambar Deer, Nilgai and Spotted Deer to enhance this success story. This park attracts an excellent variety of resident and migratory bird species and is particularly noted for its high density of Paradise Flycatcher and a good number of water birds. Apart from safaris in jeeps, boat trips on the Ken River are an excellent way to view birdlife and crocodiles. The river is home to both of India's crocodiles, the marsh mugger and the fish eating gharial.

Best time to visit Panna:

November to

Nearest Airport/Railway Station :

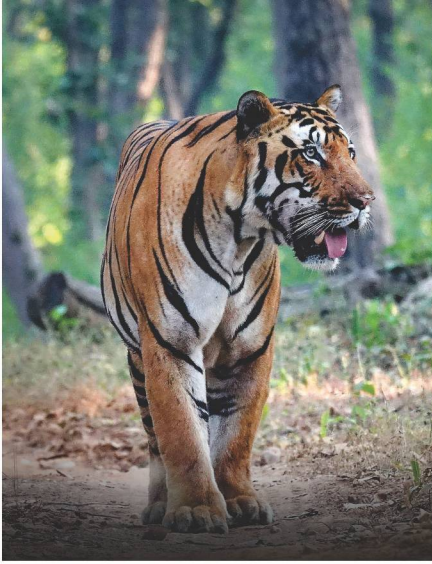
Jabalpur/ Khajuraho

Recommended Accommodation:

Ken River Lodge and Camp Panna



"IT'S BETTER TO TRAVEL WELL THAN TO ARRIVE" ~ BUDDHA



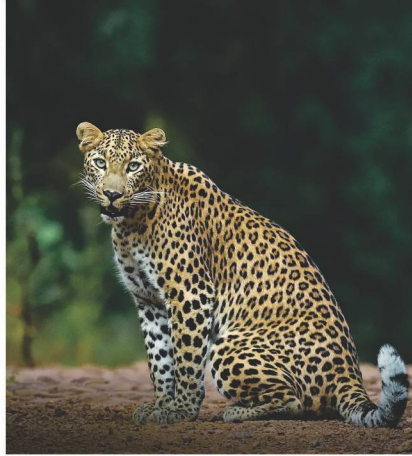
RANTHAMBORE TIGER RESERVE:

Striking images of tigers lying on ancient tombs or fortress walls or lapping up water from its picturesque lakes draws thousands of visitors to Ranthambore each year. It is brimming with tigers too, over 40 individuals plus numerous cubs at the last count. The ancient mountain ranges of the Aravalli and Vindhya meet here creating a mix of flat tablelands and steep cliffs. The majestic Ranthambore fort, built in the 10th century, stands 700 feet above the surrounding plains. Depending on the month you travel, you will see a variety of birds and animals. Winter sees plenty of birds that are migrating, while summer has large mammals roaming in the forest in search of water. The varied topography provides habitat for animals like the jackal, mongoose, sloth bear, leopard, lesser cats, and caracal plus tigers. Spend time near the lakes to spot waders and waterfowl including snipes, grebes, godwits, sandpipers plus geese and ducks.

Best time to visit Ranthambore :
October to June

Nearest Airport/Railway Station:
Jaipur /Sawai Madhopur

Recommended Accommodation
Ranthambore Kothi; Mount Valley & The Tigress & Nahargarh



KABINI - NAGARHOLE TIGER RESERVE :

Currently Nagarhole is the best park in the world to photograph leopards, especially the Black Leopard. One Black/Melanistic Leopard has established his territory in the tourism zone and is today one of the most sought after big cats in the world. The banks of the Kabini River and its tributary, the Mule Hole River, are excellent places to look out for elephants in summer. A coracle or boat ride down the Kabini River usually results in good sightings of large and small mammals that have come to the banks for a drink and the birds that flock around the shores. The forest is home to three major predators - tiger, leopard and dholes, all three co-existing thanks to high densities of prey such as Spotted, Mouse and Barking Deer. Other animals that have made their habitat in Nagarhole are Indian Bison, porcupines, jackals, hyenas, and sloth bears. Several species of venomous snakes, a cornucopia of reptiles including a Ying frog and raptor like the changeable hawk eagle, rufous billed hawk eagle and grey head fish eagle are also found here. Nature walking trails on the shores of the Kabini River take you a step closer to wildlife you might have missed when in a hurry. Small creatures, colourful flowers and birds are just some of the delights you can spot here. Still water rafting and rappelling can be arranged for those looking for adventure.

Best time to visit Kabini :
November to May

Nearest Airport/Railway Station :
Bangalore/ Mysore

Recommended Accommodation :
JLR-Kabini River Lodge & B.R Hills Lodge



GIR NATIONAL PARK :

Rugged, scraggly, brown and dry, Gir is best known as the last bastion of the Asiatic lion. A beautiful hilly but harsh and thorny habitat in southern Gujarat, it is the last remnant of native landscape within the Saurashtra peninsula, yet often compared with the African Bushveld. Leopards, hyenas, jackals and sloth bears live here too. The lions that once ranged from Asia Minor to the northern plains of India almost came to the brink of extinction due to a combination of the reduced habitat and mindless hunting. Today, roughly 800 of them can be found in and around Gir, the only such big cats left on the subcontinent. It might be a desert, but Gir is the home to a plethora of wildlife. Apart from the Asiatic lions, the hunters include leopard, sloth bear, striped hyenas and golden jackals. Herbivores are also plentiful - Chital, Nilgai, Sambar Deer, Chausingha and Chinkara (Indian gazelle). Gir has the highest population of marsh crocodiles among all Protected Areas in India. The plentiful avifauna population has more than 300 bird species - there are six recorded species of vultures alone.

Best time to visit Gir :
November to May

Nearest Airport / Railway Station:
Rajkot / Junagarh

Recommended Accommodation :
Woods at Sasan; The Fern;
Gir Forest Resort & Gir Jungle Lodge



“WE TRAVEL NOT TO ESCAPE LIFE BUT FOR LIFE NOT TO ESCAPE US.”



MANAS NATIONAL PARK :

Far, far away in North East India is a utopia where you will find the most exotic wildlife living in harmony. Manas National Park, Assam is the only place renowned as a biosphere reserve, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, Project Tiger Reserve, and Project Elephant Reserve all at the same time. Located in the foothills of the Eastern Himalayas, the park is flanked by the giant Manas River separating it from Royal Manas National Park in Bhutan. Home to the Royal Bengal Tiger, Clouded Leopard and Wild Buffaloes, it offers you a myriad of activities to appreciate the diversity of the region. If you want a wholesome and fulfilling experience amidst nature, Manas National Park in India is the place to be. It is a home to more than 20 endangered bird and animal species. Experience rare sightings of exotic Manas wildlife including the Assam roofed turtle, pygmy hog, and hispid hare. The beautiful raw surroundings will engender an overwhelming love for nature. For both adventure seekers and wildlife enthusiasts, river rafting on the slow waters of the Manas River is an exhilarating experience. The 35 km ride takes you through the wild deciduous forests which are home to 400 different bird species. Rafting on the deep azure waters of the river is an experience to really look forward to.

Best time to visit Manas :
November to March

Nearest Airport/Railway Station :
Guwahati

Recommended Accommodation :
Musa Lodge & Florican Resort.



CORBETT TIGER RESERVE :

Driving through the cathedral-like arches of ancient Sal trees , the meadows of Dhikala, or watching fish eating gharial crocodile hunt Mahseer fish at Champion's pool, all overlooked by the blue vistas of the Kumaon Hills. Corbett is unsurprisingly, one of the first parks that come to mind when thinking of Indian wilderness locations to visit. Named after the famous hunter, naturalist and author - Jim Corbett who played a key role in its establishment - Corbett is the oldest National Park of India. Corbett is often called the "land of roar, trumpet and song", but it is best known for the numerous opportunities to watch large families of elephants. With an astounding bird count of 550 species, it is an ideal place for avid bird watchers. It holds India's densest tiger population, over 250 individuals across its entire range. The park is divided into three distinct geographical areas, with hilly deciduous mixed forests, low lying grassland with ravines and vast dense forests of Sal trees. The magnificent Ramganga River flows through the heart of the park bringing a continuous supply of water even in the hot summer months, attracting a host of predators and prey alike.



KAZIRANGA NATIONAL PARK :

Kaziranga is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one the world's most beautiful National Parks. Kaziranga also protects an incredible diversity of wildlife amongst its board tracts of tall elephant grass, evergreen forest, shallow lakes and redbuds. It lies on the south bank of the great Brahmaputra River and is one of the last haunts of the Greater One-horned Rhinoceros. Today Kaziranga has a healthy population of around 1,200 rhinos - over 70% of the world's total. The park is also home to the Asiatic Elephant, Wild Water Buffalo, Swamp Deer and endangered fresh water River Dolphins as well as a good number of tigers. Its birdlife is exceptional (with over 500 species recorded), making it a birder's paradise! Kaziranga can be combined with the Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan and/or any of the other National Parks of the region, amongst them Manas, Namdapha and Nameri, whilst an extension to the Sundarbans (the world's largest mangrove environment) is definitely well worth considering.

Best time to visit Kaziranga :
November to March

Nearest Airport :
Guwahati & Jorhat

Recommended Accommodation :
Diplu River Lodge; Iora Resort;
Borgass; Infinity & Bonhabi Resort



"LIFE'S A JOURNEY, NOT A DESTINATION"



The Essentials

Wildlife Guide:

I have been a professional wildlife guide for over 11 years now. I have trained four of my close associates as freelance naturalist / ornithology guides who are now working with me. Either one of my team members or I will accompany you throughout your holiday.

Getting Around :

Depending upon the destination chosen, a holiday to India can often involve a mix of road and train travel and short domestic flights. Roads journeys are generally made by private saloon car or a slightly bigger vehicle if travelling in a small group. Train travel is a great way to experience the country and its people, especially overnight.

When to Visit :

Most of the Indian wildlife parks are open from mid - October to late June. The monsoon rains occur mainly in July and August. The best time to visit for tiger sightings is from November to May. The months of April and May are extremely good for tiger sightings as foliage is sparse but the temperature is particularly high. The period from November to February is rewarding, especially if including a cultural excursion. This time of year offers clear air and the best weather conditions - the parks are lush and at their scenic best.



today in 2020 it has 30+ resorts. In 2010, only around 100 people were employed in the Tadoba tourism industry; today that has increased to around 3,000 local stakeholders. With just 19 tigers in 2010, Tadoba is now booming with 106 tigers (2018 census) in its jungle territory which has increased in area from 625 sq km to around 1,700 sq km. All of this has been possible due to the sudden escalation in tourism in the last decade. Central to this is the opportunity to catch a glimpse of Queen Maya. This captivating tigress alone has generated around 100 million dollars for the park during that time.

In this subtle way, the tourist contributes much to nature and thus becomes a conservationist. The wildlife tourism industry is most grateful to all tourists who have played a vital role in this understated project; expressed great interest in wildlife tourism and become a valued part of the enchanting wildlife family.

Tiger Economics

the role of tourism in wildlife conservation

The beginning of a famous quote usually attributed to St Augustine is that "the world is a book". Tourism/travel is part of that book and one particularly important story is about the role of tourism and conservation at Tadoba National Park.

A traveller does not only aspire to be just a traveller but also looks forward to contributing to nature, which is the true essence of travelling. This is especially true for wildlife tourism. So how does the traveller contribute? Does the traveller even know he/she is participating indirectly?

Tadoba and Maya best illustrate my point. Tadoba is a wildlife park in Central India and Maya is its premier or rather queen tigress. Maya was born in 2010 and during her 10 years there has been responsible for many wonders. In 2010 Tadoba had only 3 resorts accommodating tourists but



"WE TRAVEL, INITIALLY, TO LOSE OURSELVES; AND WE TRAVEL NEXT, TO FIND OURSELVES."

Experience Spectrum

to look forward to.



INTERACTION WITH LOCAL PEOPLE

I believe it is very important to deliver opportunities for my guests to interact with local people in rural India to add an extra dimension to their overall holiday experience. A crucial component of sustainable tourism is a relationship with local people so they appreciate the benefits that tourism can deliver for them, especially those who live very close to the National Parks. Human harmony with wildlife, especially those predators that can harm domestic animals, is a key element for success. Local people need to be involved to understand how both needs can be achieved. This is demonstrated in a number of different ways by contact with overseas and domestic visitors.



THE TRIBAL EXPERIENCE

There are many different tribes in India with varying local customs. Tribal dances, usually telling a story, are visually fascinating and often accompanied by music played on unusual instruments. I explain the meaning of the performance to my guests, pass on their appreciation, seek answers to any questions and am happy to facilitate music, singing or dancing lessons as appropriate.



VILLAGE VISIT

An opportunity to visit a local home is always appreciated by tourists, especially when a multi-generational family warmly welcomes them on arrival. The kitchen and cooking methods with pots, pans and utensils is easily recognised and I can describe less obvious activities or hobbies. There's usually an opportunity for the visitors to participate in an activity that interests them too.



SCHOOL VISIT

My guests often ask to support a school with gifts of local pens; pencils; paper or books which are always greatly appreciated by the staff and students. School uniform is always so smart - Either the children entertain with songs or reading or its an opportunity for me to introduce them to and explain the benefits tourism brings for nature conservation.



FARMING

An introduction to farming – crops, chickens and cows plus a bright red tractor is another option that i can offer, together with an overnight stay if preferred, for a fuller understanding of rural life in India.



LOCAL CRICKET MATCH

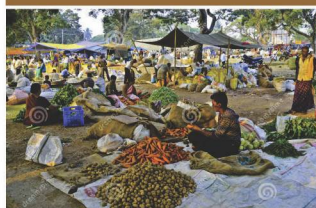
It is universally understood that cricket is hugely important to Indian males of all ages. It has almost religious status as does football worldwide. Every scrap of available ground, including streets and dirt roads, are used as the cricket pitch. Every cricket team I've come across has been happy to welcome passing tourists to pick up a ball or bat and join in.



TEMPLE VISIT

Many temples have an essence of beauty and an aura of peace. Some are vibrant. They offer a wide range of sights in one place : - the architecture tells a story; the rituals and rites are astonishing to witness, the peace and serenity offered unites all and they are an epitome of wonder.

Appreciating such fascinating sights is an opportunity not to be miss.



LOCAL MARKET VISIT

All foreign tourists enjoy visiting a local market – the sights, sounds and particularly smells are so very different to those in the western world. Sometimes the opportunities for tourists to buy from the vendors are limited but that changes at festival times. Fireworks for Diwali, coloured dyes for Holi, local jewellery, art work or handicrafts in addition to the usual sweets, biscuits, nuts or fruit etc. Both sides benefit from the transactions.



PREPARING LOCAL CUISINE

The outcome of watching or playing a part in creating a local dish or meal is usually a tasty tour on your tongue. Why not start by buying the ingredients at a market and then assisting with the preparation before eating with a local family. Their food definitely tells the story of the particular place visited. The options are just to watch or actively join in the preparation, serving and then eating with the added benefit of no washing up afterwards! The mix of flavours and spices, emotions and creative effort adds to the enjoyment of an unforgettable experience.

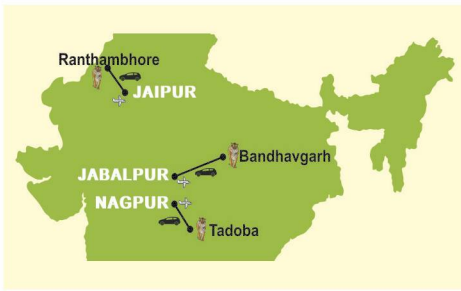


CELEBRATING FESTIVALS

One of the reasons India is so diverse is its rich culture and traditions. The number of festivals celebrated in India is huge. Both witnessing the event and taking part is truly a blessing. The energy, evident happiness, joy and reward of experiencing processions, idols carried aloft, a profusion of flowers and other offerings is a heady and intoxicating mix.

HOLI is well known as the festival of colours – but there is much more to Holi. Whilst it is very colourful, its purpose is to eradicate sins via a ritual in which the Holi Mata (a Hindu deity) is burnt (known as holikadahan). Holi marks the end of winter/beginning of spring and is celebrated by vigorously throwing gulaal (the brightly coloured powders) mixed with water.

Sample Itineraries



TIGER

This one week itinerary focus on One Species - The Tiger at One Park : **Tadoba** or **Bandhavgarh** or **Ranthambore National Park**.

Highlight: 11 game drive.

Search for tiger in one the finest habitat. View other endangered species.

Land Only Itinerary:

- Day 1 : Arrive Nagpur for Tadoba; Jabalpur for Bandhavgarh Jaipur for Ranthambore.
- Day 2-6 : Ten game drives over five days in the respective park.
- Day 7 : Early morning game drive.. End Nagpur or Jabalpur.

Best time to visit: October to June



RHINOS & ELEPHANTS

This itinerary takes you two of UNESCO World heritage sites to sight extremely endangered One Horned Rhinoceros, Western Hoolock Gibbon, Golden Langurs, Water Monitor Lizards ,Asiatic Elephants and also an opportunity to sight very elusive Clouded Leopard.

Highlight:

Kaziranga & Manas National Park,

Land Only Itinerary:

- Day 1 : Arrive at Guwahati, three hour road drive to Kaziranga.
- Day 2-4 : Kaziranga National Park
- Day 5 : After morning Safari drive to Manas National Park
- Day 6-8 : Manas National Park
- Day 9 : Early morning game drive. End Guwahati.

Best time to visit: December to March



TIGER & THE TAJ

This two week itinerary is design to offer an excellent chance of seeing Tigers whilst also visiting one of the most the most iconic buildings in the world- The Taj Mahal.

Highlight:

Pench, Kanha, Bandhavgarh & Taj Mahal.

Land Only Itinerary:

- Day 1 : Arrive at Nagpur and road drive to Pench National Park.
- Day 2-3 : Pench National Park
- Day 4 : Road drive to Kanha.
- Day 5-7 : Kanha. National Park
- Day 8 : Road drive to Bandhavgarh.
- Day 9-11: Bandhavgarh National Prk
- Day 12 : Overnight Train to Agra.
- Day 13 : Agra- Taj Mahal and Red Fort.
- Day 14 : Road Drive to Delhi. End Delhi

Best time to visit: November to May



TIGERS & HIMALAYAS

This two week itinerary is design to offer an excellent chance of seeing Tigers and explore Magnificent Himalayas.

Highlight:

Tadoba & Leh Ladakh

Land Only Itinerary:

- Day-1 : Arrive at Nagpur
- Day-2-4 : Tadoba
- Day-5-14 : Exploring Himalayas at Leh Ladakh
- Day-15 : End Delhi

Best time to visit: May and June



PILGRIMS, TEMPLES, TIGERS & THE TAJ

This itinerary takes in some of India's best cultural sites, including the incredible city of Varanasi, as well as three of India's finest national parks and Taj Mahal.

Highlight:

Varanasi, Khajuraho, Panna, Bandhavgra, Kanha & Taj Mahal

Land Only Itinerary:

- Day 1 : Arrive Delhi, Transfer to Varanasi by flight/train.
- Day 2/3 : Varanasi.
- Day 4 : Khajuraho
- Day 5/6 : Panna National Park.
- Day 7-9 : Bandhavgarh National Park.
- Day 10-12: Kanha National Park
- Day 13 : Agra The Taj Mahal
- Day 14 : Road drive to Delhi. End Delhi

Best time to visit: November to May



STRIPES & SPOTS

This itinerary provides you an ample opportunity to sight leopard (Including Black Leopard), Tigers and other mammals.

Highlights:

Kabini and Tadoba.

Land Only Itinerary :

- Day 1 : Arrive Bangalore, three hour road drive to Kabini.
- Day 2-4 : Kabini for Black Leopards
- Day 5 : KabiniBangalore-Nagpur- Tadoba
- Day 6-8 : TadobaNationala Park for Tigers
- Day-9 : Early morning game drive. End Nagpur

Best time to visit: October to June

About Me



As a child, I accompanied my father on jungle audits and became fascinated by the jungle. I was 15 years old when I saw my first tiger in the forests of Nagzira - I was amazed by the experience. Even today, I am spellbound when sighting the elusive tiger. The freshness of the jungle, the magnificent wildlife and the Bengal Tiger have transformed me into a passionate nature guide.

I was born and brought up in Nagpur - the tiger capital of India. I was working in sales and marketing but the allure of the jungle had never left me, so in 2009 I quit my job and chose to follow my passion of becoming a 'tiger trailer', a wildlife photographer, a nature guide and an environmental conservationist.

My Experience : I have photographed over 500 different tigers in the jungles of India over the last 25 years, which is probably why I am nicknamed 'The Tiger Man'. Maya, the Queen of Tadoba, caught my attention when she was a cub. Since then, I have followed and documented her life. She was never human shy; rather I believe that I have developed an inexplicable bond with her. I am so lucky to have the opportunity to capture her amazing moves - be they a hunt, a kill or just lazing around. Her behaviour fascinates me – it breaks all the unwritten rules of tiger behaviour.

My biography 'Maya the Enchantress' was published Pan-India in the leading daily newspaper, The Times of India. Lonely Planet's collector Edition 2017 also features me with Maya. I am the winner of many photography awards in global competitions organized by Sanctuary Asia as well as the National Photo competition, Maharashtra State Bio-diversity Board. Local newspapers and leading magazines such as Lonely Planet, Wild Creatures regularly print my wildlife articles and photographs.

My Passion for nature and the call of the wild enables me to fully understand and appreciate the jungle. My in-depth knowledge of the flora and fauna means I deliver both an absorbing and interesting journey.

Please contact me for a carefree and complete Indian jungle experience. I offer tried and tested itineraries or am happy to design a memorable, bespoke trip that incorporates all your requirements.

Speak to me to discuss your own unique
tailormade holiday to India...

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"It shall be the duty of every citizen of India to protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers and wildlife and to have compassion for living creatures".- Article 51-A(6)- Constitution of India, Fundamental Duty.