

TRACKS SAFARIS

WE GET YOU CLOSER



**LADIES ONLY SAFARI TO CENTRAL INDIA
KANHA, BANDHAVGARH AND PANNA
14TH FEBRUARY 2025**





Our Ladies Only Safari is designed to allow you to see the wonderful wildlife of India in the safety of a small group of likeminded ladies, without the worry of travelling long distances by yourself and paying extra for inter park transfers. Our safari takes in three outstanding national parks – Kanha, Bandhavgarh and Panna – staying at fabulous little boutique camps and lodges. Your adventure can be extended either before or after to experience other areas in India such as Delhi, Jaipur and Agra, Rajasthan, southern India, or Goa. There are also direct flights to the Maldives!

India is home to about 10% of the world's wildlife, so needless to say it is home to a huge diversity of mammals. India is home to the highest diversity of wildcats in the world including the Royal Bengal Tiger. As per the 2016 WWF report the global population of tigers in the world has been put at 3890. Most of this population of wild tigers today lies in India with about 2967 tigers. This makes India the best destination in the world to view this majestic big cat in its natural habitat.

Central India is perhaps the most organized wilderness experience in the country with excellent lodge options and great naturalists. In this adventure we shall be exploring three of tiger reserves in central India – Kanha Tiger Reserve, Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve and Panna Tiger Reserve. Our selection of parks was based on access, wildlife diversity as well as some of the lodges that we have selected for this group.

Besides tigers these forests are also home to:

Mammals: leopard, jungle cat, dhole, golden jackal, striped hyena, gaur, hardground barasingha, sambar deer, chital deer, blue bull antelope, blackbuck, four-horned antelope, Asian palm civet, northern plains langur and the rhesus macaque to name a few.

Birds: grey-headed canary flycatcher, Tickell's blue flycatcher, black-naped monarch, scarlet minivets, red avadavat, orange-headed thrush, white-rumped Shama, Indian scops owl, mottled wood owl, crested hawk eagle, crested serpent eagle, oriental honey buzzard and a variety of kingfishers and woodpeckers.

Reptiles: marsh crocodile, Indian rock monitor, common rat snake, Checkered keelback, spectacled cobra, Russell's viper to name a few.



DAY ONE: 14 FEB 2025, FRIDAY

Today you will be travelling to Delhi and we recommend arriving early morning on the 15th February.

DAY TWO: 15 FEB 2025, SATURDAY

On arrival into New Delhi International Airport you will be received by our representative who will accompany you to your hotel and ensure a speedy check-in (Standard check-in time is 12:00 PM, early check-in would be subject to availability). The remainder of the morning is at leisure to rest from the long flight. After lunch, you will begin your exploration of this fascinating country. A city expert shall meet you in your hotel lobby by 1430.

India's capital and a major gateway to the country, contemporary Delhi is a bustling metropolis, which successfully combines in its fold the ancient and the modern. One of the most historic capitals in the world, Delhi is a treasure trove that reveals the ultimate combination of tradition and trends. Delhi is made up of seven ancient cities, spanning the period from the 11th to 20th centuries. Delhi has seen the rise and fall of many emperors, who have left behind a plethora of monuments that commemorate the grandeur and glory of the bygone ages. Very few cities in the world can express such a profusion of architectural styles. Its many-layered existence is tantalizing and can entice the curious traveller into a fascinating journey of discovery.

Overnight will be Lemon Tree Premier Delhi | Meal: Breakfast Only

DAY THREE: 16 FEB 2025, SUNDAY

This morning we make our way to central India to explore its wonderful jungles. These jungles were the inspiration of Rudyard Kipling for his Jungle Book. There is an early start this morning – you will be met at the hotel and transferred to the airport to catch your flight to Raipur which is likely to be around 0710 arriving into Raipur at 0850.

You will be received at the airport and will make your way to Hyatt, Raipur for breakfast before heading to your lodge in Kanha. The journey to Kanha takes about 4.5 hrs by road. In this journey, we have planned all accommodation on single occupancy. Lunch will be at the lodge.



In the evening you will head out on a nature walk with the lodge naturalist around the lodge.

Overnight will be in Bagh Tola, Kanha | Meal: Full Board

DAY FOUR: 17 FEB 2025, MONDAY

Kanha Tiger Reserve is the largest tiger reserve in the state of Madhya Pradesh – spread over 1949sq.km of which 940sq.km is the core area, and the remainder is the buffer forest. The park is situated in the Central Indian Highlands, which are part of the extensive tableland that forms India's main peninsula. The highlands once were continuous forests and accounted for a significant part of the country's wilderness areas and wildlife habitats. Today, these forests have become fragmented and survive in parks such as Panna, Bandhavgarh, Kanha, Pench and Sanjay Dubri.

Kanha is today divided into 4 major tourist zones – Sarhi (marked in Pink in the map. It is furthest away and the least accessible though is very scenic), Kanha zone (in the centre of the park – yellow). Kisli (marked in orange) – this is one of the two areas on whose periphery the lodges are located. Mukki zone (green) – another region where lodges are located. Since it is a large park, you usually try and do safaris in a zone closest to you.

Key mammals seen in the park are tiger, leopard, dhole (Asiatic wild dog), sloth bear (it is only found in the Indian subcontinent), golden jackal, hard-ground Barasingha (only found in Kanha), gaur (Indian bison – the tallest bovine in the world – larger than the American bison), Asian Palm Civet, Honey Badger, Indian Porcupine, Smooth Coated Otter, Greater False Vampire Bat, Indian Pangolin, Mouse Deer & Leopard Cat.

We have planned two safari this day, one in the morning and one the afternoon.

Overnight will be in Bagh Tola, Kanha | Meal: Full Board

DAY FIVE: 18 FEB 2024, TUESDAY

Your exploration of Kanha continues to this day also. We have planned two (2) safaris today as well, one in the morning and one in the afternoon.

Overnight will be in Bagh Tola, Kanha | Meal: Full Board

DAY SIX: 19 FEB 2024, WEDNESDAY

This morning after have a leisurely start to the day. After breakfast transfer by road to Bandhavgarh. The journey to Bandhavgarh takes about 5.5hrs by road. Lunch will be at the lodge.

Bagh Tola is a wonderful lodge spread over thirty acres of your own private reserve surrounded by almost a thousand square kilometres of National Park makes for an unforgettable experience. Add to that a one-acre perennial water body confined within the perimeter of the property making for your very own watering hole,



and the experience becomes twice as magical. The lodge only offers 6 luxury tents making this experience all the more special and exclusive. No activities have been planned this afternoon so that you can catch up on some much-needed rest after such a long journey.

Overnight will be in Bagh Tola, Bandhavgarh | Meal: Full Board

DAY SEVEN & EIGHT: 20 & 21 FEB 2024, THURSDAY & FRIDAY

Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve is perhaps one of the most popular tiger reserves in the country. It is also one of the first few parks in the country that was declared a tiger reserve when Project Tiger began in India. Many also incorrectly consider this to be a park with the highest density of tigers in India because sightings of the big cat are so high.

Bandhavgarh National Park takes its name from the Bandhavgarh Fort which is located on top of the highest (800m) plateau in this region. The origins of this fort are lost in time. However, it is thought to be at least

2000 years old. It is believed that the fort was a gift by Lord Rama to his younger brother Laxman – thus the name Bandhavgarh or Brother's Fort.

The park was the hunting preserve of the erstwhile ruling family of the state of Rewa and Maharaja Martand Singh captured the first white tiger in this area in 1951. Mohan as he was fondly named is considered to be the white tiger whose gene is found in all white tigers around the world today. Please also note that there are no white tigers found in the wild anymore.



The four main zones of the park are Tala, Maghdi, Khitauli and Panpatta and together they form the core of the 'Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve'. The area is known for its biodiversity and lists under North Indian Moist Deciduous Forests. The vegetation is chiefly Sal trees in the valleys and on the lower slopes, gradually changing to mixed deciduous forest on the hills and the drier areas to the south and west.

We have planned two (2) safaris on each of these two days.

Overnight will be in Bagh Tola, Bandhavgarh | Meal: Full Board

DAY NINE: 22 FEB 2024, SATURDAY

This morning, embark on your final safari in Bandhavgarh. After the safari, check out from the lodge and head towards Panna Tiger Reserve, a journey of approximately 5 hours. Arrive in Panna in the evening and unwind with a wildlife documentary by the bonfire.

Overnight will be in Tendu Leaf, Panna | Meal: Full Board

DAY TEN: 23 FEB 2024, SUNDAY

As you transition from the dense forests of Kanha and the thriving biodiversity of Bandhavgarh, Panna offers a distinctive landscape to captivate your senses. Prepare to be enchanted by the graceful strides of Bengal tigers and the harmonious coexistence of diverse flora and fauna.

Embrace the tranquillity of Panna as it unfolds its unique narrative of conservation and natural beauty. Whether you've been thrilled by the roars of Kanha or charmed by the elusive cats of Bandhavgarh, Panna promises a complementary yet distinct experience, adding another layer to your wildlife expedition.



Take a break from the safari expedition this morning by visiting the Khajuraho Temple, a UNESCO World Heritage site famous for its intricately carved temples. Explore the timeless architecture, depicting tales of love, life, and spirituality, offering a delightful contrast to your wildlife adventures.

After visiting the exquisite temples of Khajuraho, head out to Ranoh Waterfall. Cascading gracefully amidst the rugged terrain, the waterfall is a refreshing oasis in the heart of Madhya Pradesh. The rugged granite canyon, through which the Ken River flows, provides a stunning backdrop to the cascading waters—a serene retreat for nature lovers and adventure seekers alike. Return to the lodge for lunch.

Post-lunch, begin your safari adventure in the Panna Tiger Reserve. We have planned an afternoon safari in Panna.

Overnight will be in Tendu Leaf, Panna | Meal: Full Board

DAY ELEVEN: 24 FEB 2024, MONDAY

Panna Tiger Reserve's landscape is a captivating blend of lush forests, open grasslands, meandering rivers like the Ken, rugged rocky outcrops, and serene water bodies. This diverse terrain creates a haven for a wide variety of wildlife, offering picturesque views and a dynamic backdrop for safari adventures. The undulating hills and elevated plateaus add an extra layer of charm, making Panna a remarkable destination for nature enthusiasts and wildlife aficionados.

We have planned two more safaris this day, one in the morning and one in the afternoon.

Overnight will be in Tendu Leaf, Panna | Meal: Full Board

DAY TWELVE: 25 FEB 2024, TUESDAY

This morning brings to an end your safari in India. After a hearty breakfast, check-out and make your way to Khajuraho airport and fly back to Delhi. The drive to the airport should take about 30 minutes and the flight is likely to depart at 1320 arriving back into Delhi at 1440 (time to be confirmed).

On arrival you will be met and transferred to your hotel near the airport for one night.

Overnight will be in Lemon Tree Premier, Delhi | Meal: Breakfast Only

DAY THIRTEEN: 26 FEB 2024, WEDNESDAY

After breakfast transfer to the international airport for your international flight home – or extend your itinerary to explore more of India – please ask!



Hotels

Delhi	Lemon Tree Premiere	1-night	Superior Room	Breakfast Only
Kanha	Bagh Tola, Kanha	3-nights	Luxury Rooms	All Meal Plan
Bandhavgarh	Bagh Tola, Bandhavgarh	3-night	Luxury Tents	All Meal Plan
Panna	Tendu Leaf, Panna	3-night	Luxury Hut	All Meal Plan
Delhi	Lemon Tree Premiere	1-night	Superior Room	Breakfast Only

Inclusions

- Accommodation in India for eleven (11) nights.
- In Delhi only breakfast is included in the hotel meal plan, whereas in all other destinations, all meals are included. There is an additional breakfast included on the day you arrive in Nagpur.
- Half-day sightseeing with an English-speaking city expert in Delhi.
- Four (4) private jeep safaris in Kanha Tiger Reserve.
- Five (5) private jeep safaris in Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve.

- Three (3) private jeep safaris in Panna Tiger Reserve.
- Khajuraho and Raneh Falls visit.
- Transfers:
 - An air-conditioned Toyota Innova shall be used for transfers if 2-3 guests plan to travel.
 - An air-conditioned Tempo Traveller shall be used for transfers if there are more than 3 guests.
- Two domestic flights: Delhi – Raipur & Khajuraho – Delhi sectors.
- All currently applicable taxes.

Not Included

- Any international flights or your Indian visa fee
- Any camera fee – these can be paid in cash at the game
- Any gratuities and tips
- Any expense of personal nature including alcoholic and aerated drinks
- Any unexpected increase in Taxes, Fuel Costs or Forest Department Permit cost

TRACKS SAFARIS – WE GET YOU CLOSER TO INDIA!



ITINERARY MAP



TRACKS SAFARIS
WE GET YOU CLOSER

