

## Central India Wildlife Safari

### Delhi- Jabalpur- Bandhavgarh -Kanha-Satpura-Bhopal

#### Itinerary highlights

- Stay at the award winning, sustainably operated Pugdundee Lodges (Kings Lodge, Kanha Earth Lodge and Denwa Backwater Escape)
- Jeep safaris in three of the renown tiger parks, Bandhavgarh, Kanha, and Satpura
- Visit community projects near Kanha
- Hike to a hilltop and enjoy a sundowner
- Indulge in culinary workshop with our in-house expert Chef at Bandhavgarh
- Boat cruise on Denwa River
- Witness history at Bhimbetka Rock shelters, a UNESCO world heritage site



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#### Flight Information:

**November 26, 2018:** Arrival to Indira Gandhi International Airport Delhi, India (DEL) by 9:00pm.

**November 27, 2018:** Fly Delhi (DEL) to Jabalpur, MP(JLR) to arrive by noon (ETD 10:10 am / ETA 12 noon)

**December 6, 2018:** Depart Bhopal (BHO) anytime, or proceed with post-adventure itinerary, or your own independent arrangements.



Our adventure begins with arrival in Delhi for one night before flying down to Madhya Pradesh, the best place to uncover the diversity of India's wildlife & a strong hold of Tigers.

After a short flight from Delhi, we land in Jabalpur and transfer to Bandhavgarh National Park. Stay for two nights at Kings Lodge - nestled between Sal forested hills. Indulge in two safaris in search of Indian wildlife and the elusive Bengal tiger. Get an opportunity to learn about Indian cooking and spices with a the our in-house expert Chef.

Travel south to Kanha National park where we stay in charming bungalows at Kanha Earth Lodge. Enjoy two safaris to the park to experience vast Sal forest and meadows with varied wildlife. During your stay get a chance to sample the Gond Thali (food inspired by local Gond community) and meet the local community during a village visit. Hike followed by sundowner at the hilltop.

From Kanha travel west to Satpura, where you stay for an overnight at Denwa Backwater Lodge. Enjoy a safari to the park that support array of mammals and a great place to see the sloth bear. We end our Central Indian safari with an exclusive boat cruise on the Tawa dam and visiting the world heritage Bhimbetka Rock shelters before travelling to Bhopal, the location for AdventureNEXT India.

**Itinerary difficulty: (1) Relaxed/Social** (i.e., cultural touring, easy walks, light activity, wildlife viewing); Some may consider the walk to the sundowner moderate due to it being uphill

## Itinerary

### **Day 01, 26 November 2018, Monday: Arrival- Delhi**

Arrive Delhi. Arrival transfer from Delhi T3 Airport and transfer to your accommodation near airport (**no meals included**) (**Check in time at hotel is 12 noon**)

#### **Overnight Lemon Tree/Holiday Inn –Aerocity**

**(Important:** Delegates should reach Delhi before 09:00 pm as the flight next morning will be early morning departing at 10:00 am (You all will be leaving hotel at 07:30 am).

### **Day 02, 27 November 2018, Tuesday: Delhi- Jabalpur- Bandhavgarh**

Morning checkout is at around 7:30 am from the hotel in time to transfer to Delhi Airport, for a short flight departing to Jabalpur (ETD 10:10 am / ETA 12 noon).

Arrive Jabalpur and we have lunch at the famous Indian Coffee House, which specialises in South Indian cuisine. Post lunch, road transfer to Bandhavgarh National Park. The drive should take under 4 hours. After settling to our cottages, take time to explore the lodge pool and surroundings with a short late afternoon nature walk. Late evening enjoy cultural performance by group of local villagers introducing us the multi-cultural lifestyle. We end the day enjoying a sumptuous dinner.

#### **Overnight Kings Lodge**

Kings Lodge is nestled between Sal forested hills of Bandhavgarh National Park in a large natural forested estate of 14 hectares in a small tribal village. Kings lodge is environmentally sensitive,



harmonious with the natural features of the site and accentuates natural daylight to all facilities. The lodge has been constructed using local manpower. Our guests benefit from the incredible location, outstanding hospitality, an experienced naturalist team, our commitment towards conservation and local communities.



**Day 03, 28 November 2018, Wednesday: Bandhavgarh**

Enjoy morning jeep safari in the park accompanied by a resident naturalist and forest park guide in 4x4 Jeeps. You should be able to see many of the spotted deer, sambar and birdlife in the park as well as keeping an eye for the elusive tiger.

(Morning safaris start shortly after sunrise at around 6:00 am and lasts for about 4 ½ Hrs. Along with the thrilling jeep safari is a memorable stop for a picnic breakfast complete with freshly plunged coffee and an assortment of teas.)



Bandhavgarh was established in 1968 as a National Park, and is spread over an area of 448 sq. kms. This national park was declared as a tiger reserve under Project Tiger in the year 1993. It is predominantly covered with vegetation like SAL, SALI, DHOBIN and has vast stretches of grasslands spread over 32 hills, the region though smaller than other wildlife parks has one of the highest density of tigers in the world.

Evening indulge in culinary workshop with in-house expert Chef where you get an opportunity learn about the best ingredients and spices to use to make a traditional or wonderfully innovative, Indian meal.

### **Overnight Kings Lodge**

#### **Day 04, 29 November 2018, Thursday: Bandhavgarh-Kanha**

Morning jeep safari to the park accompanied by a resident naturalist and forest park guide in 4x4 Jeeps. Checkout from the lodge at 11:30 am and you travel south to Kanha national Park (packed lunch will be provided for the journey). This journey should take around 5 hours.

Post arrival, after a quick wash and change, start your hike from the lodge (Duration 30 Mins one way; Level- Moderate) and be rewarded by grand views of the dense forest all around. Enjoy the sun go down with exclusive sundowners prepared by our chef. Dinner will be a special Gond Thali which has been put together by our chef after researching local foods and spices for over a year.



### **Overnight Kanha Earth Lodge**

Kanha Earth Lodge is spread in a forested area of 16 acres adjoining the buffer zone of Kanha in a small tribal hamlet. The lodge architecture has been inspired by the Gond tribal villages situated on the fringes of Kanha.

Six nights accommodation - Single Occupancy

Delhi (01 Night) - Lemon Tree- Aerocity/Holiday Inn –Aerocity

Kanha (02 Nights)-Kanha Earth Lodge

Bandhavgarh (02 Nights)-Kings Lodge

Satpura (01 Night)-Denwa Backwater Escape

- Accommodation on bed and breakfast in Delhi

The lodge has been built with high standards towards eco sensitivity, local village cooperation and a great wilderness experience. As a conscious decision the lodge is situated remotely, away from the tourism hub, yet close enough for an easy access to the park.





**Day 05, 30 November 2018, Friday: Kanha**

Enjoy morning and afternoon jeep safaris in the park accompanied by a resident naturalist and forest park guide in 4x4 Jeeps.

(Morning safaris start shortly after sunrise at around 6:00 am and lasts for about 4 ½ hrs. Along with the thrilling jeep safari is a memorable stop for a picnic breakfast complete with freshly plunged coffee and an assortment of teas. Afternoon safaris start around 3:00 pm for a couple of hours (3 Hours) and end at sunset.)



Kanha Tiger Reserve has spectacular Sal and Bamboo forest, rolling grasslands and meandering streams stretch over 1945 sq. km. in the heart of central highlands. This is the original Kipling country so fondly written about in the Jungle Book. The park is the only home to the rare Hard Ground Barasingha found in its large grasslands. Kanha is also home to Tiger, Leopard, Sloth Bear, Deer, Ungulates, Lesser Cats and close to 300 bird species.

**Overnight Kanha Earth Lodge**

**Day 06, 01 December 2018, Saturday: Kanha- Satpura**

After early morning breakfast start, your day with a visit to a local village school. Get a chance to connect and meet the students & villagers experiencing a slice of their daily life (Duration: 1 hour). Post

walk, depart for Satpura with packed lunch. This journey should take about 8 hrs. but is through beautiful forest and tribal villages. A great opportunity to see the Indian countryside! Dinner is at the lodge.

### **Overnight Denwa Backwater Escape**

This lodge in Madhai overlooks the mesmerizing backwaters of a dam built on Denwa River framed by the rolling Pachmari hills and comprises 8 air conditioned cottages & 2 tree houses. It is built on 10 acres of forested land along the river, with the opposite riverbank being the national park. A simple crossing by boat gets you to the park, where jeeps then take you deeper into the forest. The lodge has been mainly built using local materials like stone and baked tiles but the design is contemporary safari style. The rooms are done up in style with unique leather safari furniture, crisp cotton upholstery, linen and local crafts. The main building and the pool are done up with vintage iron furniture and hand crafted wooden furniture, the wood for which is sourced from old furniture and sleeper wood.



### **Day 07, 02 December 2018, Sunday: Satpura-Bhopal**

Morning jeep safari in the Satpura National Park, 1427 Sq. Km of rugged, mountainous, forested terrain where you can spot animals such as Tigers, Leopards, spotted deer, Indian Bison (Gaur), Wild boar, Wild dog (locally called Dholes), Sloth bear, Black buck (unique attraction), Porcupine, Sambhar, Four Horned antelopes (Chowsingha), Otters, Crocodile, Malabar squirrels, Langurs to mention but a few. Indian Giant squirrel and White Bison are a special feature of Satpura National Park and it offers excellent birding too. After safari return back to the lodge.



At noon depart from the lodge and board the motorboat for two hours boat cruise up on the Denwa River till Tawa Dam. A picnic lunch will be served on board. Arrive Tawa Dam and drive further to Bhimbetka Caves a world heritage site.

These rock shelters are an archaeological site of the Paleolithic, exhibiting the earliest traces of human life on the Indian sub-continent, and thus the beginning of the South Asian Stone Age. Some of the shelters were inhabited by Homoerectus more than 300,000 years ago, and the rock paintings go back as far as 30,000 years. The cave paintings also show early signs of dance. Continue your travel to Bhopal to join ATTA conference.

**Included Services:**

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- Accommodation on full board from Day 2 till Day 07
- All, activities, safaris and transfers as listed in the itinerary
- Delhi- Jabalpur flight tickets

**Not Included:**

- International flights
- Drivers' and guides' tips
- Visa fees for entry to India
- Vaccines, if needed
- Personal items such as laundry charges, souvenirs, etc.
- Anything not already explicitly included in the itinerary





Exclusive  
Wildlife Lodges & Experiences

## Map



## Weather

The parks are open from 1st October to 30th June. October to March offers the best weather with warm sunny days & cold nights. The temperature during November is pleasant with temperature ranging 12 degree Celsius in the night to 28 degree Celsius in the day.

## Credit Cards

The most commonly used cards are Visa & Master but neither American Express nor Diner's Club cards are widely accepted in India. While travelling away from main cities, it is recommended that you carry enough Indian currency for purchases and tips.

## Clothing

In the winter months, temperatures may drop dramatically, so please pack warm clothing. December to early February are the coldest months and since we use open jeeps for safaris, mornings and evenings can be quite chilly, sometimes even up to April end.

Practical colours to wear to the park are khaki, beige and white in all seasons. Please avoid bright and flashy clothing and strong perfumes/deodorant. It is advisable not to wear sandals or shorts during nature walks.

## Here are some of our packing suggestions:

- Light cotton trousers & cotton shorts
- Light cotton shirts (long & short sleeved)
- Cotton socks & comfortable walking shoes
- Sandals





- Shower proof rain jacket/ windbreaker
- Hats, sunglasses & scarves
- Suntan Lotion
- Camera (telephoto lens recommended)
- Binoculars
- Torch with extra battery
- Insect Repellents

**For winters, pack extra:**

- Heavy woollen clothing
- Woollen hats
- Scarves and gloves
- Fleece

**Note :** Please carry your personal medicines.

**Food**

A delectable spread of vegetarian and non vegetarian food is served at all the lodges.

Breakfast is the combination of variety and choices from the varied cuisine and is usually served in the park, during the safari itself.

Lunch and dinner is Indian & continental cuisine. Pure vegetarian and other special food requests are taken care of on prior information.

**Allergies:** If you are allergic to any food items, kindly inform at the time of the booking.

**Internet**

All lodges have basic internet connection. Our offices in the lodges have an extra computer which can be used free of cost for emailing. Internet may not be reliable at all times as breakdowns take time to fix as we are remotely located.

**Photo Identity**

A valid passport and visa is required for travel to India