

Indian Wildlife Safari

with Taj + Temples +
"Holi" Festival colours



The ultimate photographic and wildlife experience visiting two of the most rewarding tiger Parks in India, followed by the temple complexes of Khajuraho, then join-in the "Festival of Colours" (Holi) on the banks of the Ganges at Varanasi, and top it off with sunrise at the Taj Mahal, and the rarely visited city of Dholpur.



**16th March - flying from Australia to New Delhi
(Overnight New Delhi)**

**17th March - Fly to Jabalpur and then to
Kanha National Park (3 nights)**



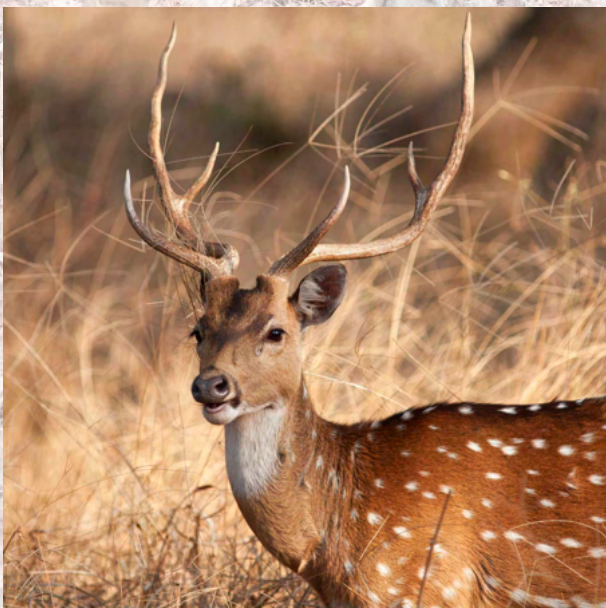
There is a large tiger population in the park and one can also find leopards, the sloth bear and Indian wild dog. Blackbuck are now often seen, as are Barasingha and Gaur. The most abundant prey species for the large predators is the spotted deer or chital, then Sambar which constitutes an important prey base of the tiger.



**20th March - travel north to Bandhavgarh
Bandhavgarh National Park (3 nights)**



The density of the tiger population at Bandhavgarh is the highest known in India as well as in the world. In addition to tigers animals like the massive Gaur, chital, langurs, monkeys, muntjac, wild Boar, and jackals gathering around water bodies or the ancient caves can be discovered in this Park. The wildlife collection of Bandhavgarh also includes 250 species of birds and 80 species of butterflies in addition to 37 species of mammals.



23rd March - north to Khajuraho
Khajuraho (1 night)



One of the more amazing destinations in India, Khajuraho has the country's largest group of medieval Hindu and Jain temples (constructed between 875-105 CE), and is famous for their erotic sculptures. The Khajuraho Group of Monuments has been listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1986, and is considered one of the "seven wonders" of India.



24th March - fly to Varanasi
Varanasi (3 nights)

Two amazing experiences in one location.

Varanasi and the Holi celebration.

Varanasi

One of the oldest living inhabitations of the world, the sacred city of Varanasi or Benaras, nestled on the banks of the holy Ganges river, has been attracting pilgrims for centuries. Celebrated author Mark Twain, who visited India in the last decade of the 19th century, described the city as “older than history, older than tradition, older even than legend.”



24th March - fly to Varanasi

Varanasi (3 nights)

“ Holi ”

**We have planned to be here in Varanasi when India explodes with the
“Festival of Colours”**

Song and dance take place around a bonfire called Holika on the eve of Holi to signify the burning of evil spirits. A variety of items are often thrown into the flames including wood, dry leaves, twigs – and even roasting grains, popcorn, coconut, and chickpeas.



The following day, Holi, is a time to let loose and celebrate life. Family and friends gather to playfully throw colourful paint and bright powders at each other and in the air, fully immersing themselves from head-to-toe in colour. Additionally, a traditional wooden drum called a dhol is played by a troupe, while dancing amid the colours.

Holi involves an exuberant casting of pastel coloured powder on friends, family and every passer-by, with each colour symbolising a particular sentiment.



27th March - fly to Delhi/road to Agra
Agra (3 nights)

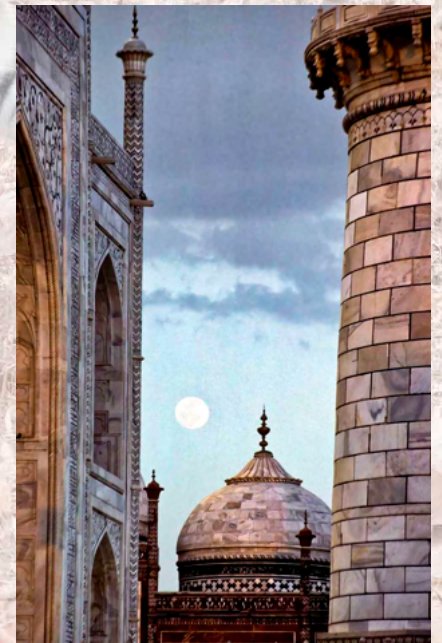
Famous for the Taj Mahal, Agra is home to some amazing history and architecture.



Visits to the Taj at dawn is just one of the sights that will be witnessed here.



The mosque of the Taj



and at dusk



Agra

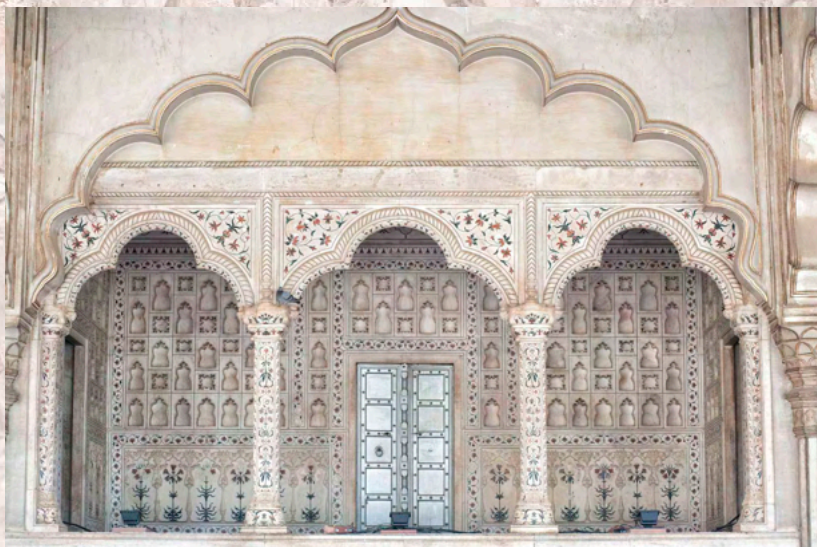
Sikandra's Moghul tombs.....



The relatively unknown "Itmad-ud-Daula" (Baby-taj) and its ancient frescoes.....



Hidden art work of the Red Fort



Agra (Dholpur & Chambal)

On the 29th we make a special visit south of Agra.....

The red sandstone from Dholpur is famous throughout the country and was used in the construction of the Red Fort in Delhi. Ancient (hidden) step-wells and palaces reveal the use of this stone throughout the city.

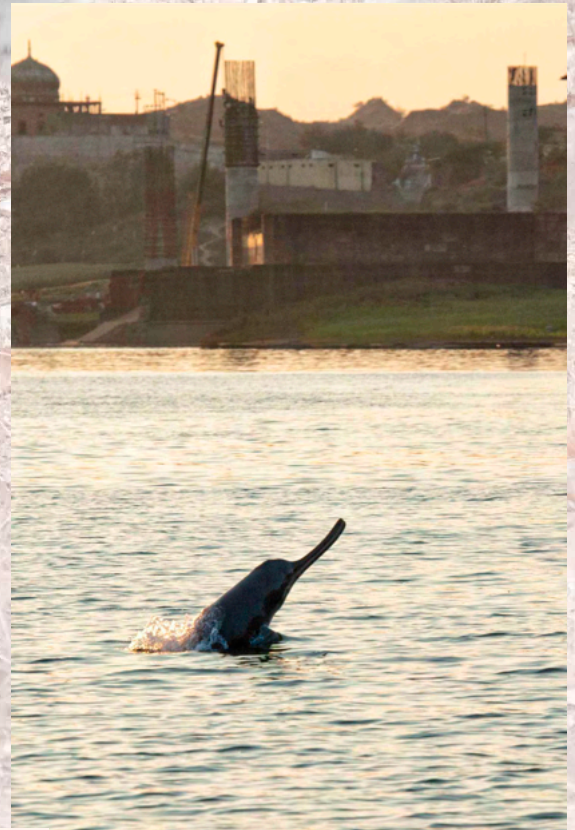


We will take lunch in Raj Niwas Palace (Dholpur Palace)



The city lies beside the Chambal River and the world recognised “Chambal Sanctuary”.

Here we shall seek out the rarely seen Ganges River Dolphin, and the critically endangered “Gharial”.



30th March - Return to Delhi for your flight home.

The costs associated with this tour

- **Your flights - not included. We recommend travel with Singapore Airlines (which for Economy were from \$1280.00 in October 23)**
- **Tour cost ** (based on an exchange rate of AU\$1.00= INR52.00) :**
- **AU\$ 5,795.00 per person sharing (Single Room Supplement AU\$ 1,420.00)**
- **Visa: costs for an “eVisa” is less than A\$50.00**

Includes:

- **All meals in National Parks / B&B basis elsewhere**
- **Park jeeps limited to 3 persons per vehicle**
- **Local Naturalist accompanying game viewing safaris**
- **Escorted by us throughout**

**** Subject to change if Government increases any Park or Monument fees in 2024**

**** Final price may also be impacted by significant changes in the AUD:INR exchange rates.**

Wildlife Safari Consultants



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