



TRAVEL THE UNKNOWN

TAKE THE ROAD LESS TRAVELLED

BIG CATS OF INDIA

14 days

Countries visited

India

Tour Highlights

- Leopards in Satpura
- Stay in rustic jungle lodges
- Spotting tigers in the wild
- Gujarat`s rare Asiatic lions

Places visited

Delhi • Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve • Kanha Tiger Reserve • Satpura National Park • Bhopal • Gir National Park

What's included

- Airport transfers
- Domestic flights
- Ground transport with driver
- Accommodation
- Entrance fees to sites & parks
- Game drives as per itinerary with local naturalist
- Breakfasts and full-board in national parks
- English-speaking guides

What's not included

- Meals not mentioned in itinerary
- Drinks
- Visa fees
- Tipping
- Camera / video camera fees
- Personal items (laundry, telephone, etc.)
- Medical expenses
- Any services not mentioned in itinerary

All accommodation subject to availability. Final accommodation choices will be confirmed after booking.

Your Itinerary Explained

| Date | Place visited | Meals |
|------|--|--|
| | <p>The first part of the text in each day is the itinerary schedule and will explain what you will normally see/do during this day of your itinerary.</p> <p>---</p> <p><i>The part of the day's text in italics (and comes after the three dashes "---") is background information on the places or sites on that day of your itinerary. It is not part of your itinerary and may mention places that will not be visited on your itinerary. If you have any questions please ask us. Travel times where noted are only meant as a guideline.</i></p> | <p>B: Breakfast</p> <p>L: Lunch</p> <p>D: Dinner</p> |

Tour Itinerary

| Day 1 | Delhi | Meals |
|--|---|------------|
|  | <p>On arrival, you will be greeted at the airport by your Travel The Unknown representative and transferred to your hotel. Rest of day free to relax. Overnight in Delhi.</p> <p>---</p> <p><i>India's capital and a major gateway to the country, contemporary Delhi is a bustling metropolis, which successfully combines the ancient with the modern. Amidst the vast spiraling skyscrapers, the remnants of a bygone era in the form of its many monuments, stand as silent reminders of the region's ancient legacy. The first impression for any visitor travelling in from the airport is of a specious, garden city, tree-lined with a number of beautiful parks.</i></p> <p><i>Overnight in Amarya Villa, Delhi</i></p> | <p>N/A</p> |
|  <p data-bbox="97 1890 277 1960">Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve</p> | <p>Early morning flight from Delhi to Jabalpur. Our representative will greet you at the airport for transfer to Bandhavgarh. Afternoon at leisure, optional walking trails around lodge. Evening at the lodge. Overnight in Bandhavgarh. Overnight in Bandhavgarh.</p> <p><i>Total travel time : 7 hours</i></p> <p><i>Overnight in Monsoon Forest, Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve</i></p> | <p>B D</p> |

| Day 3 | Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve | Meals |
|---|--|-------|
|  <p data-bbox="89 517 277 595">Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve</p> | <p data-bbox="323 300 1307 333">Morning and afternoon game drives. Evening at lodge. Overnight in Bandhavgarh.</p> <p data-bbox="312 344 341 360">---</p> <p data-bbox="312 376 1406 663"><i>Once a hunting reserve of the royal family of Rewa, the Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve sprawls over a 450 sq km area with varying terrain of undulating hills and open meadows to forests and steep ridges. In the Vindhya hills of Umaria district, the reserve is most well-known for housing Royal Bengal Tigers and offers the best chance of glimpsing tigers in the wild over any other national park in India. Thanks to the mixed vegetation of Sal and Savannahs, the reserve also attracts: tigers, wild elephants, langur monkeys, sambar, spotted deer, hyenas and bears, among others. You may spot these species at one of 12 natural water holes throughout the area.</i></p> <p data-bbox="312 703 1169 736">NOTE: Bandhavgarh National Park is closed on Wednesday afternoon.</p> <p data-bbox="312 777 1003 808"><i>Overnight in Monsoon Forest, Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve</i></p> | B L D |
| Day 4 | Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve | Meals |
|  <p data-bbox="89 1151 277 1229">Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve</p> | <p data-bbox="323 934 1353 967">Morning and afternoon game drives. Evening at the lodge. Overnight in Bandhavgarh.</p> <p data-bbox="312 1010 1003 1043"><i>Overnight in Monsoon Forest, Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve</i></p> | B L D |
| Day 5 | Bandhavgarh - Kanha | Meals |
|  <p data-bbox="89 1650 277 1720">Kanha Tiger Reserve</p> | <p data-bbox="312 1433 1406 1503">Morning safari in Bandhavgarh and drive to Kanha. Arrival and check in at the lodge. Rest of the day at leisure. Overnight in Kanha National Park.</p> <p data-bbox="312 1545 670 1579"><i>Total travel time : 6-6.5 hours</i></p> <p data-bbox="312 1581 919 1615"><i>Overnight in Tuli Tiger Resort, Kanha Tiger Reserve</i></p> | B L D |

| Day 6 | Kanha National Park | Meals |
|--|--|-------|
|  | <p>Morning and afternoon game drives. Evening at the lodge. Overnight in Kanha National Park.</p> <p>---</p> <p><i>The tiger reserve in Kanha Tiger Reserve is a stunning natural area filled with dense forests, scenic mountain areas and crystal-clear streams and situated in the Madhya Pradesh central-highland area of India. Preserved as a 'reserve forest' as early as 1879, the beauty of the natural landscape and wealth of animal life inspired Rudyard Kipling's 'The Jungle Book'. Overlooking the luxurious landscape of meadows, streams and forest areas is 'Bomm Dader' or Sunset Point – the most scenic area of the park. The reserve has one of the largest populations of Indian tigers across the country, and is also home to the Royal Bengal Tiger. As well as tigers, the park is home to many bird, reptile and mammal species, including spotted deer, antelopes, flying squirrels and buffaloes. The 'jewel' of the park however is the 'Barasingha' or swamp deer, which have become endangered and feed on the park's rich grass-land areas.</i></p> <p><i>Overnight in Tuli Tiger Resort, Kanha Tiger Reserve</i></p> | B L D |
|  | <p>Enjoy morning and afternoon game drives* in the park, on the look-out again for Kanha's diverse wildlife. Rest of evening to relax and dinner at lodge. Overnight in Kanha National Park.</p> <p><i>Overnight in Tuli Tiger Resort, Kanha Tiger Reserve</i></p> | B L D |
|  | <p>After breakfast drive to Satpura National Park, stopping en-route for lunch. Dinner at jungle lodge. Enjoy the thrill of a night jeep safari in the heart of Satpura. Not only will you hear the sound of the jungle alive at night, but you just might catch the eyes of a leopard with torchlight. Return to lodge and overnight in Satpura.</p> <p>---</p> <p><i>Satpura National Park is rightly believed to be one of India's best kept secrets. Admire the rugged scenery of deep valleys, sandstone peaks, narrow gorges, waterfalls and Sal forest in this vast reservoir. Satpura is the only park of its kind in Central India that offers walking safaris, giving you a 'one-of-a-kind' opportunity to explore tiger country on foot amidst over 1300 species of plants. Notice teak trees, bamboo and grasses and medicinal plants as you journey. Here, you are likely to spot a wide variety of animals due to this regions incredible biodiversity. Be on the lookout for: leopards, sloth bears, Indian wild dogs, hordes of Indian gaur, sambhar plus other herbivores. And perhaps you'll even spot a tiger here, too.</i></p> <p>NOTE: Satpura National Park is closed on Wednesday afternoon.</p> | B L D |

Total travel time : 10-11 hours

Overnight in Reni Pani Jungle Lodge, Satpura National Park

Day 9

Satpura National Park

Meals



Satpura
National Park

Enjoy a jeep safari and another outdoor or cultural activity in Satpura, such as a boat safari, walking safari, village visit or elephant ride. Satpura National Park is the only national park in India to offer such a wide variety of safari options (these activities are dependent on availability). Rest of evening to relax. Dinner at lodge. Overnight in Satpura.

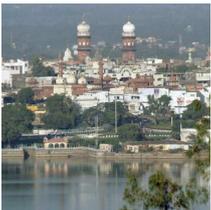
B L D

Overnight in Reni Pani Jungle Lodge, Satpura National Park

Day 10

Satpura - Bhopal

Meals



Bhopal

Enjoy a morning safari in Satpura and return to the lodge for breakfast. Then drive to Bhopal in the afternoon. En-route you can take a short detour to the impressive Bhimbetka caves (a UNESCO site) renowned for their ancient cave paintings. You will often see long-tailed langurs 'guarding' these caves. Rest of day at leisure. Overnight in Bhopal.

B L D

Known as the 'City of Lakes', **Bhopal** is the capital of Madhya Pradesh state. Said to have been founded by King Bhoja of the Paramara dynasty some one thousand years ago, it is home to many institutions of national importance including the National Institute of Fashion Technology and the Indian Institute of Forest Management. It is also the site of a large number of places of interest, including Jama Masjid, the ancient fort of Raisen and the Mosque of Pearls which was built by Sikander Begum, who was an unconventional Muslim woman for her time.

Total travel time : 4.5 hours

Overnight in Jehan Numa Retreat, Bhopal

Day 11

Bhopal - Mumbai - Gir National Park

Meals



Gir National
Park

Transfer to airport to catch flight to Mumbai, then onward connecting flight to Diu. Our representative will greet you at Diu airport for transfer to Gir National Park. Evening free with dinner at lodge. Overnight in Gir.

B D

Total travel time : 6-7 hours

Overnight in Lion Safari Camp, Gir National Park

Day 12

Gir National Park

Meals

Gir National
Park

Morning and afternoon game drives in the forest of Gir, looking out for Asiatic lions and leopards. Dinner at the lodge. Overnight in Gir.

B L D

Home to the rare Asiatic lion, **Gir National Park** is comprised of 1412 square kilometres of deciduous forest interspersed with semi-evergreen and evergreen flora, acacia, scrub jungle, grasslands and rocky hills. Outside of Africa, Gir National Park in Gujarat is the only place in the world where you can spot lions roaming free in the wild. While there were approximately only 20 lions in the park during 1913, the 2015 census indicates there are now 523 of these magnificent creatures. Gir Forest also provides homes to the chousingha – the world's only 4-horned antelope, jackal, striped hyena and India fox. The park, home to 200 species such as white-backed and long-billed vultures, has also been declared an important area by the Indian Bird Conservation Network. Keep an eye out for more than 40 species of reptiles and amphibians near Kamleshwar, a large reservoir where you may spot a Marsh crocodile or snakes.

Overnight in Lion Safari Camp, Gir National Park

Day 13

Gir National Park

Meals



Gir National
Park

Morning and afternoon game drives. Between the drives, visit Somnath to see the 'Shore Temple' (one of the 12 holy abodes of Shiva), Sun Temple, Ahilya Temple and other monuments. Evening and dinner at lodge. Overnight in Gir.

Overnight in Lion Safari Camp, Gir National Park

B L D

Day 14

Departure

Meals



Flight

After breakfast, depart for Rajkot airport to catch flight to Mumbai (packed lunch will be provided).

Total travel time : 3.5-4 hours

B L

Accommodation

Delhi : Amarya Villa (Villa)

1 night



The two 3-storey villas of **Amarya Villa** provide an idyllic home-away-from-home in the very heart of the bustling capital. Large bay windows allow sun to spill in the guestrooms and suites, which have been decorated based on the theme of India's nine auspicious gemstones. Spend free time in the atrium, on your private veranda or in the open-air terrace garden.

Phone : +91 11 4103 6184

Address : A2/20 Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi, Delhi 110029, India

Website : www.amaryagroup.com

Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve : Monsoon Forest (Camping)

3 nights



For guests wanting a real wildlife experience, **Monsoon Forest** offers beautifully crafted luxury tents set under the shade of glorious Mahua trees. Each unit has air conditioning, but you can also let in fresh air via rope-drawn windows. Step out on the veranda to convene with nature, ideal for birdwatchers, and enjoy the convenience of an en suite bathroom.

Phone : +91 97 5287 8402

Address : Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve, Village Tala, Umaria, Madhya Pradesh 484661

Website : www.monsoonforest.com/

Kanha Tiger Reserve : Tuli Tiger Resort (Wildlife lodge)

3 nights



Gracing the bank of Banjar River, Tuli Tiger Resort in Kanha represents the rich, vibrant heritage of rural India. The resort offers 26 ornate, air-conditioned cottages with twin beds, internal and external sitting areas and soothing interiors that ensure space and privacy. The surrounding is covered with big green buffer zone of 22 acres and home to several species of birds. Watch the wildlife through large windows of your private cottage, traditionally designed with a canopy roof.

Phone : +91 74 8961 1002

Address : Kanha National Park, Village & P.O Mocha, Madhya Pradesh

Website : www.tulihotels.com/tuli-tiger-resort-kanha

Satpura National Park : Reni Pani Jungle Lodge (Wildlife lodge)

2 nights



Reni Pani Jungle Lodge is an exquisitely designed conservation and wildlife focused lodge located close to Satpura Tiger Reserve. It features 12 luxury cottages encompassing 3 distinct structural designs, a cosy central meeting place called the 'Gol Ghar' & a jungle pool located along its seasonal nullah. It's spread over 30 acres of striking forest cover typical of the Satpuras.

Phone : +91 93 0199 9197

Address : Reni Pani Village (close to Satpura Tiger Reserve), Tehsil Sohagpur, Madhya Pradesh, 461771, India

Website : www.renipanijunglelodge.com/

Bhopal : Jehan Numa Retreat (Resort)

1 night



The Jehan Numa Retreat features stylish and comfortable rooms with private decks that overlook green fields.

Phone : +91 75 5660 6600

Address : Dr. Saleem Ali Road, Near Van Vihar, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh - 462002, India.

Website : www.jehannuma.com/jnr/index.php

Gir National Park : Lion Safari Camp (Wildlife lodge)

3 nights



The Lion Safari Camp is a luxury jungle safari camp in Gir National Park – the last remaining bastion of the Asiatic Lion. It is located in a private mango orchard overlooking the Hiran river. The location presently has around 900 mango trees with only 2% of the entire land area being built on. The accommodation consists of twenty luxury tents, with large en-suite bathrooms. There is also an open-air river-facing restaurant.

Phone : +91 28 7728 5920

Address : Near Hirneshwar Temple Check Dam, Chitrod Village, Gujarat 362133, India

All accommodation subject to availability. Final accommodation choices will be confirmed after booking.