

Holbrook Travel presents:
Quest for the Tiger: Exploring the Wonders of India
February 26 – March 12, 2010



A wildlife safari in India continues to be unmatched with more than 350 different mammals, 1,220 birds, 1600 species of reptiles and amphibians and 57,000 species of insects populating the Indian subcontinent. India is a nature-lover's paradise, offering everything from wildlife safaris on elephant backs to spectacular Himalayan mountain ranges that challenge climbers to rivers that test anglers. Join Holbrook Travel on this journey to experience India's fabulous wildlife in some of the most stunning natural settings. With Kanha and Bandhavgarh National Parks rated the best for tiger-spotting, get ready for exhilarating moments in the wild.



Itinerary Highlights

- **Tigers!** - Observe and learn about these magnificent animals in the wild at Kanha and Bandhavgarh National Parks on 4x4 open jeeps
- Meet with park rangers and local villagers to learn about current issues on the human – animal conflict
- Learn techniques used by researchers to study tigers
- Visit three UN World Heritage Sites – Keoladeo National Park, Agra Fort & Taj Mahal
- Explore the Temples of Khajuraho - master pieces of temple architecture and in a marvelous state of preservation.
- Great opportunities for bird-watching at Keoladeo National Park with over 300 species

For further Program Details contact:
Holbrook Travel at travel@holbrooktravel.com
Or visit our website at
www.holbrooktravel.com

LAND COST: \$3,575.00 per person; single supplement is \$995 per person and subject to availability

Terms & Conditions: A \$200.00 per person deposit is necessary to confirm a booking. This deposit is refundable until 95 days before departure date minus \$100.00 processing fee. Final payments are due no later than 95 days prior to departure. Cancellations received less than 95 days prior to departure are not refundable.



HOLBROOK
GLOBAL FIELD EXPEDITIONS

888-890-0632

www.holbrooktravel.com

Holbrook Travel presents: Quest for the Tiger: Exploring the Wonders of India February 26 – March 12, 2010

February 26 & 27, 2010

Depart United States – Arrive Delhi

Hotel Ashok Country Resort

Participants will depart United States on February 26th and arrive to Delhi on the 27th and transfer to their hotel.

February 28, 2010

Delhi

Hotel Ashok Country Resort

BLD

You will have the morning at leisure to rest and relax and enjoy a late breakfast. Before lunch at the hotel, you will meet your Tour Leader and have an orientation to the program. tour leader and transfer to your hotel to rest and relax. After lunch, you will enjoy a city tour of Delhi. India's capital & a major gateway to the country, contemporary Delhi is a bustling metropolis, which successfully combines in its fold the ancient & the modern. The division between new & old Delhi is the distinction between the capitals of the British & the Moghuls respectively. So, wherever you go, you will invariably confront the city's past.

March 1 - 3, 2010

Kanha National Park

Kanha Jungle Lodge

BLD

After breakfast transfer to the airport for your morning flight to Nagpur. Upon arrival you will be transferred to Kanha National Park, which will take approximately 5 - 6 hours driving. Set on the Chhota Nagpur plateau in Madhya Pradesh, Kanha provides breathtaking vistas of grassy plains and strands of mixed sal / teak forests and was set to save two endangered species - tiger and the barasingha. During the course of the next two days, you will explore Kanha National Park in search of the tigers and other wildlife. Your days will start with a morning safari by 4x4 open jeep. You will depart from the lodge approximately at 5:30 AM with sunrise and search for the tiger and other species such as swamp deer, black buck, cheetal, indian bison, barking deer, and sambhar, until noon. After lunch at the lodge, you will have some time to rest and relax and explore the area on your own. You will depart for your afternoon jungle safari around 2:30 PM and you will return to your lodge around sunset at 6:00 PM.

March 4, 2010

Bandhavgarh National Park

Bandhavgarh Jungle Lodge

BLD

This morning you will have another safari by 4x4 open jeeps. After breakfast you will drive to Bandhavgarh (6-7 hrs drive) with box lunch. Bandhavgarh is a new national park with a very long history. Set among the Vindhya Hills of Madhya Pradesh with an area of 168sq miles it contains a wide variety of habitats and a high density of game, including a large number of tigers. On arrival at Bandhavgarh, you will check into your jungle lodge and have some time to rest and relax. If you prefer, you can also explore the surrounding area of the lodge on foot. Your lodge is within walking distance to the entrance of the national park, so you will be hearing the jungle calling you all the time.

March 5 & 6, 2010

Bandhavgarh National Park

Bandhavgarh Jungle Lodge

BLD

During the next two days you will explore Bandhavgarh National Park. In the early mornings – around 5:30 AM, you will enjoy a safari by 4x4 open jeep, returning back to the lodge around 10:30 AM. The rest of the morning will be free to rest and relax. After lunch, you will depart for your afternoon safari around 2:30 PM and return around 6:00 PM. The chance of seeing a tiger in Bandhavgarh is greater than in any of India's other forests. During summer time tigers can be seen at couple of major waterholes in the park like Chakradhara, Gopalpur, Jurmani and Barwanala. As many as 37 species have been listed for this park including 3 types of antelopes - blue bull, chinkara and the chausingha. Deer species like cheetal, sambar, barking deer, 4 species of bats, 2 types of squirrels, indian pangolin, indian porcupine, palm civet, rare indian wolf, indian wild dog, ruddy and common mongoose, honey badger, jackal, wild boar, indian hare, common langur and rhesus macaque can also be seen during your outings. The park also has around 255 species of birds. It provides ideal habitat for various species of storks (white-necked & lesser adjutant), hornbill (malabar pied & common grey), herons, cranes and birds of prey like crested hawk, crested serpent eagle, honey buzzard, shikra, and lesser kestrel.

March 7, 2010

Khajuraho

Jass Radisson - Khajuraho

BLD

After breakfast you will transfer to Khajuraho (5-6 hrs drive) - well known for its magnificent temples, which were built between 950 and 1050 AD. The divine sculptures in these temples are a tribute to life itself, embodying everything that is sublime and spontaneous about it. The murals depict the life and times of the chandelas, and celebrate the erotic state of being. On arrival at Khajuraho, you will check into your hotel and have a chance to freshen up. Later in the day you will visit the eastern & western group of temples.

March 8, 2010

Agra

Mughal Sheraton

BLD

After breakfast you will have another chance to visit the temples if you would like to take advantage of the morning light. Afterwards, you will transfer to Jhansi to the railway station to board the train to Agra - Shatabdi Express that will depart at 5:55 PM. En route you will visit the Orchha Fort Complex, where you will also have lunch. In this medieval city, the hand of time has rested lightly and the palaces and temples built by its Bundela rulers in the 16th and 17th centuries retain much of their pristine perfection. Complementing the noble proportions of their exteriors are interiors which represent the finest flowering of the Bundela School of painting. In the Laxminarayan Temple and Raj Mahal, vibrant murals encompassing a variety of religious and secular themes, bring the walls and ceilings to rich life. Upon arrival to Agra at 8:25 PM, you will be transferred to your hotel. You will have a box dinner on the train journey to Agra.

March 9, 2010

Bharatpur

Laxmi Vilas Palace

BLD

The capital of Mughal India in the 16th and 17th century, Agra is steeped in the Mughal history. Today you will visit Taj Mahal by sunrise. Little needs to be said about this architectural wonder which is always the number one reason for every tourist's visit to Agra. Built by Shah Jahan, the Taj is a white marble memorial to his beautiful wife Mumtaz Mahal. This monument took 22 years to be completed and was designed, and planned by Persian architect Ustad Isa. Apart from its stunning design balance and perfect symmetry, the Taj is also noted particularly for its elegant domes, intricately carved screens and some of the best inlay work ever seen. You will return to hotel for breakfast and then depart for your excursion to Red Fort of Agra & Tomb of Itmad-Ud-Daulla. After lunch at Agra, you will transfer to Bharatpur, stopping at Fatehpur Sikri en route - a perfectly preserved Mughal city that you should not miss.

March 10, 2010

Bharatpur

Laxmi Vilas Palace

BLD

Today you will enjoy a full day of bird photography at Keoladeo National Park, previously known as Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary, which lies only 50 kilometers from Agra. You will take a rickshaw ride inside the sanctuary to view the birds. Located at the confluence of Gambhir and Banganga Rivers and spread over 29 sq km of shallow lakes and woodlands, the park provides shelter to over 300 avian species, particularly during winter when the resident numbers multiply as a result of migrants. The freshwater swamp, with the picturesque kadam trees, stands of acacia and profuse aquatic vegetation, is a habitat of various living organisms, which serve as food for the different species of animals. Two-thirds of the birds listed in Keoladeo are land birds while one-third of the species are water birds. Pintails, teals, mallards, pochards, geese, coots, storks, curlew and sandpipers can be seen in the lake. The heronry is one of the finest in the world, with 14 species nesting and breeding in the park.

March 11, 2010

Delhi

Hotel Atrium - Dayroom

BLD

Early this morning you will visit Keoladeo National Park again for your final bird photography excursion. After breakfast you will transfer to Delhi, which is only 174 kilometers away from Bharatpur. Upon arrival at Delhi, you will check into the hotel for your dayroom. The rest of the day will be at leisure to explore Delhi on your own. This evening you will be transferred to the airport for your flight back home.

March 12, 2010

Arrive United States

888-890-0632

www.holbrooktravel.com