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Grand India Photo Expedition

An Epic Photography Quest in Search of Bengal Tigers & Other Rare Wildlife

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Trip Details:

Days
14 Days / Jan–May

Price
From $16495

Grand India Photo Expedition

An Epic Photography Quest in Search of Bengal Tigers & Other Rare Wildlife

India is a mesmerizing destination for photographers. While its collage of colors and cultures has long drawn the traveler's lens, India's wild habitats and exotic animals offer rare treasures for those passionate about nature. Spanning three national parks, this wide-ranging photo safari immerses you in a landscape of fabled jungles and powerful rivers, brimming with wildlife. This is the native territory of the endangered Bengal tiger, one-horned rhino, Asian elephant, sloth bear and more. From optimally situated ecolodges surrounded by wild nature, gain exclusive access and shoot alongside top naturalist photographer guides.

Trip Highlights

The Ultimate India Wildlife Safari—Tigers, Rhinos & Much More!

While tigers get top billing, India's wildlife is diverse—look for sloth bear, Indian bison, elephant, wild dog, leopard, rare barasingha and other intriguing species

Three Varied National Parks, Plus Cultural Subjects

Photograph highlights of New Delhi, the tiger territories of Bandhavgarh, Kanha and Dudhwa national parks for wildlife photography, plus a rural village visit to meet local people

Exclusive Permits for Extended Time on Game Drives

Our special permits allow us to spend more hours inside the national parks than typical tours get, to maximize our time for wildlife photography

Ready to Book? Call an Adventure Specialist at 800-543-8917



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2027

2028

Grand India Photo Expedition Itineraries

An Epic Photography Quest in Search of Bengal Tigers & Other Rare Wildlife



2027

Grand India Photo Expedition

Itinerary at a Glance

Day 1	New Delhi
Day 2	Jabalpur / Bandhavgarh National Park
Days 3–4	Bandhavgarh National Park
Day 5	Bandhavgarh / Kanha National Park
Days 6–8	Kanha National Park
Day 9	Kanha / Raipur / Lucknow
Day 10	Lucknow / Dudhwa National Park
Days 11–13	Dudhwa National Park / Tharu Village
Day 14	Lucknow / Delhi



Day 1

New Delhi

Arrive in India's capital before your tiger photo expedition

- Photograph luminous Bangla Sahib and its bustling community kitchen
- Frame the descending arches of Agrasen ki Baoli stepwell

Arrive in New Delhi and transfer to our luxury hotel in the leafy heart of Lutyens' Delhi, with its broad boulevards, historic homes and government enclaves. The district is named after British architect Edwin Lutyens, who was responsible for much of the architectural design and building during the period of the British Raj, when India was part of the British Empire from the 1920s to 1940s.

This afternoon, set out on a photographic odyssey through sprawling New Delhi. Our tour begins at Gurudwara Bangla Sahib, one of the country's most revered Sikh temples. We'll capture its luminous white architecture, reflections in the holy pool, and the movement of worshippers and volunteers in the bustling community kitchen that generously serves more than 10,000 free meals each day, cooked using donated ingredients from Sikh farmers. Continue to Agrasen ki Baoli, an ancient stepwell whose repeating arches and long descending staircase offer striking opportunities for geometric compositions, leading lines and studies of light and shadow. On a scenic drive through Lutyens' Delhi, photograph city icons as we pass the India Gate, the President of India's residence and the new Parliament building erected in 2023.

At the National Gandhi Museum, document excerpts from the life and principles of Mahatma Gandhi via a rich collection of original relics, books, journals and documents, photographs, audio-visual materials and other memorabilia closely connected with Gandhi and India's struggle for independence. If the museum is closed on a Monday, we will visit Humayun's Tomb instead, practicing wide-angle shots and close-ups of intricate carving detail at this 16th-century Mughal architectural masterpiece, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Return to our hotel with time to refresh before a welcome dinner this evening, plus an orientation by our Expedition Leader to all the India photography adventures that lie ahead.

Day 2

Jabalpur / Bandhavgarh National Park

Journey into one of India's richest Bengal tiger reserves

- Drive through rural Madhya Pradesh to Bandhavgarh National Park
- Photograph village markets and roadside tea stalls along the way
- Settle into a deluxe ecolodge on the edge of tiger habitat

Transfer to the airport very early this morning for our flight south to Jabalpur. Continue on a half-day's drive through the countryside of Madhya Pradesh to reach Bandhavgarh National Park. The journey offers vignettes of everyday Indian life—village markets, roadside tea stalls and ox-drawn carts—and we will pause, when appropriate, for candid cultural images. By afternoon, we arrive at our ecolodge set in the forest just outside the park boundary. An essential stop on any serious India safari, Bandhavgarh is renowned for one of the country's highest concentrations of Bengal tigers. Originally established as a national park in 1968, Bandhavgarh was declared a protected tiger reserve under Project Tiger in 1993. At 444 square miles, it is a relatively small park with a thriving tiger population, offering visitors a good chance of encountering them, as well as other distinctive Indian wildlife. After settling in to our lodge, if time permits, we'll set out on a short wildlife drive in open 4x4 safari vehicles. Our Expedition Leader helps you dial in camera settings for fast-moving wildlife and changing light as we start searching for our first Bengal tiger.

Ready to Book? Call an Adventure Specialist at 800-543-8917

Days 3–4

Bandhavgarh National Park

Photograph Bengal tigers across Bandhavgarh's forests and grasslands

- Photograph tigers in one of the world's highest-density tiger habitats
- Spend a full day on safari with a special permit to maximize photography opportunities
- Capture images of spotted deer, langurs and colorful birdlife with personalized field coaching

The next two days are devoted to intensive exploration of Bandhavgarh National Park in pursuit of exciting wildlife images. Covered with sal and mixed deciduous forest, thickets of bamboo and expansive grasslands that line the stream valleys, the park's hilly terrain harbors one of the world's highest densities of tigers. Bandhavgarh was once a prime hunting reserve for the Maharajas of Rewa, where Maharaja Raman Singh alone shot an astounding 111 tigers by 1914. Today it is a pacesetter in tiger protection. With tigers at the apex of the food chain, Bandhavgarh's rich biodiversity includes a multitude of other wildlife. We expect to photograph a broad sampler of its 37 mammal species, among which are leopard, jungle cat, civet, wild boar, sambar, spotted deer, muntjac (barking deer), gaur, sloth bear and Asiatic jackal. Some 250 bird species, 70 different butterflies and various reptiles round out the diverse wildlife population.

We have extended time in the field on morning and afternoon game drives, and one day will include a full-day safari, tapping our exclusive permit that allows us extra time in the park. Across Bandhavgarh's varied landscapes, search for Bengal tigers plus the park's full array of wildlife: spotted deer stepping through morning mist, sambar grazing in meadows, langurs framed by backlit dust, and diverse birdlife, including showy peacocks. Your Expedition Leader and local naturalist guides work together to position our vehicles for optimal angles and unobtrusive wildlife viewing. On our full-day safari, picnic meals in designated zones allow us to remain all day, so we can stay close to promising areas, follow tracks and alarm calls without interruption, and document the subtle changes in light and animal behavior throughout the day.

Your Expedition Leader provides guidance on photographing fast-moving subjects, managing batteries and memory cards on long days, and using environmental elements—light, dust, vegetation—to elevate your wildlife storytelling. Back at the lodge, gather for informal photography discussions and review techniques such as tracking autofocus, panning, exposure compensation for striped fur, and composing sequences that capture a scene's unfolding narrative.

Day 5

Bandhavgarh / Kanha National Park

Enter Kanha's sal forests, bamboo thickets and open meadows

- Photograph rural life en route to Kanha National Park
- Explore the landscapes associated with Kipling's The Jungle Book
- Frame Kanha's varied forest and grassland habitats

A half-day's drive takes us from Bandhavgarh to Kanha National Park. Along the way, capture photos in passing of forested landscapes and village scenes that offer glimpses of daily life in rural Madhya Pradesh. Situated in the Satpura Hills of central India, Kanha National Park covers 750 square miles of rich and varied wildlife habitat. Its lush sal and bamboo forests, grassy meadows and ravines provided inspiration to Rudyard Kipling for his famous collection of stories in *The Jungle Book*. Kanha was established as a national park in 1955 and forms the core of the Kanha Tiger Reserve, created in 1974 under India's Project Tiger. The park's landmark achievement is the preservation of the rare barasingha, an endangered swamp deer with 12-point antlers, saving it from near-extinction. Strict conservation programs for the overall protection of the park's fauna and flora make Kanha one of the most exemplary national parks in Asia.

From our luxurious ecolodge base in India's tiger heartland, learn in depth about the Bengal tiger and its habitat, and observe how conservation travel directly benefits local communities and the tiger reserve. Following lunch on arrival, gain an introduction to the region on an initial short safari in the park. From our open 4x4 vehicles, search for rare barasingha (swamp deer), gaur, langur, wild boar, vibrant birdlife and, with luck, our first glimpse of a tiger in Kanha. Back at the lodge, enjoy dinner outdoors (weather permitting), with a briefing by your Expedition Leader on tomorrow's adventures.

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Days 6–8

Kanha National Park

Photograph Bengal tigers and barasingha across Kanha

- Search for tigers on morning and afternoon wildlife drives
- Photograph endangered barasingha grazing in Kanha's meadows
- Spend a full day on safari with a special permit to maximize wildlife encounters

Scenic Kanha, once a hunting ground for imperial rulers and viceroys, is now one of India's most important conservation reserves. With prime habitat for Bengal tigers and their prey, Kanha offers some of India's best tiger photo opportunities, plus a diverse collection of other wildlife. We spend three days pursuing images in this premier national park, searching for tigers and other wildlife from open 4x4 vehicles. Explore Kanha's diverse landscapes of sal forests, bamboo thickets and rolling meadows on a series of morning and afternoon game drive and one full-day photo safari.

Open meadows where herbivores graze attract tiger, leopard and dhole (wild dog) to the edges of the clearings, and we'll hope to find some of these predators on the hunt. The Banjaar River bordering the park provides a steady water source for wildlife. Dense jungle interspersed with vast grassy meadows called *maidans* support a range of species similar to those in Bandhavgarh. Other mammals we might photograph include the magnificent 12-point barasingha (swamp deer), common langur, gaur (the world's largest wild ox), wild boar, macaques, langurs and a rich array of birds. Early morning light filters through the forest in dramatic shafts—ideal for portraits and environmental compositions—while the sun's late-afternoon glow creates warm tones for action shots and animal close-ups.

On one day, our special permit allows us to remain in the park for a full-day safari, with picnic meals en route. Such uninterrupted time increases our chances of encountering wildlife as it moves between locations. We can follow fresh tracks, respond immediately to alarm calls, and remain in promising areas as light and animal movements shift throughout the day. Our Expedition Leader offers guidance on advanced fieldcraft, helping us anticipate the direction of movement, composing subjects against clean backgrounds, and adapting to strong midday light.

Between game drives, return to our ecolodge to rest and review images in an relaxed, collaborative environment. Optional midday discussions cover topics such as metering for striped fur, improving composition confidence, managing camera settings for fast-changing conditions and building a cohesive set of images across the wider expedition. On one evening, after we gather for dinner, join in some festive dancing around the campfire during a cultural presentation at our lodge.

Day 9

Kanha / Raipur / Lucknow

Travel from Kanha to the historic city of Lucknow

- Drive to Raipur, photographing rural life along the roadside
- Fly to Lucknow, capital of Uttar Pradesh
- Settle into a hotel overlooking the Gomti River

Depart Kanha this morning and drive a half-day to Raipur, capturing photos of daily rural life as it unfolds along the roadside. From Raipur we fly to Lucknow, the capital and largest city in the state of Uttar Pradesh in northeast India, where we arrive early this evening and check in to the 5-star Taj Mahal Hotel. This regal property on the Gomti River that provides a restful oasis after a long day of travel as we transit from one region of the country to another.

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Day 10

Lucknow / Dudhwa National Park

Reach Dudhwa's Terai grasslands near the Nepal border

- Drive to a tiger reserve well beyond India's conventional safari circuit
- Photograph swamp deer across Dudhwa's grasslands
- Stay at Jaagir Manor, an 80-year-old hunting lodge converted into a retreat

Drive a half-day from Lucknow to Dudhwa National Park, a thriving wildlife enclave well off the conventional safari circuit with uncrowded conditions to pursue outstanding wildlife photography. The 190-square-mile park in the state of Uttar Pradesh lies on the Indo-Nepal border, protecting some of the last pristine expanses of Terai forest and grasslands in the Upper Gangetic Plains. Originally established as a wildlife sanctuary for the endangered swamp deer (barasingha), with its magnificent 12-point rack, it later became a tiger reserve in 1987. Today, tigers, leopards and many deer species abound, and the park has also successfully reintroduced a healthy population of one-horned Indian rhinoceros from Assam and Nepal, once hunted nearly to extinction. Other mammals include Asian elephant, sloth bear, wild boar, honey badger, langur, rhesus monkey, golden jackal, jungle cat, fishing cat, and more than 400 bird species. Among the avian highlights are hornbill, red jungle fowl, Bengal florican, fishing eagle, serpent eagle and paradise flycatcher.

On the outskirts of the park, we stay at Jaagir Manor, an 80-year-old former hunting lodge turned heritage eco-retreat. The colonial manor house offers luxury accommodations in period-1940s style, its focus today on hosting guests keen to conserve the wild species that were formerly targets.

Days 11–13

Dudhwa National Park / Tharu Village

Photograph tigers, rhinos and Tharu culture in Dudhwa

- Photograph tigers and prolific wildlife on multiple wildlife drives
- Capture images of one-horned rhinos reintroduced to Dudhwa's grasslands
- Visit a Tharu village to photograph Indigenous culture and daily life

Multiple game drives offer diverse opportunities to photograph the prolific wildlife of Dudhwa National Park, part of an extensive arc of protected areas in the marshy lowlands along the Indo-Nepal border. This relatively undiscovered gem among Indian safari-goers is one of three large interconnected forested sanctuaries that form the Dudhwa Tiger Reserve, and the lush area today is the core of a viable tiger population. Some of the land was formerly used to grow sugarcane and returned to its natural state, while other tracts of native forest, predominantly sal and teak, are intermixed with extensive tall grasslands and wetlands inundated by rivers flowing down from the Himalaya.

The inspiring force behind the creation of the reserve was Billy Arjan Singh, a famous hunter-turned-conservationist who had a vision in the 1960s to introduce several zoo-born tigers and leopards back into the wild. Ultimately, his efforts led to the establishment of Dudhwa National Park by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in 1977, and Singh was awarded World Wildlife Fund's gold medal, its premier award, in 1996 for his conservation work.

During our stay, we will also have opportunities for cultural photography on a visit a local Tharu village, one of several in the area that are home to the Indigenous tribal people of the region. We'll also take a nature walk in the forests surrounding our lodge for an intimate view on our environs, with chances to photograph smaller wildlife species and birdlife. On our final evening, revel in memories of our Indian safari adventures as we gather for a farewell dinner with our Expedition Leader.

Day 14

Lucknow / Delhi

Return to Delhi after your India photo expedition

- Fly from Lucknow to Delhi
- Relax at your hotel before homeward flights

It's time to make the return drive to Lucknow this morning, then catch a 75-minute flight back to Delhi. Upon arrival at the Delhi airport, we transfer to our nearby hotel, just minutes away. An overnight stay is included along with a transfer to the international airport to meet departing flights, most of which leave late this evening.

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2028

Grand India Photo Expedition

Itinerary at a Glance

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Day 14	Lucknow / Delhi



Day 1

New Delhi

Arrive in India's capital before your tiger photo expedition

- Join your Photo Expedition Leader and fellow travelers for a welcome dinner and preview of the adventure ahead

Arrive in New Delhi and transfer to our luxury hotel in the leafy heart of Lutyens' Delhi, with its broad boulevards, historic homes and government enclaves. The district is named after British architect Edwin Lutyens, who was responsible for much of the architectural design and building during the period of the British Raj, when India was part of the British Empire from the 1920s to 1940s. This evening, join your Expedition Leader for a welcome dinner and a preview of all the India photography adventures ahead.

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Day 2

Jabalpur / Bandhavgarh National Park

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Days 3–4

Bandhavgarh National Park

Photograph Bengal tigers across Bandhavgarh's forests and grasslands

- Photograph tigers in one of the world's highest-density tiger habitats
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Day 5

Bandhavgarh / Kanha National Park

Enter Kanha's sal forests, bamboo thickets and open meadows

- Photograph rural life en route to Kanha National Park
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Days 6–8

Kanha National Park

Photograph Bengal tigers and barasingha across Kanha

- Search for tigers on morning and afternoon wildlife drives
- Photograph endangered barasingha grazing in Kanha's meadows
- Spend a full day on safari with a special permit to maximize wildlife encounters

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Day 9

Kanha / Raipur / Lucknow

Travel from Kanha to the historic city of Lucknow

- Drive to Raipur, photographing rural life along the roadside
- Fly to Lucknow, capital of Uttar Pradesh
- Settle into a hotel overlooking the Gomti River

Depart Kanha this morning and drive a half-day to Raipur, capturing photos of daily rural life as it unfolds along the roadside. From Raipur we fly to Lucknow, the capital and largest city in the state of Uttar Pradesh in northeast India, where we arrive early this evening and check in to the 5-star Taj Mahal Hotel. This regal property on the Gomti River that provides a restful oasis after a long day of travel as we transit from one region of the country to another.

Day 10

Lucknow / Dudhwa National Park

Reach Dudhwa's Terai grasslands near the Nepal border

- Drive to a tiger reserve well beyond India's conventional safari circuit
- Photograph swamp deer across Dudhwa's grasslands
- Stay at Jaagir Manor, an 80-year-old hunting lodge converted into a retreat

Drive a half-day from Lucknow to Dudhwa National Park, a thriving wildlife enclave well off the conventional safari circuit with uncrowded conditions to pursue outstanding wildlife photography. The 190-square-mile park in the state of Uttar Pradesh lies on the Indo-Nepal border, protecting some of the last pristine expanses of Terai forest and grasslands in the Upper Gangetic Plains. Originally established as a wildlife sanctuary for the endangered swamp deer (barasingha), with its magnificent 12-point rack, it later became a tiger reserve in 1987. Today, tigers, leopards and many deer species abound, and the park has also successfully reintroduced a healthy population of one-horned Indian rhinoceros from Assam and Nepal, once hunted nearly to extinction. Other mammals include Asian elephant, sloth bear, wild boar, honey badger, langur, rhesus monkey, golden jackal, jungle cat, fishing cat, and more than 400 bird species. Among the avian highlights are hornbill, red jungle fowl, Bengal florican, fishing eagle, serpent eagle and paradise flycatcher.

On the outskirts of the park, we stay at Jaagir Manor, an 80-year-old former hunting lodge turned heritage eco-retreat. The colonial manor house offers luxury accommodations in period-1940s style, its focus today on hosting guests keen to conserve the wild species that were formerly targets.

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Days 11–13

Dudhwa National Park / Tharu Village

Photograph tigers, rhinos and Tharu culture in Dudhwa

- Photograph tigers and prolific wildlife on multiple wildlife drives
- Capture images of one-horned rhinos reintroduced to Dudhwa's grasslands
- Visit a Tharu village to photograph Indigenous culture and daily life

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The inspiring force behind the creation of the reserve was Billy Arjan Singh, a famous hunter-turned-conservationist who had a vision in the 1960s to introduce several zoo-born tigers and leopards back into the wild. Ultimately, his efforts led to the establishment of Dudhwa National Park by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in 1977, and Singh was awarded World Wildlife Fund's gold medal, its premier award, in 1996 for his conservation work.

During our stay, we will also have opportunities for cultural photography on a visit a local Tharu village, one of several in the area that are home to the Indigenous tribal people of the region. We'll also take a nature walk in the forests surrounding our lodge for an intimate view on our environs, with chances to photograph smaller wildlife species and birdlife. On our final evening, revel in memories of our Indian safari adventures as we gather for a farewell dinner with our Expedition Leader.

Day 14

Lucknow / Delhi

Return to Delhi after your India photo expedition

- Fly from Lucknow to Delhi
- Relax at your hotel before homeward flights

It's time to make the return drive to Lucknow this morning, then catch a 75-minute flight back to Delhi. Upon arrival at the Delhi airport, we transfer to our nearby hotel, just minutes away. An overnight stay is included along with a transfer to the international airport to meet departing flights, most of which leave late this evening.

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Grand India Photo Expedition Accommodations

An Epic Photography Quest in Search of Bengal Tigers & Other Rare Wildlife



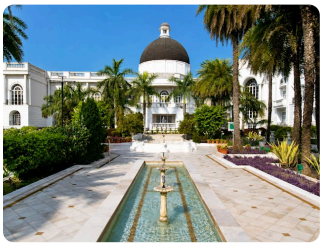
Kings Lodge

Nestled with the sal and bamboo forest on a large estate minutes from Bandhavgarh National Park, this esteemed ecolodge feels at one with nature and is a pacesetter when it comes to sustainable practices.



Singinawa Jungle Lodge

This lodge reflects the practice of the Sherpa philosophy of *singinawa*—protection of the sacred forest—and offers all the comforts of a full-service resort within the wild environs of India's tiger heartland.



Taj Mahal Lucknow

Set along the Gomti River, this elegant retreat combines grand domed architecture, formal gardens and spacious rooms with textile-inspired interiors, marble bathrooms, a full-service spa and outdoor pool.



Roseate House New Delhi

A modern sanctuary in New Delhi’s vibrant Aerocity, Roseate House is a luxurious urban retreat, offering contemporary rooms, world-class dining, and personalized service—all just minutes from the airport and metro station.



Taj Mahal Hotel, New Delhi

One of the most distinguished in India's leafy capital district, this 5-star hotel is a New Delhi landmark, with elegant interiors and finely appointed rooms reflecting traditional Mughal heritage in art, antiques and ambiance.



Jaagir Manor

A restored 80-year-old hunting lodge at the edge of Dudhwa National Park, where exposed brick, arches and antique-filled interiors meet jungle stillness, sprawling gardens and refined safari-style hospitality.

For detailed descriptions, visit nathab.com/asia-adventure-travel/grand-india-photo-expedition/accommodations.

Ready to Book? Call an Adventure Specialist at 800-543-8917

The Most Comprehensive India Photo Safari You'll Find

Grand India Photo Expedition

When you're in search of the optimal India safari to photograph tigers and a wide diversity of India's wildlife, maximizing your odds for capturing exciting shots, it's imperative to choose a trip designed to accomplish that—and that is our Grand India Photo Expedition! Check out what sets this photography adventure apart:

1. **An All-Encompassing Wildlife Itinerary**
   This is the ultimate India photo safari for wildlife lovers. Boost your chances of seeing Bengal tigers—plus a host of other Indian wildlife—on visits to three different national parks that are home to some of India's most concentrated tiger populations. Most travelers go to Ranthambore National Park at peak season, which is heavily advertised and very crowded. We visit equally appealing Bandhavgarh National Park instead, plus Kanha and Dudhwa, which are more remote with fewer tourists. We also have a chance to see sloth bears, wild Indian bison, seven deer species and 600-plus bird species among an impressive diversity of wildlife.

2. **Photography-Focused Activities & Timing**
   Throughout our itinerary, you'll benefit from experiences designed to enhance and improve your photography. Our Expedition Leader will offer detailed instruction in classes and workshops with personalized guidance for photographers of all ability levels. We also plan our timing for extended shooting sessions in key locations, allowing time for patience in sightings, following animal behavior, and seeking the best light conditions.

3. **Special Permits for Extended Time in Bandhavgarh and Kanha National Parks**
   We have procured two full-day permits (one in each park) allowing us to remain in the field for an entire day at a time, with picnic meals. Most park access is limited to morning and afternoon entries, but this exclusive opportunity allows us to track and observe wildlife at a more patient and uninterrupted pace, which is often the key to getting the best wildlife shots. See the “Important Information” section for more details on full-day permits.

4. **An Extra Day in Dudhwa National Park**
   In contrast to our 13-day standard Grand India Wildlife Adventure, our Grand India Photo Expedition is 14 days long, spending one additional day in Dudhwa National Park, with more time to dive deeper into the vast and diverse areas that make up this protected nature reserve. The extra day will be spent on safari with both a morning and afternoon game drive.

5. **Shoot Alongside India’s Finest Naturalist-Photographer Guides**
   Our India Photo Expedition Leaders average more than 15 years' experience, with top-level training including resources from WWF scientists. They are highly accomplished wildlife photographers and professional naturalist guides, and you won’t find more knowledgeable, personable or enthusiastic leaders to travel with. Our philosophy is simple: a photo safari is only as good as the guide who leads it, so we provide the very best! **See Expedition Leader bios** with traveler comments regarding the quality of our leaders.

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6 **A Small Group—Capped at 9 Guests—for More Authentic Nature Experiences**

You'll travel in a group of just nine photographers, accompanied by our Photo Expedition Leader. This smaller size is in contrast to our classic Grand India Wildlife Adventure, which is limited to 11 guests. Our quiet presence ensures a lower impact in nature reserves and personal encounters with wildlife and local people.

7 **Delhi Photo Tour Included**

While our focus is on nature and wildlife, India's cultural heritage and contemporary life also offers captivating photography subjects, and we make sure you don't miss out. You'll have a chance for photo opportunities in Delhi on a half-day tour, plus plenty of chances to capture scenes of village life and activities along our itinerary.

8 **Distinctive Accommodations Ensure Your Every Comfort**

In India's natural areas, we carefully choose environmentally sensitive ecolodges for their proximity to wild places and their amenities that promise an exceptionally comfortable stay. In the cities, India’s luxury urban hotels are renowned worldwide, the 5-star properties we choose will impress you with their hospitality, service and welcome indulgences before and between our safari adventures.

9 **Our Presence Directly Helps Protect Tigers**

After years of precipitously declining tiger numbers, India is charting steady increases. Its 2022 quadrennial tiger census counted 3,682 tigers, up from 2,967 in 2018, an annual rise of 6%. Conservation groups attribute a share of the increase to responsible ecotourism. The economic value of visitors to India's tiger reserves benefits local communities, offering people an incentive to protect the wildlife they share the land with. Given that India is home to 75% of the world's remaining wild tigers, our presence here for wildlife tourism here is integral to that continued success.

10 **Our Quality-Value Guarantee Ensures Your Outstanding India Photo Safari**

With Natural Habitat Adventures, you receive our exclusive quality value guarantee that promises we will meet the high expectations we set forth in our promotional materials. To our knowledge, this is the most ambitious guarantee made by any adventure travel company. Read our important promise.

11 **Feel Good About Your Carbon-Neutral Journey**

We care deeply about our planet, as we know you do. When you travel with us, the carbon emissions from your trip are 100% offset—including your round-trip flights from home. Natural Habitat Adventures has been the world’s first carbon-neutral travel company since 2007.

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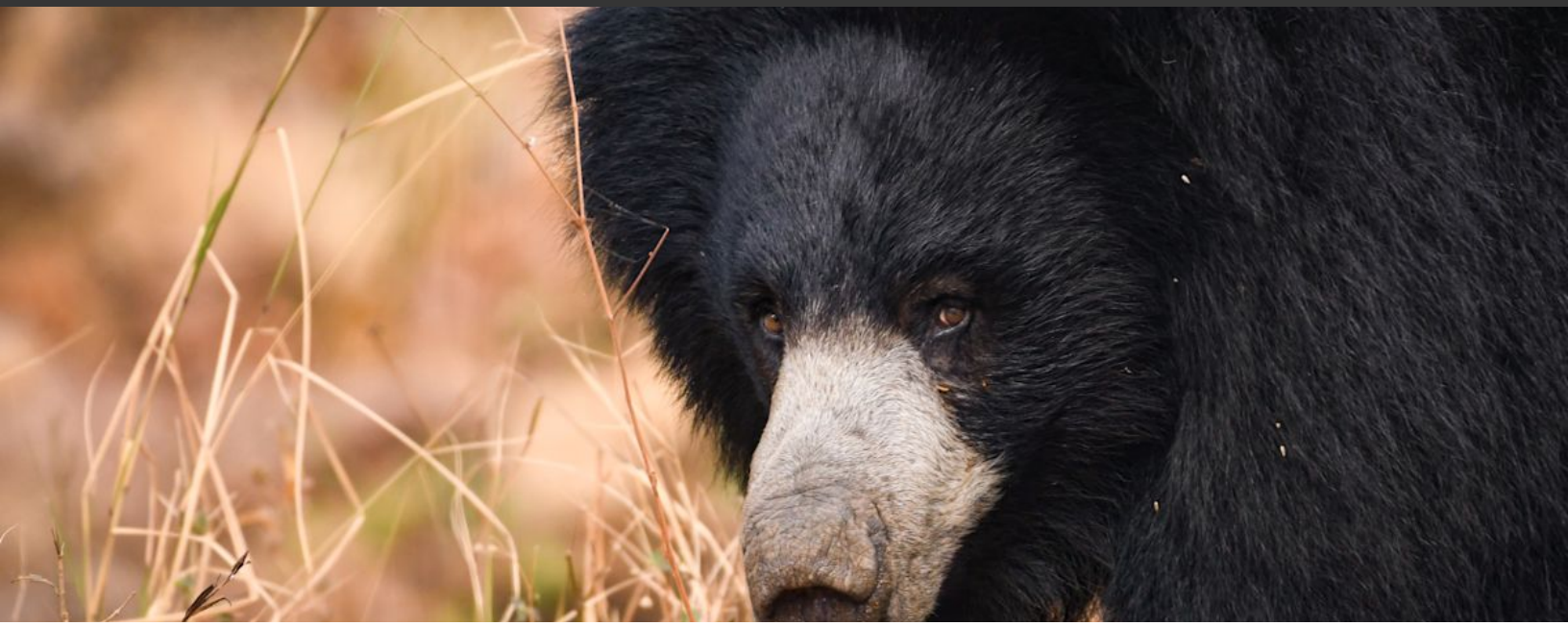

Dates & Pricing Summary:

Price
From $16495

Group Size
Limited to 9 Travelers

Grand India Photo Expedition Dates, Pricing & Info

An Epic Photography Quest in Search of Bengal Tigers & Other Rare Wildlife

2027 Departures

Departure – Return	Pricing	Notes
Jan 11 - Jan 24, 2027	**$16495** +internal air	
Feb 17 - Mar 2, 2027	**$16495** +internal air	Natural Habitat Explorers Pricing Available
Mar 9 - Mar 22, 2027	**$16495** +internal air	
Apr 10 - Apr 23, 2027	**$16495** +internal air	

2028 Departures

Departure – Return	Pricing	Notes
Prices not confirmed for 2028		
Jan 28 - Feb 10, 2028	**From $15995** +internal air	
Mar 21 - Apr 3, 2028	**From $15995** +internal air	

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Departure – Return	Pricing	Notes
Prices not confirmed for 2028		
Apr 15 - Apr 28, 2028	**From $15995** +internal air	
Apr 30 - May 13, 2028	**From $15995** +internal air	

2029 Departures

Departure – Return	Pricing	Notes
Prices and dates not confirmed for 2029		
Jan 29 - Feb 11, 2029	**From $15995** +internal air	
Mar 22 - Apr 4, 2029	**From $15995** +internal air	
Apr 2 - Apr 15, 2029	**From $20321** +internal air	
Apr 16 - Apr 29, 2029	**From $15995** +internal air	
May 1 - May 14, 2029	**From $15995** +internal air	

See https://www.nathab.com/asia-adventure-travel/grand-india-photo-expedition/dates-fees for the latest pricing details.

Included

Accommodations, services of Nat Hab's professional Expedition Leader(s), local guides, lodge and park staff, all meals from dinner on Day 1 through lunch on final day, some gratuities, still camera fees, VIP airport arrival and departure service, airport transfers on Day 1 and final day, all activities and entrance fees, all taxes, permits and service fees.

Not Included

Travel to and from the start and end point of your trip, alcoholic beverages, some gratuities, passport and visa fees, activities outside of itinerary, items of a personal nature (phone calls, laundry, etc.), airline baggage fees, required medical evacuation insurance, optional travel protection insurance. Note: India requires additional fees for video camera usage in parks, which is not included in your trip fee.

Internal air: All flights within the itinerary (this will be listed separately on our invoicing).

Important Information About This Trip

Wildlife Encounters

Our guests choose a trip to India for encounters with the country's unique wildlife. While the nature experiences here are exciting, there is a fundamental difference between the wildlife experience in the Indian jungle and a typical African safari. At times, guests who are lured to India by tourist brochures promising "tiger safaris" can be disappointed to see fewer animals than they expected,

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or at least fewer than they might normally see in Africa. It is not that the surviving jungles are thinly populated with wildlife, but, similar to places like Costa Rica where the forest vegetation is dense, animals have mastered the art of camouflage in thick cover and can be extremely difficult to spot. We design our itineraries to capitalize on the best places to see tigers. But various factors can affect potential sightings, including inclement weather, which creates small pockets of water that allow the animals to remain hidden in the forest, rather than being driven into the open to drink. There is no doubt that India's nature, and the forests Kipling immortalized, offer wondrous discoveries. The secret for visitors lies in the assistance of expert guides – and we have been told that we have the best! – as well as knowing what to expect, and in understanding that the privilege of stepping into a wild natural realm is a reward in itself.

The Seasons

There are many advantages to traveling at the time of year that we operate our India adventure. By January, the parks have almost completed their transition out of the post-monsoon period: vegetation has begun to thin, water sources are steadily shrinking, and wildlife movements—especially those of tigers—reaches a high. During this season, tigers are consistently on the move and walk the game trails extensively, which makes sightings exciting. This is also the height of the tiger mating season, when males and females vocalize, scent-mark and patrol their territories more actively, creating dynamic opportunities to observe and photograph natural behavior. Many species, including tigers and hardground swamp deer, still carry their rich winter coats in early January, adding depth and beauty to portrait images. As the season progresses into March, April and early May, visibility continues to improve as foliage dries and opens up, and animals concentrate more reliably around known waterholes. These warmer months often deliver some of the best chances for clear, unobstructed sightings, as wildlife seeks out shade and water during predictable parts of the day. At the same time, the rising temperatures mean that animals may rest longer in cooler, shaded areas and may be less active during mid-day hours—an important natural rhythm your Expedition Leader will take into account when planning each day's strategy. Throughout the winter and spring, birdwatching remains excellent, with a mix of resident species and overwintering migrants adding color and movement to the landscape. Morning mist, golden light filtering through sal forests and open meadows, and the soft hues of the dry season all contribute to the atmospheric conditions that make central India such a rewarding destination for photographers.

Safari Vehicle Routes & Seating Allocation

Rather different than in nearly every other country we travel to, in India the driving routes in national parks are pre-assigned and must be followed. In most parks this is generally not a problem, but when searching for tigers this can be frustrating as they simply may not be visible on a given route on a given day. Our hope is that we are able to utilize different routes on different days. However, the park service allocates routes at random for each vehicle, so there is no guarantee that vehicles will get a different route for each wildlife drive. We understand that one of the goals for your journey is to view tigers, but please understand that there is a chance that the vehicle to which you are assigned could take the same route multiple times. Thank you for participating in this adventure knowing that this may be the case. Indian park regulations are also extremely strict with regard to seating arrangements on wildlife drives. Requirements dictate that guests be confirmed in specific vehicles upon booking, well in advance of the departure date, and we are unable to change vehicles while we are exploring each park. To the best of our ability, we attempt to ensure that guests who are traveling with a partner or friend will have seats together during wildlife drives. Because couples or friends are booked together in the same vehicle and are unable to split up during drives, it may mean that in some instances, certain vehicles will contain fewer guests than others. It is also important to understand the limitations based on available vehicle space. Each open safari vehicle has two front seats and two rows of bench seats. Regulations require that the front two seats be occupied by a park ranger and registered driver. Our Expedition Leader and local guides are allowed more flexibility and will switch among vehicles for each drive so that all guests are able to spend equal time with them. However, this

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means that as our Expedition Leaders and local guides rotate vehicles, there may be times when there will be three people (two guests and one Expedition Leader or local guide) to a row—our Expedition Leader/local guides may be required to sit in the rear left seat of the vehicle. Please know that while there are indeed limiting factors to the tiger viewing experience in India, we have taken great pains to ensure that this special India tiger and wildlife safari with Nat Hab provides the best viewing experience possible.

Full Day Permits

Full day photography permits in Bandhavgarh National Park and Kanha National Park (and other tiger reserves in Madhya Pradesh) allow you to stay inside the park from sunrise to sunset, giving you far more time and flexibility than the standard morning and afternoon safari slots. These permits are subject to the parks' rules and availability. With a full day permit, you will have zone-free access, meaning you are not restricted to just one of the usual designated safari zones; you may move across zones during the day to respond to wildlife sightings and changing light conditions. The number of vehicles on full day permits is strictly limited, which helps reduce competition and increases your chances of meaningful photographic encounters. Because you are in the park all day, you'll have the opportunity to capture wildlife under varied conditions — early-morning mist, mid-day light, and late afternoon golden glow — and you'll be able to stay on location when others leave the park for lunch, giving you a competitive advantage for capturing behavior and animals in less crowded circumstances. That said, these permits do not guarantee sightings of particular species (such as tigers), nor do they exempt you from following park rules: you must stay in the vehicle unless walking is expressly permitted, you must stay on designated tracks, you must respect minimum distances from wildlife, and you must depart the park at the official gate-close time (or the modified timing for full day permit holders). We make every effort to secure full day permits for the entire group on the same day; however, because the number of these permits is extremely limited, travelers in our group may occasionally have their full day safaris on different days. Rest assured that all guests will receive one full day safari in Bandhavgarh and one in Kanha, subject to park regulations and availability. In the event that the group's full day permits fall on different days, your Expedition Leader will ensure that each guest is fully supported and set up for an outstanding experience while they are on the full day safari. Guests who are not on the full day safari that day will enjoy the other activities outlined in the itinerary, accompanied by an exceptional lodge naturalist.

Cell Phone Usage Ban in National Parks

A growing number of tiger reserves and national parks across India—including all national parks featured on our itinerary—have implemented policies restricting cell phone use within the park borders. During safari drives, the use of cell phones is strictly prohibited for any purpose—including photography and video recording. Your Expedition Leader will review each park's specific regulations with guests prior to entry.

Please note that while you may notice varying levels of enforcement or behavior from other safari vehicles depending on the destination, Natural Habitat Adventures adheres to all park rules. Beyond policy compliance, we fully support these guidelines: limiting mobile devices reduces disturbances to wildlife, enhances the overall safari experience, prevents digital tracking or crowded sightings, and encourages traditional, immersive tracking methods. Setting cell phones aside allows for a far more intimate, respectful, and unobtrusive connection with nature.

To facilitate photography in the park, Nat Hab has developed an exclusive program with Lensrentals, a premier lens rental company. Through our special arrangement, Nat Hab travelers can rent top-quality cameras, lenses, spotting scopes, tripods, flashes, backpacks and other equipment at a 15% discount. To review the available options, visit lensrentals.com. To obtain the discount, add the code "NATHAB15" to the "Promo Code" box and hit "Apply" upon checkout.

Mandatory Insurance

Since the areas we travel to are remote and wild (that's why we go there!), we require that all guests have, at minimum, medical evacuation insurance for this program. This is for the safety of all guests. We require that your chosen independent insurance plan includes at least $250,000 in medical evacuation coverage.

To protect your investment and to provide peace of mind while you travel, we also strongly recommend purchasing comprehensive travel insurance. Plans may cover everything from medical treatment to trip cancellations and delays and lost luggage. Please contact our office if you would like more information about the medical evacuation and comprehensive travel insurance policies we offer by calling 800-543-8917.

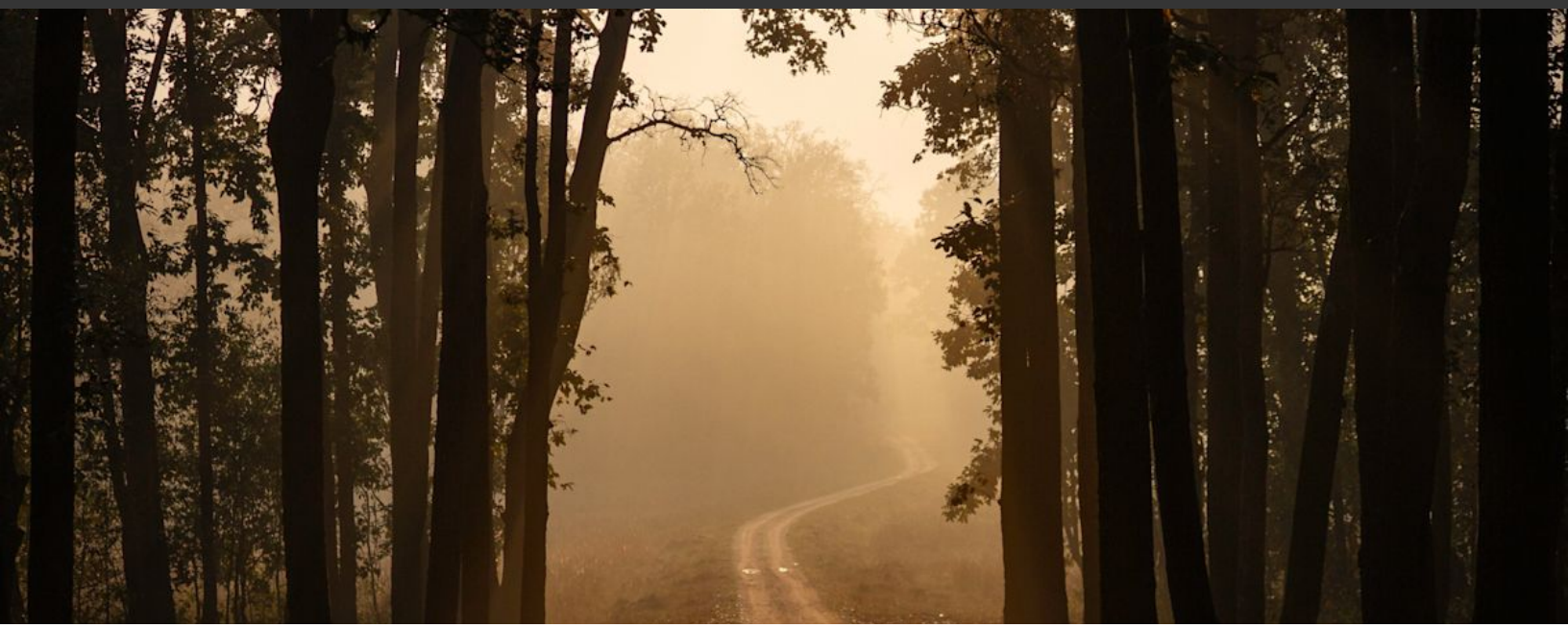
Getting There & Getting Home

This trip begins and ends in Delhi. Because this is a long international journey with considerable travel time and time-zone adjustment, **we recommend that you arrive the night before Day 1** to rest from your travels and begin the trip refreshed. For guests who come in early, our recommended hotel will be included in your pre-departure materials.

If you plan to arrive on Day 1, guests traveling in 2027 must arrive in Delhi by 9 am in order to participate in a guided city tour beginning at approximately 1 pm. Guests traveling in 2028 must arrive in Delhi by 2 pm in order to participate in a welcome orientation beginning at approximately 5 pm.

You may depart Delhi any time after 9 pm on the final day.

Our Natural Habitat Adventures Nat Hab Air Team can best assist with your travel reservations, as our staff is familiar with the specific requirements of this program and can help arrange the most efficient itinerary. Please call us at 800-543-8917. While we offer the best available rates to us on airfare and additional nights' accommodations, you may occasionally find special web rates or lower fares online.



Grand India Photo Expedition Extensions

An Epic Photography Quest in Search of Bengal Tigers & Other Rare Wildlife



Icons of North India Extension – Taj Mahal & Beyond

Extend your India adventure with a journey to Agra, where you'll discover the magnificent Taj Mahal at sunrise and sunset, explore the historic Agra Fort, and experience the architectural splendors of the Mughal Empire.

From $1,995

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Natural Habitat & WWF: Discovering Our Planet Together

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WWF's membership travel program is operated by Natural Habitat Adventures (Nat Hab). To date, Nat Hab has provided more than $6 million in support of WWF's mission and will continue to give 1% of gross sales plus $175,000 annually through 2028. WWF® and ©1986 Panda Symbol are owned by WWF. All rights reserved.