

Walking in Tiger Country Satpura and Pench National Parks

11 Days



The elusive tiger

Prepared for
Steppes Travel Clients

QUICK REFERENCE ITINERARY

Day 1	Fly UK/Delhi
Day 2	Delhi
Day 3	Delhi
Day 4	Delhi/Bhopal/Satpura
Day 5	Satpura
Day 6	Satpura
Day 7	Satpura/Pench
Day 8	Pench
Day 9	Pench
Day 10	Pench/Nagpur/Mumbai
Day 11	Mumbai/UK

Steppestravel
travel beyond the ordinary

DETAILED TRIP ITINERARY

Day 1

UK/Delhi

Depart the UK on a flight to Delhi, a flight time of approximately 9 ½ hours, flying overnight. (Day flights also available).

Day 2

Delhi

You will be met upon arrival by the Steppes Travel representative at the airport and transferred to your hotel. All transfers are private (unless stated otherwise) and included in your trip, however it will not detail every transfer on this itinerary.



The Claridges is located in New Delhi and close to historical landmarks and shopping centres, this colonial property offers its guests the magic of old world charm, redefined with new age grandeur and hospitality.

Delhi, India's capital and political hub is an ancient city that has something for everyone. Settled seven times over the centuries, this city has grown in a way that reflects its past, while retaining its cosmopolitan flavour. Delhi is India's showcase, be it architecture, religion, shopping, culture - everything is available here - waiting to be discovered.

Overnight at The Claridges hotel in Delhi in a deluxe room on a bed & breakfast basis.

Day 3

Delhi



Today after breakfast, meet your guide at the hotel lobby and start your day of sightseeing by exploring Old Delhi. A walking tour will take you to the heart of old Delhi, allowing you to savour the sights, smells and sounds of this ancient city, who's past is reflected in its present. Lead by an experienced 'Dilliwallah', your guide will lead you through winding lanes recounting tales, anecdotes and legends of a Delhi that goes back thousands of years. The walk takes you to the age old Silver market, through quaint streets selling incredible ware, to the tranquillity of a Jain temple and to the flower market which is a riot of colour. The tour also takes you past the Red Fort (the precursor to the Agra Fort) and the Jama Masjid, (The largest mosque in Asia) which you may visit at your convenience.



This afternoons sightseeing visits New Delhi, created to reflect the might of the British Empire. New Delhi consists of tree-lined avenues, spacious parks and somber government buildings. The 12th century Qutab Minar is gracefully hand-carved for its entire height of 234 feet. Visit Humayun Tomb - the mausoleum of emperor Humayun a forerunner of the Mughal style of architecture. Drive past the India Gate, a World War I memorial, the Presidential Palace, Parliament House and the Secretariat buildings - an interesting blend of the Victorian and 20th century architecture.

Overnight at The Claridges hotel in Delhi in a deluxe room on a bed & breakfast basis.

Day 4

Delhi/Bhopal/Satpura



This morning you will be transferred to the Domestic Airport to board your flight to Bhopal.

Upon arrival at Bhopal, you will be met at the Airport and driven to Satpura, a 4hr drive and on arrival you will be assisted in check-in at your hotel.

Forsyth's Satpura is a stylish environmentally friendly lodge that is engaged with the park management and the local community in a pioneering effort to create an unprecedented jungle experience in one of the most exciting tiger habitats in the world. This is an effort to create an exceptional wilderness experience for those who truly revel in wild places far from the jeep borne hordes that have defaced so many other parks.

Overnight at the Forsyth Lodge in Satpura in a cottage on a full board basis.

Day 5 - Day 6

Satpura



Enjoy morning and afternoon game drives by Jeep in Satpura National Park - one at sunrise before breakfast and one in the afternoon post lunch.

Spread across the highest stretch of the rugged Satpura mountains, the Satpura Tiger Reserve is classic tiger country, supporting an astonishing array of prey species that include gaur, sambar, chital, wild boar, chausingha, nilgai antelope and their predators - tiger, leopard, wild dog, wolf and sloth bear in such numbers that every foray into the jungle becomes a high octane adventure. As one awed commentator said, "If tigers were ever to become extinct, this would be where you would find the last tiger." The bird life is matchless; the scenery composed of the vast sparkling waters of the Tawa Dam reflecting densely forested hills rising in a series of forested plateaus, meadows and precipitous slopes to over 4000 feet - the most spectacular of any tiger reserve in central India. Virtually free of tourists, one has the privilege of exploring this matchless wilderness in a way unknown in any other tiger reserve - on foot, by canoe and kayak, by elephant, by jeep and through long silent vigils in carefully sited hides.



Overnight at the Forsyth Lodge in Satpura in a cottage on a full board basis.

Day 7

Satpura/Pench

After this morning's game drive and breakfast you will be driven to Pench National Park, a 7 hr drive across the beautiful range.

On arrival check-in to your camp located on the edge of Pench National Park. The Pench Jungle Camp comprises of 12 deluxe safari style canvas tents housed on permanent foundations and equipped with en suite showers and tiled bathrooms.



Pench Tiger Reserve

Pench is one of the latest in the string of Project Tiger Reserves designed to protect key areas of India's tiger habitat. Located in the undulating terrain of the Satpura Hills and drained by the Pench River, this reserve supports a rich and diverse array of wildlife including gaur, nilgai, four-horned antelope, chital, sambar, wild dog, wolf, leopard and the tiger. These hills were once known as the Seoni forests and it was here that Kipling chose to locate his story of the wolf boy Mowgli. The pack that adopted him was the Seoni wolf pack. The Pench River has been dammed and the resulting reservoir has added to the wealth of habitats of the reserve. The area of the reserve is 758 sq. kms with a core area of 293 sq. kms.

Ever since its inclusion in the Project Tiger system in 1991, the management of the park has been focused on relocating the two villages that remained within the reserve and initiating management and protection measures to improve the habitat. That these measures have borne fruit can be gauged by the fact that the populations of prey and predators have increased appreciably and in fact the mosaic of meadow and forest that characterise the landscape of Pench Tiger Reserve forms classic tiger country.



Today it is being developed for wildlife tourism and hopefully the lessons learnt from other tiger reserves in the state will be applied to control and modulate traffic. As in other reserves in Madhya Pradesh, elephants are being used to track tigers and improve the chances of seeing these highly elusive cats.

It enjoys the great advantage of being low profile and retains that sense of untouched wilderness that so many of the more famous parks have lost.

Overnight at the Pench Jungle Camp in Pench in a deluxe cottage on a full board basis.

Day 8 - Day 9

Pench



During your stay in Pench, enjoy morning and evening game drives in the park.

Overnight at the Pench Jungle Camp in Pench in a deluxe cottage on a full board basis.

Day 10

Pench/Nagpur/Mumbai

This morning you will have one more chance to view the wildlife in the park. Later in the afternoon, you will be driven 2 hrs to Nagpur Airport to board your flight to Mumbai.

Upon arrival you will be met and transferred to your hotel for check in.

Mumbai is located on India's central-western coast along the



Day 11

Arabian Sea. The city developed for 150 years in isolation from its hinterland and still seems to belong in a different world to the huge, predominantly Hindu state of Maharashtra, which encompasses a 500km (310mi) coastal strip, a portion of the Western Ghats and a significant part of the Deccan plateau.

Mumbai itself is an island connected by bridges to the mainland. The principal part of the city is concentrated at the southern claw-shaped end of the island. The southernmost peninsula is known as Colaba where you find most of the best hotels and restaurants and two of the city's best landmarks, the Gateway of India and the Taj Mahal Hotel. Directly north of Colaba is the area known as the Fort, since this is where the old British fort once stood. Further west is Marine Drive, which sweeps around Back Bay, connecting the high-rise modern business centre with Chowpatty Beach.

Overnight at the Leela Kempinski hotel in Mumbai in a premier city view room on a bed & breakfast basis.

Mumbai/UK

Transfer to the airport for your return flight to the UK.

TRIP PRICE

In each location there is a variety of different category of hotels, lodges and guest houses, It is difficult to categorise each property as they vary so much; therefore, this is a general price guide only.

Price from £1895.00 per person

The rates quoted are subject to the availability of all services, currency fluctuations, written confirmation and Steppes Travels terms and conditions.

The price includes internal flights, local transport, airport-hotel transfers and tours on a private basis, accommodation (twin/double with private facilities where available) and board. Accommodation is on a bed and breakfast basis, unless staying in a remote lodge when normally this will be on a full board basis.

The price excludes international flights, extra local excursions and guided tours, travel insurance, visas, single supplements (if applicable) and items of a personal nature, such as laundry, drinks, etc.

Please note that the above is only a suggested journey, allowing in-depth visits to the highlights of the country and the chance to explore the wide range of possibilities this fascinating country has to offer. We have a separate list of escorted tours and specialise in tailoring individual itineraries to your particular interests and requirements. This journey idea serves more as a general guide on what there is to see and do, as well as a guide on price.

Why Travel with Steppes?

Steppes Travel was founded in 1989 with the objective of creating a travel company where service and knowledge are of the highest priority. We aim to design itineraries and include the highlights of any country, whilst taking travellers off the beaten track to see lesser known, interesting places not frequented by large numbers of tourists. We offer individuals the ability to travel safely in remote areas, with the knowledge that we have travelled there before.

Financial Protection

Steppes Travel is a fully bonded tour operator that complies with the Civil Aviation Authority bonding conditions of the UK. This fully guarantees your money in the unlikely event of us going out of business before you start your holiday. Our ATOL number is 6945 and we have full insurance to cover the financial failure of an airline. In addition, all accommodation-only bookings (such as hotels, lodges and boats) which are not covered by the ATOL regulations are financially protected with all payments being held in a separate trust account until the date of departure. This is in accordance with the Package Travel Regulations Act 1992.

Specialist Knowledge

We demand and employ only a very high calibre of staff. All of our specialists have a wealth of travel experience and have travelled, and continue to travel, extensively throughout their regions of specialisation. You can therefore rely on their first hand knowledge and expertise. Some have been with us for more than ten years. They will tell you about those intimate, friendly hotels and introduce you to our charismatic guides - those little extra qualities that make your holiday both unique and special.

A Tailor-made Journey

After an initial discussion with you, one of our specialists will create a unique itinerary for your trip, designed around your own interests, preferred style of accommodation and the pace at which you like to travel. This will be fine tuned until you are completely satisfied with it. Throughout this whole process, you will be dealt with by the same specialist and you are welcome to call them at any time.

24 hour Emergency Service

We have an emergency service so that we can be contacted 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Recognition

More than 65% of our business is achieved through recommendations, referrals and repeat bookings. This, for us, is the highest endorsement we could have. In addition, our 20 years of experience in this specialist travel sector confirms our expertise.

Please contact the Steppes East team on 01285 651010 or visit our website www.steppestravel.co.uk for further information.

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