

ROYAL ELEPHANT SAFARI

FROM Raja Hoon at *HERITAGE GETAWAYS*

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12 nights / 13 days

DAY 01 ARRIVE DELHI

You will be met and assisted on arrival in Delhi and transferred to your hotel. The rest of the day is at leisure.

DAY 02 DELHI

After breakfast in the morning proceed for the full day city tour of Old & New Delhi. In Old city visit Red Fort built by Emperor Shah Jahan; Jama Masjid, one of the largest mosques in India; Raj Ghat- the memorial of Mahatma Gandhi and enjoy a walking tour in Chandni Chowk- the silver street of Delhi bustling with activity. In the afternoon visit Qutab Minar, the tallest stone tower in India; Humayun's Tomb built in the Indo Persian style and a predecessor to The Taj Mahal in Agra; India Gate - A War Memorial Arch. Also drive past the President's house, Parliament house, Government secretariat buildings and Connaught place - the heart of New Delhi and a busy shopping center. Overnight is at the hotel.

DAY03 DELHI TO CORBETT

Arrive Corbett in time for lunch and check in at camp. Afternoon visit nearby village to witness life in rural Kumaon - this will also offer an opportunity for a better understanding of coexistence between people and the wildlife. Explore the surrounding forest to observe the flora and fauna of the area. Return to camp by sundown for campfire followed by barbecue dinner. Overnight is at Camp Forktail Creek.

Camp Forktail Creek has 12 luxury safari styled tents with attached semi tiled toilets with running cold water - hot water is supplied in the mornings and evenings in buckets. The tents are raised on wooded platforms with a private sundeck to each one. The Thatch, is the dining and lounge area built out of grass and wood locally. Around the thatch is the Campfire pit and barbecue area, which provide for campfires and barbecues after sundown.

DAY04 CAMP TO LOHACHAUR

Early morning drive a short distance to park's entrance to meet with the Elephants and Mahouts and start safari riding through some excellent patches of fern laden moist sub tropical forest of the Corbett Tiger Reserve. There will be ample opportunity to encounter variety of wildlife and birdlife in their natural habitat during the journey. Stop for lunch at the confluence of Ramganga and Mandal rivers. After a brief break continue safari riding along Mandal valley to the campsite which is an old forest rest house a relic of British Raj built in early 1900's. Dinner and overnight is at Forest Rest House/ Mobile Camp.

DAY 05 IN LOHACHAUR

Early morning continue safari riding along the Mandal Valley to observe wildlife, bird life and bionetwork of the area. Return to camp for breakfast. Later drive to the Ramganga river for angling the mighty Mahaseer to which legendary Jim Corbett chose to say "he Fish of his Dream". This fighter pose a great challenge to anglers thus makes it the finest trophy of sport fishing. Other prominent species found in this water includes Goonch and Indian Trout. Picnic lunch will be served on the riverbank.

After lunch join the Mahouts to bathe elephants? it is very important for all to participate in this activity as this is when one strengthens bonding with these gentle giants. Your hard work is rewarded by a refreshing cup of tea/ coffee. Later ride the elephants back to camp. Dinner and overnight is at Forest Rest House/ Mobile Camp.

DAY 06 IN LOHACHAUR

Early morning explore the forest on elephant back for game viewing. Lohachaur is extreme rich with birdlife. Return to camp for breakfast. Later in the morning learn to ride elephant that involves learning and communicating at least basic commands with the elephant. Lunch is at camp. Afternoon explore the surrounding forest on elephant back. Dinner and overnight is at Forest Rest House/ Mobile Camp.

DAY 07 LOHACHAUR TO KANDA

Early morning continue safari riding along the Mandal valley fording across the Mandal River several times. This river forms a part of northern boundary of the tiger reserve. Breakfast will be served en route. During this journey pass by small forest hamlets and thick patches of thick Sal forest to reach the lunch point. After lunch take an hour's drive to Kanda the highest point of Corbett Tiger Reserve. Located atop a ridge on the Shivalik range at an altitude of about 1100 mts. Kanda commands a breathtaking view of Dhikala Chaur and the Ramganga reservoir, which is the hub of wildlife activities in park. Dinner and overnight is at Forest Rest House/ Mobile Camp.

DAY 08 KANDA TO DHIKALA AND BACK

Early morning depart Kanda by jeep for Dhikala the core zone of Corbett National Park. Drive pass massive savannas and excellent Sal forests where one can expect to encounter heard of wild elephants apart from other games. Lunch will be served at Dhikala Forest Rest House. After lunch, game drive in the Dhikala Chaour (Grassland) to observe varied bird and mammal species found in the region. Return to Kanda in the evening. Dinner and overnight is at Forest Rest House/ Mobile Camp.

DAY 09 KANDA TO HALDUPARAO

Morning drive a short distance to meet with elephants and mahouts and continue safari riding downstream along the Palain River to enter Sonanadi Wildlife Sanctuary which a buffer forest to Corbett National Park, a very important elephant corridor and purely an elephant country, hence you can expect to see herds of these giants beside other wildlife here. Arrive Halduparao Forest House the campsite for tonight in time for lunch. Afternoon game drive in Sonanadi Wildlife Sanctuary. Dinner and overnight is at Forest Rest House/ Mobile Camp.

DAY 10 IN HALDUPARDAO

Early morning continue safari riding along the river in Palain valley to observe the wildlife, birdlife ecosystem of the area. Return to camp for breakfast. Later in the morning ride to a Gujjar Dera ? Gujjars semi nomadic tribes who coexist in the forest. They make their living by cattle herds and depend largely on these forests for fodder for their livestock. Visit huts to witness their lifestyle ? they are warm and receptive at heart and always ready to share their experiences with the visitors. Lunch will be served at one of the Deras. Return to camp in the evening. Dinner and overnight is at Forest Rest House/ Mobile Camp.

DAY 11 **IN HALDUPARDAO**

Full day Explore the forest and the valley on elephants back with lunch at camp. Dinner and overnight is at Forest Rest House/ Mobile Camp.

DAY 12 **TO DELHI**

Bid goodbye to the Elephants, Mahouts, Naturalist and the rest of the team in the morning and depart for Delhi after breakfast with packed lunch.

Day 13 **DEPARTURE**

Transfer to International Airport for your return flight.

End of our services.....