

## Tigers & Forts of Central India Mumbai-Kanha-Bandhavgarh-Maheshwar-Mumbai

### DAY 1 ARRIVE MUMBAI

Arrive Mumbai & you will be received and taken to the hotel

Once a "Portuguese princess" dowry and later an adornment of Neo Gothic British architecture, Mumbai today, is more than just a metropolis. It is in fact an enigma of mud huts and skyscrapers, age old traditions and high fashions, the industrialist's haven and Indian movie makers' Hollywood. The city is constantly changing whilst also standing still in the past -the city's name was changed in recent times to Mumbai, derived from Mumbadevi, the patron goddess of the Koli fishermen, its oldest inhabitants.

Meals included: None

Overnight:

### DAY 2 MUMBAI



This morning you will be taken for an excursion to visit the Elephanta Caves -reached by a one hour boat ride from the Gateway of India. This early 8th-century religious sanctuary is a shrine dedicated to Shiva, the Hindu god of destruction and regeneration. The Portuguese named the island because of large stone elephant sculptures

they discovered on the island, and which were moved to Bombay's Jijamata Udyan (Victoria Gardens).

After visiting Elephanta Caves you will return to Mumbai to explore the city visiting the Gateway of India, The Prince of Wales Museum, the Victoria Terminus and Dhobi ghats. The Gateway of India was built during 1924-1927 to commemorate the visit to India of King George V of England in 1911. It is the most enduring symbol of the city.

Next to the Gateway of India is the Prince of Wales Museum built in 1911 -one of the biggest museums in the country. The Victoria Terminus, popularly known as VT is the major railway station and is considered the most beautiful edifice in the city. Dhobi Ghat or washer man's enclave provides a very interesting insight into Bombay's local culture.

Meals included:

Breakfast Overnight:

### DAY 3 MUMBAI - KANHA NATIONAL PARK

This morning you will be escorted to the airport in time to connect your flight to Nagpur Depart: Mumbai at 0705hrs by Jet Airways Flight No. 9W111 Arrive: Nagpur at 0825hrs. Upon arrival in Nagpur you will be received and driven to Kanha National Park (5 hours drive).

Kanha is one of the largest national parks in India extending over 1945 sq. km. of undulating country, which includes a core area of 940 sq km. Kanha has some 22 species of mammals.

The most easily spotted are the striped palm squirrel, common langur, jackal, wild pig, chital or spotted deer, barasingha or swamp deer, sambhar and black buck. Less commonly seen species are Tiger, Indian hare, dhole or Indian wild dog, barking deer and Indian bison or gaur. Other animals found in the park are Indian fox, sloth bear, striped hyena, jungle cat, panther, mouse deer, four horned antelope, porcupine and wolf. Kanha has some 200 species of birds.

Upon arrival in Kanha, check into your lodge for 3 nights.

In the afternoon you may go enjoy a Game drive in the National Park or just relax.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight:

## DAYS 04 & 05 KANHA NATIONAL PARK



For two days, you can enjoy morning and afternoon game drives in the park. There is also the chance to do short elephant safaris, if they have been successful with sighting tiger.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight:

## DAY 06 KANHA - BANDHAVGARH NATIONAL PARK

After breakfast, drive to Bandhavgarh National Park (Approx 6 hours).



Set amidst the Vindhyan ranges, the park covers an area of 437 sq. km. and has a series of ridges running through it. About half the park is covered with fine stands of Sal while mixed forests are found in the higher reaches of the hills. Stretches of bamboo and grasslands are found throughout. The main view area is still in the core of the park with its 32

picturesque wooded hills. There are more than 22 species of mammals and 250 species of birds. Common langurs and rhesus macaque represent the primate group. Carnivores include the Asiatic Jackal, Bengal Fox, Sloth Bear, Ratel, Grey Mongoose, Striped Hyena, Jungle Cat, Leopard and of course the most famous of all the Royal Bengal Tiger. The other animals spotted in the park are Wild Boar, Spotted Deer, Sambhar, Nilgai, Chinkara and Gaur. The vegetation along streams and marshes is rich in bird-life.

Upon arrival in Bandhavgarh, check into your lodge.  
Rest of the day is at leisure.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner  
Overnight:

### **DAYS 07 & 08 BANDHAVGARH NATIONAL PARK**

For two days, you can enjoy morning and afternoon game drives in the park. There is also the chance to do short elephant safaris, if they have been successful with sighting tiger. There are lovely bird and nature walks in the area as well.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner  
Overnight:

### **DAY 09 BANDHAVGARH - JABALPUR-INDORE - MAHESWAR**

Morning at leisure and you will be transferred to Jabalpur airport (4 hours) for flight to Indore.

By Kingfisher Flight No. IT2802  
Depart: Jabalpur at 1635hrs  
Arrive: Indore at 1755hrs

You will be met on arrival and will be transferred to Maheshwar (2 hours).

Meals included: Breakfast & Dinner  
Overnight:

## DAY 10 MAHESWAR

Today you will be taken for an excursion to Mandu.

Mandu was founded as a fortress and retreat in the 10th century and came under the sway of Delhi's Sultan in the early 14th century. It became a pleasure resort in 1534, with its lakes and palaces the scenes of magnificent festivities. Jahaj Mahal (The ship Palace) is probably the most famous building in Mandu. There is also Taveli Mahal just south of the Jahaj Mahal is now the where the Archaeological Survey of India is located. A churchlike hall, Hindola Mahal is known as the 'Swing Palace' since the inward slope of the walls is supposed to create the impression that the wall are swaying.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight:

## DAY 11 MAHESWAR



Day at leisure

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Overnight:

## DAY 12 MAHESWAR - INDORE - MUMBAI

In the late afternoon you will be transferred to the Indore airport (2 hours) for flight to Mumbai.

By Jet Airways Flight No. 9W384

Depart: Indore at 1940hrs

Arrive: Bombay at 2050hrs

You will be met on arrival and will be transferred to the International Airport for your onward flight back home