








ROMANTIC INDIA & JUNGLE SAFARI

India

13 Days/12 Nights



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Let your imagination soar

About &Beyond

Established in 1991, &Beyond strives to leave our world a better place through the delivery of extraordinary travel experiences and our care of the land, wildlife and people. We are bespoke tour operators for sub-Saharan Africa, Asia, South America and Antarctica. We also own and manage 29 extraordinary lodges and camps across three continents. We positively impact 75 communities and directly conserve our footprint of 1 million acres. Our 2030 vision is to scale our impact through partnerships to support the conservation of an associated 40 million acres of key biospheres and to double our 2020 impact investment, while offering discerning travellers a rare and exclusive experience of the world as it should be.

Welcome to India

India is the world's largest democracy and covers an area of 3,287,263 km², stretching from the high Himalayas in the north to the tropical rain forests of the southern peninsular. In the shape of a triangle, India is flanked by the Arabian Sea in west and Bay of Bengal in the east. The country's topography is varied - there are deserts and tropical jungles, fertile river plains and high plateaus, 7517 km of coastline and coral reefs. It is a vast country of over 1.4 billion people with over 470 languages, numerous religions, races and cultures. India offers the traveller a multitude of unique experiences ensuring an unforgettable visit. From the vibrant and bustling markets, contrasting cuisines, and extravagant festivals to the serenity of a mountain retreat, India is a destination that will touch your soul.

Best time to travel:

- November to April



At a glance



12 Nights / 13 Days

1. New Delhi (Day 1, 2 & 11)
2. Kanha (Day 3, 4, 5)
3. Bandhavgarh (Day 6, 7, 8)
4. Panna (Day 9, 10)
5. Agra (Day 12)

AN & BEYOND CUSTOM-DESIGNED ITINERARY		
DATE	SERVICE	ACCOMMODATION
Day 1	Arrive in Delhi (Flights to be booked and issued at your end - details to be advised)	Luxury Room - BB
	On arrival transfer to the Hotel	
	Spend two nights in The Taj Mahal Hotel, New Delhi	
Day 2	Full day sightseeing of old and New Delhi	
Day 3	Transfer to Delhi airport for flight to Raipur (Flight details to be advised)	Tented Suite - JP
	Transfer from Raipur airport to Kanha National Park (approximately 4 hours' drive)	
	Spend three nights in Banjar Tola Tented Camp, Kanha	
Day 4/5	Embark on a scheduled early morning and afternoon safaris in a shared vehicle	
Day 6	Embark on a scheduled early morning safari in a shared vehicle	Luxury Villa - JP
	After breakfast, drive to Bandhavgarh National Park (approximately 5 hours' drive)	
	Spend three nights in Samode Safari Lodge, Bandhavgarh	
Day 7/8	Embark on early morning and afternoon park drives in a shared vehicle	
Day 9	Embark on a scheduled early morning park drive in a shared vehicle	Stone Cottage - JP
	After breakfast, drive to Panna National Park (approximately 4 ½ hours' drive)	
	Spend two nights in Pashan Garh Lodge, Panna	

Day 10	Embark on early morning and afternoon park drives in a shared vehicle	
Day 11	Morning drive to Khajuraho (approximately 1 hour drive)	Premier Room - BB
	Upon arrival, embark on guided tour of the western group of temples	
	Later transfer to Khajuraho airport for your afternoon flight to Delhi via Varanasi (Flights details to be advised)	
	On arrival transfer to your hotel	
	Spend one night in The Oberoi, New Delhi	
Day 12	Morning transfer to Nizamuddin Railway Station for your train to Agra (Gatimaan Express. Dep 08h10; Arr 09h50. Executive Class)	Premier Room - BB
	On arrival transfer to your hotel	
	Embark on a late afternoon guided tour of Agra Fort and Taj Mahal, to view it by Sunset	
	Spend one night in The Oberoi Amarvilas, Agra	
Day 13	Revisit Taj Mahal, to view it by Sunrise	No Accommodation
	Following breakfast and depending on your flight timings drive to New Delhi's International airport to connect for your flight back home (Flights to be booked and issued at your end - details to be advised)	

GLOSSARY

BB = Bed and Breakfast

JP = Jungle Plan Basis (Cycle of 3 meals a day i.e. breakfast, lunch and dinner & scheduled park drives)

ENTRY/VISA REQUIREMENTS: INDIA

As for all international travel, the visitor to India is required to be in possession of a valid passport and visa. Travellers from all countries need a visa. Enquire about this from the Indian diplomatic Representatives abroad OR apply online at <https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/visa/tvoa.html>

Boarding or immigration can be denied if there is a mismatch of passport details mentioned on the visa letter issued by the Government of India and the passport presented at these checks.

The Visa holder MUST carry a print out of the eTV confirmation. An electronic copy on a phone is NOT sufficient. Without a physical print out the traveler may be denied boarding on the inbound flight, and maybe denied entry

The passport has to be valid for a minimum of 6 months AFTER the departure date from India and at least 2 (two) clear pages available in the passport for immigration stamping.

SATELLITE PHONES, DRONES AND GARMIN DEVICES WITH TEXT MESSAGING ARE NOT ALLOWED IN INDIA

The use of satellite phones in India without permits (a very complicated process) is prohibited. It is a criminal, and a jailable offence to be in possession of an unlicensed satellite phone, or to use it. Mobile phones work well throughout most of the country and communications throughout your tour are generally good. Drones also need to be licensed and have Government of India software installed.

Expect the extraordinary

Day 1: Arrive Delhi

Upon arrival at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport, (Flights to be booked and issued at your end - details to be advised) you will be welcomed by your andBeyond host and chauffeured to 'The Taj Mahal Hotel, New Delhi'

New Delhi, the capital of India is a modern buzzing metropolitan city with remnants of the past strewn amongst the modern buildings. Much of New Delhi was planned by Sir Edwin Lutyen's, who laid out a grandiose central administrative area as a testament to British imperial pretensions. Delhi was established between 900 BCE and 1930. Delhi's famous "seven cities" range from the 12th century Quila Rai Pithora, built by Prithviraj Chauhan, to the imperial Shahjahanabad, constructed by the Mughals in the 17th century. Of the many attractions in Delhi, the major sites are the Rashtrapati Bhawan designed by Sir Edwin Lutyen's as the British Viceroys Palace, Shahjahanabad (Old Delhi) where the Red Fort is, or Jama Masjid is close to the famed Chandni Chowk in the heart of Old Delhi.

The Taj Mahal Hotel: A five-star luxury hotel located in the very heart of New Delhi. It stands as tribute to timeless hospitality and service, complementing the broad leafy boulevards of Lutyen's Delhi. Its proximity to the seat of government, the city's diplomatic corps, and entertainment, heritage and business districts has furthered the hotel's reputation as the epicenter of the capital. Prominent landmarks - India Gate, the Presidential Palace and the National Museum - are a short 10-minute drive away.

The glorious Mughal inspired architecture, dramatic façade of pink Dholpur sandstone, impeccable gardens and pool give it the ambience of a luxurious in-city haven. All around, grandeur meets understated elegance. Antiques, priceless art, and traditional accents and colours are impeccably woven together with contemporary style and modern amenities. Stay in their luxurious rooms and grand suites, all of which offer stunning aerial views of Delhi's historic skyline.

Remainder of the day will be free to unwind and recuperate from the Jetlag.

Spend two nights in The Taj Mahal Hotel. Accommodation will be in a Luxury Room. Your stay is on bed & breakfast basis.



Day 2: Delhi

Today, you will have the opportunity to plunge deep into the beating heart of Delhi as you take a guided tour of the Chandni Chowk Market.

Immerse yourself in the colourful stalls and crowded alleyways of this historical market on a rickshaw ride and visit the Jama Masjid, the largest and most splendid mosque in India.

Chandni Chowk: Once the grandest of markets in India. Even though today Chandni Chowk appears choked with congestion, it retains its historical character.

Jama Masjid: The Jama Masjid is the principal mosque of Old Delhi. Commissioned by the Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan, builder of the Taj Mahal, and completed in the year 1656 AD, it is one of the largest and best-known mosques in India. It lies at the origin of a very busy central street of Old Delhi, Chandni Chowk.

Spice Market: Located in 'Khari Baoli' a street in Old Delhi known for its wholesale grocery and Asia's largest wholesale spice market selling all kinds of spices, nuts, herbs and food products like rice and tea. The market is operating since the 17th century.

Stop for lunch at a hotel or at a restaurant (to be settled directly)

Followed by lunch you will drive through New Delhi's former colonial expanse, stopping by the magnificent President's Palace, known as the Rashtrapati Bhavan and the First World War memorial of the India Gate.

Rashtrapati Bhawan (President's Palace): The official residence of the President of India stands at the opposite end of the Rajpath from India Gate. Completed in 1929, the palace like building is an interesting blend of Mughal, India and western architectural styles. The most obvious Indian feature being the huge copper dome. Prior to independence this was the viceroy's residence.

India Gate: This 42-metres high stone arch of triumph stands at the eastern end of the Rajpath. It bears the names of thousands of Indian Army soldiers who died in the campaigns of WWI the Northwest frontier operations of the same time and the 1919 Afghan fiasco.

Visit the Gurudwara Bangla Sahib, Delhi's most prominent Sikh Temple of worship and the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Humayun's Tomb, India's first garden-tomb.



Gurudwara Bangla Sahib: One of the most prominent Sikh Gurudwara or Temple, known for its association with the eighth Sikh Guru, Guru Har Krishan, as well as the pool inside its complex, known as the Sarovar. As with all Sikh Gurudwaras, the concept of Langar (community kitchen) is practiced, and all people, regardless of race or religion may eat in the Gurudwara kitchen (Langar hall). The Langar food is prepared by gursikhs (Sikh devotees) who work there and by volunteers who like to help out. Optional: You will have the opportunity to lend a helping hand in the community kitchen or participate in community service.



Humayun's Tomb: Humayun's tomb is a complex of buildings built as the Mughal Emperor Humayun's tomb, commissioned by Humayun's wife Hamida Banu Begum in 1562. It was the first structure to use red sandstone at such a scale. The complex was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1993.



Day 3: Delhi - Raipur - Kanha National Park

This morning, you will be met and transferred to the Airport for your flight to Raipur (6E 2393. Dep 08h25; Arr 10h15. IndiGo. Economy Class)

You will meet on arrival at Raipur Airport and transferred to Banjar Tola Tented Camp in Kanha National Park (Approximately 4 hours drive)

The Kanha National Park is ideal habitat for tigers and their prey species. Prime tiger wilderness, it was one of the first areas to be protected under Project Tiger and is one of the largest conservation areas today. Lush sal and bamboo forests are interspersed with vast grassy meadows while the Banjar river forms the south-western border of the park and provides a steady water source for the abundant wildlife.

Banjar Tola is an elegant safari lodge ideally located along the gentle Banjar River at the foot of Kanha National Park. The dramatic setting of the lodge creates a theatre of jungle discovery and adventure, with constant reminders of the wildlife haven outside. The lodge features



luxurious and airy tents with contemporary lines and finishes amid a forest backdrop.

Note: Kanha National Park is closed for park drives on Wednesday afternoons. The buffer forest remains open.

Spend three nights in Banjaar Tola. Accommodation will be in a Tented Suite. Your stay will be on Jungle Plan basis (cycle of 3 meals a day i.e. breakfast, lunch and dinner & scheduled park drives)



Day 4 & 5: Kanha National Park

Embark on a scheduled early morning and afternoon park drives in a shared vehicle.

Explore the dense jungles of Kanha National Park on early morning and afternoon safaris in an open 4x4 safari vehicle. A specially trained naturalists will accompany you throughout, pointing out and explaining details about the jungle.

One of the joys of exploring this park is the range of habitats each with their own characteristics. There are long stretches of tall sal (*Shorea robusta*) trees with breaks of bamboo and large expanses of mixed deciduous forest. Riverine patches are dissected by streams of gin-clear water which make for perfect cooling spots for the animals in the heat. Kanha is famous for its vast meadows or 'maidans', many of which were previously 'forest villages' before their relocation. These fields are excellent habitat for large herds of spotted deer and swamp deer that are preyed on by packs of dhole (Asiatic wild dogs). All of these are interconnected by an excellent network of forest tracks and dirt roads.



Day 6: Kanha - Bandhavgarh

Embark on a scheduled morning park drives in a shared vehicle.

After breakfast, you will be driven to Samode Safari Lodge in Bandhavgarh National Park (Approximately. 5 hours' drive)

Bandhavgarh National Park. Bandhavgarh is an exceptional national park and boasts of one of India's highest concentration of tigers. An essential stop on any serious tiger safari.



A relatively small park with a thriving tiger population, it offers guests a good chance of encountering the king of the jungle as well as a selection of other interesting central Indian flora and fauna. Cradled between the picturesque Vindhya and Satpura ranges Bandhavgarh has a breathtaking mixture of dense green valleys and rocky hills.

Samode Safari Lodge is a charming, luxurious property for those wanting to explore the incredible wildlife of Bandhavgarh National Park. Inspired by the local architecture, the villas are having a spacious lounge, bedroom, ensuite bathroom. They also have private verandas with striking views of the wilderness landscape.

Note: Bandhavgarh National Park is closed for park drives on Wednesday afternoons, although the buffer areas remain open.

Spend three nights in Samode Safari Lodge, Bandhavgarh National Park. Accommodation will be in a Villa. Your stay is on Jungle Plan basis (cycle of 3 meals a day - breakfast, lunch, dinner and scheduled park drives)



Day 7 & 8: Bandhavgarh National Park

Embark on a scheduled early morning and afternoon park drives in a shared vehicle.

Explore the dense jungles of Bandhavgarh National Park on early morning and afternoon safaris in an open 4x4 safari vehicle. A specially trained naturalists will accompany you throughout, pointing out and explaining details about the jungle.

This park is largely composed of sal forests in the valleys and on the lower slopes, gradually combining with mixed deciduous forests on the hills and in the drier areas of the park. The wide valleys along the streams carry long linear grasslands flanked by sal forests. Pockets of dense bamboo thickets are a favourite spot for the tiger. In addition to the wonderful wildlife and birdlife, Bandhavgarh has some extraordinary history.

The Bandhavgarh Fort encompassing a 560-acre plateau with cliffs of up to 240 metres (800 ft.) dominates the park. The fort has large tanks (waterbodies) carved out of the volcanic rock, and ruined 11th to 12th century temples. At the base of the fort are a series of manmade caves, once the retreat of ascetics, and now the home to bats and other wildlife.



Day 9: Bandhavgarh - Panna

Embark on a scheduled morning park drive in a shared vehicle.

After breakfast, you will be driven to Pashan Garh Lodge on the edge of Panna National Park (Approximately. 4 ½ hours' drive)

Panna National Park is one of the most pristine, tranquil and beautiful of India's wilderness areas, Panna is the ideal place to escape to for an appreciation of the country's varied natural beauty.

It is today the country's northernmost natural teak forest. The diverse landscape of gorges, plateaus, forests and the majestic Ken River creates surprises around every bend. Panna Tiger Reserve is well known for its successful tiger conservation programme where the tiger population was taken to approximately 55. Although tiger sightings are never guaranteed, it is also home to five other species of cat - leopard, jungle cat, leopard cat, rusty spotted cat and caracal. Hyenas, dhole (Asiatic wild dogs), wolves and foxes are also found here.

Pashan Garh Lodge: Tucked into a rocky outcrop with views of the Vindhya Hills and 80 hectares (200 acres) of private jungle, the opulent Pashan Garh Lodge, a Taj Safari lodge, offers 12 luxury stone cottages as well as an intimate guest area. Built with dry-packed stone in the local Panna style, each suite has a private verandah and gazebo. The guest area features a cosy sitting room with a shaded deck area overlooking the wilderness, a Safari Shop with a library. The exotic lodge is a mere 10 km (seven miles) from the Panna National Park entrance and a 60-minute chauffeured drive from Khajuraho airport.

Note: Panna National Park is closed for park drives on Wednesday afternoons.

Spend two nights in Pashan Garh Wilderness Lodge. Accommodation will be in a Stone Cottage. Your stay is on Jungle Plan basis (cycle of 3 meals a day i.e. breakfast, lunch, dinner, and scheduled safaris)



Day 10: Panna National Park

Embark on a scheduled early morning and afternoon park drives in a shared vehicle.

Park drives are in open 4x4 jeeps, an experienced naturalist who is an expert of Panna National Park will accompany you throughout, pointing out and explaining details about the jungle.

The terrain here is truly special with large rock faces and winding jungle tracks. With large tracts of natural teak forest and other dry deciduous trees, the jungle experience in Panna is extremely interesting. The pristine Ken River flows through the park and one can see abundant wildlife on the magnificent boulders and rocky outcrops along the river.

Boating on the Ken River: Perhaps India's cleanest river, the Ken flows through a sparsely inhabited landscape from its source in the Vindhya Hills. The river cuts a 60km shallow gorge through the Bijawar-Panna hills, part of which forms the Panna National Park. The boat ride is a great way to see the birdlife and crocodiles along the river that lives on the tiny islands formed by rocks.



Day 11: Panna - Khajuraho - Delhi

After an early breakfast you will be met and driven for about an hour to Khajuraho.

Khajuraho. A small town in the rural depths of Madhya Pradesh, Khajuraho is an unlikely setting for a World Heritage Site. Yet it is here that some of the most beautiful temples in India, containing examples of the finest temple art in the world, rise above the jungle. Set against the beautiful backdrop of the Vindhya Hills, the great temple complex that has made Khajuraho famous features intricately carved buildings dating back to between the 10th and 12th centuries.

On arrival in Khajuraho you will be taken for short guided tour of Western Group Temples.

Originally a group of 80 temples of which about 25 remain today, the temples of Khajuraho fall into three distinct groups and belong to two different religions - Hinduism and Jainism. The temples strike a perfect balance between architecture and sculpture and represent the expression of a highly matured civilization.

After the tour, you will be transferred to Khajuraho airport to connect for your flight for Delhi.



You will be met on arrival and transferred to 'The Oberoi, New Delhi'

The Oberoi: Located in New Delhi, India's capital city, The Oberoi New Delhi reflects the city's spirit in a harmonious blend of tradition and contemporary sophistication. Located close to the city centre near business, commercial and shopping districts, the luxury hotel overlooks Delhi's prestigious Golf Club on one side and the heritage site of Humayun's Tomb on the other. Exquisite interiors, impeccable service and fine cuisine combine to make this the Capital's most graceful and elegant hotel. The award-winning hotel is ideal for business travel or holidays to explore the cultural wonders of Delhi.

Spend one night in The Oberoi New Delhi. Accommodation will be in a Premier Room. Your stay will be on bed & breakfast basis.



Day 12: Delhi - Agra

This morning you will be met and transferred to Nizamuddin Railway Station for your train to Agra (Gatimaan Express. Dep 08h10; Arr 09h50. Executive Class)

Agra: The city of Agra flourished under the patronage of the emperors Akbar, Jahangir and Shah Jahan and attracted artisans from Persia and central Asia. Agra is where Emperor Shah Jahan celebrated his immortal love for his Empress in marble, the Taj Mahal. Agra is still famous for handicrafts products such as inlay work on marble, carpets, jewellery, zari and embroidery work.

You will be met on arrival and transferred to 'The Oberoi Amarvilas'.

The Oberoi Amarvilas: Considered as one of India's best hotels, The Oberoi Amarvilas stands unmatched in its grandeur and style. Being only 600 metres away from the Taj Mahal, every single room in this property looks towards the monument.

Once you have settled in, you will embark on a guided tour of the Agra fort and the Taj Mahal; to view it by Sunset.

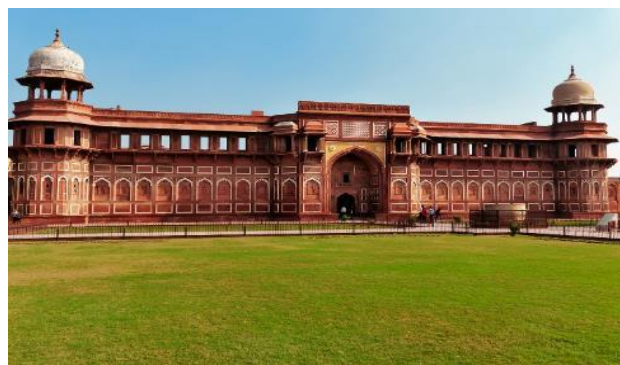
Agra Fort. For many years through the Mughal rule, especially during the period when Agra was the capital of the kingdom, Agra Fort was renovated and reworked extensively with marble and pietra dura inlay. Notable buildings in the fort include the Diwan-e-Am and Diwan-e-Khas (halls of public and private audience), Jehangir's Palace, Khaas Mahal, Sheesh Mahal (mirrored palace), and Musamman Burj.

Taj Mahal: Said to be one of the most elegant and harmonious buildings in the world, Taj Mahal is the manifestation of the wealth and luxury



of Mughal art as seen in its architecture, garden design, painting, and calligraphy.

Spend one night in The Oberoi Amarvilas. Accommodation will be in a Premier Room. Your stay will be on bed & breakfast basis.



Day 13: Agra - Delhi - Flyout

Revisit Taj Mahal, to view it by Sunrise.

Return to your hotel for breakfast.

Later you will be met and driven to New Delhi's Airport to connect for your flight back home. (Flights to be booked and issued at your end - details to be advised)



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