

Lions of Sasan Gir

5-day safari extension in Gujarat State, India



Day 1 – Rajkot to Sasan-Gir National Park

NB. This itinerary begins in Rajkot, a characterful city in central Gujarat State. There are daily flights to Rajkot from New Delhi, Mumbai and other major Indian cities. Depending on the time of your arrival in Rajkot it may be necessary to overnight in the city the night before the tour to Sasan Gir.

You will be met by your private driver and vehicle at the airport on your arrival in Rajkot this morning (if overnighting in the city, you will be met at your hotel), to begin the 160km journey to Sasan Gir, or Gir Forest National Park, in southern Gujarat. The journey will take approx 4 hours, and see you arrive into Gir National Park around lunchtime. On arrival, check into Lion Safari Camp (Luxury Tent, 4 nights).

Lion Safari Camp

One of only a handful of places to stay in Gir, Lion Safari Camp is an East African-style safari lodge interwoven with contemporary amenities. Guests are accommodated in large vintage safari tents (21 in total), with air-conditioned bedrooms and adjoining ensuite bathrooms.

Lion Safari Camp enjoys a lovely location in a private mango orchard, overlooking the Hiran River on the outskirts of the park. From here, guests can easily explore the surrounding wilderness of Gir National Park on twice-daily jungle jeep safaris.

After lunch at the lodge set off on an afternoon game drive into Sasan-Gir National Park.



Your Financial Protection

All monies paid by you for the air holiday package shown [or flights if appropriate] are ATOL protected by the Civil Aviation Authority. Our ATOL number is ATOL 3145.

For more information see our booking terms and conditions.



Sasan-Gir National Park

The last holdout of the Asiatic lion, Sasan Gir Wildlife Sanctuary is a vast forest reserve in southern Gujarat State. Established as a wildlife sanctuary in 1965, it houses an estimated 400 Asiatic lion – it is the only place in the world where these endangered creatures can be seen in the wild – as well as healthy populations of leopard, sambar, chital, ruddy mongoose, chousingha, jackal, hyena, marsh crocodile and more. Other rarities include the rusty spotted cat. Gir is also notable for its birdlife, with over 300 varieties present, most of them non-migratory – notable species include the Indian skimmer, paradise flycatcher and crested serpent eagle.

Of course, most visitors to Gir come to see its lion, which are the focus of almost all game activities in the park. Safaris takes place in 4x4 jungle jeeps, and are usually conducted in the early morning or late afternoon, the best time to see lion, and many other species, in the wild. Though lion sightings are not guaranteed, they are expected, though it's best to allow two to three days to give you a chance for good, undisturbed sightings.

Even without the appeal of its lions, however, Sasan Gir is a lovely wildlife park – vast and beautiful, and pleasingly uncommercial when compared to India's busier, more frequented tiger parks. The terrain – a mix of teak forest, rugged hills, and marsh wetlands fed by the seven rivers that run through the park – is in places beautiful, and totally wild. Lower vehicle traffic means the park never feels like a glorified zoo, as is unfortunately the case with some Indian wildlife parks.



NB. Gir National Park closes during the hot summer and monsoon months between mid-June and mid-October. The best time to travel is generally during the winter months of December-March, when the temperatures are cooler and the skies clear.



Days 2-4 – Sasan Gir National Park

Over the next three days you'll have the chance to explore Sasan Gir National Park on morning and afternoon game drives. Each day starts with an early morning game drive, leaving around the crack of dawn and returning to the lodge for breakfast. An afternoon drive departs after lunch and returns by sunset.

Lion tracking is the focus of the game drives, but there will be time to explore other areas of the park, taking in a good cross-section of habitats and wildlife. With any luck, you might be able to add leopard to the list of big cats sighted in Gir, though sightings are rare! Keen birders will also find much to admire in Sasan Gir, with over 300 recorded species.

The jungle safaris are conducted in shared 4x4 6-seat jeeps with canvas roofs, and led by experienced naturalist guides.



Day 5 – Departure

Enjoy a last morning game drive in the park, before breakfast and check out.

After breakfast, you will be met by your private driver for the return transfer to Rajkot Airport, where you can connect with the evening flights to Mumbai or New Delhi. Your tour ends in Rajkot.

Price Guide:

*The cost of this itinerary is from **£895 per person**, based on twin share and subject to availability at the time of booking. The single supplement is £165. To add a night in Mumbai at the start and end of the tour with return flights to Rajkot, allow an extra £430.*

For more information, or if you would like to enquire about a tailor-made holiday combining part or all of the above itinerary, please [contact us](#).

Includes:

- Accommodation and meals as described
- National Park entry fees
- Game viewing activities
- Services of a naturalist guide during safaris
- All currently applicable taxes

Excludes:

- Domestic flights/rail fare to Rajkot
- International flights
- Meals not specified
- Camera fee wherever levied
- Tips and gratuities
- Travel insurance – ask us for a quote
- Items of a personal nature