

TAILOR-MADE DESTINATIONS

In Search of Tigers

Tadoba, Pench and Kanha National Parks



Day 1: Arrive Delhi

You will be met on arrival at Delhi International Airport and transferred by private vehicle to the Lemon Tree Premier Hotel for one night (inc. breakfast).

Lemon Tree Premier Hotel

The Lemon Tree Hotel is located just a few minutes' drive from Delhi's international airport, while also being in close proximity to several of Delhi's entertainment and shopping areas.

Lemon Tree Premier pampers travellers with personalised service, premium in-room amenities and tempting restaurants!

The 4-star hotel features 280 smartly furnished rooms and suites, a courtyard pool, spa and gym.

Day 2: Delhi - Nagpur

An early transfer to the airport to check in for the flight to Nagpur (05:45/07:30), where you will be met on arrival and transferred to Tadoba Tiger Reserve by private vehicle (135kms, approx. 3 hours).

On arrival in Tadoba, check into Svasara Jungle Lodge for three nights (full-board with activities).







Svasara Jungle Lodge

Svasara Jungle Lodge occupies a plot of several acres immediately adjacent to Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve, one of India's best tiger-viewing spots. It's a small, homely lodge, with just 12 suites, a cosy restaurant (serving delicious Varadi cuisine!), outdoor tandoor and bonfire (the setting for evening drinks and occasionally meals).

Svasara's rooms are painted in warm, earthy colours, and furnished with local fabrics and pottery, giving them a very down-to-earth vibe. They offer plenty of space, with separate



bedroom, sitting area, bathroom and a private verandah at the front. They are furnished to upmarket safari lodge standards – all are air-conditioned and equipped with the expected modern amenities (satellite TV, phone, electronic safe)

Svasara offers morning and afternoon jungle safaris into Tadoba National Park, conducted in custom-fitted jeeps and led by experienced naturalist guides. The area immediately surrounding the lodge is the setting for guided walking and birding safaris.

This afternoon, embark on a shared Jeep safari in Tadoba Tiger Reserve.

Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve

Situated in the Chandrapur district of Maharashtra state in central India, the Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve is Maharashtra's original tiger park. The reserve is comprised of Andhari Wildlife Sanctuary, Tadoba National Park, and substantial pockets of protected forest on the perimeter.

In its southerly and central regions Tadoba Andhari is defined by its flat plains, meadows and deep valleys, which give way to thickly forested hills in the north-western regions. Tadoba Lake is the defining natural landmark of the park, where the best game-viewing is to be had, but the entire reserve constitutes a unique eco-system rich with diverse flora and fauna.



Days 3 & 4: Tadoba Tiger Reserve

Morning and afternoon shared jeep safaris in Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve. You also have the option of guided walking safaris in the vicinity of Svasara Lodge – let your guide know your preference.







Day 5: Tadoba – Pench (230kms / approx. 5 hours)

Depart Tadoba after breakfast and travel by private vehicle to Pench. On arrival in Pench, check into Tuli Tiger Corridor for two nights (full-board with activities).

Tuli Tiger Corridor Pench

Tuli Tiger Corridor is an upmarket jungle lodge situated amid 20 acres of greenery in the buffer zone of Pench National Park. Among the best lodges in the region, Tuli offers first-rate facilities as well as easy access to one of India's most impressive tiger parks.

Tuli centres on a large, open-air dining area and courtyard. Fanning out from this central hub are extensive landscaped gardens, containing some 15 luxury cottages and 8 tented suites, all carefully spaced apart so as to ensure a good level of privacy.

Tuli's cottage rooms are spacious and immaculately furnished. Dark wood furnishings contrast with an otherwise neutral colour scheme, while wide



windows allow in lots of natural light. The bathrooms are especially lovely, with brass fittings, standalone bathtubs and floor-to-ceiling windows (a wall around the back of the villas ensures privacy). At the front of each cottage is an extended sitting area.

Tuli Tiger Corridors' guest areas have been designed with the same attention to detail as the rooms. Scattered around the gardens are open-air pavilions which offer a welcome respite from the sun, while the library provides a quiet corner in which to relax. The lantern-lit dining room, where a mixed menu of Indian and Chinese dishes is served, overlooks the pool and terrace, and doubles as a bar. Tuli also has a spa offering a full range of treatments.

This afternoon, embark on a jeep safari in Pench National Park.



Pench National Park

Pench National Park derives its name from the Pench River, which cuts through the park from north to south. To locals, however, it is just as often referred to as "Mowgli land", in a cheerful reference to Rudyard Kipling's children's story, the Jungle Book, which is said to have been inspired by his time in Pench.







Pench National Park encompasses over 750sq kms of protected forest, criss-crossed by a network of streams, nullahs and 'dohs' (pools), all tributaries of the region's primary life source, the Pench River. These water sources sustain a vast wilderness, which is a habitat not just for tiger, but also leopard, wolf, wild dog, Indian bison, wild pig, hyena, civet, jackal and prodigious quantities of spotted deer.

Pench's tigers, which are thought to number over 50, are mostly sighted around the Pench River, where they find their prey. Towards the end of the dry season (November-May), when much of the park dries up, the game tends to congregate around the Pench Reservoir in the centre of the park. This is the most popular spot for game-viewing drives, though there's much to be gained from exploring more widely. Ever shy, leopards operate in the park's peripheries, though are occasionally seen around the river, while other jungle cats, including small



Indian civets and palm civets, can be found in the deep forest, though they remain very elusive.

The best time to visit Pench is between February and April.

Day 6: Pench Tiger Reserve

Morning and afternoon shared jeep safaris in Pench National Park.

Day 7: Pench - Kanha (180kms / Approx. 4 hours)

After breakfast, depart by road for Kanha National Park, where you check in to Tuli Tiger Corridor for three nights (full-board with activities).

Tuli Tiger Corridor Kanha

Like its sister lodge in Pench, Tuli Tiger Corridor Kanha is a luxury jungle lodge offering first-class facilities and beautifully appointed tented rooms.



Tiger Corridor enjoys an enviable location on the banks of a small lake formed by the Banjar River, in the buffer zone of the national park. Surrounded by forest and carefully-tended gardens, it has the air of a real wilderness retreat, complemented by its stylish tented rooms, which give the lodge the feel and ambience of an African safari camp.







There are just eight of these tented rooms, 550sq ft in size and with large marquee-style canvas roofs. Immaculately furnished, they offer lots of space and open onto small shaded verandas with canvas furniture.

This afternoon explore Kanha National Park on a guided 4x4 safari.

<u>Kanha National Park</u>

Prime "tiger country", Kanha is the king of the jungle when it comes to tiger parks, offering arguably the best tiger viewing opportunities in India, along with nearby Bandhavgarh National Park. Its vast forests of sal and bamboo are home to almost 100 Bengal tigers, as well as huge populations of antelope, chital, monkey, jackal, and other rarities including leopard and bison. It is also one of the only places in India where you can see the rare and endangered hard ground barasingha deer.

Located in the Maikal Hills of the Satpura Range, between 500 and 1000m above sea level, Kanha is a vast, isolated wilderness. The core territory is 940 square km in size, while the surrounding buffer zone encompasses an additional 1009 square km. The core is spit into five regions: Kisli, Kanha, Mukki, Supkhar and Bhaisanghat, each with their own attractions. Most of the park is mixed deciduous forest, and changes dramatically with the seasons.

The best time to spot tigers is during the summer months of April to June, though this isn't necessarily the most comfortable time to travel on account of the heat!

Day 8 & 9: Kanha Tiger Reserve

Morning and afternoon game drives in Kanha National Park.

Day 10: Kanha – Jabalpur – Delhi

After breakfast, meet with your drive and depart for Jabalpur Airport, where you check in for the afternoon flight to Delhi (14:25/15:55). In Delhi, connect with your return flight home.

If flying out from Delhi in the morning or late evening, we will arrange for a room/dayroom at the Lemon Tree Premier Hotel.

Alternatively, from Kanha you could continue to Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve or Satpura Reserve. Please ask us about the options for extending your trip.

Several of the images in this itinerary are used with the kind permission of <u>Dr Mike Leary-</u> <u>Owhin.</u>





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Price Guide:

The cost of this itinerary is from **£2,250 per person**, based on twin share and subject to availability at the time of booking. For more information, or if you would like to enquire about a tailor-made holiday combining part or all of the above itinerary, please <u>contact us</u>.

Includes:		Excludes:	
0	Domestic flights (inc. taxes)	 International flights 	
0	Accommodation and meals as	 Meals not specified 	
	described	 Camera fee wherever levied 	
0	National Park entry fees	 Tips and gratuities 	
0	Game viewing activities	• Travel insurance – ask us for a quote	
0	All transfers, sightseeing and	 Items of a personal nature 	
	excursions as per itinerary		
0	Services of a naturalist guide during		
	safaris		
0	All currently applicable taxes		





