

# SOUTH INDIA WILDLIFE & CULTURE TOUR



## Day 1 – Mysore.

From Bangalore, we will depart for Mysore & settle to our Hotel. In the evening we will discover this ancient & historic city. The Mysore City Palace- the main palace in Mysore - is a 'must see'. Entry to the palace is through the Gombi Thotti or the Doll's Pavilion, a gallery of traditional dolls from the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The nearby Srirangapatnam Fort (a short drive away from Mysore) which stands testimony to the rich historical legacies of Hyder Ali and Tipu Sultan. You can also end the day with a visit to the Brindavan gardens where the 'dancing fountains'

Accommodation: Hotel



The best wildlife destinations of South India - Nagarhole & Bandipur are any wildlife enthusiasts' delight. The safaris and walks into the forests in the company of qualified naturalists will open up a world of the amazing Indian wilderness !

## Day 2 – Dubare elephant Camp.

We will make our way to the foothills of the mountains to Dubare elephant camp. En route we will visit the serene surroundings of the Tashi Lhunpo Monastery in the settlement, where Tibetan nationals in exile train to become monks, hear the humming of prayers at Padmasambhava Buddhist Vihar or the Golden Temple with the imposing 60-ft tall gold-plated copper idols of Buddha. At Dubare, we will visit the elephant camp, interact with these majestic animals as you watch them given a scrub-bath in the River and other aspects of Elephant grooming. With our naturalist we will also go on walks into the forest, jeep safaris and on a coracle ride in the river Cauvery.

Accommodation: Dubare Elephant Camp.

## Day 3 & 4 – Nagarhole.

The Nagarhole National Park is nestled away in the Nilgiris and is part of what is known as the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve. Ride aboard the Elephant or take a jeep safari deep into the midst of this dry deciduous forest to encounter herds of wild Asiatic Elephants, Leopards, Bison and Tigers, the elusive Sloth Bear and primates like the Langur, Bonnet Macaque and Slender Loris. This reserve has achieved many a milestone in conservation efforts – evident with the growing number of Tigers and their cubs. The rivers Kabini and Nagarhole which snake their way through the sanctuary also provide you with an interesting method of viewing wildlife – go downstream aboard a coracle (a native boat shaped like a round, flat basket). Your stay will be at a wildlife resort near the sanctuary.

Accommodation: Resort

## Day 5 & 6: Bandipur

We make inroads to the Bandipur Wildlife Sanctuary situated between the Mudumalai Sanctuary on one hand and the Forests of Wayanad on the other. Devoted to conserving the endangered Tiger Habitat you also get to see endemics like Malabar Giant Squirrel, Malabar Parakeet, Malabar Lark and Grey-headed Bulbul at the foothills of the Nilgiris. Dry deciduous scrub, Southern tropical/Dry deciduous & Southern Tropical Moist Mixed deciduous forests cover the reserve area, this interesting diversity in itself present diversity in the wild life of the area.

Accommodation: Safari Lodge

## Day 7: Depart.

### INCLUSIONS

- \* Accommodation in hotel (1 nt), wildlife lodges (5 nts)
- \* Refreshments & Mineral water in the field
- \* Most meals (6 breakfast, 5 lunches, 5 dinners)
- \* Safaris at Dubare, Nagarhole & Bandipur

### EXCLUSIONS

- \* Insurance –please take your own insurance
- \* Tips
- \* Beverages, Laundry, Telephone bills
- \* Expenses of a personal nature

## **NAGARHOLE**

Nagarhole, locally known as the 'Snake River' derives its name from the winding river which flows through the Park. Situated at the foothills of the Brahmagiri Mountain Range, the Park is a haven for birds and animals. Elephants, tigers, leopards and gaur thrive here in the protected area.

## **BANDIPUR**

The Bandipur wild life Sanctuary is one of India's best sanctuaries. Nature has been lavish in providing this sanctuary with thickly wooded hills, plateaus, deep valleys, waterfalls, rivers, marshes and streams. A variety of habitats ranging from Tropical Evergreen forest, Moist mixed deciduous, Moist Teak forest, Dry teak forest, Secondary grass lands, Shrubs and Swamps exists here. This park harbours over 200 species of birds. The fauna include Elephants, Gaur, Banner, Macaque, Common Langur, Tigers, Leopards, Chital, Panther, Sloth Bear, Python, Barking Deer, Four Horned Antelope.

**VISAS :**Visitors to India must obtain a Visa before departure. You can consult the nearest Indian Embassy/ High Commission/ Consular Office for the same.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Most of your time you will be spent in forest areas and taking part in controlled adventure activities like walking and wildlife safaris. The accommodation is carefully chosen so that they are eco-friendly. Hotel (1 nt), wildlife safari lodges(5 nts)

**FOOD:** 6 breakfast, 5 lunches and 5 dinners included

**ACTIVITIES:** All activities are included as shown in the itinerary and you will not be required to pay anything extra.

**CLIMATE:** The weather is tropical and warm except in the hills where it is much cooler. In December and January the night temperatures in the hills could be between 5 to 10 Deg C. Hence woollens are recommended. Monsoon months are July to August.

**TRANSPORTATION:** Transportation including airport transfers are included in the cost.

**FIRST AID:** Our guides have been adequately trained in first aid and always carry a comprehensive first-aid kit. In case of any medical emergency we have facilities to transfer you to the nearest hospital immediately.

**FOOD:** Food is a very important part of these journeys and we have ensured that good ethnic fare is provided throughout the tour. Refreshments and bottled mineral water are provided during all activities. Any special food requirements can be met if sufficient notice is given.

## **PRECAUTIONS**

- Drink plenty of fluids. Use only bottled mineral water provided by us.
- Carry your personal medical kit and insect repellent.

**PENDING MONEY:** During the tours there will be opportunities to do some shopping and money spent along the way goes directly into the hands of the local communities.

**FOREIGN EXCHANGE:** You can exchange your money at most major towns. ATMs are found in most Kerala towns. Credit cards are accepted at major cities en-route during this tour.

**AIRPORT TAXES:** Airport or departure taxes are applicable if you depart from Bangalore.

## **WHAT TO BRING**

**Footwear:** Sturdy walking shoes/Sport sandals , Extra pair Socks

**Clothing :** Warm sets of clothes (Fleece, Jacket, hat and gloves) are required for trips going through Munnar and other high altitude areas, Hiking shorts, Hiking pants/track pants, Waterproof jacket, Casual Shirts/T-shirts

**Others:** Binoculars for viewing wildlife/ birds (optional),Torch, Insect repellent, Sunglasses, cap, Sun cream of spf at least 35, Canteen, Day pack