



## Chambal Gharial, Gangetic Dolphin and Birds

The National Chambal Sanctuary is a 400 km stretch of the river Chambal, an incredible maze of intertwining mud cliffs with tropical dry scrub forest vegetation, that provide shelter for numerous birds, mammals and reptiles. It was created in 1979 to help revive the populations of the near extinct Gharial, and it is also home to the highly endangered Gangetic Dolphin. It boasts an impressive and increasing list of over 300 species of resident and migratory birds and is gaining a reputation as one of the most reliable places to see the Indian Skimmer. Marsh crocodiles, turtles and otters are also found.



### DAY 1 • AGRA TO CHAMBAL

We will collect you from your starting point in Agra, whether hotel, railway station, or airport, and transfer you to Chambal Safari Lodge in time for dinner. You will stay here for 3 nights on a full board basis.

### DAY 2 • RIVER SAFARIS

After breakfast leave for the National Chambal Sanctuary, where you will take a river safari on the calm and gentle waters of the Chambal River. The boats provide spectacular opportunities to view the wildlife. Trained naturalists accompany visitors and provide expert information on the wildlife. The boatmen are exceptionally skilled at cutting the boat engines, drifting as close to the birds and animals as possible without disturbing them. This is a most relaxing, enjoyable and special experience. You return to the lodge for lunch, and in the afternoon return to the sanctuary for another river safari.

### DAY 3 • JEEP SAFARI • BATESHWAR TEMPLES

After breakfast take a jeep safari into the remote and inaccessible parts of the Chambal valley. These safaris are particularly interesting in November, late February and March, when large herds of Blackbuck can be seen. Return to the lodge for lunch. In the afternoon visit the ancient temple complex at nearby Bateshwar on the river Yamuna. The temples (originally over a hundred) are mostly dedicated to the Hindu god Shiva, and each was built by a different family. Every November, Bateshwar hosts the second largest animal fair in India, the origins of which stretch into antiquity.

### DAY 4 • RIVER SAFARI • BEAR RESCUE • AGRA

After breakfast, take a final river safari before returning to the lodge for lunch. After lunch you leave Chambal and head towards Agra to visit the Agra Bear Rescue Centre. The centre rescues injured bears and those found with poachers, giving them medical treatment before moving them to new homes. Entry is restricted to special groups, which ensures that the bears are not disturbed too much. After the visit you will be returned to Agra where the tour ends.

### DATES

This tour is run on an individual basis, and can start any day between 1st November and 31st March.

### COST

Please see our Price Guide at the front of the brochure.

### PRICE INCLUDES:

Accommodation and food as described; programme of events as described; all entry fees to parks, sanctuaries and monuments; all transfers in air-conditioned cars; river safaris on a shared basis; game drives on a private basis; services of English speaking naturalist as required; portage at airports and railway stations; all local taxes.

### PRICE EXCLUDES:

Flights; visas; camera fees; personal items such as drinks; laundry; phone calls; insurance; tips.

### DEPOSITS

A Standard Deposit is required for this tour as detailed in our Booking Conditions.

### START OF TOUR

This tour begins upon your arrival in Agra. We can assist with your travel arrangements from other parts of India and the UK if required.

### OTHER INFORMATION

This tour can link with our other itineraries to create a tailor made itinerary for you, and is particularly suitable for combining with our short break in Agra. Additional nights and activities around the area are available.