



A Bengal tiger in Bandhavgarh

HAND-CRAFTED AROUND YOU

Madhya Pradesh: Temples & Tiger Forests

Gwalior, Orchha, Khajuraho, Bandhavgarh and Kanha

16 DAYS / 15 NIGHTS

Recommended travel window

January-March and November-December 2027

Private dates and personalised quotation on request.

A JOURNEY WITH TIME TO ENJOY IT

The experience

India's heartland offers an exceptional combination of history and wildlife. Begin with Gwalior's hilltop fort, explore the palaces and riverside memorials of Orchha, and discover the intricate sculpture of Khajuraho. Then spend three nights each beside Bandhavgarh and Kanha, giving the forests the time they deserve. Eight scheduled safari outings create opportunities to observe a range of habitats and animals with experienced naturalists. This is a journey for travellers who want more than a quick tiger stop: a thoughtful route through royal towns, temple landscapes and some of central India's most rewarding forests.

What makes this journey special

- Gwalior Fort and its remarkable palace facade
- Orchha's palaces, temples and Betwa riverfront
- The sculpted temple groups of Khajuraho
- Four safari outings in Bandhavgarh
- Four safari outings in Kanha
- The Narmada's Marble Rocks near Jabalpur

Best time to travel. November-February favours comfortable cultural visits and cool safari mornings. March is a warmer alternative for travellers placing greater emphasis on wildlife viewing.

Designed for. Wildlife enthusiasts, history lovers, photographers and active families

Pace and activity. Moderate; early safari starts, fort steps and some full transfer days.

Your private start date is chosen within the recommended season. The exact hotel list, room categories and final package are provided in your personal quotation.

THE JOURNEY AT A GLANCE

16 days, thoughtfully arranged

DAY	EXPERIENCE	OVERNIGHT
01	Arrive in Delhi	Delhi
02	By train to Gwalior	Gwalior
03	Gwalior: fort and royal collections	Gwalior
04	Gwalior to Orchha	Orchha
05	The palaces and riverbanks of Orchha	Orchha
06	Orchha to Khajuraho	Khajuraho
07	Khajuraho: stories in stone	Khajuraho
08	Into the forests of Bandhavgarh	Bandhavgarh
09	Bandhavgarh: reading the forest	Bandhavgarh
10	A second full day in Bandhavgarh	Bandhavgarh
11	Bandhavgarh to Kanha	Kanha
12	Kanha: meadows and forest wildlife	Kanha
13	Another day in Kanha	Kanha
14	Kanha to the Narmada at Jabalpur	Jabalpur
15	Fly back to Delhi	Delhi
16	Depart Delhi	Journey ends

Road distances and travel times in the programme are approximate, excluding major visits. Flight and rail timings are confirmed for your selected dates.



Days 01-02 | Jama Masjid, Old Delhi

DAY 01

Arrive in Delhi

Meet your Midasia representative and transfer privately to your hotel. Take time to rest after the flight, with a short orientation available for an early arrival. Your guide introduces the journey into central India, explaining how the cultural section and the forest stays fit together. Discuss your photography interests and preferred walking pace before the programme begins. An included welcome dinner provides a relaxed opportunity to ask questions and prepare for tomorrow's rail journey.

Travel: Private airport transfer; allow 45-90 minutes.

Meals: Dinner | **Overnight:** Delhi

DAY 02

By train to Gwalior

Travel south by a comfortable reserved daytime train, with station assistance at both ends. After reaching Gwalior, settle in before an introduction to the city. The great fort above the town provides the setting for tomorrow's visit, while the streets below reveal a living city of markets and neighbourhoods. Depending on the confirmed train time, make a first short heritage visit or enjoy your hotel. No particular train number is promised until the relevant timetable is released.

Travel: Reserved air-conditioned daytime train; approximately 3-4 hours, plus transfers.

Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner | **Overnight:** Gwalior



Days 03-04 | Sas Bahu temple details, Gwalior Fort

DAY 03

Gwalior: fort and royal collections

Explore Gwalior Fort with a guide, taking time to admire Man Mandir Palace's distinctive facade and the buildings spread across the plateau, including the Sas Bahu temples. Look at the rock-cut Jain figures on an authorised access route, then continue to selected royal museum collections in the city. The day brings together different periods of patronage and belief, with enough time to understand the buildings in their setting. Return to your hotel for a relaxed evening before moving to smaller Orchha.

Travel: Private city touring; fort walking and steps.

Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner | **Overnight:** Gwalior

DAY 04

Gwalior to Orchha

Drive to Orchha, a compact historic town beside the Betwa River. After checking in, take an easy walk towards the riverfront, where the chhatris, or memorial cenotaphs, stand against the water and open sky. Your guide introduces the Bundela rulers and explains why such an important group of monuments survives in this relatively small town. The short transfer leaves time to enjoy the setting without trying to cover all the palaces on the first afternoon.

Travel: Approximately 125 km; 3-4 hours driving.

Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner | **Overnight:** Orchha



Days 05-06 | The Bundela memorials beside Orchha

DAY 05

The palaces and riverbanks of Orchha

Visit the palace complex, exploring Jahangir Mahal and the painted rooms of Raj Mahal where access permits. Continue to the area around Ram Raja Temple and Chaturbhuj Temple, learning about Orchha's distinctive blend of courtly history and active devotion. A gentle walk beside the Betwa provides a quieter contrast to the buildings. Your guide can adjust the balance of stairs and walking to your comfort, while still allowing time to appreciate the town's unusual concentration of heritage.

Travel: Guided walking and short local drives.

Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner | **Overnight:** Orchha

DAY 06

Orchha to Khajuraho

Travel through the rural landscapes of Bundelkhand to Khajuraho. Arrive in time to settle in and take a first look at the town, with a short introduction to the Chandela dynasty and the setting of its temples. The principal guided visit is kept for tomorrow so you can approach the sculpture with time and attention. If you wish, an easy village walk introduces the communities living close to the archaeological monuments. Enjoy an unhurried evening at your hotel.

Travel: Approximately 180 km; 4-5 hours driving.

Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner | **Overnight:** Khajuraho



Days 07-08 | Kandariya Mahadeva Temple, Khajuraho

DAY 07

Khajuraho: stories in stone

Explore Khajuraho's Western Group of temples with a specialist guide, focusing on the extraordinary range of sculpture, from divine figures to music, movement and everyday life. Look beyond the best-publicised carvings to understand the architecture and the temples' original religious setting. Continue to selected eastern temples, allowing time for questions and close observation. The programme is paced to avoid visual overload, with breaks and the option to return later for a favourite view in softer light.

Travel: Temple visits on foot; some steps and uneven surfaces.

Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner | **Overnight:** Khajuraho

DAY 08

Into the forests of Bandhavgarh

Leave the temple country for Bandhavgarh, where forested hills and meadows form a different kind of landscape. Arrive at your lodge, meet the naturalist and review the coming safari schedule. Learn how park zones are allocated and how guides use tracks, sounds and habitat knowledge to interpret the forest. There is no need to rush straight out after the drive; the next two full days are reserved for four scheduled excursions, with time to rest between them.

Travel: Approximately 240-270 km; 5.5-6.5 hours driving.

Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner | **Overnight:** Bandhavgarh



Days 09-10 | A Bengal tiger in Bandhavgarh

DAY 09

Bandhavgarh: reading the forest

Set out with your naturalist and park guide in the early light, watching the forest wake and learning to recognise signs of animal movement. Tigers are a major interest, but the day also offers deer, langurs, birds and the shifting textures of sal forest and grassland. Return to the lodge between outings for lunch and rest. On the second drive, explore the allocated route with fresh attention, following the opportunities presented by that particular afternoon.

Travel: Two authorised jeep safaris, normally 3-4 hours each.

Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner | **Overnight:** Bandhavgarh

DAY 10

A second full day in Bandhavgarh

Use your second full day to deepen the experience rather than repeat yesterday's expectations. Different light, routes and animal activity can reveal new details even in familiar habitats. Your naturalist helps you notice smaller wildlife, bird calls and the relationships between species. Keen photographers can discuss practical approaches to working from the vehicle. Between safaris, enjoy the lodge and an informal conversation about conservation, local livelihoods and the management of a much-loved tiger reserve.

Travel: Two further jeep safaris with lodge time between outings.

Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner | **Overnight:** Bandhavgarh



Days 11-12 | The forest landscape of Kanha

DAY 11

Bandhavgarh to Kanha

Drive through central India's countryside to Kanha, taking comfortable breaks along the way. The change of reserve brings different landscapes and a new team of local specialists. Settle into your lodge and hear how Kanha's meadows, forests and conservation history distinguish it from Bandhavgarh. The remainder of the day is free to relax. Three nights here allow time to explore properly, with four further safari outings scheduled across the next two days.

Travel: Approximately 260-290 km; 6-7 hours driving.

Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner | **Overnight:** Kanha

DAY 12

Kanha: meadows and forest wildlife

Explore Kanha with a naturalist and park guide, moving between forest and open meadow habitats. Alongside the search for tiger, look for the hard-ground barasingha associated with the reserve's conservation story, as well as gaur, deer and varied birdlife. Your guide explains what makes each habitat valuable. Return to the lodge during the middle of the day and head out again later, with the safari pace shaped by the forest rather than a fixed list of sightings.

Travel: Two authorised jeep safaris, normally 3-4 hours each.

Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner | **Overnight:** Kanha



Days 13-14 | Marble Rocks, Bhedaghat

DAY 13

Another day in Kanha

Spend a final full day observing Kanha from the safari vehicle, with time to notice how animal behaviour and the quality of light change between outings. The extra drives allow a broader experience of the reserve and make the journey rewarding for travellers interested in wildlife beyond one species. Between excursions, relax or discuss the photographs and observations collected over the past days. The evening offers an opportunity to reflect with your naturalist on the two very different forest stays.

Travel: Two further jeep safaris; a relaxed interval at the lodge.

Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner | **Overnight:** Kanha

DAY 14

Kanha to the Narmada at Jabalpur

Travel to Jabalpur and continue to the Bhedaghat area when local conditions allow. The Marble Rocks rise above the Narmada in a striking gorge; a licensed boat outing, operating with the required safety arrangements, provides a close view of the rock faces. Visit an accessible viewpoint near Dhuandhar Falls before returning to the city. The change from forest to river landscape makes a rewarding final chapter in central India before tomorrow's return to Delhi.

Travel: Approximately 170-200 km; 4-5 hours driving, plus local visits.

Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner | **Overnight:** Jabalpur



Days 15-16 | Qutb Minar, Delhi

DAY 15

Fly back to Delhi

Transfer to Jabalpur airport for the scheduled flight to Delhi, with the final service selected once timetables are available. Check into your hotel and enjoy the remainder of the day at leisure. A final overnight in the capital provides a comfortable connection with your international departure. Over dinner, look back on a route that has linked royal architecture and sacred sculpture with several days of careful wildlife observation. Your team confirms the following day's airport arrangements.

Travel: Domestic flight, usually around 1.5-2 hours; airport transfers additional.

Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner | **Overnight:** Delhi

DAY 16

Depart Delhi

Enjoy breakfast and any free time available before your private transfer to Delhi airport. Your Midasia representative assists with the final arrangements and makes sure the departure is straightforward. The programme ends after sixteen days in India's cultural and natural heartland. If you would like to continue to another region, your onward journey can be arranged as a private extension, keeping the same attention to pacing, guiding and comfortable travel.

Travel: Private airport transfer timed to your flight.

Meals: Breakfast | **Journey concludes today**

PRIVATE TRAVEL WITH MIDASIA ROUTES

The details, taken care of

Your accommodation. 15 nights in individually selected accommodation. Luxury city hotels, heritage stays and suitable resorts or lodges are chosen to match the route. Exact properties and room categories are confirmed in your quotation.

Arrival and transport. Airport meet-and-greet after customs, baggage assistance, private transfers, a suitable air-conditioned touring vehicle and driver, fuel, parking and road tolls. Domestic flights and reserved air-conditioned train journeys described in this programme are included.

Guiding and visits. English-speaking local specialist guides, the scheduled visits, entrance fees and activities described. Your private travelling party is guided at an agreed pace; park excursions and resort activities follow their operating arrangements.

Meals and practical support. All meals shown each day, drinking water and standard tea or coffee. Vegetarian and other dietary preferences are arranged in advance. Standard tourist-visa application support and government fees for eligible travellers, applicable local taxes, and customary local-guide and driver gratuities are included.

Your journey extras. Eight authorised jeep safaris are included: four in Bandhavgarh and four in Kanha. Reserved air-conditioned rail travel to Gwalior and the Jabalpur-Delhi domestic flight are included in the quoted package.

Personal coordination. Pre-travel planning, a detailed arrival briefing and Midasia Routes support throughout your journey. Prices are quoted privately for your dates, room requirements and travelling party.

Not included

International flights; travel and medical insurance; personal shopping and laundry; premium or alcoholic drinks; and optional activities, treatments or extra nights outside the agreed programme.

Let us plan your India journey

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A FEW USEFUL DETAILS

Planning your journey

Safari dates are arranged around permit availability and weekly or seasonal closures. Wildlife sightings are natural events. Bhedaghat boat operations follow local river conditions.

Visa issue is subject to government approval and traveller eligibility. The programme is personalised when your dates are agreed; no hotel, flight or departure is held by this brochure. Travel windows describe typical seasonal conditions, rather than a weather forecast.

Madhya Pradesh Tourism - Kanha | Planning checked 9 September 2026.

Photography

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