

13-day Birding tour of Rajasthan, India

The Himalayas are a delight for birdwatchers with thousands of resident and migratory bird species. This birding tour of Rajasthan takes you to some of the best birding sites and will introduce you to some of the wonderful and varied wildlife, flora and fauna of Northern India as well as providing a fascinating insight into rural village life in Northern India. The destinations chosen all focus on birding and provide a fulfilling experience for nature and wildlife enthusiasts.



One Himalaya Ltd, 3 Cedar Avenue, Ballycastle, County Antrim, Northern Ireland, BT54 6DE. Registered in Northern Ireland, company number NI665434.

Tel +44(0)28207 68975 hello@one-himalaya.com <https://one-himalaya.com/>

In Delhi Okhla Bird Sanctuary is home to more than 300 bird species, including the Painted Stork, Darter and migratory birds like the Northern Shoveller and Gadwall. Khichan Bird Sanctuary, in the village of Khichan (also known as the Demoiselle Crane village) is home to three types of birds called Kurjan, Karkara and Kunch that can be seen in large numbers here between October and March when they migrate to India to avoid colder European winters.

In Jaipur, Chandlai Lake is a haven for nature lovers and photographers. Around 10,000 migratory birds can be spotted here including the Northern Shoveler, Common Pochard, Pintail, Tufted Duck, Ruff, Common Redshank, Common Green Shank, and Common Teal.

Ranthambhore National Park is home to a multitude of avian life with over 300 migratory and native bird species. The best times to frequent Ranthambhore for bird watching is during the monsoon and winter season, when birds are at their most active. Key areas to witness the birds here are in and around the Malik Talao Lake, at Rajbagh Talao Lake, the ruined Ranthambhore Fort (an area often visited by tigers) and the Jhalra area. The Park is also renowned throughout the world for an outstanding heronry, which is also inhabited by many other migratory and resident birds.

Keoladeo National Park in Bharatpur is known as a bird paradise, with more than 370 bird species recorded here. Ornithologically, the park has a strategic location as a staging ground for migratory waterfowl arriving in the Indian subcontinent before dispersing to various regions and the wetland is also a wintering area for massive congregations of waterfowl. The most common waterfowl are Gadwall, Shoveler, Common Teal, Cotton Teal, Tufted Duck, Comb Duck, Little Cormorant, Great Cormorant, Indian shag, Ruff, Painted stork, Eurasian spoonbill, Asian open-billed Stork, Oriental Ibis, Darter, Common Sandpiper, Wood Sandpiper and Green sandpiper. The majestic Sarus crane, with its spectacular courtship dance, is also seen here.

The beautiful Chambal Gharial Wildlife Sanctuary is surrounded by the Chambal river, known to be one of the cleanest rivers of India, creating a unique and unpolluted habitat with abundant wildlife and amazing landscapes. The river is host to an amazing host of riverine species including Muggers and Gharial crocodiles, 8 species of freshwater Turtles, Gangetic River Dolphins, Indian Skimmers, Black-bellied Terns, Sarus cranes and Black-necked Storks, amongst others. A river safari on the Chambal river is a unique experience with its dramatic landscapes offering a up close and personal encounter of the amazing abundance of bird and wildlife.



Small group departures

01 December to 13 December 2024

19 January to 31 January 2025

16 February to 28 February 2025

02 March to 14 March 2025

16 March to 28 March 2025

2026 group dates – coming soon, contact us for details.

Private tours – available on request

Trip overview

Style	Birdwatching tour
Accommodation	Luxury hotels, heritage hotels, safari lodges
Grade	Easy to moderate – some walking involved.
Duration	13 days from Delhi to Delhi.
Min/Max group size	2 to 10.
Trip leader(s)	Professional English-speaking city and naturalist guides.
Land only	Join in Delhi, India.

Private departures & tailor-made itineraries available – ask us for details.

Price per person GBP £

Travel between 01 Oct- 20 Dec 2024 & 10 Jan - 30 April 2025

Group size	02	04	6 -12
	£2725 per person	£2395 per person	£2195 per person
Airfare	Delhi to Jodhpur, based on economy class with 20 kg checked luggage and 07 kg hand luggage. From £120 – please note all airfares are subject to change & availability at the time of booking. If the airfare is lower or higher at the time of booking we will advise you of any changes before confirmation.		
Single room supplement	On request and subject to availability £1225 per person		

Travel between 01 May and 30 Sept 2025

Group size	02	04	6 -12
	£2525 per person	£2295 per person	£2195 per person
Airfare	Delhi to Jodhpur, based on economy class with 20 kg checked luggage and 07 kg hand luggage. From £130 – please note all airfares are subject to change & availability at the time of booking. If		

	the airfare is lower or higher at the time of booking we will advise you of any changes before confirmation.
Single room supplement	On request and subject to availability £1265 per person

Travel between 01 Oct to 20 Dec 2025 & 10 Jan to 30 April 2026

Group size	02	04	6 -12
	£3095 per person	£2695 per person	£2495 per person
Airfare	Delhi to Jodhpur, based on economy class with 20 kg checked luggage and 07 kg hand luggage. From £120 – please note all airfares are subject to change & availability at the time of booking. If the airfare is lower or higher at the time of booking we will advise you of any changes before confirmation.		
Single room supplement	On request and subject to availability £1225 per person		

Will the trip run?

This trip is guaranteed to run for a minimum of 2 persons and a maximum of 10. For private tours the trip is guaranteed to run whether for an individual solo tour for 01 person or for groups larger than 10 – please contact us for details. On the rare occasion that we need to cancel a trip we will provide a full refund or the choice of an alternative trip with the difference in pricing either refunded (if the cost is less) or the difference payable before departure, should the cost be higher. The majority of our trips are tailor made and based on your preferred dates of travel, subject to the best times to visit each region, in addition to a small number of fixed date small group departures each year.

Flight inclusive departures

For departures from the UK, we offer a variety of flight options, working with a wide variety of airlines. Please contact us to discuss and for no obligation quotes. All flights are ATOL protected and our ATOL number is 12415. For flights in country (for example within India) we work with our local partners under their licences relevant to each country’s licensing rules. All flights are subject to availability at the time of booking. Flights do fill quickly, particularly for the peak travel months and we advise booking your flights as soon as possible for the best fares and choice.

No surcharge guarantee

The trip pricing and pricing for flights or any optional supplements or trip extensions will be confirmed to you at the time you make your booking. We guarantee there will be no change to pricing with no surcharges after your booking has been confirmed.

Insurance

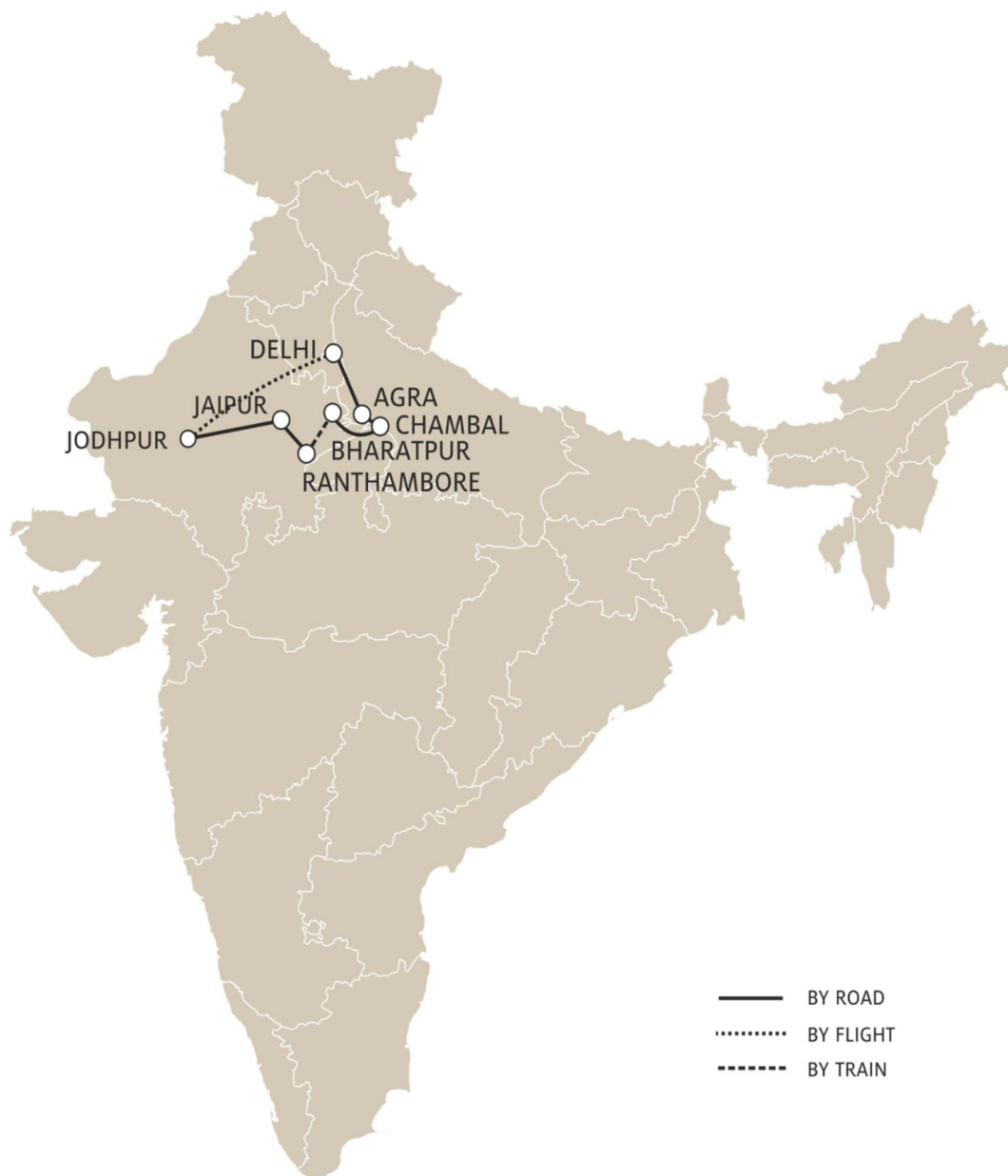
It is a condition of booking that you have personal travel insurance in place for your booking, valid for the duration of your trip. You are free to choose any insurance provider of your choice and our recommended Travel Insurance providers are [Campbell Irvine](#). Please visit our website [Travel Insurance page](#) to find out more and to request a quote.

Tailor made private trips

The majority of our tours, treks and other trips are tailor-made and designed around the interests, requirements and preferred dates of travel of our clients, with your Himalayan holiday designed and customised specifically for you. Our UK and in country teams have a huge amount of experience and extensive networks which allows us to design and offer a very wide range of itineraries within India, Nepal, Bhutan and Tibet. We're happy to share our knowledge and suggestions to design the best itinerary to create your perfect itinerary. If you'd like to consider a tailor-made holiday with One Himalaya or to customise this itinerary, please call us on +44(0)28207 68975 or visit our website for inspiration.

At a glance itinerary

Delhi – Jodhpur – Jaipur – Ranthambore – Bharatpur – Chambal – Delhi



Day 01: Arrive Delhi
Day 02: Visit Okhla Bird Sanctuary
Day 03: Fly Delhi to Jodhpur
Day 04: Jodhpur to Khichan Village (Demoiselle Crane village)
Day 05: Jodhpur to Jaipur and Chandlai Lake
Day 06: Jaipur to Ranthambore National Park, afternoon jeep safari
Day 07: Ranthambore National Park – full day birding
Day 08: Ranthambore to Bharatpur by train
Day 09: Keoladeo National Park – morning and afternoon visits
Day 10: Bharatpur to Chambal
Day 11: Chambal River Safari
Day 12: Drive Chambal to Delhi, optional visit to the Taj Mahal at Agra
Day 13: Depart Delhi

Trip Highlights

- Visit Okhla Bird Sanctuary, one of India's designated Important Bird Areas, home to over 300 bird species
- See thousands of Demoiselle Cranes at Khichan Bird Sanctuary
- Visit Chandlai Lake in Jaipur, a haven for nature lovers and photographers and home to around 10000 migratory birds
- Enjoy two days of safari and bird watching in Ranthambore National Park, with its renowned heronry and status as a Tiger Sanctuary
- Discover the area around Malik Talao Lake, jade-hued Rajbagh Talao Lake and the ruins of Ranthambore Fort, often visited by tigers and the Jhalra area within Ranthambore
- Visit Bharatpur and enjoy morning and afternoon visits to Keoladeo National Park, a bird paradise with over 370 recorded bird species
- Experience beautiful Chambal Gharial Wildlife Sanctuary, surrounded by the Chambal River, a unique habitat with abundant wildlife and amazing landscapes, rustic charm and an up close and personal encounter of the local wildlife
- Explore varied landscapes and a tapestry of grasslands, deciduous forests, golden meadows, lush forests, deep lakes, marshes and rivers
- Enjoy exceptional photographic opportunities and kaleidoscopic migratory, resident and rare bird species
- Optional visits to Mehrangarh Fort and the Taj Mahal, contact us for details

Day to day trip itinerary

Trip introduction

This is a fantastic birding adventure where you'll visit stunning National Parks and Bird Sanctuaries across Rajasthan. Be captivated on this 13-day tour that is designed as exciting itinerary, covering some of the best birding sites in Rajasthan including Delhi, Jodhpur, Khichan, Jaipur, Ranthambore, Bharatpur and Chambal. This birding holiday will introduce you to the wonderful and varied birdlife (and other wildlife) of Northern India, as well as providing a fascinating insight into rural village life.

Visit Okhla Bird Sanctuary home to over 300 bird species. Explore Khichan Bird Sanctuary in Khichan village, also known as Demoiselle Crane village due to the large numbers of cranes that are welcomed by the villagers. In Jaipur, visit Chandlai Lake where thousands of migratory birds can be spotted. Enjoy two days of jeep safari into Ranthambore National Park, renowned for its outstanding heronry as well as being home to many other migratory and resident birds and rich wildlife. It's also a well-known tiger sanctuary home to resident Bengal tigers.

Keoladeo National Park is another bird paradise, with more than 370 bird species recorded here. Enjoy a relaxing River Safari at Chambal Gharial Wildlife Sanctuary where you can expect to see dramatic landscapes and bird species including Indian Skimmers, Sarus Cranes, Black Necked Storks and many more as well as Gangetic River Dolphins, Muggers and Gharial Crocodiles and freshwater turtles and more. You'll stay at luxury and heritage hotels and safari lodges on this fantastic trip filled with avian beauties, unique landscapes and heritage, rustic charm and rare wildlife.

Day to Day

Day 01 Arrive Delhi

Welcome to India! One of our local representatives will be waiting to greet you in the arrivals hall after you've cleared immigration and custom formalities to assist you and for the transfer to your hotel.

India's capital and a major gateway to the country, contemporary Delhi is today a truly cosmopolitan city that juxtaposes modern and traditional in a unique heritage. After check in to your hotel, the rest of today is free to rest and relax after your flight, ready for your tour starting tomorrow. Enjoy dinner at your hotel or at a nearby restaurant.

Overnight: Hotel, Delhi

Day 02 Visit Okhla Bird Sanctuary

This morning you'll meet your naturalist guide at your hotel, who will brief you about the flora and fauna of the region and outline the schedule for today and tomorrow.

After your briefing, it's time for the drive through Delhi to Okhla Bird Sanctuary, officially known as Shaheed Chander Shekhar Azad Sanctuary, based at the Okhla Barrage over the Yamuna River. The sanctuary is around 4 square kilometres and is located at a point where the Yamuna River enters into the state of Uttar Pradesh as it leaves the territory of Delhi. It's one of 15 bird sanctuaries in the state with a mix of thorny scrub, grasslands and wetlands. It's one of the 466 Important Bird Sanctuaries (IBAs) in India.

As many as 300 bird species have been spotted here and our focus for the day include two endemic species, the Striated Babbler and the White-tailed Stonechat, besides several other birds such as the Eurasian Collared-Dove, Laughing Dove, Yellow-footed Green-Pigeon, Greater Coucal, Asian Koel, Grey-headed Swamphen, White-breasted Waterhen, Black-winged Stilt, Red-wattled Lapwing, Pheasant-tailed Jacana, Temminck's Stint, Wood Sandpiper, Whiskered Tern, Oriental Darter, Great Cormorant, Indian Cormorant, Grey Heron, Cattle Egret, Indian Pond-Heron, Black-headed Ibis, Black Kite, Spotted Owlet, Indian Grey Hornbill, Common Kingfisher, Green Bee-eater, Brown-headed Barbet, Rose-ringed Parakeet, Black Drongo, Long-tailed Shrike, Ashy Prinia, Plain Prinia, Sykes's Warbler, Clamorous Reed Warbler, Plain Martin, Red-whiskered Bulbul, Indian White-eye, Rosy Starling, Bank Myna, India Robin, Oriental Magpie-Robin, Bluethroat, Pied Bushchat, Citrine Wagtail, Paddyfield Pipit, and the Red-headed Bunting.

After a day spent spotting many of these beautiful birds in the different areas of the sanctuary, we return to the hotel where your evening is at leisure to rest and relax.

Overnight: Hotel, Delhi (Meals included: Breakfast)

Day 3 Fly Delhi to Jodhpur

After a leisurely breakfast at the hotel, you will be transferred by private vehicle to Delhi airport to board the short flight (1 hour 20 minutes) to Jodhpur. Upon arrival at Jodhpur airport you'll be met and assisted by our local representative for the transfer and check-in to your hotel.

Rich in history, Jodhpur is one of the most vibrant places in India to explore. Also known as the Blue City, due to the traditional blue colour of the buildings in the oldest part of the city, it's a place of many palaces, forts and temples. Looming over this city and soaked in legend, the Mehrangarh Fort at once impresses and is well worth exploring as well as enjoying the views over the city. Jodhpur is also known for its exquisite handicrafts, folk dances, music and the brightly attired people. The bazaars of Jodhpur offer a wide range of items from textiles to embroidery, leather goods, antiques and classic silver jewellery.

Optional Activity: This afternoon visit the impressive Mehrangarh Fort, one of the largest and most magnificent forts in Rajasthan, built in the 15th century at the centre of the city on a hill. Inside its boundaries there are several palaces known for their intricate carvings and expansive courtyards.

Evening at leisure to rest and relax, enjoy dinner at your hotel or explore locally.

Overnight: Hotel, Jodhpur (Meals included: Breakfast)

Day 04 Jodhpur to Khichan Village

After breakfast, your guide will meet you and accompany you on the drive towards the Khichan village, around 3 hours and 150km.

Khichan is a village in the state of Rajasthan, located in Jodhpur district. The village is known for a large number of Demoiselle Cranes that visit it every winter. This annual bird migration began with around a hundred cranes in the 1970s, when a local couple started feeding the birds. Other villagers joined their efforts and Khichan now hosts over 30,000 Demoiselle Cranes from as early as August each year to as late as March.

After reaching Khichan village we'll take time to explore the village with our key focus on getting great views and a chance to observe the Cranes. A picnic food box will be provided to enjoy at a suitable place outdoors.

Later today we head back to Jodhpur and your hotel where your evening is at leisure to rest and relax, enjoy dinner at the hotel or explore locally.

Overnight: Hotel, Jodhpur (Meals included: Breakfast)

Day 05 Jodhpur to Jaipur and Chandlai Lake

This morning after breakfast it's time for the drive of around 6 hours (with rest stop) and 350 km to reach Jaipur. Where Jodhpur is known as the Blue City, Jaipur is often referred to as the Pink City, relating back to 1876, when Maharaja Ram Singh had most of the buildings in the city painted pink (then the colour of hospitality) to welcome a visit by Britain's Queen Victoria. Today, the city is known for its bazaars, forts, temples, palaces, and wildlife sanctuaries.

After checking in to the hotel we'll head out to visit Chandlai Lake which hosts a huge number of migratory birds. One of the rare bird species that can be seen here is the Pied Avocet. Other bird species such as the Common Red Shank, White Wagtail, Little Ringed Plover, Rudy Shelduck, Black Winged Stilt, Brown-capped Night Heron, Common Teal, Pallas's Gul, Ruff and many more are also found here. After time to see as many species as we can, we'll head back to the hotel. Rest of your evening is at leisure to rest and relax.

Overnight: Hotel, Jaipur (Meals included: Breakfast)

Day 06 Jaipur to Ranthambore National Park, afternoon jeep safari

After breakfast at the hotel you will be transferred to Ranthambore in your private vehicle. The drive from Jaipur to Ranthambore takes around 4 hrs (approx. 180 kms). Ranthambore National Park is one of the largest national parks in northern India. It is named after the historic Ranthambore fortress, which lies within the park. The park used to be the hunting grounds of the Maharaja of Jaipur but in 1972 came under the Project Tiger scheme.

Ranthambore National Park is famous for its tigers and is one of the best places in the country to see these majestic predators in the wild.

The park also has a variety of other mammals and birds including Langurs, Spotted (Chital) and Sambar Deer, Nilgai (the largest of India's antelopes), Barking Deer, monkeys, boar, crocodiles

and more. The extensive bird life here includes Baya Weaver, Grey Francolin, Red-wattled Lapwing, Hoopoe, Indian Peafowl/Peacock, Jungle Fowl, Indian Scops Owl, Black Drongo, Partridge, Quail, Crested Serpent Eagle, Woodpeckers, Flycatchers and many more.

After checking in to the hotel, this afternoon enjoy a game safari drive in Ranthambhore National Park by shared jeep and chance to see some of the many animals and birds that live here. After your game drive, the rest of your evening is free to rest and relax.

Overnight: Hotel, Ranthambore (Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 07 Ranthambore National Park – full day birding

After breakfast you'll meet your naturalist guide who will accompany you today and set out to scour the areas around Ranthambore National Park for a full day of birding. One of the locations you'll visit is Padam Talao, the largest of the many lakes in the park and a good location where we may see a lot of aquatic birds. There are grasslands, meadows, and lush woods that host several interesting bird species of North India. We'll look for birds such as the Black Francolin, Painted Francolin, Grey Francolin, Common Quail, Rain Quail, Blue-breasted Quail, Jungle Bush Quail, Rock Bush Quail, Painted Spurfowl, Indian Peafowl, Lesser Whistling Duck, Greylag Goose, Bar-headed Goose, Ruddy Shelduck, Common Shelduck, Comb Duck, Cotton Pygmy Goose, Gadwall, Eurasian Wigeon, Mallard, Spot-billed Duck, Common Teal, Garganey, Northern Pintail, Northern Shoveller, Red-crested Pochard, Common Pochard, Ferruginous Pochard, Tufted Duck, Small Button Quail, Yellow-legged Buttonquails, Barred Buttonquails, Eurasian Wryneck, Brown-capped Pygmy Woodpecker, Yellow-crowned Woodpecker, Black-rumped Flameback, White-naped Woodpecker, Brown-headed Barbet, Coppersmith Barbet and Indian Courser. We'll visit various locations today and keep a look out for the many bird species. En route we'll also spot some of the animal species that live here and may be lucky enough to spot a tiger or leopard! After a busy day of birding at Ranthambore, we return to the hotel for dinner and rest overnight.

Overnight: Hotel, Ranthambore (Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 08 Ranthambore to Bharatpur by train

After an early breakfast today you'll be transferred to Sawai Madhopur Railway Station to board the Jan Shatabdi train to Bharatpur, around 2 hours travel time. On arrival at Bharatpur railway station, you will be met and assisted by one of our local representatives and helped with check in to your hotel with the rest of your day to relax. Bharatpur is an Indian city in eastern Rajasthan and will be our base for exploring Keoladeo National Park tomorrow.

A good day of birding at Keoladeo National Park can yield up to 100 bird species, if not more. The prized sightings here include the Indian Courser, Sociable Lapwing, Imperial Eagle, White-tailed Eagle, Greater Spotted Eagle, Indian Spotted Eagle, Dusky Eagle-Owl, Darters, Large-tailed Nightjar, Indian Nightjar, Grey Nightjar, Sarus Crane, Demoiselle Crane, Black-necked Stork, Painted Stork, Asian Openbill Storks, Common Pelican, Dalmatian Pelican, Black Bittern, Greater Painted Snipe, Marshall's Iora, Brook's Leaf Warbler and Siberian Rubythroat.

Overnight: Hotel, Bharatpur (Meals included: Breakfast)

Day 09 Keoladeo National Park

We'll get an early start today for our first visit to Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary, also known as Keoladeo National Park. The park is a vast bird sanctuary and former royal game reserve in the north Indian state of Rajasthan. South of the ancient city of Bharatpur, the park's woods and man-made wetlands protect over 350 species of migratory and resident birds, including herons, cormorants and eagles.

Our target birds to spot today include raptors such as the Egyptian Vulture, White-rumped Vulture, Indian Vulture, Red-headed Vulture, Eurasian Marsh Harrier, Shikra, Indian Spotted Eagle, Greater Spotted Eagle, Tawny Eagle, Steppe Eagle, Imperial Eagle, Bonelli's Eagle, Booted Eagle, Common Kestrel and Peregrine Falcon. A birding session along the wetlands of Keoladeo reveals the likes of the Bar-headed Goose, Ruddy Shelduck, Comb Duck Egrets, Red-crested Pochard, Ferruginous Pochard, Painted Stork, Open-billed Stork, Cormorants, Darters, Ibises, Spoonbills, Black-tailed Godwit, Eurasian Curlew, Cotton Pygmy-Goose, Spot-billed Duck.

The whole of today is dedicated to a birding adventure at Keoladeo. After our morning visit we'll return to the hotel for breakfast and in the afternoon we'll visit the bird sanctuary again. After completing our afternoon visit, the rest of your evening is at leisure to rest and relax at the hotel.

Overnight: Hotel, Bharatpur (Meals included: Breakfast)

Day 10 Bharatpur to Chambal

After breakfast today, you'll be transferred to Chambal in your private vehicle. The drive from Bharatpur to Chambal should take around 3 hrs (approx. 140 kms). Arriving at Chambal you'll be able to check in to the Chambal Safari Lodge – a welcoming oasis of peace, tranquillity and hospitality. The sprawling grounds of the Lodge are home to numerous birds and small mammals – around 198 species - including Palm Civet Cats, Jungle Cats, Foxes, Jungle Hares, Fruit Bats, Hedgehogs and the Indian Striped Hyenas.

The Chambal River originates in the Vindhya mountains of Madhya Pradesh in central India, from where it flows first in the north-westerly direction into Rajasthan and then towards southeast into Uttar Pradesh. Though the river's course through Rajasthan isn't long, its passage through Dholpur attracts a lot of avian species, and it's this birding area of Chambal National Park that's our main focus of our stay. The most sought-after bird here is the Indian Skimmer, but there are a lot of other winged beauties to watch and photograph.

Overnight: Safari Lodge, Chambal (Meals included: Breakfast)

Day 11 Chambal River Safari

This morning you'll be transferred to the start point for your Chambal River Safari. The River Safari provides spectacular opportunities to view the wildlife, and the boatmen are exceptionally skilled at cutting the boat engines and manoeuvring as close to the birds and animals as possible without disturbing them. On the safari, you may sight the critically endangered Gharial (the fish eating crocodile native to the Indian sub-continent), Marsh Crocodiles, the Red-crowned Roof Turtle, Striped Hyenas, Wolves, the Ganges River dolphin and the Indian Skimmer – an IUCN red- listed endangered bird that breeds and lives here.

Trained naturalists accompany visitors and provide expert information on the Chambal wildlife. The River Safari is a wonderfully relaxing, enjoyable and special experience. You may spot Indian Courser, Black-bellied Terns, Great Thick-knee, Red-crested Pochard, Ferruginous Pochard, Sarus Crane, Bar-headed Goose, Pallas's Fish Eagle, Pallid Harrier, Greater and Lesser Flamingos, Darters, Gull-billed Tern, River Tern, Little Tern, Black-bellied Tern, Whiskered Tern, White-winged Tern and several others.

After your river safari we return to your safari lodge with the rest of your day at leisure.

Overnight: Safari Lodge, Chambal (Meals included: Breakfast)

Day 12 Drive Chambal to Delhi, optional visit to the Taj Mahal at Agra

After breakfast today you'll begin the drive to Delhi in your private vehicle. The drive takes around 5 hrs (approx. 300 kms) with rest stops.

Optional activity: You may opt to visit the Taj Mahal in Agra with a stop en route. A UNESCO World Heritage site, the Taj Mahal is regarded as the best example of Mughal architecture and a symbol of India's rich history as well as an enduring and well-known monument to power and love. Please note the Taj Mahal is closed on Fridays.

Arrive Delhi and check in to your hotel with your evening at leisure to rest and relax, or perhaps explore or do some last-minute shopping in the local area.

Overnight: Hotel, Delhi (Meals included: Breakfast)

Day 13 Depart Delhi

This morning you'll be transferred to Delhi International Airport for your flight home or on to your next destination.

Our trip grading system & what to expect

Easy to moderate

This trip is graded easy to moderate. Although we don't have a great deal of "down time" on this tour, the winter days are quite short, and the sun rises at about 7am. We generally sleep close to our birding sites, and don't have long pre-dawn drives. Most of our meals will be taken in lodges and in restaurants, though on a couple of days, we will have a packed lunch. There are some short walks involved, and you'll need to be able to get in and out of a jeep and a boat whilst on safari. Your visit to Keoladeo National Park may include a mix of transport within the park by cycle rickshaw as well as walking. Most birding will be done on foot throughout this trip, but the walking is mostly easy, either on broad paths or roads. Roads are generally good on this tour, but there are a couple of longer drives. The day train ride is approximately 2 hours and will have comfortable seating. You don't need any experience to do this tour.

We cover lots of ground and habitats and can expect to see well over 350 species of bird on this trip and are likely to be able to photograph more than 100 species. There will also be many mammals and other wildlife seen and photographed. And the remarkable culture and landscapes of India is more than worthy of a few snaps too.

What to bring

Binoculars are essential and a camera if you plan to take photos. Light is quite good in India, and you can get away with using zoom lenses and/or high f-stop lenses. However, using prime 300 f2.8 or 500 f4 lenses (with and without teleconverters) works too. There is also a myriad of opportunities to take landscape photos and some opportunities for cultural photography of temples, forts, markets and/or people. Macro photography and nocturnal photography will be limited as there are only a handful of subjects targeted.

We suggest packing the following in addition to your clothing and personal items:

- ❖ Hat/Cap – the sun can be strong and early mornings can be a little chilly
- ❖ Sunscreen
- ❖ Sunglasses
- ❖ Binoculars
- ❖ Mosquito repellent (just in case for evenings)
- ❖ Hand sanitizer
- ❖ Face masks and/or neck buff
- ❖ Dustproof bags (for lens and other items)
- ❖ Jacket (for cooler mornings and nights)

What's included in the price?

One Himalaya aims to offer the best value for money and aim to ensure all the key elements of your holiday are included. In some places such as Delhi, Jaipur and Jodhpur, where there is a wide range of local restaurants, cafes and bars, we include breakfast only options in your hotel stay to allow you to choose from the variety of options available in your hotel or local area. During days on safari at Ranthambore and others as noted in the Service Includes and Day to Day itinerary information, all meals are included, sometimes with a packed lunch provided where few or no local facilities are available.

- ❖ Airport greeting and transfer on arrival to and departure from Delhi
- ❖ 12 nights' accommodation using double or twin share rooms at the hotels mentioned below
- ❖ Meal Plan as mentioned in the day-to-day itinerary
- ❖ All airport, train and other transfers & sightseeing using Innova, Tempo Traveller or Mini Coach depending on group size
- ❖ Single entry to the monuments visited as per the itinerary
- ❖ 02 safari game drives in Ranthambore National Park by shared jeep
- ❖ 02 visits to Bharatpur, Keoladeo National Park as per itinerary
- ❖ Chambal River Safari
- ❖ Services of local English-speaking guides as per the itinerary
- ❖ Mineral Water and other amenities in the vehicle throughout the tour
- ❖ Complimentary One Himalaya t-shirt, day pack and buff, subject to availability

What's not included in the price?

- ❖ India visa
- ❖ International flights – available on request, please ask us for details and quotes
- ❖ Travel Insurance – please note it is a condition of booking all trips that you have appropriate travel insurance in place. Visit our website <https://one-himalaya.com/travel-insurance.html> for more information
- ❖ Meals other than those specified in the itinerary
- ❖ Additional or optional accommodation, activities, excursions or transport not included in the itinerary or before/after the dates specified (available on request)
- ❖ Expenses incurred as a result of flight delays/cancellation, strikes, weather conditions or other events outside of our control
- ❖ Personal clothing and equipment (binoculars, hats, cameras etc)
- ❖ Personal expenses such as soft and alcoholic beverages, laundry, phone calls, tips snacks and souvenirs, camera/video camera fee at monuments
- ❖ Anything not mentioned in the above inclusions or itinerary

Airport transfers

The cost of a transfer to/from the airport is included in the price of your holiday. All airport transfers required as part of your itinerary are also included in the price of your trip. When you arrive at Delhi someone will be waiting to greet you and assist with the transfer to your hotel. Similarly for the domestic flights and for your departure flight at the end of the tour, you will have assistance from our local representatives. Please contact us if you require any further information.



Your accommodation

We work with a wide range of hotels and other accommodation options across India, Nepal, Tibet and Bhutan. Where a specific hotel is named in the itinerary, we will aim to secure that hotel, however all hotels and accommodation are subject to availability at the time of booking. If the first choice or named hotel is not available, we will book a suitable alternative of a similar standard and will always confirm the hotel with you at or shortly after confirmation.

Days	Nights	City	Hotels (Room Category)	Meal Type
01-03	02	Delhi	The Claridges Cabana Room	BB
03-05	02	Jodhpur	Ajit Bhawan Deluxe Room	BB
05-06	01	Jaipur	Samode Haveli Deluxe Room	BB
06-08	02	Ranthambore	Aamghati Wildlife Elegant Room	FB
08-10	02	Bharatpur	Birders Inn Standard Room	FB
10-12	02	Jarar	Chambal Safari Lodge Neem Serai	BB
12-13	01	Delhi	Novotel Standard Room	BB

BB = Breakfast only FB = Full board – breakfast, lunch and dinner included.

Please note

- ❖ Hotel check in times are usually 1400 hrs and check-out time 1200 hrs
- ❖ Train bookings in India open 120 days in advance and will be confirmed as soon as possible
- ❖ To place Air / Train / Safari bookings, we require your full passport details
- ❖ The names of hotels mentioned above only indicate that our rates have been based on usage of these hotels. All hotels are subject to availability at the time of confirmation of your trip. If for any reason they are not available we will book alternative accommodation at a similar or next best level and shall pass on the difference in rates (supplement or reduction) as applicable, to you.
- ❖ In case of any major or unexpected currency fluctuations or amendment in local Government taxes, or any fuel hike, we reserve the right to adjust the tour price accordingly and will advise and discuss this with you should that occur.

Flight arrangements

We work with a wide range of airlines to offer the widest choice of departure flights from the UK. The 'Flight from' price is based on the best fare available at the time of printing. Airfares are subject to change and availability, and this should be used only as a guide price. If you would like us to help with your flight booking, we will always aim at the time of booking, to get the best possible price for the flights you need. We advise booking as early as you can, for the best chance of getting the best fares, particularly during the Spring and Autumn peak travel times.

Flights booked through One Himalaya are protected through our ATOL licence number 12415.

Please call us on +44 (0)28207 68975 for flight options including from regional UK airports, Business Class options, airport hotels and stopovers.

National Parks & safaris

- ❖ Please note, the parks are closed on Holi & Diwali festival days and the core zones of parks are closed from July to early October during the monsoon season.
- ❖ The buffer zones around the parks are open for safaris throughout the year. Even during the monsoon (rainy) season there's much for nature lovers to enjoy with plenty of growth, wildflowers, butterflies, birds nesting, bird song, vibrant colors, cloudy skies, and a lot more.
- ❖ November to March is when the landscape is green, the birdlife amazing and temperatures in the mid 20°C, with cold mornings in December and January. The best time to see tigers is April to May, as the vegetation is dry and sparse and wildlife comes to the few remaining waterholes to drink, with the heat typically around mid 40°C.
- ❖ The climate of this region is tropical. Summers are hot and humid and winters are pleasant. Summer (May – September): Min 23°C Max 40°C and Winter (October – April): Min 11°C Max 23°C
- ❖ The safari times are based on the sunrise and sunset, therefore differ in summer and winter. During summer mornings, safaris start as early as 0530 hrs which means you have to be up and ready quite early. In contrast, the afternoon safaris start late in summer at 1600 hrs. Average time for a safari remains at 3 hours. It is quite the opposite in winter.
- ❖ The parks never teem with international visitors, but the country has a budding wildlife culture, and many Indians visit. During festival time, when many Indians take time off, the parks can get very busy.

Additional information

When we receive your booking confirmation, we send you a full Trip Dossier which contains details of any visas and vaccinations required, a suggested gear and clothing list and other useful information. If you have queries at any point or would like to discuss anything about your trip, please call us on +44 (0)28207 68975 and we will be pleased to offer advice and suggestions.

Important – the nature adventure travel

Every effort will be made to keep to the itinerary, but we cannot guarantee that things may not change, either before you travel or during your trip. The nature of adventure travel is that it involves an element of the unexpected, particularly in more remote and isolated areas. Factors such as adverse weather conditions, changes to local schedules, road or trail conditions and difficulties with transportation can all contribute to the need to make changes to the itinerary, sometimes at the last minute. Our office team and your Trip Leader will make every effort to maintain the original itinerary and minimise the impact of any changes, but sometimes changes are required, for example taking a slightly different route on trek for better trail conditions. Any changes will be discussed with you but please note that all timings and distances given are approximate and an important aspect and asset to adventure travel is the ability to be flexible and open to change where needed or beneficial!

Trip extensions

Extending your holiday

A popular option is to add a few days extension to a main holiday – for example adding a few days trek or tour, visiting neighbouring regions or spending a few days at a beach, spa or lake resort. Additional activities such as hot air ballooning, white-water rafting, zip lining, vineyard tours, horse riding, camel safaris, mountain biking, golf or helicopter tours can also be added.

If you'd like more inspiration, please visit our website at <https://one-himalaya.com/category/extensions.html> or call us on +44 (0)28207 68975 and we'll be happy to share suggestions.



Why book with One Himalaya?

- We specialise in tailor made, luxury and adventure travel in the Himalayas, a region we're passionate about promoting and sharing. We also have extensive knowledge and contacts across all the regions where we operate and our team have over 20 years' first hand knowledge and experience of planning and operating the very best Himalayan travel experiences for our worldwide clients.
- Designed for you – the majority of our trips are tailor made (in addition to a few small group trips each year), based on your interests, time and budget with guidance and suggestions from us to make your trip extra special. All the example itineraries and classic trips on our website can be booked and we hope they provide useful inspiration for your travel plans. Each of those can be customised and we also offer a full tailor-made travel service to custom design a travel itinerary just for you, to meet your personal travel requirements and interests.
- We offer an extensive range of trip itineraries from classic tours and treks, to challenging expeditions, exhilarating wildlife safaris and birdwatching trips, relaxing houseboat tours and plantation stays, off the beaten track adventures, specialist interest tours and much more. The trips on our website are for inspiration and represent just a fraction of the types of trips we offer. We also regularly introduce new experiences and itineraries.
- We work closely with our local teams and partners so our knowledge of each region is always up to date, and we can share the latest news and experiences with you. If we don't know the answer to your question, we'll definitely know someone who does!
- We offer 100% financial security for your booking. We're members of the [Travel Trust Association](#) in the UK (member number X0951), which is part of The Travel Network Group. As part of our membership, we operate a Trust Account for all bookings. This means that any payment you make to us is automatically paid into the Trust Account where it is 100% financially protected at all times and is only ever used for your travel booking, providing you with complete financial security when you book with us. Booking with us really does mean 100% financial protection for your booking and peace of mind for you.
- If you're travelling from the UK or elsewhere, we offer great international flight options and fares. We work with a wide range of quality airlines to find you the best routes and airfares to match your travel plans.
- We hold [ATOL licence](#) 12415 which means that all international flight bookings from the UK are fully ATOL protected, giving you complete security when you book with us.
- We offer no cost, no obligation provisional bookings so if you're interested in a trip but not quite sure you're ready to book, simply contact us and we'll hold a provisional booking for a limited time. Once you're ready to book, most of our trips only require a small deposit to confirm, with the balance payable later, closer to your time of travel.
- We offer a No Surcharge Guarantee – once you book with us, we guarantee the price of your holiday will not change.
- When you travel with us, local people really do benefit through creating and supporting local employment opportunities, support for small local organisations and local spend. We passionately believe in travel as a force for good and we work closely with our fantastic local teams and partners to promote sustainable, small-scale travel that enriches the lives of travellers and also benefits local people in the communities and places we travel to.

One Himalaya – About Us

- We're a small team of travel experts with over twenty years' experience of exploring and promoting the wonderful Himalayan regions of Nepal, India, Bhutan and Tibet. We're passionate about travel and have a special love for the Himalayan regions.
- We're an independent travel company and online tour operator, based on the beautiful Causeway Coast in Northern Ireland, from where we provide bespoke travel services to our clients from the UK, Europe and worldwide.
- We firmly believe in sustainable travel, that respects and protects local people, landscapes, culture, wildlife and habitats. We believe that travel can and should be a force for good, creating positive impact and change for everyone. As part of that ethos, we support a range of small projects and initiatives in the destinations where we operate, that help bring positive benefits and real change to local people's lives.
- We work closely with local communities and partners across the Himalaya and beyond, working together to provide you with the most enjoyable and memorable travel experiences and adventures in Nepal, India, Bhutan and Tibet.
- We focus on providing high quality, personalised service and experiences for our clients, using good quality accommodation and equipment and working with professional, well trained and fairly paid local guides and crews.
- We offer Loyalty Discounts if you've travelled previously with us, on future trip bookings.
- We make it easy to book your holiday – you can book online, call or email us. We offer no obligation hold options on trips and flights and we guarantee no surcharges once you've booked.
- When we receive your booking confirmation, we'll send you a detailed trip dossier with all the information about your trip including visa information, vaccinations required, suggested gear and clothing and lots more useful information to ensure you're fully prepared and have a wonderful experience – and we're always available if you have any questions or would like to discuss anything – we love questions, especially if they're about travel!



Khichan Bird Sanctuary (aka Bambawali Crane village)



Sarus Cranes, Keoladeo National Park



Rufous Treepie, Ranthambore National Park

