

Chitwan Safari Extension



EXTENSION OVERVIEW

At the foot of the Himalaya, the Royal Chitwan National Park is one of the few remaining vestiges of the 'Terai' (moist land) region, which formerly extended over the foothills of India and Nepal.

The fertile parkland comprises forest and grassland with several rivers flowing through it making it particularly rich in flora and fauna. It is home to over 400 species of exotic birds, black rhinoceros, leopard, mongoose, sloth bear, Gharial crocodiles, four types of deer and the elusive Bengal tiger.

You can choose from a 2 or 3 night extension.

PRICES (correct January 2014)

3 days / 2nights: **£395 per person**, minimum 2 people

4 days / 3nights: **£495 per person**, minimum 2 people

Fly Kathmandu to Chitwan supplement **£90** per person

Extra nights in Kathmandu: from **£25** (twin share), from **£45** (single)

Please contact us for prices for other safari combinations.

Adventure Travel – Accuracy of Itinerary

Although it is our intention to operate this itinerary as printed, it may be necessary to make some changes as a result of flight schedules, climatic conditions, limitations of infrastructure or other operational factors. As a consequence, the order or location of overnight stops and the duration of the day may vary from those outlined. You should be aware that some events are beyond our control and we would ask for your patience.

LEADERS AND GUIDES

A fully qualified, English-speaking, Nepali leader / guide will accompany you on safari. He / she will ensure your safety and provide an insight into the animals and plants found in the park. On this trip you may be joined by clients who have booked with other agencies.



WEATHER AND CLIMATE

The park has a range of climatic seasons, each offering a unique experience. October through February with an average temperature of 25°C offer an enjoyable climates. From March to June temperatures can reach as high as 43°C. The hot humid days gives way to the monsoon season that typically lasts from late June until September. Rivers become flooded sometime during the season the scenery looks most amazing with unexpected water level. In late January, local villagers are allowed to cut thatch grasses to meet their needs, which offer a better and easy viewing of wildlife to visitors. Also, between September and November, and February and April, migratory birds and create spectacular bird watching opportunity. While the monsoon rains brings lush vegetation, most trees flower in late winter. The “Palash tree” known as the “flame of the forest” and slick cotton tree have spectacular crimson flowers that can be seen from a distance.



WHAT TO CARRY

Your daypack used on the trek will be fine to carry camera, water, sun and bug protection with you on the excursions into the park.

CATERING ARRANGEMENTS

All meals are included from lunch on Day 1 to breakfast on your day of departure. Meals will generally be taken at

the lodge, but pack lunches may be provided if you are on a longer excursion.

ACCOMMODATION

Our prices are based on you staying in the Tigerland Safari Resort which is spread within 20 acres of land at the elevation of 30 meters above the Rapti River, on the border of Chitwan National Park. Tigerland Safari Resort has managed to create a truly wonderful sanctuary amidst lush green jungle foliage where 32 individual deluxe villas, built on stilts and using sustainable natural materials, blend perfectly with nature.

HEALTH

Chitwan, although it lies in the Terai, has a very low malaria risk. In the year 2002, there were 6000 cases of fever in Chitwan during the months of June and July. This was related to an outbreak of Typhoid Fever and no malaria cases were detected. As a result of this, we recommend mosquito precautions but generally do not recommend any malaria medication prophylaxis for short visits to Chitwan national park even in the monsoon season. It has to be realized that risk seems very low but it cannot be considered zero in the hot monsoon months.



EQUIPMENT

It will generally be hot in the park during the day, but can get cold in the evenings during the winter months. It is best to wear lightweight full body cover to wear on safari of a neutral colour. Bright colours are frowned upon as they can distract the animals. Ensure you have shorts and swimwear to use at the lodge.

PERMITS

Park permits are included in the price of the extension

LOCAL COSTS

All accommodation and most meals are included. Additional costs would include any drinks or snacks outside of mealtimes, tips for local staff.

TIPPING

Tipping is an accepted part of life in Nepal. Tipping is entirely at your discretion but local staff and guides will expect tips for good service. You should ensure that you have plenty of small change in your pocket for this.

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

You will travel to the park from Kathmandu (Everest treks) or Pokhara (Annapurna treks) by vehicle. Flights can be arranged from Kathmandu for a supplement as shown above.

At the end of the safari you return to Kathmandu by air in the morning, enabling you either to spend your last night in Kathmandu, or, depending on flight times, you may prefer to depart that evening on your international flight home.



ITINERARY AND ACTIVITIES

The activities are adjusted to the length of your stay, the season and present weather conditions. Naturally, it may not always be possible to follow this schedule to the minute and the circumstances may force us to alter the program at short notice. On safari in the jungle you will be accompanied by expert naturalists who will advise on safety procedures. If you wish to stroll in the forest alone, a guide will have to accompany you for your safety.

Day 1

Drive from Pokhara / fly or drive from Kathmandu to the park (supplement payable if flying)

In the late afternoon, the guests will be taken for elephant safari or nature walks or for jungle drive depending on the time of arrival at the resort. Those on elephant safari can penetrate deep into the jungle for viewing and photographing wildlife and those on a jungle walk can experience the abundant bird life and the flora and fauna of the park. The area from Kasara to Sukhebar is considered as the best area for the jungle drive, where chances of seeing bison (Gaur), sambar deer and Royal Bengal Tiger is very high compare to other area of Chitwan national Park. If you are lucky you may see the elusive Royal Bengal Tiger both on nature walk as well as on elephant safari. In the evening before dinner, the slide presentation about the flora and fauna of Chitwan national park will be organized by our well trained senior naturalists. This will be time when the guests can gather more information about the flora and fauna of Chitwan National Park.

Day 2

Early morning guests will be mounted on elephant back and taken for a jungle safari for 2-3 hours penetrating through dense grasslands to view wildlife in their natural habitat. This grass commonly known as elephant grass is dense and grows to a height of 18-20 ft. It is the favourite habitat for rhinoceros and other mammals. After breakfast, you are taken to our elephant stables where a senior naturalist briefs about the interesting and unbelievable habits of elephant. Here one may witness the rare scene of the elephants at bath. Lunch at the Tigerland Safari Resort

In the afternoon you may choose to relax around the resort or take a drive through the jungles in four wheel drive jeep followed by a canoe ride down the Rapti River. The river ride provides opportunity of viewing the gharial crocodiles as well as the mugger crocodiles, fresh water dolphins, otters and varieties of water birds. OR, you may also feel like going for a nature walk or birding with one of our naturalists to know more about the flora of the Chitwan National Park.

Those on canoe ride are taken back to the resort four wheel drive jeep from the end-point

Day 3

After breakfast in the morning, since Chitwan is a bird paradise of resident and migratory birds, making it a delightful and educational experience for every bird watcher. Special bird watching tour can be arranged too. Those who could not go for elephant safari on the day of arrival would go for elephant safari to penetrate deep into the jungle for viewing and photographing wildlife and those on a jungle walk can experience the abundant bird life and the flora and fauna of the park. Back to hotel for lunch. The rest of the day can be spent bird watching -with Chitwan National Park being the most sought after birder's destination in the world.

Day 4

Fly back to Kathmandu in the morning and connect with your international flights that evening. Alternatively you can spend an extra night in Kathmandu (at extra cost) and catch your international flight the following day.

Extra days can be arranged if you would like to stay longer. Please contact us for a price.

