



TEARS FOR
TIGERS TRAVEL

EXPERIENCE WILDLIFE

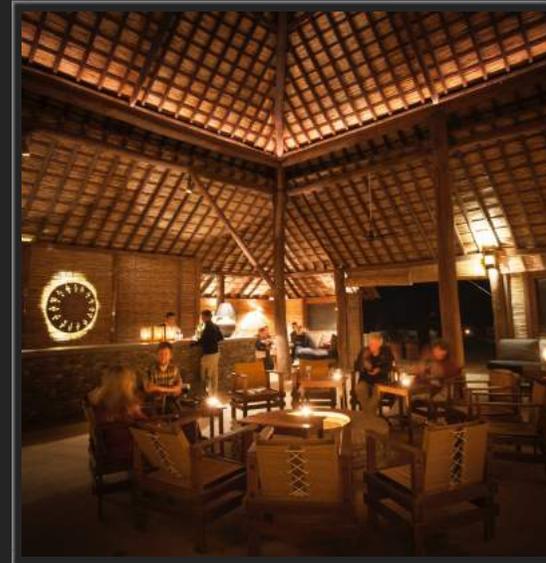
EXPERIENCE THE ANNAPURNA FOOTHILLS AND HIMALAYAN TIGER FOUNDATION



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TRIP FACTS

| | |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| Type of Trip: | TIGER AND HIMALAYAN CONSERVATION |
| Guide: | JACK BAUCHER |
| Departure Date: | OCTOBER 2017 |
| Trip Duration: | 8 DAYS |



WHAT WILL YOU LEARN ABOUT?

Chitwan national parks Tiger Tops Jungle lodge received its first guest in 1965. Since the opening of the property, and its angle on responsible tourism, countless lodges in the Indian subcontinent have been built. The Tiger Tops formula has developed national parks and kept ecosystems from diminishing entirely through sustainable, well managed tourism that play a vital role in national park management.

www.tigertops.com

TIGER MOUNTAIN POKHARA LODGE

Perched 1,000 feet above the Pokhara Valley with a spectacular Himalayan backdrop, Tiger Mountain Pokhara Lodge provides a perfect haven, the essence of tranquility. Ideal for guests pre- and post-trek, or for those wishing to take day walks exploring local communities, bird-watching, gentle exercise, or just to relax in a typical Nepalese rural setting.

Pokhara believe in tourism with a conscience and are pioneers of responsible conservation tourism. To validate our claims, we are independently verified by JUSTreport Verification Services UK.

www.justreport.co.uk

HIMALAYAN TIGER FOUNDATION

Opened in February 2015, this pioneering new lab is studying the ecosystem of Bardia national park and its surrounding buffer zone. Dutch scientist are based down at the property and are working with a government body, using scat analysis and prey species to determine the optimum number of Tigers in the west of Nepal.

www.himalayantigers.org

What's in store for 2017



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- Visit the Annapurna foothills.
- Understand how tourism has conserved mountains and jungles.
- Exclusive introduction to park authorities and patrolling units.
- Learn about the study of prey species in Bardia national park.
- Learn about the ecology of Bardia.
- Exclusive guiding into prime Tiger habitat, tracking Tigers with in-depth analysis with camera trap studies at the Himalayan tiger foundation.



ITINERARY IN FULL

2017

DAY 1

Arrive in Nepal. On arrival, clear customs and be met by your host Jack Baucher, transfer 25 mins to the Yak and Yeti for a formal briefing. The afternoon is for you to enjoy, see some sights in Kathmandu or alternatively rest and recover from your journey.

This evening suppers will be a traditional Nepali banquet offering your first taste of Nepal. We will discuss the programme, introduce our naturalist Tiger expert guides and run you through Tiger conservation in Nepal.

O/N - www.yakandyeti.com/home

DAY 2

AM transfer to the airport for your BH605 9.00am departure to Pokhara. Transfer 45 mins to Tiger Mountain Pokhara lodge. On arrival, check into your rooms and enjoy a light lunch before taking to the Himalayan foothills to explore the Annapurnas. .

O/N www.tigermountainpokhara.com/

Tiger Mountain Pokhara Lodge lays stress on tailoring all wide-ranging options to their guests' personal expectations. Therefore this itinerary is only indicative of the breadth of activities available, but has a special emphasis on Tiger Mountain's role as a specialist in Responsible Conservation Tourism.



Bed tea will be served in your room at the time of your choice or at sunrise, if you wish to see the Himalayan sunrise on the mountains.

For those keen on bird watching, a walk before breakfast with our skilled local guides will offer the chance to see many birds as they forage for food. Bulbuls, Barbets, Babblers and other predominantly passerine species typical of the middle hills of Nepal are seen regularly around the lodge, including Nepal's only endemic species, the Spiny Babbler (*Turdoides nepaulensis*). Today we will head out on a day walk to explore the culture and flora of the hill villages around the lodge with a picnic lunch. Combining steady walking, rural villages, farmland and forest, the walks will be a mini-trek and typical of a day's walking in the Himalayas. An option of a shorter walk and return to the lodge for lunch will also be available. These walks make an excellent introduction to the rich habitat typical of Nepal's middle hills. There is good potential for sighting a range of raptors taking advantage of the thermals to soar up and scout for potential food. The guides will also explain how the lodge works closely with local charities, the community forest usher group and other organisations to promote conservation and awareness in the community.

DAY 3 - Explore Pokhara's wetlands

After early morning activities and breakfast, drive to Pokhara and visit the excellent wetlands of the Harpan Khola (river) that are a haven for waterfowl!

Heading south again we will visit Devi's Falls that typify the dramatic karst gullies of the Pokhara Valley.

Nearby is the Gupteshwar Mahadev Temple in a cave.

After some free time in the lakeside area for lunch (own charge) we will visit the Gurkha Museum. En route back to the lodge, we will then visit the Annapurna Museum that holds an excellent collection of the butterflies seen both around the lodge and at higher altitudes. Upstairs, the museum has displays explaining the Annapurna Conservation Area Project. This is a major undertaking to provide conservation and development initiatives in the Annapurna Area.

O/N www.tigermountainpokhara.com/



DAY 4

This morning we will transfer you by land from Pokhara to Lumbini (3 to 4 hours).

Lumbini - The birthplace of the Buddha, Lumbini is located some 250 km west of Kathmandu, in the plains of Kapilvastu. In the 6th Century B.C., during the time of the Buddha, a confederacy of Sakya clan people lived here. There are numerous buildings of religious significance in Lumbini, the most important of which is a massive stone pillar erected by the Mauryan Emperor Ashoka in 250 B.C. It was discovered only in 1895. Beside the Ashoka Pillar and the Maya Devi Temple, plinths of huge temples and a pond, where the new-born infant and his mother bathed, have been unearthed. Many monasteries and libraries have been constructed by nations from around the world in Lumbini.

O/N Lumbini Buddha Garden Resort.

DAY 5

This morning you will transfer from Lumbini to Bardia national park (7 hrs) . On arrival, check into your rooms and enjoy a drink at the bar before a short lecture by the Himalayan Tiger Foundation on their work in Bardia national park.

Dinner in the central dining hall with the lodge naturalists to give you an insight on the Tigers of Bardia.

Overnight Tiger Tops Karnali lodge

www.tigertops.com



DAY 6

AM: After breakfast you will be shown the bio-lab. The lab was built in 2015 by the Himalayan Tiger Foundation and is a brand new facility studying the park and its surrounding area to determine the highest density of Tigers and which conservation methods need to be implemented. There is a full time team of scientist based at the lab who will teach you about their findings and discoveries. The scientist are working in collaboration with the department of national parks who will be around to explain more on Bardia's Tiger population. Spend the morning on a jeep safari collecting Tiger scats and samples for analysis in the bio-lab. We will take you to the western periphery and onto the Karnali river where there is the last remaining Gangetic dolphin of Nepal. Sit and wait at the waters edge to spot the dolphin, tiger, leopard, gharial crocodile, marsh mugger crocodile, wild elephant and rhino.

PM: After lunch you will be back out in the field enjoying an array of wildlife studies. Nepal is blessed to have a well rounded tourist model allowing visitors to; walk, raft and take a jeep into the park. This afternoon you will be out on a river safari through the national park.

Evening to discuss todays findings around the camp fire.

Overnight Tiger Tops Karnali Lodge.

www.tigertops.com

DAY 7

Early morning activities and breakfast. Transfer to airport. Fly Nepalgunj / Kathmandu. On arrival, meet and assist by TfT representative and transfer to hotel Yak and Yeti.

O/N - www.yakandyeti.com/home

DAY 8

International departure transfer



The cost for above package is as below –

| | |
|------------|--|
| 02-03 pax: | US \$ 2,239.00 per person on sharing basis |
| 04-05 pax: | US \$ 2,137.00 per person on sharing basis |
| 06-10 pax: | US \$ 1,990.00 per person on sharing basis |

Airfare extra (Subject to change)

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Kathmandu / Pokhara | US\$ 125.00 per person |
| Nepalgunj / Kathmandu | US\$ 195.00 per person |
| Mountain flight (weather permitting) | US\$ 195.00 per person |

The above cost includes:

- All arrival / departure transfers accompanied by our representative
- 2 nights accommodation at hotel Yak and Yeti using heritage deluxe room on BB basis
- 2 nights stay at Tiger Mountain Pokhara Lodge inclusive of all meals, non-bar hot beverages, airport transfers and activities
- Long drive from Pokhara to Lumbini and from Lumbini to Karnali Lodge by private a/c vehicle
- 1 night stay at Lumbini Buddha Maya Garden on BB basis
- 3 nights stay at Tiger Tops Karnali Lodge inclusive of all meals
- National park entrance fees
- All available activities
- One way airport transfer from Karnali Lodge to Nepalgunj airport
- All applicable taxes

The above cost excludes:

- Airfares as shown above separately.
- Expenses of personal nature like bar bills, laundry expenses, telephone calls and personal gratuities.
- Meals other than breakfast in Kathmandu.



TfT Terms and Conditions

Confirmation of booking

All bookings are made in good faith. Once we have received your booking we will send you an invoice giving payment details. We will require an advance deposit of 50% to secure the booking with the balance to be paid 45 days prior to your departure.

Arrangements may be cancelled at any time but the cancellation should be communicated to us in writing. Since cancellation incurs administrative costs, we will retain any deposit paid and in addition will apply cancellation charges. We strongly advise that you have insurance cover against cancellation.

Travel Trust Association

TfT Travel is a member of the Travel Trust Association

In summary:

- Your money is 100% financially protected from fraud, bad practice and dishonesty when making a booking.
- Your funds are held in a trust account and only released by the trustees to pay for the services you have booked.

The Travel Trust Association (TTA) is a trade association of travel agents in order to provide financial protection to you the customer. The protection plan covers every service (e.g. transport, hotel or guiding), which you have booked with us. It involves two aspects, firstly, the designated trust account into which your money is paid (in our case: Tears for Tigers Trust Account) is operated for your benefit and supervised by an independent trustee. Moneys will only be released to pay for bona fide services approved by the trustees.

Secondly there is further protection provided by the TTA. If, by reason of fraud or dishonesty by us, the funds are not available in the Trust Account, TTA will guarantee the financial obligation of us to repay you such sum, to a maximum of £11,000 per person.



Therefore, the existence of the Trust Account, together with the guarantee will ensure that all the money which you have paid is safe, protected and available for reimbursement should fraud or dishonesty have taken place.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS GUARANTEE IS NOT PROTECTED AGAINST CANCELLATIONS OR DISRUPTIONS OUT OF OUR MEANS, FOR THAT YOU WOULD NEED SEPARATE INSURANCE.

Price increases

Any unforeseen cost increases beyond our control will be passed on directly to the client whenever such increases are effected. This could include such items as airfares, fuel costs, government taxes, currency exchanges, etc.

Change of itinerary

We reserve the right to change or alter any itinerary at any time for reasons beyond our control. These could include but are not limited to adverse weather conditions, cancellation of flights or government restrictions in certain areas.

Passports and Visas

You must have a passport that is valid for a minimum of 6 months.

For Nepal we advise that you obtain a tourist visa from you're nearest Royal Nepal Embassy before travelling.

However, if this is not convenient, then a visa can be obtained upon arrival at the Kathmandu International Airport on payment of the following fees:

A multiple entry visa for 15 days can be obtained by paying US \$ 25.00 per person. If visitor wishes to obtain visa for 30 days, the fee is US \$ 40 and for 90 days it is US \$ 100.00 per person.

Forms are available in the arrival lounge and one passport photograph is required. Please note that certain special regulations/fees apply if re- entering Nepal within one year.

Please check with us if you have any queries.



After arrival in Kathmandu

If you have arranged to be met: After completing immigration and customs formalities, please exit the building and look for our representative holding a TfT sign that will have your name as well. You will then be transferred to your hotel and given a briefing about your holiday arrangements.

Currency

Upon arrival at your hotel/guest house, change some money into small denominations - useful for tipping and paying taxis (no one ever has any change). A word of warning - do not accept any torn or damaged notes as these will not be accepted by anyone else.

Most international credit cards are accepted in hotels and the larger shops.

Insurance

Please note that it is essential that you are fully insured, proof of insurance may be requested after your arrival in Kathmandu. We recommend that helicopter evacuation is also included. Insurance is not readily available in Nepal.

Health Matters

Vaccinations and immunisations

No inoculations are legally required for Nepal. However, we recommend shots against Typhoid, Tetanus, Meningitis, Polio and Gamma Globulin/ Havrix for hepatitis. Please also check on your polio immunisation (only a sugar lump!). Consult your doctor well in advance of departure and remember to carry certificates as proof of immunisations, should they be required.

Stomach upsets can be a problem but avoidable if you are careful with your diet. Do not drink tap water that has not been first boiled



Weather in Nepal

Nepal receives a southwest monsoon for about 3 months from mid-July until mid-September. During this period trails south of the Himalayas are not suitable for trekking although north of the Himalayas towards the Tibetan/Chinese border, trekking is challenging and the climate good. For the rest of the year the weather is mainly stable and dry and although occasional pre-monsoon showers do occur, the conditions are generally very pleasant. The temperature varies with altitude and during the winter months temperatures drop below freezing at altitudes above 10,000 feet. However, the skies are usually clear and mountain views are generally superb. The months of March and April provide spectacular flowering rhododendron forests in regions easily reachable from Kathmandu or Pokhara. The warmer months of April and May are more suitable for high altitude trekking.

Tipping

An outstretched hand, lingering hotel staff or junior official awaiting reward will be encountered with depressing regularity - especially in the large cities. On transfers to and from air flights our staff take care of this problem for you. Elsewhere if a man has carried your bags or done a similar service, tip him by all means but do not overdo it. Twenty or thirty rupees is quite enough. There is no need to tip city taxi drivers. If shopping alone without a company escort, do not give money to beggars however woeful their plight may be. A stony-faced forward stare and just keep walking is practical but somewhat callous sounding advice.

At our lodges the staff does not expect to be tipped and there is no onus on our clients to do so. However, if you feel that you have received especially good service from the staff as a whole or an individual member and wish to show appreciation, please consult the management for advice on how to do it and how much to give. If your tour includes several days of travelling by hired car, it is the usual practice to tip the driver at the end of the trip. Again consult our local office for advice on tipping.

Clothing

To generalise, regardless of the area visited and the time of year, you should take both lightweight clothes for tropical wear and a set of warm clothes. With these you can cope with every eventuality.



A warm jacket and thick pullover will be required. Up in the hills at 7,000 ft or more, temperatures are cold in the evenings and early mornings so bring suitable woollens and fleeces. In all regions at any time of the year, bring a lightweight waterproof jacket (plastic/nylon pack-away sort) as showers, if infrequent, are possible. Game viewing attire should be of a sombre colour and lightweight for coolness.

Take a warm pullover on early morning viewing trips in the winter and early spring.

Dress at hotels, lodges and other accommodation in Nepal is informal. For evening attire we suggest a blazer and casual trousers for men and a smart blouse and skirt for ladies.

Footwear

For general sightseeing, walking, game viewing and low altitude trekking, a pair of track or training shoes is ideal and sandals for hot weather if you are not walking far.

Miscellaneous equipment

- Sun hat
- Camera and film
- Small torch
- Swimming costume
- Water bottle
- Swiss Army knife
- Sunglasses Binoculars
- Spare batteries
- Reading material
- Personal first aid kit
- Sewing kit

HAVE A QUESTION?
CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE
WWW.EXPERIENCE-WILDLIFE.COM



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EXPERIENCE WILDLIFE

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