



# Wild India Tours and Golden Gate Bird Alliance

Traveler Information	
Name of Group	Golden Gate Bird Alliance
Itinerary	Lions, Tigers, Bears & Birds (and Taj Mahal!)
Trips Dates	01 <sup>st</sup> Feb – 15 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2026

## **Detailed Itinerary**

- Day 1 (01st/2nd Feb 2026): Our tour begins in Delhi, where you will stay overnight upon your arrival. (International flights typically arrive in Delhi at night, so guests may arrive on the night of February 01st or early in the morning on February 02nd.) Accommodation will be provided for you to rest and freshen up
- Day 2 (02<sup>nd</sup> Feb 2026): We will travel to Rajkot by air. From Rajkot Airport, we will drive to Sasan Gir (approximately 3 hour, birding along the way. Upon arrival, we will check in to the hotel and have lunch. After a short rest, we'll bird in and around Sasan Gir. We might spot birds such as Black Francolin, Painted Francolin, Rock Bushquail, Jungle Bushquail, Sykes's Lark, Singing Bush Lark, Rufous-tailed Lark, Greater Short-toed Lark, King Vulture, and White-rumped Vulture.
- Day 3 (03<sup>rd</sup> Feb 2026): We will go on morning and evening safaris in the jungle of Sasan Gir. During the safaris, we will look for animals such as *lions*, *leopards*, *jungle cats*, *golden jackals*, and birds including *Crested Tree Swifts*, *Black-shouldered Kites*, and other *falcons*, *shrikes*, *and vultures*.
  - Gir is home to approximately 38 species of mammals, around 300 species of birds, 37 species of reptiles, and more than 2,000 species of insects.
  - It is the only place in Asia where you can see Asiatic lions.
- Day 4 (04<sup>th</sup> Feb 2026): We will follow the same routine as that on February 03<sup>rd</sup>, with morning and evening safaris. During these safaris, we will have the opportunity to observe more mammals and birds.
- Day 5 (05th Feb 2026): After breakfast, we will travel to Velavadar National Park by road, a journey of approximately 5 hours. Upon arrival, we will check in to the hotel and have lunch. After lunch, we will go for an evening safari in Black Buck National Park, Velavadar. During our safari, we will look for mammals such as Black Buck, Indian Wolf, Hyena, Jackal, Sambar Deer, Jungle Cat and birds including Lesser Florican, Red-necked Falcon, Laggar Falcon, Saker Falcon, Greater Spotted Eagle, Hen Harrier, Pallid Harrier, Stouliczka's Bush Chat, Common Crane, and Demoiselle Crane.
- Day 6 (06<sup>th</sup> Feb 2026): We will follow the same routine as on Day 5, with morning and evening safaris at Black Buck National Park, Velavadar.
- Day 7 (07<sup>th</sup> Feb 2026): After breakfast, we will travel from Velavadar to Ahmedabad to catch our flight to Jaipur. Upon reaching Jaipur, we will check in to the hotel. If time permits, we will take a walk through the local markets.
  - Jaipur is the capital of Rajasthan state; it's also known as the "Pink City" and it was founded in 1727 by Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II.
  - Jaipur is famous for textiles, jewelry and miniature paintings.

- Day 8 (08<sup>th</sup> Feb 2026): After breakfast, we will embark on a full-day excursion in Jaipur. We will visit the Amber Fort and City Palace as well as the observatory. Lunch will be at a local restaurant.
- Day 9 (09th Feb 2026): After breakfast in Jaipur, we will drive to the Ranthambore Tiger Reserve, a journey of about 3 hours. Upon arrival, we'll check into the hotel and have lunch. After lunch, we will embark on an evening safari in Ranthambore Tiger Reserve. During our safari, we will look for Tiger, Leopard, Sloth Bear, Rusty Spotted Cat, Golden Jackal, Hyena, Langur, Mongoose, Nil Gai, Spotted Deer, Wild Boar, Porcupine, Hare, Mars Crocodile, Caracal, and Sambar Deer and birds including Brown Fish Owl, Indian Scops Owl, Painted Spurfowl, Painted Sand Grouse, Chestnut-bellied Sand Grouse, White Naped Woodpacker, Rufous-fronted Prinia, Orphean Warbler, Indian Vulture, Stork billed Kingfisher, Black-bellied Tern, and various species of wheatears, larks, and barbets.
- Day 10 (10<sup>th</sup> Feb 2026): Morning/Evening Safaris at Ranthambore Tiger Reserve. (If possible, we will do a whole day safari in the park).
- Day 11 (11<sup>th</sup> Feb 2026): Morning/Evening Safaris at Ranthambore Tiger Reserve.
- Day 12 (12<sup>th</sup> Feb 2026): We will go for a last morning safari in the park and then depart for Bharatpur with packed lunches. On the way, we will visit Abhaneri, home to Chand Baori, one of the largest step wells in the world. Built by King Chanda in the 8th-9th century, Chand Baori has more than 3,500 steps. Upon reaching Bharatpur, we will check in to the hotel.
- Day 13 (13<sup>th</sup> Feb 2026): We will spend the entire day birdwatching at Keoladeo National Park, formerly the private hunting reserve of the royal family of Bharatpur. Known as the "Paradise of Birds," it was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Natural Site in 1985. During our visit to Keoladeo National Park, we will observe various waterfowl species, such as Bar-headed Goose, Greylag Goose, Knob-Billed Duck, Common Shelduck, Ruddy Shelduck, Cotton Pigmy Goose, Gargany Teal, Falcated Duck, Common Teal, Ferruginous Pochard, Red-Crested Pochard, Siberian Rubythroat, Bluethroat, Greater Flamingo, Yellow Bittern, Black Bittern, Striated Heron, Painted Stork, Asian Openbill, Black-Necked Stork, Saras Crane, Long-Tailed Nightjar, Savana Nightjar, Blue-Tailed Bee-eater, and Lesser Goldenbacked Woodpacker.
- Day 14 (14<sup>th</sup> Feb 2026): After breakfast, we will depart for Agra by road, a 2-hour journey. Upon arrival, we will check in to the hotel. After lunch, we will visit the Taj Mahal until sunset. The Taj Mahal was built by King Shah Jahan in loving memory of his beloved wife, Mumtaz Mahal, who passed away during the birth of their fourteenth child. The monument took 22 years to complete with the help of 20,000 laborers working day and night. It is constructed from pure white Makrana marble and inlaid with semi-precious stones.
- Day 15 (15<sup>th</sup> Feb 2026): After breakfast, we will visit a factory to observe marble inlay work. Following the visit, we will depart for Delhi. Upon arriving in Delhi, we will check into the hotel. In the evening, we will have a farewell dinner. After dinner, guests will be transported to the airport, marking the end of the tour.

We can expect 376+ bird species, 40+ mammal species and 25+ reptile species throughout the tour.

#### Cost

The cost is USD \$7,000 per person based on double occupancy. A single room supplement is USD \$1,500, and a 5% government tax will be added to the final price per person. The tour is limited to 8 people.

## **Price Includes**

- Hotel Accommodation including all meals. Mineral water and soft drinks. Hotels / Resorts will be of the best class.
- All transportation: domestic flights, three SUVs / one mini AC coach and airport transfers.
- Permits to National Parks along with two safari Jeeps, the still camera fee (in Gujarat the still camera fee is very expensive), local guides and drivers.
- All monument fees and local history guides.
- Rickshaws In Keoladeo National Park (the only form of transportation allowed there).
- Farewell dinner in Delhi with Indian brand liquor.
- All tips for drivers, local guides, hotel staff, etc.
- Covid-19 precautions are taken seriously by Wild India Tours. Our Naturalist is vaccinated.

## **Price Excludes**

- Laundry
- Hard Liquor (Gujarat is a dry state, so no hard drinks will be available in Gujarat)
- Insurance or expenditures on health issues

# **Tour Leader**

Rajveer Singh, the owner of Wild India Tours, has over twenty years of experience guiding trips throughout India. He is a certified naturalist, licensed by the Forest Department of Rajasthan, India and has an immense knowledge of not only the wildlife of India but also of its culture. He is passionate about sharing his knowledge with his clients and he loves to introduce them to the wonders of India. He is well known as a guide among Indian travel agencies, and he worked as a local tour leader for National Geographic Expeditions in the years 2015 to 2017.



## Entering India, currency, electricity

- A visa is mandatory to enter in India. You can obtain one online.
- Currency exchange can be done easily everywhere and ATMs are also available everywhere.
- Electricity is available 24\*7 and in case of power cuts, we have a generator.

### Pace of the tour

The itinerary for this tour is designed to ensure a comfortable and relaxed experience for our guests. We will cover all the locations mentioned in the tour itinerary and adhere to a well-organized schedule, enhancing your enjoyment of this journey. We prioritize your comfort.

## Weather, Insects & Traveler's Insurance

The climate in India during February is generally pleasant. In Gujarat, temperatures will range from approximately 20°C to 30°C, and it will neither be too cold nor too hot. However, morning safaris can be cooler due to the open jeep rides through the jungle. In Ranthambore, temperatures will be colder compared to Gujarat. Hotels and resorts provide blankets if needed.

Bring insect repellent since there will be mosquitoes and other insects. <u>Guests should purchase traveler's health insurance</u>.

# Accommodations and Internet access

Accommodation will be very comfortable, with 4 or 5-star hotels or resorts booked, each offering all the basic amenities. Internet access will be available at the hotels and resorts. Please note that at Velavadar, Wi-Fi will be available only in the lobby area since the hotel is located in a remote region.

## Food, transportation and photography

The food on this trip is delicious and the level of spiciness will be adjusted to guests' tastes. During our travels, we'll have the opportunity to dine at some of the best local restaurants, offering classic tastes of Indian cuisine.

Transportation will be very comfortable. In Gujarat, we will use three comfortable SUVs. In Rajasthan, we will travel in an air-conditioned luxury coach.

Guests are welcome to take as many photographs as they like, but please avoid disturbing the mammals and birds. The cost for **one camera per person** is included in the tour price.

#### **Hotel List**

Delhi => Redfox/Atrio/Radisson Blu or similar

Sasan Gir => The Fern resort or similar

Velavadar => The Black Buck Safari lodge

Jaipur => The Holiday Inn / Clarks Amer or similar

Ranthambore => Hotel Ranthambore Kothi / Omak Tiger 7 resort or similar

Bharatpur => The Laxmi Vilas Palace / Regenta by Royal Orchid or similar

Agra => The Clark Shiraz/Trident or similar

#### Luggage

Please check the baggage weight and size restrictions specified by the airline used for this tour. If possible, bring soft-sided bags rather than large hard-shelled suitcases since they pack more easily into our vehicles. Guests are also encouraged to bring clothing and other items that they might wish to donate at the tour's end.