

Robin and Glenda Bream's Birdwatching Tour of North-west India 13-28 February 2011



Demoiselle Cranes at Khichan (left) and Glenda and Robin at the heritage resort in Kota (right).



Our final close encounter with this female tiger in Bandhavgarh National Park.

Tour Organisers

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Arrangements

We had wanted to visit India for many years but were rather daunted by the prospect of a large group tour. However, friends who had used IGT's services successfully on several occasions, recommended that we should approach Manoj Vardhan. IGT excels at putting together individual tours to meet the particular requirements of small groups (in our case, just the two of us). This approach is particularly helpful where tour members may have different priorities and levels of interest in wildlife or culture.

While primarily in search of birds, we were also keen to see tigers and other wildlife and to sample India's rich cultural heritage and diverse society along the way. In the time available we decided to focus our tour on Rajasthan, ending with five days at the tiger reserve of Bandhavgarh in Madhya Pradesh. Manoj arranged an all-inclusive tour which met all our requirements at a very reasonable price considering the high quality of accommodation and individual attention provided throughout the tour. And, although we agreed the itinerary some months before our trip began, IGT was still able to make subsequent adjustments to accommodate late additions to our 'wish-list', including places visited, choice of hotel and mode of travel (e.g. switching from an overnight train to an airlift).

We arranged our own flights to and from India, traveling with Virgin Atlantic overnight from London, Heathrow to New Delhi and returning on a daytime flight.

Weather

Warm, dry days with cool early mornings. A few heavy showers at Bharatpur and Bandhavgarh impacted slightly on our birding (but helped settle the dust).

Wildlife

We positively identified 209 of the 212 bird species seen or heard calling (see separate Annex), many of which were on our 'wish-list' for the trip; plus 16 species of mammal, 6 species of reptile and 9 species of butterfly. We were also lucky enough to spend several hours in close encounters with tigers, obtaining memorable photographs from both jeep and elephant-back.

Trip Report

13 February Arriving in New Delhi around midday, we noted Red-wattled Lapwing alongside the runway as the aircraft taxied to a halt. We were welcomed by Manoj's father, Harsh Vardhan, IGT company founder, with his driver, Bhava Lal. Harsh accompanied us on the first part of our 6-hour car journey south to Agra, providing some initial briefing. Leaving Delhi, we soon began seeing new bird species from the car, including Indian Roller, Green Bee-eater, White-throated Kingfisher and Indian Peafowl. Our midway refreshment stop was near a roadside wetland where we were amazed to see Black-necked Storks, Black-headed Ibis and Sarus Cranes so close to a busy highway. Arriving around sunset on the outskirts of Agra, we encountered our first Rhesus Macaques and stopped briefly to admire our first historic monument, Akbar's Mausoleum, before pushing through the evening rush-hour to the welcome comfort of the Hotel Mansingh (and our first authentic Indian food, to which we

would quickly become addicted). After dinner we met our local guide who urged an early morning start to allow for a full day of cultural delights.

14 February Despite an early breakfast our journey to the Taj Mahal was delayed because the road outside our hotel had become part of the annual Agra marathon route. Nevertheless, we enjoyed the opportunity to explore the hotel garden, where new species included Jungle Babblers, Laughing Doves and Northern Palm Squirrels. Once the road reopened we headed for the Taj and the novelty of riding in 'tuc-tucs' while avoiding hustlers. Less avoidable were the high security procedures around the Taj, which meant we could not take binoculars to check the rich birdlife on the Yamuna River. However, we were able to photograph the river, which seemed to hold good numbers of egrets, ruddy shelduck, waders and gulls (and were subsequently able to identify our first Pallas's Gull from the enlargement!). The Taj itself was spectacular and our guide was excellent: it was well worth the diversion from our all-absorbing bird quest. We then persuaded our guide to take us to the village of Katchpur on the opposite side of the river where we, our guide and the local policeman all took turns scoping the birds without fear of arrest. This produced our only River Lapwing for the trip.

Such flexibility suited us well but meant our planned visit to the Red Fort became more of a drive-by. We also skipped the Mughal acropolis, Fatehpur Sikri, in order to gain more daylight on arrival at Bharatpur and allow some 'down' time from our busy schedule. The traditional atmosphere and architecture of Laxmi Vilas Palace (a Heritage Palace Hotel) was ideal for a relaxing 2-night break, with Keoladeo National Park (KNP) only a mile away by cycle-rickshaw. An evening tour of the hotel grounds produced both Red-vented and Black-eared Bulbuls, Purple Sunbird, Rufous Treepie, Greater Coucal, Indian Grey Hornbill and Spotted Dove.

15 & 16 February The next two days were spent mainly on foot with our excellent guide, Satyabhan (Satya) Singh, exploring the many tracks around KNP bird reserve. Although both early morning starts were affected by violent thunderstorms (with associated power cuts), the rain soon gave way to ideal birding conditions. Among the 120 or so species recorded, highlights included: Greater and Indian Spotted Eagles, Dusky Eagle Owls at the nest, Yellow-footed Green Pigeons, Black-rumped Flamebacks, Plum-headed Parakeets, Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher, Large-tailed Nightjar, Bronze-winged Jacana, Comb Ducks, Yellow-wattled Lapwings, Woolly-necked Stork, vast flocks of mixed wildfowl, a large herd of Bar-headed Geese, a breeding colony of Painted Storks and a pair of Indian Coursers. Mammalian highlights included Golden Jackals, Wild Boar, Nilgai, Spotted Deer, Indian Hare and Common Grey Mongoose. We were, however, happy not to encounter KNP's shyest resident, the stray tiger that had eluded capture since its arrival was detected some months earlier.

Satya was both a helpful guide and excellent companion during these two days, ensuring we found as many species as possible in the time available. We would happily have extended this phase to three days if time had permitted, but Indian Railways wait for nobody! On leaving

KNP we were greeted by our host, Manoj, with his driver, Imran Khan. After dinner at the hotel we set off on a 3-hour drive to Dausa station in good time to catch the overnight train west to Phalodi. When it arrived, the train was late and the appropriate carriage inaccessible without extra help. Fortunately, Manoj travelled with us on the train journey so we managed to scramble aboard just before the train pulled away again. The bunk-beds were reasonably comfortable and we managed short spells of sleep before the early morning sunshine revealed a sandy desert landscape complete with Indian Gazelles.

17 & 18 February Arriving in Phalodi, we were met by our driver, Bhava Lal, and his son, Adjayi, and taken to our next excellent Heritage Palace Hotel, Lal Niwas, in time for breakfast. From the hotel roof we could see evidence of numerous cattle living in the narrow streets rather than out in the surrounding desert, so Brown Rock-chats, Dusky Crag-martins and House Swifts were also thriving in the old quarter. Beyond the town, the village of Khichan provides the daily spectacle in winter of up to 7000 Demoiselle Cranes converging on the village centre, the 'Pakshi Chugga Ghar', to be fed, at considerable cost to the village and its wider support network. We made a short afternoon visit to the

home of Ratanlal Maloo, the man whose lifetime of hard work has allowed this ancient Jain tradition to continue, returning early next morning to witness the spectacle for ourselves. It was amazing to see (and hear) so many large wild birds flying in from the desert to feed and interact in such a confined space. Well worth the stopover.

After breakfast we left Phalodi, heading north-east towards Gajner, on the outskirts of Bikaner. En route we encountered our first Steppe Eagle, along with Black-winged Kite, Southern Grey Shrike, Variable and Isabelline Wheatears, while a large village reservoir held Avocets, Marsh Sandpiper and a range of duck. On arrival at the marvelous Heritage hotel that is Gajner Palace, we were served lunch overlooking a superb lake containing a wealth of wildfowl, Spoonbills, egrets, cormorants and our first Black Ibis and White-browed Wagtail. We were able to set up our telescope so that it was available for hotel staff to view their local birds and, once again, the population of Indian birdwatchers seemed to increase immediately! A late afternoon walk in the grounds produced more birds, including White-browed Fantails, Bonelli's Eagle, Spotted Owlets and Plain Martins.

19 February After breakfast we set off east for the Carcass Dump on the outskirts of Bikaner where the sky and trees were filled with Egyptian Vultures, Black Kites, Griffon Vultures and eagles (mostly Steppe Eagles). The large number of seemingly aggressive dogs encouraged us to watch mainly from the car, but this was certainly another bird spectacle not to be missed. After lunch in Bikaner, we continued east to Tal Chhappar Wildlife Sanctuary where splendid male Blackbuck were rutting in a cattle-free area of protected, dry grassland. The reserve also contained Indian Courser, White-eyed Buzzard, Pallid Harrier, a large flock of Short-toed Larks and 3,000 Demoiselle Cranes. It was late afternoon as we began the longest stretch of our journey, south-east to Jaipur. In the monotony of a long evening road journey, our single wildlife event was a Small Indian Civet which dashed into the road, turned quickly and escaped into the darkness. Arriving in Jaipur around 11pm, Manoj took us to an excellent city-centre restaurant where we enjoyed a late dinner before checking in at the General's Retreat Hotel.

20 February Checking out after breakfast, we visited the amazing Stone Observatory, where our expert guide succeeded in leading us through the history and science of this ancient technical wonder in under an hour. We followed this with a drive up to the imposing Amber Palace with its beautiful architecture and commanding views over the smog of the city far below. Here, too, our guide was excellent and took us through this massive ancient site in a way which brought its history to life. These were two welcome interruptions to our birding which we would not have wanted to miss.

So, back to the birds, we proceeded to Man Sagar Lake, the site of the annual Indian Bird Fair, where we were greeted by Harsh Vardhan who was supervising a large group of visiting students. At Harsh's invitation, we addressed the group and explained both the attraction of Indian birds to UK birdwatchers, and the importance of their conservation. A quick look at the lake revealed seven species of heron and a White-browed Wagtail, before we proceeded to the Vardhan household to meet Harsh and Manoj's whole family and enjoy a delicious lunch. After lunch, we bade farewell and set off with Manoj on the 5-hour drive south to Kota, staying at the exquisitely decorated Palkiya Haveli, a Heritage hotel, where the lady of the house is the 7th-generation owner-in-residence.

21 February After breakfast we headed for the Chambal River to meet our guide for the day, Ravindra Singh Tomar, for a 3-hour river trip. Within 20 minutes, the city had disappeared as the wide, traffic-free river entered a long gorge. New birds included River Terns, Crested Serpent-eagle and a pair of Brown Fish-owls carrying a Smooth Water-snake. As the gorge narrowed, we stopped for a welcome cup of *chai* opposite tall cliffs containing a colony of Indian Vultures. Returning to Kota, we stopped briefly to photograph a large Mugger Crocodile, then back to the hotel for lunch. Then, in the heat of the afternoon, we drove east from Kota, arriving at the Sorsan Blackbuck Sanctuary just as hundreds of cattle were returning from grazing the badly degraded, dry grassland (in stark contrast to cattle-free Tal Chhappar). Surprisingly, we still saw quite a few Blackbuck. New birds included Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse, Black-crowned Sparrow-larks and Wire-tailed Swallow. We also admired Sorsan's small, bird-rich wetland before heading back for dinner at Palkiya Haveli and

then to Kota station for our second railway adventure: the long overnight train journey south-east to Katni.

22-26 February After a delayed arrival in Katni, we were met at the station for the two-hour drive to Bandhavgarh National Park and checked into a very comfortable bungalow at Jungle Lodge where we would stay for our final five days of birding - plus tigers! The efficient programme of morning and afternoon jeep safaris into the reserve, with adequate breaks for relaxation, plus excellent service, good food and pleasant company, made this final phase of the trip particularly welcome after our frenetic tour of Rajasthan. But most important was the high calibre of Jungle Lodge's senior guide, Padma K.C., who managed our wildlife quest expertly throughout our stay at Jungle Lodge, ensuring a perfect balance between bird and tiger watching opportunities.

Our first safari revealed a crop of new birds, including Lesser Adjutant and Malabar Pied Hornbill then, the next morning, our early start was rewarded with a splendid pair of adult tigers walking along the far bank of a forest stream. Over the next few days we would get much closer to resting tigers by approaching them on elephant-back but, our final close encounter was when a female tiger decided to cross the track immediately behind our parked jeep, providing the best photo-opportunity of the entire trip.

As well as tigers, our Bandhavgarh mammals included Hanuman Langur monkeys, Ruddy Mongoose, Sambar Deer and Indian Muntjac. We also recorded a fair selection of butterflies but, because opportunities to walk in the reserve are limited, most of them were in the garden around our bungalow.

Although we had already seen many of Bandhavgarh's birds in Rajasthan, there were still many new species awaiting us here, further east in the forests of Madhya Pradesh. These included: Red Junglefowl, Jungle Bush-quail, Painted Spurfowl, Jungle Owlet, Mottled Wood-owl, Alexandrine Parakeet, Crested Tree-swift, Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch, Indian Pygmy-woodpecker, Oriental White-eye, Oriental Honey-buzzard, Changeable Hawk-eagle, Red-headed Vulture, Scaly Thrush, Blue-capped Rock-thrush, White-bellied and Racket-tailed Drongos, White-rumped Shama, Brown-cheeked Fulvetta, Common Minivet, Sirkir Malkoha, Common Hawk-cuckoo, Common Iora, Black-naped Monarch, Black-hooded Oriole and Tawny-bellied Babbler.

27 February Our original plan included the long overnight rail journey back from Umari to New Delhi but we later asked Manoj (at only five days notice) to switch us to an internal flight with Kingfisher, allowing one further night at Bandhavgarh. So, in the pre-dawn darkness, we enjoyed a hurried breakfast and our taxi took us on the 3-hour drive to Jabalpur Airport, arriving in good time (despite a puncture en-route) to check in for the 0900 flight. We concluded it was well worth the additional cost of this switch as the 2-hour flight allowed us to check into our hotel (Hotel@37) in New Delhi by early afternoon, rather than face the prospect of an 18-hour train journey (plus additional waiting time as this service had recently been running several hours late). With the time and energy saved, we cautiously explored the immediate area of our hotel and spotted a few urban birds, including Black Kites at the nest, before dinner at the hotel and our first opportunity to watch some Indian television.

28 February After breakfast, our taxi took us from the hotel to New Delhi Airport. From the taxi we spotted a Shikra and from the departure lounge, Egyptian Vultures and Common Mynas. As our 1345 flight taxied for take-off, we noted Black-winged Kite hovering alongside the runway...

Conclusion and thanks

Our Indian trip fully lived up to (and often exceeded) our high expectations and we can unreservedly confirm the recommendations of those friends who encouraged us to travel with IGT. We would particularly like to thank Manoj Vardhan, his father Harsh and their team for the very professional way our trip was organised, managed and adapted, ensuring our comfort and safety at all times. We would also like to thank Padma K.C. at Bandhavgarh and Satya Singh at Keoladeo for revealing the rich wildlife of those two National Parks. Thanks also go to Ravindra Singh Tomar at Kota for showing us the contrasting wildlife of the Chambal River and the dry grassland of Sorsan Blackbuck Sanctuary.

Indian Bird List: February 2011

1.	Grey Francolin	KNP,TC,BNP
2.	Jungle Bush-quail	BNP
3.	Painted Spurfowl	BNP
4.	Red Junglefowl	BNP
5.	Indian Peafowl	W
6.	Oriental Darter	KNP,KCR
7.	Indian Cormorant	W
8.	Little Cormorant	W
9.	Great Cormorant	W
10.	Little Grebe	W
11.	Bar-headed Goose	KNP
12.	Ruddy Shelduck	W
13.	Knob-billed (Comb) Duck	KNP,SBS
14.	Cotton Pygmy-goose	KNP,SBS
15.	Gadwall	KNP,GP
16.	Eurasian Wigeon	GP
17.	Mallard	W
18.	Indian Spot-billed Duck	KNP,SBS
19.	Common Teal	W
20.	Garganey	SBS
21.	Northern Pintail	KNP,GP
22.	Northern Shoveler	W
23.	Common Pochard	KNP,GP
24.	Tufted Duck	GP
25.	Common Merganser (Goosander)	KNP
26.	White-breasted Waterhen	KNP,BNP
27.	Purple Swamphen	W
28.	Eurasian Moorhen	W
29.	Eurasian Coot	W
30.	Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse	SBS
31.	Eastern Cattle Egret	W
32.	Eastern Great Egret	W
33.	Little Egret	W
34.	Intermediate Egret	W
35.	Indian Pond-heron	W
36.	Grey Heron	W
37.	Purple Heron	KNP
38.	Black-crowned Night-heron	W
39.	Glossy Ibis	W
40.	Black-headed Ibis	KNP
41.	Indian Black (Red-naped) Ibis	GP,TC,SBS
42.	Eurasian Spoonbill	AYR,KNP,GP
43.	Painted Stork	KNP,SBS
44.	Black-necked Stork	KNP
45.	Woolly-necked Stork	KNP,KCR, BNP

46.	Lesser Adjutant	BNP
47.	Black Stork	BNP
48.	Demoiselle Crane	PK,GP,TC
49.	Sarus Crane	KNP
50.	Common Redshank	SBS
51.	Spotted Redshank	KNP
52.	Marsh Sandpiper	GP
53.	Wood Sandpiper	KNP,SBS
54.	Green Sandpiper	KNP,P,KCR
55.	Common Sandpiper	W
56.	Greenshank	KNP
57.	Ruff	W
58.	Indian Courser	KNP,TC
59.	Bronze-winged Jacana	KNP,KCR
60.	Pied Avocet	GP
61.	Black-winged Stilt	W
62.	Northern Lapwing	KNP
63.	Yellow-wattled Lapwing	KNP, BNP
64.	River Lapwing	AYR
65.	Red-Wattled Lapwing	W
66.	Little Ringed Plover	SBS
67.	Pallas's (Great Black-headed) Gull	AYR,SBS
68.	[Yellow-legged Gull]	AYR,KCR
69.	River Tern	KNP,KCR
70.	Black-winged Kite	W
71.	(Western) Osprey	KCR
72.	Black Kite	W
73.	Egyptian Vulture	W
74.	Indian Vulture	KCR,BNP
75.	Eurasian Griffon Vulture	BCD
76.	Red-headed Vulture	BNP
77.	Short-toed Eagle	KNP,KCR
78.	Crested Serpent-eagle	KCR,BNP
79.	Marsh Harrier	KNP
80.	Pallid Harrier	TC
81.	Montagu's Harrier	SBS
82.	Shikra	W
83.	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	PK
84.	Oriental Honey-buzzard	BNP
85.	White-eyed Buzzard	TC,BNP
86.	Indian Spotted Eagle	KNP
87.	Greater Spotted Eagle	KNP
88.	Steppe Eagle	PK
89.	Bonelli's Eagle	GP,KCR
90.	Changeable Hawk-eagle	BNP
91.	Kestrel	W
92.	[Laggar]	KNP
93.	Peregrine	BNP
94.	[Saker Falcon]	KNP
95.	Rock Pigeon	W
96.	Oriental Turtle-dove	BNP
97.	Laughing Dove	W
98.	Spotted Dove	KNP,BNP
99.	Eurasian Collared-dove	W
100.	Yellow-footed Green-pigeon	KNP,GP,BNP

101.	Indian Pygmy Woodpecker	BNP
102.	Yellow-fronted Woodpecker	KNP
103.	Black-rumped Flameback	KNP,GP,BNP
104.	White-naped Flameback	KNP,BNP
105.	Brown-headed Barbet	KNP
106.	Coppersmith Barbet	KNP,BNP
107.	Indian Grey Hornbill	KNP,BNP
108.	Malabar Pied Hornbill	BNP
109.	Hoopoe	KNP,BNP
110.	Indian Roller	W
111.	Common Kingfisher	KCR,BNP
112.	White-throated Kingfisher	W
113.	(Lesser) Pied Kingfisher	SBS,BNP
114.	(Little) Green Bee-eater	W
115.	Common Hawk-cuckoo	BNP
116.	Sirkeer Malkoha	BNP
117.	Greater Coucal	KNP,BNP
118.	Alexandrine Parakeet	BNP
119.	Rose-ringed Parakeet	W
120.	Plum-headed Parakeet	KNP,BNP
121.	House (Little) Swift	W
122.	Crested Treeswift	BNP
123.	Indian Scops-owl	KNP,BNP
124.	Dusky Eagle-owl	KNP
125.	Brown Fish-owl	KCR,BNP
126.	Mottled Wood-owl	BNP
127.	Jungle Owlet	BNP
128.	Spotted Owlet	W
129.	Large-tailed Nightjar	KNP
130.	Golden-fronted Leafbird	BNP
131.	Bay-backed Shrike	KNP
132.	Long-tailed Shrike	W
133.	Southern Grey Shrike	GP,BCD,SBS
134.	Rufous Treepie	KNP,KCR,BNP
135.	House Crow	W
136.	Large-billed (Jungle) Crow	KNP,BNP
137.	Black-hooded Oriole	BNP
138.	Large Cuckooshrike	BNP
139.	Small Minivet	BNP
140.	White-browed Fantail	GP
141.	Black Drongo	W
142.	White-bellied Drongo	BNP
143.	Greater Racket-tailed Drongo	BNP
144.	Black-naped Monarch	BNP
145.	Common Iora	BNP
146.	Common Woodshrike	BNP
147.	Blue-capped Rock Thrush	BNP
148.	Blue Rock Thrush	BNP
149.	(Small-billed) Scaly Thrush	BNP
150.	Tickell's Thrush	KNP,BNP
151.	Dark-throated Thrush	BNP
152.	Red-throated (Taiga) Flycatcher	KNP
153.	Red-breasted Flycatcher	KNP,BNP
154.	Tickell's Blue Flycatcher	BNP
155.	Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher	KNP,BNP

156.	Bluethroat	KNP
157.	Oriental Magpie-robin	KNP
158.	White-rumped Shama	BNP
159.	Indian Robin	KNP,KCR,BNP
160.	Black Redstart	KNP,BCD,BNP
161.	Eurasian/Siberian Stonechat	KNP,SBS,BNP
162.	Pied Bushchat	KNP
163.	Brown Rock-chat	PK
164.	Variable Wheatear	GP,BCD
165.	Isabelline Wheatear	GP,SBS
166.	Brahminy Starling	KNP,PK
167.	Common Starling	TC
168.	(Asian) Pied Starling/Myna	KNP,SBS
169.	Common Myna	W
170.	Bank Myna	W
171.	Chestnut-bellied (Indian) Nuthatch	BNP
172.	Cinereous (Great) Tit	KNP,BNP
173.	Plain (Grey-throated sand) Martin	GP
174.	Dusky Crag-martin	PK,MSL,KCR
175.	Wire-tailed Swallow	SBS
176.	Red-rumped Swallow	W
177.	White-eared Bulbul	KNP,GP
178.	Red-vented Bulbul	W
179.	Grey-breasted Prinia	BNP
180.	Jungle Prinia	KNP
181.	Plain Prinia	KNP
182.	Ashy Prinia	KNP
183.	Zitting Cisticola	BNP
184.	Oriental White-eye	BNP
185.	Clamorous Reed Warbler	KNP
186.	Lesser Whitethroat	KNP
187.	Orphean Warbler	KNP
188.	Common Tailorbird	KNP,Ban
189.	Dusky Warbler	KNP
190.	Sulphur-bellied Warbler	BNP
191.	Hume's Warbler	BNP
192.	Greenish Warbler	KNP,GP,BNP
193.	Tawny-bellied Babbler	BNP
194.	Yellow-eyed Babbler	KNP
195.	Large Grey Babbler	KNP,TC
196.	Jungle Babbler	W
197.	Brown-cheeked Fulvetta	BNP
198.	Black-crowned Sparrow-lark	SBS
199.	Greater Short-toed Lark	TC
200.	Purple Sunbird	W
201.	White-rumped Munia	BNP
202.	House Sparrow	W
203.	Chestnut-shouldered Petronia	W
204.	White Wagtail	W
205.	White-browed Wagtail	GP,MSL
206.	Yellow Wagtail	W
207.	Grey Wagtail	BNP
208.	Paddyfield Pipit	BNP
209.	Tawny Pipit	KNP,GP
210.	Olive-backed Pipit	BNP

211. Indian Silverbill KNP

Heard but Unseen Indian Birds

212 Indian Scimitar Babbler BNP

Location Key

AYR	Agra, Yamuna River	BNP	Bandhavgarh National Park
BCD	Bikaner Carcass Dump	GP	Gajner Palace
KCR	Kota, Chambal River	KNP	Keoladeo National Park
MSL	Man Sagar Lake	PK	Phalodi / Khichan
SBS	Sorsan Blackbuck Sanctuary	TC	Tal Chhapar Wildlife Sanctuary
W	Widespread		

Other Wildlife

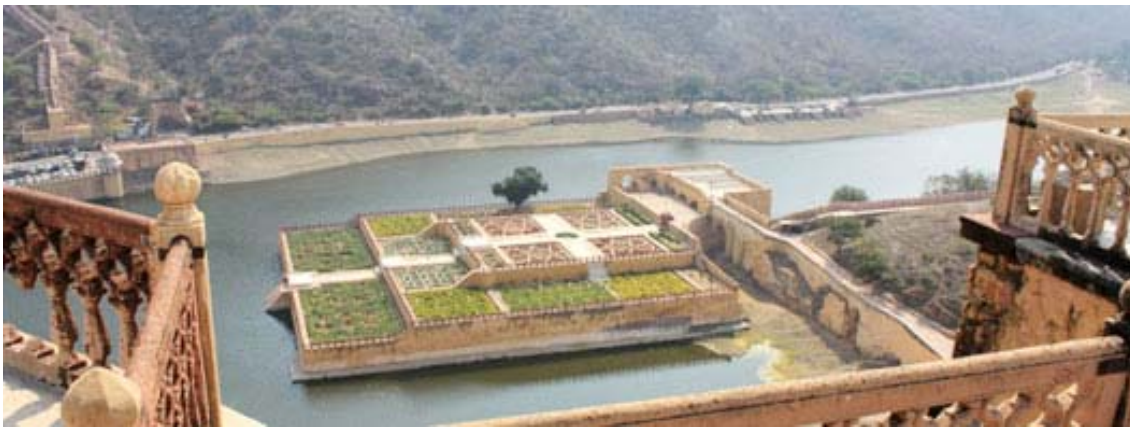
Rhesus Macaque <i>Maccaca mulatta</i>	W
Hanuman Langur <i>Semnopithecus entellus</i>	BNP
Sambar Cervus <i>unicolor</i>	BNP
Barking Deer (Indian Muntjac) <i>Muntiacus muntjak</i>	BNP
Spotted Deer (Cheetal) <i>Axis axis</i>	KNP, BNP
Nilgai (Blue Bull) <i>Boselaphus tragocamelus</i>	KNP, GP
Blackbuck Antelope <i>cervicapra</i>	TC, SBS
Indian Gazelle (Chinkara) <i>Gazella bennettii</i>	PK
Wild Boar <i>Sus scrofa</i>	KNP, GP, BNP
Golden Jackal <i>Canis aureus</i>	KNP
Indian Tiger <i>Panthera tigris</i>	BNP
Small Indian Civet <i>Viverricula indica</i>	TC
Grey (Indian) Mongoose <i>Herpestes edwardsii</i>	KNP, KCR, BNP
Ruddy Mongoose <i>Herpestes smithii</i>	BNP
Indian Hare <i>Lepus nigricollis</i>	KNP
Northern (Five-striped) Palm Squirrel <i>Funambulus pennantii</i>	W
Smooth Water-snake <i>Enhydris enhydris</i>	
(one in beak of Brown Fish-owl and one floating dead in river)	KCR
Asian House Gecko <i>Hemidactylus frenatus</i> (in Jungle Lodge)	BNP
Indian Monitor <i>Varanus bengalensis</i> (edge of Thar Desert)	GP
Indian Soft-shelled Turtle <i>Trionyx gangeticus</i>	W
Indian Flap-shelled Turtle <i>Lyssemys punctata</i>	W
Mugger Crocodile <i>Crocodylus palustris</i>	KCR

Butterflies at Bandhavgarh

Common Crow	<i>Euploea core</i>
Common Rose	<i>Pachliopta aristolochiae</i>
Common Sailor	<i>Neptis hylas</i>
Gram Blue	<i>Euchrysops cnejus</i>
Common Baronet	<i>Euthalia nais</i>
Peacock Pansy	<i>Junonia almana</i>
Common Mormon	<i>Papilio polytes</i>
Plain Tiger	<i>Danaus chrysippus</i>
Large Grass Yellow	<i>Eurema hecabe</i>



Gajner Palace Heritage Hotel overlooking a superb lake.



Amber Palace, Jaipur



Indian Courser at Tal Chhaper (left) and Oriental Honey-buzzard in Bandhavgarh National Park (right).



Individual & Group Tours : The Tourism & Conservation Blend

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