



INDIA ESCORTED SMALL GROUP JOURNEYS

The subcontinent is a riot of colour, culture and history, with generous pockets of remarkable wildernesses. Yet for even the most seasoned travellers, India can be daunting. Our escorted small group journeys offer the best opportunities to observe India's wildlife - including the Royal Bengal tiger and Asian elephant - while providing an insight into the country's glorious past. Gaze upon the luminous Taj Mahal at Agra or glide along Kerala's languid backwaters in a traditional houseboat. Both tours visit famous reserves such as Ranthambore to maximise the chances of viewing India's most resplendent feline. Throughout your trip, you'll be accompanied by a tour leader whose zest for India knows no bounds.

TOUR ESCORT

A passionate traveller with over 30 years' experience in the travel industry, Anne-Marie (Annie) Zambelli's knowledge is unrivalled. As our General Manager she is an expert on all our destinations. As a tour leader she is a knowledgeable, enthusiastic and entertaining travelling companion. Captivated by India on her first trip in 2002, Annie has returned many times and this will be her 10th Taj Temples & Tigers Tour.



For further information and to reserve your place please call Anne-Marie on 1300 363 302 or (03) 9249 3705.



TAJ, TEMPLES & TIGERS

Departing 06 Feb 2018

Go in search of the magnificent Bengal tiger. Contemplate the mystery of ancient temples, grand palaces and the beauty of the Taj Mahal. We invite you to join us on this escorted tour, the main focus of which is to view the endangered tiger. Nothing can prepare you for the excitement of seeing this magnificent creature in its natural habitat, a privilege that few people will ever experience. Whilst this tour visits 3 of India's national parks there is also plenty of time for cultural experiences and historical sites.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Total of 12 guided tiger safaris in Bandhavgarh, Kanha and Ranthambore
- The avian paradise at Bharatpur - Keoladeo National Park
- Sunrise AND sunset visit to the breathtakingly beautiful Taj Mahal
- The historic treasures of Delhi, Khajuraho and Jaipur
- Accompanying naturalist and Australian escort

TOUR COST

EX MEL	EX SYD	EX BNE	EX ADL	EX PER
\$12,167	\$12,015	\$12,021	\$12,133	\$12,047
per person twin share	per person twin share	per person twin share	per person twin share	per person twin share

Single Supplement: \$3151.

We can try to arrange shared accommodation on request.

*International airfares strictly subject to availability.



TIGERS & SOUTHERN DELIGHTS

Departing 15 Oct 2018

Discover India's most impressive wildlife reserves, travelling from Delhi to the historic port city of Kochi on India's sultry southwestern coast. Search for magnificent Bengal tigers in Ranthambore, go bird-watching at the Ranganathithu Bird Sanctuary and explore lush Nagarhole National Park. On your journey from north to south, travel by rail across the scenic Indian countryside, cruise along sleepy backwater canals, learn to cook traditional Kerala cuisine and embark on exciting safaris.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Total of 5 guided tiger safaris in Ranthambore
- Charming port city of Kochi and backwaters of Kerala
- 5 safaris (including 1 boat) in Nagarhole National Park
- The enchanting southern cultural capital of Mysore
- Spice estates, coffee plantations, beautiful beaches and delicious cuisine
- Accompanying naturalist and an Australian escort

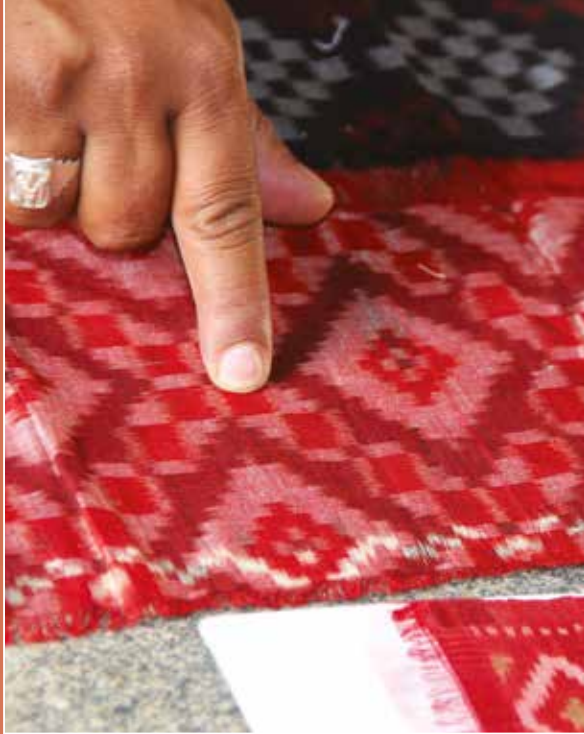
TOUR COST

EX MEL	EX SYD	EX BNE	EX ADL	EX PER
\$12,171	\$12,149	\$12,144	\$12,138	\$12,130
per person twin share	per person twin share	per person twin share	per person twin share	per person twin share

Single travellers on request.

*International airfares strictly subject to availability.





MADE IN INDIA

Many travellers have compared India's long history and complex cultural fabric to a detailed tapestry. As a matter of fact, the subcontinent is a world leader in the art of weaving, having spent millenia mastering textile production. It was in the Indus Valley - site of one of the earliest human civilisations - where fragments of cotton clothing were discovered, along with iconography displaying sophisticated dress styles. In 1921, Mahatma Gandhi even proposed a design for the national flag with a spoked spinning wheel at its centre, symbolising the self-reliance of India's citizens.

India's iconic and stylish sari got its name from the Sanskrit word for cloth, with the most expensive versions spun with silk from the Orient. During the Mughal era, saris threaded with pure gold and silver were immensely popular with aristocratic women. Another flattering item of traditional clothing worn by many Indians - male and female - is the salwar kameez, a long tunic worn over trousers. Today, both are still favoured by fashion-forward Indians across the globe.

While some of the states below might be better known for landmarks, cuisine or wildlife, here are some interesting facts about the textiles which originate from them:

GUJARAT

The last bastion of the Asiatic lion, ancient Gujarat is also home to Rabari communities whose men wear distinctive scarlet turbans. The Rabari are also renowned for embroidery, using tiny mirrors in a variety of shapes to embellish their garments.

TELANGANA

Biryani, Islamic architecture and a monumental fort might be the most recognisable features of this former princely state of Hyderabad. However, it also specialises in ikkat - a labour-intensive technique used to create intricate patterns in yarn before it's woven.

UTTAR PRADESH

Encompassing the historic cities of Agra, Varanasi and Lucknow, populous Uttar Pradesh gave birth to cotton muslin so fine it is believed Buddha's body was wrapped in the material upon his death. Holy Varanasi is also esteemed for silks and brocades.

WEST BENGAL

India's tea capital, Kolkata, is found in West Bengal as is jamdani - a delicate weave often used in saris and scarves. Painstakingly crafted by hand on a loom, this sheer fabric often features geometric or floral designs and is highly prized.

RAJASTHAN

With its palaces, walled cities and camels, the desert state of Rajasthan is also an acclaimed centre of textile traditions including block printing, an age-old art. Printed quilts - a unique souvenir - often bear classic Rajput motifs such as elephants and peacocks.

Let our India experts weave together your perfect India holiday. Call us on 1300 363 302.