



Bengal tiger

Veterinary Study Tour to India

23 February – 9 March 2027

Post-tour extension to Kaziranga National Park

9 – 12 March 2027



Level 3
MODERATE





The courtyard of Amber Fort, Jaipur

Travel to the Aravalli hills, dusty savannahs, and dense forests of India's biodiverse northern states. The region is home to the world's largest population of tigers, the one-horned rhinoceros, the magnificent Asian elephant, and a fabulous array of bird species.

This study tour provides unique insight into India's veterinary practice, diverse wildlife and conservation efforts. It includes safaris, expert talks and visits to veterinary practices across three of India's most impressive national parks: Ranthambore, Keoladeo, and Jim Corbett. We've also partnered with Wildlife SOS to visit to their Elephant Conservation & Care Centre and Bear Rescue Facility and to learn from their team about wildlife rescue and rehabilitation.

'Great trip with an excellent group of travellers - Shaun was wonderful company! Visits were very interesting, even better than they appear on paper.'

Sue Thompson, *Veterinary Study Tour in Sri Lanka, Mar 2026*

A full cultural itinerary also offers time to explore India's equally rich urban jungles. From the princely heritage of Jaipur, known as the Pink City for the rosy hue of its labyrinthine streets, to sunrise over the Taj Mahal, visiting palaces, forts and bazaars along the way.

There is the option to extend your stay and visit Kaziranga National Park, a floodplain in Assam that sports the world's largest population of Indian one-horned rhinoceroses.

THIS TOUR IS CLASSED AS:

Level 3 | Moderate



Regular walking at destinations, extended standing and /or increased travel distances. Good fitness is required.

Tour Leader

Shaun Opperma is the Veterinary Director at Battersea Dogs & Cats Home, the UK's oldest and best-known animal shelter, where he runs a clinical department of twelve vets and forty nurses across three sites.

He graduated in 1986 from Bristol University and, following five years in small animal practice both in the UK and Australia, joined Battersea in 1991. His interests include soft tissue surgery, canine respiratory disease, and shelter medicine. He was a founder member of the Association of Charity Vets and contributed to the BSAVA manual of shelter medicine.

In 2024 he was awarded the J.A. Wight Memorial Award for his outstanding contribution to the welfare of companion animals.



Tigers and temples, Ranthambore National Park



3 nights Jaipur – 3 nights Ranthambore – 3 nights Agra –
1 night Mansurpur – 3 nights Jim Corbett – 1 night Delhi



Amer for an unforgettable, ethical encounter with the elephants. Enjoy dinner in a tranquil setting, with elephants roaming nearby.

Day 4: Jaipur / Ranthambore National Park (Fri, 26 Feb) **B L D**

Am: Drive to Ranthambore National Park, this former royal hunting ground is now a haven for wildlife and home to a large population of Bengal tigers. Check in to the Dev Villas.

Pm: Safari through the park's grassy meadows and rocky terrain to glimpse tigers, hyenas, jackals, panthers, deer and a variety of birds.

Day 1: Jaipur (Tues, 23 Feb) **D**

Am: Arrive in Jaipur and check in to the Lemon Tree Premier.

Pm: At leisure before welcome dinner.

Day 2: Jaipur (Wed, 24 Feb) **B D**

Am: Tour Jaipur's historic landmarks, including Amber Fort, an ancient citadel blending Rajput and Mughal styles, and Hawa Mahal (Palace of the Winds), where the ladies of the harem observed city life from behind the intricate latticework.

Pm: For a striking contrast visit the clean, geometric lines of Jantar Mantar Observatory, the astronomic instruments date back to 1693. Meet the team behind the Jhalana Leopard Reserve and learn how the park protects a large leopard population.

Day 3: Jaipur (Thu, 25 Feb) **B D**

Am: Safari at Jhalana Leopard Reserve, where deciduous forests, narrow valleys, and rugged cliff faces are home to a variety of wildlife, including the elusive leopard. Visit the Galtaji Monkey Temple, known for its sacred water tanks and playful residents.

Pm: Visit the elephant sanctuary at Dera

Day 5: Ranthambore National Park (Sat, 27 Feb) **B L D**

Am: Safari.

Pm: At leisure or join an optional safari.

Day 6: Ranthambore National Park (Sun, 28 Feb) **B L D**

Am: Safari.

Pm: Visit a tribal village to gain insight into local traditions and way of life.

Day 7: Ranthambore National Park / Agra (Mon, 1 Mar) **B D**

Am: Drive to Keoladeo National Park, another royal hunting reserve-turned-important animal sanctuary, and a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Pm: Navigate the wetlands, woodlands and scrub which protect the park's rich variety of migratory and resident birds. Drive to Agra and check in to the Radisson Hotel.

Day 8: Agra (Tue, 2 Mar) **B L D**

Am: Rise early to visit Taj Mahal, created by Emperor Shah Jahan for his beloved wife Mumtaz. Watch sunrise light the symmetrical white marble and return to the hotel for breakfast. Drive to the

Elephant Hospital and Care Centre, run by Wildlife SOS, to explore elephant treatment technologies and learn about the NGO's wider work, including a lecture on feline rescue and care programmes.

Pm: Lunch at the elephant observatory platform, then tour the Elephant Conservation and Care Centre and Elephant Memorial, observing positive conditioning techniques.

Day 9: Agra (Wed, 3 Mar)

B L D

Am: Visit the Agra Bear Rescue Facility. Take a guided tour of the hospital and hear from the Director of Sustainability and Special Projects at Wildlife SOS, who also leads its anti-poaching efforts.

Pm: Learn about dental care for bears and the laparoscopic spay/neuter procedures for macaques. Take a wildlife observation boat ride on the Yamuna River, and a jeep safari through the 165-acre facility to observe bear habitats and enrichment feeding. Optional guided bazaar and street food tour of Agra for partners.

Day 10: Agra / Mansurpur

B L D

(Thu, 4 Mar)

Am: Drive to Mansurpur and check in to the Namaste Dwaar.

Pm: At leisure or optional walking tour in Anupshahr. Visit temples and ghats along the Ganga.

Day 11: Mansurpur / Jim Corbett

B L D

National Park (Fri, 5 Mar)

Am: Travel to Jim Corbett National Park, established in 1936 as India's first national park through the efforts of British hunter-turned-conservationist Jim Corbett. It is famed for its high tiger density and Project Tiger, a movement that protects these carnivores from poaching.

Pm: Check in to the The Corbett Wilderness. Visit the Dhangarhi Interpretation Centre to learn about the park's biodiversity and commitment to responsible tourism.





One-horned rhinos in Kaziranga

Day 12: Jim Corbett National Park B L D
(Sat, 6 Mar)

Am/Pm: Safari through the park's varied terrain and spectacular array of wildlife. Spot Asian elephants, sambar deer, Bengal tiger and over 600 species of bird.

Day 13: Jim Corbett National Park B L D
(Sun, 7 Mar)

Am: Optional safari before visiting the park's state-of-the-art veterinary unit.

Pm: Guided nature trail to the scenic Corbett Waterfall. Optional horse riding.

Day 14: Jim Corbett National Park / Delhi B D
(Mon, 8 Mar)

Am: Drive to Delhi, a sprawling metropolis, where Mughal and colonial history rub shoulders alongside a vibrant contemporary culture.

Pm: Arrive and at leisure before a farewell dinner.

Day 15: Delhi (Tue, 9 Mar) B D

Am: Depart the hotel after breakfast or take the extension.

Extension

Day 15: Delhi / Kaziranga National Park B D
(Tue, 9 Mar)

Am: Transfer to the airport for flight.

Pm: Transfer to Kaziranga National Park.

Day 16: Kaziranga National Park B L D
(Wed, 10 Mar)

Am: Optional elephant safari. Village safari and visit to artisanal tea gardens.

Pm: Safari through vast grasslands in search of one-horned rhinoceroses and other wildlife.

Day 17: Kaziranga National Park B L D
(Thu, 11 Mar)

Am/Pm: Full day of wildlife exploration.

Day 18: Kaziranga National Park / Delhi B
(Fri, 12 Mar)

Am: Depart hotel after breakfast.



Dev Villas, Ranthambore

Hotels

Lemon Tree Premier, Jaipur

A smart, contemporary hotel in the heart of the vibrant city centre. It offers bright, spacious rooms, a fitness and wellness centre, and a lovely rooftop swimming pool.

Dev Villas, Ranthambore

A beautiful hotel inspired by Maharaja's hunting lodges, featuring Indo-Saracenic architecture and refined interiors. Set in peaceful grounds

near Ranthambore National Park, it incorporates eco-friendly practices such as recycled water and sustainable materials. The hotel also offers a spa and an outdoor swimming pool.

Radisson Hotel, Agra

Within view of the Taj Mahal, this hotel makes the most of its iconic views with a rooftop restaurant and swimming pool. It offers luxury accommodation with modern comforts.



Swimming pool at Namaste Dwaar

Namaste Dwaar, Garh Mukteshwar

Set amid sugarcane fields in the countryside of Uttar Pradesh, this converted fortress provides character and comfort. Guided by Ayurvedic principles, it offers wellness programmes, a spa with a range of treatments, and an outdoor pool. Rooms are spacious and contemporary, with a variety of dining options available on site.

The Corbett Wilderness, Aahana

A family-owned luxury forest resort on the edge of Jim Corbett National Park, thoughtfully run with a focus on sustainability and authentic dining experiences. Rooms are bright, spacious, and warmly designed, and the resort features a Spa L'Occitane en Provence.

Lemon Tree Premier, Delhi Airport

A convenient and comfortable stay close to the airport and with great connections to the city centre. With modern facilities, spacious rooms, an outdoor swimming pool, gym and spa facilities.

'The trip's organisation, facilities and activities were to a very high standard and there is nothing that I would have changed. It was truly a trip of a lifetime where I enjoyed every minute. I would thoroughly recommend Jon Baines Tours.'

Chloe Denley, *Veterinary Study Tour to South Africa, May 2025*

The Corbett Wilderness, Aahana





Humayun's Tomb, Delhi (top); Leopard, Jhalana Leopard Reserve (top); Palace of the Winds, Jaipur; Sloth bear, Agra Bear Rescue Facility (above)

The cost of the tour per person sharing is AUD \$7,540

The cost of the tour with a room to yourself is AUD \$8,890

The cost of the tour includes:

- 14 nights' accommodation in double or twin-bedded rooms within medium grade, heritage and boutique hotels
- The services of a tour leader, Shaun Opperman
- The services of an English-speaking national guide throughout the tour
- A full programme of specially arranged cultural visits as detailed in the itinerary
- A full programme of professional visits, meetings and talks as per the itinerary
- Breakfast and lunch or dinner daily, as per itinerary
- Comprehensive briefing notes
- All internal transport in a modern air-conditioned coach
- All admission fees, tips and taxes

The cost excludes:

- International flights and airport transfers
- Meals not mentioned
- Drinks with meals
- All optional excursions, tours and visits; all personal extras such as portage, laundry and inoculation fees; travel insurance

The cost of the extension per person sharing is AUD \$1,990

The cost of the extension with a room to yourself is AUD \$2,282

The cost includes:

- 3 nights' accommodation in IORA – The Retreat or similar
- Breakfast and dinner daily
- Flight from Delhi to Guwahati
- All transfers in a modern air-conditioned coach
- Three jeep safaris as per itinerary
- Village safari including artisanal tea gardens
- All taxes

The cost excludes:

- As per main tour

NB: All itineraries are subject to change according to local conditions.

About Us

To travel with us is to dig below the surface, revealing the deeper destination. Of course, you will visit the great historical sites; marvel at the wonders of architecture and engineering; be moved by the riches of culture and art; and experience the most spectacular landscapes in the world. We also ensure that you see the country as it is today, giving you privileged access that independent travel and other tour companies rarely get close to.

From the sublime to the humble, we provide a variety of experiences in the company of intelligent, curious, like-minded people. And while we can be worthy, we also make sure that you have a lot of fun!

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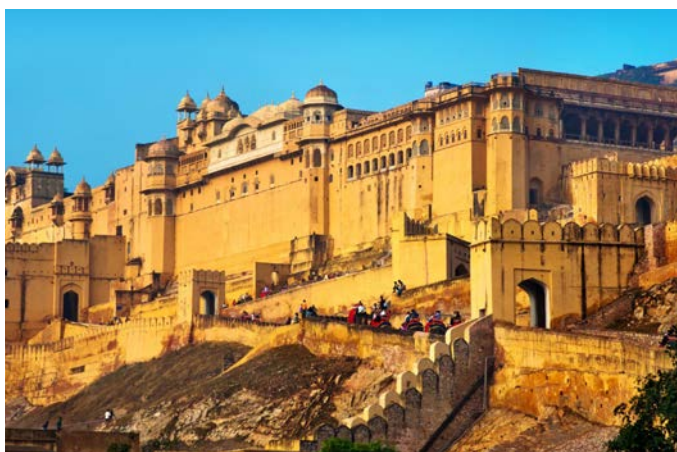
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Ranthambore National Park (top); Boating lake, Delhi;
Amber Fort, Jaipur; Bird variety at Keoladeo National Park (above)



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