



Natural Selections

BIRDING, WILDLIFE, AND PHOTO TOURS



Greater Indian One-horned Rhinoceros

Kaziranga: Indian One-horned Rhinoceros

Pre-tour Extension to Ultimate Tiger Experience

6 Nights/7 Days

Kaziranga is a 430 square kilometer National Park consisting of large grasslands and tall elephant grass interspersed with evergreen forests, floodplains, shallow lakes and reedbeds. The park is bordered by the mighty Brahmaputra River to the north and Karbi-Anglong hills in the south. On a clear day the snowy cap of Mt. Kangchenjunga, third highest mountain in the world, and the highest peak in India, which lies on the northern side of the Brahmaputra River is visible from Kaziranga. This combination of diverse habitats is very unique, and offers species of mammals, birds and reptiles, which are only found in Himalayan Foothills and also in Rainforests of southeast Asia.

This uniqueness has earned Kaziranga, as a 'Biodiversity Hotspot' and is an area that is simply teeming with wildlife.

Kaziranga is by far, the best place in the world to observe our main target; the Greater Indian One-horned Rhinoceros. And on this tour extension safari, we may encounter as many as 30-40 individuals of these prehistoric-looking beasts. In addition, herds of wild Indian Elephants and wild Water Buffalo are a sight to behold, as are Barking, Hog and Swamp Deer and large sounders of Wild Boar.

With a very high density of prey for Leopards and Tigers, Kaziranga also has the highest density of Tigers in India, although with so much cover they are sometimes hard to see. We may even chance upon some of the more elusive residents such as Leopard Cat and Sloth Bear, while the Capped Langur, Assamese Macaque and Hoolock Gibbon, and Malayan Giant Squirrel can be seen relatively easily in the woodlands. Water bodies in the park need to be looked into carefully too, as we might spot Smooth Coated Otters hunting for fish.

Bird life at Kaziranga is tremendously diverse and features many rare or local species such as Bengal Florican, Lesser & Greater Adjutant Storks, Great and Oriental Pied Hornbill, Spot-billed Pelican can be seen in the park while on safari. Grey Headed, Lesser and Pallas' Fish Eagles are often seen fishing by these water bodies alongside the many Ospreys here. One of the most prominent reptiles here is the King Cobra, which are occasionally viewed from our vehicle.

Tour Overview

Day 1: Arrive Delhi (DEL)
Day 2: Flight to Guwahati (GAU), transfer to Kaziranga
Days 3, 4, 5: Kaziranga One-horned Rhino and wildlife safaris
Day 6: AM safari, transfer to Guwahati (GAU), flight to Delhi (DEL)
Day 7: Flights home (DEL)



Indian Elephant

6 Night/7 Day Itinerary:

Day 1, Arrive Delhi, transfer to hotel:

Arrival today into Delhi, meet our representative at the airport and then transfer to our hotel near the airport (15-20 mins drive). We will meet the tour leader and guide at the hotel and after the check in formalities, rest. Later in the evening enjoy the welcome dinner, and then after orientation for the next day's plans, we retire to our rooms for some much-needed sleep.

Meals: Dinner

Lodging at Hotel Vasant or similar

Day 2, Transfer to Kaziranga National Park:

After breakfast, we'll proceed to the airport and board our 2.5 hour flight to Guwahati. Upon arrival we'll meet the drivers who will be

waiting for us, and then drive to Kaziranga. The drive lasts about 4.5 hours, and the road traverses through beautiful countryside, villages and towns, offering us great insight into Indian village culture and bustling town life. We'll enjoy a traditional Indian lunch at a restaurant along the way, and upon arrival at our lodge, we'll have time to unpack and rest before dinner.

Our hotel will be Infinity Kaziranga, a small lodge with 15 air-conditioned rooms, each with its own private deck. Basic in structure, the rooms ensure proper comfort and amenities and each overlooks the garden/pool area with a high diversity and numbers of birds. The breakfasts, lunches and dinners are served in the common dining area (enclosed) with a beautiful view of trees and the pool, in a buffet service setup. The lodge is located about 15 minutes' drive from Kaziranga's central zone, 20 minutes from

eastern zone, and 30 minutes from the western zone.

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Lodging at Iora/Borgass*

Day 3, 4, 5, One-horned Rhino and wildlife safaris:

Each day at Kaziranga will consist of early morning wake up call, followed by breakfast, and departure for our morning safaris. The duration of each morning safari is usually 3 hours. We'll return to the lodge each day for lunch and refreshing ourselves, and then embark on our afternoon safaris, each of which also lasts roughly 3 hours.

Kaziranga's tourism area has been divided into 3 zones. The central zone is the closest to our lodge, while the eastern and western zones are about 20 minutes' drive in opposite directions. We will take full advantage of our time on safaris, and focus getting the best sightings and photos of Indian One-horned Rhinos, Indian Elephants, Buffalos, Smooth-coated Otters, Hog Deer, Swamp Deer and quite possibly a troop of Hoolock Gibbons or a Tiger! Kaziranga National Park is also very well known for great bird life, and offers wintering migratory species (in season) and quite a lot of endemic residents. On our final afternoon we'll make a special trip to the Brahmaputra River to experience the endangered Ganges River Dolphin.

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Lodging at Iora/Borgass*

Day 6, AM Rhino safari and transfer to Guwahati:

After a relaxing breakfast and check out, we'll start with our drive towards Guwahati Airport. We'll take a packed lunch to enjoy along the way as we drive through beautiful countryside views. On reaching Guwahati, we catch our flight to Delhi and upon arrival at Delhi, meet our driver and transfer to our hotel. We should have time to freshen up before we meet the rest of our group for dinner and overnight before flights home the next day.

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Lodging at Hotel Vasant or similar*

Day 7, International flights home.

Included in this itinerary:

All ground transfers, lodging as indicated, meals beginning with dinner on day 1 to dinner on day 6, six safaris into Kaziranga National Park, bottled water and snacks for transfers, entrance and guide fees, English-speaking Naturalist Guide throughout.

Not Included:

India visa, international flights, food/drinks not mentioned, any extra, optional safaris, video/camera charges, tips, insurance, and other personal items such as alcoholic beverages, gift shop, laundry, etc. are not included.

Travel insurance:

We highly recommend purchasing travel insurance. In the event that you need to cancel your trip due to medical or other reasons, this insurance will protect you.

Note on safaris:

1. Safari vehicles will be the Suzuki Gypsy accommodating a maximum of 6 clients + driver + guide. For our guests' comfort and better photography, we restrict the number of clients to 3 + 1 TL. So, a maximum of 4 passengers + driver and guard.
2. Camera charges for Kaziranga are INR 200/- per camera per safari.



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