

Itinerary 7
To the happiest nation in the world
Spring flowers and cultural highlights

Overview
Wedge in the craggy escarpments, the country of Bhutan is pleasantly slow paced. It must have something to do with the crisp mountain air and the hard but happy life of the mountains. First we take you through Thimphu, the capital city of Bhutan, known for its serene dzongs (monasteries). After a days of traversing the country's main highlights including the Bumthang, Punakha and Gangtey valleys, you'll know exactly why the nation is one of the few that calculates the Gross Domestic Happiness of its occupants.

Duration: 9 nights/10 days
Highlights:
• Monasteries of the country
• Modern Bhutan with important monuments, Folk Heritage Museum, Tashichhodzong and others
• Flower filled valleys
• Local life in far flung villages
Route: Delhi-Paro-Thimphu-Punakha-Bumthang- Gangtey- Paro-Delhi

Itinerary 8
Bhutan and Everest Base Camp
In the footsteps of legends

Overview
In this trek, we follow the footsteps of legends Messner, Bonington and Hillary, up to Everest Base Camp (EBC) and experience how they felt during their quest to Everest. Home of the renowned Sherpas, the mountain hardy people and the realm of Everest, this region needs no introduction. The airhead at Lukla serves as the gateway to the region. The trek passes through the picturesque Sherpa village of Namche Bazaar culminating in the "ascent" of Kala Patthar - from where the classic views of Everest and its surrounding peaks are available.

Trek in this Khumbu region is categorized under the strenuous grade hence a certain level physical fitness is required. People, particularly over the age of 50, must prepare themselves well and should not consider joining these trips if fitness is not an important routine in their normal life. Those with high blood pressure, asthma and heart conditions should not participate in this trip. We recommend a preparation program of sports or aerobic activities (cycling, stair walking, running etc.) minimum of 6 to 8 weeks before departure.

Duration: 14 nights/15 days
Highlights:
• Hiking to the Base Camp and the villages that lead up to it.
Route: Paro-Kathmandu- Lukla-Monjo-Namche-Tashinga- Pangboche- Dingboche-Labouche- EBC-Kalapathat- Kathmandu-Delhi

Itinerary 9
Traversing Bhutan, Nepal and Tibet
In the shadow of the Himalayas

Overview
Size apart, the Himalayas have a towering quality about them. The sheer enormity of their size and splendour makes one speechless. Since saying less and listening more is the hallmark of a true traveller, this will give you a chance to listen to the legends and stories about the two countries, Bhutan and Nepal, at ease. Immerse in the grand spectacle of snow-capped peaks and unique cultures of three different regions. Traverse through the nations that live in the shadow of the mighty Himalayas and resonate the same simplicity and joy, but are vastly different in culture. Bhutan's hilltop dzongs, Nepal's ancient quarters and Tibet's far-flung monasteries offer the traveller a unique perspective and insight into the country.

Duration: 15 nights/16 days
Highlights:
• Monasteries of the country
• Modern Bhutan with important monuments, Folk Heritage Museum, Tashichhodzong and others
• Nepal's Bhaktpur, Patan and old city quarters
• Lhasa's Potala Palace and monasteries
• Local life in far flung villages
Route: Thimphu-Paro-Kathmandu-Dhulikhel-Lhasa-Delhi

Itinerary 10
Classic India
The best of the country

Handpicking the most memorable experiences for a first-timer to India can be challenging, especially when the country has so much to offer. In this trip, you get to experience the varied hues of India - contemporary vibe of a metropolitan, historical legacies left behind in stone, wild encounters with leopards, architectural splendour, ancient temples and the oldest living city of the world. These extraordinary cities and towns have morphed into famous travel haunts with their definitive vibe. Since we've been creating tailor-made trips for decades, we've included the most immersive and local experiences. By the end of it, you'll feel like an insider. Rajasthan's impregnable forts and palaces, Agra's delightful Taj Mahal and the oldest land in the world, Varanasi allows a tryst with diverse cultural ambience. There is also Khajuraho's intricately carved temples that leave jaws dropped.

Duration: 14 nights/15 days
Highlights:
• Delhi, the capital city that offers a juxtaposition of new and old. See the Red Fort, Jama Masjid, Chandni Chowk and Gandhi Memorial.
• The Mehrangarh Fort of Jodhpur is walk down history
• The lakeside town of Udaipur is one of the most beautiful settings
• In Agra, watch the world famous memento of love in marble (Taj Mahal)
• Khajuraho's temples leave you with lessons in art and culture
• Varanasi, by the Ganges offers a peek into the oldest living city. The evening aarti (prayers) by the river is a memorable scene.
Route: Delhi-Jodhpur-Udaipur-Jaipur-Agra-Khajuraho-Varanasi

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About Status Quo

Embark on your Indian Subcontinent and South East Asian journey with our handcrafted trips that make you look at the region with a fresh eye. We're here to showcase this slice of earth, like you would have never imagined. Continuous creativity and a commitment to deliver hassle-free trips at all times is the cornerstone of our business. No wonder we don't ever waver from offering you an elevated experiential journey, with bespoke luxury travel ideas and services, thus always remaining in a dependable Status Quo Travel.

We have been offering highly curated personalized tours to top-end clients from the US, Latin America and the United Kingdom since 2003. Our carefully selected team members speak in both English and Spanish, and have the experience, reliability, originality and the knowledge of the region in their DNA. We are extremely quality conscious to ensure continued client satisfaction, in turn supporting and enhancing sustained travel programs in the Indian Subcontinent and Southeast Asia.

Find some of our best and thoughtfully curated itineraries covering wildlife in the form of Asiatic lions, black bucks, snow leopards and the fascinating bio-diversity of northeast India in Kaziranga (home to one-horned rhinoceroses). The horseback safaris of Rajasthan woo the culture and adventure travellers both, and we also have a memorable trip to the Everest base camp for adventure seekers.

Itinerary 1 The wild side of Gujarat

A tryst with Asiatic lions, black bucks and wild asses

Overview

Gujarat boasts of some of the most ecologically diverse ecosystems, from arid desert-like topography, to the golden grasslands, marine reserves and the unique salt flats that carpet the Rann of Kutch. Naturally, birders and wildlife enthusiasts throng here to witness the marvelous wild side of the state, home to Asiatic lions, wild asses, black bucks, antelopes, corals, sloth bears and other fascinating beasts. In fact, this is the only refuge for Asiatic lions in the wild, across the country. The trip also offers an insight into the local communities and their intersection with the wild.

Duration: 6 nights/7 days

Highlights:

- Blackbuck and birdwatching in Velavadar Blackbuck Sanctuary
- Gir National Park and the Asiatic lions
- Wild Ass Sanctuary in the Little Rann of Kutch
- Extended to the great Rann of Kutch and the stunning salt flats (Chhari Dhandh for birdwatching)

Route: Ahmedabad - Velavadar Blackbuck Sanctuary - Gir National Park - Little Rann of Kutch - Ahmedabad

Itinerary 2 Horseback Safari in Rajasthan

A unique perspective of one of the most colourful states of India

Overview

Rajasthan is known as one of the top destinations of the country for its marvelous impregnable forts and palaces - many of them converted to heritage hotels, cultural vibrancy in dance and music, miles of golden sand dunes and delicious local food. As one of the most feted destinations for travellers across the world, the experience can be similar to others. But not if you want to look at the state with another eye - on horsebacks. Travel back in time to a mode of transportation that the Maharajas of Rajasthan used. In this trip, we take the route started by the ruler of Marwar State, to reach his summer capital, Jaswantpura, nestled amongst the Aravalli Hills. In our 7 days horse safari we travel on this traditional route to a little beyond Jaswantpura. The trip is nothing but a throwback to royalty and splendour of living like kings.

Duration: 7 nights/8 days

Highlights:

- Horseback riding on the ancient royal route of the Mewar Maharajas
- Local life of Rajasthan
- Leopard Safaris

Route: Delhi-Udaipur-Siana-Bithan-Posindra-Kesua-Rohua-Jodhpur-Delhi

Itinerary 3 A tryst with the shyest animal in India

Snow leopard watching in the Himalayas

Overview

The snow leopards are some of the most elusive animals of the wildlife kingdom. The lower Himalayan region is blessed to have a thriving population, though sighting is difficult but exciting. We get to Leh, the capital city of Ladakh region and hop to hilltop monasteries before heading inside the Hemis National Park. Inside, the base camps help us spend ample time to spot the leopard, and other endemic animals like the Ibex, Chukar, White-winged Redstart, Lammergeier, Golden Eagle, Fire-fronted Serin, Himalayan Snowcock, Yellow-billed and Red-billed Choughs, Robin Accentor, Horned Lark, Tibetan Snowfinch and the Eurasian Eagle Owl.

Duration: 11 nights/12 days

Highlights:

- Hilltop monasteries of Leh
- Hemis National Park
- Snow leopard watching along with local wildlife and birds

Route: Delhi- Leh -Hemis - Zingchen-Husing-Ulley-Saspochey- Leh- Delhi

Itinerary 4 Sundarbans and Kaziranga

In the footsteps of the wild

Overview

India's diverse topography homes a number of animals, of which the Royal Bengal Tiger takes top spot for many travellers. The heart of India, jungles of the north and hill terrains make safe canopied homes for them, but the most fascinating landscape is the mangrove forest of Sundarbans in the east where you can spot them from boats. In the same direction is the Kaziranga National Park, famous for its unique and diverse landscapes, including sun-bleached grasslands dominated by elephant grass, mangroves and opaque green forests. They home the wild buffaloes and the main draw, the one-horned rhinos that are in plenty, but this is the only location in India to see them. Local culture coupled with the wildlife pursuits is a great way to see this dimension of India.

Duration: 9 nights/10 days

Highlights:

- Historical monuments and the buzz of Kolkata, along with sampling local food
- Cruise to the Sundarbans to see the Bengal tigers
- Kaziranga National Park to see one-horned rhinos and other wildlife

Route: Kolkata - Sundarbans - Kaziranga National Park

Itinerary 5 In the wild heart of India

On the tiger's trail

Overview

If you stick a pin in the centre of the country, it's likely to mark Madhya Pradesh right in the heart of India. The state is home to the largest number of wildlife sanctuaries in the country, keeping a green cover for its inhabitants - chital, langur, monkeys, snakes, Indian gaur, black bucks and most of all, the elusive Bengal tiger. This is the place that Rudyard Kipling conceived his adventures for the famous 'Jungle Book' and immortalised the region forever. While Madhya Pradesh lies in the centre and becomes the inevitable and literal epicentre, there are other cities that resonate the distinct personality of India - in effect, showcasing its very soul.

Duration: 9 nights/10 days

Highlights:

- A short glimpse of the capital of India with highlights like Jama Masjid, Red Fort and Gandhi Memorial
- Bandhavgarh National Park
- Kanha National Park

Route: Delhi-Jabalpur-Bandhavgarh-Kanha National Park- Delhi

Itinerary 6 Raas Festival of Majuli

Island festivities, wildlife and local immersion in the northeast

Overview

The northeast of India is a fascinating slice of the country that is lesser feted by travellers, but has many dimensions to it. This trip takes you into the heart of tribal lands in Arunachal, makes you have a tryst with the Nameri National Park, participate in the Majuli festival and see the one-horned rhinos in the Kaziranga National Park. Expect the most precious moments of this trip to be the local interaction; a meal in a tribal home, knowing more about the animals from the local naturalists and seeing mask making in the Majuli monasteries. The trip gives you a wide perspective of the region over two weeks, enough to make you want to come back for a longer trip.

Duration: 16 nights/17 days

Highlights:

- Nameri National Park
- High altitude lakes of Arunachal Pradesh
- Tribal life of Arunachal
- Majuli Raas Festival
- Kaziranga National Park

Route: Delhi-Guwahati-Nameri-Dirang- Tawang - Bomdila - Balipara- Ziro - Majuli-Kaziranga-Guwahati -Delhi

