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DECEMBER 2022

ZEST

TRAVEL IN THE INDIAN SUBCONTINENT
BY ORANGE DMC

CELEBRATING INDIA!

Dear Colleagues and Travel Partners,

2022 has been quite the year! As the world roars back after the global pandemic, we are thrilled to see a resurgence of travel to India, and for our guests from the UK, there's a special Christmas blessing – E-Visas will soon be back!

One of the best outcomes of the lockdown period was that nature got a chance to make a massive comeback. Across India, people are amazed to see unusual flora and fauna flourishing, as natural habitats run wild.

In this issue, we focus on one of India's greatest gifts – it's biodiversity. India's natural heritage has to be seen to be believed. That's why we always recommend a safari to our guests. From incredible wildlife to magnificent ecosystems and rare biospheres, this is a part of the world that is truly unique.

What's more? India has always had fine hospitality and even in the remotest regions, you can stay in fantastic camps, luxurious lodges, and with the added benefit of expert naturalists, who guide you through the parks.

From the forests of Central India, to Rajasthan, the mountains of Ladakh and more, there is a vast variety of experiences and locations, just waiting for you to visit.

Feel like a little culture? Add on a festival or event! Celebrate 2023 in India in all its living colour and exuberance! Let's toast to an epic adventure in India in the new year.

Happy Holidays!
Manan Mahajan





STEALTHY SPECIES

SNOW LEOPARD SAFARIS, LADAKH

Come December and one of the most beautiful creatures descends into the lower reaches of the Trans-Himalayan region for the winter. Amid the craggy cliffs of Hemis National Park, a flash of movement catches your eye and the Snow Leopard makes its move, pouncing on it's prey like a flash, as your breath catches in your throat. Stealthy and secretive, the Snow Leopard is a master in the art of camouflage, moving like a wraith through the snowy landscape.

For wildlife photographers and enthusiasts, observing the Snow Leopard is an unrivalled experience. There are only a handful of these magnificent felines left, as they are a critically endangered species, and Hemis National Park is one of the last remaining natural habitats for this species in the world. To learn more about our Snow Leopard expeditions, send us a message and start to plan your dream trip today.



RANTHAMBORE...

RUGGED ROMANCE IN THE WILD

There's a charm to Ranthambore that is utterly unique. A rugged wilderness, with a river rushing through, ruined ramparts of erstwhile fortresses and palaces, and a magnificent ancient temple in the midst of scrubby, undulating wilderness – this is home to some incredible wildlife, most notably the tiger. Ranthambore is famous for its tiger sightings, but this feline is not the only carnivore in the park. You may spot leopards as well as the fearsome gharial, which lurks on the banks of the river, waiting for its unsuspecting prey.

Sightings are excellent in Ranthambore and the landscape is picturesque. An abundant prey base means that there is plenty of food for the felines, particularly for mothers with young cubs. You will also see a whole host of deer, monkeys and birds, as well as reptiles and smaller herbivores and carnivores. As you travel through the park, you will likely hear the unmistakable call of a Barking Deer or the hoot of a monkey, warning the forest that a predator is on the prowl.

Explore this lovely park with top naturalists and guides who explain the flora and fauna in detail. Ask us now to learn more.

RANTHAMBORE

COVETED CAMPS

ONCE IN A LIFETIME
LUXURIOUS JUNGLE GLAMPING EXPERIENCES
FOR THE DISCERNING TRAVELER



Vanya Vilas

#01

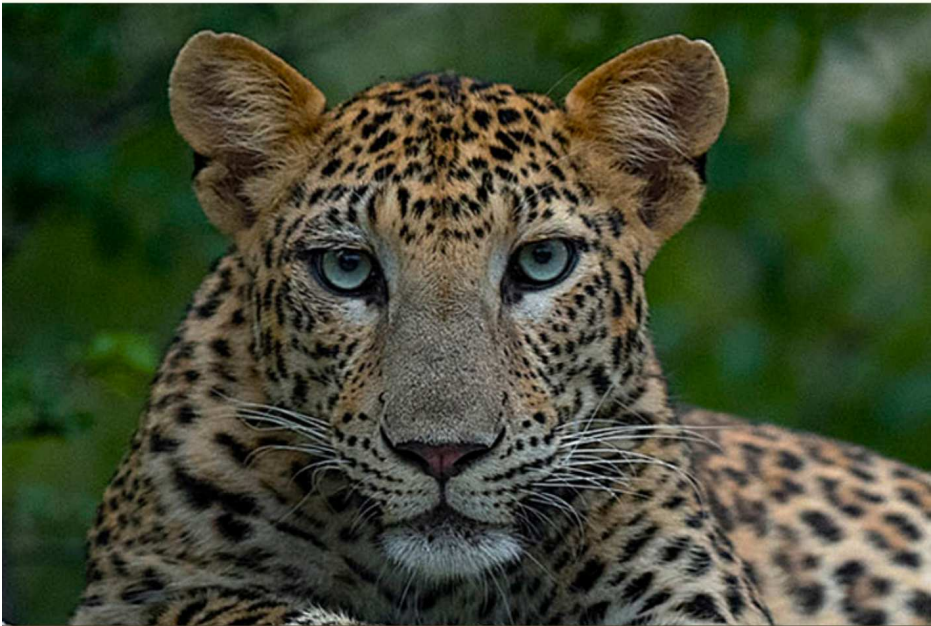
Glamping at its finest from the world renown team at The Oberoi, it doesn't get a whole lot better than this. Luxurious tents, top-notch service, fantastic spa treatments and delectable cuisine... a stay at Vanya Vilas is the perfect compliment to your rugged jungle safari.



Sherbagh

#02

If you're looking for a chic camp with all the bells and whistles and a personalised touch, then Sherbagh, run by the team at Sujan, may be just what you seek. Elegant accommodations with distinct character and a lovely layout of the property make this a stay to remember. Relax with a spa treatment and enjoy farm to fork meals. A memorable glamping experience.



JAWAI...

UNTRAMMELLED WILDERNESS

Set against a backdrop of rocky escarpments and caves in the cliffs of western Rajasthan, lies the Jawai reservoir. A vast waterbody, its a winter roost for several species of migratory birds, while the surrounding landscape is full of leopards who roam wild through the countryside.


The reservoir is a great place to spot various species of birds and animals that come here to drink water. Perch yourself on the banks and train your lens, and chances are that you'll get some incredible shots on your camera.

In winter, the crisp air, clear skies, and the stars are simply stunning. With the backdrop of the water and the rugged landscape, this is a setting that is hard to beat. You may also find several nomadic tribals who wander through the area, grazing their goats. A small temple and village nearby are worth visiting, if only to learn how the human beings coexist in absolute harmony with the wildlife. Discover an untamed and inspiring corner of Rajasthan, with a trip to Jawai. Ask us to discover more.

JAWAI

COVETED CAMPS

ONCE IN A LIFETIME
LUXURIOUS JUNGLE GLAMPING EXPERIENCES
FOR THE DISCERNING TRAVELER



Jawai Camp

#03

Jawai Camp, run by the team at Sujan, is a destination unto itself, Luxurious tented suites and spacious sit-outs will ensure that you never want to leave. The service is discreet yet attentive, while the cuisine is innovative. Dine in a variety of settings, and discover the magic of this gorgeous landscape.

Cheetahgarh

#04

Warm, friendly service, luxurious interiors, and a beautiful backdrop make Cheetahgarh a great place to stay when visiting western Rajasthan. Ideally located in Bera, it's just a stone's throw away from the Jawai reservoir and Ranakpur, within easy reach of Jodhpur and Udaipur.

RAJASTHAN, REIMAGINED

Amanbagh

Ajabgarh,
Rajasthan

Aman-I-Khas

Ranthambore,
Rajasthan



WILDLIFE + WELLNESS

If you want to experience an extraordinary side of Rajasthan, then the Aman has something special. Begin with a wild adventure as you explore the forest of Ranthambore, while staying at the decadent Aman-I-Khas camp. Gorgeous tented suites as well as fabulous service and cuisine make this an unparalleled stay.


Then continue to Ajabgarh, in rural Rajasthan, and drive through tiny hamlets and a rugged landscape until you come to an oasis — Amanbagh. This spa and wellbeing hideaway is just the R&R you need to revitalise your senses and rejuvenate your spirit. Relax and unwind — mind, body and soul.

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Sylvan Glades

The Jungles of Central India

In the heart of India lie some of the most magnificent jungles in the subcontinent. The same jungles that inspired Kipling’s Jungle Book, these dense forests are home to several unusual species of animals and birds. Central India is famous for its large tiger population. But it is also home to leopards, wolves, wild dogs, several species of deer, bison, antelope, as well as primates, reptiles, insects and of course, hundreds of species of resident and migratory birds.

These thick forests are full of Teak, Sal, and Mahua trees, interspersed by Flame of the Forest and clumps of lush green bamboo. Undulating hills give way to streams, rivers and vast open tracts of grassland, which is ideal territory for animals like the tiger. Excellent lodges and expert naturalists and conservationists only make your visit that much more special. The major parks are Panna, Bandhavgarh, Kanha, Pench, Tadoba , Satpura and Kuno.

Ask us now to plan a wildlife itinerary across multiple parks in Central India!

PANNA & BANDHAVGARH

Taj Safaris



Pashangarh, Panna

Twelve spacious villas set amid vast grounds with the river Ken running through the property, make Pashangarh absolutely stunning and one of our favourite places to stay. Attentive staff, delicious cuisine, and a sustainable ethos make this a top choice.



Mahua Kothi, Bandhavgarh

Chic cottages with a vast sense of space, made from traditional building materials, not only keeps the interiors cool, but gives Mahua Kothi an elegant ethnic look that’s hard to beat. Luxurious furnishings, a beautifully appointed central lounge, and innovative dining experiences make staying here a pleasure.



TAJ SAFARIS

KANHA & PENCH



BANJAAR TOLA, KANHA

Two clusters of nine environmentally-friendly tented suites, make Banjaar Tola extremely private and intimate. With a lovely river-front location, the eco-sensitive design will appeal to those who have a natural outlook on life. A beautiful outdoor deck is the ideal place to kick back and relax on a lounge chair after your morning game drive. Delicious cuisine made from locally sourced ingredients and a serene ambience make this glamping experience superlative.



BAGHVAN, PENCH

The charm of Baghvan lies in its cozy and glam *machaans*, sleek and chic “look-outs” where one can take a chilled out afternoon nap or even sleep overnight underneath the stars. Spacious suites and an extremely charming lounge area make you feel instantly at home. Baghvan is situated at the southern end of the park, within easy proximity to the entrance to the tiger reserve. Thoughtful staff and a highly trained team of naturalists make this a top choice in Pench.



JUST OPENED
UMARIA SAFARI CAMP, KANHA

CHIC + BOUTIQUE

INTIMATE + PRIVATE

1 Just four tented suites on fourteen acres of wilderness to create an intimate and private camping experience.

WARM + WELCOMING

Hosted by the owners, young hoteliers who have a passion for nature and tribes.

2

HOLISTIC + DIVERSE

3 A variety of dining experiences and tribal cultural excursions to compliment guided game drives with experienced naturalists.

KANHA HIDEAWAY

Small and private, Umaria Safari Camp is ideal for families and friends traveling together. Discover the beauty of Kanha, one of India’s best known parks, while staying at this charming and elegant camp. Innovative experiences and cuisine, with luxurious accommodations creates an engaging wilderness retreat.



CULTURE CURIOUS?

ORANGE EVENT CALENDAR



#01 - HOLA MOHALLA - MARCH 2023 - PUNJAB

This spectacular festival celebrates the traditions of the Sikhs, especially the Nihangs who are known for their martial arts and military prowess. Dramatic costumes, displays of horsemanship, mock battles and sport are part of the festivities. The event takes place in Anandpur Sahib over a three day period, and everyone partakes in community feasts and celebrations.



#02 - HOLI - MARCH 2023 - RAJASTHAN

Holi celebrates the onset of spring and is celebrated across the subcontinent, but it's most vivid and vibrant in the desert state of Rajasthan. Music, dance and lots of colour brings out the riotous exuberance of the Rajputs in full living colour! Let your hair down and throw some colours around with the locals. Then gather around the bonfire and celebrate the triumph of good over evil as you sway to the rhythmic beat of Rajasthani music.



#03 - AOLEANG MONYU - APRIL 2023 - NAGALAND

In the northeastern reaches of India, the Konyak Monyu tribe celebrates the onset of the spring season with a vibrant harvest festival. Known for their fierce headhunting history, today the Konyaks gather to celebrate the harvest and their unique tribal heritage. Revel in energetic dance, music, and mock battles in an energetic ethnic ambience.

TRAVEL UPDATE!

LATEST NEWS FOR PASSENGERS



As India reopens it's borders post the global pandemic, we are delighted to let you know that more and more countries are being issued E-Visas by the Indian government.

#01 E-Visas for UK travelers

The latest developments state that travelers of UK origin will soon be able to apply for an e-visa online, taking the hassle out of the paperwork and putting India back on the globetrotter's map.

#02 No Air Suvidha form

We are also delighted to let you know that arriving passengers no longer have to fill out an Air Suvidha form, and that masks at airports are no longer mandatory.

However, please check with the Orange team for the latest advisories and updates at the time of your travel.

We look forward to welcoming you back to India!

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