

Serene n Scenic Orrisa with Sunderbans

KOLKATA – SUNDERBAN (NAMKHANA – BONY CAMP – SUDHANYAKHALI – DO BANKI NAMKHANA – KOLKATA – BHUBANESHWAR – KONARK – PURI GOPALPUR ON SEA – CHILKA LAKE

14 days trip starting from \$1918 per person

This program is a unique opportunity to experience the fascinating Cultures, fragrant cuisines, nerve centre of intellectual India where many modern movements began in literature, art, cinema, theatre, science, politics and industry. Kolkata has been rightly called The city of Joy, by French author Dominique Lapierre. Discover the largest mangrove eco-system in the world, Sunderbans, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is the hub of 'Royal Bengal Tigers. Embark on the luxury cruise in the largest estuarine national park in the world. Move on to the religious and ancient towns of Konark and Puri. The world heritage temples will give you an insight of the East Indian architectural prowess of the ancient days. Experience the soothing sea at Gopalpur and the calmness of the Chilka Lake, Asia's largest brackish water lake where one can view millions of Birds and Dolphins.

DAY 01: ARRIVE KOLKATA

Arrive at Kolkata International airport & meet our representative to transfer to hotel. Check-in at the hotel. Overnight stay at the hotel.

Kolkata, capital of West Bengal is the nerve centre of intellectual and human values where many modern movements began in literature, Art, Cnema, Theatre, Science, Politics and Industry.

DAY 02: KOLKATA

After breakfast, full day city tour of Kolkata visiting Howrah Bridge - a major landmark that denotes the city of joy. This hanging bridge is an architectural marvel of the country. The recently built Vidyasagar Setu, another architectural marvel, connects both the banks of the Hooghly River, onto Victoria Memorial built of White Marble. It was opened by Prince of Wales in 1924 and has a statue of Queen Victoria, with other exhibits. Visit the Indian Museum and drive past Dalhousie Square, St. Paul's Cathedral, National Library, Shaheed Minar, Eden Garden, Fort William and city centre. Optional visit to Mother Teresa's home of Charity. Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 03: KOLKATA (EMBARK ON RIVER CRUISE)

Settle into your beautifully appointed suites aboard the Antara Ganges Voyager in Kolkata (a city formerly known as Calcutta founded by the British Raj in 1773), the gateway to our journey along the world & holiest river, the sacred Ganges. Welcomed on board with a refreshing beverage followed by a safety briefing you embark between 1600 -1900 hrs from the Kolkata jetty. This evening, delight in the Cruise Director's Gala dinner and welcome reception.

DAY 04: KOLKATA – NAMKHANA

Late night or early morning depending on tide timings, you set sail along the Hooghly River to reach the fishing port of Namkhana, the gateway of the Sundarbans. You cruise past the Diamond Harbour & Kedgeree towards the Bay of Bengal. Sunderbans are the world's largest delta mangrove forest and habitat of the famous Royal Bengal Tiger. Visit the fishing port of Namkhana (time permitting) or sail forward towards Sunderbans to visit protected areas.

DAY 05: NAMKHANA – BONY CAMP

Anchored in the Western Sundarbans today will be your first foray into this rich & unique mangrove ecosystem, scaling the Bony Camp Watchtower on an excursion to sight endangered crocodiles, terrapins, and many species of migratory Birds. Sailing along the Malta river to the Hero Bhangra Islands keep a keen eye for Irrawaddy Dolphins & other marine life, whilst in the afternoon you will cross Mangrove creeks to scale the serene Nethidopani Watchtower & experience the spectacular nature of the surroundings, including the ruins of a 400-year-old Shiva Temple. Enjoy sundowners as you gently traverse dense Mangrove creeks towards the renowned Bali Island, a typical village whose inhabitants are engaged in farming, paddy husking, honey packing, and fishing.

DAY 06: SUDHANYAKHALI – DO BANKI

With a gorgeous sunrise, you'll scale the Sudhanyakhali Watchtower, the most popular locale to spot the elusive Royal Bengal Tiger; this vast habitat endows invigorating possibilities of crocodiles, wild boars, axis deer, and a wide range of migratory and local birds.

Thereafter you take a small country boat through the narrow creeks to climb the Dobanki Watchtower & enjoy a canopy walk 20ft off the ground & approximately 1500ft long to reveal the riveting flora and fauna; you might also get the chance to visit the Deer rehabilitation center. We transfer to the ship for late lunch and sail to Namkhana.

DAY 07: NAMKHANA - KOLKATA (DISEMBARK FROM RIVER CRUISE)

Early this morning you sail back towards Kolkata enjoying breakfast and lunch on board arriving in the late afternoon. Disembark in the evening. Transfer to hotel and overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 08: KOLKATA – BHUBANESWAR (BY AIR)

After breakfast, check out from the hotel and transfer to the airport for flight to Bhubaneshwar – The temple city which has a cluster of some 500 temples chronologically arranged still standing on their own. Arrive at Bhubaneshwar and transfer to the hotel. Afternoon, city tour visiting the Lingaraja temple built in the 11th century. The Presiding deity is Lord Shiva. See the Mukteshwar temple with its famous stone arch at the entrance, a gem of Orissan architecture and onto the 11th century Raja Rani temple. Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 09: BHUBANESWAR – KONARK – PURI

After breakfast, check out from hotel and leave for Puri – The home of numerous artisans & craftsmen who produce rare and exquisite handicrafts of a large variety. Enroute visit the famous Sun Temple at Konark. See the giant celestial chariot of the Sun God, pulled by seven exquisitely carved ornamented horses. Arrive at Puri and check in at the hotel. Afternoon, visit 12th century Jaganath Temple. The beach at Puri is one of the finest in the world. Watching the sunrise in a symphony of colours is a wondrous experience. Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 10: PURI

After breakfast, check out from the hotel and leave for Srinagar by surface. Arrive at Srinagar and check in at the hotel. Afternoon, visit the famous Mughal Gardens, along with a visit to Shankaracharya Temple. All the gardens are situated on the bank of Dal Lake with the Zabarwan Mountains in the background. Shalimar Bagh is the largest Mughal Garden in India located at northeast of Dal Lake near Srinagar.

Late afternoon, enjoy shikara ride in Dal Lake. This boat ride glides you past some wonderful vegetable gardens and aquatic life. Return to the hotel. Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 11: PURI - GOPALPUR ON SEA

After breakfast, check out from the hotel and leave for Gopalpur on Sea - ancient seaport of Orissa and now famous as a seaside resort. Being a quiet place, it is a famous resort for tourists for combating the foaming waves of the sea. Enroute visit Pipli Village, famous for its applique work. Arrive at Gopalpur on Sea and check in at the hotel. Time to relax. Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 12: GOPALPUR ON SEA – CHILKA LAKE – GOPALPUR ON SEA

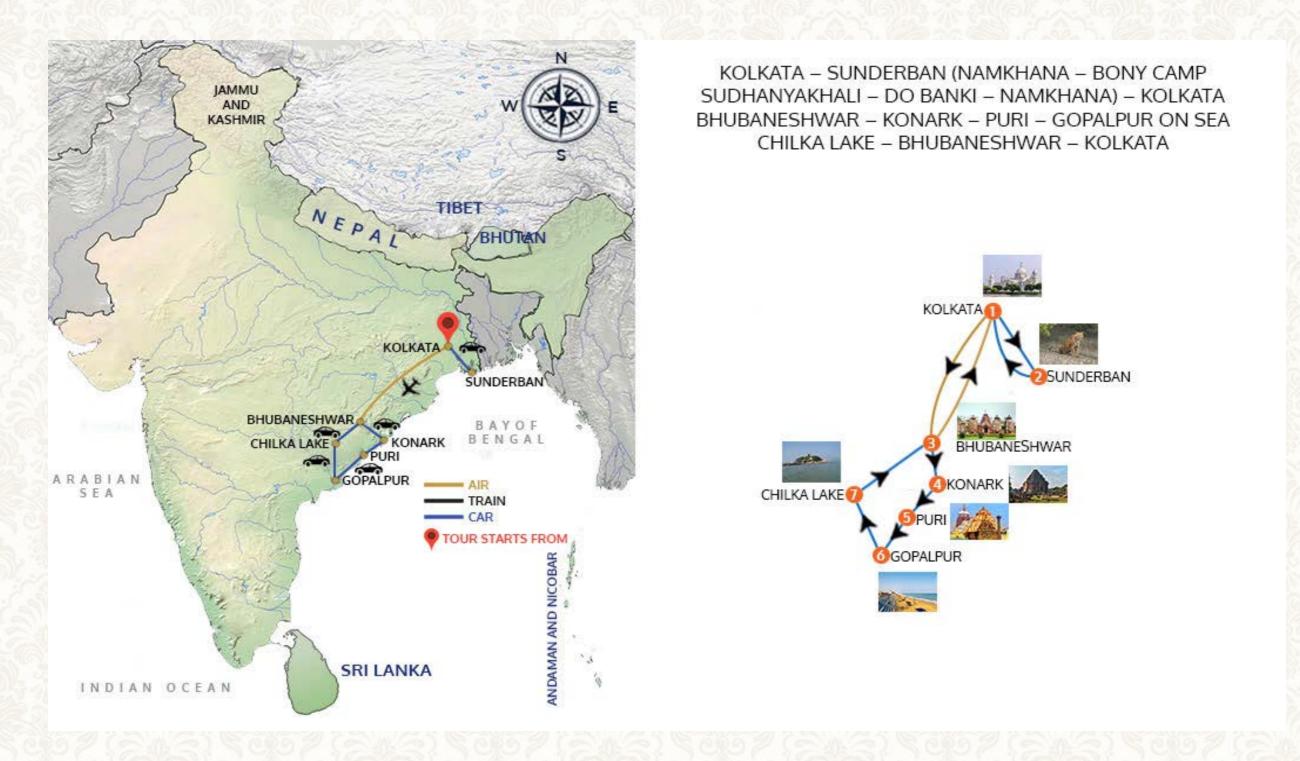
Early morning visit Chilka Lake - Bird watcher's Paradise. It is the biggest island lake in the country. It connects the Bay of Bengal in a narrow mouth and forming on enormous lagoon of brackish water. Chilka is a home of the richest variety of aquatic faunas, sanctuary and winter resort of migratory birds coming from as far as Siberia. Back to Gopalpur on Sea and overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 13: GOPALPUR ON SEA

Full day at leisure and enjoy at the beach. Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 14: GOPALPUR ON SEA – BHUBANESWAR – KOLKATA

After breakfast, check out from the hotel and leave for Bhubaneswar airport for flight to Kolkata and in evening flight to fly back home \ onward destination.



Contact Our Destination Specialist

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