

## Trip Dossier for India – Jungle Book

Trip Code: FIJB Issue date: 3 Nov 08 Valid from: 1 Jan 09

### Day 1 Fly to Mumbai

Depart from London to Mumbai on overnight flight.

### Day 2 Mumbai, time to relax and explore

Your flight arrives at Mumbai in the morning. On arrival you will be met by our local guide and transferred to your hotel where you may relax or explore your new surroundings. Mumbai, formerly known as Bombay, is full of interest. The rest of the day is at leisure and optional sightseeing tours can be arranged on request to include the Gateway of India, The Prince of Wales Museum, and the Victoria Terminus, popularly known as VT (or nowadays CST), which is the railway station and is considered the most beautiful edifice in the city. Your hotel is situated just off the Colaba Causeway close to the port, museums and lots of craft shops and restaurants. This afternoon you might like to visit Elephanta Island in Mumbai Harbour (optional), a tranquil escape from the bustle of the city with a wonderful Shiva temple cut out of the rock. **Hotel 1 night, with swimming pool (breakfast)**

### Day 3 Fly to Nagpur and afternoon game drive to Pench National Park

Early this morning you will be driven to Mumbai airport to fly to Nagpur. A further two hour drive from Nagpur and you will arrive at Pench National Park, in time for an afternoon game drive. Located on the border of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra, Pench was declared a Wildlife Sanctuary in 1983 and has been known through the ages for its rich flora and fauna. Pench has inspired many writers like Captain Forsyth, A.A.D. Brander and R.A. Strendale. And of course, Rudyard Kipling wrote *The Jungle Book* after his time at Pench and Kanha. **Fixed Tent 1 night (breakfast, lunch & dinner)**

### Day 4 Morning game drive and on to Kanha National Park

After a morning game viewing in Pench you will be driven to Kanha, approx 190 kilometres (five hours drive). En route you will visit a pottery village or an orchard. Excerpts from the *Jungle Book* will be read to the children on the river bank by a local school teacher, bringing to life the stories of Bhalu (Bear), Baghira (Tiger) and Mowgli (a child that was brought up by Bhalu and Baghira) in Kipling country. **Hotel 3 nights (breakfast, lunch & dinner)**

### Days 5 & 6 Games drives in Kanha National Park

Over the next two days you can enjoy both morning and afternoon game drives in the Kanha National Park. Kanha is one of India's largest and most remote national parks, covering 1945 square kilometres of forest and lightly wooded grasslands. An extensive network of rivers and streams supports it. Kanha National Park has an excellent variety of wildlife including Leopard, Chital, Sambar, Three Striped Palm Squirrel, Common Langur, Jackal, Wild Pig, Chital Or Spotted Deer, Barasingha or Swamp Deer, Blackbug, Indian Hare, Dhole Or Indian Wild Dog, Barking Deer, Indian Bison or Gaur, Indian Fox, Sloth bear, Striped hyena, Jungle Cat, Panther, Mouse Deer, Chausingha or Four Horned Antelope, Nilgai Or Blue Bull, Ratel, Indian Porcupine, Wolf, Chinkara, Indian Pangolin, The Smooth Indian Otter, Small Indian Civet and, most famously, Tiger. There may be an opportunity for elephant ride excursions into the park in the early morning and evening to see tigers. Although wildlife can be seen throughout the season, sightings increase during the hotter months of March and April because the animals move out of the tree cover in search of water. You'll be able to enjoy a nature walk in the evening in and around the resort premises. There is also an opportunity to visit a local school, where the children can play football and meet local kids. **(breakfast, lunch & dinner each day)**

### Day 7 Morning game drive in Kanha; then overnight train to Mumbai

Following a morning game drive in Kanha, you will be transferred to Jabalpur railway station, approx 155 kilometres (three and half hours drive), to board the overnight train to Mumbai. **Overnight Train – 2<sup>nd</sup>-class sleeper (breakfast & dinner)**

### Day 8 Mumbai

Your train will arrive at the Victoria Terminus in the late morning and you will be met and driven to your hotel, about 15 minutes away on the Colaba Causeway. The rest of the day is free to explore Mumbai some more and do some last minute souvenir shopping. Fans of Bollywood films might like to take in the latest offering at one of the mega cinemas. **Hotel 1 night, with swimming pool**

### Day 9 Fly to London

In the morning you will be driven to Delhi International Airport for your return flight to London.



## Agra and Delhi Extension Trip Code FIJBd

If you have time, we recommend extending your journey to experience the sights and sounds of Agra and the Taj Mahal followed by a visit to Delhi.

### Day 7 Train to Agra

Following a morning game drive in Kanha, you will be transferred to Jabalpur railway station, approx 155 kilometres (three and half hours drive), to board the Mahakoshal Express overnight train to Agra. **Overnight Train – 2<sup>nd</sup>-class sleeper (breakfast & dinner)**

### Day 8 Taj Mahal and Agra Fort Visit

One of the wonders of the world, no visit to India is complete without seeing the Taj Mahal. On arrival at the station you'll be met and taken to visit the Itmad-Ud-Daulah (the "baby Taj"), the mausoleum of Mirza Ghiyas Beg (the grandfather of Mumtaz Mahal and referred to as the lady of the Taj), which is set in idyllic riverside gardens and then the Red Fort, with towering walls two and a half kilometres in length. You'll be taken for a short rickshaw ride to the Taj Mahal, truly one of the most remarkable sights ever. As the sun is setting see how the light plays on the marble of the tomb and the whole building is reflected in the still waters. Before being taken to board your train to Delhi there will be an opportunity to wash and change at a nearby hotel (with swimming pool). Then you'll board the Shatabdi Express train to Delhi (2 hrs journey). Many say to travel by train is the best way to see the "real India". The railway platforms are like mini bazaars, swarming with people and chatter. On arrival to New Delhi it is a short transfer to the hotel. **Hotel with swimming pool – 2 nights (breakfast)**

### Day 9 Old and New Delhi sightseeing

Old Delhi pulses with energy and colour; the hustle and bustle of thronged bazaars are laced by a maze of narrow lanes which twist and turn between tall, leaning houses. Here you'll experience all the sights, sounds and aromas of the Indian sub-continent. In Old Delhi you will see the famous Red Fort surrounded by shops, bazaars (built by the Emperor Shah Jehan – the builder of Taj Mahal), the Jama Masjid mosque with its tapering minarets and wonderful marble domes, Chandni Chowk (Old Delhi's business nerve centre) and the chattering voices of everyday Indian life all around you. In Old Delhi, a cycle rickshaw moves faster than a Ferrari. Later you will be taken on a guided tour of New Delhi. This is like a different world: wide boulevards, landscaped parks, magnificent buildings such as Parliament Building, the Presidential Palace, formerly the residence of the British Viceroy, and the impressive Indian Gate; the memorial to the Indian soldiers who lost their lives during the Second World War. **Hotel (breakfast)**

### Day 10 Fly to London

In the morning you will be driven to Delhi International Airport for your return flight to London.

Please note – from Nov to March many hotel swimming pools will be closed as this is the "cold" season in India.

## Beach Extension to Goa Trip Code FIJBg

You can also extend your stay in India with a few days of relaxation on Goa's glorious beaches.

### Day 9 Fly Mumbai to Goa

This morning you will be driven to Mumbai Airport for your flight to Goa. On arrival you will be met by our representative and transferred to your resort hotel. Then you are free to simply relax on the beautiful beaches or spend some time exploring the remnants of Portuguese colonialism: narrow winding lanes, white washed buildings and 16<sup>th</sup>-century churches. **Hotel (breakfast)**

### Day 10 & 11 At leisure to relax on the beach and explore.

The next few days are at leisure for you to enjoy your beautiful surroundings. **Hotel (breakfast)**

### Day 12 Fly to Mumbai and connect with international flight to London.

Early this morning you will be driven to Goa Airport for your flight to London via Mumbai, leaving early afternoon.

*This itinerary includes our group flights from London. If you are making other flight arrangements, please refer to your Confirmation Invoice and Joining Instructions for details of the start or end of the trip. Please remember international flights and trip dates do occasionally change, so please always purchase flexible tickets.*

*Each itinerary is planned many months in advance and although it is our intention to operate the itinerary as printed in the brochure and detailed here, it may be necessary to make some changes as a result of alterations to flight schedules, climatic conditions, limitations of infrastructure or other operational factors which are beyond our control. As a consequence, the order or location of overnight stops may vary from those outlined but we will always endeavour to keep you informed of any such changes. Included meals are indicated in the daily itinerary.*



### Optional Extras

These excursions, if available, can be arranged through your tour leader (*approximate cost per person shown below*)

Sightseeing tour in Mumbai	£20.00
Sightseeing tour of Island of Elephanta	£24.00
Visit a pottery village in Kanha	£1.00
Visit a local school in Kanha and make some new pen pals	£2.50
Learn some Hindu and local songs	

**Is this right for your family?** This trip is suitable for children of five and up. Comfortable accommodation is used throughout. There are a couple of longish drives (one of five hours and another of five and a half hours) and an overnight train journey, but seeing Indian life along the way always makes this a thrilling experience.

### Lone Parents

Single parents or other adults travelling alone with children should be aware that some countries, including the UK, require documentation confirming that the individual has authority to travel with the minor. It is crucial that you contact the relevant country embassy for further information on exactly what may be required. These details can be found on the Foreign & Commonwealth Website under the appropriate country [www.fco.gov.uk/travel](http://www.fco.gov.uk/travel)

**Climate** The best time of year to visit central India is between October and April. The days are normally warm to hot and the nights cool to mild. The southwest monsoon season is between June to September, where the rainfall is rather heavy at times and tends to be hot and humid.

Average monthly climate in Mumbai (Bombay)

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
<b>Max °C</b>	28	28	30	32	33	32	29	29	29	32	32	31
<b>Min °C</b>	19	19	22	24	27	26	25	24	24	24	23	21
<b>Rainfall (mm)</b>	2.5	2.5	2.5	0	18	485	617	340	264	64	13	2.5

**Accommodation** The hotels are 3 star standard with private facilities and are a on a twin share basis; most are air-conditioned. They are modern, clean comfortable and offer friendly service. The Shatabdi Express is one of the premium train services in India and is clean and well maintained with comfortable carriages. The indication of a swimming pool at a hotel should not be taken as a guarantee but rather an indication. You should also be aware that swimming pools at the hotels are often unheated and so can be cold in the winter months or even closed.

**Food and Drink** Meals are included as indicated in the itinerary. Meals on board the train are hygienically prepared served on a fixed menu basis according to the time of day. Breakfast is an omelette, bread and butter served with tea or coffee; lunch and dinner are simple India vegetarian or non vegetarian meals of rice, lentils mixed vegetable or chicken curry, followed by dessert. For meals in Delhi you can eat quite cheaply, but obviously if you dine in more expensive restaurants please allow more. You local tour leader will be on hand to make some personal recommendations. Most restaurants offer a combination between Indian and Western style food. If you are a vegetarian, India offers an extensive variety of dishes. Please remember to drink plenty of bottled water every day.

### Local Costs

A small bottle of mineral water (500ml)	£0.50
A large bottle of mineral water (1 litre)	£0.80
A can of coke (soft drinks)	£0.40
A carton or bottle of fruit juice	£0.60
A bottle of beer	£1.50
Tea or coffee	£0.50
A light lunch time snack – sandwich for example	£2.00
A two course meal* - excluding drinks	£5.00
A three course meal* - excluding drinks	£7.00

*\*Based on a mid range tourist restaurant.*

**Currency** The unit of currency is the Indian Rupee (Rs.) at the time of writing UK £1 = Rs.78.73 and 1US\$ = Rs.48.66 (Nov 2008). Sterling Travellers' Cheques are readily accepted in banks and larger hotels. We recommend that you change money at the airport. Credit Cards are accepted in larger hotels and some souvenir shops.



**Tiping** is a recognised part of life and although at your discretion you will be expected to reward service. It should be remembered, however, that over-generosity could lead to jealousies in poor countries. Please remember that all tips should be a way for individuals to thank staff for good service. We do not encourage the tipping of snake charmers, animal keepers or the likes.

Suitable tips from your family would be; Rs 30 per suitcase for bell boys, 10% of your bill at a restaurant, Rs150 per day for your driver, local guide Rs150 half day and Rs250 full day.

Please also remember that your tour leader works hard and for long hours to make your holiday run smoothly, a suitable reward for good service would be £1-£2 from each person, per day. It is usual to collect this between yourselves as a group and present it to the leader on completion of the tour.

**Language** While each state has its own regional language, Hindi and English are widely spoken.

**Security** Whilst the vast majority of travellers never experience anything untoward it is worth taking precautions particularly in urban areas. You should take sensible precautions in crowded areas such as street markets and airports, where pick-pocketing is common, and keep clear of any street disturbances. Don't wear expensive jewellery, never leave your bags unattended, keep large amounts of money, cameras and mobile phones out of sight when walking in town centres, and avoid walking in city centres after dark. Keep copies of important documents, including passports, in a separate place to the documents themselves, together with details of credit cards. Leave copies at home with a friend too. Safeguard valuables, important documents and cash and deposit them in hotel safes, where practicable.

**Time** India is GMT + 5 ½ hours (Indian Standard Time)

#### **Visas and passports**

You must obtain a visa before travelling to India. Passports should be valid for 6 months. Please allow plenty of time to process your application.

#### **Health**

Vaccinations are recommended against Hepatitis A, Typhoid, Tetanus, Polio, Diphtheria and Malaria tablets should be taken. Please consult your GP for further advice.



## Clothing & Equipment List for India – Jungle Book

Although western standards are generally becoming more acceptable, Indians generally remain very traditional in what they wear. Out of respect please dress conservatively, no sleeveless tops for instance. While shorts are accepted in the main tourist areas, both shorts and skirts should be knee length or longer. Arms and legs and occasionally ladies heads, should be covered when entering religious buildings. During the wildlife drives in open jeeps/canter (especially during October to mid March) it can be rather chilly so please pack warm clothing. It may be a good idea to take a smart casual outfit for an evening out.

CLOTHING	NUMBER PER PERSON	Check	EQUIPMENT	Check
Walking Shoes	1 pair		Soft-sided bag 50 – 80litres	
Trainers or Strong Sandals	1 pair – all purpose wear		Lightweight Daypack – 25 litres	
Socks	4+		A variety of plastic bags	
Waterproof Jacket	1 lightweight		Sunglasses	
T-Shirts	3+		Personal First Aid Kit	
Long Trousers or Skirt	2+		Large Water Bottle	
Short Trousers	2		Loo Kit (in small bag) loo paper/tissues remember this for the train ride.	
Long Sleeve Shirt	2+		Torch and Batteries	
Track Suit Bottoms or Similar	Optional		Camera, Memory card and Accessories	
Sunhat / Baseball cap	Essential (styled to shade face, ears and neck)		Guide Book & map	
Warm jacket	1		Wet wipes and anti bacterial hand gel	
Thin Fleece or Sweatshirt	1		Towel or Sarong	
Warm hat, scarf and gloves	Woolly or fleece (winter)			
Swim Wear	1			

ITEM	Check	ITEM	Check
Passport/ Visa		Sunscreen – lots of it	
Air Tickets		Universal travelling adapter	
Money/Travellers Cheques		Insect Repellent with high DEET content	
Cash Cards/Visa			
Insurance Documents			
Trip Information and Itinerary			
Money Security Belt/Pouch			

For details regarding **hand luggage restrictions**, please visit [www.baa.com](http://www.baa.com) for details of click [here](#)