

# THE CENTRAL PROVINCES

15 days/14 nights

*Including wildlife parks and tigers, ancient temples, forts and palaces, and the breathtakingly beautiful Taj Mahal, this itinerary offers a great variety.*

*Varanasi is one of the oldest living cities in the world with its holy River Ganges where pilgrims flock to to wash away their sins. The World Heritage Site of Khajuraho shows you the best of the ancient North Indian style of sculptural temple architecture. Not too far away is the scenic town of Orcha, considered one of the most beautiful of the country's ancient settlements.*

*India has a number of Wildlife Sanctuaries which are dedicated to 'TIGER', as a part of Project Tiger, to save this dying species. In this itinerary we have included one of these National Park, where Safaris will be on elephant-back and by jeep. Bandavgarh National Park has the best success rate for viewing tigers of all the National Parks in India.*

*The massive, almost three kilometre long fort at Gwalior is a formidable structure richly embellished with carvings. Within it shelter some outstanding temples and palaces.*

## ITINERARY

### Day 1                      Delhi

Welcome at Delhi Airport followed by transfer to your hotel.

### Day 2                      Delhi

A city tour today introduces you to the different faces of the capital – contemporary Indian, Raj relic, conservative Hindu, Mughal, and more. B

### Day 3                      Delhi-Varanasi

Take a morning flight to Varanasi then have a free afternoon. Witness the spiritual Arti closing ceremony on the banks of the Ganges from your boat this evening. B

### Day 4                      Varanasi

View the ghats by boat at sunrise. Late morning, walk around the narrow lanes of Varanasi, and this afternoon visit Sarnath, where Buddha first preached his message of enlightenment. B

### Day 5                      Varanasi-Khajuraho

Fly to Khajuraho late morning and visit the stunning temples, recognised for their sculptural beauty by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site. Return to view a Sound & Light performance of the Temples in the evening. B

### Day 6                      Khajuraho-Bandavgarh National Park

Drive on to Bandavgarh National Park this morning and enjoy a safari by jeep this afternoon. B

### Days 7 & 8                      Bandavgarh National Park

Take some exciting game drives morning and evening by jeep, and/or on elephant-back. B

### Day 9                      Bandavgarh National Park-Khajuraho

After a morning game viewing, drive back to Khajuraho. B

### Day 10                      Khajuraho-Orcha-Jhansi-Gwalior

Drive on to Jhansi this morning, visiting Orcha en route. Board the train to Gwalior at Jhansi this evening. B

**Day 11****Gwalior**

Visit Gwalior this morning; experience a spectacular Sound & Light performance of Gwalior Fort this evening. B

**Day 12****Gwalior-Agra**

Enjoy a day at leisure in Gwalior — a special treatment at the Jiva Spa will certainly be rewarding. Take the early evening Shatabdi Express train to Agra. B

**Day 13****Agra**

Visit the Taj and the numerous other attractions the city offers. Return to the Taj to see the setting sun touch it with gold. B

**Day 14****Agra-Delhi**

Drive back to Delhi where the afternoon is on your own to go shopping. B

**Day 15****Delhi**

This morning you will be transferred to the airport for your flight home. B