



India

Tigers Tracks and Camera Traps

12 Days

India - a destination so diverse and intricately woven in its customs, colours, landscapes and wildlife that a lifetime is not long enough to explore this magical country in its entirety. On this biology and conservation related tour, we head to the national parks and tiger reserves of central India. We will become Junior Rangers, in an experience full of adventure and fabulous wildlife watching. Alongside jeep, boat and foot safaris, our expert rangers will discuss important issues, such as conservation, tiger poaching, human-animal conflict and how tourism might provide the solution to saving the tiger. We'll learn how to set camera traps and monitor animal movements through impression pads, and visit a local village to see how they feel about their feline neighbours. Oh, and we drop in on the Taj Mahal too, just for good measure!



Your Recommended Educational Journey

Days 1 - 2	Depart UK, Arrive Delhi Leave the UK on an overnight flight to India. Arrive at New Delhi's International Airport, transfer to the Hotel. Time allowing, we'll head out into the city this afternoon and get a feel for heat, dust and general organised mayhem of old and new Delhi.	LD
Day 3	Delhi and coach to Agra We start with a tour of the old city. We go on a rickshaw ride in Chandni Chowk seeing typical Indian market scenes and the oldest spice bazaar. Later we can visit Raj Ghat, the cremation place of Mahatma Gandhi, the father of Modern India. In the afternoon, we transfer to Agra.	BLD
Day 4	Agra and Overnight Train transfer to Bandhavgarh We rise early this morning to make the most of the dawn light and a visit to see the Taj Mahal, the seventh wonder of the world, before the crowds arrive later in the day. Built by the Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan, Taj is his glowing tribute to his love for Mumtaz Mahal. The most complete and perfect of the wonders of the world; Taj was built in 1652 and took 22 years and 20,000 skilled artisans to complete. After visiting Taj, we have the opportunity to explore some of the markets and surrounding sites of Agra before an afternoon transfer to the train station to board the overnight train heading south to Bandhavgarh National Park.	BLD
Day 5	Bandhavgarh National Park We are met from our overnight train and drive by road to Bandhavgarh National Park. Lunch will be served at the Resort. Full day free! An educational evening lecture on Wildlife followed by a delicious dinner. This park is located in the Vindhya Hills of the Umaria district in Madhya Pradesh. Declared as a national park in 1968 it is spread across the area of 105 km ² . The name Bandhavgarh has been derived from the most prominent hillock of the area of Umaria. The area of Bandhavgarh is being flourished with a large biodiversity, the place which is famous for its highest density of tiger population in India. Similarly, the park also beholds the largest breeding population of leopards and various species of deer. Over the years, the park has shown a great number of increases in tiger species. Jeep safaris are best undertaken from dawn until about 10am and from about 4pm until dusk, as the animals are most active during these periods. There are more than 22 species of mammals and 250 species of birds in the park—so many opportunities! Junior Ranger Programme Our experience over the next few days as Junior Rangers aims to give us an introduction to Wildlife Conservation in India at a grass roots level. We learn about the tribal people of the region and gain an understanding of their role in the conservation of the area. Early morning safaris, boat rides and nature treks allow us an insight into the practical problems of conservation. Jeep Safari at Bandhavgarh National Park is a delight for adventure lovers and wildlife photographers. In fact these Jeep safari tours have added excitement and fun to the journey. 04 WD Open Jeep Safari is the best way to explore the flora & fauna of Bandhavgarh National Park. Jeep safaris keep one enthralled for the adventure and provide the flexibility to explore especially those places, which are difficult to travel via any other mode of transportation. for observing and photographing animal behaviour.	BLD



Day 6	Safaris We set off on safari in the morning, followed by an afternoon safari in the tiger reserve. Evening we learn to set up camera traps to record animal movement. The park also has a significant population of leopards, sloth bears and wild dogs and the lush sal forests offer the perfect opportunity for the young rangers to learn more about these fascinating animals. In the evening the rangers assist in setting up the camera traps followed by a talk on wildlife conservation in India.	BLD
Day 7	Walking safaris and human animal conflict Morning we check our camera's followed by discussions of what we have seen and what data our camera traps may have recorded. After lunch, we will head into the village to discuss and gain some perspective on human-animal conflict, animal movement, habitat destruction and conservation. In the evening we will set up our camera traps again. Other activities in the village will include painting and bamboo handy craft.	BLD
Day 8	Full day jeep safari Morning we check our camera's followed by discussions of what we have seen and what data our camera traps may have recorded. After lunch Jeep Safari in the Tiger reserve. On our return we will learn to make impression pads for monitoring animal movements followed by a talk on illegal trafficking of tiger part alongside information regarding poaching and anti-poaching measures.	BLD
Day 9	Jeep safari, camera trapping & discussions Our day begins with a jeep safari in the National Park followed by lunch and checking the camera taps and impression pads for animal movement. There will be a barbeque dinner in the evening and a discussion about what we have learn and experience during out time as Junior Rangers.	BLD
Day 10	Bandhavgarh National park; overnight train to Delhi A walking safari and a vehicle transfer to catch our train back to Delhi.	BLD
Day 11	Delhi We arrive in the morning with a day to spend in Delhi at leisure. An appreciation of local cuisine will be experienced today as we have a cooking demonstration done by a local family. This is a lovely treat and your taste buds will be tingling!	BLD
Day 12	Return to UK We transfer to the airport in time for our flight back to the UK.	B



Look what's included:

- International flights
- All accommodation, transportation and activities
- All food as described above
- Local, bi-lingual, first-aid qualified STC tour leader
- Parent and student trip launch presentation
- Pre-travel training programme
- 1-day offsite safety INSET day for school staff
- ATOL financial protection
- Emergency Medical & Repatriation Insurance

- Group first aid kit and prescription meds pack
- BS8848 safety management and risk assessments
- Detailed pre-departure information and kit lists
- Comprehensive teacher travel packs
- Permanent operations team in your destination
- 24-hour UK operational support whilst overseas
- Donations to two carbon & conservation charities
- Free Fairtrade t-shirt for every participant and teacher
- Free travel guide book to your destination

What's not included:

- Transport to airport in UK
- Drinks (advice will be given on purification of water)
- Visas or tourist cards if required
- Any required inoculations or Covid tests

- Personal spending money
- Tips for guides, drivers and porters (ask for guidance)
- Airport departure taxes paid locally
- Personal effects and cancellation insurance



A word about Responsible Tourism

On our expeditions and educational journeys, we strive to connect teachers and students with the people they meet, nurture the cultures they experience and protect the beautiful environments they are lucky enough to explore.

Many companies talk the talk, few truly walk the walk. While we are far from perfect, we are leading the way in sustainability in the school travel sector. In 2018 we were the first UK travel company to become **Travelife Certified** – a verified sustainability certificate formally recognised by the Global Sustainable Tourism Council.



Trees for Life

This is our passion, and we'd love to tell you more about it in due course. In the meantime, for more information on some of the steps we take as a company to make our operations more sustainable, please visit:

<https://www.thestc.co.uk/travel/what-do-we-do/>

Physical Rating for this trip: Grade 2



Some low level physical activities included in your trip, including walking on uneven terrain, maybe a morning/afternoon trek of two to four hours. That said, no physical preparation is required to make the most of the tour. High humidity and temperatures can occur at certain times of the year.

Cultural Rating for this trip: Grade 3



Students should expect some culture shock. You'll be exposed to signs of poverty. The food will be quite different to home and English, whilst still spoken, will be less prevalent. Respecting the local culture will make it easier to fit in and get the most out of your trip. We're likely to visit remoter locations on this tour where access to western style services may be sporadic. Often on trips of this grading there are parts of the itinerary which are more remote, interspersed with sections which are more 'comfortable'.



Travel Safety & Other Pre-Travel Training

Preparing students and teachers for their upcoming adventure is an opportunity to teach important life skills and a vital part of our overall approach to safety management. Please ask for your quote for the training schedule specific to this educational journey. Topics covered will include:

Responsible Tourism workshop

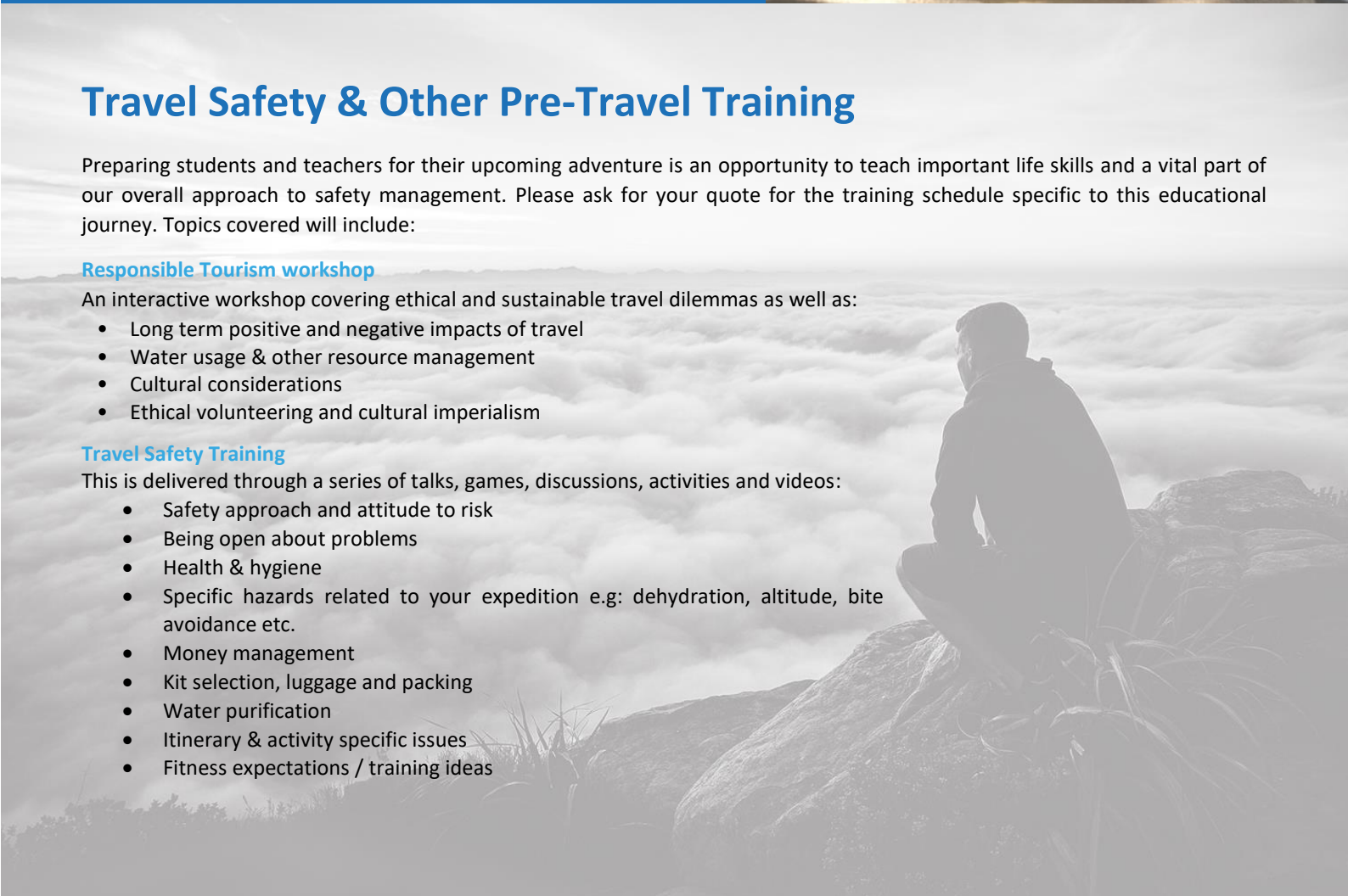
An interactive workshop covering ethical and sustainable travel dilemmas as well as:

- Long term positive and negative impacts of travel
- Water usage & other resource management
- Cultural considerations
- Ethical volunteering and cultural imperialism

Travel Safety Training

This is delivered through a series of talks, games, discussions, activities and videos:

- Safety approach and attitude to risk
- Being open about problems
- Health & hygiene
- Specific hazards related to your expedition e.g: dehydration, altitude, bite avoidance etc.
- Money management
- Kit selection, luggage and packing
- Water purification
- Itinerary & activity specific issues
- Fitness expectations / training ideas





A journey of 1,000 miles...

Starts with a single step... Contact us now to start your educational journey

1 Ask for your personalised quote & further information

If this itinerary doesn't quite scratch your adventure itch then let us tailor-make one for you. Our wealth of experience and expert in-country contacts means we can design an adventure that's just right for you and your students. Contact us for more information and a detailed quote.

2 Ask for risk assessments and marketing materials

We can provide initial risk and threat assessments to help you with your trip approval process. Ask for posters and your Pre-Booking Information Pack too.

3 Arrange a trip launch evening

This is a chance for students and parents to hear more about the planned adventure with comprehensive information covering the itinerary, safety management, the build-up to the trip and lots more. There is also plenty of opportunity for questions.



The home of the modern, innovative school expedition, where a sustainable, ethical approach guarantees unique experiences and a life enhancing adventure.



Our school trips and educational tours are all about maximising the learning opportunities of travel. It's all here, the humble school tour has just come of age.



Adventures, holidays and cultural journeys for teachers looking to 'Escape the Classroom' and discover more about our amazing world, its people and places.



"I am being completely serious when I say that I won't ever run a school trip without you guys. I trust you and your team completely - and the in-country staff that you carefully cultivate and train are a cut above the rest."

Teacher feedback, King's High Warwick

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