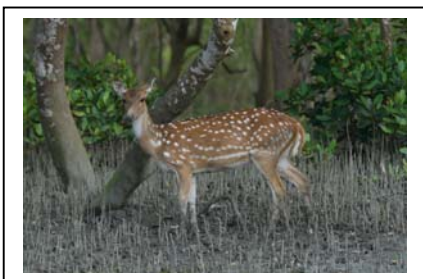


Sunderbans-The Land of The Royals!



Where the land meets the sea at the southern tip of West Bengal lies the Indian Sunderbans, a stretch of impenetrable mangrove forest of great size and bio-diversity. A UNESCO World Heritage Site (awarded in '97) , the Sunderbans is a vast area covering 4264 square km in India alone, with a larger portion in Bangladesh. 2585 sq. kms of the Indian Sunderbans forms the largest Tiger Reserve and National Park in India. The Sunderbans are a part of the world's largest delta formed by the rivers Ganges, Brahmaputra and Meghna. Situated on the lower end of the Gangetic West Bengal, 22.00° N – 89.00° E, it is also the world's largest estuarine forest. 70% of the area is under saline water and the area is criss-crossed by hundreds of creeks and tributaries. It is difficult to approach and even more difficult to spend time in. But for those who dare, it must be one of the most attractive and alluring places remaining on earth.

In a landscape dominated by great tidal creeks and waterways, the only way to access and enjoy the area is on motorized boats which come in various sizes and shapes. Sunderbans is the home of man eating tigers, estuarine crocodiles, sharks and snakes. Man fights for survival in great numbers by living off nature's bounty by accepting and fighting against these odds. The visitor has no choice but to stay within limits and out of trouble. This means that there is very little conventional bird or game watching, more observations from water. But the dark and foreboding attractiveness of the mangroves also hides some of the most sought after birds and animals in the world and a chance encounter with a Swamp Partridge, a Brown-winged Kingfisher, a Grey Headed Lapwing, a Pallas's Fish Eagle, a Lesser Adjutant or maybe a Mangrove Whistler is always a possibility ~ as is the unforgettable sight of the most secretive great cat in the world. Tiger sighting is difficult not just because of the terrain but also because the density is not evident from the limited view one gets from a boat. The fringes of Sunderbans play host to many local endemics and the visitor is well advised to spend time on land outside the core area before venturing into the heart of the National Park. Once inside the Park, the only access to land is at the various Watchtowers you can visit. Remember that the watchtowers are inside wire cages and do not allow you to stroll in tiger-land.



Please, find the details of the Sunderban trip as under :

2 nights / 3 days

Mysterious Sunderbans (Kolkata – Sunderbans - Kolkata)

Kolkata – Sunderbans - Kolkata

Day 01:-

- ☞ 7.30 A.M: Pick up from City and transfer to Sonakhali jetty (110 kms 2 ½ hrs) through beautiful countryside's, rural bazaar with stopovers at Local Tea shop .
- ☞ 10.00 A.M: Arrive at Sonakhali. Transfer of luggage and persons to our motorized boat.
- ☞ 10.30 A.M: Briefing and interpretation by our naturalist over Tea/Coffee/Welcome drink followed by 3 hours spectacular cruise through river Hogol,Gomor,Durgaduani and Gumdi.Optional stopover at Gosaba- one of the earliest human settlements of Sunderbans to visit the house of Sir Dannel Hamilton.
- ☞ 13.30: On arrival check-in to your Resort.
- ☞ 14.00: Hot lunch followed by 3 hours birding and game cruise to Sajnekhali watch tower through creeks and canals.
- ☞ 18.00 P.M: Back to Resort by evening.
- ☞ 19.30 P.M: Dinner and overnight halt.

Day 02 :-

- ☞ 6.30 A.M./5.30 A.M.: Morning tea.
- ☞ 7.30 A.M.: Thrilling boat cruise inside creeks and dense forest while visiting Dobanki and Netidhopani Watch Towers, breakfast & lunch on boat during the whole day cruise
- ☞ 6.00 P.M.: Back to resort Evening tea/coffee & snacks, followed by a wild life movie.
- ☞ 9.00 P.M.: Dinner.

Day 03 :-

- ☞ 7.00 A.M: Morning tea.
- ☞ 7.30 A.M: Breakfast
- ☞ 8.00 A.M: Guided Village Walk in which participants are encouraged to have a close interaction and interesting encounters with the local villagers and their livelihood to understand their local art, culture and their way of life.
- ☞ 8.45 A.M: Guided adventure cruise to Sudhanyakhali watch tower to enjoy a small canopy walk.
- ☞ 12.00 Noon: Back to Resort. Lunch and proceed to Sonakhali.
- ☞ 15.00 P.M: Arrive at Sonakhali and transfer to Kolkata.

Trip Cost includes:

Escorted Surface transfers by coach ,cruises and river transfers by motorized boat, stay at the Resort, all the meals, country boat rides, Local Cultural show, guided village tour, jungle entrance fees, services of our local guide cum naturalist.

Trip Cost excludes:

Kolkata Accommodation, Camera Fees, Soft and hard drinks, Cultural Programme, Tips gratuity and insurance and any expenses not mentioned in the "Cost includes" section.

**The food:**

We serve local dishes specially and tastefully cooked for you by our trained local chef. Much variety is not possible owing to the remoteness of the area, yet best possible food is provided under strict hygienic supervision. Vegetables come from the organic gardens of the village, fresh fish and crab from the rivers and ponds, chicken from the village farms and fresh honey from the 'honey collectors' houses.

The Activities:

We do not promise Tiger Sighting though every efforts will be taken to show the incredible array of wildlife of the Sunderbans. For those who consider Tiger sighting a must for their trip are discouraged to join our cruise safaris as Tiger sighting cannot be guaranteed in such a vast, remote and difficult terrain where visitors hardly have any opportunity to walk on the forested lands or mud flats. We welcome all to our Natural History tour for a great learning experience and a mutual education.

Seasons:

Round the year.

Special Interest:

Botany, Ornithology and Ethno-zoology: 300 species of birds including 6 species of Kingfishers, Raptors, Waders, Migratory birds and ducks, Herons and Storks. Other than some 270 legendary Bengal Tigers and Spotted Deer and Wild Boars Sunderbans also boasts the Largest Estuarine crocodiles, Rhesus monkeys, Water monitors, Reptiles and Amphibians, Turtles and Dolphins. The honey collectors and Fishermen of the land of "HUNGRY TIDE".

Sunderbans is mysterious, unpredictable, instilling, vast, untamable, perhaps, the last true wild frontier remaining on our planet Earth.

Must in Travel Kit:

- Binocular
- Bird book
- Small Torch
- Stock of film rolls and batteries
- Personal medication
- Sun cap
- Pair of earth color trousers/shirts



Contact – Tanmoy Ghosh email- tanmoywildphoto@gmail.com ;
info@irebel.asia

Phone- 9433907849, 9433399567, 9433390664

All trips can be customized according to the need of individuals/groups.