

ODISHA TRIBES & PHOTOGRAPHY TOUR.... 14 NIGHTS/ 15 DAYS

Highlights: Delhi - Bhubaneswar – Dhenkanal Palace– Textile Village – Bhubaneswar- Konark – Puri - Gopalpur - Rayagada Chatikona – Bisam katak - Jaypore – Koraput -Anukudelli Haat - Tribal

Museum - Vishakhapatnam- Delhi Departrue

Please note. All the tribe's markets held on certain days as they are weekly markets (explained in the itinerary) so please plan your programme accordingly otherwise no use to travel on this route. Also note, this is a very good itinerary for photography.



ITINERARY:

Day 01: Arrive Delhi (Must be Saturday)

On arrival at Delhi Airport, you will be met by your car with chauffeur for the short transfer to your hotel for night stay. Rest of the day free. No meals neither early check in is Included on day1.

Day 02 in Delhi

After breakfast full day sightseeing of Delhi with guide. You could include some of the following: Old Delhi, Red Fort from outside, the Jama Masjid Mosque, with a rickshaw ride through the Chandni Chowk visiting the Spice, Wedding and Silver Markets and then the Birla Temple, Parliament Buildings of Sir Edwin Lutyens, India Gate and Humayun's Tomb.

Start the morning with a visit to Old Delhi. Built in the first half of the 17th Century by the Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan this old city is still a dense network of overcrowded homes, markets and endless alleyways dominated by the enormous **Red Fort**. Go by **cycle rickshaw through Chandni Chowk** (closed on a Sunday) a bustling thoroughfare of shops, craftsmen's workshops, mosques and temples. Continue onto **Jama Masjid** the largest mosque in India and then to the Red Fort (closed on a Monday) with its imposing appearance and towering entrance. Also visit **Rajghat**, the cremation place of Mahatma Gandhi.

Continue to visit the **Qutub Minar** complex housing an impressive 13th Century 72m victory tower.

In the afternoon drive south to New Delhi designed by British architect Sir Edwin Lutyens in a combination of western and eastern styles. Proceed up to **Rashtrapati Bhavan** once the Viceroy's abode but now the official residence of the President of India and then across to the eastern end of the Rajpath to the imposing **India Gate**. This war memorial, designed by Lutyens, commemorates the Indian soldiers who died in the First World War, on the Northwest Frontier and in the Afghan War of 1919 and, most recently, in the Indo-Pakistan war of 1971. Overnight stay in Delhi.



Day 03: Fly to Bhubaneshwar (Must be Monday)

Transfer to Delhi Airport to connect flight for Bhubaneshwar, the Temple City of India. On arrival collect and transfer to your hotel. In the afternoon visit some of the famous Temples, such as 11th century Lingaraj Temple, 9th century Mukteswar Temple, 7thC Parshurameswar Temple, Tribal Museum and 1st century Khandagiri and Udayagir Jain Caves. Night at Bhubaneswar.

Day 04: Bhubaneswar – visit Textile Village - Dhenkanal Heritage Palace

Early morning transfer to Dhenkanal Heritage Palace. Enroute visit Sadeibareni Dhokra Craft Village, this village is home to near to 25 families & out of these nearly 12 are awarded from President of India for Dhokra Craft. Visitors can buy directly from them. Then Visit Nuapatana Weavers Village & Mania bandha Textile Village, these villages have distinct place in the map of Indian textile, famous for TIE & DYE patterns known as IKAT, interaction with weavers is a delight.

Continue to Royal palace of Dhenkanal for night stay.

Royal palace of Dhenkanal, a truly royal eastern retreat, Dhenkanal Palace, the residence of the former Rajas of Dhenkanal is now a heritage homestay where one can experience history, tradition, art, culture and heritage of Dhenkanal. The last ruler, Raja Shankar Pratap Mahindra Bahadur (1925 – 65), was the seventeenth ruler since the foundation of the State and the first ruler in Orissa to merge with India in 1948. The present Raja of Dhenkanal is Brig Raja Kamakhya Prasad Singh Deo Mahindra Bahadur (1941-).

Day 05: Dhenkanal Palace

After breakfast full day is dedicated to visit tribal village, bird watching, photography, jungle trekking. Evening enjoy bonfire at the palace. Night stay

Day 06: Dhenkanal Palace - Pipili Applique Market - Konark Sun Temple - Puri

After breakfast drive to Puri. Enroute you will visit 64 yogini Temple, Dhauli (Buddhist Santi Stupa), Ashoka Stone Encrypt of 3rd Century BC, Pipili (Appliqué work village) local market & Konark Sun Temple (UNESCO Heritage Site). Night stay at Puri

Day 07: Puri – Raghurajpur Heritage Village- Street Photography - Puri

After breakfast at Hotel, Transfer to Raghurajpur Heritage Village (Painting village) situated amidst groves of coconut, palm, mango and jack fruit, the main village has two streets with over 120 houses, most decorated with mural paintings, where the painters reside and practice their Pattachitra craft, besides many others that practices throughout the village, including traditional masks, stone idols, paper Mache, sculptures, and wooden toys.

And, you can witness **Gotipua dance** (Optional), is a traditional dance form in the state of Odisha, India, and the precursor of Odissi classical dance. It has been performed in Odisha for centuries by young boys, who dress as young women to praise Jagannath and Krishna. The dance is executed by a group of boys who perform acrobatic figures inspired by the life of Radha and Krishna. And this performance is a lifetime experience for visitors. Afternoon back to hotel.

Return to Puri for night stay.



Day 08: Puri– Mangalazodi Wet Land (Birds) - Gopalpur at Sea

After breakfast transfer to Gopalpur at Sea. Gopalpur is an ancient commercial port which was used by the British East India Company. The East India Company built large warehouses to trade Rice with Burma. Enroute visit Mangalazodi Eco Village. The villagers of Mangalazodi will welcome you into their village; hosts more than 600000 birds which jostle in its marshy water, especially the migratory & local birds, 2 hours birds' safari with Country boat at wetland of Mangalazodi, also experience the boat making and Fishing net weaving activities and do a nature safari, accompanied by a village leader. If you wish you can have village Lunch with community-based initiatives. This is optional.

In the afternoon transfer to Gopalpur at Sea, also you can see the Chilika lake on your left side (the largest estuarine lake of Asia). If time permits, you can proceed to experience the infinity nature of Chilika lake, Barkul is the gateway to enter Chilika lake. Night at Gopalpur at Sea.

Day 09: Gopalpur at Sea

Full day at Leisure, enjoy the ambience of Silence & tranquility. Gopalpur is regarded as one of the best beaches of India for its clean & bluish water. Optional visit can arrange to local fishing village & Weavers village (Silk Saree). Overnight at Gopalpur.

Day 10: Gopalpur – Taptapani Hot Spring– Jirang Tibetan Settlement – Rayagada

After breakfast transfer to Rayagada. Enroute visit Taptapani a hot spring, one of the most revered natural phenomenon in the state. The hot water from the natural spring of Taptapani is attributed with medicinal properties and can be bathed in at the pond created next to the hot spring.

Continue to visit a textile village Padmanavpur, famous for cotton Sarees. You can experience visiting the house of the weavers and witness the art of weavers and their traditions. Stop at a tiny visit Jirang nested in the hills of Chandragiri. It's one of the settlements of the Tibetan refugees in India. It is known Phuntsok Ling ("Land of Happiness and Plenty") which has south Asia's largest Buddhist monastery, the Padma Sambhava Maha Vihara monastery. Continue to Rayagada for night stay.

Day 11: visit tribes' village around Rayagada (must be Tuesday)

Day dedicated to visit Soura Village and Dangari Dhokra Craft village Jhigidi (Tribal Jewelry Village) Overnight at Rayagada.

Lanjia Saura village, one of the most colorful tribe village, famous for their four special corrector such as they use wood plug on the ear lobe and female tattoo marked on their forehead and nose, For their special tail shaped lean cloth cover the lower part of their body for that they named as Lanjia Saura, terrace cultivation, special mural dream painting they called Idital.

Dangari Dhokra Craft village, famous for Tribe Jewellery, which dates back to pre-historic time of Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro period of Indus Valley Civilization. The process of making Dokra is fascinating and only natural raw materials are used. Traditional Dokra is a typical tribal craft in bronze with its mesh like features giving it a distinctive beauty. Interestingly, the handicraft is still prepared by hand without involvement of any machines.



Day 12: Rayagada – Chatikona Haat - Jaypore (must be Wednesday)

After breakfast transfer to Jaypore. On the visit another color full tribal Haat (market) Chatikona Market of Bisam Cuttak, it's a huge vegetable market, cultivated by these Dangaria tribes on the slopes of mountains. On the way also visit Bada Paraja & Mali Village, one of the biggest tribe markets. Overnight at Jaypore.

Day 13: Jaypore – Machkund Power project - Onukudelli – Jaypore (Must be Thursday)

Moring visit to Machkund Power plant, Onukudelli Haat, it's home to the most furious & Primitive tribes of Odisha, "The Bonda". Also visit Gadaba Village. The Gadaba community has been categorized as Scheduled Tribe, among the sixty-two tribes of Odisha. The indigenous culture of Gabada is closely connected with the natural environment. Since generations their ancestors were always self-dependent from cultivating their own food to preparing their own fabrics. Overnight at Jaypore

Day 14: Jaypore – Kunduli Haat – Vishakhapatnam

After breakfast transfer to Vishakhapatnam. Enroute visit Jagannth Hindu Temple of Koraput, Kunduli Haat (local tribe Market), Similiguda Market & Limika Pottery village and Bada Paraja Tribal. Continue to Vishakhapatnam for night stay. Overnight at Vishakhapatnam.

Day 15: Fly back to Delhi and onward journey....

Morning transfer to Vishakhapatnam Airport for Delhi, take connecting flight for onward journey...

End of our services...