

# WILD ABOUT TRAVEL - INDIA



## Extension ideas for tours: Corbett - Birding in the Himalayas

*Ideal extension to a week at Bharatpur or any of our North and Central Indian itineraries*

*Corbett National Park with abundant wildlife and gorgeous scenery is sure to leave a lasting impression - it may become one of your favourite locations in India! Walk from your comfortable lodge along the wide rocky Kosi River to look for Crested Kingfisher and watch Wallcreepers on the cliffs - Ibisbill can also be seen on some stretches at certain times of the year. From Dhikala in the heart of the Park you can explore thickly forested valleys by jeep and extensive grasslands on elephant back. For bird diversity alone Corbett really is a special place and Tiger sightings have become more frequent in recent years. And all this set against a stunning backdrop of the Himalayan foothills.*

**5 Day Delhi – Corbett – Delhi Ref. Ext10**

### Day 1: Delhi – Corbett

Corbett National Park beckons as your driver collects you from the airport or your Delhi hotel and takes you on the 6 - 7 hr. journey to the Himalayan foothills, stopping for breakfast on the way. Arrive at Corbett, check in at your lodge and have lunch. Birdwatch around the Kosi River (on foot) outside of Corbett National Park for the remainder of the day with an experienced guide who will accompany you for the next 3½ days. With some luck you might see the magnificent Crested Kingfisher, as well as River Lapwing, Crested Treeswift, Plumbeous Water-redstart and White-capped River-chat. Pallas's Fish Eagle and Great Slaty Woodpecker have all been seen locally, but these require more luck. Ask your guide if Ibisbill has been seen so you can factor in time during your stay to search for it. Night at your lodge in a comfortable cottage or cabin. (B) (L) (D)

### Day 2: Corbett (Dhikala area)

After an early breakfast you'll access Corbett National Park through Dhangarhi Gate. The drive (with accompanying guide) to Dhikala Forest Guest House takes you through diverse forests, across dried out river beds and along picturesque valleys. Asian Elephant is often seen here and with a bit of luck you might see Great or Oriental Pied Hornbills and perhaps even Lesser Fish Eagle. Watch for Red Junglefowl and Kalij Pheasant by the side of the track. With such diverse forested hills it isn't surprising there are several common woodpeckers to look out for, from the small Brown-capped and Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpeckers and perhaps a Speckled Piculet, to the larger and brightly-coloured Lesser Yellownappe, Grey-headed Woodpecker and Black-rumped Flameback. From viewpoints high above the river you might see Gharial and Marsh Crocodile. Check in and have lunch at Dhikala Forest Guest House where you will stay for just one night. Expect basic accommodation here, but your reward will be waking up the next morning to the

sounds of the forest and extensive grasslands in the heart of Corbett National Park, and this experience alone makes a stay here very worthwhile. Spend the remainder of the afternoon exploring the meadows around Dhikala, either on elephant or by jeep. (B) (L) (D)

### Day 3: Corbett (Dhikala) – Kosi River

Enjoy an elephant safari from Dhikala Forest Lodge. Although this is usually possible it is subject to availability and the alternative is a jeep safari. Return to Dhikala Forest Guest House for breakfast. Explore a little more locally by jeep and you might see Brown Fish-owl, Crested Bunting, Cinereous Vulture and perhaps even Rufous-bellied or Changeable Hawk-eagles. Then by jeep you'll journey back through the outer zones of Corbett to stay at your comfortable lodge just outside the park. Night at lodge. (B) (L) (D)

### Day 4: Corbett area

This morning take a jeep safari in Bijrani Range Forest with your birding guide. Take a few hours to relax in the middle of the day and have lunch back at your resort, then explore Bijrani Range Forest again in the afternoon. Species might include Blue-bearded Bee-eater, Streak-throated Woodpecker and Black-hooded Oriole. (B) (L) (D)

### Day 5: Corbett

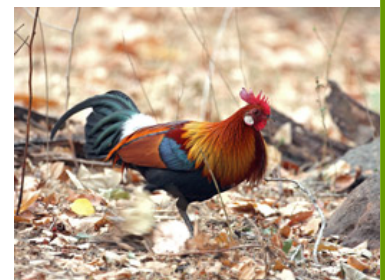
Spend the morning birding with your guide at Kumeria along the Kosi River. Species seen here include Wallcreeper, Brown Dipper, Spotted and Little Forktails on the river and White-crested Laughingthrush in the forests. Then drive back to Delhi (6 – 7 hours) to arrive at Delhi International Airport in plenty of time to connect with your international flight home (to be booked by you directly). If you have a morning flight we can arrange for a night in Delhi (on extra payment). (B) **Tour ends.**



Crested Kingfisher © J Bridges



Emerald Dove © C Bradshaw



Red Junglefowl © C Bradshaw



Pallas's Fish Eagle © K Barnes

Price per person (valid till 31 March 2012) on twin-share basis for TWO travelling: £595 (mid budget), £610 (standard), £670 (deluxe).

Price per person (valid till 31 March 2012) on twin-share basis for FOUR travelling: £505 (mid budget), £520 (standard), £585 (deluxe).

Single Room supplement: £205 (mid budget), £220 (standard), £320 (deluxe). The booking conditions of Wild About Travel apply.

	Mid budget	Standard	Deluxe	Nights
Corbett	Tiger Camp, Standard Room	Tiger Camp, Deluxe Room	Camp River Wild, Deluxe Room	3
Dhikala	Dhikala Forest Guest House, Standard Room	Dhikala Forest Guest House, Standard Room	Dhikala Forest Guest House, Standard Room	1

### Price includes:

Accommodation and meals as per itinerary. Air-conditioned vehicle for transfers. English speaking birding naturalist from Day 1 till Day 5. Entrance fee to Corbett National Park. Breakfast en route on Day 1 from Delhi to Corbett. 2 jeep safaris to Bijrani zone and 2 elephant safaris at Dhikala in Corbett National Park.

### Price excludes:

International flights. Tourist visa and travel insurance. Meals not listed. Camera / camcorder fee where not included in park entrance fee. Any expenses of a personal nature, such as hard/soft drinks.

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