Trek Curator
www.trekcurator.com

Thamel, Kathmandu, Nepal
Tel: +977-9851318186
Email: info@trekcurator.com

Chitwan Jungle Safari Tour - 3 Days

The Chitwan Jungle Safari Tour offers an unforgettable journey into one of Asia's premier wildlife sanctuaries. Chitwan National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Nestled in the southern Terai region of Nepal, near the Indian border. The park's elevation ranges from about 100m to 815m above sea level. Established as Nepal's first national park and designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1984, Chitwan National Park spans over 932 sq. km of protected land. It's renowned for its rich biodiversity, boasting 68 species of mammals, 544 bird species, 126 types of fish, and 56 kinds of reptiles and amphibians.

The park is home to the iconic one-horned rhinoceros, Bengal tigers, and gharials. All set against a backdrop of dense sal forests, expansive elephant grasslands, serene oxbow lakes, and lush riverine floodplains. Additionally, the park is culturally intertwined with the indigenous Tharu communities, who live in harmony with the jungle and are celebrated for their unique traditions, stilt houses, and resilience to malaria.

Highlights

- Evening Tharu cultural performances featuring stick dancing and fire acts
- Exciting jungle adventures such as canoe rides, exploratory jungle walks, jeep safaris, and birdwatching
- A visit to the Elephant Breeding Center
- Guided village walks or ox-cart rides to immerse yourself in Tharu culture and lifestyle

Why Choose This Destination?

A visit to Chitwan National Park is essential for wildlife enthusiasts and nature photographers alike. It's one of the few places where you can witness one-horned rhinos and potentially spot Bengal

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tigers in their natural habitat. The experience beautifully combines stunning nature, diverse wildlife, and rich local culture without the need for strenuous trekking, making for a relaxed adventure. This destination is perfect for school groups, families, and senior travelers. Plus, its proximity to Kathmandu and Pokhara, along with good road connectivity, offers convenient options for additional adventures.

"Book your Chitwan Jungle Safari today and experience the wild like never before!"

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PRICE INCLUDES

- Accommodation

  2 nights at a budget or mid-range jungle lodge/resort in Sauraha (twin sharing)
- All meals (2x breakfast, 2x lunch, 2x dinner)
- Tourist bus from Kathmandu to Chitwan and return (round trip)
- Chitwan National Park entry permit
- Nature guide and safety briefing
- All applicable local taxes and service charges

PRICE EXCLUDES

- Private vehicle transfer from Kathmandu or Pokhara (optional add-on, ~$100–150 per group)
- Domestic flights (e.g. Kathmandu ↔ Bharatpur) — optional but not included (~$210 round trip)
- Tips for guide, driver, hotel staff (recommended: ~$2–5 per day per guide/driver)
- Beverages other than tea/coffee with meals (e.g. soft drinks, alcohol, bottled water)
- Personal expenses (laundry, phone calls, souvenirs)
- Camera/Video fees (rare, but may apply at Elephant Breeding Center)
- Travel insurance

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DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1: Drive To Chitwan From Kathmandu

You'll kick off your adventure early, departing from Kathmandu to Chitwan by private vehicle or tourist bus around 6–7 AM. As you journey along the scenic Prithvi Highway, enjoy the beautiful views of lush river valleys, rolling hills, charming local villages, and terraced farmland. Upon reaching Sauraha (Chitwan) around noon, the hotel staff will warmly welcome you and help you check into the jungle resort. After settling in, you'll receive a briefing on the various activities in the national park and important safety tips. You can then take a guided walk or an ox-cart ride through the villages, where you'll get a glimpse of Tharu traditions, architecture, and the lifestyle of the indigenous Tharu community, all while appreciating their harmonious relationship with the jungle. In the evening, immerse yourself in a vibrant Tharu cultural dance show featuring stick dances, fire performances, and lively drum beats, followed by a delicious dinner at the resort.

Day 2: Enjoy the National Park Activities

Start your day early with a canoe ride on the Rapti River, where you might spot crocodiles (both gharials and muggers), diverse water birds, and experience the serene awakening of the jungle. Next, embark on a guided jungle walk to observe the rich flora and fauna, track wildlife, and learn about safe movement in the wilderness. After this excursion, visit the elephant breeding center to see mother elephants caring for their young and delve into their feeding routines and conservation efforts. Following lunch and a brief rest, you'll embark on an exciting jeep safari, venturing deep into the heart of Chitwan National Park and its buffer zones. There will be multiple stops at watchtowers

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and waterholes, giving you a better chance to catch a glimpse of one-horned rhinos, wild boars, sambar deer, langurs, and possibly even leopards or Bengal tigers. In the late afternoon, enjoy a Bird Watching Excursion (especially recommended from October to March) and soak in a stunning sunset view by the riverbank or relax back at the resort.

Day 3: Return to Kathmandu

If you're up for it, consider going for an optional early bird watching session or a quick jungle walk (if you missed it earlier). Otherwise, you'll check out from the hotel between 8:00 and 9:00 AM. After that, you'll head back to Kathmandu, retracing your scenic route along the Prithvi Highway. Feel free to take an optional lunch break at one of the riverside restaurants along the way. You should arrive in Kathmandu by late afternoon, bringing your wonderful Chitwan safari tour to a close.

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What is a Chitwan Jungle Safari?

A Chitwan Jungle Safari is a wildlife experience inside and around Chitwan National Park in southern Nepal. Depending on the itinerary, travelers can explore the jungle by jeep, take a canoe ride, join a guided jungle walk, go birdwatching, and experience local Tharu culture.

It is one of the most popular ways to experience Nepal's wildlife. It is particularly known for the chance to see the greater one-horned rhinoceros, along with a wide variety of birds and other animals.

2. What animals can I see during a Chitwan safari?

Chitwan is best known for its greater one-horned rhinoceros, but there is much more to look for.

Depending on the season, location, and luck, you may encounter deer, wild boar, monkeys, crocodiles, gharials, wild elephants, gaur, and numerous reptiles and birds. The park is also home to the elusive Royal Bengal tiger. Wildlife sightings are never guaranteed, so it is better to approach the safari as a complete jungle experience rather than a search for one particular animal.

3. What is the best safari in Chitwan?

There isn't one single safari experience that suits everyone.

A jeep safari is a practical choice if your main goal is to explore more of the park and search for larger wildlife. A canoe ride provides a peaceful perspective of the river and is particularly interesting for crocodiles and water birds. A guided jungle walk lets you experience the forest at a

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much slower pace. Many visitors combine two or more activities during a 2-night/3-day Chitwan stay. Nepal Tourism Board itself describes a typical 2-night/3-day jungle safari as combining wildlife safari, canoeing, nature walks, and a Tharu village experience.

4. How long should I stay in Chitwan for a jungle safari?

For a more relaxed wildlife experience, 2 nights and 3 days is a popular duration.

This gives you enough time to combine safari activities with a canoe ride, nature experience, birdwatching, and cultural activities instead of trying to fit everything into a single day. A shorter stay can work if you have limited time, but spending a couple of nights gives you more opportunities to experience the jungle at different times of day.

5. What is a jeep safari in Chitwan like?

A jeep safari takes you along designated routes through the park and surrounding wildlife areas. You travel with a driver and guide while looking for animals in forests, grasslands and near water sources.

The experience is not simply about driving continuously. Your guide watches for tracks, movement, calls, and other signs of wildlife and can help you understand what you are seeing. The Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation also identifies jeep safari as one of the ways visitors can encounter wildlife in Chitwan.

6. Is Chitwan Jungle Safari worth adding to a Nepal trip?

For travelers interested in wildlife and nature, Chitwan offers a very different side of Nepal from the Himalayan trekking routes. Instead of mountains and high-altitude trails, the experience revolves

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around tropical forests, grasslands, rivers, wildlife and local culture.

A visit to Chitwan can therefore work particularly well as a complement to a Kathmandu, Pokhara or trekking itinerary.

7. Can I see a tiger during the Chitwan Jungle Safari?

Yes, tigers live in Chitwan National Park, but no responsible safari operator can guarantee a tiger sighting. Our guides look for signs such as tracks, calls, and movement in the forest, but the final encounter depends on nature. Even when a tiger stays hidden, the search itself can be an exciting part of the safari.

8. What is the best time for a Chitwan Jungle Safari?

October to March is generally a comfortable period for visiting Chitwan, with pleasant conditions for outdoor activities.

The warmer months can be hot, while the monsoon brings more rain and lush greenery. Your ideal travel period ultimately depends on your schedule and the type of experience you want.

9. Is a jungle walk safe in Chitwan?

A jungle walk takes place in a genuine wildlife environment, so it is important to stay with your guide and follow safety instructions throughout the activity. Your guide knows how to read signs of wildlife and helps you maintain an appropriate distance from animals. The goal is not to get as close as possible to wildlife—the goal is to observe it responsibly.

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10. Can I see a rhino in Chitwan?

The greater one-horned rhinoceros is one of Chitwan's signature animals, and seeing one in the wild can be a memorable highlight of the trip. However, rhinos are wild animals, so sightings can never be guaranteed. Your guide will help you search suitable areas while respecting the animals and their habitat.

11. Is Chitwan only about wildlife?

Not at all. One of the best things about visiting Chitwan is that the experience extends beyond the national park. You can learn about Tharu culture, explore local villages, enjoy birdwatching, and experience the rivers and forests surrounding the park. This combination of wildlife and culture makes Chitwan a great addition to a Nepal itinerary.

12. How far is Chitwan from Kathmandu?

Chitwan is accessible from Kathmandu by road, while flights are also available to nearby Bharatpur.

Travel time by road can vary depending on traffic, road conditions, and the season, so it is best to allow enough time in your itinerary rather than planning a tight connection.

13. Why choose Trek Curator for a Chitwan Jungle Safari?

At Trek Curator, we believe a safari should feel like an experience rather than a checklist of activities.

We focus on creating practical itineraries that give travelers enough time to enjoy Chitwan's wildlife, nature, and local culture without making the trip unnecessarily rushed. Whether you are

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traveling as a couple, with family, with friends, or as part of a larger Nepal journey, we can help you choose a Chitwan safari experience that fits your travel plans.

Come to Chitwan with curiosity, keep your eyes open, and let the jungle surprise you.

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