

# Bardiya National Park Wildlife Adventure



## Trip Overview

Discover the untamed beauty of western Nepal with this immersive wildlife adventure in Bardiya National Park. Centered around the lush forests, grasslands, and riverine habitats of the Karnali basin, this six-day journey offers a rare opportunity to explore one of Nepal's most pristine and less-visited wilderness areas.

From thrilling jeep safaris and serene river excursions to guided nature walks and cultural interactions with the indigenous Tharu community, each day unveils a new dimension of Bardiya's rich biodiversity. Home to the Royal Bengal tiger, Asian elephant, one-horned rhinoceros, and the elusive Gangetic river dolphin, the park is a haven for wildlife enthusiasts, photographers, and nature lovers alike.

Led by expert naturalist guides, you'll gain deep insight into the intricate web of life that sustains this ecosystem; while also experiencing the harmony between wildlife conservation and local traditions. This journey blends adventure, education, and serenity in equal measure, offering an authentic connection to Nepal's wild western frontier.

**Total Trip Days:** 6 Days / 5 Nights

## **Trip Highlights**

- Explore the diverse habitats of Bardiya National Park, from dense Sal forests to open grasslands
- Embark on thrilling jeep safaris for chances to spot tigers, elephants, and rhinos
- Cruise along the Karnali River in search of Gangetic river dolphins and rare aquatic birds
- Experience guided walking trails and watchtower views across pristine wilderness zones
- Enjoy exceptional birdwatching with sightings of hornbills, fish eagles, and river terns
- Visit a traditional Tharu village and learn about community-based conservation efforts

## **Itinerary**

### **Day 1:**

Your adventure begins with arrival at Nepalgunj Airport, the gateway to western Nepal's pristine lowlands. You are transferred to a comfortable lodge near Bardiya National Park. In the evening, your naturalist guide introduces the park's ecosystems, discussing its unique combination of dense sal forests, riverine corridors, and open grasslands. You also receive an overview of the wildlife you may encounter, from tigers and elephants to swamp deer and rare birds.

### **Day 2:**

A pre-dawn jeep safari takes you deep into the forest interior, where early morning light enhances chances of spotting tigers, sambar deer, and wild boar. The guides interpret tracks, scrapes, and alarm calls, providing insights into predator-prey dynamics. After a midday rest, you embark on a river safari along the Karnali, searching for the endangered Gangetic river dolphin and observing riverine birds such as Pallas's fish eagle and river terns. The day ends with a serene sunset over the river.

**Day 3:**

Today focuses on Bardiya's expansive grasslands, the "phantas," which are habitats for swamp deer and their predators. Guided walking trails and tower hides allow for close observation of elephants, tigers, and herds of deer. The naturalist explains the interconnections between the forest and grasslands, emphasizing ecological balance and conservation practices. Evening photography sessions capture the golden light illuminating these vibrant landscapes.

**Day 4:**

The morning begins with another jeep safari, followed by a visit to a nearby Tharu village. Here you learn about community-led conservation efforts and traditional forest management practices. Afternoon trails focus on birding along forest edges, where hornbills, flycatchers, and smaller passerines are abundant. The evening is spent reflecting on the day's wildlife encounters and updating your personal species checklist.

**Day 5:**

A final morning safari ensures that you maximize your chances of tiger, elephant, and bird sightings. The guides help interpret behaviors and ecological interactions, enriching your understanding of Bardiya's complex ecosystem. After lunch, you prepare for departure, carrying memories of wild encounters and the serenity of Nepal's western Terai.

**Day 6:**

You are transferred to Nepalgunj Airport for your onward journey, leaving Bardiya National Park with unforgettable experiences and a deeper appreciation for its unique wildlife and habitats.