



# Guided overnight stays in Dhikala zone and explore forest on foot

5 Nights & 6 Days



Dhikala Grassland  
Anuradha Marwah



# Guided overnight stays in Dhikala zone and explore forest on foot

**IMPORTANT** - Overnight stays inside Corbett National Park needs to be blocked 90 to 45 days in advance.

**Best Time**

November 15th till May 15<sup>th</sup>

**Wildlife Expected**

4 species of deer, Asian Elephant, Gharial & Mugger Crocodile, Otters, Ghoral Goat Antelope, Tiger and Leopard. Over 400 bird species including 50 birds of prey.

**DAY 01, 02 & 03: VANGHAT | DAY 04 & 05: DHIKALA**



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# Overview

Corbett National Park can boast of many wildlife achievements - from being the oldest protected forests (1932) anywhere in Asia, it is today home to the highest numbers of wild Tigers anywhere. It is the north-westernmost habitat of giant forest symbols like the Great Hornbill and Asian Elephant, and it is a stronghold of the riverine ecology indicator & endemic Gharial crocodile. It beats almost any landscape of Asia in bird richness, with about 600 bird species reported from in & around the reserve. Underwater, Terrestrial & Avian, Corbett is unparalleled.

Accompanied by fine naturalists, this experience of exploring prime wilderness on foot and by 4 X 4 and having the rare privilege of staying in the heart of the national park, is only possible in Corbett today.

Exploring the wildlife-rich riverine forest and the adjoining broad-leafed jungles on foot is possible only at Vanghat. Our wildlife-focused hikes are through undulating terrain, making average fitness vital. Diverse habitats are covered, varying from moist broad-leafed forest, riverine, and forests dominated by Sal. Cascades tucked away inside the forest will reveal Tawny & Brown Fish Owl, Spotted & Little Forktails, and Long-tailed Broadbills. In such a setting we will perch ourselves at a safe vantage point and wait for Ghoral, Serow, Sambhar and maybe, if we are lucky, even a Tiger or Leopard.



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View from Dhikala restaurant  
**Nishit Gupta**



# Operational Itinerary

## DAY 01:

### Activity

#### Arrive Vanghat

### Detail

Depending on your convenience, we will receive you from Delhi Airport or hotel and arrange for either a taxi or train.

Delhi is about 300 kilometers from Vanghat and depending on conditions it takes 6 – 8 hours to arrive.

From the road-head, the approach to Vanghat is a hike of 1.8 km through undulating terrain. This walk through the village of Baluli and riverine forest is an excellent introduction to the valley and can prove to be the most personally satisfying way of reaching the Lodge. Porters are provided; however, guests are requested to travel light.

Once we get to the river, a bamboo raft ferries us across the river to remote Vanghat.

Average fitness and good walking shoes are vital.

Evening nature walk along with Ramganga River followed by bonfire before dinner.

### Overnight

Overnights at Vanghat (L, D).



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Yellow Throated Marten  
killing Macaque  
**Christopher Mills**



Ramganga River valley  
**Anuradha Marwah**

## DAY 02 & 03:

### **Stay & Activity**

Vanghat (Walking Safari)

### **Detail**

We start our hikes early with a packed breakfast. There are several trail options and we will cover each depending on target species and fitness of guests. During our hikes we will come across signs & sightings of various mammals and birds and will have to cross the river at 2 or 3 places. We may decide to return to camp for lunch and in the evening do another hike and return before it gets dark.

Nights at Vanghat are fascinating as we sit by a fire under a star-lit sky. Today there aren't too many spots like Vanghat which remain unaffected by air, light or noise pollution.

Post dinner; retire to your cozy bed, heated by nothing but a few hot water bottles.

### **Overnight**

Overnights at Vanghat. (B, L, D).



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Dhikala Old Forest Rest  
House  
**Nishit Gupta**



Pallas's Fish Eagle  
(*Haliaeetus leucoryphus*)

**Christopher Mills**



## DAY 04 & 05:

### **Stay & Activity**

Dhikala Zone on 4 X 4 (Wildlife Safari)

### **Detail**

Morning depart for Dhikala range of Corbett National Park. Dhikala has always been the most popular destination in Corbett because of its sheer abundance of Wildlife and awesome location high above the banks of the Ramganga river (that provides fantastic views in every direction) The huge expanse of the lush grasslands and with the meandering Ramganga flowing into the massive Ramganga lake (reservoir) surrounded by the lush Shivalik ridges interspersed by the Himalayan foothills. Elephants are the dominant mammals of Corbett, but even these are dwarfed by the larger-than-life vistas.



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Arrive Dhikala and check in at the modest forest rest houses, followed by going by the programme planned by your naturalist for the day.

### **About Dhikala Zone**

Massive deer herds, Wild boars, Lesser Cats and a region that boasts of undoubtedly the highest Tiger numbers (214/2017censu) for any landscape anywhere in the world. Sharing their habitat are various waders, storks, herons, sandpipers, plovers, ducks and geese, Ospreys, and fish eagles. Dhikala provides basic facilities with an unrivalled wildlife experience and a vegetarian restaurant.

### **Overnight**

Overnight at forest lodge (B, L, D)



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Dhikala Campus  
**Anuradha Marwah**

## DAY 06:

**Activity**

Depart

**Detail**

Early morning safari. Post breakfast depart for onward destination.

**Overnight**

N/A



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**Hotel Envisaged:**

- Vanghat – 3 nights
- Dhikala FRH – 2 nights.

**Cost inclusions:**

- Accommodation for 05 nights at lodge/ forest bungalow mentioned above on twin share basis.
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary as B, L, D (B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner).
- Game drives by open Gypsy in Dhikala Zone. (Upto 03 guests in 1 Gypsy).
- Guided walking safari at Vanghat.
- All Tiger Reserve fees.
- Service of English speaking local naturalist/guide for Vanghat & Dhikala.
- All applicable taxes at the time of quoting.



**Cost exclusions:**

- Any expenses of personal nature such as telephone calls, tips, use of payable items in room mini bar, any kind of alcoholic n on-alcoholic beverages (unless specified).
  - Air Fare.
  - Any Transports.
  - Cost incurred in obtaining visa, insurance etc.
  - Cost incurred in case of hospitalization or evacuation.
  - Tips gratuities given to drivers/ guides, restaurant waiters etc.
  - Please note that in case of any revision in government tax structure or substantial fuel hike we reserve the right to revise the tour cost.
- However, marginal difference will be absorbed by us.



**Important:**

- In case of any price hike by the Corbett Tiger Reserve you'll be duly informed and the deference will be shared equally.
- Itinerary order may change however number of days and general pr ogramme will remain the same



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# BOOKING & CANCELATION POLICY

## **Booking Conditions:**

- A 50% advance confirms your trip with us. Balance needs to be deposited at least 30 days before trip date.

## **Cancellation Policy:**

- Less than 15 days before the arrival date - no refund
- Less than 20 days before the arrival date - 60% refund
- Less than 25 days before the arrival date - 75% refund
- No refund in case of road block, accident, no show etc
- ❖ The tour price is quoted as a package. No partial refunds or credit will be given for services not used. We recommend that you obtain travel insurance upon booking.



- ❖ It is mandatory for guests to present valid photo identification at the time of check -in.
- ❖ The inclusion of extra bed with a booking is facilitated with a folding cot or a mat tress as an extra bed.
- ❖ Early check-in or late check-out is subject to availability and may be chargeable by the lodge. The standard check -in time is 1 PM and the standard check-out time is 11 AM.
- ❖ The room tariff includes all taxes. The amount paid for the room does not include charges for optional services and facilities (such as room service, mini bar, snacks or telephone calls). These will be charged at the time of check -out.
- ❖ The hotel/lodge reserves the right of admission. Accommodation can be denied to guests posing as a couple if suitable proof of identification is not presented at check -in. Rural Traveller will not be responsible for any check -in denied by the hotel/lodge due to the aforesaid reason.

**Important Note:**

In case of any revision in government tax structure or fuel prices, Vanghat reserves the right to revise the tour price. However, marginal revision in tour price will be absorbed by us.



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## **MUST READ...: About Dhikala & Government Forest Rest Houses of Corbett Tiger Reserve**

Visitors often arrive at the government-run rest houses inside Corbett Tiger Reserve without a clear idea of how the lodges operate and what type of accommodation and service is provided. The rest houses inside the park were originally built to house the forestry department staff, and although they have since been subject to a limited refurbishment, they have never been intended to rival private resorts in terms of the standard of accommodation, restaurants and services provided. The rooms are kept relatively clean but have a slightly tired feel and do not meet hotel standards in terms of linen and have no room service.

Most importantly due to the wild location deep inside the park inhabited by Wild Boar and Elephants and falling branches which affect overhead and underground pipelines and cables, the lodges frequently experience shortages of power and water. Guests must expect to be able to go without both, possibly for the duration of a 2 or 3 -night stay. Power cuts make any refrigeration of foods ineffective so the menu is vegetarian and limited.



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The key thing to remember is that if you are going for a hotel experience with certain resort luxuries then you will come back disappointed. However, if you go for a place to sleep and eat that is part of a 3 -day wildlife safari, Forest Rest Houses are a magical, unforgettable aspect of the wilderness.

- ❖ To book the above tour, please write to Sumantha Ghosh at [vanghat@gmail.com](mailto:vanghat@gmail.com). We will be happy to tailor-make a bird tour to suit the number of days that you may have.
- ❖ Do write to us if you want us to pick you up from Delhi airport, make arrangements for accommodation in Delhi, taxi and organize guided tours in Delhi or Rajasthan.



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Morning safari  
**Nishit Gupta**