

Aperture Telescopes

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Lunar Eclipse Himalayan Tour

Special Package for **M. Xavier Jubier & group**

10th – 14th December, 2011, 5 days

New Delhi – Majkhali, Total Lunar Eclipse – Sun Temple Katarmal – Binsar, Bird Park,
Nanda Devi & Fantastic Himalayan views – Jim Corbett National Park, Wild Life Safari –
Agra, Taj Mahal – New Delhi.

10th December, 2011, Saturday

0001 Hrs	Pickup tour participants from T3, I.G.I. Airport, New Delhi
0100 Hrs	Pickup from YMCA, New Delhi
0200 Hrs	Departure for Majkhali
	Journey time, approx. 9 hours, distance 380 km
	Breakfast on the highway (not included in the package)
Optional:	Travel via Nainital – drive down to into the Lake Town for a beautiful & refreshing pit stop, by the Naini Lake, will add 1 hour to journey
1100 Hrs	Check-in at Woodsvilla Resort, Majkhali
1330 to 1530 Hrs	Lunch at Cloud 9 restaurant
1530 to 1630 Hrs	Lunar Eclipse Presentation & Discussion at Conference Hall Circumstances of the eclipse & How to photograph the eclipse.
1630 Hrs	Introduction to the telescopes at the Observation Terrace
1704 Hrs	① Moonrise at Majkhali
1704 Hrs	② Penumbral Eclipse Starts (P1)
1704 Hrs	Musical Eclipse Observation on the Observation Terrace
1730 Hrs	Exotic Sky Buffet near the Observation Terrace
1816 Hrs	③ Partial Eclipse Begins (U1)
1936 Hrs	④ Total Eclipse Begins (U2)
2002 Hrs	⑤ Greatest Eclipse
2027 Hrs	⑥ Total Eclipse Ends (U3)
2148 Hrs	⑦ Partial Eclipse Ends (U4)
2300 Hrs	⑧ Penumbral Eclipse Ends (P4)
2100 Hrs to midnight	Dinner at Cloud 9 restaurant

11th December, 2011, Sunday

0730 to 0930 Hrs	Breakfast at Cloud 9 Restaurant
1000 Hrs	Check-out from Woodsvilla Resort Travel to Sun Temple at Katarmal Journey time approx. 30 minutes, distance 15 km
1200 Hrs	Travel to Binsar Bird Sanctuary Journey time approx. 90 minutes, distance 45km

1400 Hrs Check-in KMVN Resort at Binsar
1500 Hrs Binsar (2340m) has a clear view of the Nanda Devi Peak (77km away), the hotel has an observation terrace, fantastic.
Lunch at restaurant
Walk to Zero Point, Binsar, 2 km away, with a guide
The hotel is inside a bird sanctuary, no electricity here,
Generator runs for 3 hours in the evening

12th December, 2011, Monday

0600 Hrs Check-out from Binsar Resort
Breakfast either packed one from the resort or on the way (included).
Travel to Corbett National Park via scenic route, Machhod.
Journey time approx. 5 hours, *must leave Binsar on time*
1100 Hrs Enter Corbett National Park, Check-in Dhikala Forest Rest House
Lunch at the Forest Rest House
Afternoon Jungle Safari
Dinner at the Forest Rest House

13th December, 2011, Tuesday

1200 Hrs Morning Jungle Safari
Breakfast
Check-out from Forest Rest House
Travel to Agra (via Moradabad, Aligarh)
Journey time approx. 9-10 hours, distance 360 km
Lunch is on the way to Agra, **not included in the package**
Check-in Hotel Bhoomi Residency, near Taj Mahal
Dinner (**not included in the package**)

14th December, 2011, Wednesday

0600 Hrs Breakfast at restaurant
0700 Hrs Morning Taj Mahal Viewing (hotel is within walking distance)
1100 Hrs Check-out from Bhoomi Residency
Travel from Agra to New Delhi
Journey Time – 4-5 hours, Distance 210 km
Lunch on the way to Delhi, (**not included in the package**)
Drop at YMCA, New Delhi
Tour ends

Notes:

This 'Lunar Eclipse Himalayan Tour' Special travel package
Starts at 0001 Hrs on 10 December 2011 at New Delhi and
Ends at 2359 Hrs on 14 December 2011 at New Delhi.
The package consists the following:

New Delhi

- Pickup outside the International Airport Terminal 3 on arrival, as well as pickup from YMCA, New Delhi.
- At the airport, driver will be waiting outside the arrivals near a big square pillar marked with a large white colour number; the number of the pillar as well as the telephone number of the driver(s) will be communicated.

Transport

- A maximum of four persons will be accommodated in one clean and comfortable, air-conditioned Minivan – Toyota Innova (7 seater) or similar.
- Cars will come with a driver well conversant with routes.
- In case of more than one car, the cars will travel together.
- Cars will have one 110V outlet supplied, which can provide up to 50W of power for your cell phone, small screen laptop etc.
- Mineral water, juices and few snacks provided in the car, afresh on all days.
- All highway tolls are included in the package.
- All entry fees for entering towns like Naintal, Ranikhet are included in the package.
- You can make stops for resting, breakfast or tea anywhere enroute, but all food and beverage consumed on the highway must be paid on your own.
- The car hire is for five days starting at 0001 Hrs on 10th December and till 2359 Hrs on 14th December. Late arrival back into Delhi will attract extra charges.

Woodsvilla Resort, Majkhali – Total Lunar Eclipse observation

- Large clean rooms with bay windows facing the Himalayan direction, accommodation is on twin sharing basis. All meals at the resort are paid for.
- Observation terrace for Lunar Eclipse Observation, just above the rooms.
- Plenty of large telescopes, Dobsonians, automated GOTO and 20X100 binocular on a versatile parallelogram stand will be available for participants' use.
- **India's largest mobile telescope, a 20inch truss Dobsonian** manufactured by Aperture Telescopes will be available for participants' use.
- See www.aperturetelescopes.com/tle_10dec11.html
- During the Lunar Eclipse an unforgettable Sky-Buffer will be running nearby providing exotic variety of teas, coffees, cookies, crackers and cheese.
- All meals starting from Lunch on 10th December to Breakfast on 11th December will be provided at Woodsvilla Resort.
- <http://www.woodsvillaresort.com/>

Sun Temple at Katarmal – 800 years old temple

- The visit to this temple will be on the way to Binsar Bird Sanctuary. To reach the Sun Temple, you must climb the last 500 metres on foot.

Binsar Bird Sanctuary

- Accommodation is arranged at KMVN Resort (run by state government). Since the rooms here are of small size, the accommodation is one room per person.
- Entry fee inside the bird sanctuary for a) vehicle, b) foreign participants, c) still camera is included in the package. The fee for video cameras is not included in the package. If you are carrying a video camera, you will need to pay the entry fee yourself.
- Tour guide from the KMVN to the Zero point for the entire day is included in the package.
- The KMVN resort is inside a national park, THERE IS NO ELECTRICITY AVAILABLE, a generator is run for 2-3 hours in the evening to charge mobile phones etc.
- Hot water is provided in buckets to all residents in the morning.
- Candles will be provided in the rooms for lighting.
- The package at this hotel includes Dinner, Bed Tea, Breakfast, but not Lunch.
- As this is a National Park, you cannot leave the hotel after sunset.

- Departure from Binsar will be early morning at 6am to reach the entrance gate of Corbett National park on time at 11am. Must leave Binsar on time to reach Corbett
- <https://www.kmvn.gov.in/bins.php>

Corbett National Park – Dhikala

- The accommodation is a government run Forest Rest House (FRH) inside the national park, the following facilities will be provided by the Forest Rest House. This accommodation is much sought after by tourists.
- Day: 01 (Corbett – Dhikala (40 km)) Arrive Corbett & around 11:00 AM meet with FRH representative, briefing and board the open jeep to drive towards Dhikala (the core area of the national park). On arrival check-in at the lodge and time for lunch. After lunch time for jeep safari at Dhikala zone. Dinner and overnight stay at the forest lodge.
- Day: 02 (Dhikala - Departure) Morning jeep safari for wildlife viewing. Return to the lodge around 10:00 hrs and time for breakfast. After breakfast check-out and drive back to town area.
- One Night & two days stay in standard Non AC rooms at Dhikala Forest Rest House on double / triple sharing basis.
- Breakfast, lunch and dinner during your stay. (Meals will start from lunch on day one to breakfast on day two.
- Gate to gate all transport by exclusive open jeep, provided by the Forest Rest House.
- Exclusive open Jeep safaris, two times & each 04 hrs of duration, by using open jeep.
- Expert local guide services during the jeep safari.
- Park permits and entrance fee.
- All applicable taxes and service charges.
- Additionally entry fee for still cameras is included in the package.
- Cars will wait outside the park till departure from Corbett National Park for Agra & Delhi.
- <http://www.dhikalaforestlodge.in/>

Agra

- Accommodation is arranged at Bhoomi Residency. The hotel is within walking distance to Taj Mahal
- Breakfast is included in the package, but not lunch or dinner.
- Entry fee for Taj Mahal for foreigner's participants, fee for still camera is included in the package.
- <http://www.hotelbhoomiresidency.com/>

The above Package does not include:

- Anything which is not mentioned above.
- Entry fee for video cameras at Binsar Bird Park, Corbett National Park and Taj Mahal.
- Any food, beverage breakfast, lunch or any other meal consumed on the highway while travelling from one place to another. (we will provide mineral water, juices and few snacks in the cars)
- Reimbursement, refund of fee or rescheduling of the tour is not possible in case of bad weather, clouds, rain or any other natural cause because of which we are not able to see the Lunar Eclipse, partly or wholly.

1. Please inform us of your flight number and arrival time at Delhi.
2. Please inform us of Full name, Age, Gender of all participants.
3. We require identity proofs of any two travellers for booking the Corbett package.

The prices of the above special package are:

Twin Sharing: Rs. 35500/- per person.

Single rooms: Rs. 43000/- per person

We would require 100% amount in advance to book the package. Please note that the KMVN Resort at Binsar and Forest Rest House at Corbett National Park get booked many months in advance. We require confirmation within 7 days for this special itinerary.

(Info: As you probably are already aware all kinds of entry fees in India, these are different for Indians and foreigners, further the amount of the entry fee seen on many internet sites, blogs and non-government information portals are out-dated, and in actuality completely revised by the authorities at present.)



Ajay Talwar
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