













# ROYLE SAFARIS

## Wild Nepal

**Destination:** Nepal    **Duration:** 8 Days    **Dates:** 10<sup>th</sup> May – 17<sup>th</sup> May 2018

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-  Seeing adult female Tiger tracks just minutes old along the road leaving the grass
  -  70 Indian One-horned Rhinos seen including many mothers and their calves
  -  Seeing >105 species of birds including amazing views of a calling Bengal Florican
  -  Seeing a large Muggler Crocodile feeding on an adult Chital stag in the Rapti River
  -  Two adult female wild Asiatic Elephants and one very young calf being cared for
  -  Being charged in a jeep by a defensive mother Rhino as she protected her calf
  -  Seeing 5 Sloth Bears, including close foraging and scent marking behaviours
  -  Spending time in the stunning Sal forests whilst staking out spots for Tigers
  -  Seeing a rarely seen Elongated Tortoise up close as it was found just on the road
  -  Seeing evidence including a Porcupine kill from 4 different Tigers in one day!
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### Tour Leader / Guides

Martin Royle (Royle Safaris Tour Leader)  
Sanjay (Chitwan naturalist guide)  
Suresh (Chitwan jeep driver)

### Participants

Mr. Daryl Saunders  
Mrs. Colleen 'Pen' Halley

### Overview

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**Days 1-8:** Sapana Village  
Lodge (Chitwan  
National Park)

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# Day by Day Breakdown

## Overview

Driving through the long grass of Nepal's Terai region in search of the elusive tiger or majestic one-horned rhino is one of the most thrilling things any wildlife enthusiast can do in the wonderful Himalayan kingdom of Nepal. This 8 day tour took ourselves deep into the Terai (the subtropical belt of forest and alluvial grasslands from Uttarakhand in North West India through to Burma in the East), which is home to the last remaining Asian one-horned rhinos (a population predominantly split between Chitwan National Park (~600) in Nepal and Kaziranga National Park in India (~2,000)) as well as a large meta-population of tigers, sloth bears, Asiatic elephants, leopards and many other species of birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians. This park is of global importance because many of the species that have big populations here are endangered and incredibly rare elsewhere such as tigers, one-horned rhinos, Asiatic elephant, hog deer, Bengal florican and the critically endangered gharial. Here the gharial is represented in good numbers. With Chitwan holding the second largest population in the world and around 20% of the global total (only 50!)

Whilst exploring the Terai (principally in search of the difficult to see tiger) we would explore a section of Nepal's largest and most popular national park; Chitwan. We would enter these parks with the expert guidance of experienced naturalists from the local area.

This trip was tailored and specifically includes a couple of days at the end of the trip where the Pen and Darryl are free to their wishes and can further explore the park, learn more about the local Tharu culture such as being treated to a couple of the local Tharu people's dances; including the always comical Peacock Dance; or having a village tour. Or they could just choose to rest and relax.

Nepal has a long and good history of conservation in and around the Terai and it is through community projects like the cultural dance performances and the great work that Sapana Lodge conduct with local communities such as women's handicraft trade that is enabling the local people to earn directly or indirectly from having plentiful wildlife nearby. Any cultural immersion here is a great opportunity to see how the local people live in harmony with the forest. This is one of the few instances where you experience the local culture first hand. There is no show put on, this is not rehearsed and it really gives you an insight into their way of life. As a result the level of poaching, illegal fishing, habitat encroachment, overgrazing, fire wood collection and deforestation is lower here than anywhere else in South Asia.

There are still some aspects of Nepal's 'eco'-tourism and the way the park is used which are not quite there in terms of acceptability to a Western standard; but the fact that the park boast increasing rhino, tiger, hog deer, leopard, sloth bear and stable gharial numbers means that they are doing many things right and this needs to be focused on. In time all the other aspects of the park will fall into place, and hopefully other Tiger parks around the Indian Subcontinent will begin to learn from the success that Chitwan is having by making all the local people feel involved in the conservation and responsible for the wildlife.



## Day 1 **Kathmandu**

### *Arrival & Sightseeing*

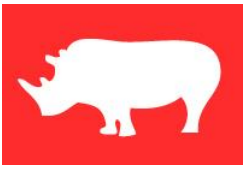
This afternoon Pen and Daryl arrived on the tourist bus from Kathmandu and Martin was at the Sauraha bus station to meet them and take them the 5 minute drive to our accommodation. The rest of the afternoon was largely free to check in, relax and explore the lodge grounds. Tomorrow we would enter the park for the first time and so a good night's rest was in order after a bumpy 6 hour drive down and around the mountains from Kathmandu.

## Day 2 **Chitwan National Park**

### *Travel & Cultural Tour*

This morning we rose early and after some tea and coffee headed out to enter the park a little after sunrise with Sanjay, we crossed the Rapti River into the park and met our jeep driver Suresh and proceeded on our full day jeep safari.

The bird life was prolific early this morning with many species around the village, on the river and in the forest. Prominent species being little egrets, Indian pond herons, spotted doves, Indian peafowl, Alexandrine parakeets,



Asian pied starling, chestnut-tailed starlings, jungle & common mynahs and black drongos. But our first great sighting of the day was a large mugger crocodile (the resident 3m croc from around here) feeding on a recently caught and killed male chital deer. This was going on just in the water off a sandy spit opposite where we would get the canoe over to the park. The large croc was tearing pieces off whilst a smaller mugger crocodile was trying to also get some, but eventually gave us. It was incredible to see the crocodile with such a big kill, and it was a reminder to keep your arms and legs inside the canoe at all times!

Setting off in the jeep we headed through the mosaic of riverine forest and grassland at first and almost immediately we had a leopard sighting. Sanjay spotted the leopard just next to the road and just behind a silk cotton tree. It was crouched down and waiting for us to drive past, only lifting its head up when we had passed and luckily Sanjay turned and saw it. However by the time we had reversed, Martin got a fleeting glimpse of the hind quarters and tail as it slung off into the grass and out of sight. We parked a little way away and watched the road as it appeared the leopard wanted to cross the road. So we sat in silence for a while but the leopard had clearly decided against coming out again and we carried on.

We saw a few lesser coucals perched on the elephant grass as well as lot Indian peafowl, we had some nice males on the road, including some displaying for uninterested females.

It started quite quiet for mammal sightings, but the birds around the grasslands were abundant. The most common being the red-vented and red-whiskered bulbuls and the jungle mynahs.

We didn't see any mammals for a while but did find fresh tracks from last night of a male tiger walking along the road and also a large rock python that had come out and crossed the road also. A good reptile we did see this morning was a young Bengal monitor basking on the trunk of a silk cotton tree, trying to get any sunlight it could. It was cool last night and a little cooler than normal this morning and so he was clearly trying to get warmed up after being inactive for a while.

Driving through the sal forest we found some red muntjacs and various Eurasian wild pigs around and then at a small lake 6 rhinos all basking. There were 2 mother and calves (around 3-4 years old) and two older single animals. They were all very different in personalities including one who just lay there, nearly completely submerged and didn't move a muscle, even when Daryl sneezed and scared all of the other 5 rhinos out of the water, this one didn't bat an eyelid. Before they all departed we did watch some nice behaviour from one mother and calf, including the youngster rolling fully over in the water. It was strange to see a nearly fully grown rhino with legs all in the air. The youngster then seemed to have great fun in blowing bubbles in the water and its mother followed suit, whether they were communicating to each other, having fun or just breathing with their nostrils half submerged we don't know, but it was great to watch anyway.

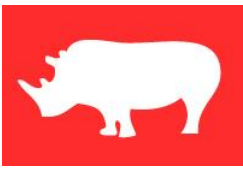
We then headed to where we would have breakfast on a platform overlooking Long Lake, along the way we found a very large herd of chital travelling with a troop of rhesus macaques. Chital hanging around monkeys is well documented as the monkeys knock down fresh leaves and fruit to the ground as they forage and the deer make a meal of things they could never reach on their own and in return the deer provide one of the best early warning systems in the forest as they are very alert to predators and allows the monkeys to come to ground more in safety. However it is usually langurs they associate with and so it was interesting to see the same behaviours with macaques. It was also good to see a male chital trashing his antlers against a small tree to get some of its velvet off. Around Long Lake there were some nice birds including black-crowned night-herons, lesser adjutant storks and white-breasted kingfishers as well as a rhino bathing and a reasonably sized herd of chital coming down to the water to feed on the freshest vegetation and also have a drink.

After breakfast we had more muntjac sightings, found more tiger tracks, another male and from around 24-48hours ago and watched a peacock displaying fully in the road to 3 peahens, who walked back and forth in front of him a lot but didn't seem too interested.

We then arrived at the crocodile and turtle breeding centre in the middle of park. This breeding centre is doing a great job and has resulted in a large number of gharial being released (>1,000), albeit with limited success. But a 1% increase in population from each reintroduction is better than no increase so it is a worthwhile venture by the park as the population of wild gharials in Chitwan is increasing slowly; and it also allows people to get up close to the various age categories of gharial, they recently (2 years ago) lost their large breeding male (who was approaching 7m long and a hell of a specimen – he died of old age); his mantle was taken by a ~5m male in the main breeding tank.

As well as breeding gharials they also have reintroduced mugger crocodiles as well as some of the 10 species of freshwater turtles which should be found here. The mugger crocodiles (like most crocodile species worldwide) do very well when they are breed and reintroduced and their numbers are very strong again, however for some unknown reason when the gharials are released (even when they are released at the size and age of sexual maturity with very few if any natural predators) they do not survive very long. With only 5.5% recruitment to the population and 7.7% survival after the first 2 years of reintroduction their numbers are still dwindling. There are only around 250 breeding individuals in the world and with a total population around 1,800, they are critically endangered and need all the help they can get.

After leaving here we continued our safari and we travelled an area of sal forest that had suffered from sloth bear attacks on every termite mound we came across. The powerful claws ripping into the near concrete like mounds to get the copious amounts of termites inside. In general this afternoon was quite quiet and we headed to another lake Tamar Lake for lunch, whilst in this tower we watched a few deer (some sambar and some hog deer) coming down



to drink, there were two rhinos in the water cooling off and some nice birds including velvet-fronted nuthatches, great egrets, oriental anhinga and lesser flamebacks. After lunch we continued to explore the sal forest and had an amazing encounter with a large herd of gaur, around 30 individuals all crossed the road in front of us. The young and females and subadult males first and then bringing up the rear the dominant bull. He was enormous, a massive shoulder muscle rippling under the glossy purple-black hide and his pure white socks showing as he stopped in the road and looked at us before slowly ambling across the road to meet his family group. We also had a couple of troops of terai langurs, moving quickly through the trees and never staying still for very long and a close view of a rhino as it walked towards us through the forest and across the road very close to our vehicle. From here we entered the grassland again and after a nice jungle owl sighting flying to and then from a large silk cotton tree we headed to a view over the Rapti River to see if a thirsty tiger would come out. We waited until we had to leave the park, no tiger. But tomorrow is another day and so we headed back to the canoes, then to the lodge and prepared to do it all again tomorrow.

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### **Day 3 Chitwan National Park**

### ***Wildlife Watching***

This morning we left the lodge at around 6am and were the first jeep into the park, we started to head deep into the park and get to the Narayani River which has a couple of commonly used crossings by a few different tigers. This would be where we would station ourselves whilst looking for tigers in the late afternoon when they start to move around after spending the heat of the day tucked up in the cool grass.

It was very cloudy this morning and whilst a little humid the temperature was cooler than usual. There was the threat of rain in the air but it held off all day, in fact by the end of the day it was a long forgotten situation. As we got in the canoes and crossed the Rapti River to enter the park once again we found a basking gharial and a few mugger crocodiles around. Then when we entered the park and started to drive through the mosaic of riverine forest and grassland early on, we found a five-lined palm squirrel clinging upside down on the trunk of a silk-cotton tree eating the bark.

In general the first couple of hours or so was very quiet with just a solitary young male rhesus macaque in a stand of sal trees and the same 5 (of the 6 from yesterday) in the small lake. One of the pairs of mother and calf were happy in the water and another came to have a look and then left after some coughing to each other and evidently went to find their own water hole for their morning bathing. Other interesting sightings in the sal forest as we headed to the large grasslands nearer the Narayani River were a mother and very young calf, this rhino was under 1 year old and by far the youngest we had seen so far. We also have several wild boar around including feeding close to the road and some very nice views of the spectacular Asian paradise flycatcher. However they never stay perched long enough for a good picture unfortunately. Things were picking up as we approached the grassland and we found a small group of hog deer feeding on the side of the road alongside a huge lesser adjutant stork and just on the other side of the road was a mother and fawn sambar deer. Also in this productive area was a loudly calling changeable hawk eagle and several chestnut bee-eaters feeding in the same tree. Carrying on the numbers of chital started to increase, culminating in a herd of around 40, which is a large group for Chitwan.

We then had breakfast in a watch tower in the grassland, whilst eating we had a pair of rhinos start to fight and chase each other through the grass. They were calling like donkeys as they interacted and then as they chased they were coughing at each other. They ran a few hundred metres through the grass and into the forest and then around 20 minutes later they came back out and started the same loop again. We were unsure if they had been running this entire time as they are not built for that kind of running, but as we watched the second 'lap' one of them ran off and then other stopped and spooked a third rhino in the grass, this rhino was more relaxed and headed quietly under the shade of a large tree. However it wasn't long before the original aggressor (chaser) found this new rhino and started to chase this one too.

At this point we headed from the tower and crossed over the Narayani River and began to explore the sal forest and hills on this side of the park. In the forest we found several herds of chital and troops of terai langur around and then found a huge male rhino very close to the road and offering good views. We then returned to the view point out over the river and the regularly used crossings and waited for a tiger. We had lunch here and waited until around 3:15 which is as late as we can wait as we need to get back through some check points before it's too late. We were not in luck today as we had a couple of rhinos and several riverside birds (black stork, red-wattled lapwings, pied kingfishers, little egrets and red-naped ibis being the highlights) but nothing else.

On the drive back we spotted a nice red muntjac near the road, a few more rhinos and wild boar as well as many birds. One of the most common birds on the drive back through the sal forest this afternoon was the colourful oriental dollarbird, as well as a lot of this birds we had nice views of Asian paradise flycatchers and chestnut-headed bee-eaters. But that was about it, the afternoon was very quiet and the only sighting of note was a large Asian giant land snail slowly making its way across the pathway in the lodge grounds.



## Day 4 Chitwan National Park

## Wildlife Watching

This morning the sky was overcast again but it wasn't very cool, and we headed out to the canoe crossing. On the other side of the river the large mugger crocodile lay basking on the shore and two smaller muggers came to blows with a small territorial spat.

Driving through the riverine forest and small patches of grassland first thing we found a good number of chital and sambar deer around and close to the road. We then followed fresh sloth bear tracks down the road for around 1km before they disappeared into the elephant grass and we continued onwards into the sal forest.

As we entered a stand of sil cotton trees just before entering the sal forest proper we found a beautiful Bengal florican, it was perched on an exposed vine wrapping itself around a tree, above the grass and in plain view. We watched this incredible rare and critically endangered (only 65 pairs are known to exist in the whole country) for a good while as it called loudly – presumably looking for a mate as we approached the breeding season for many species of terai birds.

In the sal forest it was clear this morning (and for the rest of the day) that the Indian pitta migration had hit full swing, we saw many flitting around the forest today as they arrive from India. But our highlight this morning was a wonderful sloth bear, we watched it foraging and moving through the forest towards us. It then got around 10m away from us and noticed us for the first time, standing up and sniffing the air. Then running away for around 20m and then settling down and continuing on its foraging around. We watched it come to the road and proceed to rub its back on a tree at the side of the road. Whilst scratching that unscratchable itch the bear is also scent marking here before carrying on and crossing the road and foraging a while in a termite mound. All together we watched the bear for around 15 minutes and then continued onwards. A little further we found a pair of huge male guar on their own, they also crossed the road in front of us and continued grazing, with their enormous muscled bodies glistening in the morning sun.

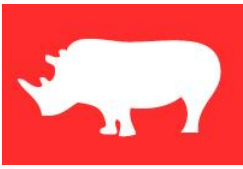
Driving to Tamar Lake we found fresh male tiger tracks from this morning moving the direction we were heading, we kept our eyes peeled but after around 2km the tracks left the road and we didn't find the tiger or the tracks again on the road. Then at the lake we found a rhino having a bathe and a beautiful grey-headed fish eagle perched in the open of a large lakeside tree. Also in the lake were two large Indian softshelled turtles basking near the surface. Before we stopped near here for breakfast we had very nice views of terai langurs feeding and drinking near the lake. Our last sighting of note in the sal forest this morning was a very close shikra eating what looked like a lizard and then on entering the largest grassland around this area of the park we found a mother and young rhino on one side of the road and what looked like the mothers last calf (probably 4-5 years old now and pretty much independent but still hanging around his mother). The mother was however quite nervous and charged the jeep, we had to turn the engine on, which stopped her and she moved away with her calf.

Along this stretch of road we found the innards of a freshly killed and eaten porcupine in the middle of the road. The army check point had told us of a female tiger and her 2 cubs who walked down this road yesterday at 5pm (they saw her on the CCTV which films around the park) and she was almost certainly the culprit here.

We crossed the Narayani River and explored the sal forest on the other side for a couple of hours. A great hornbill flew overhead and we also saw several rhinos and many chital. We watched a changeable hawk eagle attempting to hunt a red jungle fowl, the scared chicken in the thick bush just underneath the perched raptor and alarm calling away. The hawk eagle couldn't seem to find a way into the bush and eventually gave up. Back at the Narayani River and the popular look out for tigers we found tracks from a female climbing up the steep slope from the river below and right passed where there are usually people staked out. She moved a little way into the forest and scent marked, scraping the ground and urinating. The sand was still moist and the smell pungent. This was clearly from this morning also. But we lost her tracks in the sal forest, the part of the forest we had looked at. Not finding anything then we decided to head back around through the grassland.

On our way back we had a small Indian mongoose quickly running through the grass, a female Eurasian wild pig with two young (and still stripy) piglets, many sambar (including some males with decent racks). In the muddy sal forest we found evidence of yet another tiger, this one a male and one that was walking on very hard ground and only two prints in a muddy section of road showed up. It appeared that the last 24 hours was a very active time for the tigers around this part of the park.

Other than yet more sambar, some large herds of chital (including one which must have been 50 plus strong) and of course rhinos (several mother and calves) we had nice views of a crested serpent eagle near the road, on a fallen tree overlooking a small pond. Then in the grassland again two great hornbills flying overhead, they were being mobbed by a small flock of black drongos and they were persistent and eventually chased the hornbills away. We



staked out a different area of the Rapti River, but to no avail and then started to head back. On the way (and making us a little late) we had a wonderful male sloth bear on the road, foraging on the side of the road and being very relaxed around us as it headed down the road towards us. Then into the forest, we parked up and watched as he fed around large trees. We then left as we were going to get in trouble for being now 20 minutes late in leaving the park, but we did make a quick stop to see a female Indian peafowl roosting in a low branch with no less than 6 chicks peering out from underneath her feathers.

We then made it back, Sanjay making his excuses to the army at the check point and we watched the orange sun set behind the forest and relaxed back at the lodge, ready to do it all again tomorrow.

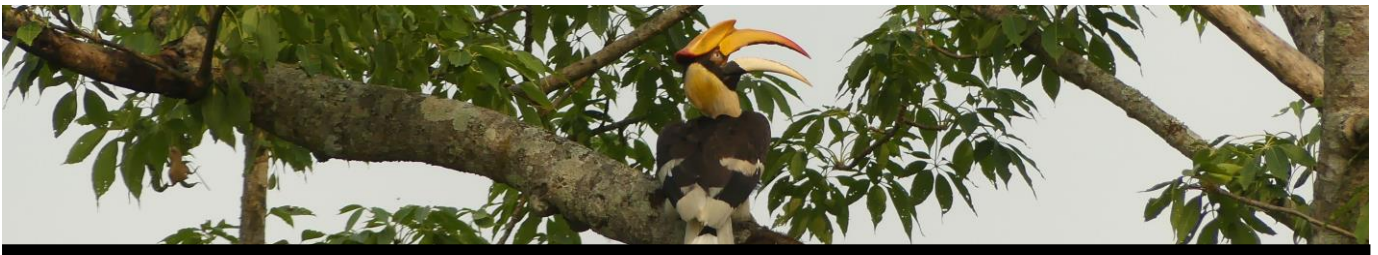
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## Day 5 Chitwan National Park

### *Wildlife Watching*

Last night another monsoonal storm ranged around and it was still raining this morning when we left for the forest. Once again at the canoes the semi-tame rhino was around and the mugger crocodiles around the banks on the other side, this morning also a gharial was there half submerged.

On entering the forest we hoped that the cool and damp morning would reward us with some interesting sightings. For most of the day it was the same as we had seen, lots of interesting birds in the different habitats, a good number of rhino around including mothers and calves, rhinos feeding and rhinos bathing and of course the four different species of deer that inhabit the park. We did have a nice small Indian mongoose sighting on the road as it ran alongside and entered the grassland. But the best and notable sightings of the day were two more sloth bears, one crossing the road and the other almost where we saw the last bear last night foraging. It was very likely the same male bear as we saw last night and it was moving the forest and then as we stopped and waited it came to the side of the road and fed on some termites. Once again a very relaxed bear and near the end of the trip our driver stopped and collected an elongated tortoise from the side of the road to show us before putting him back and of the road. But alas there were no tigers spotted by anyone today, no fresh tiger tracks. We had hoped that the storm last night would have increased movement and particularly in that the tigers would have to start scent marking around more after the heavy rain. But it was not to be. We hoped for better tomorrow as it would be our last chance for tigers.



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## Day 6 Chitwan National Park

### *Wildlife Watching*

Today would be our final scheduled jeep safari and we hoped and prayed for a tiger sighting. It was unusual for tigers to have been so elusive here, it was now several consecutive days that the local guide had gone without seeing one and that was unusual. The increased development of Sauraha and the large numbers of people entering the buffer zones and periphery of the park (on walks, half day jeep safaris and elephant back safaris) was certainly a factor in concentrating the wildlife in the middle of park, but we were then hit the problem of not being able to be around these areas (deep in the park) until the prime time as we had to be out and past the army check points before it was too late. This was a fine line to balance and one that we had good success rate with, but we were beginning to wonder if maybe a critical mass of tourists and disturbance had happened here and forced the tigers into being even more elusive.

But once again we entered the park and even without tigers (which are an undoubted bonus of this park) the wildlife is wonderful in Chitwan and we were certainly seeing much wildlife around.

The weather was cool again, but not as cool as yesterday, however the sky looked dark with threatening clouds. However the rain held off all day. There had been some rain in the park last night and the pock marked sand showed us fresh tracks (before and after the rain). In the riverine forest on entering the park we found large groups of chital and rhesus macaques, but it was otherwise quite quiet this morning. Driving through the normal habitat types and passing the regular lakes we saw many peafowl, the males particularly are found on the roads in the morning after a night of rain to get their plumage dry and in display condition, we also had the normal rhinos in the normal lake. It is curious to see if these rhinos ever move more than 100m of this lake. As we headed towards the large grassland we passed several large herds of chital in the sal forest and interspersed meadows and also found more muntjac than usual.

On the road through the grassland we found tracks from early this morning of the mother tiger and her cubs, the same one who had killed the porcupine a couple of days ago. However there was not enough muddy road to track their progress properly and we were close to an army post, so it was likely they entered the forest and moved passed the army post away from the road. The rain in the last couple of days had cleared the skies a lot and the views out over the Shivalik hills to the north and the Chuirra hills to the south were very nice this morning.



We had breakfast in the tall tower and spotted a lonely rhino under the shade of a tree as the sun was not out in force and the heat was growing intense. There was also a troop of langurs noisily moving through a stand of trees until they came to a large shady tree and settled in to withstand the heat of the middle of day there in the shade.

Carrying on and around to the Narayani River we had a beautiful crested serpeant eagle fly right overhead and low enough to offer great views. We also came to a mother and yearling rhino on the road and had great views before 2 more rhinos crossed the road and we spent some time watching a troop of langurs playing around in the trees either side of us and above us. This troop seemed to have a great number of youngsters and babies and they were in a very playful mood as we watched them. The adults all sat and watched them too, it was far too hot for the adults to get involved and the youngsters climbed and jumped with endless energy.

After a stop at a very photogenic bend in the Narayani River where we had many plain martins, small pratincoles and red-wattled lapwings all flying around we carried on the primate theme of today and found the largest troop of rhesus macaques we had seen here before (at least 50 seen easily and most likely more already in the forest) as they walked from a lake, over the road and entered the sal forest.

At Tamar Lake we watched a large number of chital leaving the lake as a huge male guar approached for a drink. The highlight of the day came when we entered the silk cotton tree forest in the grassland and found 3 wild Asiatic elephants. It is usually the adult males that are seen around this part of Chitwan and this was the first time Martin had seen wild females here. There were two adult females and a young baby. They were very nervous and not all confident of the jeep. They rarely see jeeps and had the baby in between them both as they fed. They were around 100m away from us when we first saw them and even at this distance they were not happy. We took some pictures at this distance and then carried on forward along the only road available to us (100m is a long way but an angry elephant can cover that distance in 30 seconds or less and so we couldn't risk a three point turn here – and so had to carry on past, the road would take us around 70m away at the closest point). So we slowly moved along and we hadn't got much further when she charged, the larger of the two adults (most likely the mother) first and then the second, they covered so much ground quickly and luckily our driver was on it and got us out of the way and to safety as quick as possible. We didn't hang around as we didn't want to disturb the female and the baby any more than we had in just driving along the road.

A little further along we had a sloth bear around 20m into the forest and foraging, but as soon as he noticed us he bolted away and out of sight.

Back into the grassland / riverine forest mosaic we found the freshest tiger tracks yet, a female and made within the last hour as the afternoon jeep tracks were all underneath these prints. In fact due to the still wet layer of mud underneath the top layer that had been removed by the pads these tracks were probably just minutes old. So we drove up and down the 2km close to here, but like this morning we couldn't find the tracks on the road after the mud was lost and so we didn't know if the tiger had continued on the road or gone into the grass or even if the tiger went off the road because it heard our vehicle! We staked out a nearby area but no luck, then our last sighting as we left was another large herd of chital and of course rhesus macaques. We had certainly seen a fair amount of primates today.

We then arrived back at the starting point, said goodbye to our driver and then back at the lodge we said goodbye to Sanjay. Pen and Daryl would be staying on for a couple more nights at the lodge before carrying on their journey and would likely see Sanjay around the lodge. Martin would be heading back to Kathmandu tomorrow morning and they would likely all see each other tomorrow in the morning.

# Species List

Wild Nepal May 2018

## Mammals (\* = heard or signs only)

	Common Name	Binominal Name
1	Chital	<i>Axis axis</i>
2	Indian hog deer	<i>Axis porcinus</i>
3	Gaur	<i>Bos gaurus</i>
4	Golden jackal	<i>Canis aureus</i>
5	Sambar	<i>Cervus unicolor</i>
6	Asiatic Elephant	<i>Elaphus maximus</i>
7	Five-lined palm squirrel	<i>Funambulus pennantii</i>
8	Small Indian mongoose	<i>Herpestes auropunctatus</i>
9	Indian porcupine	<i>Hystrix indica</i>
10	Rhesus Macaque	<i>Macaca mulatta</i>
11	Sloth Bear	<i>Melursus ursinus</i>
12	Indian Muntjac	<i>Muntiacus muntjak</i>
13	Leopard	<i>Panthera pardus</i>
14	Tiger	<i>Panthera Tigris</i>
15	One-Horned Indian Rhino	<i>Rhinoceros unicornis</i>
16	Little Nepalese horseshoe bat	<i>Rhinolophus subbadius</i>
17	Fulvous fruit bat	<i>Rousettus leschenaultii</i>
18	Teari grey langur	<i>Semnopithecus hector</i>
19	Asian house shrew	<i>Suncus murinus</i>
20	Eurasian wild pig	<i>Sus scofra</i>

May						
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	~50	~85	~138	~90	~125	
	3	4	5	2		
	31		2		1	
			2			
	1	2	5	2	5	
					3	
	1	1			1	
			1			
			*			
	~52	~30		~10	~70	
	*		2	2	1	
	3	3	4	1	3	
	1					
	*		*	*	*	
	12	16	17	12	13	
~5	~5			~5		
1				1		
	13	19	10		33	
	1					
	9	15	16	7	5	

## Birds (\* = heard or signs only)

	Common Name	Binominal Name
1	Shirka	<i>Accipiter badius</i>
2	Jungle Mynah	<i>Acridotheres fuscus</i>
3	Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>
4	Common sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>

May						
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
		1	1			
	~35	~150	~210	~150	~210	~10
~15	~10	28	~10	~10	~10	~250
					3	



5	Eurasian Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>
6	White-throated Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo leucogaster</i>
7	White-breasted waterhen	<i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>
8	Asian Openbill	<i>Anastomus oscitans</i>
9	Oriental Darter	<i>Anhinga melogastor</i>
10	Oriental Pied Hornbill	<i>Anthracoceros albirostris</i>
11	Paddyfield Pipit	<i>Anthus rufulus</i>
12	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>
13	Intermediate egret	<i>Ardea intermedia</i>
14	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>
15	Indian Pond Heron	<i>Areola grayii</i>
16	Ashy woodswallow	<i>Artamus fuscus</i>
17	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>
18	Great hornbill	<i>Buceros bicornis</i>
19	Lesser Coucal	<i>Centropus bengalensis</i>
20	Greater Coucal	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>
21	Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>
22	Common emerald Dove	<i>Chalcophaps indica</i>
23	Greater flameback	<i>Chrysocolaptes guttacristatus</i>
24	Woolly-necked Stork	<i>Ciconia episcopus</i>
25	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>
26	Zitting cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>
27	Rock (Feral) Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>
28	White-rumped shama	<i>Copsychus malabaricus</i>
29	Oriental magpie robin	<i>Copsychus solarius</i>
30	Indian Roller	<i>Coracias benghalensis</i>
31	Large cuckooshrike	<i>Coracina macei</i>
32	Indian jungle Crow	<i>Corvus culminatus</i>
33	House Crow	<i>Corvus splendens</i>
34	Eurasian cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>
35	Indian cuckoo	<i>Cuculus micropterus</i>
36	Tickell's blue flycatcher	<i>Cyornis tickelliae</i>
37	Rufous Treepie	<i>Dendrocitta vagabunda</i>
38	Lesser Whistling Duck	<i>Dendrocygna javanica</i>
39	White-bellied Drongo	<i>Dicrurus caerulescens</i>
40	Spangled Drongo	<i>Dicrurus hottentottus</i>
41	Black Drongo	<i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i>
42	Greater racket-tailed drongo	<i>Dicrurus paradiseus</i>
43	Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus remifer</i>

	2	1	2			1
1	11	2	4	2	4	
2	2			1	3	1
~10	7	12	3	4	6	3
	1	2				
			1			
					1	1
2	1		1	1		2
1	6	21	12	9	3	8
	1		1		1	
3	7		6	4	2	~15
	2	2				
~20	1			~10		~80
			3			
1	11	6	2	1	12	1
		1				
		3		3	2	2
		1	9		1	
	3					
			1		2	
		1				
					1	
~30	~10		8	~10		~300
	5	1	2		1	
1		9	21	4	4	2
	2		1			
	1				1	
2	21	~30	~50	~30	~31	4
3			~10	4	3	~200
					1	
			*		1	
					1	
	1	2			3	
	3				4	
	1				2	
	1	4	3	1	2	
4	10	13	12	9	10	6
			1			
	1	2		1		1

44	Black-rumped flameback	<i>Dinopium benghalense</i>
45	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>
46	Dollarbird	<i>Eurystomus orientalis</i>
47	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula porphyrio</i>
48	Red Jungle Fowl	<i>Gallus gallus</i>
49	Greater necklaced laughingthrush	<i>Garrulax pectoralis</i>
50	Orange-headed thrush	<i>Geokichla citrina</i>
51	Small pratincole	<i>Glareola lactea</i>
52	Jungle owlet	<i>Glaucidium radiatum</i>
53	Hill mynah	<i>Gracula religiosa</i>
54	Asian Pied Starling	<i>Gracupica contra</i>
55	Stork-billed Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon capensis</i>
56	Grey-headed fish eagle	<i>Haliaeetus ichthyaetus</i>
57	Common hawk cuckoo	<i>Hierococcyx varius</i>
58	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>
59	Bengal florican	<i>Houbaropsis bengalensis</i>
60	Yellow bittern	<i>Ixobrychus sinensis</i>
61	Long-tailed Shrike	<i>Lanius schach</i>
62	Yellow-crowned woodpecker	<i>Leiopicus mahrattensis</i>
63	Lesser Adjutant	<i>Leptoptilos javanicus</i>
64	Chestnut-headed bee-eater	<i>Merops leschenaulti</i>
65	Bronze-winged Jacana	<i>Metopidius indicus</i>
66	White-browed Wagtail	<i>Motacilla maderaspatensis</i>
67	Asian Brown Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa dauurica</i>
68	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>
69	Black-hooded Oriole	<i>Oriolus xanthornus</i>
70	Cinereous tit	<i>Parus cinereus</i>
71	Eurasian tree sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>
72	Indian Peafowl	<i>Pavo cristatus</i>
73	Small minivet	<i>Pericrocotus cinnamomeus</i>
74	Scarlet Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus flammeus</i>
75	Rosy minivet	<i>Pericrocotus roseus</i>
76	Sirkeer malkoha	<i>Phaenicophaeus leschenaultii</i>
77	Indian cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax fuscicollis</i>
78	Grey-headed woodpecker	<i>Picus canus</i>
79	Lesser yellownape	<i>Picus chlorolophus</i>
80	Scaly-bellied woodpecker	<i>Picus squamatus</i>
81	Streak-throated woodpecker	<i>Picus xanthopygaeus</i>
82	Indian pitta	<i>Pitta brachyura</i>

	2	5	10		6	
	2	3		2	1	1
	3	10	22	13	35	
	1					
	2	1	9	3	7	
					1	
	2	4	2	1	1	
					3	
	1					
	2	2		1		
~10	3	2		4		
	1				1	
			2			
	4	1	1		3	
5		2		1		5
			1			
			1			
1		1	2			
		1			1	
	2	2	2		1	
	11	9	18	6	8	
		1				
		1			4	
	3	1	7			
	3					
	1	1	3			
			2			
~10		3	~10	2	8	~10
	23	15	31	22	27	
					1	
		2	2			
	2					
			1			
	1		1		2	
	5	1			2	
	1		3		1	2
	1	1	2			
					2	
	4	7	31	6	7	

83	Nepal wren-babbler	<i>Proopyga immaculata</i>
84	Grey-crowned prinia	<i>Prinia cinereocapilla</i>
85	Grey-breasted prinia	<i>Prinia hodgsonii</i>
86	Plain prinia	<i>Prinia inornata</i>
87	Red-naped Ibis	<i>Pseudibis papillosa</i>
88	Rose-ringed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>
89	Red-breasted parakeet	<i>Psittacula alexandri</i>
90	Plum-headed parakeet	<i>Psittacula cyanocephala</i>
91	Alexandrine Parakeet	<i>Psittacula eupatria</i>
92	Blossom-headed parakeet	<i>Psittacula roseata</i>
93	Red-vented Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>
94	Black-crested Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus flaviventris</i>
95	Red-whiskered Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus jocosus</i>
96	Plain martin	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>
97	Indian nuthatch	<i>Sitta castanea</i>
98	Velvet-fronted nuthatch	<i>Sitta frontalis</i>
99	Spotted dove	<i>Spilopelia chinensis</i>
100	Crested Serpent eagle	<i>Spilornis cheela</i>
101	Changeable Hawk-eagle	<i>Spizaetus cirrhatus</i>
102	Eurasian collared dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>
103	Oriental Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia orientalis</i>
104	Chestnut-tailed starling	<i>Sturnia malabarica</i>
105	Eurasian blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>
106	Asian paradise flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone paradisi</i>
107	Little green pigeon	<i>Treron olax</i>
108	Yellow-footed green pigeon	<i>Treron phoenicoptera</i>
109	Jungle Babbler	<i>Turdoides striatus</i>
110	Red-Wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus indicus</i>
111	White-rumped needletail	<i>Zoonavena sylvatica</i>

	3	2				
			1			
			1			
			4	1		
		4			2	
					~23	
					3	
	5	2	7			
	~10	1	2	1	2	
	1	4				
	~95	~310	~65	~100	~130	
			1			
	~120	~180	~100	~120	~95	
	~30	~50	~300	~20	~45	
	2	1		1		
	1		1			
~20	28	~35	~45	~35	49	~30
		2	1		2	
	1	2	1		1	
	8	3	1	1	~10	2
	2	2				1
	4	12	38		20	
			1			
	2	1	2	2	3	
			1			
		1			4	
	23	27	~53	~20	22	
1	2	11	10	1	4	
					3	

## Reptiles (\* = heard or signs only)

	Common Name	Binominal Name
1	Indian Garden Lizard	<i>Calotes versicolor</i>
2	Mugger Crocodile	<i>Crocodylus palustris</i>
3	Gharial	<i>Gavialis gangeticus</i>
4	Brooke's house gecko	<i>Hemidactylus brookii</i>

May						
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
		1	1		1	
	4	3	4		3	
		2			1	
	1	2		1		

5	Yellow-belled house gecko	<i>Hemidactylus flaviviridis</i>
6	Asian House Gecko	<i>Hemidactylus frenatus</i>
7	Elongated tortoise	<i>Indotestudo elongata</i>
8	Indian softshell turtle	<i>Nilssonina gangetica</i>
9	Indian rock python	<i>Python molurus</i>
10	Bengal monitor	<i>Varanus bengalensis</i>
11	Yellow monitor	<i>Varanus flavescens</i>

		1		1		
2	3	3	2	1	3	
				1	1	
			2			
	*					
	1	1	2			
					1	

### **Amphibians** (\* = heard or signs only)

	Common Name	Binominal Name
1	Indian toad	<i>Duttaphrynus melanostictus</i>
2	Indian Skittering Frog	<i>Euphlyctis cyanophlyctis</i>
3	Indian Pond Frog	<i>Euphlyctis hexadactylus</i>

May						
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
				3		
				~10		
			1			

### **Freshwater Fish** (\* = heard or signs only)

	Common Name	Binominal Name
1	Labeo boga	<i>Labeo boga</i>
2	Butter catfish	<i>Ompok bimaculatus</i>
3	Chola barb	<i>Puntius chola</i>

May						
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	1			1		
		2	2		2	
	1					