

Earthbound Expeditions

Bardia National Park Safari

4 days, from US$467 per person

Duration **4 days**	Grade **Easy**	Altitude **220 m**
Start and end **Kathmandu**	Best season **Feb to Apr, Oct to Dec**	Accommodation **Wildlife resort**
Meals **Breakfast daily**	Group size **Up to 15**	Getting there **Fly to Nepalgunj**

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Bardia National Park Safari Overview

Look for wild Bengal tigers, one-horned rhinos and wild elephants in the grasslands of Nepal's largest lowland national park.

Tour overview

Bardia is Nepal's largest and least visited lowland national park, in the far west of the country on the Karnali river. It is roughly the same size as Chitwan but receives a small fraction of the visitors. This is the main reason to travel this far: the same species, much more space, and long periods when yours is the only vehicle.

Bardia and Chitwan compared

Chitwan is five hours from Kathmandu by road and has more rhinos. Reaching Bardia requires a flight and a drive, but it has the highest tiger density in Nepal, fewer visitors and a wilder setting. If you have time for one lowland park and want an easy journey, choose Chitwan. If you are coming specifically to see a tiger, or you have been to Chitwan and found it busy, choose Bardia.

Tiger sightings

Bardia offers the best chance of seeing a wild tiger in Nepal, but a sighting cannot be guaranteed. Across a season, tigers are seen on roughly one trip in three. Sightings are most frequent in the hot, dry months from March to May, when the grass is short and the animals come to water. You can reliably expect to see rhino, deer, langur, wild boar, crocodile and, on the Karnali, the Gangetic river dolphin.

Itinerary

Day	Route	Hours	Distance	Altitude
1	Fly to Nepalgunj, drive to the park, nature walk	1 hr flying, 2.5 hrs driving	-	220 m
2	Karnali river, then an afternoon safari	-	-	220 m
3	Dawn birding, a Tharu village, fly to Kathmandu	1 hr flying	-	1,400 m
4	Departure, or carry on	-	-	-

Day 1

Fly from Kathmandu to Nepalgunj and drive to Bardia National Park

Fly from Kathmandu to Nepalgunj (about one hour), then transfer by road for about 2.5 hours to the resort, where you are given a welcome drink. After lunch, take a nature walk into the jungle. Dinner and overnight at the wildlife resort.

Altitude: 170 m On foot: Short walks Night: Resort, Bardia Meals: Lunch, Dinner

Day 2

Full day in Bardia National Park

Early tea or coffee at 6:30 AM and breakfast, then explore the jungle to see the Karnali River, its aquatic wildlife and birds. In the afternoon, take a jeep safari into the park to look for the one-horned rhinoceros, four species of deer, monkeys, wild boar and leopards. The day ends with a Nepali buffet dinner and a traditional folk dance.

Altitude: 170 m On foot: Short walks Night: Resort, Bardia Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 3

Bardia National Park to Nepalgunj and fly to Kathmandu

Tea or coffee at 6:00 AM, followed at 6:30 AM by a birdwatching walk in the park, which is home to hundreds of bird species. After breakfast, visit a Tharu village to learn about local culture and social life, then return to the resort and fly back to Kathmandu.

Altitude: 1,400 m On foot: Short walks Night: Hotel, Kathmandu Meals: Breakfast

Day 4

Departure

Breakfast in Kathmandu and a transfer to the airport for your onward flight. If you are joining a trek next, this is where we hand you over to the trekking team.

Altitude: 1,400 m On foot: None, departure day Night: No overnight Meals: Breakfast

Bardia National Park Safari Cost and What's Included

- Airport transfers & ground transport
- Licensed English-speaking guide
- Accommodation throughout the trip
- All permits & national park fees
- Meals as per the itinerary

Not included

- International flights
- Travel & rescue insurance
- Personal trekking gear
- Tips & personal expenses
- Nepal entry visa (on arrival)

Bardia National Park Safari Packing List

Clothing colours and luggage

Wear greens, browns and khaki in the park. On a walk in Bardia the aim is to avoid being noticed by wildlife, and bright colours and white are visible from a long way off. The Nepalgunj flight has a lower baggage allowance than your international ticket, and bags are weighed, so bring a soft bag rather than a large suitcase. Anything you do not need in the park can be stored free of charge at our Kathmandu office.

On your head

- Sun hat with a brim
- Sunglasses
- Sunscreen SPF 50 and lip balm
- A warm hat for foggy winter mornings, December to February

On your body

- Light long-sleeved shirts and long trousers in green, brown or khaki
- A fleece or light jacket for early mornings from November to February
- A light rain jacket from May onwards

On your feet

- Closed walking shoes or light boots, quiet rather than stiff
- Socks that come above the ankle, against ticks and leeches
- Sandals for the lodge

Bags

- A soft bag rather than a hard suitcase, for the small aircraft
- A daypack for water, camera and a layer

Health

- Insect repellent with DEET
- Any medicine you take routinely, and a small first aid kit
- Rehydration salts for the hot months
- Ask your doctor about malaria tablets. The risk in the Terai is low but not zero

Camera and binoculars

- Binoculars, which matter more than a camera for birds and for a tiger across a river
- A long lens if you have one
- Spare batteries and memory cards

Water

- A refillable bottle, one litre or more
- Purification tablets as a backup

Papers and money

- Passport and a photocopy, which you need for the domestic flight
- Travel insurance certificate
- Cash in small notes for tips and drinks. Bring it from Kathmandu or Nepalgunj; there is a cash machine in Thakurdwara, but it is not always working

Route map



Photos, videos and reviews of this trip: enepaltrekking.com/bardia-national-park-safari