

TIGER, TIGER BURNING BRIGHT

A tiger reveals itself at Bandhavgarh National Park, Madhya Pradesh.

"Survival is an urgent problem for tigers, so it is indeed a privilege to see one in the wild. Madhya Pradesh has the most tiger parks in the whole country."

JUNGLE BOOKINGS

Indian Explorations can arrange trips to the new Taj Safaris lodges at Bagh Van and Mahua Kothi. They were built in association with CC Africa—pioneers of the eco-design African *safari lodges*—and their presence in Madhya Pradesh, the last *tiger-rich area*, is a breakthrough. Indian Explorations also specialises in wildlife trips with *expert naturalists* in the Himalayas, and their itineraries include a *snow leopard* programme in Ladakh (☎ 01993 822443 ✉ explorationcompany.com). In Ranthambore, Oberoi's Vanyavilas and Aman's Aman-i-Khás are *sophisticated oases*. The latter is particularly fine, a place to relax; to read in the world's most exquisite tent. You can organise a stay at both on a Rajasthan trip through Greaves India (☎ 020 7487 9111 ✉ greavesindia.com).

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Don't even think of being a clever clogs and booking a trip to India on the internet: it's always best to use a travel specialist. ~~Other India travel specialists of note are~~ *Caroline de Loyd* (☎ 0207 384 2332 ✉ carloйд.com) and *Ampersand* (☎ 0207 723 4336 ✉ ampersandtravel.com).

—VICTORIA MATHER