

ON THE WILD SIDE1st April 2018

K. Mitra

<http://epaper.mailtoday.in/1601744/Mail-Today/Mail-Today-Issue-1.04.2018#page/21/1>**EMBRACING WILDERNESS AT MELA KOTHI**

February 2018

Syed Saad Ahmed

<https://round.glass/magazine/journeys/travel-kit/chambal-safari-lodge-a-unique-wildlife/>**THE CALL OF THE CHAMBAL**

February 2018

<https://round.glass/magazine/videos/the-call-of-the-chambal/>**BIRDING TOUR INDIA: THE NORTH – TIGERS AND BIRDS**

January 2018

Jason Boyce

<http://birdingecotours.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/India-Trip-Report-January-2018.pdf>

We took an early morning drive to the Chambal River, where we enjoyed an awesome boat cruise. It took a little time for the fog to lift, but once it did the sightings came thick and fast. First were sightings of **River Lapwing** and **White-browed Wagtail** walking along the southern bank. **Western Osprey** was the next call, a single bird flew right overhead. As we carried on upstream we heard **Black Francolin** calling and soon after that picked up our first **Black-bellied Tern**, one of the main targets of the trip. We were then treated to views of the rare Ganges River Dolphin – a true highlight! The pinkish wash to this beautiful creature is really noticeable. What an animal!

One of the most unlikely mammals of the tour, the Ganges River Dolphin, a strange, solitary river dolphin, which can be seen (with luck!) on the Chambal River cruise

For some the trip had been made already, but there was still more to come. As we continued, sightings of Mugger and the really awesome Gharial were had – some sightings in the water as well as a few of these stunning crocodilians sunning themselves on the bank. **Bonelli's Eagles** have been breeding on the cliffs alongside the river for a couple of years – the nest is active at this time of year, and, sure enough, we had really good looks at a male perched up high and a female bird on a nest. We scanned hard and also picked up a male **Blue Rock Thrush** here. Just a little further on a small island there were six **Indian Skimmers** roosting, another highlight of the cruise. The skimmers were accompanied by **River Tern**, **Black-bellied Tern**, **River Lapwing**, Gharial, Mugger and an out-of-place **Black-winged Stilt**. A few **Egyptian Vultures** put on a

show, while **Pallas's Gull**, **Great Stone-curlew**, **Painted Stork**, **Pied Kingfisher**, and **Long-legged Buzzard** were all present at some point during the cruise. We loaded up the van and started the drive back only to come to a grinding halt due to a **Sirkeer Malkoha** practically in the road in front of us! Crippling looks at this fascinating bird were enjoyed by all at close range. We had lunch at Chambal Safari Lodge and checked out – from here we headed to Agra for our Taj Mahal tour.

TROPICAL BIRDING

India Photo Tour 2017

Tour report by participant Rob Gowan

http://www.tropicalbirding.com/wp-content/uploads/pdfs/Asia/India/TR_India-photo-journey-2017.pdf

A BIODIVERSITY LESSON FROM INDIA

November 28, 2017

Andrew Green

<http://gwallter.com/travel/a-biodiversity-lesson-from-india.html>

BATESHWAR - L'INDE DES MAHARADJAS - ENCHAPPEES BELLES

November 2017

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N5NLBa5jzg0>

RIVER OF LIFE, RIVER OF DEATH: THE GANGES AND INDIA'S FUTURE

By Victor Mallet

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