



Angling  
at Vanghat and Pancheshwar  
guided by experienced naturalists.

Camp site on  
Saryu river

**Geoff Devine- Jones**

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# A trip for angling at Vanghat and Pancheshwar

	Vanghat, Corbett and Pancheshwar
<b>Landscape</b>	Broad-leafed & riverine hill forest and river valleys of Vanghat - Ramganga Valley - adjoining hills - Pancheshwar.
<b>Best Time</b>	October till May
<b>Birds Expected</b>	Ibisbill, Collared falconet, White tailed Rubythroat, Common green Magpie, Wallcreeper, Indian Pitta, Long-tailed Broadbill, Mountain Hawk Eagle, Lesser and Pallas's Fish Eagle, Brown & Tawny Fish Owl etc.
<b>Mammals Expected</b>	Goral (Goat Antelope), Indian Crested Porcupine, Common Smooth coated Otter, Barking and Sambhar Deer, Himalayan Langurs, Numerous Bat Species and Asian Elephant etc.
<b>Fishes Expected</b>	Golden Mahaseer, Silver Mahaseer, Black Mahaseer and Goonch etc.

**DAY 01, 02 & 03 - VANGHAT | DAY 04, 05 & 06 - PANCHESHWAR | DAY 07 & 08 - CHUKA | DAY 09 - JIM CORBETT NATIONAL PARK**



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# Overview

The Western Ramganga is a spring fed river arising some 200kms North of Corbett Tiger Reserve at Dudhatoli in the Himalayan foothills. It is fishable throughout the year since it is not subject to snowmelt in the spring. The waters remain clear through most of the year except in the rains from June-end to early September. The fish that the angler is likely to encounter are Golden Mahseer, Goonch, Indian trout and the very shy Kalbanse.

Mahseer weighing 60lb have been caught in the recent past, Goonch run massive - at the right time it is possible to land a 100 lbs, 20-30 being average. The Indian trout is rare and a good size would be 10 inches.

Pancheshwar is a paradise for nature lovers, anglers and adventure junkies. An unique destination for anglers, rafters and bird watchers offering an enthralling experience. Pancheshwar forms border with Nepal and is very well-known for the temple of Chaumu. Four different varieties of Mahseers are found here - golden, redfin, copper and chocolate.



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Casting on rapids

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# Operational Itinerary

## DAY 01: VANGHAT

**Activity** Arrive at Jim Corbett National Park

**Gradient** Gentle

**Detail** Arrive Marchula, meet our representative and hike to Vanghat. The walk through the scrub forest and the sleepy village of Baluli is an excellent introduction to the wildlife rich Ramganga valley, and can prove to be the most personally satisfying way of reaching the Lodge. At the end of the trail a bamboo raft ferries guests across to remote

Vanghat. (Average fitness and good walking shoes are however vital). One porter per person is provided.

In the evening while sipping a drink and savouring hot snacks and soup discuss your next day's strategy.

Overnight at Vanghat (L, D).



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## DAY 02 & 03: VANGHAT

**Activity** Vanghat - adjoining forests

**Gradient** Gentle

**Detail** After an early cup of tea we head upstream on our 4 X 4 Gypsy upstream to Bandran near Marchula.

Today we fish the upstream beat at Marchula once the most popular fishing spot. This stretch with promising rapids and massive pool is home to massive Mahseer and Goonch and has featured in the 'River Monster' series anchored by Jermy Wade. Packed picnic meals and a camping mattress will be provided.

Return back to camp before it gets dark. We always have to keep in mind that this is Elephant & Tiger Country.

Overnight at Vanghat (B, L, D).



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## DAY 04: PANCHESHWAR

<b>Activity</b>	Vanghat - Pancheshwar.
<b>Gradient</b>	Gentle
<b>Detail</b>	Early morning drive to Pancheshwar. Arrive Panchshwar: Briefing and introduction by rafting & fishing guides.

Overnight at a camp in Pancheswar (B, L, D).



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Pallas's Fish Eagle  
(*Haliaeetus leucoryphus*)

**Christopher Mills**

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# DAY 05: PANCHESHWAR

**Activity** Fishing at Pancheshwar.

**Gradient** Gentle

**Detail** The confluence of Kali and Saryu. This is a great spot for fishing.

Overnight at a camp in Pancheswar (B, L, D).



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# DAY 06: PANCHESHWAR

**Activity** Pancheshwar - Garhmukteshwar

**Gradient** Gentle

**Detail** Expect loads of thrills today as we move from Pancheshwar towards Garmukteshwar and encounter grade 3 rapids as the river picks up volume. The verdant untouched beauty around is breathtaking and has us all wishing for the day not to end.

Overnight at a camp in Pancheswar (B, L, D).



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Fishing at Pancheswer

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# DAY 07: CHUKA

**Activity** Chukka by Ladiya Confluence

**Gradient** Gentle

**Detail** The River run from Garhmukteshwar to Chukka village. A few more grade 3 rapids before we reach camp at Chukka. There will be plenty to discuss and remember about the day when we sit around the campfire tucking into a hot, delicious meal.

Overnight at a camp (B, L, D).



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Golden Mahseer  
(*Tor putitora*)

**P.O Johonsan**  
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## DAY 08: CHUKA

**Activity** Fishing at Chuka

**Gradient** Gentle

**Detail** Day for Fishing and stay on beach (no rafting).

Overnight at a camp (B, L, D).



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Golden Mahseer  
(*Tor putitora*)  
caught at Chari Dhunga

**Eleandor Gibbons**  
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# DAY 9: Jim Corbett National Park

**Activity** Chukka - Boom - Jim Corbett National Park

**Gradient** Gentle

**Detail** The last day on the river we start from Chukka to reach the take out at Boom. Chukka can be big rapid sometime, so we pre-plan our day accordingly. It is good day for rafting with plenty of grade 3 rapids. There is a distinct shift in the vegetation around as we enter the Terai region and you may find wild elephants sharing the river with you!

Afternoon drive onward to Jim Corbett National Park.

Overnight at a lodge in Jim Corbett National Park (B, L, D).



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Goonch (*Bagarius yarrelli*) also known as the giant devil catfish, grows up to 2m (6.6 ft) in length

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# DAY 10: Jim Corbett National ParkI

<b>Activity</b>	Jim Corbett National Park - Journey onwards
<b>Gradient</b>	Gentle
<b>Detail</b>	Morning drive or board a train from Jim Corbett National Park/ Ramnagar to journey onwards.



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**Tour inclusions:**

- Accommodation for 09 nights at hotels and homestays mentioned above on twin share basis.
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary as B, L, D (B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner).
- Service of English speaking local naturalist.
- All payable Tiger Reserve fees.
- Train journey between Kathgodam/ Delhi on A/C Chair Car.
- Services of Naturalist tracker during trek.
- Porters wherever needed.
- 4 X4 and taxi transfers.
- All applicable taxes at the time of quoting.



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Camping at Pancheswer

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**Tour exclusions:**

- Any expenses of personal nature such as telephone calls, tips, use of payable items in room mini bar, any kind of alcoholic non-alcoholic beverages (unless specified).
  - Air Fare.
  - Cost incurred in obtaining visa, insurance etc.
  - Cost incurred in case of hospitalization or evacuation.
  - Tips gratuities given to drivers/ guides, restaurant waiters etc.
  - Train journey between Kathgodam/ Delhi on A/C Chair Car.
- \* Please note that in case of any revision in government tax structure or substantial fuel hike we reserve the right to revise the tour cost. However, marginal difference will be absorbed by us.

**Important:**

- Itinerary order may change however number of days and general programme will remain the same.



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# BOOKING & CANCELATION POLICY

## **Booking Conditions:**

A 50% advance confirms your trip with us. Balance needs to be deposited at least 30 days before trip date.

## **Cancellation Policy:**

- Less than 15 days before the arrival date - no refund
- Less than 20 days before the arrival date - 60% refund
- Less than 25 days before the arrival date - 75% refund
- No refund in case of road block, accident, no show etc.



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- The tour price is quoted as a package. No partial refunds or credit will be given for services not used. We recommend that you obtain travel insurance upon booking.
- It is mandatory for guests to present valid photo identification at the time of check-in.
- The inclusion of extra bed with a booking is facilitated with a folding cot or a mattress as an extra bed.
- Early check-in or late check-out is subject to availability and may be chargeable by the lodge. The standard check-in time is 1 PM and the standard check-out time is 11 AM.
- The room tariff includes all taxes. The amount paid for the room does not include charges for optional services and facilities (such as room service, mini bar, snacks or telephone calls). These will be charged at the time of check-out.
- The hotel/lodge reserves the right of admission. Accommodation can be denied to guests posing as a couple if suitable proof of identification is not presented at check-in. Rural Traveller will not be responsible for any check-in denied by the hotel/lodge due to the aforesaid reason.



**Important Note:**

In case of any revision in government tax structure or fuel prices, Rural Traveller reserves the right to revise the tour price.

However, marginal revision in tour price will be absorbed by us.

- To book the above tour, please write to Sumantha Ghosh at *[vanghat@gmail.com](mailto:vanghat@gmail.com)*. We will be happy to tailor - make a bird tour to suit the number of days that you may have.
- Do write to us if you want us to pick you up from Delhi airport, make arrangements for accommodation in Delhi, taxi and organize guided tours in Delhi or Rajasthan.



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Pancheswer - the sacred Confluence of Kali and Sharda

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### **Things To Carry:**

Binoculars, personal medicines, insect repellent, camera, film rolls, batteries, flashlight, clothing in Jungle colors such as beige, brown, khaki and green as they are least disturbing to the environment, shoes made for easy walking and sandals for wading in the river, sun hats, sweaters and heavy jackets for the winter months, light cottons for the summer months, rain gear for monsoons.



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Massive jaw rimmed with  
pointed teeth of a Goonch  
(*Bagarius yarrelli*)

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