



Located around the lush Nilgiri biosphere, the Bandipur National Park is home to some of the most endangered species like the Indian elephants, gaurs, tigers, sloth bears, muggers, Indian rock python and grey langurs, etc; the national park also has a rich diversity of flora—the rosewood, sandalwood, clumping bamboo, Indian kino trees, satin wood, and black clutch to name a few. On a typical day, Kuttappan says that one can spot deer, wild boar and elephants, and if they are lucky, tigers, leopards and wild dogs. "I always make it a point to give

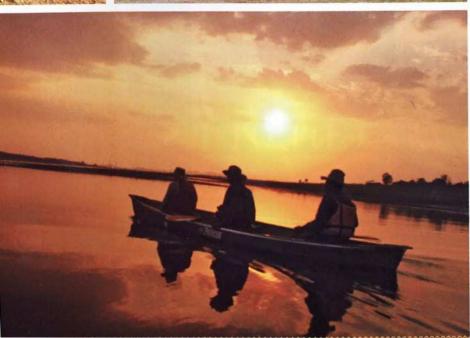
a detailed description about the animals we spot and their habitat," he adds.

Talking about rich greens and habitats, who can forget the Sunderbans in Bengal? The vast and magnificent national park is home to the rare Bengal tigers and mangrove forests. Head to the Sunderban Mangrove Retreat located in Jamespore Village of Satjalia Island. The luxurious and eco-friendly resort is spread around the Pichkali River. The objective of the resort is to create the perfect equilibrium of progressive thought on the ecosystem. I









also takes care of the conservation of biodiversity of mangroves through preservation and regeneration of the forests. Hop onto a boat and go along the river taking a look around the rich mangrove forests, spot birds and animals, come back to an evening of singing and dancing by the local Baul community. End your day sitting around a bonfire and narrating your experiences.

Another haven for all nature-lovers is the Orange County luxury resorts in the Nagarahole National Park on the banks of river Kabini, spread across the Bramhagiri hill range in Kodagu, Karnataka. The resort offers a range of exciting activities like vehicle safari, boat safari, nature walk, night trails and guided tribal village tours. Spend a noon playing with and feeding their inhouse elephant, Kaveri. The naturalists at The Orange County are experts in identifying birds, mammals, amphibians and indigenous plants, and are skilled enough to explain the intricacies of animal behaviour and habitat. As an eco friendly lodge, The Orange County has followed a strict policy to protect the environment by incorporating into their system, early stage waste segregation, state-of-the-art sewage treatment plants, biogas plants, vermicompost, piggery and more.

Wildlife in India has ample to offer—be it a lavish tent stay, a safari, a nature walk or a night under the starlit sky, there is always more to discover. So unwind, let go of those worries, lose yourself, and soothe that soul with what nature has to offer. Time to pack those bags!