



Wild Earth Travel

Small Ships, Big Adventures

wildearth-travel.com

info@wildearth-travel.com

HISTORIC HOOGLY (LOWER GANGES) - RIVER CRUISE IN INDIA

These cruises, upstream or downstream with return journey by rail, take you along the intimate lower Ganges sidestream, the River Hooghly, which flows from Farakka on the main river down to Kolkata. As well as sightseeing of Kolkata itself and the European colonies just outside, the cruise takes in Murshidabad, capital of the Nawabs of Bengal, the battlefield of Plassey close by, and the many monuments of the medieval Islamic capital of Gaur. A highlight are several delightful and little known Bengali Terracotta temples. Cruises can be combined with Ganges cruises on most dates.

Wildlife - Birds, dolphins and langurs.

With an on board naturalist you will spot a wide variety of birds (More than 180 on the list) and, excitingly, you will get glimpses of the rare Gangetic dolphins that inhabit this part of the river. Langur monkeys hang around some of the towns and temples that we visit and we usually see squads of huge fruit bats flying along the river at dusk.

Added extra - Highlights

During the cruise we will have a demonstration of how to cook a good curry, how to dress in a Sari or Dhoti, a short concert from some local musicians and an exhibition of some traditional dancing.

· KOLKATA/CALCUTTA \- Before/after the cruise you can/should enjoy the madness that is Kolkata. Noise, colour, movement, smells - everything is happening non-stop all the time. The City of Palaces, Calcutta was the capital of British India for around

150 years, and boasts much superb colonial architecture, fantastic markets and some great monuments and museums. It can also claim to be the intellectual capital of modern India, and is a thriving, bustling, colourful and up to date city, with some excellent shops. In the northern suburbs lie the old French, Dutch and Danish colonial enclaves, still retaining a distinctive flavour.

· KALNA \- A pleasant agricultural centre, boasting some of Bengal's finest terracotta temples.

· MURSHIDABAD \- Capital of the Nawabs of Bengal, losers at Plassey, and a delightful backwater town full of abandoned mosques, tombs and surprisingly grand European style palaces. Nearby Baranagar boasts further examples of charming terracotta temples.

· FARAKKA BARRAGE \- Where the Hooghly flows out from the Ganges, this great dam, opened in 1975, protects much of Bengal from flooding as well as generating electricity.

· Battlefield and village of Plassey - Pelassi

The site of Robert Clive's famous victory over the combined French and Indian forces that signalled the start of Britain's 2 century domination of India. The battlefield is marked by a small monument but the nearby village is a delight.

· Matari village brass foundaries

The small village of Matari is famous for its cottage industry of

Wild Earth Travel

Small Ships, Big Adventures

0800 945 3327 (within New Zealand) | +64 (0) 3 365 1355 | **1800 107 715** (within Australia)

info@wildearth-travel.com | **wildearth-travel.com**



brass. You can watch the whole process from the smelting to the beating, shaping and patterning. Seeringly hard work in ih extreme heat.

· Baranagar & English lessons

We will visit the small village of Baranagar and the terracotta temples dotted around the village. We will also visit the English Academy in the village, heavily sponsored by the ship's owners, the academy teaches English to aspiring students and we get a chance to sit with them for 40 minutes to discuss our lives and families, football and cricket, and anything else that comes up in conversation.



nversation.

ITINERARY

DAY 1 Kolkata - Embarkation

This morning, you will be collected from your hotel to embark your ship by



Wild Earth Travel

Small Ships, Big Adventures

wildearth-travel.com

info@wildearth-travel.com

midday. Sail past the old Danish colony of Serampore to Barrackpore. Land and take a walk through the cantonment - past the Semaphore Tower, Government House, the Temple of Fame and Flagstaff House - to get a better understanding of India's journey to independence. Sail up to Chandernagore, a French possession until 1950.

DAY 2 Chinsura - Imambarā

Visit the 18th century church and Dupleix's House, the erstwhile Governor-General of French India. Sail upstream past the old Dutch settlement of Chinsura before landing to visit the imposing Imambarā at Hooghly. With verses from the Koran written on its walls, the Imambarā is an opportunity to step back in time and relive a slice of Islamic history in Bengal. Sail into the night to a mooring near Kalna.

DAY 3 Kalna - Mayapur - Matari

After breakfast, land at the country town of Kalna and take rickshaws to see a group of some of Bengal's most attractive terracotta temples, the unique Shiva temple with concentric rings made up of 108 shrinelets, and a muslin-weaving centre. Continue on through the countryside to Mayapur to visit the vast new ISKCON (International Society for Krishna Consciousness) temple which dominates the skyline. As the headquarters of ISKCON or the Hare Krishna movement, the temple receives over a million singing and dancing devotees a year from around the world. Sail on through the night to a mooring near Matari.

DAY 4 Matari - Plassey - Khushbagh

This morning visit the brass-working village of Matari, a charming riverside village. Interact with the locals of Matari and witness the whole primitive process of beating out brass water pots and other vessels. Later, cruise on and visit the battlefield of Plassey where, in 1757, Robert Clive, the Commander-in-Chief of British India, defeated Siraj-ud-Daulah, the last independent Nawab of Bengal, to change the course of Indian history. Moor close to Khushbagh for the night.

DAY 5 Khushbagh - Hazarduari Palace - Katra Mosque - Katgola Palace

This morning, walk to the Khushbagh, a peaceful Mughal-style garden that encloses the tombs of Siraj-ud-Daulah - the last independent Nawab of Bengal - and his family. Continue a little way upstream to where the great Hazarduari Palace dominates the waterfront. Built by an English architect in 1837, the palace hosts an extensive collection of pictures, china, weapons and other objects. Carry on to visit the great Katra Mosque before driving out to see the Katgola Palace. Built in classical Georgian style by rich local merchants, Katgola Palace represents the other side of the coin of the 'White Mughal' period when English and Indian cultures came close to fusion. Moor overnight on the riverbank across from town at Baranagar.

DAY 6 Baranagar - Lower Ganges - Farakka Barrage

This morning, walk through the fields of the delightfully sleepy village of Baranagar to visit its three gorgeous miniature terracotta temples. This is rural India at its most idyllic. Continue up the lower Ganges (or the Hooghly), which transforms into a charming waterway twisting and turning between banks lined with mustard fields and mango orchards. Carry on up a long canal section to a mooring close to the Farakka Barrage.

DAY 7 Gaur

Disembark and go on a full-day excursion by road to Gaur, near the town of Malda, or English Bazar. This quiet, deserted place was once one of India's great cities, first under the Hindus in 12th century, then as the Muslim capital of Eastern India from the 14th to the 16th century. There are plentiful remains of mosques, palaces and gateways and you visit a number of the most interesting before rejoining the ship in the evening.

Day 8 Farakka

Transfer to Farakka station at dawn for a 4 hr (approx.) train journey to Kolkata. Our representatives will meet you on arrival and transfer you to a central Kolkata hotel.

Please Note:

Wild Earth Travel

Small Ships, Big Adventures

0800 945 3327 (within New Zealand) | +64 (0) 3 365 1355 | **1800 107 715** (within Australia)

info@wildearth-travel.com | **wildearth-travel.com**



Wild Earth Travel

Small Ships, Big Adventures

wildearth-travel.com

info@wildearth-travel.com

Itinerary above indicates the Upstream direction. Downstream itinerary goes in reverse and may be slightly different. While every effort will be made to maintain the itinerary, in view of fluctuating river conditions and navigational or mechanical difficulties, all schedules and itineraries are subject to change without notice.

Wild Earth Travel
Small Ships, Big Adventures

0800 945 3327 (within New Zealand) | +64 (0) 3 365 1355 | **1800 107 715** (within Australia)

info@wildearth-travel.com | **wildearth-travel.com**

YOUR SHIP: ABN RAJMAHAL

YOUR SHIP: ABN Rajmahal

VESSEL TYPE: River Boat

LENGTH: 50 meters

PASSENGER CAPACITY: 40

BUILT/REFURBISHED: 2014

ABN Rajmahal is a 50m long and powered by 3 engines; her extra-shallow draught and a lower profile than conventional designs allow her to cruise further upstream than any of her competitors.

ABN Rajmahal has 22 cabins: 14 spacious twin/double cabins on the upper deck; 4 twin/double cabins on the main deck; and 4 single cabins for which we charge no supplement. The decor is stylish and fresh with touches of colonial elegance, brought to life by traditional Indian-inspired designs on hand-blocked cotton fabrics. All cabins on ABN Rajmahal have French balconies.

As with the other ships in our fleet, there is a comfortable saloon and bar, dining room and a vast canopied sundeck. A small spa onboard offers a wide range of treatments. All cabins and public rooms on our ships are air-conditioned.

Food on board is a mixture of Assamese (milder than most Indian cuisine) and Continental cuisines. Wines, beer and spirits are available.

Onboard features

Spacious cabins with individual climate control

En suite shower/WC with Biotique toiletries

Generous cupboard space and under-bed storage

Hair drier in each cabin

Minibar in each cabin

In-room electronic safe

Tea/coffee making facilities in cabins

Intercommunication telephone in cabins

High quality bathrobes and slippers in cabins

Large sliding glass windows offering panoramic views of the river

Vast sundeck both open and shaded, with sunloungers or steamer chairs

Spacious air-conditioned saloon with library and recorded entertainment

Spa with choice of treatments.

Services

Shore excursion programme including all admissions

Maximum 20 guests per guide on all excursions

Naturalist onboard the vessel

Cold towel service after excursions

Welcome drink after excursions

Shoe-cleaning after excursions

Turndown service in all cabins

Expertly trained culinary staff

Single seating for buffet breakfast, lunch and dinner

Acclaimed combination of Indian & Western cuisines

Wide choice of wines, spirits and beer

Complimentary tea, coffee and mineral water throughout

Welcome reception

Farewell reception



Wild Earth Travel

Small Ships, Big Adventures

wildearth-travel.cominfo@wildearth-travel.com

Local on-board dance & song performances.



rformances.

Wild Earth Travel

Small Ships, Big Adventures

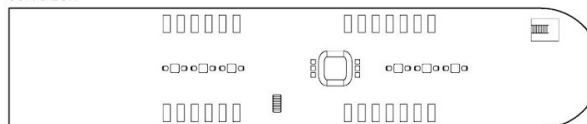
wildearth-travel.com

info@wildearth-travel.com

INSIDE YOUR SHIP

ABN RAJMAHAL

SUN DECK



UPPER DECK



MAIN DECK

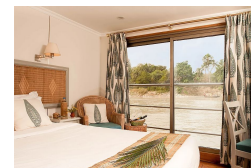


■ TWIN/DOUBLE CABIN (195.75 Sq. Ft.)
■ SINGLE CABIN (159.50 Sq. Ft.)

Main Deck Cabin



Main deck cabin for single occupancy



Upper Deck Cabin



Wild Earth Travel

Small Ships, Big Adventures

0800 945 3327 (within New Zealand) | +64 (0) 3 365 1355 | 1800 107 715 (within Australia)

info@wildearth-travel.com | wildearth-travel.com



PRICING

28-Aug-2025 to 04-Sep-2025

Main Deck Cabin	2765 USD pp
Main deck cabin for single occupancy	2765 USD pp
Upper Deck Cabin	3360 USD pp

02-Oct-2025 to 09-Oct-2025

Main Deck Cabin	3710 USD pp
Main deck cabin for single occupancy	3710 USD pp
Upper Deck Cabin	4305 USD pp

09-Oct-2025 to 16-Oct-2025

Main Deck Cabin	3710 USD pp
Main deck cabin for single occupancy	3710 USD pp
Upper Deck Cabin	4305 USD pp

03-Nov-2025 to 10-Nov-2025

Main deck cabin for single occupancy	3710 USD pp
Main Deck Cabin	3710 USD pp
Upper Deck Cabin	4305 USD pp

13-Nov-2025 to 20-Nov-2025

Main Deck Cabin	3710 USD pp
Main deck cabin for single occupancy	3710 USD pp
Upper Deck Cabin	4305 USD pp

20-Nov-2025 to 27-Nov-2025

Main deck cabin for single occupancy	3710 USD pp
Main Deck Cabin	3710 USD pp
Upper Deck Cabin	4305 USD pp

27-Nov-2025 to 04-Dec-2025

Main Deck Cabin	3710 USD pp
Main deck cabin for single occupancy	3710 USD pp
Upper Deck Cabin	4305 USD pp

04-Dec-2025 to 11-Dec-2025

Main Deck Cabin	3710 USD pp
Main deck cabin for single occupancy	3710 USD pp
Upper Deck Cabin	4305 USD pp

02-Feb-2026 to 09-Feb-2026

Main Deck Cabin	3710 USD pp
Main deck cabin for single occupancy	3710 USD pp
Upper Deck Cabin	4305 USD pp

12-Feb-2026 to 19-Feb-2026

Main Deck Cabin	3710 USD pp
Main deck cabin for single occupancy	3710 USD pp
Upper Deck Cabin	4305 USD pp



Wild Earth Travel

Small Ships, Big Adventures

wildearth-travel.com

info@wildearth-travel.com

19-Feb-2026 to 26-Feb-2026

Main Deck Cabin	3710 USD pp
------------------------	--------------------

Main deck cabin for single occupancy	3710 USD pp
---	--------------------

Upper Deck Cabin	4305 USD pp
-------------------------	--------------------

26-Feb-2026 to 05-Mar-2026

Main Deck Cabin	3710 USD pp
------------------------	--------------------

Main deck cabin for single occupancy	3710 USD pp
---	--------------------

Upper Deck Cabin	4305 USD pp
-------------------------	--------------------

Wild Earth Travel

Small Ships, Big Adventures

0800 945 3327 (within New Zealand) | +64 (0) 3 365 1355 | **1800 107 715** (within Australia)

info@wildearth-travel.com | **wildearth-travel.com**



PRICING

05-Mar-2026 to 12-Mar-2026

Main Deck Cabin	3710 USD pp
Main deck cabin for single occupancy	3710 USD pp
Upper Deck Cabin	4305 USD pp

19-Mar-2026 to 26-Mar-2026

Main Deck Cabin	3710 USD pp
Main deck cabin for single occupancy	3710 USD pp
Upper Deck Cabin	4305 USD pp