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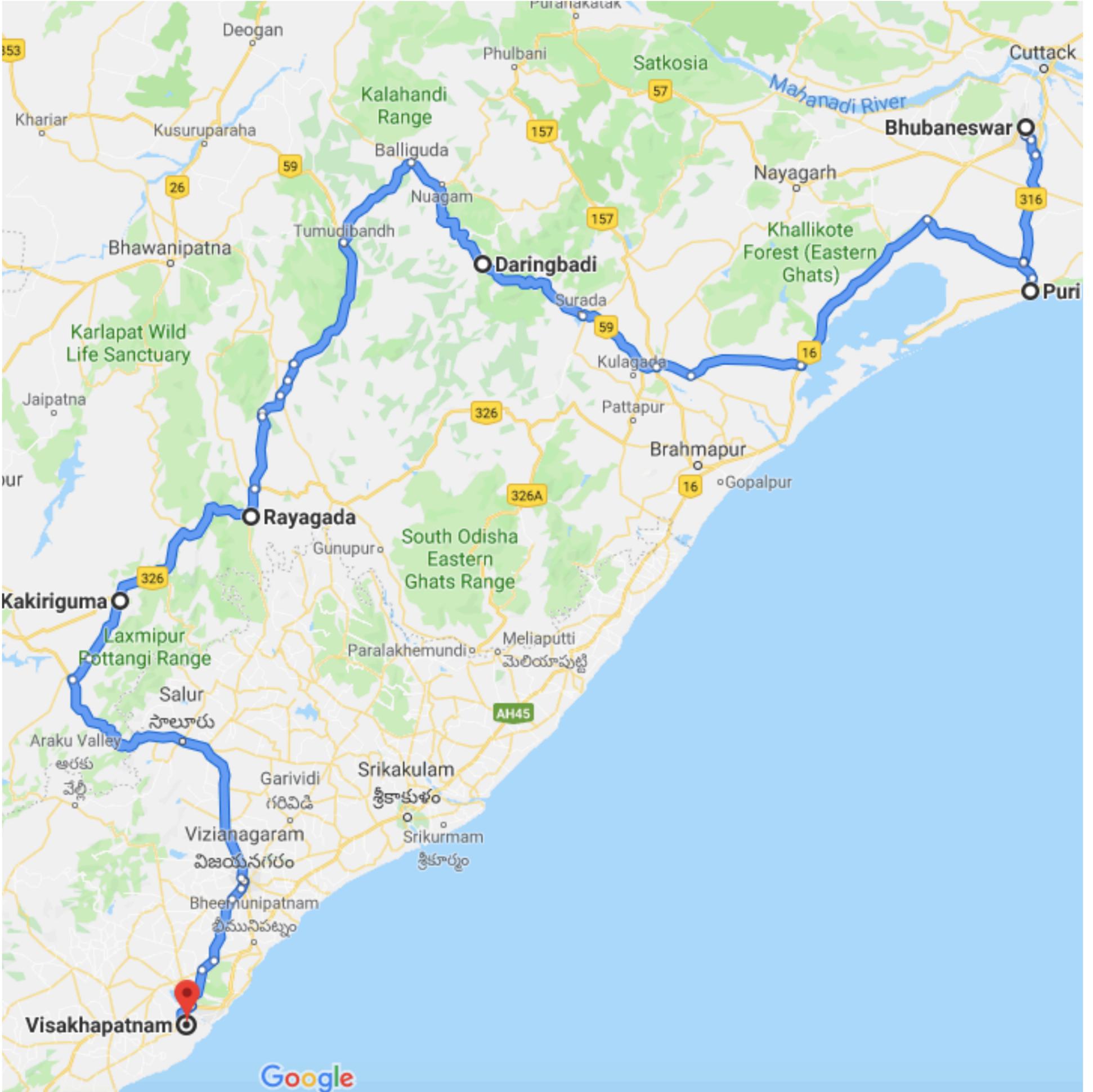
# ODISHA TRIBAL & EXPERIENCES TOUR

Bhubaneshwar - Puri - Daringbadi - Rayagada - Chandoori Sai - Vishakhapatnam

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# ROUTE MAP



## Description

Odisha is uniquely proud for the tinted spread of ethnic mosaic brought over by the 62 culturally vibrant tribes including 13 primitive tribal groups, who are found sprinkled all over the state.

### Day 01 Arrive Bhubaneswar

Welcome to Bhubaneswar – The Temple city of India. Meet and greet on arrival and transfer to Hotel. Being the seat of Tribhubaneswar or 'Lord Lingaraj', Bhubaneswar is an important Hindu pilgrimage centre.



Hundreds of temples dot the landscape of the Old Town, which once boasted of more than 2000 temples. It is the temple city Bhubaneswar that calls for attention, dotted as it is with temples — big, small, ancient and in clusters. Overnight at Hotel-Bhubaneswar.

### Day 02 Bhubaneswar

After breakfast visit the Temple City of Bhubaneswar, the Jain caves of Khandagiri-Udayagiri and the one and only Kal Bhoomi Museum.

Lingaraj Temple of Shiva built in the 11<sup>th</sup> century, it is also the biggest in Bhubaneswar. The temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva, also known as 'Lingaraj'. It is adorned with beautiful sculptures, which have been carved on the spire. Bindusagar Lake lying to the north of the Lingaraja Temple, is one of the popular tourist attractions of Bhubaneswar. Lingaraj Temple (Non Hindu are not allowed inside the temple. To be viewed from a platform outside). Mukteswar Temple, is one of the most prominent temples of

Bhubaneswar and has been constructed in the style that is quite similar to the one used in the Kalinga School of Temple Architecture. Rajarani Temple is one of the most renowned temples in Bhubaneswar, the capital city of Odisha. It is made from the wonderful red and gold sandstone, which is locally known as Rajarani and this is what gives the temple its name of 'Raja Rani'.

#### Kala Bhoomi

The crafts museum, spanning across 13 acres is divided into two blocks – handicrafts and handloom. The handicraft section exhibits unique artworks of Odisha craftsmen, the handloom section exhibits traditional textiles and weaves.

Items such as terracotta, paintings, dhokra and bell metal work, Pattachitra, wood carvings, household objects, ornaments, mythology/folklore depictions, palm-leaf paintings, etching, applique work, stone and wood carving and tribal art are also displayed in separate galleries.

Crafts Museum is closed on National Holidays. Opening Time : 10:00 hrs -17:00 hrs.



Afternoon visit the ancient caves of Khandagiri and Udaygiri which were carved and tunneled, to create this multi-storied ancient apartment residence for Jain monks. They were the work of the first known Odishan ruler, King Kharavela, and probably begun in the first century BC. Kharavela was a king of the Mahameghavahana dynasty, who is known for expansion of the Kalinga empire and his installation of public improvements, such as canal systems. His queen was evidently quite a patron of the arts, and probably had much to do with the impressive sculptural decoration of the caves.

Overnight at Hotel- Bhubaneswar.

Day 03 Bhubaneshwar/Pipli/Puri - 70Kms/1.5 Hrs



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After breakfast drive to Puri en-route visit of Pipli appliqué center.

**Pipli** – It's a centre for appliqué work, which depicts the essence of Oriya culture. It is also known for colorful and original awnings, canopies, garden and beach umbrellas, shoulder and handbags etc. The cocktail effect of the colors is certainly a feast for the eyes. Pipli, Odisha's appliqué capital, announces itself with loud colourful splashes of bright colour in the shop fronts.



Later proceed to Puri. Arrive Puri and check-in to hotel at Puri. (\*All hotels in Puri have check in / checkout at 0800 am)

For centuries now, the beach at Puri has been the venue of countless pilgrims taking the traditional purifying dip. However, for decades now, both Indian and foreign beach lovers have made it their special haunt. The fine golden sands of Puri beach and the roar of the breakers rolling in from the Bay of Bengal have fascinated visitors throughout the ages. As it is with all the beaches of Odisha, overcrowding is never a problem and the sight of holiday-makers having entire stretch of the beach to themselves is not uncommon. The local fishermen, with their catamarans and wide brimmed cane hats are welcomed by tourists .



Later in the day visit the Jagannath Temple at Puri which is one of the most sacred pilgrimage spots in India. This 12<sup>th</sup> century temple is dedicated to Lord Jagannath – “The Lord of the Universe”. The wooden figures of the three deities, Jagannath, Balabhadra and Subhadra stand in the sanctorium garlanded and decorated by the high priests.

(Non Hindus are not allowed inside the Jagannath temple and to be viewed from Raghunathan library platform. Sunday and all local holidays this platform is closed but one can view from outside and walk along the streets and interact with the local community. At the moment the Raghunathan library platform is

demolished and the temple can be now seen from outside across the street or private terrace-subject to local approval)

Overnight at Hotel-Puri



#### Day 04 Puri/Konark/Raghurajpur Village/ Puri - 120Kms (2.5 Hrs)

After breakfast proceed to visit the famous Sun Temple at Konarak.

The third link in the Odishan Golden Triangle, Konark is the site of one of the most spectacular examples of religious architecture in the world. The Sun Temple at Konark conceived as a massive chariot hauling the Sun God. This 13<sup>th</sup> century architectural marvel is one of the most magnificent monuments of the World and also a UNESCO World Heritage site. Also visit the local Fisherman's village and interact with the local community.

Afternoon visit of Raghurajpur crafts with interaction of the local community.

The big attraction at Raghurajpur and nearby villages is that the whole village community is involved in making some kind of handicraft. Many have even won national awards for their work. There are just over 100 households and 300 artisans in the village. You can wander around, check out the beautiful painted murals on the houses, chat to the friendly artisans and see them in action -- and of course shop! Pattachitra traditional cloth paintings are a specialty in the village, but the artisans make a wide variety of items including the palm leaf engravings, stone carvings, wood carvings, and wooden toys. Interact with the Chitrakars as they demonstrate their craftsmanship.



Overnight at Hotel-Puri

### Day 05 Puri/Mangalajodi/Daringbadi - 255Kms (6.5 Hrs)

After breakfast drive to Daringbadi enroute visit Mangalajodi Chilika Lake and local villages.



**Chilka Lake-** A vast lake along the eastern coast of Odisha with beautiful islands, migratory birds wading in the shallow waters and the air echoing with the chirping of birds from as far as the Caspian Sea, Aral Sea and other parts of Mongolia, Central and South-East Asia, that's the breath-taking beauty of Chilika-Asia's largest brackish water estuarine lake.

**Mangalajodi, Chilka Lake-** A community owned and managed wildlife conservation venture, Mangalajodi Ecotourism is your destination to get a peep into Mother Nature. Mangalajodi is a village located on the northern banks of Chilika Lake in Odisha, 'The Bird's Paradise' hosts more than 3,00,000 birds in its marshy waters, especially in winters.

Enjoy a country boat ride at Mangalajodi .Also visit the Mangalajodi village and interact with the fishing families.

Overnight at Daringbadi Nature Camp

### Day 06 Daringbadi/Baliguda/Kotgarh/Rayagada (Must be a Tue) - 210Kms/4.5 Hrs

After breakfast drive to Rayagada en-route visit of Baliguda and weekly tribal market at Kotgarh of Kutia Kondh tribe.

The Kondh Tribe- The Kondhs are one of the well known tribes of Orissa who were famous in history for their Meriah –Human Sacrifice.They are found almost in all the districts of Orissa but mostly concentrated in large numbers in Phulbani,Koraput and Ganjam districts.Kondh's life is full of festivities.The important festivals are at the time of sowing and harvesting. During festivals,feast is accompanied by singing,dancing and drinking.At the time of sowing seeds they worship Dharani Deota and make animal sacrifice to ensure good crop. The village women sing and dance joining hands and the boys standing around also sing and the entire atmosphere becomes joyous. During Sarupenu festival they resort to worship on the hills and enjoy the day with feasting and dancing. Their weapon is bow and arrow by which they defend themselves from wild animals.

Rayagada is a district of meadows, forests, waterfalls and terraced valleys, thickly inhabited by colourful ethnic and tribal groups. The scenic beauty and heritage on the land is an unexplored paradise. The systematic relationship between men and nature is a feast to the eyes of an outsider. A district of many charms, it is a thrill to the searching eyes with its own appeal.



Overnight at Hotel- Rayagada

### Day 07 Rayagada/Chatikona/Kakiriguma (Must be a Wed) - 285Kms/5.5 Hrs

After breakfast, visit the weekly Wednesday market of the Dongriya Kondhas at Chatikona - Here the Dongriya Kondhas trek down from their villages up the Hill with forest produce to sell or barter with non-tribals. Dongriya Kondhas are one of the original ethnic tribal groups of Odisha who have retained their culture and tradition till

date. The Dongria family is often nuclear, although extended families are found. Female family members are considered assets because of their contribution inside and outside the household and women are on equal footing with the male members in constructing a house to cultivation. Women do all the work for household ranging from fetching water from the distant streams, cooking, serving food to each member of the household to cultivating, harvesting and marketing of produce in the market. Due to this, the bride price is paid to her parents when she gets married which is a striking feature of the Dongrias.



Afternoon visit to Chandoori Sai.

Chandoori Sai is a one-of-a-kind, elegant eco-lodge in its own two acre garden. The entire building, with its large lounge-cum-dining hall and adjacent rooms is constructed with locally burnt bricks. The

walls are finished with mud and cow-dung and painted in natural colors. Overnight at Chandoori Sai-Kakiriguma.

### Day 08 Kakiriguma/Onukudell/Kakiriguma (Must be a Thurs) - 235 Kms/5.5 Hrs

After an early breakfast visit the weekly Thursday market of the Bondas at Onkudelli and also spend some time at the nearby Duduma waterfall and enjoy the spectacular view of the mountains and valleys close to the nature.

Today visit the home of the approximately 6000 members of the famed Bonda Tribes—one of the most fascinating tribes of the Country. They live in the remote hills and keep themselves isolated. They grow rice by shifting cultivation and keep domesticated cows and goats. They can only be seen when they come to trade at the local weekly Thursday market. In Bonda society, the women enjoy a privileged position. They are the primary workers and providers of food for the community. Bonda girls largely marry boys who are at least five to ten years younger than them. Thus the girl looks after her husband as he grows up and in turn he cares for his elder wife.



Visit another ethnic tribal group of the Gadabbas. Both men and women tie their long hairs with linseed oil and decorate it with forestry flowers and different ornaments. The women wear a long strip of cloth tied around the waist and a second piece of cloth is worn across the breasts and tied over one shoulder. Overnight at Chandoori Sai Kakiriguma.



## Day 09 Kakiriguma/Kunduli/Kakiriguma (Must be a Friday) - 135Kms/5.5 Hrs

After breakfast proceed to visit another interesting Paraja tribe assembles at Kunduli every Friday-one of the largest weekly market. The Parajas are divided into different sub-groups viz., Sodra, Jadia and Parenga; each of them seems to be a separate ethnic group. The Parajas have a number of totemistic septs like Bagh-tiger, Bokda-goat, Netam-Dog, Pandki-Dove, and the like, and harming or eating the totem animal is forbidden. Instead such animals should be respected. They also worship various gods and goddesses residing in hills or forests.



Later visit Nandapur which was the ancient capital of Jeypore Kingdom. The great image of Ganapati and throne with 32 steps are the main attractions of this place. The place is of great historical importance as researchers have acquired materials connected to its antiquity. Some say that the village has derived its name from the famous Nanda dynasty of Magadha, which was supposed to have ruled over this area. The presence of Batrisa-Simhasana (Throne with 32 steps) has led some to believe that it was once a part of the empire of the great Vikramaditya. On return visit also Koraput Jagannath temple as in this place Non Hindus are allowed inside the temple.

Overnight at Chandoori Sai Kakiriguma.

## Day 10 Chandoori Sai/Vishakhapatnam Airport - 225Kms/5.5 Hrs

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