

DNHG Andaman Islands
3-8 April 2015

Binish Roobas has organised a customised DNHG visit to the Andaman Islands, a remote archipelago in the Bay of Bengal between India and Myanmar.

The Andamans are blessed with a luxuriant evergreen tropical rainforest that shelters a mixed flora comprising Indian, Myanmarese, Malaysian and endemic plant species. So far, about 2200 varieties of plants have been recorded, out of which 200 are endemic and 1300 do not occur in mainland India. Despite their isolation from adjacent land masses, the Andamans are surprisingly rich in animals, with about 50 species of mammals, 270 species of birds, 64 species of reptiles, 225 species of butterflies and a wide variety of shells and corals. More than 10% are endemic to the Andaman Islands.

The planned itinerary is as follows:

Day 1: Fly to Andamans and get together at our hotel.

Day 2: Mangrove 'walk and wade': A guided trail through the intertidal mangrove forest and mudflats of Lohabarrack crocodile sanctuary. Afternoon sunset boat trip.

Day 3: Early morning bird-watching (Wandoor Chidya Tapu, Mt. Harriett). A local naturalist will accompany the group. Evening at Wandoor beach.

Day 4: Samudrika Marine Museum and Anthropological Museum. Afternoon shopping trip to Port Blair and visit the infamous jail.

Day 5: Cinque Islands boat trip. Night owl watching with naturalist.

Day 6: Depart for airport and return to Dubai.

- Limit 10 people. Accommodation will be in an unpretentious resort.

- Estimated basic cost: AED 2300 (sharing) or AED 2600 (single), including accommodation, meals, road and boat transportation and entrance fees, but *excluding* airfare and Indian visa. (An Indian visa must be obtained *in advance*.)

- Estimated R/T airfare from Dubai (via Chennai): starting from 2000 AED.

For more information and sign-up, contact Binish Roobas at johanruphus@hotmail.com or 050-243-8737.

A deposit of AED 1500 will be required for sign-up.