

Pugdundee Safaris Transforming Local Lives

**Kings Lodge, Bandhavgarh
Pench Tree Lodge, Pench
Denwa Backwater Escape, Satpura**

**Treehouse Hideaway, Bandhavgarh
Ken River Lodge, Panna
Kanha Earth Lodge, Kanha**



Training and team building.

Strong local recruitment and training underpinned by good working relationships with local Panchayats ensures that Pugdundee Safari's lodges are delivering economic benefits to local communities. Between 70-80% of their lodge employees are from the local community. Many casual workers who joined them during construction are now an integral part of the team with training enhancing skills and supporting many employees up the ladder.

Employment ensures good salary standards, accommodation, recreational facilities and nutritious food with medical insurance cover included in the package.

DEVELOPING LOCAL SKILLS



Rohit Patle from the neighbouring tribal village of Dhanwar (1 km from the lodge), joined Pugdundee's team in 2008 as an errand boy. With his commitment, hard work, training and experience, he is now Assistant Lodge Manager and part of the management team. Well trained in accounts, supervision, guest relations and front of house, he can just as easily don the hat of a naturalist and has led the company's walking safari taking charge of more than 40 guests and 25 local boys.

DEVELOPING LOCAL SKILLS



Naresh Singh or Gudda as he is popularly known, came from a poor rural background in Tala village in Bandhavgarh and has become a top-rated naturalist thanks to Pugdundee Safaris' in-house training. He is popularly requested by guests and is an icon amongst locals – inspiring others.

More than 70% of lodge supplies are locally sourced from marginal farms and tribal village markets helping to boost the local economy. Kanha Earth Lodge runs a Baadi Project, a small cooperative farming venture with four families and what they grow is purchased by the lodge. Seeds, technical assistance and supervision are provided by the lodge.