



Making Memories Misery:
How GetYourGuide Profits
from Animal Cruelty



Introduction

At a dilapidated aquarium in Miami, Florida, a dolphin with acute trauma is found dead at the bottom of a tank. At a historical fort in Jaipur, India, an elephant is beaten with bullhooks and forced to give rides to tourists. In the Cayman Islands, a terrified turtle dies after a visitor picks her up and drops her, cracking her shell. These tragedies may appear unrelated, but one company, GetYourGuide, sells tickets and experiences for each of these venues, and many more like them, every day.

GetYourGuide is a global travel company that sells more than 118,000 “locally-vetted, expertly-curated experiences” in 150 countries.¹ Among its offerings are architectural walking tours, pasta making, and **cruel and dangerous experiences with wild animals**.

GetYourGuide is Expanding in the US

The company’s current customer base is predominantly European with only a quarter of customers living in the US. GetYourGuide is spending big money to change that. In early 2024, the company launched an aggressive North American brand campaign running TV ads during high-profile events like March Madness and the Academy Awards.² If GetYourGuide expands without implementing an animal welfare policy, more animals will suffer.

GetYourGuide Is Falling Behind Competitors

Other global travel companies have taken important steps to protect wild animals in tourism. For example, Airbnb, Booking.com, and The Travel Corporation have removed captive wildlife venues from their sites. World Animal Protection has worked with travel companies in the US and around the world to create animal welfare policies. But as the industry moves forward, GetYourGuide has made zero effort to protect wild animals.

What’s in This Exposé

A World Animal Protection survey of GetYourGuide’s offerings reveals the travel company is selling to some of the worst captive wildlife venues in the world where animals endure abusive training, receive inadequate food and water, and are forced into frightening interactions with people.³ Venues sold on GetYourGuide exploit a wide range of animals, including dolphins, elephants, alligators, parrots, nonhuman primates, turtles, and sloths.



Cover photo: *An elephant chained in Thailand*

Below is a closer look at some of the venues GetYourGuide sells to, as well as the stories of the animals suffering inside them.

Cruel Interactions with Wild Animals

Venues that offer interactions with captive wild animals use a variety of terms from “experiences” to “encounters” to “meet-and-greets.” Key examples of interactions include handfeeding, touching, holding, bathing, taking photos with, and swimming. To enable these interactions, animals are restrained, coerced through abusive training, denied food, or enclosed in such a small space that they do not have a choice about whether to participate.

- Forcing wild animals to engage with humans and stripping them of the freedom to retreat can be highly stressful and causes mental and physical **suffering**.⁴
- Interactions can be extremely **dangerous** for both animals and humans. Despite these risks, venues often promote these types of interactions specifically to children.



An elephant is threatened with a bullhook at Bali Zoo.

Dolphins

Globally, more than 3,000 dolphins are held in small concrete tanks and sea pens and forced to swim with tourists or perform tricks at noisy shows.⁵ The Dolphin Company owns 23 dolphinariums under different brands across eight countries including Mexico, the Caribbean, the US, and Italy.⁶ GetYourGuide sells more than 40 offers for the Dolphin Company, including to Miami Seaquarium and multiple Dolphin Discovery locations.⁷

Dolphin Discovery (Mexico, Caribbean, US)

Swim-with-dolphins facilities that sell interactions with dolphins, sea lions, manatees, sharks, and sting rays

- *Confines dolphins and other marine animals to concrete tanks and sea pens thousands of times smaller than their home range.*⁸
- *Coerces dolphins to swim with, carry, and pose with a stream of tourists seeking photos.*
- *Forces dolphins into high-risk interactions with humans that can result in severe injury. A child was attacked in 2019.*



A dolphin in a concrete tank in Mexico. World Animal Protection / Luis A. Rojas.

Dolphins Confined to Tiny Tanks and Sea Pens

Marine animals at Dolphin Discovery are confined to tanks or sea pens—small netted-off areas in the ocean.

- Tanks (both at Dolphin Discovery and all aquariums) are not designed for the well-being of the dolphins. Surfaces are intentionally smooth, featureless, and light-colored. This improves visibility for guests but provides no stimulation or retreat (hiding spaces) for dolphins.⁹
- Chlorine and other caustic chemicals used to disinfect tank water can cause severe eye and skin problems.¹⁰
- Sites for sea pens are chosen based on tourist and cruise traffic, so pens are near pollution and leaking boat fuel. Animals are exposed to high levels of sound that can cause stress and hearing damage. Many sea pens are also vulnerable to catastrophic weather such as hurricanes, and the trapped animals have no way to escape.¹¹

Bored and frustrated, dolphins continually grind their teeth against tanks or bite down on metal bars. This results in their teeth breaking and wearing down to the gums.¹²

“These poor dolphins are not in any kind of natural habitat. It’s a tiny pool enclosure area situated in a tourist trap location of off the ships (sic) pier. The water was mucky, cloudy, smelly and simply gross” – TripAdvisor review of Dolphin Discovery Costa Maya¹³



Dolphins at an undisclosed dolphinarium in Mexico. World Animal Protection / Luis A. Rojas.

Dangerous Interactions with Dolphins

Captive dolphins have seriously injured humans, causing lacerations and broken bones.¹⁴ Bites are commonplace, with many incidents of children being bitten during feeding interactions.¹⁵ In 2019, a ten-year-old girl was attacked by dolphins at a Dolphin Discovery, resulting in deep bite marks, cuts, and bruising.¹⁶

Makaiko

Makaiko was a bottlenose dolphin who was born in 1996 in the Pacific Ocean. He was separated from his family and captured during the notorious Taiji dolphin hunt where hundreds of dolphins are slaughtered or sold to marine parks and swim-with-dolphin facilities. Makaiko was moved between several dolphinariums before arriving at a facility in Isla Mujeres where he endured hours of training every day. When he didn't comply, he was denied food.

In the too-warm water, and without adequate shade, Makaiko developed skin irritations, fungus infections, and became sunburned. Eventually, Makaiko was sent to the Isla Mujeres Dolphin Discovery where he spent the last four years of his life in a sea pen. He performed tricks for guests daily until he became tangled in nets and died.¹⁷



Makaiko and Lorena Kya Lopez, a former marine mammal trainer who now speaks out against the industry.

Miami Seaquarium (MSQ) (Florida, US)

Marine amusement park with numerous welfare violations and animal deaths

- More than 117 dolphins and whales have died. Indigo, a dolphin, was found dead at the bottom of a tank from acute trauma and pulmonary shock.¹⁸
- MSQ's infrastructure is crumbling. Disintegrating concrete and drywall, peeling paint, and mold endangers guests and animals.
- Tokitae, a 56-year-old female orca, was held in the smallest tank in North America and used in performances for more than 50 years.¹⁹

MSQ is a marine amusement park with a laundry list of animal welfare violations for issues including lack of veterinary care, structurally unsound facilities, and inappropriate housing of marine mammals that has resulted in animal deaths. Miami-Dade County is in the process of terminating the park's lease for poor animal care and failure to pay rent.²⁰



Penguins at Miami Seaquarium are held in a small, poorly ventilated building with what appears to be black mold. Dario Endara / We Animals Media.

Animal Welfare Act Violations and Animal Deaths

Scathing inspection reports from the US Department of Agriculture, which regulates animal exhibitors in the US, reveal MSQ is a barely-functioning facility. Recent Animal Welfare Act violations include:²¹

- Incompatible housing of animals resulting in injuries and deaths, such as:
 - Abaco, a bottlenose dolphin, who was found dead at the bottom of the tank after his rostrum (beak) became stuck in the fence. His necropsy revealed he also had injuries from being attacked.
 - Echo, a bottlenose dolphin, who was found dead from acute neck trauma following a dolphin attack.
- Various tanks and surrounding structures in states of disrepair.
 - Sections of the fencing between dolphin tanks were held together only with zip-ties, allowing two dolphins to break into another pool and seriously injure a medically fragile dolphin, breaking at least four of her ribs.
 - The penguin enclosure has peeling paint and chunks of drywall are breaking off.
 - In the parrot trailer, the wall behind one of the cages is still damaged from a parrot chewing through the metal bars and strips of paint are peeling off the ceiling.



An employee rides two dolphins during a show at Miami Seaquarium. Dario Endara / We Animals Media.

Sundance

Sundance, a 33-year-old bottlenose dolphin, died in December 2023 at MSQ after being used to entertain crowds for more than three decades. The previous month, Sundance had been showing signs of gastric distress, suggesting he was suffering from ulcers or had ingested foreign bodies. However, because MSQ lacked basic veterinary equipment, the veterinarian was unable to perform an endoscopy to confirm the diagnosis and provide treatment.²² Despite Sundance's serious condition, he was used in all of MSQ's holiday shows.²³ He died shortly after Christmas.



The pool where MSQ holds dolphin shows. Sundance was kept here.

Elephants

Thousands of elephants are held in captivity for the tourism industry across Asia. Many of these elephants must perform tricks, carry guests on their backs, and let people touch, wash, and pose with them. They may be chained, beaten, fed poor diets, and receive inadequate—if any—veterinary care.²⁴

Regardless of the setting, elephants cannot thrive in captivity. Studies have found elephants in captivity experience shorter lifespans, behavior problems, development of chronic diseases, and limited reproductive success—indicators of impaired physical and psychological well-being.²⁵

At the time of writing, GetYourGuide was selling hundreds of experiences that exploit elephants. Many of the experiences include photos of elephants being ridden, bathed, and painted.

Amer Fort (Jaipur, India)²⁶

A popular tourist destination in Rajasthan where 81 elephants carry tourists up a crippling climb in extreme temperatures.

- *Elephants are beaten, often kept chained at night, and sometimes left to stand in their own feces.*
- *Most elephants have health problems, including blindness, issues with their foot pads, abscessed eyes, and open wounds on their backs from the seat used to carry people.*
- *Frightened elephants have severely injured tourists and locals. Recently a tourist broke her legs after being slammed to the ground.*



Elephants at Amer Fort.

Amer Fort, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is a former palace and military base of the maharaja of Jaipur. Every day, more than 5,000 people visit Amer Fort to admire its architecture—and the elephants who give rides to entertain tourists.²⁷

Elephants at Amer Fort Receive Severely Inadequate Care

Elephants at Amer Fort are beaten and sometimes kept chained at night. Many elephants display abnormal behavior such as repetitive swaying and head-bobbing, indicating extreme distress. Worked all day with little rest, many suffer from health issues including untreated wounds on their backs, abscesses, and problems with their feet. Some of the elephants are blind or have blood disorders. Carrying the weight of tourists for hours every day causes skin and muscle injuries in elephants, whose spines are not built to carry heavy loads.

They are fed an inappropriate diet, which can further exacerbate health conditions. Visitors have reported seeing elephants with inadequate water or no water at all.



Elephants at Amer Fort suffer from many health issues. Shubhobroto Ghosh / World Animal Protection.

Elephant Interactions Are a Public Safety Risk

More people are killed or severely injured by captive elephants than any other wild animal held in captivity.²⁸ In February 2024, a female elephant named Gouri used her trunk to grab a Russian tourist and slam her into the ground. Gouri also severely injured a shopkeeper in October 2022.²⁹ These attacks occur not because elephants are aggressive but the result of forcing wild animals into unnatural behaviors and situations.

Elephants in Amer Fort have repeatedly tested positive for contagious tuberculosis, which can potentially be spread to humans. Captive elephants are highly susceptible to tuberculosis, and Asian elephants are more susceptible than other elephant species.³⁰ Though the government has directed Amer Fort to quarantine TB-positive elephants, the problem persists.³¹ Symptoms of infection are hard to detect until the disease becomes active which makes it difficult to manage its spread.³²

Rangoli

One of the oldest working elephants at Amer Fort, 51-year-old Rangoli has suffered her entire life to entertain tourists. She was likely caught from the wild as a baby, endured the severe trauma of being forcibly separated from her mother, and put through a cruel and intensive “breaking-in” process to make her submissive enough to give rides. During this process, young elephants are tied to wooden structures and hit with hooks, sticks, or sharp metal objects. Today and every day, Rangoli carries tourists on her back, walking up and down the hard cobblestone roads to the top of the hill. She is hit or threatened with bullhooks on the most sensitive parts of her body to keep her compliant. At night, she is sometimes chained, sometimes standing in her own feces, waiting until morning when she will work again.³³



Rangoli, an elephant at Amer Fort.

Elephant Pseudo-sanctuaries (Thailand)

Numerous fake “sanctuaries” for elephants in Thailand sell on GetYourGuide. These elephant camps brand themselves as sanctuaries, refuges, rescues, or conservation centers but may not prioritize the elephants’ well-being. This is to mislead visitors and increase ticket sales.

In reality, these facilities:

- Allow visitors to engage in stressful encounters with elephants (including touching, bathing, posing, and painting their bodies).
- Often breed or buy elephants to maintain the population to continue selling tickets.

Humanewashing Cruelty

Legitimate sanctuaries do not breed animals, nor do they allow visitors to interact with wild animals, including touching, bathing, or posing with elephants. Searching for “animal activities” in Thailand on GetYourGuide brings up multiple “sanctuaries” that allow these kinds of interactions.³⁴

Growing awareness among tourists that elephant riding is cruel has ironically resulted in a boom of elephant washing venues, with the number of venues in Thailand offering elephant bathing more than tripling. As many tourists reject elephant riding, they’re now being encouraged to bathe and take selfies with elephants. But seemingly “benign” interactions like bathing and posing for photos inflict just as much suffering. Making elephants engage in unnatural activities like being bathed by people requires intensive, abusive training.³⁵



Tourists bathe elephants at a Thailand elephant camp. The setup is intended to mimic a car wash. World Animal Protection / Tom Svensson.

Elephants used in close encounters have usually undergone a traumatic training method called the “crush,” where young elephants are taken from their mothers, isolated, deprived of food and water, and beaten repeatedly. This practice is associated with the development of post-traumatic stress disorders and increased mortality of calves even years later.³⁶ To control these elephants as adults, handlers repeatedly hit them with bullhooks.



Tourists pose for photos with elephants at a Thailand elephant camp. World Animal Protection / Tom Svensson.

Breeding Elephants to Sell Tickets

The population of elephants used for tourism in Thailand is sustained through captive breeding, a form of wildlife farming.³⁷ Many elephant camps are breeding or buying elephants to maintain a population so they can continue selling tickets. These babies are being born into a lifetime of abusive training.

“...a sanctuary is a facility that rescues and provides shelter and care for animals that have been abused, injured, abandoned or otherwise in need. There can be no commercial trade, no invasive or intrusive research, no unescorted public visitation or contact in wild animal sanctuaries, no removal of wild animals for exhibition, education, or research” – The Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries³⁸

Sloths

Over the last decade, selfies with wild animals on social media platforms, particularly Instagram, have skyrocketed.³⁹ Daniel Johnson’s Monkey and Sloth Hangout is part of this problem.

Daniel Johnson’s Monkey and Sloth Hangout (Roatán, Honduras)

Pseudosanctuary that offers ziplining, ATV riding, and encounters with wild animals

- Sloths and monkeys are passed between tourists for photos in chaotic environments.
- Interactions with humans cause monkeys and sloths stress and anxiety.

At Daniel Johnson’s Monkey and Sloth Hangout, visitors pay to hold and take photos with monkeys, sloths, and parrots. It describes itself as a “small family run sanctuary” but it offers interactions with wild animals that no authentic sanctuary would offer.⁴⁰

Sloths Suffering for a Selfie

The sloth's gentle demeanor and facial markings that give the impression they're smiling has made them popular among Latin American wildlife venues selling wild animal interactions to tourists. But these interactions are highly stressful and frightening to sloths.⁴¹ Sloths' quiet, docile nature makes it easier for venues to exploit them.

"Sloth selfies" also endanger sloths' health and safety. Sloths are arboreal (tree-dwelling), and in their natural environment, their bodies are supported by branches. When tourists take photos with sloths, it's usually the first time they've touched a sloth, and many hold them without providing the support they need. Further, sloths are sensitive animals with extremely slow metabolisms that require them to sleep between 15 and 18 hours daily.⁴² At venues like the Monkey and Sloth Hangout, sloths' sleep patterns are usually disrupted so they can be used in photo ops throughout the day. Repeated handling, continual exposure to flash photography, and restricted movement in captivity put them at risk of injury and premature death.



A woman takes a selfie with a sloth in South America. World Animal Protection / Nando Machado.

Spotlight on Bali

Thousands of wild animals are held in ramshackle zoos and dolphinariums across Bali and Lombok in Indonesia. World Animal Protection investigated 34 popular wildlife venues on these islands in both 2018 and 2023. The majority of the venues do not meet even the basic needs of animals, and there is currently no ethical way to observe wild animals in Bali and Lombok.⁴³ GetYourGuide sells to multiple venues highlighted in our investigation.⁴⁴

Bali Zoo⁴⁵

The Bali Zoo is a large facility holding more than 500 wild animals. Visitors are allowed to interact with numerous animals. For example, our investigator witnessed:

- An orangutan displayed in a food court so people could take selfies. At one point, a person stuck their fingers into the orangutan's nose.
- Overloaded elephants giving rides to tourists.
- A pangolin held on a small platform, with no place to retreat, so crowds could touch and take pictures of them.



Tourists ride an elephant at the Bali Zoo. Andito Wasi.



A person sticks his fingers into an orangutan's nose at the Bali Zoo.

Lovina Beach⁴⁶

At Lovina Beach, dolphin watching companies engage in risky practices that endanger the free-roaming dolphins. During the peak season, more than 100 boats swarm the waters of Lovina, chasing down juvenile dolphins. Businesses compete to get tourists as close to the dolphins as possible. All boats observed failed to give dolphins adequate space or turn off the engines when near the animals, creating a noisy and stressful environment. Investigators observed a boat striking a dolphin, and the welfare of the animal is unknown.



Dolphins surrounded by boats at Lovina Beach. Andito Wasi.

Bali Safari Marine Park

The Bali Safari Marine Park sells elephant riding, interactions with orangutans and other animals, and makes elephants, orangutans, and tigers perform in shows.

- Tigers perform under blaring music for large crowds of cheering visitors.
- Coercing elephants to perform requires frightening, punishment-based training. Elephants must hold unnatural positions which are not only painful but cause long-term health problems including joint deformities, inability to walk, and hernias.⁴⁷



An elephant performs at Bali Safari Marine Park. Andito Wasi.

Ubud Sacred Monkey Forest

Guides lure and encourage macaques with food to sit on tourists so they can take photos. These kinds of interactions are dangerous for humans and monkeys and can negatively alter monkeys' natural behavior, including increased aggression to humans when trying to get food. Multiple tourists have been bitten by monkeys, including children.⁴⁸

Alligators and Turtles

Alligator and crocodile-themed zoos that offer “gator wrestling” shows and photo ops with restrained reptiles are popular in Florida and Australia. At aquariums and turtle farms, turtles are repeatedly handled by masses of tourists.

Despite misperceptions about reptile sentience, reptiles are intelligent animals who experience emotions like happiness and anxiety.⁴⁹ Like all animals, they need the freedom to explore and choose who they interact with in order to thrive. These shows and encounters are frightening and dangerous to them.

GetYourGuide sells tickets to multiple alligator and crocodile zoos as well as sea turtle venues.⁵⁰

Gatorland (Florida, US)

Alligator-themed zoo that runs cruel alligator shows and offers wild animal encounters

- *Employees carry, drag, and manipulate alligators’ bodies during shows.*
- *Visitors pay to sit on and pose with alligators whose mouths are taped shut.*

Traumatic Alligator Interactions and Performances

During Gatorland’s “Alligators: Legends of the Swamp” show, staff sit on alligators, drag them by their tails out of the water and across a sand-filled stage, and stick their chins in the alligators’ mouths.⁵¹ A World Animal Protection investigator witnessed an alligator repeatedly attempt to escape as the employee used his full body weight to pin the alligator down.

Prior to the show, children and adults lined up to sit on a large alligator, whose mouth was taped shut, and have their photo taken.⁵² In a separate area, children waited in line to hold a juvenile alligator, whose mouth was also taped shut, as well as a snake for a photo. None of the animals used in the photos had an opportunity to retreat.⁵³ The snake and juvenile alligator were held continuously by the two employees running the photo area and passed back and forth between new customers.

Tying alligators’ jaws shut and manually restraining them causes extreme stress.⁵⁴ One study determined that physical restraint was more stressful for crocodiles than stun guns, taking up to eight hours for blood stress levels to lower after being restrained between two and 15 minutes.⁵⁵



Example of alligator “wrestling.”

Gatorland's Deadly Budgie Barn

Gatorland confines hundreds of budgies (budgerigars, also called parakeets) to a free-flight aviary where guests interact with them. In so-called "budgie barns," birds are routinely stomped to death or have their legs broken due to the high density of birds and human traffic through them.

Many guests at budgie barns are children who do not know how to interact with delicate birds in a way to avoid injury. During World Animal Protection's visit, the sole employee in the barn reminded guests several times to "slide their feet" to prevent hurting the birds. But there were more than 50 guests in the small area, and at least 15 children, five of whom were toddlers.

Further, keeping this many birds in a single location makes it impossible for venues to differentiate between individuals and provide appropriate care. In a 2023 USDA inspection report, Gatorland was cited for having no written program of veterinary care for the birds. The inspector also discovered a dead budgie in the avian holding area.⁵⁶ In February 2024, the USDA issued an official warning for failure to establish and maintain a veterinary care program.⁵⁷

"A massive amount of the birds are on the ground getting dropped seed while the large group of people are walking, stepping, kids are running and they are crushing these poor exploited parrots. I watched 5+ of them get crushed, legs fractured at the least. Hobbling away dragging their legs, unable to fly, panicked...I reported this to the staff but they shrugged it off and just moved onto the next group..." –

TripAdvisor review of Gatorland

Cayman Turtle Centre (West Bay, Cayman Islands)

The only large-scale turtle farm in the world, Cayman Turtle Centre (CTF) confines thousands of endangered green sea turtles to kill them for their meat and use them in tourist encounters.

- Sells encounters with terrified turtles.
- Sick and stressed turtles bite and maim each other.

Sea turtles are solitary, migratory animals who swim long distances across the ocean. At Cayman Turtle Centre, they're crammed into small, filthy tanks with thousands of other turtles.⁵⁸



A tourist holds sea turtles at Cayman Turtle Centre.

Turtles Mishandled by Tourists

At CTF, visitors hold, kiss, and hug turtles continuously. Guests are allowed to swim and stand inside tanks and pools. Sea turtles are particularly shy around humans. When handled, turtles are prone to panicking and intensively flapping their flippers, causing fractures and detached claws.⁵⁹ Sometimes tourists accidentally drop sea turtles while they're panicking which can cause serious injury, like a broken shell, or death.⁶⁰

Turtles Crammed Together in Dirty, Bacteria-Filled Enclosures

Turtles are confined to small tanks that do not allow them to engage in natural behaviors like diving and foraging for food which results in anxious and sick turtles who bite and injure one another. Turtles at CTF have adopted unusual behaviors not seen in their counterparts in the wild such as frenzied feeding, hyperactivity, boundary exploration, and congregating in large numbers at the water's surface which indicates stress.⁶¹ This is likely caused by their inappropriate and restrictive environment.⁶²

"All you could see was this frothing bed of turtle heads coming up to the surface. They were constantly fighting to get to the surface to breathe. All the turtles you could see had injuries and bite marks from the others that were stacked on top of each other." – Former employee at Cayman Turtle Centre⁶³



At the Cayman Turtle Centre, turtles are held in shallow, dirty enclosures.

GetYourGuide Must Adopt an Animal Welfare Policy

GetYourGuide must enact a comprehensive, publicly available animal welfare policy that protects animals and travelers. World Animal Protection has tried to work with GetYourGuide for several years, but the company refuses to sincerely engage in meaningful dialogue and recently cut off contact.

The venues above are only a fraction of the exploitative experiences sold on GetYourGuide. For example, GetYourGuide also sells to:

- Crocosaurus Cove (Darwin City, Australia)⁶⁴ – Crocodile-themed zoo that sells photo ops with crocodiles and a “cage of death” where people are placed in a plastic tube and put into a pool with an adult crocodile.
- Loro Parque (Tenerife, Spain)⁶⁵ – Marine park and zoo where orcas and dolphins are confined to small tanks to perform for guests. Between 2021 and 2022, three young orcas died in less than 18 months.⁶⁶
- Swimming with Pink river dolphins (Manaus, Brazil)⁶⁷ – Free-ranging Pink river dolphins are routinely baited with fish so tourists can take photos with them. In addition to negatively impacting the dolphins’ natural behavior, sores have been observed under dolphins’ chins and flippers where guides typically grab the animals.⁶⁸

The tourism industry has a responsibility to provide experiences that don’t exploit animals or endanger their customers. Instead of fueling cruel businesses, travel companies should be educating the public about compassionate and sustainable travel. We’ve worked with leading global tourism companies including Airbnb, Booking, Expedia, and TripAdvisor to change their animal welfare policies. Leading travel companies have already adopted wildlife-friendly policies while GetYourGuide falls behind. As the list of wildlife-friendly companies grows, GetYourGuide increasingly stands out as a company that doesn’t care who suffers—as long as it improves their bottom line.



Elephants give rides in Thailand.

Endnotes

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Endnotes

- 26 GetYourGuide sells multiple experiences that include elephant riding at Amer Fort. The description for "[Jaipur Private Trip By Car from Delhi](#)" states, "Ride, feed, and bathe these magnificent [elephants], uncovering the secrets of their care and training." Another experience, "[Jaipur Sameday Tour By Car](#)," states, "Amber Fort. Explore its palaces, courtyards, and enjoy an elephant ride."
- 27 Elephants used in Amer Fort are moved in and out frequently. World Animal Protection monitors Amer Fort and estimates 81 elephants are present as of spring 2024.
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- 29 "[At Rajasthan's Amer Fort, Elephant Gouri's Rides Halted.](#)" India West Journal, July 7, 2023; Daniel Binns. "[Tourist's leg broken after elephant attack.](#)" Sky News, February 28, 2024.
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