Ranthambore National park

Ranthambore boasts being home to a large number of mammals, reptile, and bird species. The national park in Rajasthan is primarily known as the home to Royal Bengal Tigers. Other than this, the national park also has a rich population of leopards, sloth bears, several deer species like chital (spotted deer), marsh crocodile, palm civet, jackal, desert fox, serpent eagle, waterfowl that along with others make 40 species of mammals, 35 species of reptiles and 320 species of birds.

The popular wild animals in Ranthambore includes Tigers, Leopards, Striped Hyenas, Sambar deer, Chital, Nilgai, Common or Hanuman langurs, Macaques, Jackals, Jungle cats, Caracals, Sloth bears, Black bucks, Rufoustailed Hare, Indian Wild Boar, Chinkara, Common Palm Civets or Toddy cat, Coomon Yellow Bats, Desert Cats, Fivestriped Palm Squirels, Indian False Vampires, Indian Flying Foxes, Indian Foxes, Indian Gerbilles, Indian Mole Rats, Indian Porcupines, Longeared Hedgehogs, Ratels, Small Indian Mongoose, Small Indian Civets and Common mongoose.

The park also has a large number of marsh crocs Reptiles, Snub Nosed Marsh Crocodiles, Desert Monitor Lizards, Tortoise, Banded Kraits, Cobras, Common Kraits, Ganga Soft Shelled Turtles, Indian Pythons, North Indian Flap Shelled Turtles, Rat Snakes, Russel’s Vipers, Saw-scaled Vipers and the Indian Chamaeleon.

**Gir National Park**

**Gir National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary**, also known as **Sasan Gir**, is a forest, [national park](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_park), and [wildlife sanctuary](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wildlife_sanctuary) near [Talala Gir](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Talala_(Gir)" \o "Talala (Gir)) in [Gujarat](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gujarat), [India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/India). It is located 43 km (27 mi) north-east of [Somnath](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Somnath" \o "Somnath), 65 km (40 mi) south-east of [Junagadh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Junagadh" \o "Junagadh) and 60 km (37 mi) south-west of [Amreli](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amreli" \o "Amreli). It was established in 1965 in the erstwhile [Nawab of Junagarh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nawab_of_Junagarh" \o "Nawab of Junagarh)'s private hunting area, with a total area of 1,412 km2 (545 sq mi), of which 258 km2 (100 sq mi) is fully protected as a national park and 1,153 km2 (445 sq mi) as wildlife sanctuary. It is part of the [Khathiar-Gir dry deciduous forests](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Khathiar-Gir_dry_deciduous_forests" \o "Khathiar-Gir dry deciduous forests) [ecoregion](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ecoregion" \o "Ecoregion).

The 14th Asiatic Lion Census 2015 was conducted in May 2015. In 2015, the population was 523 (27% up compared to previous census in 2010). The population was 411 in 2010 and 359 in 2005. The lion population in [Junagadh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Junagadh" \o "Junagadh) District was 268 individuals, 44 in Gir Somnath District, 174 in Amreli District, and 37 in Bhavangar District. There are 109 males, 201 females and 213 cubs.

In the 19th century, the rulers of [Indian princely states](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_princely_states) used to invite the British colonists for hunting expeditions. At the end of the 19th century, only about a dozen [Asiatic lions](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asiatic_lion) were left in India, all of them in the Gir Forest, which was part of the [Nawab of Junagarh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nawab_of_Junagarh" \o "Nawab of Junagarh)'s private hunting grounds. British viceroys brought the drastic decline of the lion population in Gir to the attention of the Nawab of Junagadh, who established the sanctuary. Today, it is the only area in [Asia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asia) where Asiatic lions occur and is considered one of the most important [protected areas](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Protected_area) in Asia because of its biodiversity. The Gir [ecosystem](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ecosystem) with its diverse [flora](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flora) and [fauna](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fauna) is protected as a result of the efforts of the government forest department, wildlife activists and NGOs. It is now considered the jewel of Gujarat's ecological resources.

**Jim Corbett National Park**

**Jim Corbett National Park** is a [national park in India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_national_parks_of_India) located in the [Nainital district](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nainital_district" \o "Nainital district) of [Uttarakhand](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uttarakhand" \o "Uttarakhand) state. The first national park in [India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/India), it was established in 1936 during the [British Raj](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_Raj) and named *Hailey National Park* after [William Malcolm Hailey](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malcolm_Hailey,_1st_Baron_Hailey), a governor of the [United Provinces](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Provinces_of_British_India) in which it was then located. In 1956, nearly a decade after India's independence, it was renamed *Corbett National Park* after the hunter and naturalist [Jim Corbett](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jim_Corbett), who had played a leading role in its establishment and had died the year before. The park was the first to come under the [Project Tiger](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Project_Tiger) initiative.

Corbett National Park comprises 520.8 km2 (201.1 sq mi) area of hills, riverine belts, marshy depressions, grasslands and a large lake. The elevation ranges from 1,300 to 4,000 ft (400 to 1,220 m). Winter nights are cold but the days are bright and sunny. It rains from July to September. The park has [sub-Himalayan belt](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Terai) geographical and [ecological](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ecology) characteristics.[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jim_Corbett_National_Park#cite_note-Tiwari2-3) Dense moist [deciduous forest](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deciduous_forest) mainly consists of [sal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shorea_robusta" \o "Shorea robusta), haldu, [peepal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peepal" \o "Peepal), rohini and [mango trees](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mango_tree). Forest covers almost 73% of the park, while 10% of the area consists of grasslands. It houses around 110 tree species, 50 species of mammals, 580 bird species and 25 reptile species.

An [ecotourism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ecotourism) destination, the park contains 488 different species of plants and a diverse variety of [fauna](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fauna). The increase in tourist activities, among other problems, continues to present a serious challenge to the park's ecological balance

**Sundarbans National Park**

The **Sundarbans National Park** is a [national park](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_park), [tiger reserve](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tiger_reserve) and [biosphere reserve](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biosphere_reserve) in [West Bengal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/West_Bengal), India. It is part of the [Sundarbans](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sundarbans" \o "Sundarbans) on the [Ganges Delta](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ganges_Delta) and adjacent to the Sundarban Reserve Forest in [Bangladesh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bangladesh). It is located to south-west of the Bangladesh. The [delta](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/River_delta) is densely covered by [mangrove](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mangrove) forests, and is one of the largest reserves for the [Bengal tiger](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bengal_tiger). It is also home to a variety of bird, reptile and [invertebrate](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Invertebrate) species, including the [salt-water crocodile](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Salt-water_crocodile). The present Sundarban National Park was declared as the core area of Sundarban Tiger Reserve in 1973 and a wildlife sanctuary in 1977. On 4 May 1984 it was declared a national park. It is a [UNESCO World Heritage Site](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/UNESCO_World_Heritage_Site) inscribed in 1987.and it has been designated as a [Ramsar site](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ramsar_site) since 2019. It is considered as a World Network of Biosphere Reserve (Man and Biosphere Reserve) from 1989.

The first forest management division to have jurisdiction over the Sundarbans was established in 1869. In 1875 a large portion of the mangrove forests was declared as [reserved](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nature_reserve) forests under the Forest Act, 1865 (Act VIII of 1865). The remaining portions of the forests were declared a reserve forest the following year and the forest, which was so far administered by the civil administration district, was placed under the control of the Forest Department. A forest division, which is the basic forest management and administration unit, was created in 1879 with the headquarters in [Khulna](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Khulna), Bangladesh. The first management plan was written for the period 1893–1898.

**Satpura National Park**

**Satpura National Park** is located in the [Hoshangabad District](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hoshangabad_district" \o "Hoshangabad district) (newly named Narmadapuram ) of [Madhya Pradesh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Madhya_Pradesh) in [India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/India). Its name is derived from the [Satpura range](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Satpura_range" \o "Satpura range). It covers an area of 524 km2 (202 sq mi). Satpura National Park, along with the adjoining [Bori](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bori_Wildlife_Sanctuary" \o "Bori Wildlife Sanctuary) and [Pachmarhi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pachmarhi" \o "Pachmarhi) wildlife sanctuaries, provides 2,200 km2 (850 sq mi) of unique central Indian highland [ecosystem](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ecosystem). It was set up in 1981.

The terrain of the national park is extremely rugged and consists of [sandstone](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sandstone) peaks, narrow [gorges](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gorge), [ravines](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ravine) and dense [forests](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Forests). The altitude ranges from 300 to 1,352 metres (984 to 4,436 ft). It has [Dhoopgarh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dhoopgarh" \o "Dhoopgarh) peak as high as 1,350 metres (4,430 ft) and the almost level plains of Churna.

The nearest town to the national park is [Pachmarhi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pachmarhi" \o "Pachmarhi) and the nearest rail-head is Pipariya 55 kilometres (34 mi) away. The state capital [Bhopal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bhopal) is 210 kilometres (130 mi) away.

Satpura National Park is rich in [biodiversity](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biodiversity). The animals here include [leopard](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leopard), [sambar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sambar_deer" \o "Sambar deer), [chital](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chital), [Indian muntjac](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_muntjac), [nilgai](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nilgai" \o "Nilgai), [four-horned antelope](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Four-horned_antelope), [Chinkara](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chinkara" \o "Chinkara), [wild boar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wild_boar), [bear](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bear), [black buck](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black_buck), [fox](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fox), [porcupine](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Porcupine), [flying squirrel](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flying_squirrel), [mouse deer](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mouse_deer), and [Indian giant squirrel](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_giant_squirrel). There are a variety of birds. [Hornbills](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hornbill) and [peafowl](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peafowl) are common birds found here. The flora consists of mainly [sal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sal_tree" \o "Sal tree), [teak](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Teak), [tendu](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coromandel_Ebony" \o "Coromandel Ebony), [Phyllanthus emblica](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phyllanthus_emblica" \o "Phyllanthus emblica), [mahua](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Madhuca_longifolia" \o "Madhuca longifolia), [bel](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aegle_marmelos" \o "Aegle marmelos), [bamboo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bamboo), and [grasses](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grasses) and [medicinal plants](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Medicinal_plants).

In previous years, there have been sightings of [tigers](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tiger), [dholes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dhole), [Indian gaur](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_gaur) and [barasingha](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barasingha" \o "Barasingha), although these are rare.

Chandoli National Park

The park includes historical places of note including 17th century forts of the [Maratha Empire](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maratha_Empire), [Prachitgad](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prachitgad" \o "Prachitgad) and [Bhairavgad](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bhairavgad" \o "Bhairavgad). Most of the protected area was used an open jail for the "prisoners of war" of the early [battles](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battles_involving_the_Maratha_Empire) during Chhatrapati [Shivaji Maharaj's](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Shivaji_Maharaj%27s&action=edit&redlink=1" \o "Shivaji Maharaj's (page does not exist)) rule. [Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chhatrapati_Sambhaji_Maharaj) used Prachitgad as an observation point and recreational place.

The park spreads along the crest of the Sahyadri Range of the northern [Western Ghats](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Western_Ghats). It forms and protects many perennial water channels, water holes and the Vasant Sagar Reservoir. [Elevation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elevation) of the park ranges from 589–1,044 m (1,932–3,425 ft) The park receives its water supply from the [Warna river](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Krishna_River" \l "Tributaries" \o "Krishna River) and reservoir as well as several other small streams and rivers. Flat topped mountains, rocky, [lateritic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Laterite) [plateaus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plateau) called 'Saddas', almost devoid of vegetation, large boulders and caves are distinctive to the protected areas in the Sahyadri region of the Western Ghats.

The forest types seen here are a mix of [Malabar Coast moist forests](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malabar_Coast_moist_forests) and [North Western Ghats moist deciduous forests](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/North_Western_Ghats_moist_deciduous_forests). In the [dwarf evergreen forests](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dwarf_forest), some tree species commonly seen here are the anjani [ironwood tree](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Memecylon_umbellatum), [jamun](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jamun" \o "Jamun), [pisa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Actinodaphne" \o "Actinodaphne) (angustifolia), [fig](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ficus_glomerata), [Olea](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Olea" \o "Olea) (diocia), katak [spinous kino tree](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bridelia_retusa" \o "Bridelia retusa), nana or [Crape myrtle](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lagerstroemia) (lanceolata), [kinjal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Terminalia_paniculata" \o "Terminalia paniculata), [kokum tree](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Garcinia_indica) and phanasi [false kelat](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carallia) (brachiata). Other trees dominating the landscape include asan wood or ain or [Indian laurel](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Terminalia_tomentosa), amla or [Indian gooseberry](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Emblica_officinalis), umbar or [devil fig](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ficus) (hispida) and harra or [chebulic myrobalan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Terminalia_chebula" \o "Terminalia chebula).

Grasses commonly seen here include bangala or [bluestem grass](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Andropogon) sp., dongari or [golden beard grass](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chrysopogon) (fulvus), black spear grass, kalikusli or [tangle grass](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heteropogon_contortus), anjan grass or [buffel grass](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cenchrus_ciliaris" \o "Cenchrus ciliaris), grader grass or karad or [kangaroo grass](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Themeda) (quadrivalvis) and grasses belonging to family [Poaceae](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Poaceae" \o "Poaceae), like saphet-kusli or Aristida funiculata]. [Insectivorous plant](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Insectivorous_plant) species like [sundews](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Drosera) and [bladderworts](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Utricularia) sp. are also found in this protected area.

Nearly 23 species of mammals, 122 species of birds, 20 species of amphibians and reptiles are known to be resident in the forests of Chandoli. The [tiger](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tiger). [leopard](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leopard), [Indian bison](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gaur), [leopard cat](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leopard_cat), [sloth bear](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sloth_bear) and [giant squirrel](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_giant_squirrel) are quite conspicuous here.

Many [prey](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prey) species of [ungulates](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ungulate) such as the [barking deer](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_muntjac), [sambar deer](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sambar_deer" \o "Sambar deer), [mouse deer](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_spotted_chevrotain) and [blackbuck](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blackbuck) are present. A census carried out in 2002 by the Forest Department showed a rise in the number of tigers, leopards, gaur, barking deer, mouse deer, sloth bears and blackbuck. A similar census carried out in 2004 showed a rise in gaur population in the Kolhapur Wildlife Division from 88 to 243.On 23 and 24 May 2018, a tiger was photographed in a [camera trap](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Camera_trap) in Chandoli. This was the first direct evidence of tigers in the reserve in eight years. Prior to that, in 2014, scat DNA and model-based predictions were used to estimate that the reserve had five to eight tigers.

**Kaziranga National Park**

**Kaziranga National Park** is a [national park](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_national_parks_of_India) in the [Golaghat](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Golaghat_district" \o "Golaghat district) and [Nagaon districts](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nagaon_district" \o "Nagaon district) of the state of [Assam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Assam), [India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/India). The park, which hosts two-thirds of the world's [great one-horned rhinoceroses](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_rhinoceros), is a [World Heritage Site](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_Heritage_Site).[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kaziranga_National_Park#cite_note-2) According to the census held in March 2018 which was jointly conducted by the Forest Department of the Government of Assam and some recognized wildlife NGOs, the rhino population in Kaziranga National Park is 2,413. It comprises 1,641 adult rhinos (642 males, 793 females, 206 unsexed); 387 sub-adults (116 males, 149 females, 122 unsexed); and 385 calves.[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kaziranga_National_Park#cite_note-rhino_population-3)

In 2015, the rhino population stood at 2401. Kaziranga National Park was declared a [Tiger Reserve](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tiger_Reserve) in 2006. The park is home to large breeding populations of [elephants](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_elephant), [wild water buffalo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wild_Asiatic_water_buffalo), and [swamp deer](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Swamp_deer).[[4]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kaziranga_National_Park#cite_note-4) Kaziranga is recognized as an [Important Bird Area](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Important_Bird_Area) by [BirdLife International](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/BirdLife_International" \o "BirdLife International) for conservation of avifaunal species. When compared with other protected areas in India, Kaziranga has achieved notable success in [wildlife conservation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wildlife_conservation). Located on the edge of the [Eastern Himalaya](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eastern_Himalaya) [biodiversity hotspot](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biodiversity_hotspot), the park combines high species diversity and visibility.

Kaziranga is a vast expanse of tall [elephant grass](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Miscanthus_fuscus), [marshland](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marshland), and dense [tropical moist broadleaf forests](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tropical_moist_broadleaf_forests), criss-crossed by four major rivers, including the [Brahmaputra](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brahmaputra_River), and the park includes numerous [small bodies](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Beel) of water. Kaziranga has been the theme of several books, songs, and documentaries. The park celebrated its centennial in 2005 after its establishment in 1905 as a [reserve forest](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reserve_forest).

In 2017, Kaziranga came under severe criticism after a [BBC News](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/BBC_News) documentary revealed a hardliner strategy to conservation, reporting the killing of 20 people a year in the name of rhino conservation.[[5]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kaziranga_National_Park#cite_note-:0-5) As a consequence of this reporting, BBC News was banned from filming in protected areas in India for 5 years.[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kaziranga_National_Park#cite_note-:1-6) While several news reports claimed that BBC had apologized for the documentary, the BBC stood by its report, with its Director General, Tony Hall, writing in a letter to [Survival International](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Survival_International) that "the letter “in no way constitutes an apology for our journalism.”"[[7]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kaziranga_National_Park#cite_note-:3-7) As a response to the report, researchers in India have provided more nuanced understanding of the matter, calling out BBC for the carelessness of its journalism, but also pointing to the problems of conservation in Kaziranga[[8]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kaziranga_National_Park" \l "cite_note-:4-8) and questioning whether shoot-at-sight has been a useful conservation strategy at all.

**Manas National Park**

**Manas National Park** (ˈmʌnəs) is a [national park](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_park), [UNESCO](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/UNESCO) Natural [World Heritage Site](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_Heritage_Site), [Project Tiger](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Project_Tiger) reserve, [biosphere reserve](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biosphere_Reserve) and an elephant reserve in [Assam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Assam), India. Located in the [Himalayan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Himalaya) foothills, it is contiguous with [Royal Manas National Park](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_Manas_National_Park)[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Manas_National_Park#cite_note-2) in [Bhutan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bhutan). The park is known for its rare and endangered endemic wildlife such as the [Assam roofed turtle](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Assam_roofed_turtle), [hispid hare](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hispid_hare), [golden langur](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Golden_langur) and [pygmy hog](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pygmy_hog). Manas is famous for its population of the [wild water buffalo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wild_water_buffalo).

The Manas National Park was declared a sanctuary on 1 October 1928 with an area of 360 km2 (140 sq mi). Manas bio reserve was created in 1973. Prior to the declaration of the sanctuary, it was a reserved forest called Manas R.F. and North Kamrup R.F. It was used by the [Cooch Behar royal family](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Koch_dynasty) and Raja of [Gauripur](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gauripur,_India" \o "Gauripur, India) as a hunting reserve. In 1951 and 1955, the area was increased to 391 km2 (151 sq mi). It was declared a [World Heritage Site](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_Heritage_Site) in December 1985 by UNESCO. Kahitama R.F. the Kokilabari R.F. and the Panbari R.F. were added in the year 1990 to form the Manas National Park. In 1992, UNESCO declared it as a world heritage site in danger due to heavy poaching and terrorist activities. On 25 February 2008, the area was increased to 500 km2 (190 sq mi). On 21 June 2011, it was removed from the [List of World Heritage in Danger](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_World_Heritage_in_Danger) and was commended for its efforts in preservation. There is only one forest village, Pagrang, in the core of the national park. Apart from this village 56 more villages surround the park. Many more fringe villages are directly or indirectly dependent on the park.The park is divided into three ranges. The western range is based at Panbari, the central at [Bansbari](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bansbari" \o "Bansbari) near [Barpeta Road](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barpeta_Road" \o "Barpeta Road), and the eastern at Bhuiyapara near [Pathsala](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pathsala" \o "Pathsala). The ranges are not well connected; while two major rivers need to be forded in going from the centre to the Panbari, there is a rough trail (the *Daimari road*) connecting the centre to the eastern range. Most visitors come to Bansbari and then spend some time inside the forest at Mathanguri on the Manas river at the Bhutan border.

Physical Geography: Manas is located in the foothills of the [Eastern Himalaya](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eastern_Himalaya) and is densely forested. The Manas river flows through the west of the park and is the main river within it. It is a major tributary of Brahmaputra river and splits into two separate rivers, the *Bwrsi* and *Bholkaduba* as it reaches the plains. Five other smaller rivers also flow through the national park which lies on a wide, low-lying alluvial terrace spreading out below the foothills of the outer Himalaya. The Manas river also serves as an international border dividing