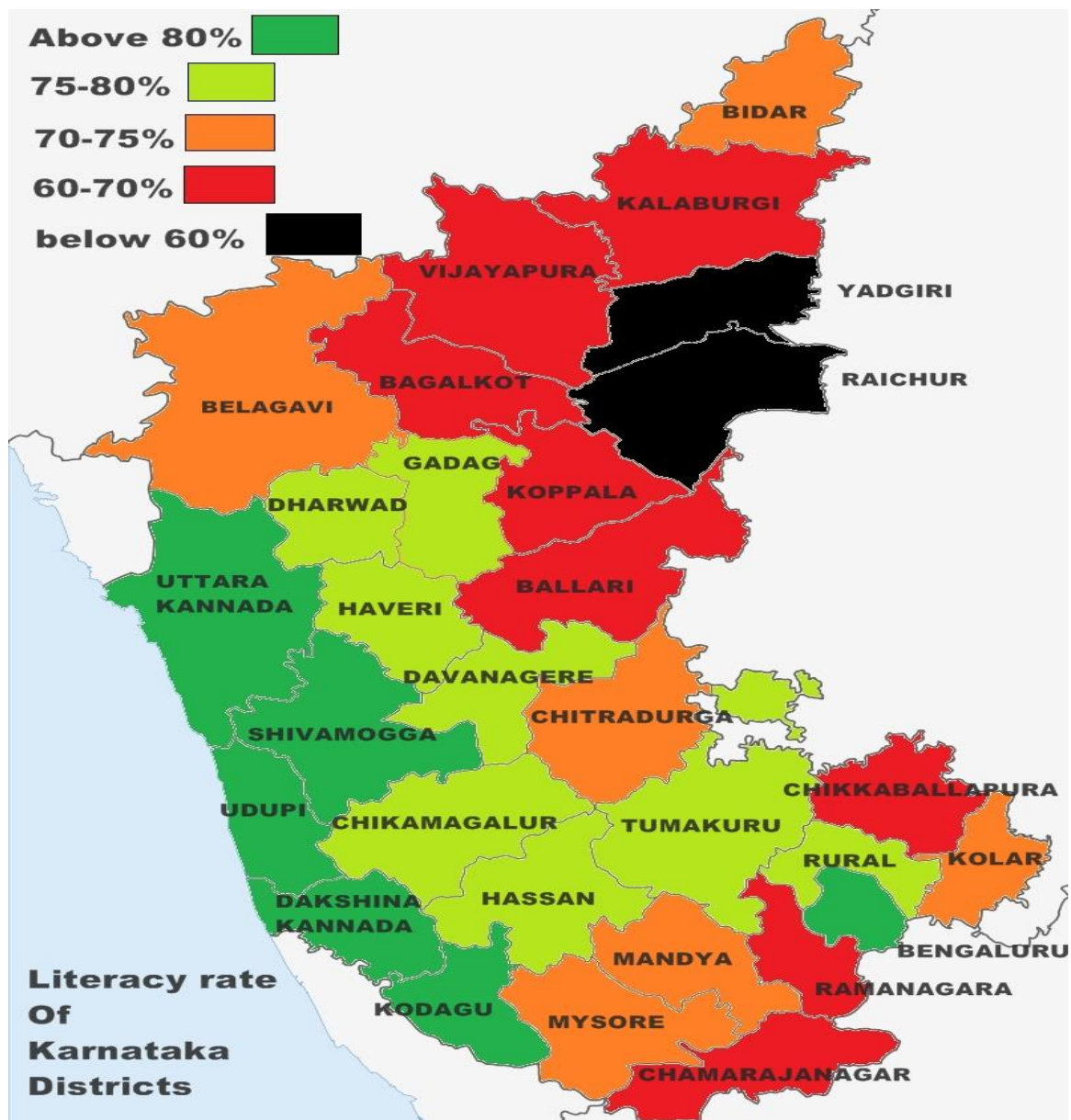




# KARNATAKA WILDLIFE

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# Sanctuaries & natural parks to be visited in Karnataka ...





# 1. BHADRA WILDLIFE SANCTUARY



Nestled in the Western Ghats, with the Kallahathigiri surrounding the area and the Bhadra river flowing through the picturesque terrains, lies this beautiful Wildlife Sanctuary in Karnataka. With dry, deciduous and sub-tropical hill forests spreading across the region, the Bhadra Wildlife Sanctuary is spread across 492.46 square kilometres. This sanctuary is a part of the Project Tiger and has a wide variety of flora and fauna.

**Location:** this sanctuary is situated almost 38 kilometres to the northwest of the Chikmagalur district in Karnataka.

**Best time to visit:** from November to February.



## 2. MOOKAMBIKA WILDLIFE SANCTUARY



Named after the reigning deity of the Mookambika temple in Kollur, this is one of the protected Wildlife Sanctuaries in Karnataka. Filled with thick evergreen and deciduous forests of the Western Ghats, this sanctuary, established in 1974, is an untouched and idyllic place, with an unexplored treasure of amazing wildlife. Spread over 247 square kilometres, the Mookambika Wildlife Sanctuary is divided into three zones, which are the core zone, buffer zone and tourism zone. You can also enjoy nature camping and trekking here.

**LOCATION:** this sanctuary is located near Kollur in Udupi district, around 125 kilometres from Mangalore.

BEST TIME TO VISIT: between November and April

### 3. ARABITHITTU WILDLIFE SANCTUARY



This is a wildlife sanctuary in Karnataka that includes the Arabithittu State Forest and is spread over 13.5 square kilometres. Although they do not permit any tourism, camps for college and school students are regularly organised. This wildlife sanctuary is a delight for photographers, bird watchers and nature lovers.

Location: this sanctuary is located in the Mysore District at Hunsur Taluk of Karnataka.

Best time to visit: between late October and April



## 4. BHIMGAD WILDLIFE SANCTUARY



Deriving its name from the Bhimgad Fort built and commanded by Shivaji in the 17th century, the Bhimgad Wildlife Sanctuary is a protected area in the Western Ghats. It is famous for being home to the Barapede Caves and for being the only breeding area of Wroughton's free-tailed bat, a threatened species on the verge of extinction. Spread over an area of 190.42 square kilometres, this is one of the few Karnataka Wildlife Sanctuaries that encloses many geo-morphological limestone formations with several caves in its west.

Location: it is located in Khanapur Taluk of Belgaum District near Jamboti Village, around 60 kilometres from Belgaum.

Best time to visit: the region has a pleasant climate throughout the year. The winters are colder, and the months of April to June are warm. The monsoon months are ideal to enjoy the rains. So, one must visit

accordingly. However, it is recommended not to visit during the rainy season.

## 5. BRAHMAGIRI WILDLIFE SANCTUARY



In addition to being one of the most idyllic Wildlife Sanctuaries in Karnataka, the Brahmagiri Wildlife Sanctuary also doubles up as a wonderful weekend getaway destination. It derives its name from the nearby Brahmagiri peak, which stands tall at 1607 metres. It is surrounded by coffee and cardamom plantations, steep valleys and hills, as well as eight rivers and many small streams. It also consists of two reserve forest areas, the Brahmagiri and Urty, with the Borapole river dividing the two.

Location: this sanctuary is located in the Coorg district of Karnataka



Best time to visit: between September and March

## 6. CAUVERY WILDLIFE SANCTUARY



A perfect getaway spot for nature lovers and adventure seekers, this wildlife sanctuary is rich in flora and fauna. Some rare and exotic species like the four-horned antelope and the barking deer are found here. Established in 1987 and covering an area of 527 square kilometres, this sanctuary is hidden in the mountains with the pristine Cauvery river flowing through it.



Location: it is located near Malemadeshwara Hills, on the outskirts of Bangalore

Best time to visit: between May to November.

## 7. DANDELI WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

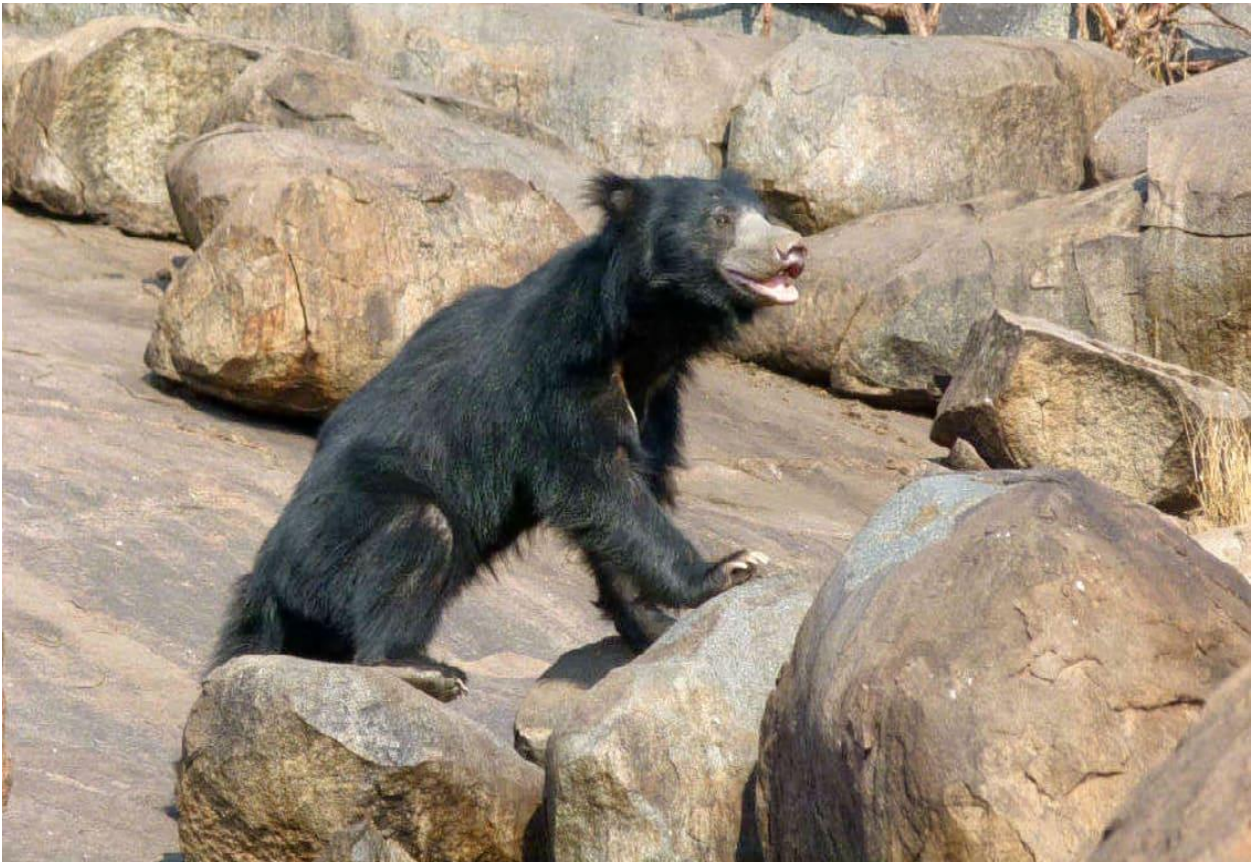


One of the largest Wildlife Sanctuaries in Karnataka, Dandeli Wildlife Sanctuary boasts of serene surroundings. It is a region rich in phenomenal natural wealth. Spread over an area of 866 square kilometres, this sanctuary was established in 1956 and is the second largest wildlife sanctuary in the state of Karnataka. It is situated on the banks of the river Kali and is one of the most under-rated wildlife sanctuaries in the country.

Location: it is located in Uttara Kannada district that borders the states of goa and Karnataka.

Best time to visit: between March and October.

## 8. DAROJI SLOTH BEAR SANCTUARY



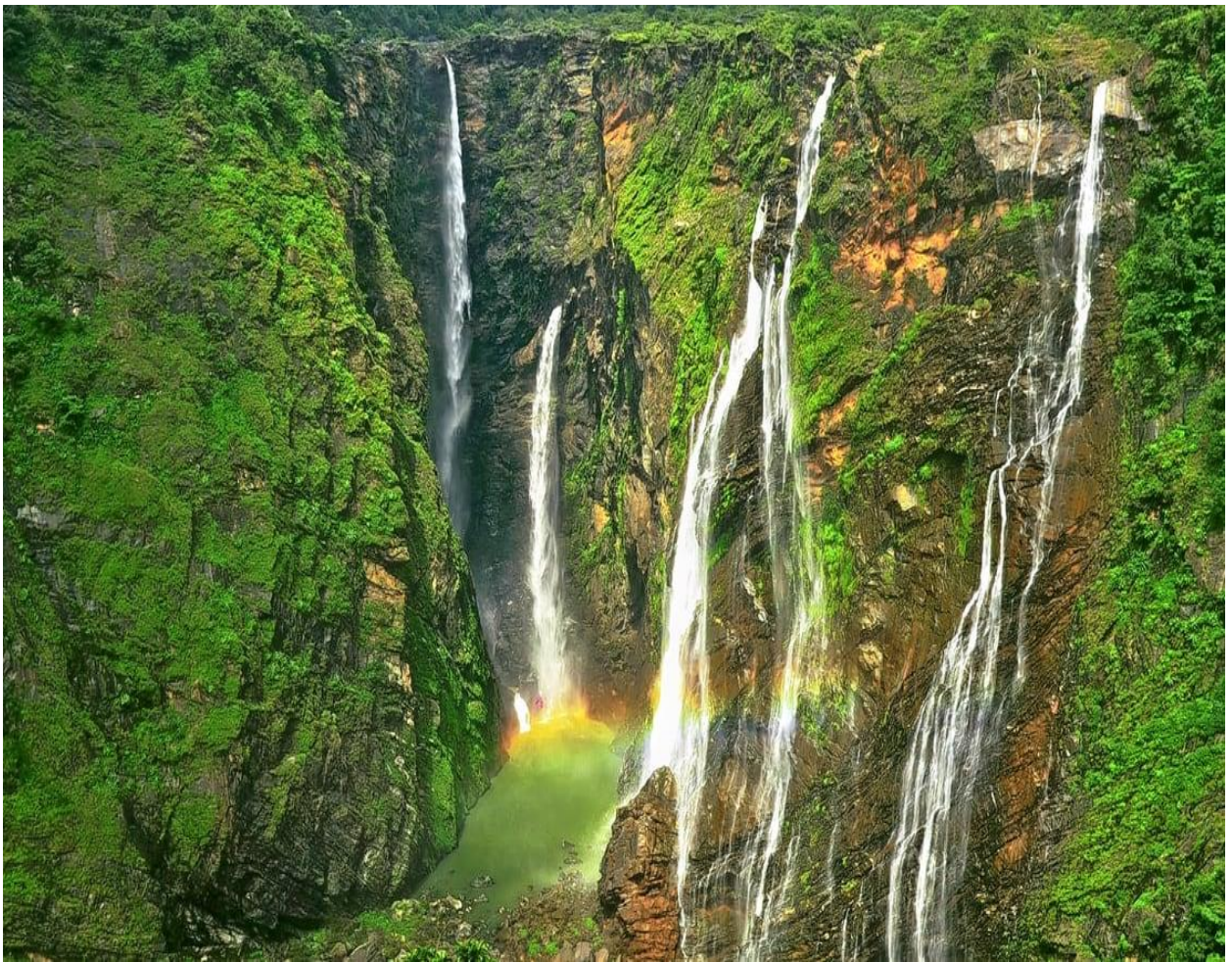
Created exclusively to preserve the Indian sloth bear, the Daroji Sloth Bear Sanctuary is just 15 kilometres away from the World Heritage site of Hampi. Some of the best experiences that you were ever get here is to witness bears coming down from the nearby hills during the evenings. Moreover, the forest department staff feed a mixture of jaggery and corn to the bears at one particular designated place of the sanctuary between 3:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. every day.



Location: this sanctuary is located in the Ballari district in Karnataka

Best time to visit: between August and April

## 9. SHARAVATHI VALLEY WILDLIFE SANCTUARY



Spread over an area of 431 kilometres, this Karnataka Wildlife sanctuary is situated near Jog Falls and covers the Sharavathi Valley Region. Nourished by the Sharavathi river and having the Linganamakki reservoir, the sanctuary is divided into core zone, buffer zone and tourism zones.



Location: located in Sagar of Shimoga District in Karnataka, about 350 kilometres from Bangalore.

Best time to visit: between November and May

## 10. JAYAMANGALI RESERVE



One of the pristine Wildlife Sanctuaries in Karnataka, the Jayamangali Black Reserve is a forest ecosystem bordering the rocky hills of Andhra Pradesh. It has the second largest contiguous population of Blackbuck in Karnataka. Location: it is located in Tumkur district, around 100 kilometres north of Bangalore.

Best time to visit: The climate gets extreme during different seasons. The best time to visit the Conservation Reserve is post monsoon until winters.



