**WAYANAD NATURALISTS’ ASSOCIATION**

Pages required for web site HOME, ABOUT US, GALLERRY, Our Project, OUR BLOG, CONTACT US

Page1 **Home Page**

“Wayanad” the land blessed with Mountains, Forest, spices and Paddies. The Lad lies between north east parts of Kerala at an altitude of 700-2100 meters above sea level. If Kerala is ‘God’s Country’, it must be his Garden of Eden. Part of a remote forest reserve that spills over into national parks in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, which comes under “**Nilgiri Biosphere”**.

.

**Who we are?**

Wayanad Naturalist guide Association is a well trained naturalist group that is dedicated to support and promote the preserve, educational, interpretative, recreational goals and tourism of wayanad district area. Our members include experts, who gladly share their knowledge, and novice nature lovers eager to learn more. We all enjoy our WNA activities, informative newsletters and friendly people.

Page 2 **Explore Western Ghats**

Wayanad lies cocooned in the hills of the “**Western Ghats”**. Famed for its jaw-dropping beauty, the landscape is a green medley of rice paddies, untouched forests, spice plantations and more rice paddies

The Western Ghats or the Sahyādri constitute a mountain range along the western side of India. It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and is one of the eight "hottest hotspots" of biological diversity in the world. It is sometimes called the Great Escarpment of India. The range runs north to south along the western edge of the Deccan Plateau, and separates the plateau from a narrow coastal plain, along the Arabian Sea.

Their positioning makes the Western Ghats biologically rich and biogeographically unique - a veritable treasure house of biodiversity. Though covering an area of 180,000 square kilometres, or just under 6% of the land area of India, the Western Ghats contain more than 30% of all plant, fish, herpeto-fauna, bird, and mammal species found in India. Many species are endemic, in fact 50% of India’s amphibians and 67% of fish species are endemic to this region.

The region has a spectacular assemblage of large mammals - around 30% of the world’s Asian elephant (Elephas maximus ) population and 17% of the world’s existing tigers (Panthera tigris) call this area their home. Protection for these is extended through several nationally significant wildlife sanctuaries, tiger reserves, and national parks.

The area has over 5000 species of flowering plants, 139 mammal species, 508 bird species and 179 amphibian species; it is likely that many undiscovered species live in the Western Ghats. At least 325 globally threatened species occur in the Western Ghats.

The Western Ghats include a diversity of ecosystems ranging from tropical wet evergreen forests to mountain grasslands and containing numerous medicinal plants and important genetic resources such as the wild relatives of grains, fruit and spices. They also include the unique shola ecosystem which consists of mountain grasslands interspersed with evergreen forest patches.

The **Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve** is an International Biosphere Reserve in the Western Ghats, nilgiri hills range of South India. The Western Ghats, Nilgiri Sub-Cluster (6,000+ km²), conjoining the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve, is under consideration by the UNESCO World Heritage Committee for selection as a World Heritage Site.

Page 3 **About Us**

We are protect the natural resources and to educate visitors on the need for conservation and preservation.

We are trained Naturalist from KITTS and also have experience in guiding foreign as well as Indian tourist and organizing conducted tours in all parts of wayanad and nearby places. Our experience will be great use for the tourist as well as students, Bird watchers. We know every nook and corner of Wayanad and also we have excellent connection with local people and government officials.

Page 4 **Nature programs**

Page 5 **Blog**

Page 6 **Contact Us**