



Spotted deer are found in abundance in the Park

How to Reach

The main entrance to Pench National Park is from Turia in the east and another, lesser used entrance is at Karmajhiri in the north.

By Air: The nearest airport is Nagpur, only 92 kms away, which takes about two hours by road. It is 80 kms along National Highway 7 to Khawasa and then 12 kms to Turia gate. The airport in Jabalpur is 200 kms from Pench.

By Rail: Nagpur junction is the nearest railway station from Pench. It is well-connected to the rest of India. Jabalpur which is around 4-5 hours drive is the other major railhead. It is 165 kms along National Highway 7 to Sukhtara village via Seoni and then 30 kms to Karmajhiri.

By Road: Situated on the Nagpur-Jabalpur highway, Pench is easily accessible by local taxis. Get off at Khawasa which is 12 kms from Turia gate. Chhindwara is 120 kms and Seoni is 60 kms from the Park.

Your Hosts

Kipling's Court
① 07695-232830, 232850 ✉ kcpench@mptourism.com

Highway Treat
① 07695-290130 ✉ rookhad@mptourism.com



MP Tourism's Kipling's Court

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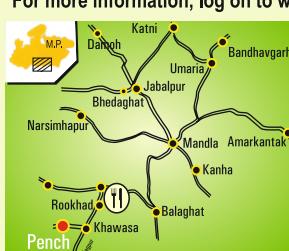
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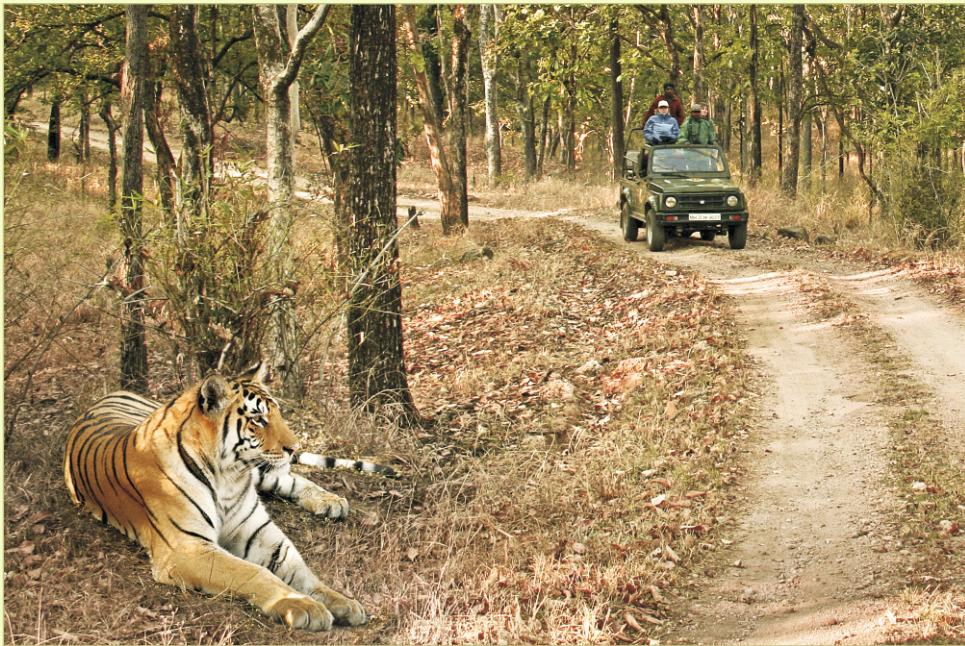
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PENCH
Land of 'The Jungle Book'





The Tiger Safari in the Kipling Country, Pench

Nestled in the southern slopes of the Satpura ranges of central India, **Pench Tiger Reserve** (757.90 sq kms) lies in southern Madhya Pradesh, bordering Maharashtra. The Pench National Park which constitutes the core of the Tiger Reserve was notified in 1983. The total core area of the Park is 292.86 sq kms, and comprises the **Indira Priyadarshini Pench National Park** and the **Mowgli Pench Sanctuary**. Pench was brought under Project Tiger in 1992.

Pench National Park gets its name from the Pench river that flows through it, dividing it into the western Chhindwara Block (141.61 sq kms), and the eastern Seoni Block (145.24 sq kms).

Over 1,200 species of plants have been recorded in the area including several rare and endangered plants as well as plants of ethno-botanical importance.

Pench National Park is the original setting of Rudyard Kipling's famous work, *The Jungle Book*. The character, Mowgli, was inspired by Sir William Henry Sleeman's pamphlet, 'An Account of

Wolves Nurturing Children in Their Dens' which describes a jungle boy

captured in Seoni district near the village of Sant Baori in 1831. Many of the places described in *The Jungle Book* are actual locations in Seoni district, like the Waingunga river

with its gorge where Sher Khan was killed, Kanhiwara village and the Seoni hills.

Forest and Wildlife

Pench is prime tiger country. The area has always been rich in wildlife. The heterogeneity of mixed forests, shrubs and grasslands here creates a favourable condition which harbours a dense population of cheetal and sambhar, the key prey species for tiger and leopard. Pench Tiger Reserve has the highest density of herbivores in India, 90.3 animals per square kilometre.

The area is especially famous for its huge

population of gaur (Indian bison), cheetal, sambar, neelgai, wild dog and wild pig. The key predators here are the tiger followed by the leopard, wild dog and wolf. Other animals found in the Park include the sloth bear, chousingha, chinkara, barking deer, jackal, fox, palm civet, small Indian civet, jungle cat, hyena and porcupine.

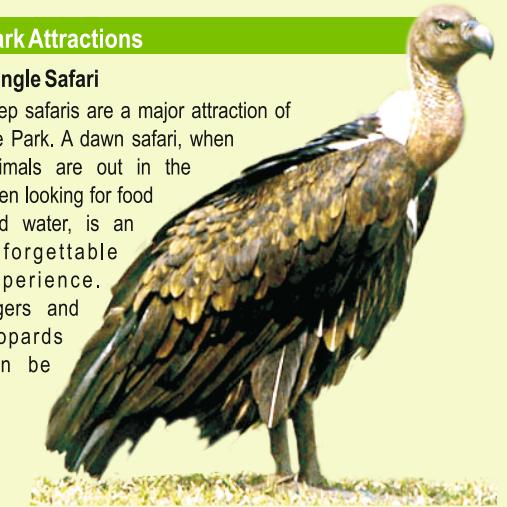
Pench Tiger Reserve is also among the best areas for bird watching. Over 285 species of resident and migratory birds including the Malabar pied hornbill, Indian pitta, osprey, grey-headed fishing eagle, white-eyed buzzard are found here. Four species of the endangered vulture, white-rumped, long-billed, white scavenger and king vulture can be seen in good numbers in these forests. In winter, thousands of migratory waterfowl including the brahmini duck, pochards, barheaded geese and coots come to the Pench reservoir and the tanks within the Park.

The best time to visit Pench is summer as animals come out in search of water. Waterholes in the Park provide good opportunities to view some of its residents.

Park Attractions

Jungle Safari

Jeep safaris are a major attraction of the Park. A dawn safari, when animals are out in the open looking for food and water, is an unforgettable experience. Tigers and leopards can be

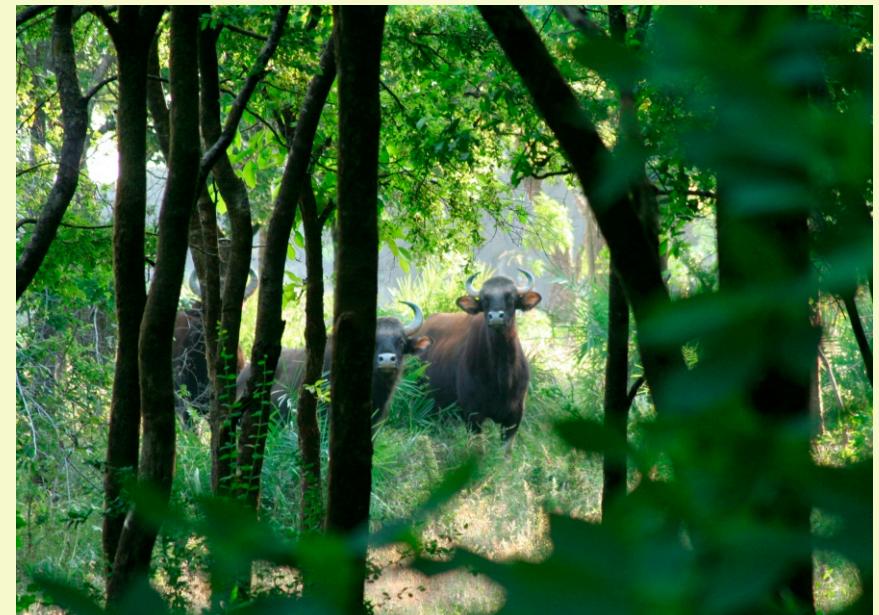


seen near water bodies and even on the roads in summer. Cheetal, sambar and neelgai are found grazing in the forests and the banks of the river. Large herds of gaur are often spotted in the bamboo patches. Jackals, wild dogs and rhesus monkeys can be seen foraging for food in the densely-wooded jungles.

Park Safari

For gypsy safari, log-in to forest.mponline.gov.in

For cantor safari, see the MPSTDC Manager. It is not available online.



A bison foraging for food