

## Tour Report Nagarhole Photo Safari 13-22 April 2025

Dhole



Peacock



Asian elephant



Bengal tiger



Compiled by Bret Charman

**Sunday 13 April 2025**

**Day 1:**

London to Bangalore

We had an overnight flight to Bangalore which left London Heathrow on time.

**Monday 14 April 2025**

**Day 2:**

Bangalore to Kabini River Lodge; Nagarhole National Park

The flight arrived in Bangalore on time, and we were whisked through immigration. There was a bit of a wait for some of the luggage before I was able to meet the group and our local guide Ashwin in arrivals. Walking the short distance to the bus, it was then a forty-minute drive to the Taj Hotel for breakfast. Dodging and weaving our way through the morning rush hour traffic, our driver expertly negotiated the chaotic conditions before dropping us safely at the hotel.

Once everyone had their fill at the exceptional breakfast buffet, and had been able to use the facilities, we were back on the comfortable bus for our journey to Kabini River Lodge (via the city of Mysore). On the drive, there were several common bird species including cattle egret, black kite, jungle crow, and common myna. Between Mysore and Kabini River Lodge, there are some wetlands and it was here we also had views of grey-headed swamphen, spot-billed duck, grey heron and little cormorant. Upon arrival at Kabini, we were quickly shown to our rooms and then met up for a fantastic lunch.

Arriving in time for an afternoon safari, we were out in the vehicle for our first drive after lunch. It wasn't long before we had our first views of the resident wildlife, including chital and even an oriental garden lizard as we waited to be assigned our zone at the park entrance. We were assigned Zone B for our first drive. Further into the park, we had sightings of our first sambar and a calf, while langurs sat on logs nearby. It was a crested serpent eagle, posing beautifully, that first caught our eye from a photographic point of view.



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We worked our way down to the Kabini backwaters, where the water levels were unseasonably high after early pre-monsoon rains had come to the area. In the distance here, we had our first views of an elephant, grey-headed fish eagle and a host of other species associated with fresh water. It wasn't long before the forest came alive with the sound of chital alarms. We headed to where they sounded from and found a couple of vehicles already waiting. Now, it was the waiting game.

Unfortunately, on this occasion, we were not in luck as the alarms led to no further action. However, while we were waiting there was a plethora of birdlife in the area, including hoopoe, male peacocks displaying, white-bellied drongo and grey junglefowl. As the light was fading, we started to make our way to the exit and had more alarm calls. We had to keep going and couldn't linger for too long. Our first felids would have to wait until the morrow.

Upon our arrival at the lodge, we had a brief period to unload our things in our rooms and meet back in the dining area for dinner.

**Tuesday 15 April 2025**

### **Day 3:**

#### **Nagarhole National Park**

The group were up bright and early, meeting in the dining area for tea and coffee at 5.40 am. As we had hoped, we were the first vehicle at the park entrance and were given Zone A for this morning's drive. We headed into the zone and up to the hill where the power lines bisect the area. We timed our arrival here perfectly as a pack of dhole, two adults with four pups, were there waiting for us.



What a fantastic start to our first morning in Nagarhole National Park. After they paused on the edge of the forest, they started to chase a herd of chital. They soon disappeared into the thick scrub, and we were unable to follow them. With our first sighting and photos of the dogs in the bag, it was time to continue and see

what else the park had in store for us this morning.

Winding our way along the forest roads, new mammals presented themselves. Giant Malabar squirrel and a nice herd of gaur (the largest of all bovids) were noticeable highlights, while the birdlife is always exceptional. Brahminy starling, ashy woodswallow, black-rumped flameback, white-bellied woodpecker, oriental magpie robin and racket-tailed drongo were a few of the Avia delights on show.

Our next photographic highlight was a changeable hawk-eagle as it called from a branch above the track. It had something in its talons, clearly a bird, but it was tricky to identify. It was posing perfectly and provided some beautiful environmental imagery.



It wasn't long before we received news of a leopard in a tree. We worked our way to the site and found several other vehicles were already present. She was resting in a high branch before moving along the branch and crashing back down into a heavier slumber. Looking rather full, the chance to capture any striking imagery was extremely limited, and so we left her in peace once again.

Having enjoyed a fabulous first morning in the park, it was time to return to the lodge for breakfast. The guests had a bit of downtime before lunch, and again afterwards, before it was time to head out once again for our afternoon safari. Meeting at 2.50 pm, we were soon in the heart of the park once more, exploring Zone A once more.

The drive started with some more common mammals such as grey langur, chital, bonnet macaque and sambar deer, as well as a ruddy mongoose. Then we came across a bull elephant in a waterhole. Carrying on, as we passed the resthouse, we found a pack of dhole (Asiatic wild dogs) resting and then playing by the side of the road. We stopped, enjoying some wonderful scenes as the members of the pack played, a way to reinforce their strong bonds. They are one of India's more elusive predators, and so to be able to enjoy such prolonged views was fantastic. Although the lighting was not the easiest, the group were able to capture some stunning imagery of these magnificent carnivores.



After leaving the dogs, we arrived at a spot where a young tiger had apparently dashed across the road, before disappearing as quickly as it had emerged. With no tiger, we turned our attention to a handsome peacock, which was displaying right by the vehicle. What a fabulous photographic opportunity.



There was more news of another tiger at a waterhole, right on the edge of Zone A, so we decided to take a gamble and see whether we would have any luck. Sitting and waiting by the waterhole, the group focussed on the birds such as bronzed drongo, paradise flycatcher and green bee-eater, while a posing spotted dove provided us with some stunning portraits.



With the light fading and some ground to cover, it was time to head to the park exit, checking in on a couple of locations on the way. The highlight was a couple of brown fish owls down in the rocky river that borders the edge of Zone A. The striped cat had evaded us today, but we had plenty of time left in this stunning part of India. Upon returning to camp, there was a little time again to unpack before dinner, reminiscing on a wonderful first full day.

**Wednesday 16 April 2025**

**Day 4:**

**Nagarhole National Park**

This morning we awoke to a light mist hanging over the national park. We entered the park and were greeted by the usual dawn chorus and activity of several, now familiar, bird species. Mammals included gaur, giant Malabar squirrel and chital, while a brown fish owl flew up into a branch and posed for the group. Other avian species were the white-throated kingfisher, white-breasted waterhen, greater coucal and junglefowl.

Once again, there had been a tigress who made an appearance but then disappeared before we could get there. And so, we carried on to the furthest waterhole, where we hoped to find the tigress that had eluded us the previous afternoon. On our way, we were distracted as the dholes were trotting along the road towards us. They were on a mission, and we didn't have much time with them initially. Being on our own mission, we continued down the road, where we found the remaining member of the pack. This dog put on one heck of a show, and the photography opportunities were out of this world. It posed in the beautiful light and even whistled to the rest of the pack, trying to find their location.





By the time we got to the waterhole where the tigress had been seen, there were plenty of Chinese whispers going on. We decided to wait ...

Nothing stirred, and then we got news the tigress was back near the power lines, and so we gambled. Our gamble paid off. We finally caught a glimpse of the tiger as she wandered across the road, before disappearing again into the thick forest. It wasn't the best view for photography, but now we had a tigress in the bag.

With the pressure now off, it was time to head back to the exit and return to Kabini for a late breakfast and follow the daily routine of life at the lodge.

The group had now seen all three large predators found within the park (except for the sloth bear, which isn't really considered a predatory species as it targets termites and ants). This afternoon, everyone had high hopes for what may be in store. As we waited for our zone to be allocated, we enjoyed views of brown-capped pygmy woodpeckers, a tiny species that can be tricky to see. Zone A was to be our stomping ground once again this afternoon, and so we started off our efforts close to where we saw the tigress in the morning.

No tigress, but we found the dhole once more. It's funny how much time we have been able to spend with these fascinating mammals; they can so often be hard to find when you go looking for them. They were by the resthouse once again, an area they seemed to enjoy. The open area of the forest provides them with safety from tigers and allows them to watch out for a potential meal.



A leopard had been sighted, once again in a tree, but there were a lot of vehicles, and we decided not to linger. Instead, we spent a little time photographing a small group of gaur just around the corner. They are not the easiest of subjects to photograph, and after a little time, we carried on in search of some other photographic subjects.

Working our way along the old riverside track, we hoped for our leopard on one of the rocky outcrops, but alas, the big cats were keeping out of sight. Interestingly, because of the early rains, there was much more cover for these secretive cats than you'd usually expect for this time of year. The clouds had been building all afternoon, and thunder was rumbling in the distance. We stumbled upon a mother elephant and her calf in the gently flowing river (again unheard of at this time of year), but with such low light, it made photography very tricky.

With the light level continuing to deteriorate, and the weather looking more ominous, we started to drive back up the hill and the exit. As the heavens opened, and boy did they open, we came across a white-throated kingfisher. It was wonderful to be able to photograph this beautiful bird as the rain streaked past, making for some exceptional photography. Using slower shutter speeds, it was possible to capture the raindrops as they fell all around the kingfisher.



The rain was really intensifying, as was the wind, and we made a bit of a dash back to the lodge, seeing chital and stripe-necked mongoose on the way. This weather was absolutely bizarre and shouldn't be expected for at least another couple of months. As we exited the park, we encountered heavy traffic. The wild weather, which had been even worse in the farmland outside the park, had brought down a tree onto a power line. The journey back to the lodge took us over an hour instead of the ten minutes we had expected.

We eventually made it back to Kabini and headed straight for dinner, before retiring to our rooms after another productive day in this magical part of India.

**Thursday 17 April 2025**

**Day 5:**

Nagarhole National Park

With damage from the previous night's storm, we had to take a detour around to the park entrance, where we were allocated Zone B. Our aim this morning was to try and find a sloth bear on the old main road that runs through the park. Alas, despite our best efforts, we didn't find a bear, so instead, we had to make do with some posing wild boar and a single-tusked elephant.

It turned out to be a morning of elephants and birds as we had several groups of elephants, including a mother and her calf. Although it wasn't a morning for photography, we had some superb views of the birdlife, including a number of species. Grey francolin, black-headed oriole, Indian blue robin and Jerdon's bushlark are just some of the new birds on show.

Carrying on to the backwaters of Kabini, we worked our way through this beautiful section of forest, hoping for a glimpse of a cat. This time, we were in luck. As we sat listening for calls, Ashwin caught sight of a tiger as he sauntered from the cover of the trees. By the time our vehicle rolled to a stop, the tiger had nearly disappeared into the thick vegetation, providing us the chance to fire off a few shots. Then he was gone. We tried to predict where he might emerge, but he had seemingly settled in the safety of the trees.

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All our hard work was paying off. Despite it only being a brief sighting, it was an exclusive encounter. With the morning getting away from us, we had to move on and enjoyed the birding on offer as we made our way out of the park.

In the comfort of the lodge, we enjoyed the usual late breakfast and another superb lunch, before meeting up again for our afternoon drive.

Back in Zone A this afternoon, our primary focus was to find and photograph a tiger. As we headed to the ancient temples, hoping for a view of the resident tigress, we stumbled upon a boar wallowing in a muddy puddle. It was as we sat photographing the boar that we received news that the tigress had appeared by the furthest waterhole. With that news, we were off.

By the time we arrived, the tigress was hidden behind a mound, in the shade of a tree. From where we were, we could only see ripples in the water, but this would be a time for patience. There were quite a few vehicles around, but the forestry guards allowed vehicles to take it in turns to photograph the tiger from a different angle. There she was, an absolutely beautiful tiger, resting in the cooling waters. There was a slight reflection and she would periodically open her eyes, making for some wonderful photography.



As we were in the position to photograph her, she decided that it was time to get up. Suddenly, she was stretching. The water was flowing down her back, onto her tail before dripping off into the water. Making her way to the top of the bank that surrounded the waterhole, and with the light fading, most of the vehicles departed. However, Ashwin thought it was worth us hanging around a little longer.



We had positioned our vehicle in the perfect spot. After the exodus of vehicles, she decided to sit in a prominent position in front of the surrounding vegetation, and we were able to capture some more breathtaking imagery.

The tigress was an absolute star. Changing angle and providing us with some stunning photography. These sorts of prolonged encounters with tigers do not happen too often and you have to make the most of every second. Which we certainly did.



The group fired off shots, captured video and generally enjoyed the moment as she rested and groomed herself. By this point, we were of only a couple of vehicles left and everyone was loving every minute. The light was now really starting to fade and reluctantly, we had to tear ourselves away. On our way to the park gate, we had some quick views of a brown fish owl and a stripe-necked mongoose. What a superb evening – Nagarhole National Park delivering once again. Upon returning to the lodge, we enjoyed another excellent dinner before heading off to bed.

**Friday 18 April 2025**

**Day 6:**  
Nagarhole National Park

Having had our early morning tea and coffee, we were back in the vehicle and the first at the park gate once again. We were assigned Zone B again this morning. We tried again to work the old main road, constantly searching for any sign of the sloth bear. This area is usually reliable, but with all the rain it seemed to be keeping the bears hidden in the forest.

Driving back around on the perimeter road, we came across the pack of three dholes. To see the wild dogs so many times was a real treat, but this was only a fleeting view as a nearby farmer seemed to put the wind in their sails.

The best photography this morning was of a peacock perched high in a tree. The soft light and tangle of branches make for some different imagery with these iconic birds. In fact, photographing familiar species in a new light is always one of the most challenging, but rewarding, aspect of any photography tour.

Of course, as with any drive in India's National Parks, we saw plenty of other wildlife, both birds and mammals alike. The now familiar species of mammal included grey langur, bonnet macaque, wild boar, chital, sambar, gaur and elephant, while there were a number of new bird species for us this morning.

There were a number of white-rumped vultures perched high in a tree above the backwaters. Other bird species of note were little swift, yellow-footed green pigeon, Asian openbill, painted stork and woolly-necked stork. The undoubted highlight though, was of a crested-serpent eagle with a snake in its talons just ahead of the vehicle.

Ashwin had managed to spot a smooth-coated otter along the shoreline of the backwaters as we were heading back to the gate.



The group knew the drill by now. Breakfast upon our return, before lunch and then meeting up for our afternoon drive.

As per usual, our vehicle was the first at the gate. Today though, for whatever reason, there seemed to be quite a delay in getting our zone allocated. We were in luck though, as an oriental garden lizard was displaying on a tree right next to the vehicle.

It was fascinating to watch as the male would flash a flap of skin on his throat, while seemingly doing press-ups on the tree. At the same time, the lizard was curling his tail back over his head, seemingly showing off his strength to a female we could not see. Sometimes, it is the smaller creatures that make for the best photographic subjects, and it's always worth investing the time to photograph these moments of behaviour.

The displaying stopped well before the park officials allocated us with Zone A, and so we made our way into the park proper.

Having heard of a tiger sighting, which seemed like a wild goose chase, we decided to head out on our own and see what we could find away from the crowds.

There was a huge herd of chital down by the large lake, while there were also several elephants on show. It was only limited for photography, but there is always something to see in this beautiful national park. The highlight during the first half of the drive was a Malabar trogon. This notoriously elusive bird was almost impossible to photograph, but what a delight to even catch a glimpse. It turned out to be an afternoon of elephants for the most part, with a mother and youngster playing in one of the many waterholes.



There were more elephants, another family feeding on the lush vegetation of the forest, while jungle mynas sat on their backs like mahuts directing their steeds. We did have a very brief view of a large male tiger, before it disappeared into the forest. It was then that we had to head back to the gate and for another feast for dinner at Kabini River Lodge.

**Saturday 19 April 2025**

**Day 7:**

Nagarhole National Park

We awoke to a still, mist-free morning and upon arriving at the gate, we were assigned Zone A. Driving through the forest, the sound of whooping langurs carried through the canopy. A stripe-necked mongoose decided to cooperate and worked its way through the leaf litter as it searched for food. The whole group were able to capture some lovely imagery as it went about its business, seemingly unperturbed by our presence. What a great start to the day.

Carrying on to the large lake, we were spoiled with some beautiful birds. Indian rollers are always entertaining to watch, but they often pose in inaccessible spots, while red-wattled lapwing and peacock are always on hand. There were plenty of hoopoes about on this particular morning, while black-rumped flameback and brahminy starling also made an appearance.



We carried on, up into the mixed teak forest (the highest point in the zone) and here we struck gold as the dhole made yet another appearance. What luck!



The dogs trotted along the track right in front of us, providing some stunning opportunities to capture beautiful images. We had them to ourselves at first, but when other vehicles arrived, they disappeared into the cover of the forest. Ashwin and Sadiq (our fantastic driver) predicted that the dogs would come out further down the hill and so we waited. Sure enough, the pack emerged, exactly where they thought and we were treated to yet more stunning photography. One dhole settled right in front of us, while another sat further back, providing the group with different options to add to their portfolio.



We really couldn't have asked for a better session and it was a fabulous way to spend the morning.



As more vehicles arrived, the dholes were less relaxed, and we decided it was best if we left them in peace. It was a beautiful morning for birds as well as the mammals, with plumb-headed parakeet and an Indian nuthatch being notable species. There were some chital alarm calls along the road that led to the resthouse, with a young deer stamping its hooves. We then heard the unusual sounds of a leopard calling, but we never caught sight of it. And so, after another action-packed morning, it was time to head back to the lodge for breakfast.

Having enjoyed a superb morning, there was a level of excitement for what the afternoon might have in store. As we entered into the zone, a whole group of langurs were crammed into a small tree. It was a comical scene and particularly charming.

We heard that the tigress we had spent the past few days searching for had made an appearance at one of the waterholes. We arrived to find her there, sitting to one side of the waterhole, watching intently into the surrounding vegetation.



We positioned ourselves to get the best view possible, despite a number of other vehicles watching her. She continued staring away from us and it was then that we realised a chital was approaching her position. She started to stalk it and disappeared from view. There were now more vehicles jostling for position, and we made the decision to leave and see if we could find an exclusive sighting elsewhere.

With that in mind, Ashwin and I decided to head to the furthest waterhole and see if the other tigress might make an appearance. Despite our best efforts and patience, she decided not to show herself this afternoon and we had to settle for the resident birdlife and a few familiar species.

As we drove through the forest, working our way to the gate, I caught sight of something perched low on a tree that didn't quite fit. I realised it was a moon moth and so we made a quick detour to grab some shots of what is arguably one of the world's most beautiful members of Lepidoptera. After that quick little photo mission, it was time to head back to Kabini River Lodge, where we knew that a feast would be ready a little later on.



**Sunday 20 April 2025**

**Day 8:**  
Nagarhole National Park



Following our typical morning routine, we were the first at the gate and assigned Zone B. The sloth bears continued to evade us, and so we slowly made our way along the old main road, simply seeing what might present itself.

The first sighting of any interest from a photography perspective was a giant Malabar squirrel, feeding on the bark of a tree at eye level. It was seemingly unafraid as we managed to stop the vehicle right next to the tree and capture some wonderful images. The views of these giant squirrels so low to the ground are exceptionally rare, and it was a great opportunity to get some full-frame images of these charismatic mammals.

We carried on to the end of the old main road, where we then joined the perimeter road and worked our way along 'peacock alley' and enjoyed the species we had come to associate with the area, such as grey francolin, red-wattled lapwing and grey junglefowl.

As we reached the junction of one of the intersecting tracks, we turned off and headed back up towards the main road. It was here we watched a shikra as it washed in a puddle, before perching up in a branch just above the track.



A little further up the road, we stumbled upon the pack of three wild dogs once again. It was getting a little surreal as to how often we were bumping into the two different packs, but we were obviously delighted that our luck was continuing.



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It was a particularly special encounter as the alpha pair displayed some beautiful bonding behaviour as the youngster sat nearby, always keeping an eye on them. We were in the perfect position, having the vehicle slightly down the road to allow us to be eye level with the three of them.



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The sighting didn't stop there as eventually they decided to head out once more, not content with the spot they had chosen to rest up. They proceeded to trot and run through the trees. We ensured we moved well ahead of the trio, giving them plenty of space and let them come straight towards us.



It culminated in one particular dhole running straight by the vehicle, allowing us to capture full-frame portraits as it cantered by.



As the dogs continued to move on, we left them in peace to find somewhere to rest for the day. There were smiles all round after another exceptional sighting of these charismatic canids. And so, it was time to carry on. There was plenty of time left to explore the other side of the zone. Who knows what else might lie in store for us.

We headed across the main road and started to explore the beautiful, lush forests down by the backwaters, where a large tusker elephant was busy feeding. It was then that there were chital alarm calls all around –

the forest was alive with fear and panic. We were led awry by other vehicles. They had chosen completely the wrong spot and the cat had already crossed an open area to the other side. By the time we had worked out what was actually going on, the feline had already disappeared. From the behaviour of the chital and sambar, we assumed it had been a leopard and we'd only missed it by a few seconds.

Despite missing out on the leopard, the adrenaline levels were sky-high as we made our way back to the gate. But first, we had to have our fill on a beautiful herd of elephants as they were feeding along the forest edge.

Upon our arrival back at the lodge, the fruit bat colony was particularly active, with some of the group capturing some images. We enjoyed another full spread for breakfast and for lunch, before reconvening for our final afternoon in Nagarhole National Park. This afternoon would prove to be a little different (and rather exciting), as we were heading out onto the Kabini backwaters on a wildlife watching boat trip. Here, our focus would switch from the cats and dogs to the elephants and birdlife that make up most of this oasis.

As you would expect, it was a birding bonanza (particularly for waders and waterbirds) such as little-ringed plover, small pratincole, great cormorant, Indian cormorant, anhinga, river tern, western reef heron, black-winged stilt and lesser whistling duck. The first real photographic opportunity was with a grey-headed fish eagle perched on a tree. It was amazing to get so close to one of these large eagles. All too often, they take flight long before you can get close.



After the cooperative eagle, we moved further along the water and came across a huge elephant bull. This large elephant seemed to be pumped up (he'd just chased off a forest vehicle) and he provided us with more memorable moments and some stunning imagery. The elephant was actually on the Bandipur side of the backwaters, just a little way back from the water's edge on a peninsula.



After the session with the elephant, we started to make our way back towards Kabini River Lodge. However, there was one last photographic star. An osprey was perched on another of the dead trees (flooded when the dam was built and the reservoir created), and it took flight as we made our way past.



It looked as if the weather would be closing in and so we started to make haste back to shore. Unfortunately, as we were out in the most open area of the lake, the storm suddenly hit. Rain and strong winds lashed down, with waves suddenly crashing on the hull of the boat. Ashwin and the skipper decided it was safest to head to shore and wait out the storm.

We endured quite the soaking before finally Ashwin managed to push us back into deeper water, and we continued the short journey back to the lodge's jetty. Unfortunately, for Ashwin, he was unable to climb back aboard and had to walk in the pouring rain. We finally met back in the shelter of the lodge and everyone had a chance to have a warm shower before meeting up for our final dinner at Kabini River Lodge.

**Monday 21 April 2025**

**Day 9:**

Nagarhole National Park; Kabini to Bangalore

It was our last morning exploring Nagarhole National Park and we started the day with the routine we had all become accustomed to. We had a final chance to explore Zone A and so we set off in search of what these beautiful forests might have in store for us.

It was a magical morning with beams of sunlight piercing through the forest's canopy. To start with, it was the birdlife that put on a show with streak-throated woodpecker being the most notable species. Mammals included the ever-present chital, a stripe-necked mongoose and grey langurs. As we were heading down one of the tree-lined tracks, the pack of three dholes decided to make one final appearance. This really was the week of the Asiatic wild dog.



We decided, having had an exceptional week with the dogs, that we would carry on and see if there was anything else that we may be lucky enough to see. The exceptional birdlife continued to delight with three white-bellied woodpeckers, one of the area's largest species, performing willingly. Other species included

hoopoe, white-throated kingfisher, black-rumped flameback and many other delights. The big cats managed to elude us once again on this final drive, but we did bump into the pack of dogs once more as we headed back to the gate.

Upon our return to the lodge, we would ordinarily have some time to unwind before the drive back to Bangalore. However, Ashwin had news that the otters had been spotted close to the lodge, and so we headed out on the boat once again for a bonus trip. As we headed out on the water, we saw Asian openbill, great egret, great cormorant and little egret before we caught sight of the family of smooth-coated otters. We were treated to an exceptional encounter as the family were busy catching fish. One individual caught a particularly large fish and sat on the edge of a partially submerged rock, eating, while a couple of other otters watched on, hoping for some scraps.



There wasn't much time left, and we had to turn around and head back to the jetty. What a wonderful final encounter with such a charming family of otters. The group had a little time to freshen up and pack before meeting at reception to pay our camera fees and bar bills for the week.

With all the bills paid, we said our goodbyes and gave our thanks to our magnificent driver, Sadiq! What a wonderful and knowledgeable man. Then, we reluctantly boarded the bus (only because Kabini is such a fabulous place) and made our way back to Bangalore. It was a smooth journey, with a brief stop for delicious ice cream on the way, and we arrived at our hotel in the afternoon.

We had an excellent final meal in the hotel restaurant, before retiring to our rooms as we all had exceptionally early starts the following morning.

**Tuesday 22 April 2025**

**Day 10:**

Bangalore to London

Waking up what seemed to be only a few hours after going to bed, most of the group met up in the hotel lobby for our bus to the airport. A couple of members had already departed as they were on an even earlier flight back to the UK.

We checked in with plenty of time and had everyone through security smoothly (except for a delay with my own bag). It was then a stroll through the terminal to our gate. The flight departed a little late, but we made good time and landed in Heathrow.

Once we had passed through passport control and collected our luggage, we said our goodbyes. What a wonderful trip it was to Nagarhole National Park.

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