

Tour Report

India - Nagarhole's Tigers, Wild Dogs & Leopards

5 – 12 February 2024

Tiger



Brahminy kite



Common hawk cuckoo



Elephant



Compiled by Narayana (Tour leader)

Day 1: Bangalore Airport to Kabini River Lodge**Monday 5 February 2024**

I picked up the guests at 5:30 am in the morning from the airport and went straight to the Taj and had breakfast. After an hour, we drove to Kabini River Lodge with a lot of fun discussions in the vehicle and looking at the beautiful landscape around. The weather was so calm and beautiful, it was a little cooler in the morning but then later in the day, it was really pleasant.

After lunch, we took some rest and got ready to head out for our first game drive in Kabini. The game drive was beautiful, and we got to see beautiful elephants bathing and crossing the river. The young ones were so active and having fun in the water. We really had quite a good time watching them. Apart from them, we also got to see some beautiful birds like the green imperial pigeon, yellow footed green pigeon, greater racket-tailed drongo, hoopoe and red-breasted flycatcher. Our first drive was beautiful, and we came back and had an early dinner, and called it a day.

Day 2: Kabini River Lodge – Morning and afternoon game drive**Tuesday 6 February 2024**

It was an early day to start. We had a beautiful morning game drive with so many gaurs at the beginning of the safari. As we went deep inside the park, we heard a lot of distress calls from spotted deer and langurs. We followed the calls for almost an hour, but no predator came out of the bush. But we heard the Tiger growl which was the highlight of the morning drive.

The afternoon drive started with a lot of excitement and fantastic birding, which was photographed, including osprey with a kill, western reef egret and striated heron. Almost at the end of the drive, there were a lot of distress calls from spotted deer. We couldn't leave the spot because the predator was almost there inside the bush. Then finally, the leopard showed up. we watched it for some time, but it was getting dark, so we had to leave the park. We came back to the lodge with happy faces, and just before the dinner, Russel's viper surprised us in the dining area.

The highlight of the drive was the Brahminy kite feeding on the fish near the reservoir and we watched it for more than 15 minutes.

Day 3: Kabini River Lodge – Morning and afternoon game drive**Wednesday 7 February 2024**

The early morning drive started at 6:00 am, and we were really excited to spot a cat, but unfortunately, it didn't happen. Instead, we got to see so many elephants and gaurs. Even though we didn't see the big cat, we all came back happily.

After breakfast, we thought we would go for a nature walk and enjoy some birding. It was delightful to see fruit bats resting, and we also saw one of the most beautiful birds—a mottled wood owl.

The afternoon game drive was also very quiet. We got to hear a lot of distress calls from spotted deer and sambar, we waited for almost an hour at the spot, but nothing happened. Still, a lot of elephants and birds made our day.

Day 4: Kabini River Lodge – Morning and afternoon game drive**Thursday 8 February 2024**

Today, when our drive started, we were very happy and positive that we would find something special. As the day was very misty, visibility was a little less. As we drove into the jungle, almost for an hour, the park was quiet. Then we went into one of the areas where not many vehicles were there, and suddenly, we saw this bright, striped animal walking out of the bush, and it was walking leisurely. Oh my goodness, the golden early morning light was falling on her which made it look like a golden tiger. She was so bold and habitual to the vehicles and she wasn't even bothered by our presence. She kept walking and marking her territory everywhere. We spent a very good time with her for almost 15 to 20 minutes. Then she disappeared into the bushes. After that, we heard that there were some wild dog sightings nearby and we rushed to check. Since luck was on our side, there were five wild

Find out more about our [Nagarhole's Tigers, Wild Dogs and Leopards trip](#) or [contact us](#)

01962 302086 sales@wildlifeworldwide.com www.wildlifeworldwide.com

dogs next to the road, playing and biting each other and marking their territory. We enjoyed watching them, and all of them started running to the nearby watering hole, but that waterhole was in the non-tourism area, so we couldn't go.

The tigress who went inside the bush earlier came back again and walked next to the safari track, giving us another opportunity to photograph her. We came back with happy faces.

As the morning drive went well, we went for the afternoon game drive with so much excitement. We saw the same tigress that we saw in the morning walking towards the watering hole. It was another beautiful sighting, and we got to see her walking and drinking water for some time, then she walked away from us before vanishing into the bushes.

Almost as we were exiting the park, we bumped into another tigress, sitting on the waterhole bund, and she was trying to call for her cubs. The sun went away, and the darkness was about to dominate. This beautiful female was constantly calling, and she was very restless. She kept moving and calling, she came very close to our vehicle and sat, but the call didn't stop at all. We were very lucky to witness this beauty for some time, and then we had to leave the park because it was getting very dark, and we could barely see anything.

Day 5: Kabini River Lodge – Morning and afternoon game drive

Friday 9 February 2024

It was a foggy morning with almost zero visibility. We started the drive and it was very quiet in terms of predator sighting. But we got to spend a really good time looking at the spiders and birds, and we also heard a lot of distress calls by both spotted deer and langurs.

After breakfast, I took them for a nature walk in a village close to the lodge. We ended up going to my home village and having a good time there and coming back for lunch.

The afternoon drive also was quiet, but we had an amazing sighting of a few herds of elephants with young calves. We got to see them grazing and moving slowly as they went into the lake, all of them went straight into the water. Many of the elephants went and sat in the water, lying down and trying to put their head under the water to bathe with their trunks up in the air. It looked like all of them were snorkelling. All of us enjoyed the drive and came back to the lodge.

Day 6: Kabini River Lodge – Morning and afternoon boat safari

Saturday 10 February 2024

It was another pleasant morning and we were all set to head out for a game drive. Today the plan is to find a sloth bear and leopard. As we started the drive, it was quiet and then we started to hear some distress calls. But the fog was really thick and the visibility was very poor. After an hour we got a message to say that there was some movement of a predator. We rushed to that spot. There, we saw something very special. This beautiful tigress was sitting next to the watering hole and waiting for the deer to come for the water. Since it was early morning, it was around 7:00 am, she kept waiting as the sun came up. She also kept changing her spots to make sure that the position was good and she was invisible. After an hour, some spotted deer came to the water and now she was almost ready to chase. Unfortunately, the deer went a little way away to drink the water. It had been two hours and we all felt that she didn't have a great position to hunt down a deer. But somehow, she just took off and started chasing the deer. As she started running, the langur spotted her and gave distress calls. Immediately, all the deer ran helter-skelter. Of course, it was unsuccessful. Imagine the amount of patience she had, and finally, she couldn't even make it. After this beautiful sighting, we came to the lodge and we decided to explore and experience the game drive on boat safari.

The boat safari was really beautiful, and we could experience watching wildlife from the water. As we were enjoying, we went very close to one of the corner banks and some vehicles were parked and watching something. We also scanned that area. After some time, we found this huge male tiger lying down in the bushes. We watched him for some time, and then we explored another part of the reservoir area and came back to see the male resting. Looking at the way he was resting, we could feel that he would not get up. We went back to the lodge.

Find out more about our [Nagarhole's Tigers, Wild Dogs and Leopards](#) trip or [contact us](#)

01962 302086 sales@wildlifeworldwide.com www.wildlifeworldwide.com

Day 7: Kabini River Lodge – Morning and afternoon game drive**Sunday 11 February 2024**

Today, we thought we would try and look for something which we hadn't seen, that was the sloth bear! We kept looking all over and trying to find some kind of tracks and signs. But nothing happened. In of the area where the tigress walked and didn't come out at all. We enjoyed watching birds and hearing stories of animals and birds.

On the afternoon drive, we also had the same kind of experience. We were happy with the distress calls, clicked some photos of the beautiful birds in the park and came back to the lodge.

Day 8: Kabini River Lodge to Taj Yeshwantpur, Bangalore**Monday 12 February 2024**

The last safari for this trip was in front of us. Lots of distress calls from all kinds of deer and langurs. There were a lot of pugmarks all around! But it never came out of the bush. The calls kept going away from us. All of us glued the binoculars to our eyes and kept watching all over. While we were watching, far away, a tigress just walked away from the bush and disappeared. Unfortunately, she never showed up again. We all came back to the lodge with happy faces and said final thanks to Kabini.

After we left the lodge, we started driving towards Bangalore and we had an opportunity to feast the traditional South Indian meal and then reached the hotel! That evening, we met again to add a couple of birds, scarlet minivet and brown shrike, to our checklist as we got to see them during the morning drive in Kabini. We enjoyed some soup and naan and called it a day.

Day 9: Taj Yeshwantpur to the Airport**Tuesday 13 February 2024**

I met the four guests in the morning and, checked out of the hotel, drove straight to the Airport. We were only discussing our days in Kabini and the sightings of the wildlife we had had. Finally, we reached the airport and said bye till the next holiday!

Sign up to our e-news

Sign up to our e-news to find out more about our tours, events, late availability, offers and tour reports at <https://www.wildlifeworldwide.com/subscribe>

Find out more about our [Nagarhole's Tigers, Wild Dogs and Leopards](#) trip or [contact us](#)

01962 302086 sales@wildlifeworldwide.com www.wildlifeworldwide.com

Checklist for Nagarhole's Tigers, Wild Dogs Leopards



	Common Name	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8
	MAMMALS								
1	Spotted Deer	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2	Stripe-necked Mongoose	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	
3	Southern plains gray langur	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
4	Malabar Giant Squirrel/ Indian Giant Squirrel	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
5	Asian Elephant	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
6	Sambar Deer	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
7	Three-striped Palm Squirrel		✓					✓	✓
8	Gaur		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
9	Wild Pig		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
10	Barking deer/ Indian Muntjac		✓		✓		✓		✓
11	Indian Leopard		✓						
12	Bonnet Macaque	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
13	Indian Flying Fox/ Fruite Bat			✓		✓	✓		
14	Royal Bengal Tiger				✓		✓		✓
15	Indian Grey Mongoose				✓	✓			
16	Wild Dog/ Dhole				✓				
17	Indian Pipistrille					✓		✓	
18	Ruddy Mongoose						✓		



19	Smooth-coated Otter						✓		
----	---------------------	--	--	--	--	--	---	--	--

	Name	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8
	BIRDS								
1	Rock Dove	✓					✓		
2	Black Kite	✓							
3	Green Imperial Pigeon	✓							
4	White-throated Kingfisher	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
5	Common Kingfisher	✓	✓	✓				✓	
6	Red-breasted Flycatcher	✓			✓				
7	Greater Racket-tailed Drongo	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
8	Indian Peafowl	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
9	Brahminy Kite	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
10	Indian Vultures	✓			✓				
11	Streak-throated Woodpecker	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	
12	Crested Treeswift	✓				✓			
13	Jungle Babbler	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
14	Spot-billed Duck	✓					✓		
15	Wood sandpiper	✓					✓		
16	White-browed Wagtail	✓					✓		
17	Red-wattled Lapwing		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
18	Cattle Egret		✓			✓			
19	Little Cormorant		✓	✓	✓		✓		

20	Great Egret		✓			✓	✓		
21	Common Hoopoe		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
22	Woolly-necked Stork		✓				✓		
23	Western Reef Egret		✓				✓		
24	Grey Junglefowl		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
25	Spotted Dove		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
26	Green Sandpiper		✓	✓					
27	River Tern		✓	✓			✓		
28	Black-winged Stilt		✓						
29	Darter		✓				✓		
30	Long-tailed Shrike		✓						
31	Stiated Heron		✓				✓		
32	Grey Heron		✓				✓		
33	Indian Pond Heron		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
34	Crested Serpant Eagle		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
35	Osprey		✓				✓		
36	Medium Egret		✓				✓		
37	Black-headed Ibis		✓						
38	Oriental Magpie-robin		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
39	Common Myna		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
40	Jungle Myna		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
41	Grey Wagtail		✓	✓	✓		✓		
42	Common Blackbird		✓						

43	White-bellied Woodpecker		✓	✓	✓				
44	Yellow-footed Green Pigeon		✓				✓		✓
45	White-bellied Drongo		✓						✓
46	Ashy Drongo		✓						
47	Grey-headed Fish Eagle		✓						
48	Indian Roller			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
49	Small Minivet			✓	✓			✓	
50	Black-hooded Oriole			✓					
51	Mottled Wood Owl			✓					
52	Indian Grey Hornbill			✓					
53	Green Bee-eater			✓	✓	✓			
54	Black-rumped Flameback			✓		✓			
55	Common Hawk-cuckoo			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
56	Red-headed Vulture			✓	✓				
57	Oriental Turtle-dove			✓					
58	Red-whiskered Bulbul			✓	✓	✓			
59	White-cheeked Barbet			✓	✓			✓	
60	Bronzed Drongo			✓	✓	✓			
61	Plum-headed Parakeet			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
62	Yellow-crowned Woodpecker				✓				
63	Balck-naped Monarch				✓				
64	White-eyed Buzzard				✓				
65	Blyth's Reed Warbler					✓			

66	Indin Scops Owl					✓			
67	Indian Golden Oriole					✓	✓		
68	Red-rumped Swallow					✓	✓		
69	Grey Francolin					✓			
70	Purple-rumped Sunbird					✓			
71	Little Ringed Plover						✓		
72	Common Snipe						✓		
73	Red-naped Ibis						✓		
74	Asian Openbill						✓		
75	Great Cormorant						✓		
76	Blue-faced Malkoha							✓	✓
77	Indian Paradise Flycatcher							✓	
78	Greater Flameback Woodpecker							✓	
79	Malabar Parakeet							✓	✓
80	Common Greenshank							✓	
81	Cineriouse Tit		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
82	Red-vented Bulbul							✓	✓
83	Scarlet Minivet								✓
84	Brown Shrike								✓
85	Jungle Owlet							✓	

	Names	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8
	OTHER WILDLIFE								
1	Paper Wasp	✓	✓	✓	✓				
2	Common Toad	✓			✓	✓			
3	Russell's Viper			✓					
4	Catfish	✓						✓	
5	Indian Flapshel Turtle				✓	✓	✓		
6	Common Crow - butterfly			✓					
7	Oriental Garden Lizard					✓			
8	Common Emigrant - butterfly					✓			
9	Common Mormon - butterfly					✓			
10	Common Rose - butterfly					✓			
11	Common House Gecko						✓		
12	Asian Weaver Ant						✓		