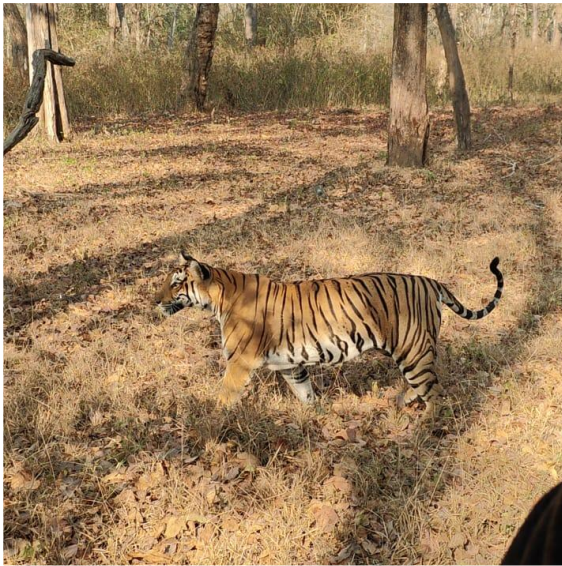


Tour Report Nagarhole's Tigers, Wild Dogs & Leopards 3 - 11 March 2025

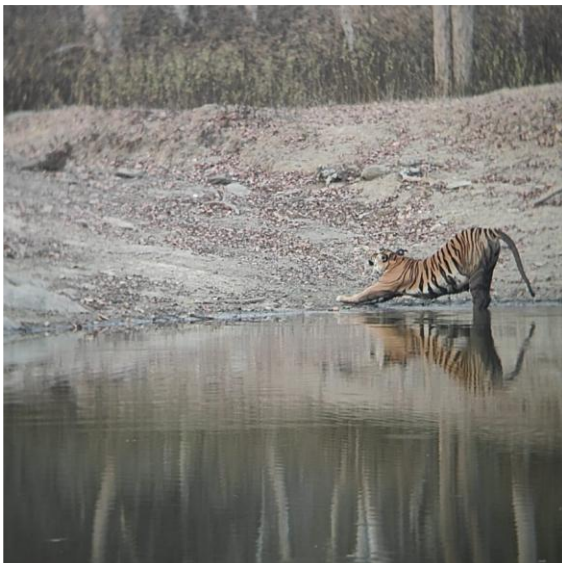
Tiger



Monitor lizard



Tiger



Asiatic elephant



Compiled by Shreenidhi KJ

Monday 3 March 2025

Day 1:

Bangalore to Nagarhole

Cool morning with a sunny afternoon

After receiving the group early in the morning at the airport, we headed straight to the hotel for breakfast before our journey to the wildlands of Nagarhole. After making good time we were in Kabini River Lodge by 12:30 in the afternoon. After some scrumptious lunch, we were ready for our 'Maiden Voyage' into the jungle.

On our first drive, we explored Zone B. Though we did not encounter any predators, we did end up seeing elephants, gaur, giant squirrel, spotted deer as well as a ruddy mongoose. We did see a fair few birds including – osprey, serpent eagle, grey-headed fish eagle etc.

Tuesday 4 March 2025

Day 2:

Nagarhole/Kabini

Foggy morning with a warm sunny afternoon

AM – Zone A

Started our morning drive with a lot of fog. As we were driving through the fog straining our eyes for movement, our driver spotted a young female leopard trying to cross the road ahead. We stopped the vehicle at a good distance to make her comfortable enough to be able to cross the road and stop and look at us. We also encountered a female elephant along with her calf later in the drive.

PM – Zone A

Although this afternoon was void of predators we did enjoy tracking warning calls by spotted deer and langurs, which were probably being given for a predator that was resting.

Wednesday 5 March 2025

Day 3:

Nagarhole/Kabini

Cool Foggy morning with a sunny afternoon

AM - Zone B

We started the morning with very dense fog around the backwater area. We decided that we would explore away from the backwater areas until the sun was a little higher up. We had some interesting sightings like the black stork, an elephant with a calf and a monitor lizard. When we did reach the backwater area after hearing some sambar calls, we caught a quick glimpse of a big male tiger who rapidly disappeared into the thickets.

PM - Zone A

As we entered the park we got information that a female tiger had been seen by some of the patrolling guards at a water hole. We rushed to the area to find the Magge female cooling off in a small waterbody and drinking water. After resting for a little while the tigress got out of the water calling out probably to her cubs. We tracked her for a little while longer before she disappeared into the jungle. Later during the drive we also managed to get a glimpse of leopard in the bushes.

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Thursday 6 March 2025

Day 4:

Nagarhole/Kabini

Cool Foggy morning with a sunny afternoon

AM – Zone B

This morning we were lucky to see a big male tusker who was tearing up young trees to feed himself. We also saw a big bull gaur crossing the road.

PM – Zone A

We were planning to track the Magge female again this afternoon and were on our way to a waterbody which we thought would be the best chance to wait for her. In about ten minutes of entering the park, we saw a vehicle parked next to a dense patch of the jungle and frantically searching. Upon closer inspection, we found a big male tiger hidden in the bushes at a distance resting. We continued to wait there for him to move, which he did in a few minutes but disappeared deeper into the thicket away from view. We gave it some more time to see if he re-appeared. Later at the waterhole, we saw the Magge tigress resting at the edge of the water body for a long time before she decided to get up, stretch and start calling out, before heading into the jungle.

Friday 7 March 2025

Day 5:

Nagarhole/Kabini

Cool misty morning with a sunny afternoon

AM – Zone B

We had a fabulous morning drive, which started with a quick sighting of a big male tiger disappearing into the misty jungle! Followed by a pack of three wild dogs. We ended the drive with the beautiful TT female tiger sitting near a small waterhole and half-heartedly stalking a spotted deer.

To cap it all off we had a beautiful sighting of an otter from the boat post breakfast when we went birding.

PM – Zone A

The lucky streak continues!! We had a lovely sighting of a very shy sub-adult tigress towards the end of the evening drive. We also saw the pack of three wild dogs again with their bellies full to the bursting point.

Saturday 8 March 2025

Day 6:

Nagarhole/Kabini

Cool misty morning with a sunny afternoon

AM – Zone B

Had a pretty quiet morning today as far as predators are concerned. But did add a few new birds to the list including striated heron and painted stork. We decided that it would be a good idea to go on the boat safari in the evening to get a different perspective of the jungle.

PM – Boat Safari

The boat safari was quite fruitful in terms of a big pod of ten otters, a massive tusker and a big mugger crocodile basking on the banks. Also added a new bird (common snipe) along with a few good shots of the osprey and cormorants.

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Sunday 9 March 2025

Day 7:

Nagarhole/Kabini

Cool misty morning with a sunny afternoon

AM – Zone A

We were quite happy to be back on the open jeep in the jungle. Although there was a lot of predatory movement in the park with warning calls and tracks, we did not see any predators make an appearance.

PM - Zone B

On our way to check on the waterhole where we knew the tigress was resting, we came across a pack of wild dogs that were sleeping in the shade of some trees. We decided to quickly check on the tigress at the waterhole before we came back. Found the tigress lounging at the water's edge and spent some time there observing her before returning to the wild dogs. We got to see a lot of mutual grooming behaviour and stayed with the pack for over 30 minutes before they decided to head deeper into the jungle.

Monday 10 March 2025

Day 8:

Nagarhole/Kabini

Cool misty morning with a sunny afternoon

Zone A

This was our last drive in the park before heading back to Bengaluru and the forest blessed us with the beautiful sighting of the Balle tigress very close to the road stalking some spotted deer. She decided to cross right behind our vehicle before taking off behind the deer. We managed to see her stalking for a little longer before it was time for us to head back to the lodge for a quick brunch and drive back to Bengaluru. What an amazing sighting to end our trip of 14 drives it was!

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Checklist for Nagarhole's Tigers, Wild Dogs & Leopards

WILDLIFE TRAVEL
WORLDWIDE EXPERIENCE
CONSERVE

	Common Name	Scientific Name	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8
	MAMMALS									
1	Tiger	<i>Panthera tigris</i>			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
2	Leopard	<i>Panthera pardus</i>		✓	✓					
3	Asiatic elephant	<i>Elephas maximus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		
4	Gaur	<i>Bos gaurus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
5	Sambar	<i>Rusa unicolor</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
6	Spotted deer	<i>Axis axis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
7	Barking deer	<i>Muntiacus muntjac</i>	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓
8	South-Western langur	<i>Semnopithecus hypoleucos</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
9	Malabar giant squirrel	<i>Ratufa indica</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
10	Bonnet macaque	<i>Macaca radiata</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
11	Ruddy mongoose	<i>Herpestes smithii</i>	✓		✓			✓	✓	
12	Striped necked mongoose	<i>Herpestes vitticollis</i>			✓		✓		✓	✓
13	Three striped palm squirrel	<i>Funanulus palmarum</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
14	Dholes (Asian wild dog)	<i>Cuon alpinus</i>					✓		✓	
15	Smooth Coated Otter	<i>Lutrogale perspicillata</i>					✓	✓		

BIRDS OBSERVED DURING ITINERARY		
1	Indian Spot-billed Duck	<i>Anas poecilorhyncha</i>
2	Indian Peafowl	<i>Pavo cristatus</i>
3	Red Spurfowl	<i>Galloperdix spadicea</i>
4	Gray Junglefowl	<i>Gallus sonneratii</i>
5	Rock Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>
6	Eurasian Collared-Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>
7	Spotted Dove	<i>Spilopelia chinensis</i>
8	Yellow-footed Green-Pigeon	<i>Treron phoenicopterus</i>
9	Green Imperial-Pigeon	<i>Ducula aenea</i>

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10	Greater Coucal	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>
11	Blue-faced Malkoha	<i>Phaenicophaeus viridirostris</i>
12	Common Hawk-Cuckoo	<i>Hierococcyx varius</i>
13	Jerdon's Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus atripennis</i>
14	Crested Treeswift	<i>Hemiprocne coronata</i>
15	White-breasted Waterhen	<i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>
16	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Thinornis dubius</i>
17	Yellow-wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus malabaricus</i>
18	Red-wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus indicus</i>
19	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>
20	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>
21	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>
22	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>
23	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>
24	Small Pratincole	<i>Glareola lactea</i>
25	River Tern	<i>Sterna aurantia</i>
26	Asian Openbill	<i>Anastomus oscitans</i>
27	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>
28	Asian Woolly-necked Stork	<i>Ciconia episcopus</i>
29	Painted Stork	<i>Mycteria leucocephala</i>
30	Oriental Darter	<i>Anhinga melanogaster</i>
31	Little Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo niger</i>
32	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>
33	Indian Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax fuscicollis</i>
34	Black-headed Ibis	<i>Threskiornis melanocephalus</i>
35	Red-naped Ibis	<i>Pseudibis papillosa</i>
36	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>
37	Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striata</i>
38	Indian Pond-Heron	<i>Ardeola grayii</i>
39	Eastern Cattle-Egret	<i>Ardea coromanda</i>
40	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>
41	Medium Egret	<i>Ardea intermedia</i>
42	Gray Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
43	Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>

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44	Oriental Honey-buzzard	<i>Pernis ptilorhynchus</i>
45	Red-headed Vulture	<i>Sarcogyps calvus</i>
46	White-rumped Vulture	<i>Gyps bengalensis</i>
47	Crested Serpent-Eagle	<i>Spilornis cheela</i>
48	Changeable Hawk-Eagle	<i>Nisaetus cirrhatus</i>
49	Indian Spotted Eagle	<i>Clanga hastata</i>
50	Shikra	<i>Tachyspiza badia</i>
51	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>
52	Brahminy Kite	<i>Haliastur indus</i>
53	Grey-headed Fish-Eagle	<i>Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus</i>
54	Indian Scops-Owl	<i>Otus bakkamoena</i>
55	Jungle Owlet	<i>Glaucidium radiatum</i>
56	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>
57	Indian Gray Hornbill	<i>Ocyrocus birostris</i>
58	Asian Green Bee-eater	<i>Merops orientalis</i>
59	Blue-tailed Bee-eater	<i>Merops philippinus</i>
60	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>
61	White-throated Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>
62	Indian Roller	<i>Coracias benghalensis</i>
63	Coppersmith Barbet	<i>Psilopogon haemacephalus</i>
64	White-cheeked Barbet	<i>Psilopogon viridis</i>
65	Brown-capped Pygmy Woodpecker	<i>Yungipicus nanus</i>
66	Malabar Flameback	<i>Chrysocolaptes socialis</i>
67	Rufous Woodpecker	<i>Micropternus brachyurus</i>
68	Common Flameback	<i>Dinopium javanense</i>
69	Black-rumped Flameback	<i>Dinopium benghalense</i>
70	Lesser Yellownape	<i>Picus chlorolophus</i>
71	Streak-throated Woodpecker	<i>Picus xanthopygaeus</i>
72	White-bellied Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus javensis</i>
73	Rose-ringed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>
74	Plum-headed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula cyanocephala</i>
75	Malabar Parakeet	<i>Psittacula columboides</i>
76	Indian Pitta	<i>Pitta brachyura</i>
77	Small Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus cinnamomeus</i>

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78	Orange Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus flammeus</i>
79	Indian Cuckooshrike	<i>Coracina macei</i>
80	Indian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus kundoo</i>
81	Black-hooded Oriole	<i>Oriolus xanthornus</i>
82	Malabar Woodshrike	<i>Tephrodornis sylvicola</i>
83	Common Woodshrike	<i>Tephrodornis pondicerianus</i>
84	Black Drongo	<i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i>
85	White-bellied Drongo	<i>Dicrurus caerulescens</i>
86	Bronzed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus aeneus</i>
87	Greater Racket-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus paradiseus</i>
88	Indian Paradise-Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone paradisi</i>
89	Long-tailed Shrike	<i>Lanius schach</i>
90	Rufous Treepie	<i>Dendrocitta vagabunda</i>
91	House Crow	<i>Corvus splendens</i>
92	Large-billed Crow	<i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>
93	Asian Tit	<i>Parus cinereus</i>
94	Red-whiskered Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus jocosus</i>
95	Red-vented Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>
96	Indian Scimitar-Babbler	<i>Pomatorhinus horsfieldii</i>
97	Jungle Babbler	<i>Argya striata</i>
98	Velvet-fronted Nuthatch	<i>Sitta frontalis</i>
99	Indian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta castanea</i>
100	Southern Hill Myna	<i>Gracula indica</i>
101	Brahminy Starling	<i>Sturnia pagodarum</i>
102	Chestnut-tailed Starling	<i>Sturnia malabarica</i>
103	Malabar Starling	<i>Sturnia blythii</i>
104	Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>
105	Jungle Myna	<i>Acridotheres fuscus</i>
106	Orange-headed Thrush	<i>Geokichla citrina</i>
107	Oriental Magpie-Robin	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>
108	White-rumped Shama	<i>Copsychus malabaricus</i>
109	Tickell's Blue Flycatcher	<i>Cyornis tickelliae</i>
110	Gray Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>
111	Western Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>

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112	White-browed Wagtail	<i>Motacilla maderaspatensis</i>
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