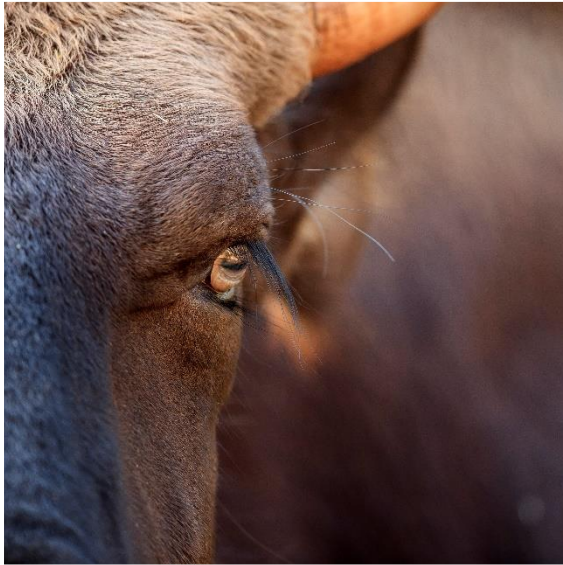


## Tour Report

# India – Nagarhole Photo Safari

9 -17 April 2023

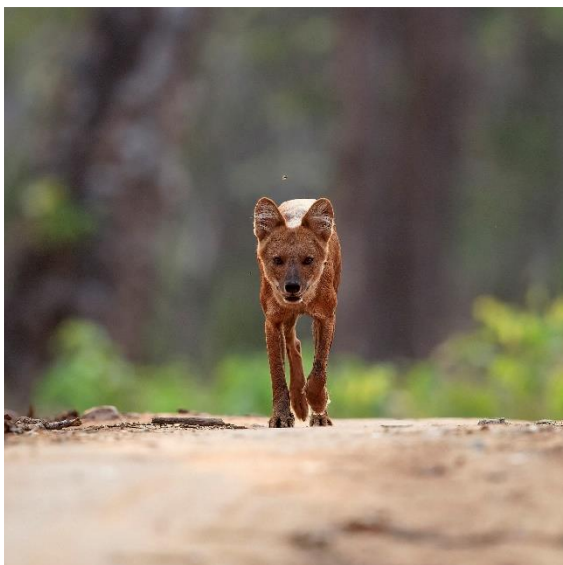
Gaur



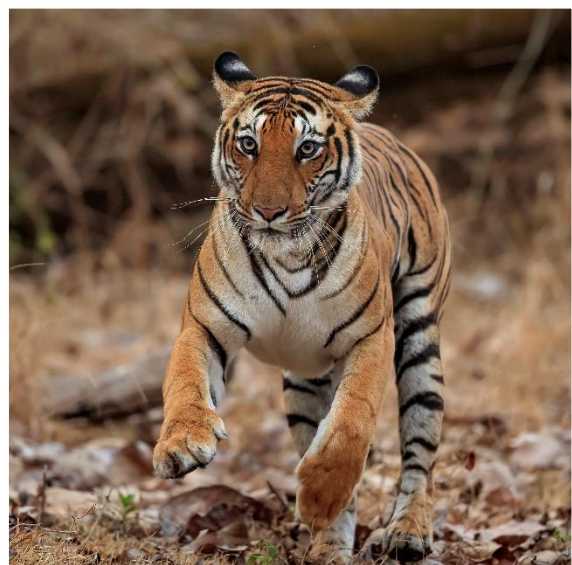
Asian elephant chasing dhole



Dhole



Bengal tiger



Compiled by Bret Charman

**Day 1: London Heathrow to Bangalore****Sunday 9 April 2023**

Today, most the group were flying from London Heathrow to Bangalore with British Airways. With a flight leaving at lunchtime, we would arrive in India early the following morning.

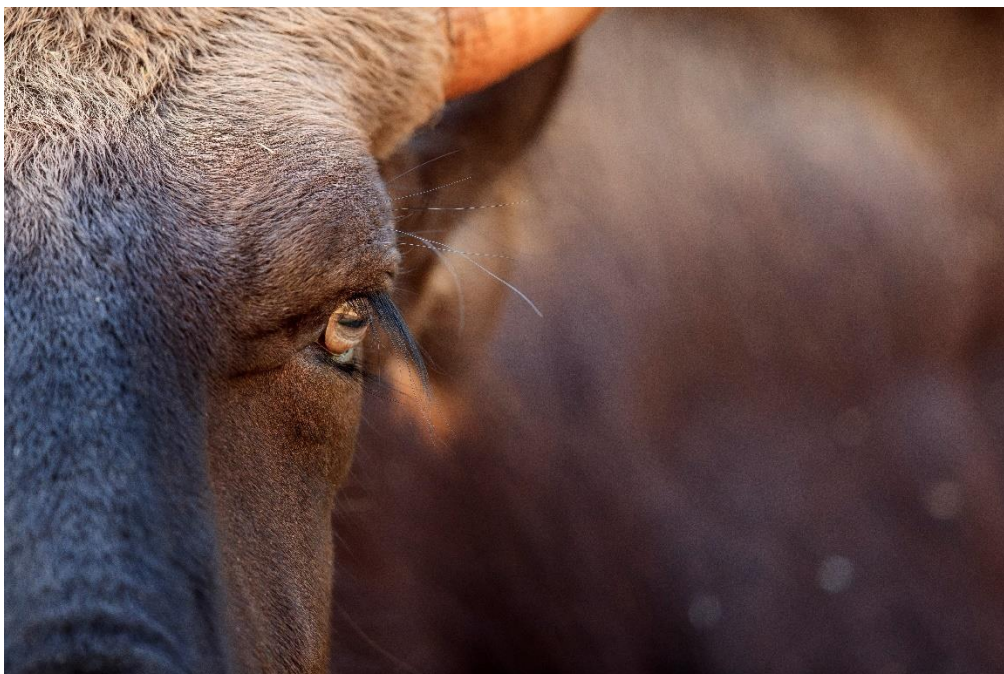
**Day 2: Arrive Bangalore; drive to Nagarhole National Park****Monday 10 April 2023**

We arrived on time in Bangalore, first thing in the morning, and after making our way through immigration we picked up our bags. Proceeding out of the secure area, some of the group changed their money for rupees and soon we were out of the airport and being greeted by our guide, Varun.

After a long overnight flight, we were whisked away to the airport hotel, where we met the final member of our group and enjoyed an excellent breakfast. Now that the group was all together, and feeling suitably refreshed, we climbed aboard the bus for our journey across the state of Karnataka to Kabini River Lodge on the edge of the Nagarhole National Park.

We journeyed down the highway to the historical city of Mysore, before turning off onto a smaller road and heading towards the backwaters of the Kabini River. The drive took around five hours and we had views of a few birds on our way, including black and Brahminy kites, black-headed ibis, and great grey shrike. Upon our arrival at Kabini River Lodge, we were quickly checked in and shown to our rooms. It wasn't long before it was time to enjoy our first meal in the lodge's covered dining area. The meals here consist of a buffet, full of local dishes, and there is absolutely no chance of going hungry.

With full tummies, it wasn't long before we were heading out for our first drive into the national park. Nagarhole is relatively quiet, as far as Indian parks go, and today we started by exploring Zone A. There are only two zones in the park and the number of vehicles is limited, so it never gets too busy. We took our time familiarising ourselves with the park and the wildlife, as we were in no rush and just wanted to enjoy whatever we came across.



Driving slowly, we started to wind our way down the pretty forest roads and almost immediately came across a herd of gaur with a young calf. These huge members of the bovine family were surprisingly obliging and came incredibly close. What a great start to our time in this heavily forested part of Karnataka. Nagarhole has its own feel and charms and any time you enter there is an air of excitement and the unknown.



Carrying on further down the road, along the forest tracks, we came down to the open meadows that surround the Kabini backwaters. The forest opens up to an area of open grassland, and it was here that we enjoyed our first sightings of Asian elephant. The park and surrounding areas are home to one of the largest populations left anywhere on the Asian continent. As we enjoyed watching the elephants, there was some movement at the edge of the forest. We realised that a pack of Asiatic wild dog, or dhole, had appeared and were moving out in to the open. It seemed as if they had come down to find a drink, but their plans were about to be cut short. The elephants caught the scent and then sight of the dhole, suddenly making their way directly towards them.



The elephants proceeded to spend the next half an hour, or more, chasing the dogs away. The pack would reappear, only to be chased off once more. It meant we were able to enjoy some incredible views and capture some wonderful images.

Eventually the pack of dhole decided to move away from the elephants and up through the trees, so the elephants gave up on harassing their canid quarry. It was time to head off and have a quick look at the next area along the shores of the backwaters. Here we heard the alarm calls of chital and grey langurs, but we were unable to see the potential threat. In India, you typically find a cat by listening to the wildlife of the forest and doing your best to work out where it may appear. It's all part of the excitement of any Indian safari, as it adds to the atmosphere and a level of anticipation.





After an action-packed first drive, it was time to head back to the lodge for our first dinner and an early night for a very well-deserved rest.

### Day 3: Nagarhole National Park

**Tuesday 11 April 2023**



Waking bright and early, we met up at 05:30 for a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit, before climbing aboard our vehicle and heading into the park at first light. This morning there was a thick mist that filled the air and visibility was limited. The atmosphere however was electric, and there was a noticeable sense of excitement amongst the group. This morning we would be exploring Zone A and as we proceeded into the forest we saw our first chital of the day, as well as our first sambar – the largest deer species found in Nagarhole. As we worked our way along the forest track, we found a herd of elephants and a wild boar on the edge of the forest, before coming across a perfect posing peacock.

The thick mist and cool weather meant that everything was quiet this morning, so it was an ideal time to focus on the area's magnificent birdlife. We enjoyed views of a diverse range of both common and rarer species. Highlights included racket-tailed drongo, grey junglefowl, orange-headed thrush, white-cheeked barbet and Brahminy starling.

We also had our first views of Malabar giant squirrel and a group of grey langurs at play. With a quiet morning, in terms of our most sought-after mammals, we started to make our



way back to Kabini Jungle Lodge for our first breakfast. After an excellent meal, it was time to catch up on some sleep as temperatures started to rise. We would reconvene later for another fabulous lunch, before meeting up for an afternoon drive.

Each day we agreed to meet early for our afternoon drives to maximise our chances of heading out into the park first. By doing this we hoped to enjoy any potential sighting without the crowds. We met up nice and early and were quickly on our way into the park. It is around a five minute drive into the park from the lodge, and after checking in, we made our way into Zone A again. It was an unusually hot day for this part of India and the forecast suggested it would stay that way for the rest of the week. As we made our way along the winding forest tracks, we came across a langur with tiny youngster, and visited several waterholes hoping a tiger may be resting in the cooling waters. At one of these waterholes, we enjoyed watching the chital coming down to drink, catching sight of both green and blue-tailed bee-eaters as they caught insects on the wing.

Alongside a host of other beautiful birds, including streak-throated woodpecker and black-rumped flameback, we enjoyed watching and photographing a family of bonnet macaques and capturing images of these intelligent primates.



In fact, this was just one of the fantastic photographic encounters we would enjoy this afternoon. We were also treated to wonderful views of chital in lovely warm evening light as they approached one of the waterholes. Whilst waiting for the sound of alarm calls, or for a big cat to emerge from the forest, we were able to photograph a family of langurs which were sitting in a tree and feeding on its leaves. These primates were another fabulous subject, but certainly not without their challenges. The grey langur's light fur and dark faces mean that finding the right exposure is particularly challenging, but the opportunities presented to us were exceptional – you really couldn't have asked for better portrait photography.





With the sun getting lower in the sky, we knew it was time to start heading towards the park exit.

As we made our way through the park, we approached an area with ancient ruins, and it was here that we saw our first male peacock displaying. It is easy, with so many peacocks in captivity, to forget just how a spectacular bird they are and to see one displaying in the wild is a truly magical experience.

The male was surrounded by females and not only had his tail fanned out, showing off his spectacular display, but was also shaking and bristling the quills together to make a sound I had never heard before. Surely the peacock and this complex mating ritual must be one of the most astonishing displays in the animal kingdom. With time running away from us, it was time to leave the park and head back to the lodge for another excellent dinner before retreating to bed after a long day.



#### Day 4: Nagarhole National Park

Wednesday 12 April 2023

We awoke to another misty and humid morning at Kabini River Lodge. After meeting for our early morning tea or coffee, we walked up to the vehicle and made the short journey to the park gates. It wasn't long before we were in Zone A once again, and today it was even mistier than the day before. At the first waterhole, only a few hundred yards into the forest, a pair of stripe-necked mongooses could be seen through the mist, but with such low visibility photography was challenging.



It was another quiet morning in the forest. Most likely to do with the unseasonal weather, but fortunately we were treated to a plethora of stunning birds including greater flameback, green imperial pigeon, velvet-fronted nuthatch, red-rumped swallows, and Oriental honey buzzard. As the morning's clouds started to clear and the heat started to build, we found an elephant enjoying a dust bath with her young, and a herd of sambar drinking at a waterhole. It wasn't long before we had to make our way out of the park and return to the lodge for breakfast.

After another excellent breakfast, we decided to meet up for a walk around the lodge's grounds to try and see some of the species that can be found here. We started off by visiting the resident Indian flying foxes, which roost in the large trees around the property. The forest that runs along one boundary of the lodge's grounds plays host to staggering array of birds, of which we were able to see purple-rumped sunbird, red-headed vulture, coppersmith barbet, golden oriole, Malabar starling, paradise flycatcher and even mottled wood owl.



As the heat of the day had really started to build, we retreated to the sanctuary of our rooms before reconvening for another excellent lunch. Once again, we agreed to meet early to avoid the crowds upon entering the park and were quickly on our way.

This afternoon was another hot one and the forest was incredibly quiet. We worked hard, visiting waterholes and listening out for alarm calls. As we ventured further away, we came across a beautiful herd of elephants which came right by the vehicles and provided us with an exhilarating encounter. We put in plenty of time and stayed patient throughout. However, with the heat staying and a lack of any predator movement, we decided to slowly make our way back towards the park's entrance. On our way, we came across a beautiful female barking deer, right out in the open, which provided us with some wonderful photography opportunities. This was a rare sighting of a usually shy and elusive species.





We continued onwards, heading through the forest while listening out alarm calls as we drove. It was then that we heard about a tiger sighting, only a few hundred metres away from where we had spent much of the afternoon waiting for a cat to appear.

Within only a few moments, we turned around and headed back towards where the tiger had been sighted. We couldn't believe it, we had probably only missed the tiger's appearance by a few minutes, possibly while watching some langurs just down the road. We arrived to find a tigress laying out in the open, just away from the road. Unfortunately, the road was full of vehicles, so we were unable to get any closer. The tiger though was absolutely beautiful, and we had a perfect angle as she sat up and look towards us.

Another vehicle told us that there were cubs around, so we were keen to get closer to see if we could catch a glimpse. Indeed, after a short while, we were able to drive a little close and capture some more images of the beautiful tigress. The major issue we had was time. It was getting late and we had to be out of the park soon. It was only a few moments before we were due to depart when I noticed a young cub sat on the edge of the thick scrub. It wasn't really a great opportunity for photography, but it was still a privilege to see such a young tiger cub. This really isn't something you see very often, so we were incredibly fortunate. Sadly, it was time to make our way out of the park, though we were all delighted that we had finally had a first glimpse of one of Nagarhole National Park's big cats.





We were a little late leaving the park, but luckily we weren't in any trouble, and were soon on the road back to the lodge. One of the great things is getting to drive through villages and enjoy the hustle and bustle as the locals go about their business.

After a refreshing shower, we all met up in the bar and went through the day's highlights. With an ice-cold drink in hand, we headed down for dinner and retreated to our rooms for the night.

#### **Day 5: Nagarhole National Park**

**Thursday 13 April 2023**

Continuing our usual routine, we were among the first vehicles into the park again. This morning we had been assigned Zone B, so we started to make our way along the old main road that dissects the park. Our guide Varun was always alert, trying hard to find us a big cat, or perhaps the wild dogs.

Zone B is a really beautiful part of the park and even when the stars of the show do their best to stay out of sight, there are always plenty of other species to keep you occupied. We drove along the road, which is one of the best places in the park to see sloth bear. As we drove, the group enjoyed some great views of birds such as white-throated kingfisher and long-tailed shrike. We also had brief sightings of a large wild boar.

As we neared the fence-line that borders the park, we came across a large fresh tiger scat in the middle of the road. We sat there for a little while hoping we may hear the alarms calls of chital and langur, but alas we had no luck. So we continued on, along the park's boundary, where we spent the next hour or so enjoying the prolific birdlife. We saw a number of new species here, and had some great views of peacock as they returned to the forest after a night in the adjoining farmers' fields. We also had brief glimpses of a barking deer (which quickly made its exit into the thick scrub) before we headed back to the old main road. It was here that we had a short encounter with a nervous dhole. Despite our best efforts, the dhole didn't reappear, so we continued on towards the other side of Zone B.

Here, we enjoyed views of a group of langurs, including some youngsters, before continuing down to the backwaters, where we found several elephants and a Brahminy kite flying by with a fish in its talons. With



the heat building once more, we made our way back to the lodge, where we had agreed to enjoy a short boat trip on the reservoir's waters. Only a few minutes after setting off, we came across a number of water birds including spot-billed duck, Asian openbill, little and river terns and woolly-necked storks. The highlight was undoubtedly a pair of smooth-coated otters, which put on an incredible show for us. It was a massive treat and totally unexpected.



After an action-packed morning, we had another excellent lunch and met up once again for our afternoon drive. We were allocated Zone A once more, so we headed through the forest and down to the first large waterhole, near the pylons. It was here we saw a couple of elephants and their calves as they cooled down in the deep water.

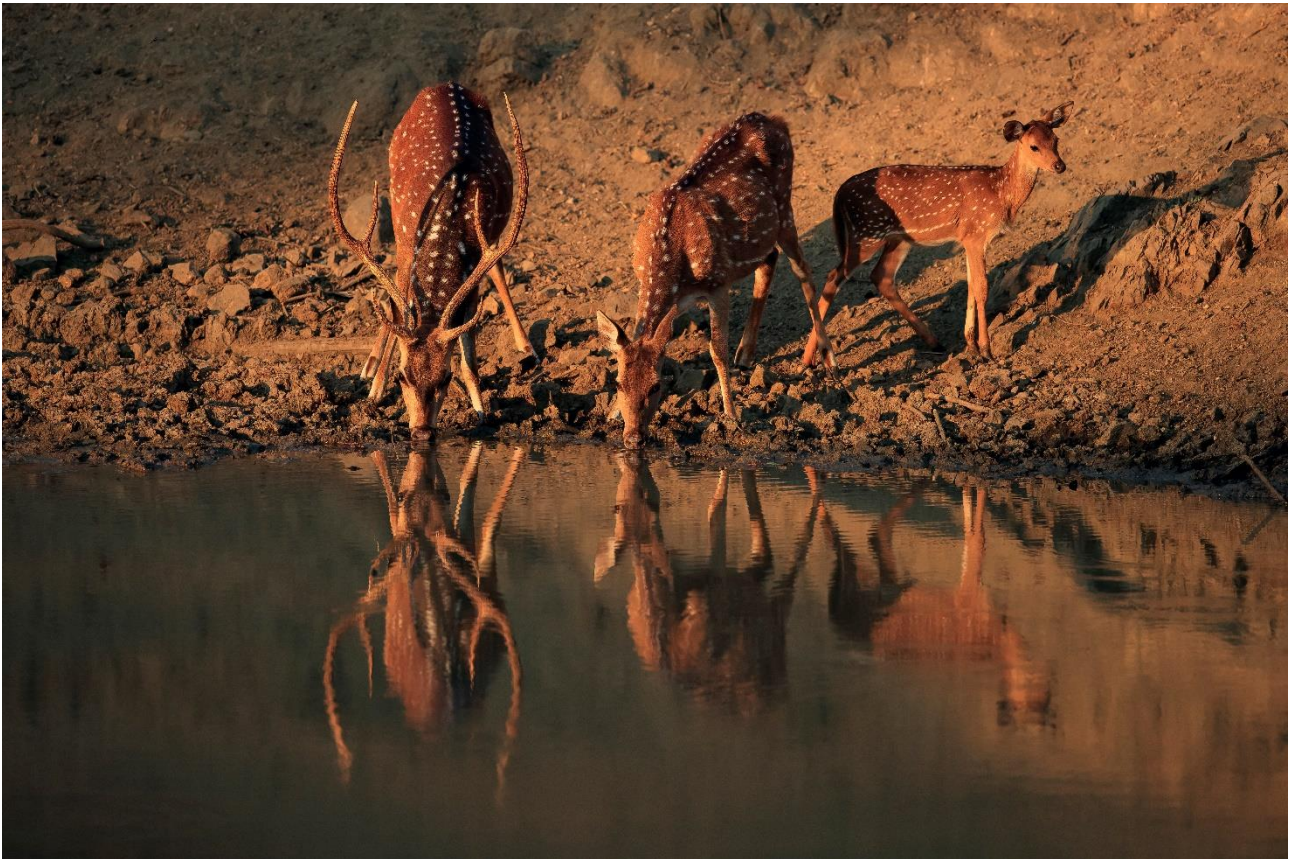


We stayed with the elephants for some time and watched as they climbed out of the water. The first elephant and her calf were soon joined by a second calf. As it came out of the water, the female tried to kick it and then attacked it, knocking it off its fit and pinning it to the floor. Varun and I had never seen behaviour like this and it was quite shocking. It wasn't possible to photograph as some trees obscured our view of this unusual moment. The second female quickly pulled herself out of the water and rescued her calf from the traumatic incident.

It wasn't long before we started to move again, having established that the elephant calf was safe and sound. As we continued on, searching for any sign of big cats, we came across a big male elephant as he



crossed the road right in front of us. Despite our best efforts, we were unable to find any cats yet again, but as we sat at one of the waterholes, we were rewarded with some fantastic photographic opportunities. Firstly, a ruddy mongoose was the perfect poser, then a number of chital came for a drink, and we were treated to the most magical reflections.



Despite the fact we had missed the big cats, we had enjoyed an incredible evening and some great photographic moments by the time we headed back to the park entrance. We arrived back at the lodge just before dark and headed to our rooms for the chance to freshen up before meeting in the bar before dinner.

#### **Day 6: Nagarhole National Park**

**Friday 14 April 2023**

It was another misty morning as we headed back into the park. We had been allocated Zone A and we made our way slowly through the forest, listening intently for any alarm calls. As we reached the open area near the pylons, we found fresh leopard tracks on the ground. This is another excellent way to track our felid quarry, so we followed the pawprints for a couple of kilometres along the road.

Unfortunately, on this occasion, we didn't see leopard, but we did come across some fresh tiger tracks. The tiger tracks turned off of the main forest road and headed down a side path, so we had to keep searching. As we slowly climbed a hill and turned off at a junction, we saw a lone stripe-necked mongoose. This was our first good encounter of this handsome member of the mongoose family, and we were able to take photographs as it searched for food and turned over the soil. We then heard of a sighting back the way we had come, so we went to see what was on the prowl.





We arrived to find that a leopard had been sighted exactly at the spot where the tiger tracks had disappeared. At first, we were unable to see the leopard, but then we saw a shape moving through the thick undergrowth. It was a spotted cat – our first leopard! We decided to play the long game and wait to





see what happened. It was clear that the leopard was trying to hunt a nearby group of langurs. We waited, but after a long time it seemed the cat had disappeared. Suddenly, the langurs called out in panic and the leopard could be seen moving in the thick vegetation. It continued to move, but unfortunately the road was blocked by a research vehicle that seemed oblivious to what was going on.

We carried on as the mist continued to clear, enjoying views of a couple of new species, such as white-eyed buzzard and white-rumped munias. Having spent a prolonged period trying our luck with the leopard, we were fast running out of time. We started to make our way out of the park and onto Kabini River Lodge.

It was another very warm day. We took the opportunity to rest before lunch, then met up once again for an afternoon drive.

As we made our way into Zone A, we came across a group of wild boar which were enjoying the waters of the first waterhole. Unfortunately, a large male boar appeared and spooked the family, so we continued onwards, making our way deeper into the forest.



A handsome young sambar deer was stood by the pylons as we ventured further into Zone A, but it didn't stay long before disappearing into the trees. Nearby we heard the alarm calls of chital, and we tried hard to find the source, but to no avail. Despite our best efforts, and knowing that a cat was likely to be very close, we had missed the chance to see another one of the park's apex predators. This is how it goes sometimes in India's forests. You can put in all the hard work and miss out on the rewards. It went this way for the rest of the afternoon. We put in the hours listening to alarm calls, but failed to find their source.

With a quiet afternoon behind us, it was time to head back to the lodge and enjoy a drink before dinner.

#### **Day 7: Nagarhole National Park**

**Saturday 15 April 2023**

A leopard and a cub had been seen at the end of the previous day so, after our morning tea and coffee, we headed straight into the park to see if we could find it. And then we saw her. Through some of the thickest



forest you can imagine, we caught sight of a leopardess sat high in a tree, draped over a branch. Then we noticed that a young cub was climbing down a set of vines closer to us, but the photography opportunities were no easier.



As we carried on, we came across a handsome male Indian barking deer which was trying to drink at a waterhole and also had our first views of a blue-faced malkoha. We were winding our way through the forest, when a stripe-necked mongoose walked right by us, searching for food. A little further down the road we enjoyed photographing a group of langurs, including a small youngster, as they rested on the downed trees and keeping out of the warming sun.

Photographing langurs is always fun and rewarding, particularly when they decide to cooperate and pose perfectly for the group. After a little while, the langurs moved away from us and we continued our search for one of the elusive cats. With our subjects deserting us, we started to make our way through the park towards the entrance. On the way we bumped into a flock of rufous babblers for the first time, and a ruddy mongoose as well.

We headed back to the lodge for a rest before another excellent lunch in the open-air dining room.

In the afternoon we headed back to Zone B to see what we could find. Not long after entering the park, as we were descending the forest towards the backwaters, we heard our first alarm calls. As we sat there waiting for any sign of a tiger or leopard emerging from the trees, we enjoyed watching a pair of Brahminy starlings and an orange-headed thrush. The area was full of gaur, and as the chital alarmed they stayed relatively relaxed, but then we heard the alarm of a sambar deer and a Malabar giant squirrel.

All of these alarms combined suggested that we must be very close to a big cat, as multiple species were either seeing or smelling it. We worked our way up and down the area as we tried to ascertain exactly where the cat was holed up. Despite our best efforts, and a considerable amount of time spent, we were unable to catch a sight of it. Moving on towards the backwaters, we watched as a small herd of sambar and



chital came to drink, soon after joined by some elephants. One of the elephants proceeded to hose itself down with muddy water, providing us with some lovely photographic opportunities.



We decided to carry on around the foreshore of the backwaters and visit another open meadow area. There we watched two herds of elephants on opposing sides of the water. We also saw more chital and sambar, before heading back into the forest in the hope of finding a big cat. We were distracted, as one of the group had photographed a beautiful flowering laburnum tree, when a lesser yellownape woodpecker posed perfectly on a high branch. With the sun starting to drop down behind the trees, we headed back up the hill and into the forest. While the group were busy willing a tiger to walk round the bend, or appear out of the trees, we were surprised by a pack of dhole that trotted up the road.

It was a fantastic sighting and there was nobody else around as the dogs walked right at us. We were rewarded with some fantastic photography opportunities in the soft evening light as the dogs settled down on the road and watched us.

As we had been alerted to other sightings, we ensured that others nearby were knew of the pack's presence. We hoped that this would ensure others would continue to inform us of any potential sightings going forwards. It was a wonderful way to end the day and the group were delighted to see and photograph the pack once more. After a little while, the pack rose to their feet and disappeared off into the forest. We quickly realised we weren't going to be able to predict their movements, so we decided to leave them in peace and look for cats on our way out of the park.

We returned to the area where we had heard the alarm calls earlier. Once again we heard alarm calls – this time both the giant squirrel and sambar – but despite our best efforts, we were unable to see what we assumed was a big cat, so we left the park for the day.





We arrived back at the lodge and agreed to join each other in the bar before dinner, where we revelled in the day's wild delights.

#### **Day 8: Nagarhole National Park**

**Sunday 16 April 2023**

Today would be our last full day in the park. We were all hoping that we would be rewarded for all the hard work that we had put in so far. Although we hadn't had much luck with tigers or leopards, we had been able to enjoy some incredible elephant sightings and plenty of the other's parks varied wildlife. Having been assigned Zone A, the group were excited for what the day might bring.

The day started off with us moving around the park, doing our best to listen to the forest's wildlife and what it may tell us. It turned out we had been unlucky once more and missed out on two potential tiger sightings. We were then informed that a tigress was likely to still be at one of the locations and we started to make our way there. Driving along one of the long forest tracks, we saw a vehicle stopped in the road and assumed that this must be where one of the tigers had been spotted. To our surprise and delight, we saw a large male leopard walking along the side of the road.

He was completely unbothered by the presence of his new unexpected companions, and slowly made his way along the treeline before slipping off into the trees and going on about his business. We realised that he wasn't going to reappear, so we moved on hoping to catch up with the tiger that we had heard about earlier on. We arrived to find a beautiful tigress hiding behind the thick scrub, and watching a herd of gaur intently. The gaur knew that something was there watching them, but they didn't seem to realise that it was a full-grown tiger. This was an unusual sighting. It isn't often that you get to watch a tiger hunting the largest of her prey.

We started off by positioning ourselves directly behind the tiger, managing to photograph the gaur behind the tigress. It was a fantastic scene that provided us with some great photography opportunities.





After a little while, we repositioned the vehicle to sit towards the side of the tiger, hoping to witness any drama as it unfolded. In fact, what happened next was not at all what we expected, but it resulted in more excellent photography opportunities.





The gaur, sensing the tiger's presence, slowly moved towards her hiding place and she became visibly more unsettled. Suddenly, she was up and making her escape. As she started to run we realised she had a minor injury on her right paw and was reluctant to put weight on it. In her panic, she was unsure which way to turn, and she snarled in frustration before running right by the vehicle! Within only a few moments the tigress had disappeared into the forest, pursued by the gaur.

With the excitement of such an incredible tiger encounter behind us, as well as the leopard, we could spend the rest of the morning drive enjoying whatever we came across. Other species we encountered included the handsome hill myna in a beautiful area of forest, several chital, a wood sandpiper, and our first jungle owlet. Bright sunlight meant that the photography was becoming challenging, so we started to make our way out of the park and headed back to the lodge.

After another feast at lunch, we joined up a little earlier to ensure that we would arrive at the park's entrance first. To our surprise, we had been assigned Zone A once again, so we headed back into the forest wondering what we would be lucky enough to see that afternoon.

We came across a fabulous scene of an entire family of langurs posing perfectly on a log, before moving towards a beautiful waterhole, where we watched chital drinking, white-throated kingfisher, green bee-eater and grey langur. While we were sat there, we heard alarm calls in the distance, but we knew we would hear news from another vehicle if anything showed. Suddenly, we heard something had been sighted, so we set off in search of an encounter. On our way, a peacock flew up from the road and into a tree, and it was then that Varun noticed something at the edge of the forest. There we saw the most beautiful tigress, and we had her all to ourselves!



We couldn't believe our luck. A tigress, in her prime, was sitting barely 20 yards away from us. She seemed not to have a care in the world, as she looked around and kept out of the heat of the sun. We were in no rush now to find out what had been seen further up the road. Instead, we were transfixed by the felid who was treating us to our own private show. We were worried that we might be obstructing her path, so we

moved the vehicle out of the way to allow her to move freely. She got up, but didn't walk across the road; instead she moved down towards a dry stream.



We moved up the road with her, trying to capture more images before she disappeared into the thick forest. Within only a few moments you would have never known she had even been there.





We couldn't believe our luck, but it was possible that she was heading to the nearby waterhole. We headed in the same direction, and it turned out that this was where other people had seen a leopard coming down to drink.

We had missed the leopard, but had plenty of fun capturing images of an Indian roller in a beautiful setting among the trees. It was a fabulous afternoon, and one that will live long in all of the group's memories. We headed back to the lodge, delighted by what we had been privileged enough to see. Everyone was buzzing as we enjoyed a drink in the bar before going for dinner.

#### **Day 9: Nagarhole National Park; journey to Bangalore**

**Monday 17 April 2023**

This was our last morning in Nagarhole National Park. In the afternoon we would be leaving Kabini River Lodge and making the journey back to Bangalore. Having been assigned Zone A for a final time, we ventured down towards the waterholes, stumbling across a large male sambar stag in the mist. It was sitting close to the road, being remarkably cooperative, before it finally it lost its nerve and disappeared into the forest.

Shortly after leaving the sambar, Varun spotted a Malabar pied hornbill in a tree. We tried hard to get into a position where we could capture the bird on our memory cards. You'd be surprised how hard it is to photograph such a large bird in a tree, and they are not overly obliging.

Suddenly, alarm calls rang out in the misty air - yet still the tigers eluded us! We persevered and enjoyed views of a wealth of other species again, including white-bellied drongo, posing chital, and a very cooperative pair of stripe-necked mongooses. It was then that we heard about a tigress who had been seen up by the old ruined temples. As we arrived, there was a maelstrom of activity, with a gathering of vehicles, and a tigress walking through the trees and across the road. It was then that we realised there were a couple of mature cubs with her, which quickly bounded after their mother as she made her exit.



Our time in Nagarhole National Park was coming to an end. It was time to leave the park for the last time and head back to the lodge for breakfast. Unfortunately, due to a change of circumstances, our guide Varun had to make his departure earlier than expected, so we all said goodbye to him. We then had a short time to shower and pack our things for our journey back to Bangalore.





# Checklist



	Common Name	Latin Name	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8	Day 9	Day 10
	<b>BIRDS</b>	<b>AVES</b>										
1	Red spurfowl	<i>Galloperdix spadicea</i>				✓	✓	✓				
2	Grey jungle fowl	<i>Gallus sonneratii</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
3	Indian peafowl	<i>Pavo cristatus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
4	Indian Spot-billed Duck	<i>Anas poecilorhyncha</i>					✓		✓			
5	Asian Openbill	<i>Anastomus oscitans</i>					✓					
6	Woolly-necked stork	<i>Ciconia episcopus</i>		✓			✓		✓			
7	Black-headed Ibis	<i>Threskiornis melanocephalus</i>		✓			✓				✓	
8	Indian Pond Heron	<i>Ardeola grayii</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
9	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>		✓			✓					
10	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>									✓	
11	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>					✓				✓	
12	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>									✓	
13	Intermediate Egret	<i>Ardea intermedia</i>					✓	✓			✓	
14	Little Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo niger</i>			✓	✓	✓					
15	Indian Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax fuscicollis</i>					✓					
16	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>					✓					



17	Brahminy Kite	<i>Haliastur indus</i>		✓		✓	✓					
18	Oriental Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis ptilorhynchus</i>				✓	✓					
19	Indian Vulture	<i>Gyps indicus</i>					✓					
20	Red-headed Vulture	<i>Sarcogyps calvus</i>		✓		✓		✓				
21	Shikra	<i>Accipiter badius</i>								✓		
22	White-eyed Buzzard	<i>Butastur teesa</i>						✓		✓		
23	Crested Hawk Eagle	<i>Nisaetus cirrhatus</i>					✓					
24	Purple Swampphen	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>									✓	
25	Red-wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus indicus</i>			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		
26	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>					✓					
27	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>								✓		
28	River Tern	<i>Sterna aurantia</i>					✓		✓			
29	Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>					✓					
30	Green Imperial Pigeon	<i>Ducula aenea</i>				✓		✓	✓	✓		
31	Eurasian collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>					✓					
32	Spotted Dove	<i>Spilopelia chinensis</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
33	Yellow-footed Green Pigeon	<i>Treron phonyceptaurus</i>					✓					
34	Rose-ringed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
35	Plum-headed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula cyanocephala</i>				✓	✓		✓			
36	Malabar Parakeet	<i>Psittacula columboides</i>					✓					
37	Common Hawk Cuckoo	<i>Hierococcyx varius</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
38	Blue-faced Malkoha	<i>Phaenicophaeus viridirostris</i>			✓				✓			



39	Southern Coucal	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>		✓		✓	✓			✓		
40	Jungle Owlet	<i>Glaucidium radiatum</i>								✓		
41	Mottled Wood Owl	<i>Strix ocellata</i>				✓						
42	Common Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
43	Indian Roller	<i>Coracias benghalensis</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
44	White-throated Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
45	Green Bee-eater	<i>Merops orientalis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	
46	Blue-tailed Bee-eater	<i>Merops philippinus</i>			✓							
47	Indian Grey Hornbill	<i>Ocyrceros birostris</i>				✓	✓					
48	Malabar Pied Hornbill	<i>Anthracoceros coronatus</i>									✓	
49	White-cheeked Barbet	<i>Psilopogon viridis</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
50	Coppersmith Barbet	<i>Psilopogon haemacephalus</i>				✓						
51	White-bellied Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus javensis</i>		✓		✓	✓		✓			
52	Lesser Yellownape	<i>Picus chlorolophus</i>							✓			
53	Streak-throated Woodpecker	<i>Picus xanthopygaeus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		
54	Lesser Goldenback	<i>Dinopium benghalense</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
55	Greater Goldenback	<i>Chrysocolaptes guttacristatus</i>				✓			✓	✓		
56	Large Cuckooshrike	<i>Coracina macei</i>					✓		✓			
57	Black-headed Cuckooshrike	<i>Coracina melanoptera</i>				✓						
58	Small Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus cinnamomeus</i>				✓						
59	Brown Shrike	<i>Lanius cristatus</i>							✓			

60	Long-tailed Shrike	<i>Lanius schach</i>					✓					
61	Greater Racket-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus paradiseus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
62	Black Drongo	<i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i>						✓				
63	White-bellied Drongo	<i>Dicrurus caerulescens</i>				✓	✓			✓		
64	Indian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus kundoo</i>				✓						
65	Asian Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone paradisi</i>				✓	✓					
66	Rufous Treepie	<i>Dendrocitta vagabunda</i>			✓		✓					
67	Indian Jungle Crow	<i>Corvus culminatus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
68	House Crow	<i>Corvus splendens</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
69	Cinereous (Great) Tit	<i>Parus major</i>				✓		✓		✓		
70	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropis daurica</i>				✓				✓		
71	Indian Bushlark	<i>Mirafra erythroptera</i>							✓			
72	Red-whiskered Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus jocosus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
73	Red-vented Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>									✓	
74	Rufous Babbler	<i>Argya subrufa</i>							✓			
75	Jungle Babbler	<i>Turdoides striata</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
76	Yellow-billed Babbler	<i>Turdoides affinis</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓				
77	Indian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta castanea</i>						✓	✓			
78	Velvet-fronted Nuthatch	<i>Sitta frontalis</i>				✓						
79	Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
80	Blyth's Starling	<i>Sturnia blythii</i>				✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
81	Brahminy Starling	<i>Sturnia pagodarum</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	



82	Orange-headed Thrush	<i>Geokichla citrina</i>			✓			✓	✓			
83	Indian Blackbird	<i>Turdus simillimus</i>							✓			
84	Oriental Magpie Robin	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
85	Asian Brown Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa latirostris</i>								✓		
86	Purple-rumped Sunbird	<i>Leptocoma zeylonica</i>				✓	✓					
87	Loten's Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris lotenius</i>					✓					
88	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>							✓	✓		
89	Chestnut-shouldered Petronia	<i>Gymnoris xanthocollis</i>			✓							
90	White-rumped Munia	<i>Lonchura striata</i>						✓				
91	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>			✓							
92	White-browed Wagtail	<i>Motacilla maderaspatensis</i>			✓		✓		✓			
	<b>MAMMALS</b>	<b>MAMMALIA</b>										
1	Indian leopard	<i>Panthera pardus fusca</i>						✓	✓	✓		
2	Bengal tiger	<i>Panthera tigris tigris</i>				✓				✓	✓	
3	Asiatic wild dogs	<i>Cuon alpinus</i>		✓			✓		✓			
4	Spotted deer	<i>Axis axis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
5	Sambar deer	<i>Rusa unicolor</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
6	Gaur	<i>Bos gaurus</i>		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		
7	Indian muntjac	<i>Muntiacus muntjak</i>			✓	✓	✓		✓			
8	Asian elephant	<i>Elephas maximus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
9	Wild boar	<i>Sus scrofa</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
10	Malabar giant squirrel	<i>Ratufa indica</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

11	Three striped palm squirrel	<i>Funambulus palmarum</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
12	Indian hare / black naped hare	<i>Lepus nigricollis</i>						✓				
13	Ruddy mongoose	<i>Urva smithii</i>		✓			✓		✓	✓		
14	Stripe-necked mongoose	<i>Herpestes vitticollis</i>				✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
15	Smooth coated otter	<i>Lutrogale perspicillata</i>					✓					
16	Grey langur	<i>Semnopithecus entellus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
17	Bonnet macaque	<i>Macaca radiata</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
18	Indian flying fox	<i>Pteropus giganteus</i>				✓						