

## **Kanha**

One of the biggest National Parks in Madhya Pradesh is the Kanha National Park. This is also a tiger reserve situated in the districts of Balaghat and Mandla. This national park was established in June 1, 1955 and in the 1930's it was divided into two sanctuaries namely Banjar and Hallon. At present this National Park stretches over an area of 940 sq. km. It was also known that the lush meadows, the bamboo and shal forests inspired the famous writer Rudyard Kipling to pen down his immortal novel "Jungle Book".

Kanha National Park is the most significant and the most important attraction in Madhya Pradesh. If you avail the **holiday packages** offered by M.P tourism then this will be the first spot that their programs will cover as sightseeing. The tiger safaris conducted in this National Park are the most exciting experience you can have. Selecting one such package will make your Kanha tour ever more memorable. These are some really good packages which even offer you a roundabout trip to the other parts of the city as well.

The M.P tourism **tour packages** include almost all the important places to see around. Booking of the park will also be done by the travel agents and you can sit and relax and enjoy the wildness there. Over 1000 species of plants and numerous animals are waiting to welcome you in this vast sanctuary. All you need to do is book any of the **travel packages** offered by the Madhya Pradesh tourism and go wild.

## **Things to do**

You actually have a lot of things to do if you are availing a tour package. This is in fact the most convenient way to enjoy your vacation.

## **Major Attractions**

### **Monuments**

Some important and well known monuments of India are located around Kanha in Madhya Pradesh. These monuments are also included in the sightseeing offered by the travel packages.

### **Taj-ul-Masjid**

This is a magnificent building and is mainly prescribed for those who are a lover of history and culture. The name Taj-ul-Masjid actually means 'The Crown of Mosques'. This is the most beautiful of the other architectural buildings around Kanha. This mosque can be reached by any means of transport available in and

around Kanha. This monument remains open every day for visitors from 6.00 A.M to 8.00 P.M. and no entry fee is needed to enter the monument.

### **Gohar Mahal**

This monument, though not maintained properly still holds its past glory and majestic structure. This was built by the first woman ruler of Bhopal known as Gopher Begum where from it assumed its name. This building presents a perfect blend of the Mughal as well the Hindu architecture. This is a good place for experience seekers and history buffs. This building remains open every day for the visitors and you are not charged with any entry fee. It takes nearly 1 hour to complete cultivating the entire building.

### **Sadar Manzil**

This place is situated very near to Gohar Mahal and you can visit the place the same day you go for the Gohar Mahal. This is situated mainly in the chawk areas of the city and it is believed to be the courtroom of the ancient Nawabs who ruled over the state of Bhopal. You need maximum 2 hours time to complete the entire place and it is a must watch for experience seekers and history lovers. This monument is just adjacent to the Royal Enclave and is easily accessible by any means of transport.

### **Moti Masjid**

This is a mosque situated very near to Kanha and is known for its significant architecture. This mosque was built to signify the importance and history of the Muslim Women in India. This is a place of historical importance and is a must watch for heritage lovers as well as ardent followers of the Muslim community. Time taken to complete cultivating the monument is near about 1 hour. No entry fees are charged and it remains open almost every day.

### **Fun-filled destination for kids**

The Kanha National Park is itself a place to enjoy with your family and kids. If you avail an extremely knowledgeable guide here, then your kids will also equally enjoy the local stories and hearsay about the place. The most exciting thing about this wildlife sanctuary is its tiger safaris which are no doubt enjoyed by all. However, you need to keep your kids in strict restriction by maintaining some rules and laws of the sanctuary. You should also never let your kids roam about here as it is indeed very risky.

## **Religious places**

### **Museums**

## **Kanha Museum**

There is a well maintained museum inside the Kanha National Park. This is the place from where you can gather information about the correct topography of the park and details about all the species in the park. Information about various other aspects of the park can also be obtained from here. No pets are allowed inside the museum. The best time to visit this museum is in the daytime and you must keep at least one hour time in your hand to cover the entire museum. You can take pictures inside the museum easily as cameras are allowed inside. Two other museums located nearby are the Rani Durgawati Museum and archeological Museum both located at Mandla. Madhya Pradesh.

## **Parks/ Gardens**

### **Kanha National Park**

This is the only park in Kanha which is the center of attraction of the entire state of Madhya Pradesh. This is a 1945 sq. km. park consisting of a core zone, which covers an area of 900 sq. km. which is further surrounded by a buffer zone covering an area of 1005 sq.km. As said earlier, this is one of the largest National Parks in India. The park is divided into two sanctuaries out of them one disbanded and protected till 1947. A serious depletion in the number of tigers made one of them to be declared an absolute sanctuary in 1952. The Bamni Dadar known as the sunset point is the most beautiful place inside the park. Tourists can also enjoy the Baghira Log huts where from they can view nature from close proximity.

## **Places to see around**

### **Jungle Safari, Kanha**

This is the most convenient way to see the animals of the National Park in a friendly and safe setting without disturbing the animals. An open vehicle with tourists navigates the entire park and the dense forest to give them an opportunity to see any animal that might sneak through the meadows. If you are an ardent jungle lover and an adventurous person then you can also take a walk through the winding roads of the jungle to see the animals more closely. You can also find a lodge inside the jungle which has a huge collection of books on the wide range of flora and fauna in the park.

### **Bamni Dadar, Kanha**

Also known as sunset point this is the place where animals like sambar, barking deer, four horned antelope and guars can be spotted easily. You can get a unique and beautiful view of the setting sun from this point. This is a place that is visited

by all, whoever comes for a jungle safari in Kanha. You can visit this place along with your family in the months of February to June or from October to December.

### **Kawardha Palace, Kanha**

This palace is a drive of near about 3 hours from the Kanha National Park. Stretching across an area of 11 acres, this is a resort constructed by King Dharamraj Singh in the years 1936 to 1939. This is a resort made of Italian marble and some nearby places around it are Bhoremdeo Temple, Krishna Temple, Madan Manjari Mahal and the Mandawa Mahal. This is a good place to visit along with your family.

### **Medicinal Plantation, Kanha**

This is a remote area and located quite inside the forest. This is mainly located in the village of Boda Chhapri, which is 2 kms from the village of Mocha. This is a Medical Plantation Conservation area and it can become deeper and denser as you go in further. So, it is advised to take someone who is well acquainted with this place if possible a local person along with you.

### **Natural attractions**

If you want to stay amidst nature and enjoy the natural beauty, then the Mahua Tiger Resort is your ultimate destination. This is the best wildlife resort at the vicinity of the Kanha National Park. The resort has all together 21 well appointed and well maintained guest rooms set amidst nature with all modern amenities. The Kanha Earth Lodge is another such resort situated in the lap of nature and can give you a smell of the wild.

### **Cultural attractions**

If you want to know about the culture of Madhya Pradesh then need to see and follow the lifestyle of the local tribes of Kols, Murias, Bhilals, Gons and many more. The unique dresses and jewelries that the local residents of Madhya Pradesh wear are also a part of its rich culture. Some of the temples and tombs in and around Kanha also bear the signs of its culture. The most famous and cultural festival of Madhya Pradesh is Kala Panchang where you can get to see tribal dances like Korku, Matki, Norta, Rai and many more.

## **Shopping**

### **Flea markets**

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## **Departmental stores**

Part of the Kanha National Park is located in the Balaghat city where you can find a few modern markets known as departmental stores. As, different people are found here belonging to different culture so, you can find quite a lot of stuffs in the departmental stores in this city. This can be called a modern city with well maintained bus stands and other transports.

## **Street market**

A weekly market can be seen near the gate of the Kanha National Park mainly on Wednesday's. This is the only market form where the villagers nearby can get their food. This is a very remote and a very Indian market where you can find a variety of herbs, vegetables and spices. You can also go for a wet shave in the market which can be a unique experience.

## **Food**

### **Restaurants**

A few restaurants can be noticed around the Kanha National Park. Almost all of such restaurants are situated at Mandla. Some of the popular restaurants here are Marwari Bhojnalaya, Megha Sweets, Annapurna Bhojnalaya and some more. Apart from these numerous tourist hotels are there near the park, which has restaurants of their own serving the best quality dishes.

### **Dishes**

Situated in the central part of India the cuisines of Madhya Pradesh have a special place in India. You must not miss any of the unique dishes of Madhya Pradesh in your tour to Kanha National Park. Some of the popular recipes of Madhya Pradesh which are easily available in the restaurants at Kanha are jalebi, kulsi, lavang lata, induri puri palak, kebabs, baflas and a lot more.

## **Activities**

### **Adventure**

The best place to visit for an adventure loving person is the Kanha National Park itself. If you are an ardent jungle lover and want to know more about the wildlife of India then Kanha National Park must be your first and last choice. The picturesque wilderness of the jungle is sure to attract your attention and you can spend an entire day amidst the vast wilderness of the jungle. The jeep safari and the elephant safari are the two most adventurous modes of transport inside the National Park.

## **Relaxation**

You must be tired after your day's long trip in the jungle. This is the time when you need some relaxation. If you are in a five star hotel then all the equipments for relaxation will be available there at a single call. You can pamper yourself with some soothing spa. You can simply sit back at the balcony of your resort and enjoy the night sky and sweet breeze with the smell of the wild grasses.

## **Nature**

The best place to adore nature is the Kanha National Park itself. It is the homeland of more than 1000 species of different plants and an endless number of wild, extinct and rare animals. This park is instrumental in saving the Swamp Deer form being extinct. The largest animal in this park is the gaur.

## **Nightlife and entertainment**

After the sun goes off you can have a wonderful time termed as nightlife. Though not like Texas or New York, the nightlife in Kanha is full of vigor and energy. Everyone from old to young, rich to not so rich everyone comes under one roof to booze and dance in merriment after an exciting all day long jungle safari. However, there is not much to do at night at Kanha apart from indulging in a little ecstasy in the small pubs and bars of Kanha.

## **Best time to visit**

According to the weather man and the Madhya Pradesh tourism, the best time to visit this National Park is during the winter months (November to February) when the weather remains pleasant. However, the park remains open from November to June and each of the seasons has its unique characteristics. If you are in search of some really photogenic frames then hit the jungle during the summer months to get intimate with the spotted and chital deer.

## **Madhya Pradesh Tourism**

Kanha is a place in Madhya Pradesh known for its wildness. To get enthralled by the mesmerizing beauty of the forest you can avail the best of the Madhya Pradesh **tourism packages** which will take you to the best spots at an affordable rate. All necessary information about each place will be provided by the guide present in the concerned place. However, if you are an overly inquisitive person then you can easily get hold of a **tourism guide** brochure and gather all the necessary details by yourself. All the **tours** are arranged keeping all your necessities in mind.

