

Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve (NBR)

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About Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve (NBR)

- Location:
 - It is located in the Nilgiri Mountains of the Western Ghats.
 - It encompasses parts of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Karnataka.
- It was the first biosphere reserve in India, established in 1986.
- The total area of the reserve is 5,520 sq. km. It is the largest protected forest area in India.
- The Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary, Wyanaad Wildlife Sanctuary, Bandipur National Park, Nagarhole National Park, Mukurthi National Park, and Silent Valley are the protected areas present within this reserve.
- Vegetation: It harbours a wide spectrum of ecosystem types, such as tropical evergreen forests, Montane sholas and grasslands, semi-evergreen forests, moist deciduous forests, dry deciduous forests, and thorn forests.

- **Climate:** The annual rainfall of the reserve ranges from 500 mm to 7000 mm, with temperatures ranging from 0°C during the winter to 41°C during the summer.
 - **Tribal Population:** Tribal groups like the Todas, Kotas, Irullas, Kurumbas, Paniyas, Adiyans, Edanadan Chettis, Cholanaickens, Allar, Malayan, etc., are native to the reserve.
 - It is India's first biosphere reserve under UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere Programme.
 - **Flora:**
 - About 3,300 species of flowering plants can be seen here. Of the 3,300 species, 132 are endemic to the NBR.
 - Some of the plants entirely restricted to the NBR include species of Adenoon, Calacanthus, Baeolepis, Frerea, Jarodina, Wagatea, Poeciloneuron, etc.
 - **Fauna:**
 - It includes the largest known population of two endangered animal species, namely the Nilgiri Tahr and the Lion-tailed macaque and the largest South Indian population of elephant, tiger, gaur, sambar, and chital.
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Q1) What is the Nilgiri Tahr?

Nilgiri Tahr is the only Caprinae species found in the tropical mountains of southern. They are endemic to the Western Ghats and used to inhabit a large part of the Western Ghats between Kerala and Tamil Nadu. They are classified as Endangered under the IUCN Red List.

Source: [India's southernmost vulture population stands at 320 individuals](#)

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/nbr/>

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