

Keoladeo National Park

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Keoladeo National Park Latest News

Migratory birds such as stork cranes, pelicans, painted storks, and bar-headed geese returned to the Keoladeo National Park after heavy rains in the monsoon.

About Keoladeo National Park

- It is situated in the **Bharatpur** district of **Rajasthan**.
- It was earlier **known as Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary**.
- It is recognised as one of the world's most important bird breeding and feeding grounds.
- It was founded in the late **19th century** as a hunting **preserve by Suraj Mal**, the **maharaja of the Bharatpur princely state**, and became a bird sanctuary in 1956.
- Declared a national park in 1981, it was renamed Keoladeo for the ancient temple in the park dedicated to the Hindu god Shiva.
- It has an area of 29 sq.km.

- It is the **only one of its kind in India** which is **enclosed by a 2-meters boundary wall** to fend off encroachments.
- It is a **Ramsar site** and also a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**.
- **Vegetation:**
 - **Woodlands, swamps, and wet grasslands** cover a large part of the park.
 - The vegetation here is of a **dry deciduous type**, with medium-sized trees and shrubs found inside its forest.
- **Flora:** Some of the trees which can be commonly spotted inside the park are **kadam, jamun, babul**, kandi, ber, kair, and piloo.
- **Fauna:**
 - It is home to a range of mammals and reptiles—including **pythons** and other **snakes, deer, sambars, blackbucks**, jackals, monitor lizards, and fishing cats.
 - It is strategically located in the middle of the **Central Asian migratory flyway**.
 - It is home to more than **360 species of permanent and migratory birds**.
 - During the annual period of migratory visitors (about October to March), birds from throughout the world can be found in the park.
 - Among those wintering in the park are waterfowl **from Afghanistan, Turkmenistan, China, and Siberia**, including species such as **gadwalls, shovellers**, common teals, **tufted ducks, pintails**, white spoonbills, Asian open-billed storks, Oriental ibises, and the **rare Siberian crane**.

Source: ETVB

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/keoladeo-national-park/>

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