

Sariska Tiger Reserve

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SARISKA TIGER RESERVE

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The Union Minister for Environment, Forest, and Climate Change recently congratulated the people of the country and nature lovers on the completion of 18 years of tiger reintroduction in the Sariska Tiger Reserve.

About Sariska Tiger Reserve

- It is located in the **Alwar district, Rajasthan**.
- It is a part of the **Aravali Range** and the **Kathiawar-Gir dry deciduous forests ecoregion**.
- It stretches over an area of 881 sq.km.
- It was **once a hunting ground** of the **Maharaja of Alwar** before being proclaimed a natural reserve in 1955 and a national park in 1979.
- It became a Tiger Reserve under **Project Tiger in 1979**.
- It **lost all its tigers to poaching in 2005**.
- However, it holds the distinction of being the **world's first reserve to successfully relocate tigers in 2008**.

- It is also famous for **old temples, palaces, and lakes** such as **Pandu Pol, Bhangarh Fort, Ajabgarh, Pratapgarh, Siliserh Lake,** and **Jai Samand Lake.**
- **Topography:** It possesses a rocky landscape, scrub thorn arid forests, grasses, hilly cliffs, and semi-deciduous wood.
- **Vegetation:** The vegetation corresponds to **Northern Tropical Dry Deciduous Forests** and **Northern Tropical Thorn Forest.**
- **Flora:**
 - The area of this reserve is covered with **dhok trees.**
 - Other species found include salar, kadaya, gol, ber, Banyan, gugal, bamboo, kair, adusta, etc.
- **Fauna:**
 - A variety of other wild animals, like the **leopard, sambhar, chital, nilgai, four-horned antelope,** wild boar etc are found in the reserve **apart from the tiger.**
 - Peafowl, grey partridge, sand grouse and crested serpent eagle are some of the birds found near the river bodies and the protected areas of the park.
 - The **largest population of peafowl in India** resides in Sariska National Park.

News: NOA

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