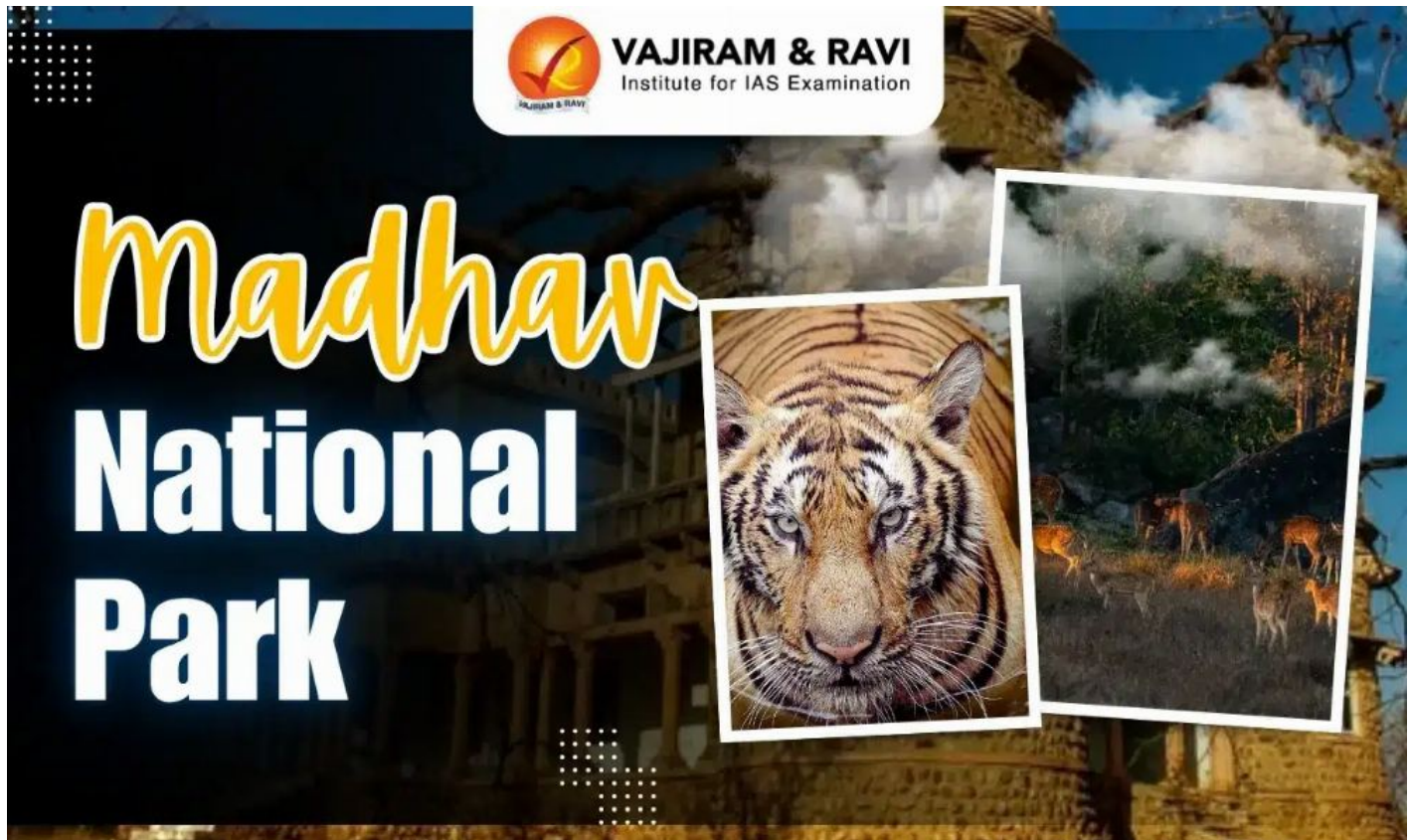


Madhav National Park, Location, Flora, Fauna, Climate

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Madhav National Park is a prominent protected area located in the Shivpuri district of Madhya Pradesh. Spread across approximately **375 square kilometres**, the park is known for its dry deciduous forests, rolling hills, grasslands, and scenic lakes.

Madhav National Park gained national attention after being declared **India's 58th Tiger Reserve**, strengthening tiger conservation efforts in the country. Apart from tigers, Madhav National Park is home to a rich diversity of mammals, birds, reptiles, and plant species, making it an ecologically significant protected area.

Madhav National Park Location

Madhav National Park is situated in the **Shivpuri district of Madhya Pradesh**, within the northern part of the Vindhyan landscape. It lies along the Agra-Mumbai National Highway, making it one of the most easily accessible national parks in central India.

Madhav National Park Flora

The **flora of Madhav National Park** is dominated by **Northern Tropical Dry Deciduous Forests**, along with grasslands, scrub forests, and wetland vegetation that support a rich variety of wildlife.

- **Northern Tropical Dry Deciduous Forests:** Form the dominant vegetation type across the park.
- **Teak (*Tectona grandis*):** One of the most valuable timber species found in the forest.
- **Kardhai (*Anogeissus pendula*):** The dominant tree species, well adapted to dry climatic conditions.
- **Khair (*Acacia catechu*):** Commonly grows in dry and rocky areas and is known for its medicinal value.
- **Salai (*Boswellia serrata*):** Found on rocky slopes and valued for its aromatic resin.
- **Dhaora (*Anogeissus latifolia*):** Provides food and shelter for several herbivorous species.
- **Mahua (*Madhuca longifolia*):** Produces nutrient-rich flowers and fruits consumed by wildlife.
- **Tendu (*Diospyros melanoxylon*):** Widely distributed and economically important for its leaves.
- **Palash (*Butea monosperma*):** Adds vibrant orange-red blooms during the spring season.
- **Ber (*Ziziphus mauritiana*):** A hardy tree that provides fruits for birds and mammals.
- **Grasslands:** Support large herbivores such as **Chital, Nilgai, and Sambar** by providing abundant grazing areas.
- **Wetland Vegetation:** Flourishes around **Sakhya Sagar** and **Madhav Sagar** lakes, sustaining aquatic birds and other wetland fauna.

Madhav National Park Fauna

The **fauna of Madhav National Park** is highly diverse, comprising **mammals, birds, reptiles, and aquatic species**, supported by its forests, grasslands, and wetlands.

- **Bengal Tiger:** The flagship species following the park's designation as **India's 58th Tiger Reserve**.
- **Leopard:** An apex predator commonly found in the park's rocky hills and forested areas.
- **Chital (Spotted Deer):** The most abundant herbivore and a key prey species for large carnivores.
- **Sambar Deer:** The largest deer species in the park, inhabiting dense forest patches.
- **Nilgai (Blue Bull):** Frequently seen grazing in open grasslands and woodland edges.
- **Chinkara (Indian Gazelle):** Found in scrub forests and open habitats.
- **Sloth Bear:** Inhabits forested areas and feeds on fruits, termites, and honey.
- **Striped Hyena:** A nocturnal scavenger that contributes to maintaining ecological balance.
- **Indian Wolf:** Occasionally spotted in the park's grassland and scrubland habitats.
- **Wild Boar:** Widely distributed and plays an important role in seed dispersal and soil turnover.
- **Golden Jackal:** Commonly found in grasslands and forest fringes.
- **Mugger Crocodile:** Inhabits **Sakhya Sagar** and other water bodies within the park.
- **Indian Rock Python:** A large non-venomous snake found in forest and wetland areas.
- **Monitor Lizard:** Frequently observed near rocky outcrops and water sources.
- **Avifauna:** The park supports over **300 bird species**, including **Indian Peafowl, Painted Stork, Bar-headed Goose, Sarus Crane, Grey Heron, Egrets, Cormorants, Kingfishers, Eagles, and Owls**.
- **Migratory Birds:** **Sakhya Sagar Lake** serves as an important wintering habitat for several migratory waterbirds, enhancing the park's biodiversity.

Madhav National Park Climate

The **climate of Madhav National Park** is tropical with distinct **summer, monsoon, and winter** seasons, supporting **dry deciduous forests, grasslands, and wetland ecosystems**.

- **Tropical Climate:** Characterized by hot summers, moderate monsoon rainfall, and cool winters.
- **Summer Season (March-June):** Temperatures range between **30°C and 45°C**, with dry weather prevailing.
- **Monsoon Season (July-September):** Receives moderate rainfall, replenishing forests, grasslands, and lakes.
- **Winter Season (October-February):** Temperatures range from **5°C to 25°C**, offering favourable conditions for wildlife activity.

Madhav National Park Becomes India's 58th Tiger Reserve

Madhav National Park was officially declared **India's 58th Tiger Reserve** in **2025**, marking a major milestone in the country's tiger conservation efforts. The designation, approved under **Project Tiger**, aims to restore a viable tiger population, strengthen habitat protection, and enhance biodiversity conservation in the Shivpuri landscape of Madhya Pradesh.

- **58th Tiger Reserve:** Declared as India's **58th Tiger Reserve** in 2025 under **Project Tiger**.
- **State:** Located in **Shivpuri district, Madhya Pradesh**, expanding the state's network of protected tiger habitats.
- **Tiger Reintroduction:** Supports the reintroduction and long-term conservation of **Royal Bengal Tigers** in the region.
- **Core and Buffer Areas:** Managed through designated **core** and **buffer** zones to minimize human disturbance and improve habitat quality.
- **Habitat Restoration:** Focuses on improving forests, grasslands, water sources, and prey populations essential for tiger survival.
- **Enhanced Protection:** Strengthens anti-poaching measures, wildlife monitoring, and habitat management using modern conservation techniques.
- **Ecological Connectivity:** Improves wildlife corridors linking Madhav National Park with surrounding forest landscapes, facilitating animal movement and genetic exchange.
- **Biodiversity Conservation:** Benefits not only tigers but also leopards, sloth bears, wolves, deer, birds, and other wildlife species.

Madhav National Park Government Conservation Initiatives

The **Government of India** and the **Government of Madhya Pradesh** have implemented several conservation initiatives to protect the biodiversity of **Madhav National Park**, strengthen tiger conservation, and restore its forest ecosystem.

- **Project Tiger:** Included the park under **Project Tiger** following its declaration as **India's 58th Tiger Reserve** to enhance tiger conservation.
- **Tiger Reintroduction Programme:** Reintroduced **Royal Bengal Tigers** to establish a sustainable breeding population and restore the park's ecological balance.

- **National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA):** Provides technical guidance, financial assistance, and scientific monitoring for effective tiger reserve management.
- **Habitat Restoration:** Undertakes afforestation, grassland development, invasive species removal, and waterhole creation to improve wildlife habitats.
- **Anti-Poaching Measures:** Deploys forest protection teams, regular patrolling, camera traps, drones, and surveillance systems to prevent wildlife crimes.
- **Prey Base Management:** Conserves herbivore populations such as **Chital, Sambar, Nilgai, and Wild Boar**, ensuring an adequate prey base for large carnivores.
- **Wetland Conservation:** Protects **Sakhya Sagar** and other water bodies to conserve aquatic biodiversity and migratory bird habitats.
- **Wildlife Monitoring:** Uses **camera traps, GPS-based tracking, and periodic wildlife censuses** to assess the health of wildlife populations.
- **Community Participation:** Involves local communities through **Eco-Development Committees (EDCs)**, awareness programmes, and sustainable livelihood initiatives.
- **Forest Fire Management:** Implements **early warning systems**, fire lines, and rapid response teams to reduce the impact of forest fires.

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