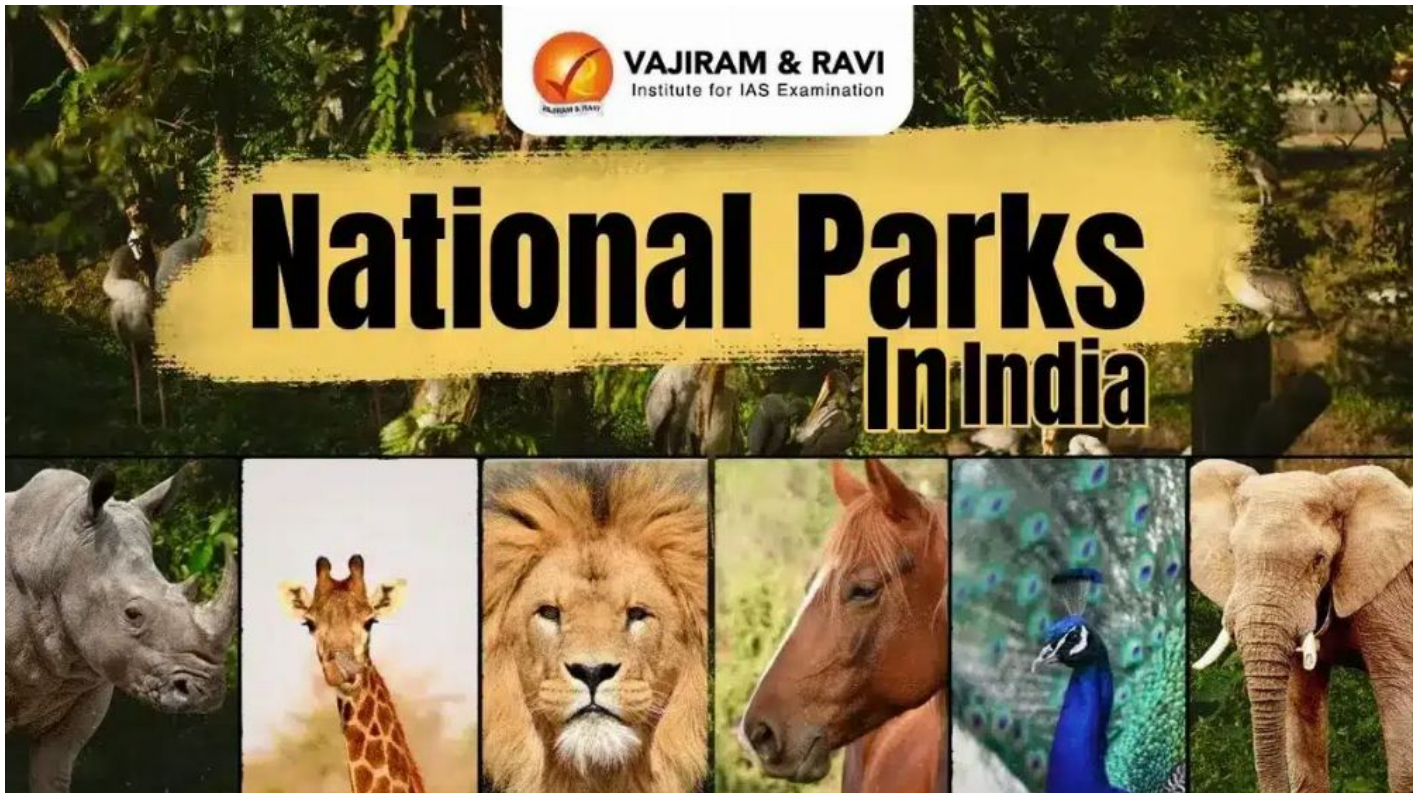


National Parks in India 2026, State Wise List, Latest Map

August 3, 2026 • vajiramandravi.com



National Parks in India 2026 are government-protected areas established to conserve wildlife, natural habitats, and ecological diversity. As of 2026, India currently has 107 National Parks and 573 Wildlife Sanctuaries. These protected areas serve as important centers for biodiversity conservation and wildlife protection. Madhya Pradesh and the Andaman & Nicobar Islands have the highest number of National Parks in India, with nine parks each.

National Parks in India 2026

National Parks in India play a vital role in protecting wildlife and their natural habitats. These areas have strict rules that ban hunting, poaching, industrial activities, and farming to keep the environment undisturbed. With secure boundaries, no outside activities are allowed near or within these parks. The main purpose of National Parks in India is to conserve India's diverse wildlife. Below is a List of National Parks in India 2026, which is useful for competitive exams and general knowledge.

What is a National Park?

A **National Park** is a protected area established by the government under the **Wildlife Protection Act 1972** to conserve wildlife, flora, and natural ecosystems. These parks aim to safeguard biodiversity and provide a secure habitat for endangered species. Human activities like hunting, poaching, and commercial use of resources are strictly prohibited within their boundaries. National Parks also promote eco-tourism, environmental education, and scientific research to maintain ecological balance and awareness.

List of National Parks in India 2026 State Wise

India proudly hosts around 107 national parks, each dedicated to preserving its remarkable biodiversity and distinctive landscapes. Here's a List of National Parks in India 2026 State wise with Declaration/ Establishment Year and Famous Animals:

List of National Parks in India 2026 State wise				
State/Union Territory	Total National Parks	National Parks Name	Declaration/ Establishment Year	Famous Animal
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	9	Campbell Bay National Park	1992	Nicobar Megapode, Giant Robber Crab
		Galathea Bay National Park	1992	Giant Leatherback Turtle
		Mahatama Gandhi Marine (Wandoor) National Park	1982	Dugong
		Middle Button Island National Park	1987	Dugong
		Mount Harriett National Park	1987	Andaman wild pig
		North Button Island National Park	1987	Dugong, Dolphins
		Rani Jhansi Marine National Park	1996	Dugong

Saddle Peak National Park	1987	Andaman wild pig, water monitor lizard, Andaman hill myna, Andaman imperial pigeon		
South Button Island National Park	1987	Dugongs, sea turtles, blue whales, dolphins		
Andhra Pradesh	3	Papikonda National Park	2008	Bengal Tiger
		Rajiv Gandhi (Rameswaram) National Park	2005	Spotted deer (chital), Black-naped hare
		Sri Venkateswara National Park	1989	Sloth Bear, Slender Loris, Indian Golden Gecko, Red Sanders
Arunachal Pradesh	2	Mouling National Park	1986	Red Panda, Himalayan Takin
		Namdapha National Park	1983	Namdapha Flying Squirrel, Hoolock Gibbon, Red Panda
Assam	8	Dibru-Saikhowa National Park	1999	White-winged Wood Duck, feral horses, Gangetic River Dolphin
		Kaziranga National Park	1974	Great Indian One-Horned Rhinoceros
		Manas National Park	1990	Bengal Tiger, Pygmy Hog
		Nameri National Park	1998	Royal Bengal Tiger, Asian Elephant, White-winged Wood Duck

Rajiv Gandhi Orang National Park	1999	Great Indian One- Horned Rhinoceros, Royal Bengal Tiger, Wild Water Buffalo, Asian Elephant		
Dehing Patkai National Park	2021	Royal Bengal Tiger, Indian Leopard, Hoolock Gibbon, White-Winged Wood Duck, Grey Peacock-Pheasant		
Raimona National Park	2021	Gee's Golden Langur		
Sikhna Jwhlwao National Park	2025	Gee's Golden Langur		
Bihar	1	Valmiki National Park	1989	Royal Bengal Tiger
Chhattisgarh	3	Guru Ghasidas (Sanjay) National Park	1981	Royal Bengal Tiger
		Indravati (Kutru) National Park	1982	Wild Water Buffalo
		Kanger Valley National Park	1982	Bastar Hill Myna
Goa	1	Mollem National Park	1992	Bengal Tiger, Gaur
Gujarat	4	Vansda National Park	1979	Indian Leopard, Four-horned Antelope (Chausinga), Indian Giant Squirrel,

Blackbuck (Velavadar) National Park	1976	Indian blackbuck		
Gir National Park	1975	Asiatic Lion		
Marine (Gulf of Kachchh) National Park	1982	Dugong		
Haryana	2	Kalesar National Park	2003	Indian Leopard
		Sultanpur National Park	1989	Siberian Crane, Greater Flamingo, Bar-headed Goose
Himachal Pradesh	5	Great Himalayan National Park	1984	Snow Leopard
		Inderkilla National Park	2010	Snow Leopard
		Khirganga National Park	2010	Snow Leopard
		Pin Valley National Park	1987	Snow Leopard
		Simbalbara National Park	2010	Goral, Sambhar, Chittal
Jammu and Kashmir	4	City Forest (Salim Ali) National Park	1992	Hangul
		Dachigam National Park	1981	Hangul

Kishtwar National Park	1981	Snow Leopard		
Jharkhand	1	Betla National Park	1986	Bison, Elephant, Tiger, Leopard, and Axis-axis (Spotted Deer)
Karnataka	5	Anshi National Park	1987	Black Panther
		Bandipur National Park	1974	Bengal Tiger, Asian Elephant
		Bannerghatta National Park	1974	Asian Elephant
		Kudremukh National Park	1987	Lion-tailed Macaque
		Nagarhole National Park	1988	Bengal tigers
Kerala	6	Anamudi Shola National Park	2003	Nilgiri Tahr, Asian Elephant
		Eravikulam National Park	1978	Nilgiri Tahr
		Mathikettan Shola National Park	2003	Asian Elephant
		Pambadum Shola National Park	2003	Nilgiri marten
		Periyar National Park	1982	Asian Elephant, Bengal Tiger
		Silent Valley National Park	1984	Lion-tailed Macaque

Madhya Pradesh	9	Bandhavgarh National Park	1968	Royal Bengal Tiger
		Fossil National Park	1983	prehistoric plant and mollusk fossils
		Pench National Park	1975	Royal Bengal Tiger
		Kanha National Park	1955	Hard Ground Barasingha, Royal Bengal Tiger
		Madhav National Park	1959	Royal Bengal Tiger
		Panna National Park	1981	Royal Bengal Tiger
		Sanjay National Park	1981	Royal Bengal Tiger
		Satpura National Park	1981	Indian Giant Squirrel
		Van Vihar National Park	1979	White tigers, Hard Ground Barasingha, Royal Bengal Tiger
		Dinosaur Fossils National Park	2011	Sauropods, Abelisaurids, fossilized herbivorous dinosaur eggs
		Kuno National Park	2018	Cheetah
Maharashtra	6	Chandoli National Park	2004	Bengal tiger
		Gugamal National Park	1975	Bengal tiger
		Nawegaon National Park	1975	Indian leopard, Bengal tiger

Pench (Jawaharlal Nehru) National Park	1975	Bengal tiger
Sanjay Gandhi (Borivali) National Park	1983	Leopard
Tadoba Andhari National Park	1955	Bengal tiger

Manipur	1	Keibul-Lamjao National Park	1977	Sangai
Meghalaya	2	Balphakram National Park	1985	Asian elephant
		Nokrek Ridge National Park	1986	Red Panda
Mizoram	2	Murlen National Park	1991	Hoolock Gibbon
		Phawngpui Blue Mountain National Park	1992	Hoolock Gibbon
Nagaland	1	Intanki National Park	1993	Hoolock Gibbon
Odisha	2	Bhitarkanika National Park	1988	Saltwater Crocodile

Similipal National Park	2025	Royal Bengal Tiger, black tigers		
Rajasthan	5	Mukundra Hills National Park	2006	Royal Bengal Tiger
		Desert National Park	1992	Great Indian Bustard
		Keoladeo Ghana National Park	1981	Siberian Crane
		Ranthambhore National Park	1980	Royal Bengal Tiger
		Sariska National Park	1992	Royal Bengal Tiger
Sikkim	1	Khangchendzonga National Park	1977	Snow Leopard
Tamil Nadu	5	Guindy National Park	1976	Blackbuck
		Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park	1980	Dugong
		Indira Gandhi (Annamalai) National Park	1989	Asian Elephant
		Mudumalai National Park	1990	Bengal Tiger
		Mukurthi National Park	1990	Nilgiri Tahr
Ladakh	1	Hemis National Park	1981	Snow Leopard

Telangana	3	Kasu Brahmananda Reddy National Park	1994	Indian Peafowl
		Mahaveer Harina Vanasthali National Park	1994	Blackbuck
		Mrugavani National Park	1994	Spotted Deer
Tripura	2	Clouded Leopard National Park	2007	Clouded Leopard
		Bison (Rajbari) National Park	2007	Indian Gaur
Uttar Pradesh	1	Dudhwa National Park	1977	Swamp Deer (Barasingha)
Uttarakhand	6	Corbett National Park	1936	Royal Bengal Tiger
		Gangotri National Park	1989	Snow Leopard
		Govind National Park	1990	Snow Leopard
		Nanda Devi National Park	1982	Snow Leopard, Bharal
		Rajaji National Park	1983	Asian Elephant
		Valley of Flowers National Park	1982	Snow Leopard, Himalayan Musk Deer, Asiatic Black Bear
West Bengal	6	Buxa National Park	1992	Royal Bengal Tiger

Gorumara National Park	1992	Great Indian One-Horned Rhinoceros
Jaldapara National Park	2012	Great Indian One-Horned Rhinoceros
Neora Valley National Park	1986	Red Panda
Singalila National Park	1986	Red Panda
Sunderban National Park	1984	Royal Bengal Tiger
Total	107	

How Many National Parks in India 2026?

With the addition of Sikhna Jwhwlao National Park and Similipal National Park in 2025, there are 107 Total National Parks in India as of 2026.

National Parks in India 2026 Map

There are 107 National Parks in India as of 2026 covering around 44,403 km2 covering the diverse including the Himalayas to coastal regions. The First National Park in India is Jim Corbett National Park which was initially known as Hailey National Park established in 1936 in Uttarakhand where as South Button Island NP in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands, which is referred as the Smallest National Park in India about 5 km².

National Park in India Features

- **Legal Protection:** National Parks are legally protected; activities like hunting, grazing, and forestry are prohibited.
- **Wildlife Conservation:** They serve as safe habitats for endangered and native species of animals and birds.
- **Ecological Balance:** Helps in preserving ecosystems, biodiversity, and natural landscapes.
- **Public Access:** Generally open to visitors for education and eco-tourism under strict rules.
- **Scientific Research:** Provide opportunities for research, wildlife monitoring, and conservation studies.

Latest National Parks in India 2026

Similipal National Park is the Newest National Parks in India, established in 2025. The Top 3 Recently Added National Parks in India 2026 are:

Newest National Parks in India 2026			
Rank	National Parks	Location	Year
1	Similipal National Park	Odisha	2025
2	Sikhna Jwhwlao National Park	Assam	2025
3	Dihing Patkai National Park	Assam	2021
4	Raimona National Park	Assam	2021

Oldest National Parks in India 2026

Corbett National Park, established in 1936, is the Oldest National Parks in India. Located in the Himalayas in Uttarakhand, it was initially named Hailey National Park. Renowned for its rich biodiversity, the park is especially famous for being the first area to come under the Project Tiger initiative in 1973. **Jim Corbett Tiger Reserve** is home to Bengal tigers, elephants, leopards, and hundreds of bird species, making it one of the most prominent wildlife sanctuaries in India.

Oldest National Parks in India 2026			
S.No	National Parks in India	Location	Year
1	Corbett National Park	Uttarakhand	1936
2	Kanha National Park	Madhya Pradesh	1955
3	Tadoba National Park	Maharashtra	1955

Top 30 Largest National Parks in India 2026

Hemis National Park is the Largest National Parks in India in India by area. It is located in the eastern part of Ladakh (previously part of Jammu and Kashmir) in northern India and spans an area of approximately 4,400 square kilometers. Nestled in the trans-Himalayan region, this park is renowned for being the highest altitude national park in the country and serves as a vital sanctuary for the elusive snow leopard, along with other rare wildlife like the Tibetan wolf, red fox, and bharal (blue sheep).

Largest National Parks in India 2026			
Rank	National Park	Location (State/UT)	Area (km²)
1	Hemis National Park	Ladakh	3,350
2	Desert National Park	Rajasthan	3,162
3	Gangotri National Park	Uttarakhand	2,390

4	Namdapha National Park	Arunachal Pradesh	1,808
5	Khangchendzonga National Park	Sikkim	1,784
6	Guru Ghasidas (Sanjay) National Park	Chhattisgarh	1,441
7	Sundarbans National Park	West Bengal	1,330
8	Indravati (Kutru) National Park	Chhattisgarh	1,258
9	Papikonda National Park	Andhra Pradesh	1,013
10	Kanha National Park	Madhya Pradesh	940
11	Bandipur National Park	Karnataka	874
12	Kaziranga National Park	Assam	859
13	Simlipal National Park	Odisha	846
14	Rajaji National Park	Uttarakhand	820
15	Great Himalayan National Park	Himachal Pradesh	754
16	Khirganga National Park	Himachal Pradesh	710
17	Pin Valley National Park	Himachal Pradesh	675
18	Nagarahole National Park	Karnataka	643

19	Nanda Devi National Park	Uttarakhand	625
20	Kudremukh National Park	Karnataka	600
21	Satpura National Park	Madhya Pradesh	585
22	Panna National Park	Madhya Pradesh	543
23	Corbett National Park	Uttarakhand	521
24	Manas National Park	Assam	500
25	Dudhwa National Park	Uttar Pradesh	490
26	Mouling National Park	Arunachal Pradesh	483
27	Govind National Park	Uttarakhand	472
28	Sanjay National Park	Madhya Pradesh	467
29	Bandhavgarh National Park	Madhya Pradesh	449
30	Campbell Bay National Park	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	426

Smallest National Parks in India 2026

South Button Island National Park is the Smallest National Parks in India covering an area of just 5 sq.km. It is located in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, off the southeastern coast of the Indian mainland. Despite its small size, the park is rich in marine biodiversity, offering vibrant coral reefs, sea turtles, and exotic fish species. It forms part of the Rani Jhansi Marine National Park and is a popular site for scuba diving.

Smallest National Parks in India 2026			
Rank	National Park	Location	Area (km^2)
1	South Button Island NP	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.03
2	Fossil National Park	Madhya Pradesh	0.3
4	North Button Island National Park	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.4
5	Middle Button Island National Park	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.9
7	Dinosaur Fossils National Park	Madhya Pradesh	1.4
8	Pambadum Shola National Park	Tamil Nadu	1.4

National Parks in India 2026 Facts

- Hemis National Park (Jammu & Kashmir): The largest national park in India, famous for its **snow leopard** population.
- South Button Island National Park (Andaman & Nicobar Islands): The smallest national park in India, known for its coral reefs and marine life.
- Rann of Kutch (Gujarat): The largest wildlife sanctuary in India, home to the **Indian wild ass** and migratory birds.
- Bor Tiger Reserve (Maharashtra): The smallest **wildlife sanctuary in India**, critical for tiger conservation.

Biodiversity Conservation in India 2026

India has established several constitutional, legal, and policy measures to protect its rich flora and fauna. These provisions aim to conserve biodiversity, protect endangered species, prevent illegal wildlife trade, and ensure sustainable management of natural resources.

Constitutional Provisions

- **Article 48A** – Directs the State to protect and improve the environment and safeguard forests and wildlife.
- **Article 51A(g)** – Makes it a Fundamental Duty of every citizen to protect and improve the natural environment, including forests, lakes, rivers, and wildlife.
- **Forests and Wildlife** were transferred to the **Concurrent List** through the **42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976**, allowing both the Centre and States to make laws on these subjects.

Major Laws for Flora & Fauna Conservation

- **Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972**
 - Provides legal protection to wild animals, birds, and plants.
 - Regulates hunting and wildlife trade.
 - Establishes National Parks, Wildlife Sanctuaries, and Conservation Reserves.
 - Creates schedules for different levels of species protection.
- **Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980**
 - Restricts the diversion of forest land for non-forest purposes without Central Government approval.
 - Helps prevent deforestation and habitat destruction.
- **Environment (Protection) Act, 1986**
 - Provides a comprehensive framework for environmental protection.
 - Empowers the Central Government to take measures for protecting ecosystems and biodiversity.
- **Biological Diversity Act, 2002**
 - Conserves biological diversity and promotes sustainable use of biological resources.
 - Ensures fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from biological resources.
 - Established the **National Biodiversity Authority (NBA)**.
- **Indian Forest Act, 1927**
 - Regulates forest management and protection.
 - Controls forest produce and forest-related activities.

International Conventions Supported by India

- Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)
- Ramsar Convention
- Convention on Migratory Species

Important Conservation Initiatives

- **Project Tiger (1973)**

- **Project Elephant** (1992)
- **Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats**
- **National Biodiversity Action Plan**
- **Green India Mission**

National Parks in India Importance

National Parks in India play a vital role in **wildlife conservation**, **biodiversity protection**, and the preservation of natural ecosystems. They help protect endangered species, maintain ecological balance, and ensure sustainable use of natural resources for future generations.

- **Conservation of Wildlife:** National Parks provide a safe and protected habitat for various wildlife species, including endangered animals such as the Bengal Tiger, **Asiatic Lion**, and One-Horned Rhinoceros.
- **Protection of Biodiversity:** These parks preserve a wide variety of **flora and fauna**, ensuring the survival of numerous plant, bird, reptile, and mammal species.
- **Maintenance of Ecological Balance:** National Parks help maintain healthy ecosystems by protecting forests, grasslands, wetlands, and other natural habitats that support life.
- **Preservation of Natural Habitats:** They prevent habitat destruction caused by **deforestation**, **urbanization**, and human encroachment, allowing wildlife to thrive in their natural environment.
- **Climate Change Mitigation:** Forests within National Parks act as **carbon sinks**, absorbing carbon dioxide and helping reduce the effects of global warming and climate change.
- **Protection of Water Resources:** Many National Parks safeguard rivers, lakes, wetlands, and watersheds, ensuring a continuous supply of clean water and supporting groundwater recharge.
- **Scientific Research and Conservation Studies:** National Parks serve as important centers for **wildlife research**, ecological studies, and biodiversity monitoring, helping scientists understand environmental changes.
- **Promotion of Eco-Tourism:** Parks attract millions of tourists every year, promoting **sustainable tourism** while creating awareness about wildlife conservation and environmental protection.
- **Environmental Education and Awareness:** They provide opportunities for students, researchers, and visitors to learn about ecosystems, wildlife, and conservation practices.
- **Protection of Endangered Species:** Several conservation programs are implemented within National Parks to protect species facing the risk of extinction and to increase their population.
- **Support for Ecosystem Services:** National Parks contribute to essential ecosystem services such as **pollination**, **soil conservation**, **water purification**, and **nutrient cycling**.
- **Preservation of Genetic Diversity:** They protect the genetic resources of plants and animals, which are important for future scientific research and species adaptation.
- **Control of Soil Erosion:** Forest vegetation and natural landscapes in National Parks help prevent soil erosion and land degradation.
- **Boost to Local Economy:** Eco-tourism and conservation-related activities generate employment opportunities for local communities, guides, forest staff, and tourism operators.
- **Protection of India's Natural Heritage:** National Parks preserve India's unique wildlife and natural landscapes, ensuring that future generations can experience and benefit from this rich ecological heritage.

- **Support for National Conservation Programs:** Many National Parks are part of initiatives such as Project Tiger and **Project Elephant**, which focus on protecting key wildlife species and their habitats.
- **Disaster Risk Reduction:** Healthy ecosystems within National Parks help reduce the impact of floods, droughts, landslides, and other natural disasters by stabilizing the environment.
- **Contribution to Sustainable Development:** National Parks support the goals of sustainable development by balancing environmental conservation with economic and social benefits.
- **Conservation of Rare and Medicinal Plants:** Many National Parks protect valuable medicinal and endemic plant species that are important for healthcare, research, and biodiversity conservation.

Also Check Other Posts	
Biosphere Reserves in India	National Parks in India
Waterfalls in India	Highest Peak in India
Ramsar Sites in India	Wildlife Sanctuaries in India
Dams in India	Tiger Reserves in India
Mountain Passes in India	Longest Bridge in India

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/national-parks-in-india/>

© Vajiram & Ravi. For personal use only.