



Email: contact@ficuswildlife.net

Web: www.ficuswildlife.net

Top Slip

When

May 21st to 24th 2010

Costs

INR 12,500 (USD 300) per person (for 4 persons traveling, ex-Coimbatore)

Facilities

Accommodation: Simple forest accommodation

Food: Local vegetarian (Eggs optional)

Transport: Road transfers in Toyota Qualis or similar

Difficulty: Moderately Difficult for some walks in steep mountainous terrain.

For Whom

Wildlife & bird enthusiasts/photographers; naturalists; adventurers

Highlights

The Anamalais are located at the northern end of the largest contiguous stretch of mountainous natural areas in the Western Ghats of south India. The large elevational range of the mountains supports diverse habitat types, including wet-montane forest/grasslands in higher elevations, wet-evergreen forests on the windward slopes and dry tropical forests on the leeward slopes. The forests here contains many biotic treasures including an amazing diversity of flora, herpetofauna, small vertebrates and invertebrates a large proportion of which are unique to the Western Ghats. The mountains here are noteworthy for the mammalian specialties of the Western Ghats, including the endangered lion-tailed macaque and Nilgiri tahr and some of its locations are among the best for bird-watching in south India - with potential sightings of rarities such as the Wynaad laughing thrush, Malabar Trogon, Rufous Bellied-Eagle and Great Pied Hornbill, among 300 plus species recorded from here.. The Anamalais also contains healthy populations of megafauna, including of tigers, elephants, leopards, wild dogs and gaur. As such the Anamalais mirrors the diversity of habitats, flora and fauna that



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occur throughout the Western Ghats of south India and this tour provides an excellent opportunity to observe several of the specialities of the ecoregion.

On this tour we will explore a few exciting locations in the Anamalais within the Indira Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary and Tiger Reserve. We will be based in the tourist complex in/around Top Slip and explore the evergreen, moist deciduous and plantations forests around the locations primarily on foot and in a few short drives. The tour will be led by an experienced naturalist and the team will be ably guided and supported by indigenous forest tribal/s who have an intimate knowledge of the reserve's biodiversity and natural locations.

FYI and Guidelines

1. Since we will stay in an FRH, we recommend that you carry your sleeping bags and personal items (such as towels, toiletries etc for this sector).
2. Days will be warm and humid, with a distinct possibility of evening thunderstorms. Please bring along appropriate rain protection for the same. Nights will be cool and pleasant.
3. Please bring your binoculars (at least 8x magnification, ideally 10x). While much of the biodiversity in the Anamalais can be enjoyed without a pair of binoculars, they would certainly come in handy for closer observations of fauna that do not allow close approach.
4. Some challenging treks will be necessary during this tour. Some of the terrain will be mountainous and uneven. It is essential that you wear a very comfortable pair of trekking shoes and full pants during our forays into the wild.
5. A hat and sunblock are highly recommended. We also suggest that you carry insect repellents and anti-allergy topical applications/medication. Please bring essential medication with you.

Terms and Conditions

1. Tour costs are based on sharing basis ex-Coimbatore and is all inclusive (transport, accommodation, food, personnel and all taxes and fees). Personnel includes a naturalist and a local guide. Please check with us on specific items to make sure if it is included in the published tour costs.
2. Maximum group size on this tour is 4.
3. Bookings are confirmed only upon full payment of the tour cost and at least 15 days in advance from the proposed departure date
4. We reserve the right to cancel the tour at anytime due to unforeseen circumstances. We will refund the entire booking amount under these circumstances.
5.
 - a. We accept demand drafts in Indian Rupees and online credit card payments in US Dollars through Paypal.



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- b. Customers can also transfer funds electronically into our bank accounts (details provided on request).
 - c. Indian customers can also use a credit card to pay online through Paypal, but please be aware that you will be charged an additional currency conversion fee for the same.
 - d. Demand drafts/cheques are payable to "Ficus Wildlife and Natural History Tours" located in Chennai.
6. In case you want to cancel your booking:
- a. A 90% refund if cancellation requested more than 30 days before the proposed date of departure
 - b. A 15% refund if cancellation requested less than 15 days from the proposed date of departure.

Disclaimer and Emergency Contact

Participants should be aware of unlikely, but potential risks involved during wildlife tours and general travel. This may include, among other things, injuries or fatalities associated with general travel, snake bites, field activities and encounters with wildlife. We require that all tour participants sign this disclaimer that acknowledges the risks associated during our conducted tours and relieves us of any liabilities arising out of the same. This also acknowledges that you have read and abide by the terms and conditions mentioned in the document.

Name of participant:

Age:

Emergency contact person:

Relationship:

Tel no:

Email:

Signature and Date: