



Email: contact@ficuswildlife.net

Web: www.ficuswildlife.net

Ghermalam

2 nights

Summary

Located at the junction between the Eastern and Western Ghats, where the BR Hills and Nilgiris meet, Ghermalam is an off the beaten track, albeit exciting natural history location. The rolling plateau (1000m) of deciduous and riparian forests and agricultural land of this location is rich in peninsular wildlife, birds and scenery of the surrounding, forested hills.

The landscape is within an important migratory corridor for elephants, and contains populations of other megafauna, including tigers and leopards. While no confirmed sightings exist, the forests here also hold potential for rarities like the brown mongoose among commoner species such small Indian civet and mouse deer. Birdlife is excellent, where earlier trips have revealed rarities such as the grey-headed bulbul and speckled piculet as well as sightings of brown fish owl, black eagles, pompadour pigeons and Malabar grey hornbills among potentially 200 plus species of birds. The landscape is little explored by naturalists and relatively untouched by tourism, which provides further potential to revel in unexpected discoveries!

We explore the area mostly on foot and in a few short drives. We stay in a beautifully located farm resort, bordering the forest with excellent views of the hills and forest from the rooms.

Dates

Please email us: contact@ficuswildlife.net for latest schedule

Please note that we can customise schedule for independent travel

Costs

From INR 7500/person ex-Coimbatore

Itinerary Outline

Day 1: Depart Coimbatore 9 am and reach Ghermalam for Lunch. PM short trek along river and scrub habitat. PM (night) drive

Day 2: Day long trek to the upper reaches of the hills



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Day 3: AM short trek along river and forest abutting farmland. PM transfer to Coimbatore. Arrive Coimbatore in the evening.

Facilities

Accommodation: Basic - tents or simple rooms

Food: Local/pan-Indian & simple veg and non-veg fare

Transport: Road transfers in Toyota Qualis or similar

Difficulty level: Moderate to difficult, for some steep uphill climbs and treks in uneven terrain (including river walks).

FYI and Guidelines

1. Weather: Updates based on dates of travel
2. Please bring personal items (toiletries, towels etc) and a small flash light.
3. Since we will explore the area on foot and in mountainous terrain, we recommend you wear comfortable walking/trekking shoes for the trip.
4. Please bring your binoculars along - you will appreciate the sights of the forests much more with binoculars on hand. However, we will have a pair or two to share amongst us.
5. Please bring essential medication with you, since the local outlets are few and far between and may not always carry what you are looking for.

Terms and Conditions

1. Tour costs are per person based on twin sharing basis ex-Coimbatore and is all inclusive (transport, accommodation, food, personnel and all taxes and fees). Personnel includes a naturalist/tour leader, local guide and resource persons from the local community. 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 10
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. Our preferred mode of payment is through electronic transfers into our bank account. Relevant details will be provided to you once you are ready to make the payment. Alternatively we accept demand drafts/cheques in the currency of your choice.
5. If you are paying in foreign currency, we might have apply a currency surcharge on the published rates, if the INR appreciates against your currency at the time of payment.



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6. In the unlikely event in which we are forced to cancel the tour we will refund you the entire booking amount. In case we are unable to conduct the tour due to circumstances beyond our control (for e.g. forces of nature, political conditions), we will make every effort to refund as much of the booking amount as possible.
7. In case you to cancel your booking more than one month in advance from the tour date, we will refund *at least* 50% of the tour cost (assuming tour costs are fully paid). The precise refund beyond this will be dependent on the refund policies of our travel partners that we use on tour. In case you cancel your booking less than 1 month from the start of the tour, we will refund 10% of your booking amount

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: