



Email: contact@ficuswildlife.net

Web: www.ficuswildlife.net

Ghermalam

When

Feb 12th to 15th 2010

Costs

INR 10,500 (Ex-Coimbatore, based on minimum 4 persons traveling)

Facilities

Accommodation: Basic - tents or simple rooms

Food: Local vegetarian with eggs (optional)

Transport: Road transfers in Tata Sumo or Toyota Qualis

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

Highlights

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 as 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 of life in this landscape!



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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.

FYI and Guidelines

1. We will advise you on weather conditions and clothing dependent on schedule (TBA) or when you choose to travel. Although we expect dry weather, there could be unpredictable rains - so a raincoat will be handy.
2. Please bring personal items (toiletries, towels etc), sleeping bag (can be arranged for a nominal fee), 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. 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.
 - b. We accept personal cheques in Indian Rupees, but your reservations will be confirmed only after your cheque is cleared by the bank.
 - 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 100% refund if cancellation requested more than 15 days before the proposed date of departure



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- b. A 15% refund if cancellation requested less than 15 days from the proposed date of departure.

Disclaimer

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 accept the terms and conditions mentioned in the document.

Name of participant:

Signature and Date: