



# EIACP

## RESOURCE PARTNER

On

# ECOTOURISM

ISSN: 0974-6072



Newsletter

Volume 21

Number 3

Oct - Dec 2023

## DISCOVER INDIA'S NATURAL WONDERS:

### *A Traveller's Guide to Ecotourism*

November 21, 2023

As more and more tourists look for environmentally beneficial and sustainable methods to travel, eco-friendly travel destinations have become quite popular. These locations place a high value on protecting the environment, encouraging environmentally friendly behaviour, and offering immersive experiences that blend in with the natural world. Eco-tourism locations are a good option for responsible tourists since they offer breathtaking experiences together with helping to preserve the natural marvels of our planet. We will look for four comparable locations in India that are the finest for ecotourism in this article.



#### **BLYTON BUNGALOW, POOMAAL 1.0 COLLECTIVE, KAKKABE, COORG, KARNATAKA- BEFOREST LIFESTYLE SOLUTIONS PVT. LTD.**

The Blyton Bungalow in Poomaale 1.0 Collective is a wilderness guest house in a 128-acre Coffee Estate. The following amenities are tastefully installed in the bungalows: 6 Bedrooms, Coffee forests, Hiking & trekking, Nature walks, Birdwatching, Bonfire & barbeque, Camping, Stargazing, Waterfalls, Shola grasslands, Elephant corridors, Endemic species, Local cuisine, Permaculture farming, Fruit forests, Cardamom & pepper plantations

#### **WELCOM HOTEL BY ITC HOTELS, JIM CORBETT, UTTARAKHAND**

Perched on a hill, the Welcome hotel Jim Corbett provides an aerial perspective of the scenic valley underneath. The upscale resort uses 60% of its energy needs to be met by renewable solar electricity. They serve regional Kumaoni food that has been expertly prepared to create a delicious, nourishing buffet. The food is strengthened with native millets and greens.



## POOMAALE 2.0 COLLECTIVE, KAKKABE, COORG, KARNATAKA –

Sep 29, 2023, 14:44 IST



### BEFOREST LIFESTYLE SOLUTIONS PVT. LTD.

Private Estate Living in a Rainforest Ecosystem 100 Acres, Coffee forests, Spice plantations, Fruit orchards, Wildlife Conservation, Permaculture farming, Food forests, Freshwater streams, Shola forests, Endemic species, Ayurvedic plants.

### CORBETT LEELA VILAS, CORBETT NATIONAL PARK, UTTARAKHAND



Situated just ten minutes from the Corbett National Park, India's premier tiger reserve, this stunning luxury wildlife resort is situated near the Bijrani entrance of the park in Uttarakhand. Fine eating, outdoor sports, tiger visits, and safari tours are all nearby. This esteemed national park welcomes hordes of tourists who take thrilling safaris that provide up-close views of the unique fauna.

Source: <https://www.retropoplifestyle.com/discover-indias-natural-wonders-a-travellers-guide-to-eco-tourism/>

## Coorg: A beautiful ecotourism destination in Karnataka

### Synopsis

The Nagarahole National Park here is a major tiger habitat. This park and its surrounding forests are home to tigers, leopards, elephants, and a multitude of other wildlife species.

Coorg, also known as Kodagu, is set in the Western Ghats of Karnataka. It emerges as a prime eco-tourism destination in South India with its lush and biodiverse region. The place is perfect for those seeking sustainable experiences.



## A hotspot for biodiversity

Coorg in the Western Ghats, which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and one of the world's eight hottest biodiversity hotspots, makes it a treasure trove for nature lovers. The region is home to a wide variety of plant and animal species, some of which are endemic and endangered. The Nagarahole National Park here is a major tiger habitat. This park and its surrounding forests are home to tigers, leopards, elephants, and a multitude of other wildlife species.

## Sustainable Farming



Coorg is known for its coffee plantations. They don't just produce premium beans; but also follow eco-friendly farming practices. Shade-grown coffee, a traditional method in Coorg, not only enhances coffee flavor but also preserves biodiversity.

In addition to this, Coorg is increasingly adopting organic farming methods, reducing the use of harmful chemicals and pesticides. Travellers can visit these plantations and learn more about sustainable farming.

## Waterfalls galore

The place is home to several waterfalls that grace its landscape. These play a crucial role in the region's ecosystem. Proper watershed management practices help maintain water quality and flow, ensuring the well-being of both wildlife and local communities.



Eco-tourism in Coorg isn't solely about preserving the environment; it also gives importance to the well-being of local communities. Homestays not only offer an authentic experience but also provide local families with an additional source of income.

Today, Coorg has become one of the most important ecotourism destinations in India. As eco-tourism gains prominence worldwide, Coorg continues to attract conscious travellers from across the globe.

Source:

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/travel/destinations/coorg-a-beautiful-eco-tourism-destination-in-karnataka/articleshow/104040249.cms>



India is a country rich in biodiversity and known for its diverse landscapes. As a result, the country has always been at the forefront of global conservation efforts, and in recent years, there has been a growing urgency to protect our planet's natural wonders. In this article, we will share insights into India's conservation initiatives and responsible wildlife tourism practices, highlighting the country's commitment to preserving its ecological heritage and promoting sustainable tourism.

## Conservation Initiatives: A Tapestry of Commitment

India's commitment to conservation is reflected in various projects that span the length and breadth of the country. One of the most well-known initiatives is Project Tiger, launched in 1973, which focuses on preserving the majestic Bengal tiger and its habitats. Over the years, this project has witnessed significant success, with tiger populations showing encouraging signs of recovery.

Complementing this endeavour is Project Elephant, aimed at safeguarding the Asian elephant population. These initiatives, along with various species-specific conservation programs, underscore India's dedication to addressing the multifaceted threats posed by poaching, habitat loss, and human-wildlife conflict.

Furthermore, national parks and wildlife sanctuaries provide safe havens for diverse flora and fauna. From the snow-clad peaks of the Himalayas to the mangrove-lined coasts of the Sundarbans, these protected areas serve as crucibles for conservation, fostering the revival of endangered species and preserving the delicate balance of ecosystems.



## Responsible Wildlife Tourism: Nurturing Nature's Beauty with Care



With the surge in wildlife tourism, there exists the potential for unintended harm to fragile ecosystems. Recognizing this delicate balance, India is increasingly steering towards responsible wildlife tourism practices.

Protected areas implement stringent guidelines to regulate visitor activities, ensuring minimal environmental impact. This includes rules governing the distance maintained from wildlife, the prohibition of littering, and guidelines for ethical behaviour in natural habitats. Education forms a crucial component of this strategy, enlightening tourists about the importance of their role in preserving the sanctity of these natural wonders.

Moreover, the introduction of eco-sensitive zones around protected areas aims to mitigate the adverse effects of tourism on biodiversity. These zones serve as buffers, allowing for the coexistence of human activities and wildlife conservation.

## Community Involvement: Bridging the Gap Between Conservation and Livelihoods



Conservation in India has evolved beyond traditional paradigms, recognizing the symbiotic relationship between natural ecosystems and local communities. To ensure the sustainability of conservation endeavours, initiatives are underway to actively involve and empower these communities.

Community-based ecotourism projects are gaining prominence, offering residents economic opportunities while fostering a sense of guardianship over their natural surroundings. By involving communities in the management and benefits of tourism, India is not only promoting environmental stewardship but also contributing to the socio-economic development of regions surrounding protected areas.

## Challenges and Future Prospects: *The Road Ahead*

While strides have been made in conservation and responsible tourism, challenges persist. Rapid urbanization, climate change, and the ever-present threat of poaching demand continuous vigilance and adaptive strategies.

Looking ahead, India's conservation landscape is poised for innovation and collaboration. The integration of technology, citizen engagement, and international partnerships will play pivotal roles in shaping the future of wildlife conservation. Harnessing the power of public awareness and collective action, India aims to fortify its position as a global leader in biodiversity conservation.



## Conclusion: Crafting a Sustainable Legacy



India's narrative of conservation and responsible wildlife tourism is a testament to the nation's commitment to safeguarding its natural heritage. By sharing insights into these endeavours, we illuminate the path forward—a path that harmonizes the aspirations of a growing nation with the imperative to preserve the splendour of its wilderness. As we navigate this delicate balance, we collectively contribute to the creation of a sustainable legacy that transcends generations, fostering a world where humanity and wildlife coexist in harmony. So, if you're planning a wildlife tour, India is the perfect destination, offering a unique and responsible way to experience nature's beauty while preserving it for future generations.

## Ecotourism in Post-COVID-19 Environment: A Social Network Analysis

Shivam Sanjay Aneja & Kali Charan Sabat

Conference paper | First Online : 02 November 2023

This study's objective was to investigate the influence of social networks in promoting ecotourism in the post-COVID-19 era. The authors of this study employed a social network perspective to examine the connection between social networking and ecotourism using a meso-level perspective. According to the qualitative research done, it became clear that organizational social links could play an important role in fostering homophilic and heterophilic relationships. These network pressures were very dynamic and depended on numerous sets of elements, according to the study's findings. These characteristics included the frequency of social links, the sequence of interactions with social ties, and the prevalent social norms at the time of social tie contact. This research will contribute to a greater understanding of the role of social networking in the context of promoting and developing ecotourism. The study improved the overall understanding of social relationships and motivational elements in the social networking environment. Future research could examine the global ecotourism levels of a varied group of people with multiple restrictions. This research study had practical consequences for tourism and hospitality industry managers. The research found that for the development and growth of ecotourism regular homophilic social relationships are more beneficial than heterophilic ties.

### Keywords

Sustainability, Post-COVID-19 pandemic, Ecotourism, Social network analysis, social ties, Graph theory

Source: [https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-981-99-0197-5\\_35](https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-981-99-0197-5_35)

## Unexplored eco-tourism potential in Askot Wildlife Sanctuary, Uttarakhand, India

Ritesh Joshi, Kanchan Puri

Eco-Sensitive Zone Division, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi, INDIA \*Corresponding Author: [genetics\\_1407@yahoo.co.in](mailto:genetics_1407@yahoo.co.in)

Citation: Joshi, R., & Puri, K. (2023). Unexplored eco-tourism potential in Askot Wildlife Sanctuary, Uttarakhand, India. *European Journal of Sustainable Development Research*, 7(4), em0239. <https://doi.org/10.29333/ejosdr/13849>

### ARTICLE INFO

Received: 27 May 2023

Accepted: 25 Oct. 2023

Received: 27 May 2023 Accepted: 25 Oct. 2023 The concept of eco-tourism in protected areas namely national parks, wildlife sanctuaries, biosphere reserves, and community reserves and their implications for nature conservation are of global significance. This note indicates about the opportunities of eco-tourism in Askot Wildlife Sanctuary (WLS), Uttarakhand. Its potential has not been harnessed and it remains neglected in terms of management inputs. Eco-tourism in Askot WLS shall contribute to bio-diversity conservation, creation of environmental awareness, and controlling the migration of locals for jobs/livelihood. It can generate employment and income of the local people and in turn will boost the socio-economic development of the area. Need of the hour is to connect with the needs of people and resources available that will provide them with better opportunities of employment. Keywords: Eco-tourism, Askot Wildlife Sanctuary, Uttarakhand, opportunities, livelihood.

Source: <https://www.ejosdr.com/download/unexplored-eco-tourism-potential-in-askot-wildlife-sanctuary-uttarakhand-india-13849.pdf>

## **A Study on The Socio-Economic Impacts of Eco Tourism in Ladakh, India**

*Sumeir Radhu*

*Step by Step School, Noida, India*

Ecotourism has risen as a solution to counter conventional tourism's adverse effects while encouraging local involvement. This study delves into the social and economic impacts of ecotourism in Ladakh, India, where growing tourism has presented both environmental issues and developmental prospects. Socially, ecotourism encourages cultural preservation but also raises concerns about tourists not respecting the culture. Economically, it creates jobs but struggles with income inequality. The study conducted a survey with 28 participants to understand the local sentiments about Ecotourism. This study comprehensively analysis ecotourism's social and economic effects in Ladakh, emphasising sustainable practices and community engagement to maximise benefits while minimising negative consequences in this unique Himalayan region.

Keywords: Ecotourism, Ladakh, Travel, Leh

Source: <https://www.ijfmr.com/papers/2023/5/7654.pdf>

## **Geospatial investigation of site suitability for ecotourism development using AHP and GIS techniques in Uttara Kannada district, Karnataka state, India**

*Harishnaika N, Arpitha M, S.A. Ahmed, Ashwini KS*

The study aimed to spatially examine the viability and site suitability of ecotourism in the Uttara Kannada district, India. Karnataka is a fantastic destination for a variety of travel and has a lot of potentials to promote ecotourism, which has acquired popularity in recent years. Ecotourism is important to the conservation and safeguarding of biodiversity. Consequently, the current research aims to find potential ecotourism areas in the Uttara Kannada district, utilizing the analytic hierarchy process (AHP) and Geographical Information System-Remote sensing (GIS-RS) methodologies. The study is based on the application of GIS-RS factors for landscape naturalness, climatic features, accessibility parameters, topographic attributes, protected and reserved regions, and natural attractiveness in the GIS platform via a weighted overlay method. To analyze and appraise the ecotourism potential in the study area, the research uses satellite and weighted overlays of auxiliary data from AHP. As an outcome, 53.54 % of the highly suitable land was found over the forest regions and finally, the Unsuitable regions were mainly indicated over the miscellaneous area (47.46 %). The majority of the most suitable ecotourism sites that fall under category S1 are located in the Taluks like Joida (27 %) and Karwar (15 %). The outcome of this paper as expected is that very high and moderately suitable regions were initiated in the forest region. The study's findings and methodology will be useful to decision-makers and planners.

Keywords

LULC; AHP; Ecotourism; GIS; Remote sensing

Source: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2772655X23000691>



The EIACP team:

*Secretary*

Shri N.W Tamang, IFS  
Department of Science & Technology  
Government of Sikkim

*Co-ordinator*

Shri D.T. Bhutia  
Principal Director, DST

*Sr. Research Assistant*

Shri Prabakar Gurung

*Programme Officer*

Ms. Primula Sharma

*Information Officer*

Shri Niraj Sharma

*IT Officer / GIS Expert*

Ms. Palmu Bhutia

*DEO*

Ms. Tseten Chung Chung Lachungpa

*Published by*

Shri N.W. Tamang, IFS,  
Secretary to the Govt. of Sikkim (DST)  
and

*edited by*

Shri Dorjee Thinlay Bhutia,  
Principal Director on behalf of  
EIACP Resource Partner  
on Eco-Tourism

*As part of the programme on Environmental  
Information, Awareness, Capacity Building &  
Livelihood Programme (EIACP) to the  
Ministry of Environment and Forests,  
Government of India.*

### **Invitation for Article / Research paper**

Dear Readers,

Research papers / Articles related to ecotourism, climate change & mitigation are invited for free publication in the EIACP newsletter. The same will be uploaded in the EIACP website with due courtesy of the author.

#### **Terms and conditions for publication:**

- Closely related with ecotourism related subjects or climate change.
- Full paper with abstract notes.
- 1,000 words in English language.
- High resolution pictures (3,4 nos.) of the topic.

**Note:** Publication of the research paper/ article will be decided by the editorial board of the Newsletter.

Please send your valuable suggestions, queries, comments and articles to:

The Coordinator,  
EIACP Resource Partner on Ecotourism,  
Vigyan Bhawan, Department of Science & Technology,  
Deorali, Gangtok, Sikkim. 737102  
Email: [sests-env@nic.in](mailto:sests-env@nic.in)

This newsletter is aimed at disseminating ecotourism information and its related subjects among, environment enthusiasts, ecotourism stakeholders, students, researchers and public at large.

*Disclaimer: the ideas and views expressed in the article in this Newsletter are solely of the writers and information derived from secondary sources.  
Hence the centre holds no responsibility to errors in any kind.*