

Satpura Tiger Reserve, Hoshangabad

Revised FAQ's on visit to Satpura Tiger Reserve Hoshangabad

1. Where is Satpura Tiger Reserve located?

Satpura Tiger Reserve is located south of Narmada River in Hoshangabad, Betul and Chhindwara districts, with the Head Quarter Stationed at Hoshangabad.

2. How do I reach Satpura Tiger Reserve? What are the park entry zones?

Satpura Tiger Reserve has 5 entry points: Pachmarhi, Madai ,Churna, Sehra and Pathai The approach road for this entry points are as follows:-

1. Pachmarhi :- Situated amid of Jabalpur-Itarsi rail route, Pachmarhi has over 30 viewpoints. It is 55 km away from Pipariya railway station by road. It is 210 km away from Bhopal by road and 260 km away from Nagpur by road.

2. Madai :- It is situated amid of Pipariya-Bhopal road route, 140 km away from Bhopal. Located in the core zone, Madhai is the centre for wildlife tourism in Satpura Tiger Reserve.

3. Churna :- It is situated in the deep core forests amid of Itarsi-Nagpur road route, 100 km away from Itarsi railway station by road.

4. Sehra :- This beautiful buffer tourism zone is situated amid of Shohagpur to Madhai 20 km, Madhai to Sehra gate 4 km.

5. Pathai :- This buffer zone meets the backwaters of Denwa at various places and is situated amid of Shohagpur to Madhai 20km, Madhai to Pathai gate 14 km.

3. What are the various ecotourism activities available at the various tourism zones?

The various available ecotourism activities are as follows:

- a. **Pachmarhi:** Viewpoint watching, cycling, trekking, nature walks, camping, bird watching, butterfly watching
- b. **Madhai:** Vehicle safari, elephant ride, boat ride, canoeing, trekking
- c. **Churna:** Vehicle safari
- d. **Jamanidev:** Vehicle safari, camping
- e. **Parsapani:** Vehicle safari, camping

4. What is the best time to visit Satpura Tiger Reserve?

The best time to visit Madhai, Churna (Core Zone) and Jamanidev, Parsapani (Buffer Zone) is between October and March. Pachmarhi may be visited throughout the year.

5. What is the closed period for tourism in Satpura Tiger Reserve?

Closed period for Madhai and Churna is from 1st July to 30th Sept. Pachmarhi is open round the year.

6. What about the weather at Satpura Tiger Reserve?

Satpura being situated in Central India is subjected to extreme and tropical weather. Temperature in and around Pachmarhi plateau is generally lower than the plains. Monsoon arrives in the end of June and rainfall in Pachmarhi is much higher than the rest of district. Weather at Madhai, Churna, Parsapani and Jamanidev is similar to that of the surrounding plains.

7. What are the off days for Park Safari?

The park is closed for visitors on the Holi and Diwali festivals and in the afternoon of every Wednesday.

8. Are Mobile/Cell Phones allowed during park excursions?

Permits for Mobile/cell phones are issued for a specific area. Except photography, any other use of mobile phones is prohibited during park excursions.

9. Can I visit all the tourism zones with one entry Permit?

No, Permits are issued for a specific round. The safari is permitted only the round booked for.

10. How can I book permit and reschedule/cancel my permit for the safari?

Permits for park safari can be booked in advance. Provisions for rescheduling and cancellation of park entry permits are available at the safari booking portal within <http://www.mponline.gov.in>.

11. Is there any provision for Add-Ons?

An Add-on is only possible under following circumstances:

- The total number of members of a party should not exceed six.
- The leader of the party should agree to the adding-on.
- The original permit must have at least two persons to avail of this facility. Each Add-on, irrespective of the number of persons, shall be charged an additional normal entry fee of a particular area. Adding-on shall only be allowed once.
- The presence of the group leader of the original permit holder is a must in the Add-on arrangements.

12. How many vehicles are allowed in Satpura Tiger Reserve?

Only 24 vehicles are permitted to enter the park per day in Madhai zone, including the morning and afternoon drives. 28 vehicles (including morning and evening drives) are allowed to enter everyday in Parsapani and in Jamanidev. In Pachmarhi, there is no limitation for the entry of vehicles. In Churna zone, tourist can take their own four-wheel drive enabled/SUV vehicle.

13. How many safaris can be made in Satpura Tiger Reserve in a day?

Two safaris, one in the morning from 06:00 hrs to 11:00 hrs and the other during the afternoon from 15:00 hrs to 18:00 hrs can be made in a day in Madhai, Churna, Parsapani & Jamanidev tourism zones. In Pachmarhi, tourists can visit from sunrise to sunset.

14. How much are the permit costs (Entry fee, vehicle rent and guide charge) and what are the rules for safari in core and buffer area?

Permit fees for both Indian and Foreign tourists is the same and would be as following:

S. no.	Round By Gypsy	Park Entry fees		Rent of vehicle ⁺	Guide Charge
		Single seat booking*	Full vehicle booking*		
1.	Keria Round	250.00	1500.00	1800.00	360.00
2.	Lagda Round	250.00	1500.00	2400.00	360.00
3.	Zinzini Mahal Round	250.00	1500.00	3000.00	360.00
4.	Chutakidev Round	250.00	1500.00	3600.00	360.00
5.	Churna Round (Double Round)	500.00	3000.00	5000.00	720.00

Note: - In addition to the above mentioned fees, boat fees to and from Madhai (Rs. 50 per person) would also be payable at the permit counter.

+ The visitor will require to choose 1 one of the 5 available safari rounds, whose fees, along with the guide and boat fees would be payable at the permit counter.

The safari rates at Jamanidev and Parsapani are as follows:

S. no.	Round By Gypsy	Single seat booking*	Full vehicle booking*	Rates of vehicle	Guide Charge	Total
1.	Pathai to Parsapani (70 km)	200.00	1200.00	3000.00	360.00	4260.00
2.	Sehra to Jamanidev (40 km)	200.00	1200.00	2500.00	360.00	4060.00
3.	Sehra to Jamanidev and Bineka (80 km)	200.00	1200.00	3500.00	360.00	5060.00

Note: - Maximum Six persons are allowed in one vehicle for safari.

* The mentioned rates are applicable only when the tourist enters the park in a vehicle registered with Satpura Tiger Reserve. The tourists will have to pay double the mentioned rates if they enter the park in a vehicle unregistered to Satpura Tiger Reserve. In such cases tourists who have booked their safaris through <http://www.mponline.gov.in> will require to pay the excess amount at the park entry gate.

* Private owner registered Gypsies and private vehicles are allowed to enter into the Pachmarhi zone of Tiger Reserve for the safari. Private vehicles are also allowed to enter into the Churna, Jamanidev and Parsapani zones of the Tiger Reserve.

Tourist during their stay and wildlife viewing will be bound by the gazette notification for entry fee and rule 2017 (see <http://www.mponline.gov.in>) and Wildlife Protection Act 1972 and the rules therein and also by the restrictions imposed by the Supreme Court and High Court.

1. Consumption of alcoholic drinks and meat is not allowed during stays in forest rest houses, as per the orders of PCCF, Govt. of M.P. Bhopal.
2. Use of Tape, Loud music is restricted during stays in rest houses and wildlife viewing.
3. Littering (Throwing away) of plastic waste like water bottles, plastic pouches, polythene packets, eatables and other wastes is not allowed.
4. Tourist will be bound to follow the instructions of the guide, forest staff.

5. The timing for wildlife viewing, visit in park areas will be from just before sunrise to just after sunset.

The compliance of these rules is compulsory. Non compliance will result in cancellation of entry permission and the person will be penalized as per law.

15. Any exemption for the children in safari?

Children up to 5 years old are exempted from entry fees and elephant ride fees.

16. What is the advisable dress-code during a safari?

Visitors are advised to wear clothes of the colours that can blend with the colours of the jungle (e.g. green, black, etc.), while avoiding any bright colours (e.g. white, orange, yellow, etc.). Wearing strong perfumes during the safaris is also discouraged. It is also advised to wear clothes in accordance to the current weather.

17. What are the provisions for Elephant Joy Ride?

Elephants have to be booked at least one day in advance. Maximum 4 people are allowed on an subjected to availability elephant. It is a half-hour safari and does not guarantee a tiger sighting. Elephant safari allows you to explore the jungle by leaving conventional forest roads. The charges for elephant ride are as follows:

Elephant ride (maximum 4 persons)	(In Rs.)
Charges per person	1000.00

Half of the above mentioned fees would be payable for children between 5-12 years age. No fee is required to be paid for children younger than 5 years age.

18. What are the fees for trekking, camping, platforms/watchtowers?

Activity	Entry fees		Guide fees		Porter fees	
	Core	Buffer	Core	Buffer	Core	Buffer
Trekking	250.00	200.00	700.00	560.00	500.00	400.00
Camping (two days, one night)	1500.00	1200.00	1400.00	1120.00	1000.00	800.00
Platform / Watchtower	600.00	480.00	1400.00	1120.00	1000.00	800.00

19. What are the various boating activities conducted at Madhai and what are their charges?

Activity	Fees	Boatsman / Guide fees	Total fees
Canoeing	800.00	360.00	1160.00
Boating (8 persons)	2200.00	360.00	2560.00
Boating (10 persons)	2400.00	360.00	2760.00
Boating (12 persons)	2600.00	360.00	2760.00
Pedal boating	250.00	360.00	610.00
Sarangpur - Madhai to and fro	50.00	00	50.00

Tawa cruise boat entry	1000.00	00	1000.00
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20. What are the various tourism activities and their corresponding charges at Pachmarhi?

In Pachmarhi Entry fee for light vehicle is Rs. 250 plus per person permit fee of the person/persons riding the vehicle (maximum as per the passing capacity).

Pachmarhi View Point	
Activity	Entry Fee
Tracking / Cycling (Per round per person)	50
Sighting on one view Point (Per person per round)	25
Two wheeler (Maximum two person per round)	200
Sighting on one view Point with two vehicle (Per person per round)	100
Registered vehicle (maximum 6 person per round)	300
Unregistered vehicle (maximum 6 person per round)	600
Sighting on one view Point with light vehicle registered (maximum 6 person per round)	150
Sighting on one view Point with light vehicle unregistered vehicle (maximum 6 person/ round)	300
Registered vehicle (maximum 6 person/ round) for three days	600
Unregistered vehicle (maximum 6 person/ round) for three days	1200

21. Where to stay and How to book accommodation in Satpura Tiger Reserve facility and condition?

There are 03 forest rest houses at Pachmarhi (10 rooms), 01 rest house at Matkuli (04 rooms), 02 rest house at Churna (8 rooms) and 01 rest house at Madhai (7 rooms) each with double bedded rooms. Rooms can be booked by contacting the Satpura Tiger Reserve Office at 07574-254394 in the office timing.

Rest House	Room1	Room2	Room3	Room4	Room5	Room6
Pachmarhi	-	1250	1250	1250	-	-
Mahadeo	2500	1500	2000	-	-	-
Bison Lodge	2000	1000	1000	-	-	-
Matkuli	1500	1500	1500	1500	-	-
Madai	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	-
Churna	-	-	2000	2000	500*	500*
Eco-Centre Churna	2000	2000	2000	2000	-	-

* Rooms 5 and 6 at Churna resthouse will be available for 3 hours to the tourists visiting from Madhai upon payment.

Accommodation can be booked in advanced during the office hours (1030-1730 hrs) over phone (+917574-254394) & email (ddsatnp.hbd@mp.gov.in). Visitor's details mentioned in the **Resthouse Booking Form** (Annexure 1) are required to be provided through the above mentioned email address, along with a scanned copy of a valid identity proof. Upon availability of rooms, the right of reservation lies with the Field Director, Satpura Tiger Reserve.

1. Maximum 3 persons can be allowed in each room.
2. Total rent of room/rooms will be deposited in advance and send deposit slip to as above mentioned E-mail address and you can confirm your room booking to our above mentioned phone number.
3. You must have to carry room rent deposit slip with you at the time of your arrival
4. **In special circumstances, the reservation of tourist can be cancelled in the interest of forest and wildlife protection or in case of tours of VIP's like Honorable High Court Judges / District Court Judges, Chief Secretary, Principal Secretary, Secretaries, Head of the Departments, Ministers etc. The cancellation information will be given to the concerned person on telephone as soon as possible. In such cases either the reservation will be adjusted in other dates or the advance fees will be refunded. The fees will not be refunded if the tourist cancels his reservation or if he is not present on the day of booking.**
5. **Ticket can not be transferred to others until informed in advanced.**

22. How to make payments for the accommodation facility?

Room rent is to be deposited in advance in the account of "**Deputy Director**", Satpura Tiger Reserve, Hoshangabad, Saving bank account no. 3614151883 in Central Bank of India, Branch Pipariya (IFSC code CBIN-0283243). Payment is also recovered in cash after occupancy subject to the availability of rooms. Original deposit slip or in case of net banking, a scanned copy of the statement, along with the reservation details is to be sent to Field Director, STR office vide email - ddsatnp.hbd@mp.gov at the earliest.

23. Do the Forest Rest Houses have Canteen facility?

Yes, Forest Rest Houses have canteen facilities to cater to the needs of the visitors. The canteens are being run by the Eco Development Committees. Tariff pertaining to food are charged separately.

24. How to make the cancellation of booked permits?

Permits booked online can be cancelled at <http://forest.mponline.gov.in>. Permits can also be cancelled at the counters near the Gate as per the Cancellation Rules.

- From Date of permit 60 days or before entry/Safari date, complete amount of Permit will be refunded after deducting portal charge.
- Cancellation of Permit between 30 days To 59 days prior Safari date Cancellation charges deducted on the Permit after deducting portal charges will be 25% of Permit value.
- Cancellation of permit between 15 days to 29 days prior Safari date. Cancellation charges deducted on the Permit after deducting portal charges will be 50% of Permit

value

- Cancellation of permit Between 05 days To 14 days .Cancellation charges deducted on the Permit after deducting portal charges will be 75% of Permit value.
- No Refund will be given for cancellation of permit between 5 days or less days prior to entry.

25. What are the Rules for obtaining permission for Filming/Photography from Gypsies?

The Field Director on payment of fees as mentioned below can give permission for Filming/Photography:

Duration	Indian Educational/Research Institutes. Departments & Institutes of Govt. of India and State Govt. of MP	Other	Remarks
First Seven Days	Rs.10000	Rs.40000	Per Cameraman per day
8 th to 15 th Day	Rs.7500	Rs.30000	
16 th Day Onwards	Rs.5000	Rs.20000	

26. Is there any fee chargeable for still cameras/ video cameras during fixed rounds?

Visitors are permitted to use their still video/cameras free of cost during fixed rounds.

27. How to book Elephants for Tourism & Photography/ Filming?

Provisions for Elephant Rides for the above purposes have been elaborated under Rule 4 (1&2) of the Notification.

1. For Tourism:

The local officers at entry gates of the Tiger Reserve shall give permission for tourism. Advance booking can also be made for elephant ride.

On a two-seater elephants, only two persons shall be allowed to sit, excluding Mahout. Children up to five years of age shall be allowed free along with their parents/ guardians. Duration of the elephant ride shall be ½ hour and fee per person will be payable as under:

- Rs. 1,000 fee per person will be payable. For the children age between 5-12 years fee will be half to the fee. But for the calculation of seat, it will be considered as a full seat.

2. For Photography/Filming:

The Field Director/Chief Conservator of Forests shall give permission for photography / filming from an elephant. This fee shall be payable in advance for the entire period of filming/photography. The period of permission can also be in broken periods.

On the basis of availability and if demanded by the cameraman with permission for photography/ filming, the elephant can be given for 3 hours. Only 2 persons, including the cameraman in whose name the photography/ filming permission has been issued and 1 more person to assist the cameraman will be allowed to sit on an elephant. Duration of the photography/ filming shall be 3 cool morning hours. The charges per elephant/ 3 hours shall be as under

1	For Indian educational or research institutes and departments and institutes of Govt. of India and State	Rs. 6000/-
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	Govt. of Madhya Pradesh	
2	All others	Rs. 24000/-

The fee for Photography/Filming shall be non-refundable.

For any violation by the cameraman or his assistant of the photography/filming team, in addition to the legal action by the competent forest officer, their entry can be banned for the part or full period of the remaining permission period by the officer in-charge of the protected area.

28. How to avail concession for school students/trainees/trainers and support staff?

Authorized study tours of students belonging to recognized educational institutions shall be charged 50% of the entry fee if prior information is given for such authorized study tours. However, institutions in question have to book online permits as per the norms, and only on reaching the entry gate and showing relevant original permission letter, the 50% amount will be returned in cash. This facility shall be allowed to an institution only once a year and shall be limited to only one visit. The head of the recognized educational institute needs to write a letter to this effect giving the names of all the students and teachers/faculties accompanying them on the safari.

29. What are the provisions for citizens of Nepal?

The citizens of Nepal shall be treated at par with Indian citizens with regard to the determination of fees.

30. Where do I get more information on Satpura Tiger Reserve?

For more information please log on to Satpura Tiger Reserve's official website <http://www.satpuratigerreserve.mp.gov.in> or you can also log on to <http://forest.mponline.gov.in>.

31. What is Madhya Pradesh Tiger Foundation Society and how to become a member of the society?

The Madhya Pradesh Tiger Foundation is a registered society under the Madhya Pradesh Societies Registration Act, 1973 which came into existence on January 15, 1997. It is a Non-Profit Organization working towards conservation of wildlife (with special emphasis on tiger). This Novel Scheme provides an opportunity to secure support from public and organization outside the Government with the sole objective that people from all walks of life must join hands to protect the tiger and its habitat.

32. How do I become a member of the Madhya Pradesh Tiger Foundation Society?

In April 2001, the MP Tiger Foundation Society announced annual and life membership fees for obtaining membership of the society. The personal annual membership fee is Rs. 2500 and life time membership is Rs. 100,000. Institutional Annual membership fee is Rs. 50000 and life time fee is Rs. 10.00 lakh. Any person, who desires to be member of M.P. Tiger Foundation Society, can contact us directly or the local Conservator of Forests. Once a person becomes a member, he is provided with an identity card.

33. How can I contribute to the Madhya Pradesh Tiger Foundation?

All contributions must be sent through Crossed Cheques of Demand Drafts drawn in favors of The Secretary, Madhya Pradesh Tiger Foundation Society, Bhopal, India. The Society has obtained (FCRA) Foreign Currency Regulation Act registration and is authorized to receive donations from outside the country. All donations are eligible for Income-Tax exemption under

section 80(g) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961. For details, please contact: Secretary, MP Tiger Foundation Society & Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife), Madhya Pradesh, Pragati Bhawan, 3rd Floor, Press Complex, MP Nagar, Zone-I, Bhopal-462001, INDIA, Tel: +91 755 2674318 (W) +91 755 2766315 (F), Email: pccfwl@mpforest.org & pccfwl@mp.gov.in

34. Is there any provision of moving on foot/camping/staying in hides and machans/night safari/cycling/nature trails inside the park?

Forsyth trail, the trek covered by Capt. J. Forsyth, is a very fascinating route right from Jhela to Pachmarhi via Kanjighat. Trekking is allowed on prescribed routes in Pachmarhi and Madhai.

35. What are the mandatory documents that I need to carry during the safari?

All the visitors are required to produce the entry permit and any one of the identity cards (Adhar Card, Voter ID, Driving License, PAN Card, Govt. Employee Card, Passport and Student ID) on demand by the Park Officials for verification at the entry point.

36. What if a permit holder turns up late at the entry gate?

The permit is valid till one hour after the scheduled entry time. After one hour permits will be deemed to be cancelled no entry will be given thereafter.

37. What are the activities that can be taken up in the Core Zone of the Tiger Reserve?

Only safari on vehicles on the designated routes is permitted in the Core Zone of the Tiger Reserve. Walking on foot or getting off the vehicle is strictly prohibited but for the Pachamarhi and Madhai, there are tracking as well as rock climbing activities are available. There is one designated place in each zone where the visitors can get down from the vehicles & relax.

38. What are the precautions I need to take for my safety while in the Park?

- Visitors are allowed to move on open vehicles in the Park.
- One should refrain from teasing or even feeding wild animals.
- Getting off the vehicle and moving on foot is strictly prohibited.
- First-aid box is a mandatory kit in all the vehicles.
- Winter garments are advised during the months of November - February.
- It is always advisable to follow the instructions of the Guide and adhere to the do's and don'ts.
- Sitting firmly on the seat confined to the vehicle
- Avoid touching of plants, eating of leaves and fruits, drinking water from the flowing streams
- Wearing of boots and trousers in the nature trail are always advisable.

39. What are the Park Management's views on local communities and sharing of tourism income?

The tourism in and around the Tiger Reserve is sustained primarily from the non-consumptive use of wildlife resources and the local communities are the ones that bear the cost of conservation in terms of lost incomes, cattle depredation by carnivores and crop damage by wild herbivores.

40. How is Satpura Tiger Reserve different from other parks?

Satpura Tiger Reserve is the biggest tiger reserve of Madhya Pradesh. It is a habitat of 52 species of Mammals, 31 of Reptiles and 300 species of birds, out of which 14 are endangered. STR also a habitat of arboreal mammals like Flying Squirrel, Indian Giant Squirrel and Leaf nosed bats. Eurasian Otter and Smooth coated Otter are also found here. It is a unique park of M.P where

pollution free activities like cycling, canoeing and trekking are allowed.

(A.K. Mishra)
Joint Director
Satpura Tiger Reserve
Hoshangabad

Annexure 1
Resthouse booking form

Visitor details:

S. no.	Name	Age	Gender	Phone number	Email address	Postal Address	Identification card type	Identification card number	Other information

Name / Location of the resthouse: _____

Number of rooms required: _____

Check-in date*: _____

Check-out date*: _____

[* Visitors are advised to book their vehicle safaris from <http://www.mponline.gov.in> beforehand and plan the check-in and check-out dates accordingly.]

[**Note:** The availability/unavailability of rooms according to the information provided above will be intimated through email.]