

# TRACKS SAFARIS

## WE GET YOU CLOSER



### INDIA'S CLIMATE – A SHORT OVERVIEW



The Indian climate is strongly influenced by the Himalayas and the Thar Desert, both of which drive the economically and culturally pivotal summer and winter monsoons. The Himalayas prevent cold Central Asian katabatic winds from blowing in, keeping the bulk of the Indian subcontinent warmer than most locations at similar latitudes. The Thar Desert plays a crucial role in attracting the moisture-laden south-west summer monsoon winds that, between June and October, provide the majority of India's rainfall.

India has a large variation in climate from region to region, due to its vast size. Four major climatic groupings predominate in India: tropical wet, tropical dry, subtropical humid, and montane.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) designates four climatologically seasons:

- **Winter**, occurring from December to March. The year's coldest months are December and January, when temperatures average around 10–15 °C (50–59 °F) in the northwest; temperatures rise as one proceeds towards the equator, peaking around 20–25 °C (68–77 °F) in mainland India's southeast.

- **Summer or pre-monsoon** season, lasting from April to June (April to July in northwestern India). In western and southern regions, the hottest month is April; for northern regions of India, May is the hottest month. Temperatures average around 32–40 °C (90–104 °F) in most of the interior.
- **Monsoon or rainy** season, lasting from July to September. The season is dominated by the humid southwest summer monsoon, which slowly sweeps across the country beginning in late May or early June. Monsoon rains begin to recede from North India at the beginning of October. South India typically receives more rainfall.
- **Post-monsoon or autumn** season, lasting from October to November. In the northwest of India, October and November are usually cloudless. Tamil Nadu receives most of its annual precipitation in the northeast monsoon season.

The Himalayan states, being more temperate, experience an additional season, *spring*, which coincides with the first weeks of summer in southern India.

## Central India (covers Kanha, Satpura, Bandhavgarh, Panna, Pench and Tadoba)

OCT / NOV

**12C - 28C**

Post-monsoon. Can be brief showers. Forest is lush and dense. Streambeds are flowing. Vast swathes of silver sacram grasslands. Large deer herds in the meadows.

DEC/JAN

**-1C - 24C**

Early morning winter mists - very atmospheric. Crisp blue daytime skies and magical afternoon sunset glow. Due to climate, wildlife can be seen throughout the day. Very cold early morning and night- lots of layers essential.

FEB/MARCH

**12C - 34C**

Spring blossom and changing colors. Trees amass with flowers, including the mahua – collected locally by villages for their country brew, enjoyed equally by monkeys, elephants and bears.

APRIL/MAY

**18C - 43C**

Hot temperatures and dry forest typically brings easier sightings, especially around waterholes. Sightings typically in early morning and late afternoon. Mid-May usually experiences a heat wave.

JUNE

**24C - 38C**

Pre-monsoon showers bring relief to climate and new shoots of life appear. Sightings are at their best!

There really is no 'best' month to visit. It depends on the determining factors. Forest is probably at its most beautiful/ photogenic in Oct-Nov, but the forest is dense making sightings harder.

Dec-Jan is the quietest time of the year, the time visitors who want to escape crowds can enjoy the forest to themselves. Barring xmas-new year when it's packed.



Feb-April are the most popular months, as it's about as hot as foreigners can take it. The climate in these months is on the warm side-perfect for foreigners.

May-June is very tough heat wise, but typically when sightings are most abundant.

The notion that sightings are better in the summer is largely a myth. Visitors come in all seasons and have great or not good sightings at any time of year. Sightings are far more dependent on the number and age of cubs around, the number of males vying for dominance, at a particular time and in a particular area. Unseasonal rain which cannot be forecasted can play havoc with sightings, at any time of year.

**Parks are usually closed from July-Sept during the monsoon months.**



## **Ranthambore Sawai Madhopur**

JANUARY

**16C - 23C**

FEBRUARY

**19C –26 C**

MARCH

**25C – 32C**

APRIL

**31C –38C**

MAY

**35C –42C**

JUNE

**34C –39 C**

JULY

**28C –30 C**

AUGUST

**29C –33C**

SEPTEMBER

**29C -34C**

OCTOBER

**28C -34C**

NOVEMBER

**22C –29C**

DECEMBER

**19C –25C**

Ranthambore National Park is one of the biggest and most renowned national park in Northern India. The park is located in the Sawai Madhopur district of southeastern Rajasthan, which is about 130 km from Jaipur. Being considered as one of the famous and former hunting grounds of the Maharajas of Jaipur, today the Ranthambore National Park terrain is major wildlife tourist attraction spot that has pulled the attention of many wildlife photographers and lovers in this destination

Ranthambore National park is spread over an area of 392 sq km. along with its nearby sanctuaries like - the Mansingh Sanctuary and the Kaila Devi Sanctuary. The park is majorly famous for its tigers and is one of the best locations in India to see the majestic predators in its natural habitat. The tigers can be easily spotted even during the daytime busy at their ordinary quest- hunting and taking proper care of their young ones.

Ranthambore is also counted as the famous heritage site because of the pictorial ruins that dot the wildlife park. A visit to Ranthambore National Park is a treat for every wildlife and nature lover. The time spend on watching tigers roaming around, verdant greenery, a gamut of other species of chirpy birds and animals is priceless and worth enough to be explored at least once in a lifetime,

**December - February:** These are cold months of winter and tigers enjoy walking long distances and there is very little rain, skies are clear and light in the early mornings.

**March - June:** As summertime approaches the water holes dry up. This is the time when the jungle's flame of the forest flowers in magnificent hues of red and the lotus is in bloom in the lakes.

**July - September:** The Park remains closed due to the monsoon rains. Annual rainfall in the region is 800 mm.

**October - November:** This is a beautiful time in the forest as it is still green after the soaking of the monsoon. It is a great time to watch birds of prey and the insect life in the park.

The hottest period during the year in Ranthambore National Park is between April and June when the temperature can go up to 47 / 48 Degree Celsius.

This is the best time to see tigers. It is during this period that professional photographers and filmmakers come to Ranthambore in Rajasthan India.

The coldest months in Ranthambore National Park are from the end of November to the beginning of February, with the mercury dipping down to 2 Degree Celsius.

**July - September: The Park remains closed due to the monsoon rains.**



## Kaziranga, Assam

JANUARY

**15C - 22C**

FEBRUARY

**18C –23 C**

MARCH

**21C – 26C**

APRIL

**23C –27 C**

MAY

**25C –30 C**

JUNE

**27C –34 C**

JULY

**27C –34 C**

AUGUST

**28C –34 C**

SEPTEMBER

**27C -30C**

OCTOBER

**20C -25C**

NOVEMBER

**16C –22 C**

DECEMBER

**16C –22 C**

A World Heritage Site, Kaziranga has been a reserve forest for more than a hundred years and lies in the flood plains of the Brahmaputra River, covering some 430 square kilometers. Harboring the world's largest population of Indian rhinoceros, Indian elephant and tiger, Kaziranga has a breathtakingly varied landscape with extensive grasslands, densely forested tropical areas, interconnecting streams and numerous small lakes.

The Park also plays host to 35 other major mammals in their natural environment and more than 400 species of birds, some of which migrate from as far afield as Siberia. The Park is open to visitors generally from November to April, the dates varying from year to year.

The monsoon occurs from May to September when conditions are warm and humid. Most of the rainfall of **222 mm** falls during this season.

Those who are interested in birding, Rhino-sighting along with other mammals sighting, can visit the park during **January – February - March months**. During this time temperature will remain below 25 degree Celsius which makes the weather cool and pleasant so safari will be problem. In the months of February and March, flowers in Flame of Forest tree make the jungle more photogenic and attract birds around them, sloth bears to come out more frequently. Observing the wildlife, including birding, is the main visitor activity in and around the park. Guided tours by elephant or Jeep are available. Hiking is prohibited in the park to avoid potential human-animal conflicts. **Months of March – April** considered the best time to do wildlife photography and tiger - rhino's photography. During this time, we can expect unusual photography of tigers and rhinos as daylight causes animals to remain close to water sources and open grasslands. Idyllic weather will enable us to predict the animal location more accurately. The park is divided into three main tourist ranges, Kohora, Baghori and Agaratoli. All the major tourist facilities and entry formalities are based here. It is also the point of start for early morning safaris,