

Instructions for Kanha Bird Survey – 2017

Venue, date and time of arrival

Khatia Ecocentre, Kanha Tiger Reserve on 17 March 2017 by 12 noon.

Weather

Although the actual temperature would range from 16°C (min.) to 35°C (max.), early mornings and late evenings are expected to be chilly with an unseasonal shower.

General instructions

1. Participants are expected to stay for the entire duration of the bird survey.
2. No companion other than the participant will be allowed.
3. Smoking and consumption of alcohol are strictly prohibited.

Things to bring

1. Photo-identity card (PAN, Voter ID, Student ID, Passport, Aadhar card, Driving Licence etc.)
2. Binoculars
3. Field guide book
4. Notebook and adequate pens/pencils
5. Camera: Cameras are not mandatory but please bring one if possible.
As this is a serious bird survey, participants are discouraged from photography. However, it is advisable to provide photographic evidence to support sightings of rare birds (refer to the checklist provided) and to document birds that could not be identified in the field.
6. Camera USB cable to submit photographs to park management
7. GPS (if you have one)
8. Torch lights/head lamps as electricity will be erratic
9. Phone and camera chargers, power bank (if you have one), batteries for lights and GPS
10. Sturdy trekking shoes, light woollen clothing, rain jacket and hat/cap.
11. Tick bites are common in dry forests. Leech socks and full-sleeve shirts might be helpful.
12. Sleeping bag, plate, glass and water bottle.
13. Basic first aid, anti-histamine tablets, mosquito repellent and personal medication and toiletries.

Checklist of birds

Please download and print the bird checklist. [Download link](#). The checklist is divided into three categories: a) Expected species, b) Uncommon-but-possible Species and c) Rare species. Use the last three columns ('D1', 'D2' and 'D3') to tick the species seen/heard on each day. This will help us tally a list of species seen/heard for each day.

The ID Guide

A bird identification guide has been prepared by Bird Count India. The ID guide consists of 28 pages covering challenging groups of species like quails, raptors, pipits, larks, warblers and many others. Photographs of similar species have been placed together and have been annotated with key ID pointers to separate a species from its counterparts. It will also help you decide which features to focus on if a confusing species is encountered in the field. Remarks on differences in habitats and behavior have also been provided, wherever possible.

Please download it to your phone for easy reference in the field. [Download link](#).

Bird calls

A zip folder containing calls of birds found in Kanha can be downloaded from this [download link](#). Unzip the folder and transfer it to your phone so that you can refer to calls in the field. Please remember that Kanha is a protected area and using the calls for playback is a punishable offence. Kindly use the calls only for reference.

Introduction to eBird

The data of the Kanha Bird Survey will be uploaded to eBird. All participants are, therefore, encouraged to be familiar with using eBird. If you have not yet used eBird, please create an account and follow this [infographic](#) and this [short video](#) about using eBird on the desktop and the mobile phone app respectively.