

# PENCH TIGER RESERVE, SEONI, MADHYA PRADESH

## FAQs on Visit to Pench Tiger Reserve

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### 1. Where is Pench Tiger Reserve Located?

The Tiger Reserve nestles in the Southern Slopes of the Satpura ranges of Central India. Pench is situated in Seoni and Chhindwara Districts of Madhya Pradesh State in India, with Headquarter stationed at Seoni.

### 2. How do I reach Pench Tiger Reserve?

Pench is accessible from Jabalpur, Nagpur, Balaghat and Chhindwara by road. All the places are connected to major cities in the country by road and rail.

**Nearest Airport :** Jabalpur (Madhya Pradesh) & Nagpur (Maharashtra)

**Nearest Railway Station :** Jabalpur & Chhindwara (Madhya Pradesh) & Nagpur (Maharashtra)

**Distance by Road :**

- Jabalpur – Seoni – Suktara – Karmajhiri : 195 km.
- Jabalpur – Seoni – Khawasa – Turia : 215 km.
- Nagpur – Khawasa – Turia : 85 km.
- Nagpur – Suktara – Karmajhiri : 135 km.
- Balaghat – Seoni – Suktara – Karmajhiri : 150 km.
- Balaghat – Seoni – Khawasa – Turia : 200 km.
- Seoni – Suktara – Karmajhiri : 50 km.
- Seoni – Khawasa – Turia : 110 km.
- Chhindwara – Bichhua – Pathri – Thotamal – Jamtara : 80 km.
- Chhindwara – Chand – Maghdoun – Thotamal – Jamtara : 59 km.

### 3. How do I contact the Pench Tiger Reserve Management?

Contact details are as follows:

Office of the Field Director,

Pench Tiger Reserve,

Seoni, Madhya Pradesh

Tel: +91 7692-223794, Fax: +91 7692-223204

Email: [fdpennp.sni@mp.gov.in](mailto:fdpennp.sni@mp.gov.in)

Website: <http://www.penchtiger.co.in>

### 4. Which are the entry points to Pench Tiger Reserve?

Pench Tiger Reserve has three entry points, namely, Turia & Karmajhiri (Seoni District) and Jamtara (Chhindwara District).

### 5. What is the best time to visit Pench Tiger Reserve?

Pench Tiger Reserve remains open from 1<sup>st</sup> October to 15<sup>th</sup> June every year. Best time to visit Pench Tiger Reserve is from November to December and March to May.

### 6. What is the Closed Period at Pench Tiger Reserve?

Pench Tiger Reserve remains closed for the period from 01<sup>st</sup> July to 30<sup>th</sup> September.

7. What about the weather at Pench Tiger Reserve?

Pench being situated in Central India is subjected to extreme and tropical weather. Month of January may also witness sub-zero temperatures and frost. Monsoon arrives in the second week of June. The average temperature over the months is as below:

Months	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Min (°C)	1	10	22	30	35	25	20	19	19	12	6	3
Max (°C)	15	25	35	40	42	41	34	30	31	29	27	25

8. Can the details of Rules and Regulations for tourism be seen online?

Yes, the relevant Notification issued by the MP Forest Department, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh can be seen online at <http://forest.mponline.gov.in>

9. What are off days for Park Safari?

The Park shall remain closed to the visitors for afternoon safaris on all Wednesdays and on the day of “Holi” and “Diwali”.

10. How to book Permit for safaris in Pench Tiger Reserve?

Permits for Park safari can be booked in advance at <http://forest.mponline.gov.in>. Permits are also available at the designated KIOSKs with MP-Online facilities. Current Permits can be booked at all the Gates (Karmajhiri, Turia and Jamtara) of the park. The current Permits for the next day morning safari can be booked on the previous evening between 6 to 8 PM while current Permits for the afternoon safari can be booked on the same day between 9 to 11 AM.

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

While visitors are allowed to take their Mobiles/ Cell Phones during park excursions, they need to remain in silent mode.

12. How many Zones does Pench have?

Only one Zone in Pench for Park Safari.

In addition visitors can also go for vehicle safari and nature trail walks in the Buffer zone.

13. How can I reschedule my Permit for the safari?

Permits can be rescheduled by visitors online by using the same login user ID.

14. 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 be less than five.
- 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 zone. 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.

#### 15. How many vehicles are allowed in Pench Tiger Reserve?

88 vehicles are permitted to enter the Park every day, including the morning and afternoon sessions. The Karmajhiri entry gate accommodates 12 vehicles, Turia entry gate 68 vehicles, Jamtara entry gate 08 vehicles per day, in the morning and evening sessions. In addition to this 30 vehicles are permitted for entry in buffer zone of Rukhad and Telia. The information on gate-wise morning and evening carrying capacities and bookings is as under:

Park Name	Gate Name	Round	Max Allowed Vehicle	Online Full Vehicle Permit	Online WaitList (Full Vehicle Permit)	FD Quota (Full Vehicle Permit)	Online Single Vehicle Permit	Offline Single Seat (Gate)
Pench Tiger Reserve	Jamtara	Mornin	4	1	1	0	2	1
	Jamtara	Evening	4	1	1	0	2	1
	Karmajhiri	Mornin	6	1	1	1	3	1
	Karmajhiri	Evening	6	1	1	1	3	1
	Turia	Mornin	34	3	3	3	25	6
	Turia	Evening	34	3	3	3	25	6
<b>Total</b>		Mornin	44	5	5	4	30	
		Evening	44	5	5	4	30	
		-	88	10	10	8	60	

#### 16. How many safaris can be made in Pench Tiger Reserve in a day?

Two safaris, one in the morning and the other during the afternoon can be made in a day. The safaris are allowed from sunrise to sunset with a break between 1100 hrs to 1500 hrs. These timings, however, are subjected to slight changes depending on the season as under.

Duration	Morning		Evening	
	Entry Time (AM)	Exit Time (AM)	Entry Time (PM)	Exit Time (PM)
October	6.00	11.00	3.00	6.00
November	6.15	11.00	3.00	5.45
December	6.30	11.00	3.00	5.30
January	6.45	11.00	3.00	5.45
February	6.30	11.00	3.00	6.15
March	6.15	11.00	3.00	6.30
April	5.45	11.00	4.00	6.45
May	5.30	11.00	4.00	7.00
June	5.30	11.00	4.00	7.00

#### 17. What are the Zones in Pench Tiger Reserve?

The core zone has only one zone. In addition safaris can be undertaken in Telia and Rukhad buffer zones.

#### 18. How much does a permit cost for the safari?

Permits for both Indian and Foreign tourists cost Rs. 250 for single seat permit and Rs 1500/- for full vehicle permit in any of the four tourist zones. The cost of the permit does not include the Portal, Guide and Vehicle charges.

19. How to get a Guide for the safari?

Guides shall be available at the entry points. It is mandatory to keep a Guide during the Park safari. Cost of hiring a Guide will be Rs 360/- for each safari. Guides shall be provided on a roster basis (not by choice) and shall be asked to accompany the visitors right from the entry point at the time of verification of the permit.

20. How to get a Vehicle for the safari?

Only registered vehicles are allowed to enter into the Tiger Reserve for the safari. The vehicles can be hired at Rs 2000/- for safari and 1500/- for taken in the Telia buffer. The above mentioned rate is from gate to gate basis. The rates are subjected to changes as per the revisions made by the Madhya Pradesh Tourism Development Corporation. No advance booking facility is available for the hiring of vehicles. No private vehicles are allowed to enter into the Tiger Reserve.

21. How many persons are allowed in a Vehicle for the safari?

A maximum of six persons, excluding the mandatory Guide and registered Driver, are allowed in a vehicle during the safari on one permit.

22. Any exemption for the children in the safari?

Children up to five years of age shall be exempted from entry fee and elephant ride fee.

23. Where to stay in Pench Tiger Reserve?

Accommodation facilities are available in the Karmajhiri, Ghatkohka and Rukhad Forest Rest House.

24. How to book for accommodation in Pench Tiger Reserve?

Accommodation can be booked in advance during the office hours (1030-1730 hrs) over phone (+91 7692-223794), fax (+91 7692-223204) and email ([fdpennp.sni@mp.gov.in](mailto:fdpennp.sni@mp.gov.in)). The right of reservation lies with the Field Director, Pench Tiger Reserve.

25. How much does a room cost?

**Karmajhiri Forest Rest house :**

VIP (1,2,3 )	: Rs 1500/- (Indians) Rs. 3500.00/- (Foreigners)
Room no. 4 & 5	: Rs 900/- (Indians) Rs. 2200.00/- (Foreigners)
Room no. 8 & 9	: Rs 1300/- (Indians) Rs. 3300.00/- (Foreigners)
Dormitory	: Rs 220/- per bed(Indians) Rs. 450/- per bed (Foreigners)

**Rest Jamtara Forest House :**

Room no. 1 & 2	: Rs 1100/- (Indians) Rs. 3000.00/- (Foreigners)
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**Kumbhpani Forest Rest House :**

Room no. 1 & 2	: Rs 1200/- (Indians) Rs. 3000.00/- (Foreigners)
Room no. 3	: Rs 700/- (Indians) Rs. 1500.00/- (Foreigners)

**Ghatkohka Forest Rest House :**

Room no. 1 & 2	: Rs 1100/- (Indians) Rs. 3000.00/- (Foreigners)
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**Rukhad Forest Rest House :**

Room no. 1 & 2	: Rs 1500/- (Indians) Rs. 3500.00/- (Foreigners)
Room no. 1, 2 & 3 (Back side)	: Rs 800/- (Indians) Rs. 1500.00/- (Foreigners)

**26. How to make payments for the accommodation facility?**

The payment in Cash towards the accommodation facility. has to be make at the concerned rest house. Payments in advance can also be done in the account of Deputy Director.

**27. Does the Forest Rest Houses have Canteen facility?**

Yes. The Karmajhiri, Ghatkohka & Rukhad Forest Rest Houses have canteen facilities to cater to the needs of the visitors. The canteens are being run by the Mowgli Pench Workers Society. Bills pertaining to food are charged separately.

**28. 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.
- Cancellation of permit between 5 days or less days prior to entry. No Refund eligible.

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

Permission for Filming/ Photography in the Core area of the Tiger Reserve shall be given by the Field Director in the name of cameraman for which fee will be payable accordingly to the following:

Duration	Indian Educational/Research Institutes; Departments and Institutes of Government of India and State Government of Madhya Pradesh	Others	Remarks
First 7 days	₹10000	₹40000	Per camera man per day
8 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup> day	₹7500	₹30000	
16 <sup>th</sup> day onwards	₹5000	₹20000	

For permission for Filming/ Photography in the Phen Wildlife Sanctuary 50% of the fee will be payable.

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

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

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

#### 1. For Tourism:

Permission for tourism shall be given by the local officers at entry gates to the National Park. 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 1 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:

Permission for photography/ filming from an elephant shall be given by the Field Director/Chief Conservator of Forests. 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:

-	For Indian educational or research institutes and departments and institutes of Govt. of India and State Govt. of Madhya Pradesh	:	Rs. 6000/-
	<b>All others:</b>	:	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.

### 32. What are the provisions for Elephant Joy Ride?

Elephants have to be booked at least one day in advance. It is one-hour safari and does not guarantee a tiger sighting. Elephant safari allows you to explore the jungle by leaving conventional forest roads.



**33. 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.

**34. 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.

**35. Where do I get more information on Pench Tiger Reserve?**

For more information on Pench Tiger Reserve, please log on to our website <http://www.penchtiger.co.in> and <http://forest.mponline.gov.in>.

**36. What is the Madhya Pradesh Tiger Foundation 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 organizations outside the Government with the sole objective that people from all walks of life must join hands to protect the tiger and its habitat.

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

In April, 2001 The Tiger Foundation Society announced Annual and Life Membership Fees for obtaining membership of the Society. The Annual Membership Fee is Rs. 500/- (Rs Five Hundred Only) and Life Membership Fee is Rs. 1,00,000/- (Rs One Hundred Thousand Only). Every proud member will be provided with an Identity Card.

**38. How do I contribute to the Madhya Pradesh Tiger Foundation Society?**

All contributions must be sent through Crossed Cheques or Demand Drafts drawn in favour of The Secretary, Madhya Pradesh Tiger Foundations Society, Bhopal, India. The society has obtained **Foreign Currency Regulation Act (FCRA)** registration and is authorized to receive donations from outside the country. All the donations made 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, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Press Complex, MP Nagar, Zone-I,  
Bhopal-462001, INDIA

Tel: +91 755 2674318 (W) +91 755 2766315 (F) e-mail: [pccfwl@mp.gov.in](mailto:pccfwl@mp.gov.in)

Account No. : 10571048460, Bank : State Bank of India Branch : Bhopal IFSC Code: SBIN0001308

**39. What is the Mowgli PENCH Workers Society?**

The Mowgli PENCH Workers Bahuddeshiya Sahkari Samiti Maryadit, was formed under the Society Act, 1960 for the welfare of the staff of the PENCH Tiger Reserve. All the serving individual of the Tiger Reserve are eligible to become a proud member of this Society.

**40. How do I contribute to Mowgli PENCH Workers Society?**

All the generous donations to The Mowgli PENCH Workers Bahuddeshiya Sahkari Samiti Maryadit can be sent through Crossed Demand Draft, Cheque and in Cash or in kind in favour of The President, Mowgli PENCH Workers Bahuddeshiya Sahkari Samiti Maryadit. Account No. 20231913372, Bank : Bank of Maharashtra, Branch : Khawasa , IFSC code : MAHB0000785  
For details, please contact:

The Deputy Director,  
PENCH Tiger Reserve, Seoni, Madhya Pradesh, India-480661  
Tel:+91 7692-223794 (W) +91 7692-223204 (F) Email: [fdpennp.sni@mp.gov.in](mailto:fdpennp.sni@mp.gov.in)

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

PENCH Tiger Reserve has nature trails just near the Turia Gate and Karamajhiri Gate, Rukhad and Telia which can be used for educative walking experience. As on date, there is no such provision for moving on foot/camping/staying in hides and machans and night safari in National Park.

**42. What are 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.

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

The permit is valid till one hour for full vehicle permit and half hour for single permit after the scheduled entry time. After these time permits will be deemed to be cancelled.

**44. 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.

**45. What are the activities that can be taken up in the Buffer Zone of the Tiger Reserve?**

Nature trails at Rukhad, Telia, Turia and Karamajhiri entry gate have been made for walking on foot. Also Safari is permitted in Buffer Zone.

**46. How many vehicles are allowed for tourism in the Buffer Zone of PENCH Tiger Reserve?**

15 vehicles in the morning and 15 in the evening are allowed into the Buffer Zone for jungle safari. There is no provision for online booking of Permits for this zone, and visitors can buy them at the Turia entry gate itself.

**47. 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't's. Sitting firmly on the seat confined to the vehicle, remaining watchful to the dangling branches, avoiding touching of plants, eating of leaves and fruits, drinking water from the flowing streams and wearing of boots and trousers in the nature trail are always advisable. Also avoid bright colour cloths during the vehicular safari & walks on the trails.

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

Since 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; one third of all tourism receipts deposited in the development fund of that protected area in a year is being shared with the Eco-development Committees of the Tiger Reserve.

**49. Is there any family package available to visitors?**

No there is no such facility available to visitors.

**50. Is there a facility of a bus for the park excursion?**

Yes, MP Tourism Development Corporation and Pench Tiger Reserve runs 18 seater mini bus on from the Turia gate. The rates for the Permits for the mini bus 510/- per tourist are done at the entry gate counters.