

Ranthambore National Park

The Ranthambore National Park is a national park located in Rajasthan. The park gets its name from the Ranthambore fort located in the same area.

Ranthambore national park is known for its large population of tigers and other wildlife.

This article will give details about Ranthambore National Park within the context of the IAS Exam.

Details of Ranthambore National Park

Initially established as the Sawai Madhopur Game Sanctuary in 1955, the park covered an area of 282 km². It was declared as one of the Project Tiger Reserves and became a national park as a result on 1 November 1980. The eigouring forests were declared the Sawai ManSingh Sanctuary and Keladevi Sanctuary in 1984. In 1992, the Tiger Reserve was expanded further to include the Keladevi Sanctuary and the Sawai Mansingh Sanctuary as well.

Grassy meadow and dry deciduous forest is part of the topography of Ranthambore National Park. It is also a home to 539 species of flowering plants.

Further details about the Ranthambore National Park is given in the table below:

Ranthambore National Park	
National Park Area	275 km ² core area. 392 km ² including buffer zone
Tiger Reserve Area	334 km ² . Today it covers 1334 km ² .
Elevation	215 to 505 meters above sea level.
Wildlife	Bengal tiger, Indian leopard, nilgai, wild boar, sambar, striped hyena, sloth bear

Flora and Fauna of Ranthambore National Park

Due to its proximity to the Thar desert, the park receives little rainfall, hence its vegetation consists of the dry deciduous type. The prominent tree of the Ranthambore National Park is the 'Dhok' and constitutes about 80% of the vegetation cover. Other trees are the Banyan and Pip whose leaves contain medicinal properties..

There are also fruit trees of mango, Indian blackberry, Ber, Jamun and Tamarind. In addition, there are many trees such as Chhila (*Butea monosperma*, the flame of the forest),

The Ranthambore is basically rich in Fauna, with the tiger being at the top of the food chain. Other big cats include Leopard, Caracal, Fishing cat and jungle cat. Other animals include sloth bear, striped hyena, Jackal, Desert fox etc

There are two species of antlers: the spotted deer (chital), and Sambar deer and two kinds of antelopes namely the Indian Gazelle (chinkara) and the Blue Bull (Nilgai).

Frequently Asked Questions about Ranthambore National Park

Which animal from Ranthambore National Park holds the title of most 'photographed tigress in the world'?

Machli Sr. was the world's oldest living tigress before she passed away in August 2016. She held the title of the most photographed tigress in the world.

What is the cause for the decline of the tiger population in Ranthambore National Park?

A few of the reasons for the decline of the tiger population is poaching, disease and depletion of its prey.