

Crisp morning, scorching afternoons and chilly evenings typify most parks in India, with safaris restricted to morning and evening drives. While park management, suitable accommodation, good naturalists and great wildlife sightings are all essential to your trip, what really makes or breaks the wilderness experience is your attitude. With world at your figure tips (through the internet) it take little effort to ensure that you make the most of any sojourn into the wild as unobtrusively as possible.

Park Etiquette

Wildlife tourism can provide a huge fillip to conservation efforts, but rowdy tourists often sour the experience for other tourist, park manager and wildlife alike. Wile in the park, please remember to:

- Wear muted tones. Flashy jewellery and neon clothing are best kept for other occasions. Choose tones of green, olive, brown and khaki for your time in forest.
- Exit the park on time. Dallying in jungle past your exit time may marginally increase your chances of seeing a big cat, but it also put strain on park administration that will be deployed to escort you out.
- Respect your driver and guide. These two individuals are your jungle interpreters. It is best to listen to them while in their company. I case of any problem, a complaint can always later be registered with the Park Director.
- Keep it clean. Littering is unwise at the best of times, but in the forest it is wholly unacceptable. Store any thrash in your vehicle and dispose of it responsibly once you are back at your resort. Tiger should not be chewing plastic bottles!



- Stay silent. Oh, the jungle is very exciting, but your visit will yield so much if you can keep the volume down. This includes not just containing, your exclamations of joy when you spot a big cat, but also keeping your cell phones on silent and ensuring your driver doesn't blow the horn.
- **Stay in your zone**. Tourist vehicles are assigned specific zones or routes to ensure that traffic is evenly spread across the tourism zone so as to cause the least disturbance to wildlife.
- · Check your flash. Camera toters, this is aimed at you. Please make sure your flash is off before you enter the park. Startling a wild animal while you take picture is avoidable.
- **Report anomalies**. Whether it is a grievously injured animal, a suspected trap or a fellow tourist flouting the rules, take accountability and report it locally. Backing up your report with a photograph or video will be appreciated.
- Appreciate it all. The forest ecosystem is made up of a myriad of little miracles. Unfortunately, many tourists become so enraptured by mega mammals that they forget to pay attention to other flora and fauna. Observe everything and you won't be disappointed.
- Never get out of your safari vehicle. not even if you drop your hat or want a perfect selfie. One act of foolish daredevilry could cost you dearly. No matter how passive a wild animal looks, their space must be respected.