

Getting There

There are two routes available to get to the park:

Route 1

After landing at Paro International Airport, make your way to Thimphu, the nation's capital. From there you drive south to Gelephu, a subtropical border town, before continuing on to the Assamese town of Kokrajhar, and then to Panbang.

Route 2

After arriving at Thimphu City, you continue on to Trongsa Dzongkhag. From here you go to Zhemgang, past Tingtibi and finally to the start of the ecotrek at Gomphu. This trek will take you a minimum of four days.

The park is open to visitors throughout the year but the best time to visit is during the winter season from November to February.

The Royal Manas Park is an unforgettable once-in-a-lifetime adventure just waiting for you!!



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The Royal Manas
National Park



The Royal Manas National Park



The Royal Manas National Park is the oldest nature preserve in the Kingdom of Bhutan. Its incredible biodiversity includes hundreds of rare animal and plant species. The park is the most biologically diverse protected area in the kingdom as well as one of the most outstanding nature preserves worldwide.



It was designated as a Wildlife Sanctuary in 1964 and now forms one of the most essential parts of the Bhutan Biological Conservation Complex, an extensive system of protected areas and biological corridors covering over 50% of the Kingdom's landmass. This pristine, unexplored, natural treasure has now been opened to tourists with the aim of promoting community-based ecotourism in the region.

Regional Information



Environment

The Royal Manas Park is named after the Manas River that winds through the 1,023 square-kilometer area that encompasses the park. It occupies a broad low-lying alluvial terrace in the foothills of the outer Himalayas. There is a wide range of climatic conditions within the park due to the substantial variations in altitude and the influence of the seasonal monsoons. During the monsoons, the park can experience thunderstorms and extremely heavy rainfall.

Visitors will be awestruck by the incredible diversity of vegetation types present in the park including Tropical Monsoon Forests, Sub-Tropical, Warm and Cool Broadleaved Forests and Evergreen Oak Forests.

Wildlife

Manas is home to countless exotic and endangered species like the Royal Bengal Tiger, Asian Elephant, Greater One-horned Rhinoceros, Clouded Leopard, Gangetic Dolphin and the rare Golden Langur.

More than 365 species of birds have been officially recorded in the Park of which 16 are endemic species. About 50 species of reptiles and 11 species of snakes inhabit the park.



These include the Vine Snake, Flying Snake, the Banded Krait and the King Cobra.

Many of the park's more than 900 types of plants have commercial, medicinal, traditional or religious significance. There are various species of bamboo, rhododendrons and orchids.

Local Community

The Manas region is mainly inhabited by the Khengpa people, some of the earliest settlers of Bhutan. The Khengpa people typically reside in traditional bamboo houses roofed with banana leaves. They have lived on the fringes of the Park for centuries, subsisting on primitive agriculture and livestock rearing.

Things to See & Do



Facilities

Log cabins have been built to provide comfortable accommodations for visitors to the park. The cabins have been built using locally available materials.

Each eco-camp has two eco-lodges with twin beds in each lodge and camping area with kitchen, dining, toilet/bathroom, fencing and drinking water facilities. Basic amenities such as running water and electricity are also available.

There are even relaxing hot springs available in some locations.

Tropical Safari

Ride through the jungles and grasslands of the park atop a mighty elephant! You'll encounter colorful Hornbills taking wing, Rhinoceroses grazing in the grass and Golden Langurs swinging through the trees.

Culture

Visitors will have the opportunity to experience the indigenous Khengpa people's unspoiled culture firsthand by taking part in cultural performances, eating delicious local meals and even playing their traditional sports.

Boating

It is a three-hour walk to Panbhang from the Park road head and you can take an enjoyable 30 minute boat ride down to the Manas River from the confluence. Take a refreshing plunge in the river amidst pods of frolicking River Dolphins.



Trekking

There are several hiking trails within the park and most are connected to the eight natural salt licks found in the area. Visitors can also enjoy a 4 day eco-trek from Gomphu to Norbugang. Gomphu can be reached via Zhemgang (3 hours) or from Gelephu (5 hours). Make your way through gorgeous broadleaved forests teeming with birds, plants, butterflies and more!