

AVOCET & PEREGRINE



Cotigao Wildlife Sanctuary (IBA): Fact Sheet

Location: About six kilometers on NH17 eastwards from Chaudi / Palolem towards Karwar in Canacona Taluka.

Habitat Description: Moist Deciduous Broad leaved Forest interspersed with small grassland clearings. This Forest has very tall trees giving a very thick canopy with very dense undergrowth leaving the dirt road and some trails as the only available clear ground in this wonderful place. Photography can be a challenge even at 3:30PM in the afternoon and light conditions get worse in the monsoon. Although this habitat appears to be protected, one does experience an “empty forest syndrome” due to poaching and illegal tree felling in the area.

Tips: The sanctuary is open on all days of the week from 7:00AM to 5:30PM. The Bela Lake trail (bicycle only) yields better sightings. The sanctuary is least productive for sightings between February to May. May to August is the best time to sight the Malayan Night Heron. However, during this period the monsoons are at their vicious best and the trails get soggy and unmotorable and there is a clear danger of falling trees capable of getting you stranded in the forest. Breakfast and meals are available at small village tea shops / a homestay in the Sanctuary. The Forest Department also operates tourist cottages at the complex at the entrance to the Sanctuary. Also one needs to protect one self from the forest ticks, which are abundant in this area.



HOTSPOT MATRIX

RARE BIRDS	    
BIRDING	    
PHOTOGRAPHY	
DISTANCE	
COMFORT	
CURRENT COUNT	197 bird species
OTHER WILDLIFE	    

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Star Species: Malayan Night Heron, Malabar Trogon, Orange Minivet, Flame-throated Bulbul, Square-tailed Bulbul, Mountain Imperial Pigeon, Green Imperial Pigeon, Brown Fish Owl, Malabar Parakeet, Asian Fairy Bluebird, Malabar Whistling Thrush, Srilankan Frogmouth, Blyth's Starling, Rusty-tailed Flycatcher, Taiga Flycatcher and the Chestnut-shouldered Petronia. Abundant counts of Greater Racket-tailed Drongo, orioles, Grey Jungle Fowl, all hornbills and the minivets. Other animals spotted in the Sanctuary are the Gaur, leopards, Mouse Deer, Spotted Deer, the Malabar Giant Squirrel and the langurs.