

Blackbuck Sanctuary , Chappar Village, Churu, Rajasthan

The Blackbuck sanctuary (Krishna Mrug) in the small village of Chappar in Churu district of Rajasthan is the home to unbelievable range of Raptors & grass land birds

History:

Tal Chappar Sanctuary, one of the natural habitats of flora and fauna, is located in Churu district in the India state of Rajasthan. Sprawling over an area of around 719 hectares, the sanctuary is the home to endangered black-bucks. The region served as a game reservoir for the King of Bikaner and was announced as a forest reserved during 1962.

About the Park:

The park is about 8 Sq. Kms Dotted with sewan, doob, dhaman lampla, lana and moth grasses, the sanctuary has very limited plantation of khejri, salvadora, ber, ker and neem trees , essentially a grass land which is fenced and the Black bucks securely stay in the park. The park was started as a project for conservation of Black bucks , but as the grass grew and the climate of the area attracted a large variety of Raptors like Harriers , Buzzards, Falcons , Pipits, Larks, Shrikes, doves and other birds.

While the park is best place to shoot harriers like Montagu's Harrier Marsh Harrier & Pallid Harrier, the adjoining area to the park where the cows are grazed (Gowshala) is the most happening area for Eagles , Buzzards and Falcons.



The gowshala is home to Millions of Spiny tail/ Blue-tailed Lizards popularly known as “Sanda” in hindi. These Lizards live and breed here. This is the area where one can find maximum lizards per sq Meter and this attracts the big raptors. The Big birds of Prey hunt these lizards and this gives ample opportunity for the photographers to click action shots.



The Gowshala is also the dumping ground for dead cattle and this attracts the Egyptian Vultures and Steppe eagles.

The park has many water holes, essentially ponds where water is pumped regularly, like Bhains talab, Salim Ali talab etc. These water holes attract variety of Birds and one gets ample opportunity to observe them here.



What can we expect in September :

September is the month of Passage Migration. This is the time the Passage migrants arrive and settled down for a short time to rest & refuel. This is the best time to see the Lesser Kestrel, Blue-Cheeked Bee-eater, Eurasian Roller & Rufus-tailed Scrub Robin .

Eurasian Roller



Blue-cheeked Bee-eater



The raptors that can be seen include Laggar Falcon, Red-headed Falcon, Booted Eagle, Tawny Eagle, Long-legged Buzzard , White eyed buzzard ,Egyptian Vulture and Common Kestrels.

This is the time to get a lot of “Action Shots” of raptors hunting the Blue-Tailed Lizards.



Mammals that can be seen in this season are Black buck, Chinkara, Nilgai and Indian Desert Fox.



How to reach Taal Chappar

Air: Nearest Airport is Jaipur

Railway Station: Chappar, Sujangarh, Ratangarh . The trains are available from New Delhi

Road: From Jaipur via Salasar about 205 Km, From Bikaner about 140 Km.

Tour plan, cost and conditions:

The cost of tour is Rs 40,000 + GST if applicable

The tour starts on 14th Sep 2023 at 3 Pm and ends on 17th September 2023 at 11 am.

There will be 6 safaris in this tour

- One on 14th September
- Two on 15th September
- Two on 16th September
- One on 17th September

The morning safari starts at 6:30 am when the park opens and goes on till 10:00 am

The afternoon safari starts at 3:30 pm and ends at 6:00Pm when park closes.

The tour cost is shared with client individually basis their staying arrangements

This cost includes

- Lodging :
 - Stay for 3 nights
 - Air-conditioned accommodation on twin sharing basis (Single accommodation option also available at additional cost)
 - Check in at 12:00 noon on 14th September
 - Checkout at 12:00 noon on 17th September
- Food
 - Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner on all days.
 - Morning and evening tea .
 - Only Vegetarian food is available.
 - This park is in one of the most drought hit areas of Rajasthan so the food variety in terms of vegetables is limited.
- Vehicle
 - Vehicle cost for all safaris
 - For the clients to get the best opportunity to click pictures there will be only two clients per vehicle.
 - The vehicle used here are Bolero , Trax or equivalent.
 - As we will be shooting from the vehicle itself these are non-air-conditioned vehicles
- All Safari ticket Charges/park fees

The tour cost does not include

- Cost of reaching Taal Chappar from your home.
- We will arrange a cab at additional cost to pick u up from Jaipur or Sujangarh/Ratangarh railway station. In case you come to Chappar station we would pick u up at no cost.
- Drop back to Jaipur or Sujangarh/Ratangarh is also not included in tour cost
- Any beverages, drinks , extra food items other than mentioned above is not included in the tour cost.

Bank Details:

Account holder: Saravanan Janakarajan

Bank : ICICI bank, Account type: Savings

Account Number: **602001317510**, IFSC code:**ICIC0000519**

Branch: Shollinganaloor, Chennai

50% of the tour cost to be paid for confirming the seats. Rest can be paid 7 days before the tour.

What can u expect in this tour from us?

- Guidance and tips on photography.
- Discussion on basics of bird anatomy.
- Discussion on all the species that we see and their behaviour and adaptations.
- Post-processing help.

Things to carry : (this is a suggestion only...clients can take their own call on this list)

- Camera Equipment
 - A body with fast FPS as there will be action shots
 - Lens with range of at least 400 mm
 - Wide angle lens to capture the beauty of sunset and sunrise over the scenic grasslands
 - Extra Cards and battery.... If we hit on a jackpot action we might run out of space or battery.
 - Beanbags are essential as we will be clicking from the vehicle most of the times.
- Clothes
 - It is warm at this time of year. It is advisable to wear comfortable & breathable clothing as the temperatures can be high.
- Medicines
 - This is a remote village with basic medical facilities. So kindly carry all your required medicines.

For any queries please call me on 9840119078 or write to me at ogajanak@gmail.com

<http://ogaclicks.com/taal-chappar-passage-migration>

Shots that are possible in Taalchapar

Raptor Profile Shots

Common Kestrel - Female (*Falco tinnunculus*), Taal chappar, Rajasthan.... Sept



Grassland Scapes

Montagu's Harrier - female - (*Circus pygargus*), Talchappar, Rajasthan



Silhouette- Sunset



Raptor Action Shots



Black-buck action



Star trails



Startrails , Taal Chappar , Rajasthan...29/11/2022