

Forest of the World Profile

Directions: In each category, answer the question about your chosen forest.

General Description

1. In what country is your forest found?
 - India
2. What is the total area (in square kilometers or hectares) of the country and the approximate area of your selected forest?
 - 160,000 km² (62,000 sq mi)
3. What are the latitude and longitude of your forest?
 - 10°10'N 77°04'E
4. What is the elevation range of your forest?
 - 2,695 m (8,842 ft)
5. What are other interesting facts about your forest?
 - The Ghats are older than the Himalayas.
 - It is one of the ten hottest places of biodiversity in the world.

Plants and Animals in the Forest

1. What common plants and animals live within your forest? How are they important for your forests ecosystem as a whole?
 - Mammals (139 species)
 - Lion-tailed macaque
 - Nilgiri tahr
 - Bengal tiger
 - Indian elephant
 - Indian leopard
 - Nilgiri langur
 - Gaur
 - Reptiles (270 species)
 - Uropeltidae
 - Mugger crocodile
 - Bamboo Pit Viper
 - Amphibians (179 species)
 - Purple frog
 - Rhacophorus
 - Polypedates

- Philautus
 - Bufo
 - Caecilians of the Western Ghats
- Fish (118 species)
 - Dario (genus)
 - Schistura sharavathiensis
 - Betadevario
 - Dayella
 - Horabagrus
 - Horalabiosa
 - Hypselobarbus
 - Indoreonectes
- Birds (508 species)
 - Black-chinned laughingthrush
 - Nilgiri wood-pigeon
 - white-bellied shortwing
 - broad-tailed grassbird
 - grey-breasted laughingthrush
 - black-and-rufous flycatcher
 - Nilgiri flycatcher
 - Nilgiri pipit
 - Malabar (blue-winged) parakeet
 - Malabar grey hornbill
 - white-bellied treepie
 - grey-headed bulbul
 - rufous babbler
 - Wynaad laughingthrush
 - white-bellied blue-flycatcher
 - the crimson-backed sunbird
- Insects (6,000 species)
 - Western Ghats butterfly
 - Odonata
- Molluscs (258 species)
 - land snails
 - freshwater molluscs
 - Pseudomulleria dalyi
- Flora (over 5,588 species)

2. What national parks or nature preserves are found in your forest?

- Eravikulam National Park, Kerala
- Mukurthi National Park, Tamil Nadu
- Silent Valley National Park, Kerala
- Periyar National Park, Kerala

3. What are other interesting facts about the plants and animals in your forest?
 - There are a lot of them, and most of them are unique.

People and the Forest

1. How do people within the country use or depend on your forest?
 - Agriculture
 - Major Source of:
 - Medicinal herbs
 - Crop residue and fodder
 - Honey
 - Local herbs
 - Wood
 - Dried leaves
2. What symbols, legends, or stories reflect the country's connection to your forest?
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3. For people living within the forest, what aspects of their culture (food, clothes, celebrations, jobs, etc.) reflect the importance of your forest?
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4. What products from your forest do people sell or export?
 - Western Ghats Pure Honey
 - Western Ghats Cow Ghee
5. What is the history of your forest's use?
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6. What are other interesting facts about people and your selected forest?
 - The town of hill station Kodaikanal in Tamilnadu is at a much higher altitude than the Karnataka.

Forest Connections

1. In what ways do other people around the world use or depend on your forest?
 - It provides oxygen
 - Food
 - Wood
2. How does your forest affect you or other people in your community? (For example, people in your community may buy products from your forest.)
 - Honey
3. Why should people in your community care what happens to your selected forest?
 - It provides oxygen

The Future of the Forest

1. What are internal and external threats to your forest?
 - Livestock grazing
 - Illegal hunting
 - Conflict with large wildlife/retaliation
 - Extraction of forest products
 - Fuelwood and fodder extraction
 - Plantations
 - Human settlements/encroachments
 - Pollution
 - Public behaviors and attitudes
 - Legal and illegal logging
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2. What are people doing to manage and protect your forest?
 - Athirapilly in Kerala and Gundia in Karnataka come under the most sensitive ecological zone category.

Sources

1. What sources of information did you use for this project? Include at least one primary or first-hand source.
 - Western Ghats - Wikipedia - [<http://bit.ly/2nnbYrH>]
 - Western Ghats Products - [<http://bit.ly/2nEJ8yY>]
 - "10 Amazing Western Ghats Facts in India." - [<http://bit.ly/2nwDeAI>]
 - What Is Are Some Facts about Western Ghats? - Quora - [<http://bit.ly/2n3N7s3>]
 - "Synopsis of Threats." CEPF - [<http://bit.ly/2mzzHAc>]
 - "Western Ghats." Jhatkaa. - [<http://bit.ly/2nzi4IL>]
 - "Protecting the Western Ghats." The Hindu.- [<http://bit.ly/2niO14c>]

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