

THE BIG STORY



Recommended by Revati Victor

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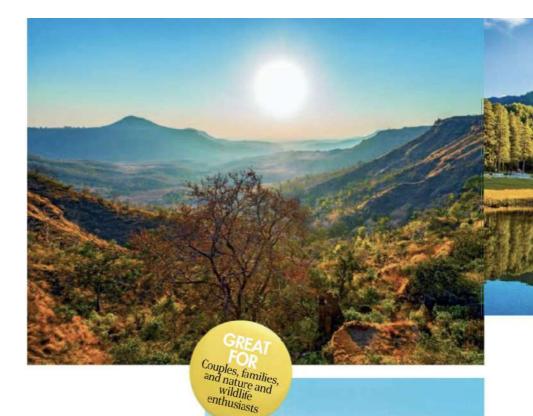
SATPURA, MADHYA PRÁDESH

Satpura has all the ingredients for a memorable summer getaway from the city, crowds and traffic. Featuring Colonial-style bungalows such as the Bison Lodge Museum, this area was once a popular holiday destination for officers of British India.

For some fun in the sun. the Satpura Tiger Reserve offers incredible biodiversity just waiting to be discovered. Spot sloth bears, leopards, tigers, Malabar squirrels and innumerable birds as you explore dense sal forests, narrow gorges, riverbeds and deep ravines on jeep safaris, walking safaris, canoe rides, boating trips and more. The Panchmarhi plateau offers all the trappings of a hill station cool temperatures in the summer, magnificent waterfalls, and breathtaking views from Dhoopgarh, which is the highest point on the Mahadeo Hills.

REVATI'S TIPS TO MAKE THE MOST OF THIS DESTINATION

- Plan and book your activities in advance. Come prepared to switch off as mobile connectivity can be spotty. Check out the unique and certainly memorable experience offered by some lodges the Forsyth Trail is an incredible multiday walking camp that follows in the footsteps of Captain James Forsyth who surveyed the region's landscape, flora and fauna in great detail in the 1800s.
- An excursion to the ancient rock paintings at Bhimbetka is sure to excite history buffs, and, for the truly intrepid.





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an intense exploration deep into the Patalkot Valley beckons.

■ Most resorts and lodges here offer all meal plans, but do try some of the local specialties such as bhutte ki kees, the local poha, dal bafla and the seasonal mahua (a flower used to prepare various foods and even alcohol).

STAY

Parijat by Goldmark is a good budget stay, while Denwa Backwater Escape by Pugdundee Safaris makes for a well-deserved splurge.

GETTING THERE

Fly into Bhopal and take a 3.5-hour taxi ride to Satpura, or take a train to Itarsi Junction and then take an almost two-hour taxi ride.

HOTOGRAPHS: SHUTTERSTOCK, REVATI VICTOR