common mammals of Nainital Rajbhawan

Uttarakhand Forest Department
**Common Leopard (Panthera pardus)**

- **Size**: 185-215 cm
- **Food**: Small/Large mammals, birds, reptiles
- **Habitat**: Forest, scrub land & near human settlements.
- **Threat**: Poaching, habitat loss, man-animal conflict.

**Leopard Cat (Prionailurus bengalensis)**

- **Size**: 60 cm
- **Food**: Small Mammals
- **Habitat**: Forest, grassland & scrub land
- **Threat**: Poaching & habitat loss

**Wild Boar (Sus scrofa)**

- **Size**: 90-180 cm
- **Food**: Grains, root, insect, reptiles, carrion
- **Habitat**: Forest, grassland, scrub
- **Threat**: Poaching & man-animal conflict land & near human

**Himalayan Palm Civet (Paguma larvata)**

- **Size**: 60 cm
- **Food**: Birds, Small Mammals, Fruits, Insects
- **Habitat**: Montane forest & near
- **Threat**: Habitat Loss
Yellow-throated Marten (*Martes flavigula*)

- **Size**: 40 - 60cm
- **Food**: Small Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, Fruits
- **Habitat**: Montane forest
- **Threat**: Poaching & habitat loss

Red Giant Flying Squirrel (*Petaurista petaurista*)

- **Size**: 30-50 cm
- **Food**: Fruits, Vegetation, Nuts
- **Habitat**: High canopy forest
- **Threat**: Habitat loss

Hanuman Langur (*Scmnopithecus entellus*)

- **Size**: 60-75 cm
- **Food**: Vegetation, fruit, Flower,
- **Habitat**: Urban areas & all kinds of forests
- **Threat**: Habitat loss & man-animal conflict

Rhesus Macaque (*Macaca mulatta*)

- **Size**: 47-63 cm
- **Food**: Fruit, Insects, Vegetation, Bark, Roots, Seeds, Flower
- **Habitat**: Urban areas & all kinds of forests
- **Threat**: Habitat loss & man-animal conflict
Barking Deer (*Muntiacus muntjak*)

- **Size**: 50-75 cm
- **Food**: Grass, Vegetation, Fruit
- **Habitat**: Moist areas in montane forest
- **Threat**: Poaching & habitat loss

Mainland Serow (*Naemorhedus sumatraensis*)

- **Size**: 90-110 cm
- **Food**: Grass, Vegetation
- **Habitat**: Thick forest in gorges
- **Threat**: Poaching & habitat loss

Sambar (*Cervus unicolor*)

- **Size**: 150 cm
- **Food**: Grass, Vegetation, Fruit
- **Habitat**: Forest & grassland
- **Threat**: Poaching & habitat loss

Goral (*Naemorhedus goral*)

- **Size**: 65-70 cm
- **Food**: Grass, Vegetation, Fruit
- **Habitat**: Steep cliffs with grassy slopes
- **Threat**: Poaching & low trees
Indian Porcupine (*Hystrix indica*)

- **Size**: 60-90 cm
- **Food**: Roots, Grain, Fruit
- **Habitat**: Forest
- **Threat**: Poaching

Jackal (*Canis aureus*)

- **Size**: 60-75 cm
- **Food**: Birds, Reptiles, Insects, Fruits, Carrion, Small Mammals
- **Habitat**: Forest & near human
- **Threat**: Poaching settlement

Red Fox (*Vulpes vulpes*)

- **Size**: 46-70 cm
- **Food**: Fruit, Insects, Birds, Vegetation, Small mammals & Carrion
- **Habitat**: Forest and near human
- **Threat**: Poaching & habitat loss settlement

**Tracking animals through signs**

While it is everyone’s desire to see the animals in the wild, they are shy & hard to spot. But animals do give away their presence by leaving lots of clues around. Pugmarks or hoof marks of animals, their scat or droppings, scratch marks on trees by bears, tigers, leopards; scrape mark on grounds by big cats; forest floor digging by wild boar; quills of porcupine; bone, hair, fur of animals; eggshells, feathers of birds; nibbled nuts, fruits, leaves left by monkey, langurs, civets etc. are to lookout for. A good naturalist enjoys the forest as much with these tracks & signs as with the direct sightings.
Rajbhawan is the official accommodation for the Governor of Uttarakhand in Nainital. The beautiful estate is spread across 86.85 hectare and consists of a two-storied mansion, lush gardens, swimming pool, golf course and dense montane forest. The forest, rich in both floral and faunal biodiversity, has a large number of visiting and resident wildlife including birds, mammals, reptiles and butterflies.

Des and Don'ts for Wildlife watching

- Wear dull colored clothes that blend with the surroundings.
- Walk slowly and quietly while maintaining absolute silence.
- Best time for wildlife watching is early mornings and late evenings.
- Observe wildlife from distance and don’t go too close to them.
- Look for tracks and signs of wildlife.
- Do not feed wildlife.
- Do not throw or leave trash.
- Do not damage plants by plucking leaves, flowers etc.
- Do not shout at, tease or chase animals.
- Do not feed birds or other wildlife.
- Do not litter the surroundings.
- Do not damage plants by plucking leaves, flowers etc.
- Do not smoke or ignite fire in forest.
- Note down all your observations in a field diary.

About this brochure

This photographic quick reference guide covers 15 mammals found in the forests of Rajbhawan, Nainital. The guide not only depicts animals in their natural surroundings but also emphasizes on indirect signs like pugmarks and hoofmarks for carnivores and herbivores respectively besides giving information about their habitat and food habits.

don't be wild to wildlife!

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