

[RETURN TO ONLINE PROFILE](#)

TIPS FOR GOOD PRACTICE

Grounds

- Plant local or indigenous trees, shrubs and grasses to attract wildlife, insects and birds.
- Keeping your grounds wild will enhance your guests' wilderness experience, benefit wildlife and help to recharge ground water levels.
- Use natural materials for pathways where possible to enable water to percolate back into the ground and to reduce your carbon footprint.
- Harvest rainwater and provide wildlife with access to water.



Photo: Pugdundee Safaris.



Butterfly garden at King's Lodge. Photo Pugdundee Safaris.

- Use natural fencing to enable the passage of wildlife and don't block wildlife corridors.
- Use discrete outdoor lighting or sensors to avoid disturbing wildlife unnecessarily.
- Avoid noise pollution and enable your guests to experience the tranquillity of the wild.
- Grow organic produce for your kitchen needs – enhance your credibility by becoming certified.
- Provide common and IUCN scientific names of plants in your grounds.

Briefing and Education

- Employ one or more naturalists to enhance your guests' experience and provide them with resources and training as required.
- Brief your guests on etiquette around wildlife and do's and don'ts when visiting the park through guest literature, notice boards and/or briefings.
- Encourage your staff and guests to report bad practice such as getting too close to wildlife.
- Provide your guests with access to books on local flora and fauna. Most PUG-rated lodges have libraries.
- The best examples offer checklists of what to look out for to enhance visitor experience.
- Provide opportunities for guests to watch films on wildlife and conservation instead of TV.
- Make wildlife and conservation fun for children and adults - offer nature-based games, activities and quizzes.
- Provide a range of opportunities for experiencing nature such as nature walks and birdwatching.



Termite Walk at Jim's Jungle Retreat



Photo: Atul Dhamanker

- Go beyond the big eight – captivate your guests with an insight into the broader ecology of your area.
- Make use of conservation and wildlife initiatives such as International Tiger Day, World Wetlands Day and Earth Hour as opportunities to raise awareness about conservation issues and contribute to guest experience.
- Encourage your guests to reduce their footprint by conserving water and electricity, recycling and avoiding littering.
- Don't forget to brief your staff on the importance of the forest, wildlife and good eco practice to help spread good practice amongst the community.

- Discourage the purchase of products that exploit wildlife unsustainably or contribute to the destruction of species or habitat (eg handicrafts made from endangered wood and bush meat).
- Use local, sustainably sourced food, goods and materials which minimise pressures on land, wildlife and carbon footprint where possible.

Forest Department

- Establish and maintain good relationship with local park authorities.

Monitoring Wildlife and Habitats

- Encourage your naturalists to contribute to wildlife monitoring through recording sightings or using camera traps – inspire your guests and help intelligence gathering by conservation NGOs and the forest department.
- Encourage your staff to become the eyes and ears of the park - report bad practice or activity linked to the illegal wildlife trade and help to avoid local man-animal conflict.



Photo: Atul Dhamanker

Educating the Wider Community



Forsyth Lodge - tree planting with local school.

- Help to raise awareness of the importance of the forest, wildlife and good ecological practice through activities or talks in schools or at your lodge.
- Help to create local champions for the future by giving local children access to their natural heritage through visits to the park.
- Organise briefings for the broader community on the forest code and eco issues.
- Lead by example by organising local clean ups.
- Consider providing training or resources such as guidebooks for local guides or drivers – your guests will benefit through an enhanced visit.

Support for Conservation

- Help to clear invasive weeds from your property and/or further afield.
- Provide in kind, practical or financial support for wildlife conservation initiatives locally.
- Encourage your guests to support local conservation efforts through notices, envelopes in rooms or opportunities to visit local projects and contribute.
- Record donations and what the money is used for.
- Consider donating a percentage of your annual profits to local projects. The best examples have set up dedicated foundations for conservation and local projects.

Information included may not be appropriate to every situation, destination and country and is intended for general guidance only and may be subject to change.

See also:

[Water Conservation and Treatment](#), [Waste Management and Recycling](#) and [Energy and Carbon Footprint](#) profiles.



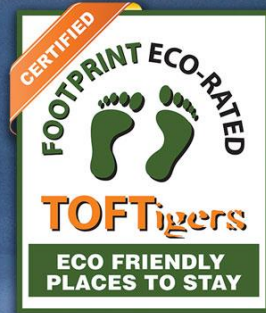
Asiatic lions in Gir. Photo: Kalyan Varma, Nature in Focus



Photo: Atul Dhamanker

HELP US DRIVE THE CHANGE

Your corporate commitment to sustainability



TOFTigers is a global business-to-business nature travel charity with a mission to improve the ecological and economic sustainability of wildlands and wildlife across Asia. Well-planned and well-managed responsible tourism is a force for good bringing economic benefits to rural areas, restoring habitat, supporting conservation and local communities, changing poachers into protectors and giving visitors inspiring experiences of nature. We work with the travel trade, destinations, accommodation providers, governmental and conservation organisations to make this happen through training, advocacy, certification, promoting best practice and partnership working.

Our **certification programmes** place local communities, nature and environmental sustainability at the heart of business operations. They are a symbol of assurance for travellers and the travel trade that the places they select to stay at have been reviewed by environmental experts and exceed a minimum standard on a journey towards best practice. The PUG certification is recognised by the United Nation's Global Sustainable Tourism Council (GSTC) and is aimed solely at nature focused accommodation. The Footprint certification has a broader client base that is not wholly nature focused and encompasses accommodation providers in rural, natural or more urban landscapes.

[Sign up for certification](#), [get involved in our campaign](#) or view sustainable travel options [on our website](#) and download the [Great Wildlife Travel Guide](#).

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