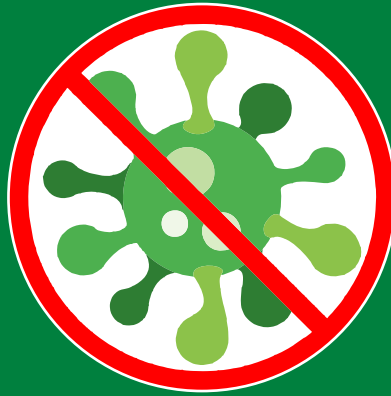




Forest Department, Gujarat State



COVID-19

**GUIDELINES & INSTRUCTIONS
(Gir National Park & Sanctuary)**



Wildlife Division, Sasan-Gir

COVID-19 GUIDELINES & INSTRUCTIONS (Gir National Park & Sanctuary)

Wildlife Division, Sasan-Gir, Forest Department, Gujarat State

1. Introduction

The World Health Organization (WHO) declared an outbreak of a febrile respiratory illness of unknown etiology in December 2019 from Wuhan, Hubei province of China. Since its emergence, the disease has rapidly spread across the globe. On the 11th of March 2020 WHO declared the illness now known as COVID19 as a pandemic. Due to the prevalent COVID-19 situation and advisories of the state and central government, the eco-tourism in the Gir forest was closed since 17th March 2020. As per the recent order of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) & Chief Wildlife Warden of Gujarat State (letter number: WLP/T.26/B/2792-2811 dated 3rd September 2020), the eco-tourism is all set to resume from 1st October 2020 in Gir Interpretation Zone, Devaliya (popularly known as Devaliya Safari Park) and 16th October 2020 in Gir Jungle Trail. As per advisories and guidelines issued from the state and central government, precautions need to be taken with regards to COVID-19 and we request you to sincerely follow them to keep everyone safe in these testing times. The guidelines may be revised from time to time as per requirement and prevailing conditions and as per the new guidelines and advisories issued from the state and central government.

The objective of this document is to safeguard the visitors as well as employees from the COVID-19 and to reduce the impact of the pandemic. It broadly mentions about the prevention and control measures that we collectively can practice to contain the spread of the COVID-19. Please note that the situation is evolving and this note is subject to change.

2. About COVID-19 & it's Symptoms

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus. It is an illness ranging from mild to severe respiratory infection and, in some cases, can be fatal.

The most common symptoms of COVID-19 are fever, tiredness, and dry cough. Some patients may have aches and pains, nasal congestion, runny nose, sore throat or diarrhea. These symptoms are usually mild and begin gradually. Some people become infected but don't develop any symptoms and don't feel unwell. Older people, and those with underlying medical problems like high blood pressure, heart problems or diabetes, are more likely to develop serious illness. People with fever, cough and difficulty breathing should seek medical attention.

People can catch COVID-19 from others who have the virus. The disease can spread from person to person through small droplets from the nose or mouth which are spread

when a person with COVID-19 coughs or exhales. These droplets land on objects and surfaces around the person. Other people then catch COVID-19 by touching these objects or surfaces, then touching their eyes, nose or mouth. People can also catch COVID-19 if they breathe in droplets from a person with COVID-19 who coughs out or exhales droplets. This is why it is important to maintain the social distancing from a person who is sick. Basic points should be adhered to by all visitors while visiting the Gir forest to ensure their safety as well as the safety of the service providers.

3. Generic Preventive Measures

- Some recent studies have suggested that COVID-19 can be spread by people who are not showing symptoms.
- The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to the virus.
- Promote non-contact methods of greeting.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Wearing a mask in a public place is very important.
- The mask is meant to protect other people in case you are infected.
- Always cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow and do not spit.
- Throw used tissues in the trash bins.
- Check your temperature if symptoms develop and get yourself tested at the nearest health care center.
- Frequently wash your hands with soap and water, if soap and water aren't available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- Visitors should strictly observe social distancing norms with a physical distance of 2 meters (6 feet) per person.
- Visitors should avail online permits using our online permit booking facility at <https://girlion.gujarat.gov.in/>

4. Clean Your Hands Especially:

- Before touching your face.
- After using the restroom.
- After leaving a public place.
- After blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- After handling your mask.
- After changing a diaper.
- After caring for someone sick.
- After touching animals or pets.
- Before and after touching the permit/ticket/surfaces.
- Before and after sitting in the safari vehicle.
- Before entering the jungle safari.
- Before and after buying any product from a shop.

5. While Visiting the Sinh Sadan Campus

The safety of visitors is very important to us. We will try to take every possible step which may help the visitors to have a safe and pleasant visit while visiting the Gir Forest.

- Clean your hands at the entrance when you enter the campus. We have placed enough hand sanitizers at different places on the campus.
- Public spaces in the Sinh Sadan Campus may have body temperature measuring machines.
- Details of the visitors (travel history, medical condition, etc.) along with the ID and self-declaration form must be provided by the visitor, if required, and asked to produce the same.
- Do not enter the souvenir shop without wearing a mask and sanitizing your hands.
- If you are staying at Sinh Sadan Guest House, kindly do not step out of the room unnecessarily. Wear a mask when outside the room.
- Keep distance from the other room's guests.
- Visitors who have checked-in at the accommodation unit (Guest House) should not allow guests into their rooms.
- Visitors may be required to fill out a self-declaration form.
- Clothes should not be washed or dried inside the rooms.
- Wash your hands frequently with the soaps/sanitizers.
- Do not roam around the campus in groups.
- Every guideline must be followed to enjoy the safari peacefully.

6. While Going for the Safari inside the Park

- These instructions apply to both Gir Jungle Trail and Gir Interpretation Zone, Devaliya.
- Avoid visit if you have any symptoms of COVID-19.
- Persons above 65 years of age, persons with comorbidities, pregnant women and children below the age of 10 years are advised to stay at home.
- Body temperature will be measured with the temperature gun as and when required (at booking counter/while boarding for the safari in the safari vehicle, etc.).
- Face masks/shields are compulsory for all the visitors including ecoguides and safari vehicle drivers.
- All items being carried should be sanitized before entering the forest or Devaliya Safari Park.
- Ensure social distancing by standing in the designated circles while at the reception area.
- Visitors are advised to carry the sanitizers and use them as and when required.
- It's better to avoid touching surfaces as much as possible.
- No entry without a mask in the reception centre.
- Spitting in the forest is strictly prohibited.

- No pets are allowed while going for safari.
- Don't dispose of your mask and sanitizer bottle in the jungle. This is a punishable offence.
- Automatic hand sanitizer dispensing machines/liquid soap and water shall be made available in all the restrooms.

7. In case of a suspect or confirmed case in the premises

- Place the ill person in a room or area where they are isolated from others.
- Provide a mask/face cover till such time he/she is examined by a doctor.
- Immediately inform the nearest medical facility (hospital/clinic) or call the state or district helpline.
- A risk assessment will be undertaken by the designated public health authority and accordingly, further action is initiated regarding the management of the case, his/her contacts, and the need for disinfection.
- Disinfection of the premises to be taken up if the person is found positive.

8. Important Guidelines (links and websites)

One can visit the following websites for more information and recent updates regarding the COVID-19.

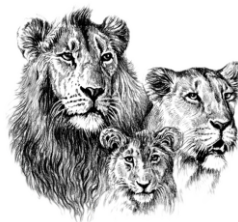
- <https://www.who.int/>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-gettingsick/prevention.html>
- <https://mohfw.gov.in/>
- <https://gujhealth.gujarat.gov.in/guideline-covid-19.htm>

9. For any help, please contact:

- Office of the Range Forest Officer
Reception Range, Sinh Sadan, Sasan-Gir,
Junagadh – 362 135, Gujarat (INDIA)
Phone: 02877-285621
Email: gslcsgir@yahoo.com
Website: <https://girlion.gujarat.gov.in>
- Office of the Range Forest Officer
Guest House Range, Sinh Sadan, Sasan-Gir,
Junagadh – 362 135, Gujarat (INDIA)
Phone: 02877-285540
Email: rfo.guesthouse@gmail.com

10. References

- <https://www.who.int/>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-gettingsick/prevention.html>
- <https://mohfw.gov.in/>
- <https://gujhealth.gujarat.gov.in/guideline-covid-19.htm>
- [https://www.mohfw.gov.in/GuidelinesonClinicalManagementofCOVID19 12020.pdf](https://www.mohfw.gov.in/GuidelinesonClinicalManagementofCOVID19%202020.pdf)
- <https://ntca.gov.in/documents/#all-guidelines-2>
- <http://cza.nic.in/uploads/documents/notifications/orders/english/14-5-2020-advisory-SARS-CoV-2.pdf>
- http://cza.nic.in/uploads/documents/notifications/news/english/advisory-vet-director-11june_final.pdf
- [https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/SOPonpreventivemeasurestobefollowedinEntertainment ParksandsimilarplacestocontainspreadofCOVID19.pdf](https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/SOPonpreventivemeasurestobefollowedinEntertainmentParksandsimilarplacestocontainspreadofCOVID19.pdf)



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