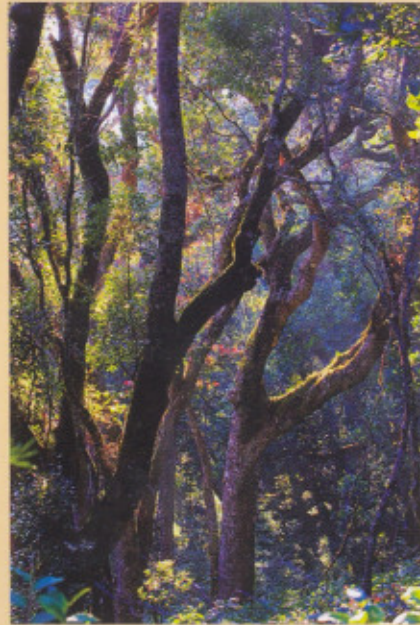


Location & Accessibility:

Pampadum Shola was declared as National Park in December 2003 as per notification No: 12875/F2/2003/ F& WLD dated 14/12/2003 of Kerala Government. The Government of Kerala considered the area as of great ecological, faunal, floral, geographical and zoological significance. The vegetation consists mostly of southern subtropical hill forests; even though patchy Shola and grasslands are found at higher altitudes. Pampadum Shola National Park is 11.753 Sq. Km in extent (as per SOI topo sheets). The National Park is accessible from Kochi (170 Km) and Coimbatore (160 Km) airports along main road. The nearest railway station in Kerala is Aluva (180 Km) and in Tamil Nadu Udumalpettu (110 Km). The nearest town is Munnar. The Kochi - Kodaikanal highway passes through this National Park.



For enquiries & reservation:

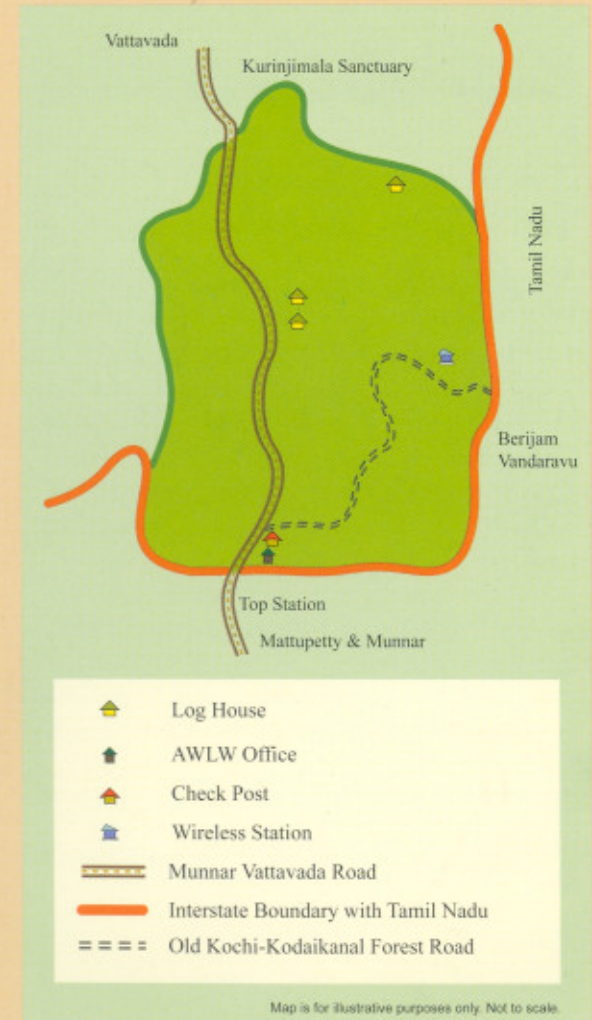
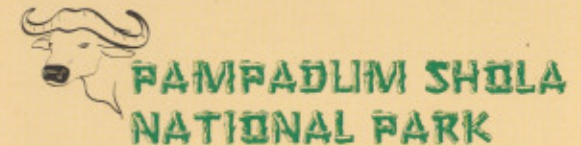
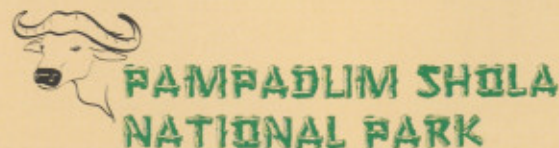
1. FOREST INFORMATION CENTRE
Wildlife Warden's Office
Munnar P.O. - 685 612.
Tel/Fax: 04865 231587
E-mail: enpmunnar@sify.com
2. OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT WILDLIFE WARDEN
Shola National Parks Range,
Top station, Yellappetty P.O.,
Vattavada.

Eco-tourism activities:

All the Eco-tourism activities are organized jointly by the Forest Department and the Eco-development Committees (EDCs) of the local tribal communities. The activities are designed to offer a wide spectrum of wilderness opportunities to the visitors and to provide means of sustainable livelihood for local communities.

Eco-tourism facilities include:

1. Trekking to the Shola forests
2. Nature trail to the Watch Tower
3. Stay at log houses at Kuttikadu and Neduvarpu.





PAMPADUM SHOLA NATIONAL PARK

Pampadum Shola National Park is located in the eastern part of Southern Western Ghats of Kerala. This Shola lies on the way to Vattavada, near Top Station about 35 Kms from Munnar town. A forest road from Munnar to Kodaikanal traverses through this Shola and the Kerala border region is known as Vandaravu. Earlier years the tourists and the adventure trekkers used this road for trekking to Kodaikanal. After the formation of the National Park, the road is closed and the entry is restricted. An adventure trekking option through this road to the Watch Tower at Vandaravu is available and is named as *Nature Trail to the Watch Tower*.



Flora & Fauna:

The National Park offers a wide range of habitat types to the flora and fauna. 22 Species of trees, 74 species of herbs and shrubs, 16 species of climbers, 14 species of birds, 9 species of mammals, 100 species of butterflies and 93 species of moths have been recorded from the Shola. The important animals found in the Park are elephant, gaur, leopard, wild boar, sambar and common langur. Rainfall and terrain are the important factors that influence animal movements. The fauna includes several species that are threatened, rare or endemic. The number of rare and endemic species harboured were high when the extent of Sholas are to be taken into consideration. The species *Parantica nilgiriensis* (Nymphalidae) which is restricted to some hills of the South India and which have been listed as threatened species by IUCN was recorded to be highly abundant in the area. Besides this, these Shola forests also harboured other rare species like *Libythea lepita*, *Pantoporia ranga*, *Rohana pariasatis*, *Zipoetis saintis* and *Jamides dalecto*, which are commonly found in other parts of the Western Ghats. The terrain is undulating with hillocks of varying heights. The altitudes ranges between 1600-2400 m. The forest is seen as a continuous patch from 1600 m up to 2000 m, above which it is seen as small patches dispersed among the grasslands. The Pampadum Shola National Park is rich in misty and cloudy climate throughout the year. Months from April to September have pleasant climate and is the most popular time for tourism in this area. The coldest months are December and January when the minimum temperature inside forests fall up to 6°C even at lower elevations. The temperature varies with a minimum of 6°C



(December) to a maximum of 30°C (April). There are 4-5 dry months spanning between December and March. Due to the location situated near to the Tamil Nadu State, Pampadum Shola Forests receive heavy rain in the North-East monsoon also. The proximity of the Park to the Anamudi Shola National Park, Kurinjimala Sanctuary and Indira Gandhi National Park in Tamil Nadu, promotes animal movements and migration. The clear blue sky, clean air, stretch of green meadows and thick foliage teeming with flora and fauna makes it a dream destination for tourists whether they come for a holiday, an adventure or just to be with nature.

