



How to get the KrCA

From Kathmandu:(i) By air to Nepalgunj, then by road to Gulariya 35 km and to KrCA 5 km; (ii) By road to Nepalgunj, then to Gulariya and KrCA. Daily flight, luxury night and day Buses are available from Kathmandu and Nepalgunj.

Accomodation and other facilities

There are few tourist facilities available in the Conservation Area. The home stay facilitity also available in KrCA. Visitors might be interested in seeing and experiencing some of the tourist spot/ activities nearby which include temples, village walk, Bardia National Park. Hotels and accommodation facilities are available in Gulariya, headquarter of Bardia district, which is only 5 km from KrCA.

Stop Pollution

- Carry out what you carry in.
- Buy only what won't pollute, or carry it out.
- Take only photographs, leave only footprints.
- Do not use polythene/ plastic materials.



Conservation Area Regulations to follow or things to remember

- An entry fee of Rs. 2,000 (Foreigners), Rs. 500 (SAARC Nationals), Rs. 100 (Nepali) visitor should be paid at entrance gate Khairapur, Bardia.
- The entry permit is non-refundable, non-transferable and is for a single entry only.
- Entering the CA without a permit is illegal. CA personnel may ask for the permit, so visitors are requested to keep the permit with them.
- Get special permit for documentary/filming from the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC).
- Documentary/filming fee of US\$ 1,500 (Foreigners), Rs. 50,000 (SAARC Nationals) and Rs. 10,000 (Nepali) should be paid at DNPWC. Additional 25% should be paid while using drone for documentary/filming.
- Drone (UAV) fee is same as documentary/filming fee while using it for other purposes.
- Don't remove or damage plants and animals. All flora and fauna are fully protected and must not be disturbed.
- Rubbish must be placed out, buried or disposed off in designated areas.
- Do respect the cultural and religious sites.
- Carry out non biodegradable items such as batteries, plastic bags and bottles.
- Never trek alone, hire a local guide if you can't find a companion.

Wish you a very happy and memorable experience

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Background

Krishnasar Conservation Area (KrCA) was declared in 2008 AD covering an area 16.95 km² (Core 5.27 km² and Human Settlement 11.68 km²). The KrCA encompasses the partial land of ward no 1,2,3 and 4 of Gulariya municipality of Bardia district. Declaration of Krishnasar Conservation Area (KrCA) is the first organized approach to manage already endangered Krishnasar (*Antelope Cervicapra Cervicapra*) in Nepal. The conservation history of Krishnasar in Nepal dates back to the year 1975 AD. It is the only protected area which has been set up exclusively for Krishnasar. The presence of only population of Krishnasar in Khairapur makes KrCA nationally and globally important site from conservation standpoint.

When the last remaining herd of Krishnasar was observed at Khairapur area in 1975 AD, a team of five (one staff and four guard) staffs were assigned with the task of protecting the area. Efforts were compensate the crop damaged by Krishnasar to local households. To protect the species, a guard post was established on site in 1975 AD.

The Government of Nepal translocated 4 (2 male and 2 female) Krishnasars from central zoo, Kathmandu and 4 (3 male and 1 female) Krishnasars from Thakurdwara, Bardia to Bagaura Phanta of Bardia National park in March 5, 1980. Likewise 17 Krishnasars were translocated from Khairapur to Bagaura Phanta in 1987. Similarly, 26 (4 male and 22 female) Krishnasars were translocated from Central Zoo to Bagaura Phanta, Bardia National Park on December 1992 (BS 2049.08.20). But the translocated Krishnasars could not survive in the new habitat. Four male and ten female were trandslocated from KrCA to Hirapur Phanta of Shuklaphanta National Park in June 2015.

The Krishnasar was once found in the foothills of the Chure Hills of the Nepal and many parts of India. However, hunting,

deforestation in late 1950s and early 1960s and degradation of habitat pushed in Krishnasar to the brink of extinction. Though Krishnasars in Nepal survived from the verge of extinction due to conservation efforts in the last 4 decades, there are still several conservation and management issues that need to be addressed. These issues include policy and legal matters relating to Krishnasar conservation, habitat management, land acquisition, disease, the Krishnasar-human conflict. The possibilities of diseases outbreak from by near villages, habitat encroachment are some of the problems that threatening the long term survival of Krishnasar in the area.

Krishnasar is one of the protected species under National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1973 and enlisted as critically endangered in Red Data Book of Threatened Animal and listed under Appendix iii of CITES. Krishnasar is one of the most magnificent animal living enclose proximity to human settlement. Krishnasar is the most beautiful of all antelope species because of the striking black and white pelage and long spiral horn of the males. People enjoy watching the animal jump. This gregarious animals gathers in herds. The size of the herd varies with time, season and availability of food. In Khairapur, it generally varies from 6 to 60.

Krishnasar is primarily grazer and prefers opened, flat to slightly undulating terrain. The main habitat of Krishnasar is open short grassland. Most of the Krishnasar area is open grassland and forest area is dominated by reverine forest. Simal (*Bombax Ceiba*), Khair (*Acacia Catechu*) and Sissoo (*Dalbergia Sissoo*) are the main species of riverine forest. In KrCA, there are 107 plant species have been reported. Krishnasar preferred grass species are Dubo (*Cynodon Dactylon*), Siru (*Imperata Cylendrica*), Kans(*Saccharum Spontanum*).

Krishnasar Population

The population in Khairapur was gone down to 9 in 1975 AD and due to persistent conservation efforts, the population reached up to 177 in 1990 AD. Then again the population has declined gradually due to habitat loss and degradation and biotic interferences. Now the population of Krishnasar in KrCA is 240 in June 2019 AD.

Management Intervention

Several management interventions were made to improve the living environment for Krishnasar conservation. This includes improvement of natural habitat and management of its habitat by raising earthen mount to prevent the flash flood, eradication of invasive and alien spps., sowing agricultural crops preferred by Krishnasar. Infrastructure such as fence, watch tower, guard post, trench have been constructed to protect and manage the area properly. Conservation education program has been conducted in the area by KrCA, different organization, local institutions, media are playing crucial role in educating people and conserve this endangered species in KrCA.

With the primary objective of the long-term survival of the last remaining population in Nepal through community participation, Krishnasar Conservation Action Plan was prepared by Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation in 2007.

Best season

The conservation area offers three distinct seasons providing unique experiences of wilderness. Weather remains dry from October to early April making warmer days, and cool and pleasant nights. From April to June the temperature warms up peaking up to 45° C. The hot sticky days are followed by the monsoon that lasts until September. The ideal time to visit the area is between February and April, and between August and October.



