



# THE NATURE TOURISM WITH RELIGIOUS SPOT: A STUDY OF B R HILLS.

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## Abstract:

Nature tourism is responsible travel to natural areas, which conserves the environment and improves the welfare of local people. It is tourism based on the natural attractions of an area. Biligiriranganabetta, popularly known as B.R. Hills in Yelandur Taluk, of Chamarajanagara District, Karnataka, is primarily a hilltop pilgrimage centre. Situated in South Eastern Karnataka, BR Hills or Biligiriranganatha Swamy Temple Wildlife Sanctuary is home to ecosystems that are unique to both the mountain ranges. Since it is located at the north-west of the Western Ghats and westernmost edge of the Eastern Ghats, it supports a diverse flora and fauna given the various habitats present. It is a pilgrimage site and derives its name from the Rangaswamy Temple located on top of a white cliff. The Temple is dedicated to Lord Ranganatha and the festivities in this temple during April attract a lot of tourists.

**Keywords:** Nature tourism, B R Hills, Mountain Range, pilgrimage, wildlife sanctuary.

## Introduction

Nature tourism is responsible travel to natural areas which conserves the environment and improves the welfare of the local people. It is tourism based on the natural attractions of a study area. It's making the experience of bird watching, animal attitudes, photography, and visiting parks. These experiential tourists are interested in a diversity of natural and cultural resources. They want what is real, and they want to be immersed in a rich natural, cultural, or historical experience and empower people at the local community, we

hope to build and provide guidance to a growing tourism industry and sustainable economic development and conservation of wildlife habitat.

Biligiriranganabetta, popularly known as B.R. Hills in Yelandur Taluk, of Chamarajanagara District, Karnataka, is primarily a hilltop pilgrimage centre. Recently, efforts have been started to promote it as one eco-tourism center in the range of hills branched out from the Western Ghats at 5091 feet high from the mean sea level. Situated in South Eastern Karnataka, BR Hills or Biligiriranganatha Swamy Temple Wildlife Sanctuary is home to ecosystems that are unique to both the mountain ranges. Since it is located at the north-west of the Western Ghats and the westernmost edge of the Eastern Ghats, it supports a diverse flora and fauna because of the various habitats present.

It is a pilgrimage site and derives its name from the Rangaswamy Temple located on top of a white cliff. The Temple is dedicated to Lord Ranganatha and the festivity in this temple during April attracts a lot of tourists. The region boasts a variety of vegetation ranging from the dry and deciduous to evergreens. The Wildlife Sanctuary borders with the Sathyamangalam Wildlife Sanctuary and is home to gaurs, bears, sambhar, tigers, leopards, wild dogs, and elephants. It is also home to more than 200 bird species and the best time to visit the B R Hills place is from June to December.

The wildlife sanctuary is 35 km long north-south and 15 km wide east-west, is spread over an area of 540 Sq km with a wide variation in mean temperature of 9 °C to 16 °C min and 20 °C to 38 °C max, and annual rainfall is 600 mm at the base and 3000 mm at the top of the hills station. and hill ranges, within the sanctuary, rise as high as 1200 m above the basal plateau of 600 m and run north-south in two ridges. The wide range of climatic conditions along with the altitude variations within the small area of the sanctuary have translated it into a highly heterogeneous mosaic of habitats such that we find almost all major forest vegetation types- scrub, deciduous, riparian, evergreen, sholas, and grasslands. During in January month. Relative humidity ranges from 69 to 85% in the morning and in the evening it ranges from 21% to 70%. The wind speed ranges from 8.4 to 14.1 Kmph. June to September is the southwest monsoon period, October and November is the post-monsoon retreating monsoon season with clear bright weather and during December to February, weather remains dry.

### **About the Religious Temple of Biligiri Ranganatha Swamy**

The B R hills are located at the north-west of the Western Ghats and the westernmost edge of the Eastern Ghats. This area is supports a diverse flora and fauna given the various habitat types present. A wildlife sanctuary of 322.4 square kilometers (124.5 sq mi) was created around the temple on 27 June 1974, and enlarged to 539.52 square kilometers (208.31 sq mi) on 14 January 1987. The sanctuary derives its name Biligiri (white hill in Kannada) from the white rock face that constitutes the major hill crowned with the temple of Lord Ranganathaswamy (Lord Vishnu) or from the white mist and the silver clouds that cover these

hills for a greater part of the year. An annual festival of Lord Vishnu, held in April, draws pilgrims from far and wide. Once in two years, the Soliga Tribals present a 1-foot and 9-inch slipper, made of skin, to the deity in Biligiriranga Hills.



## Objectives

1. To Analyze the Tourists and Infrastructure Facilities in the B R Hills Study Area.

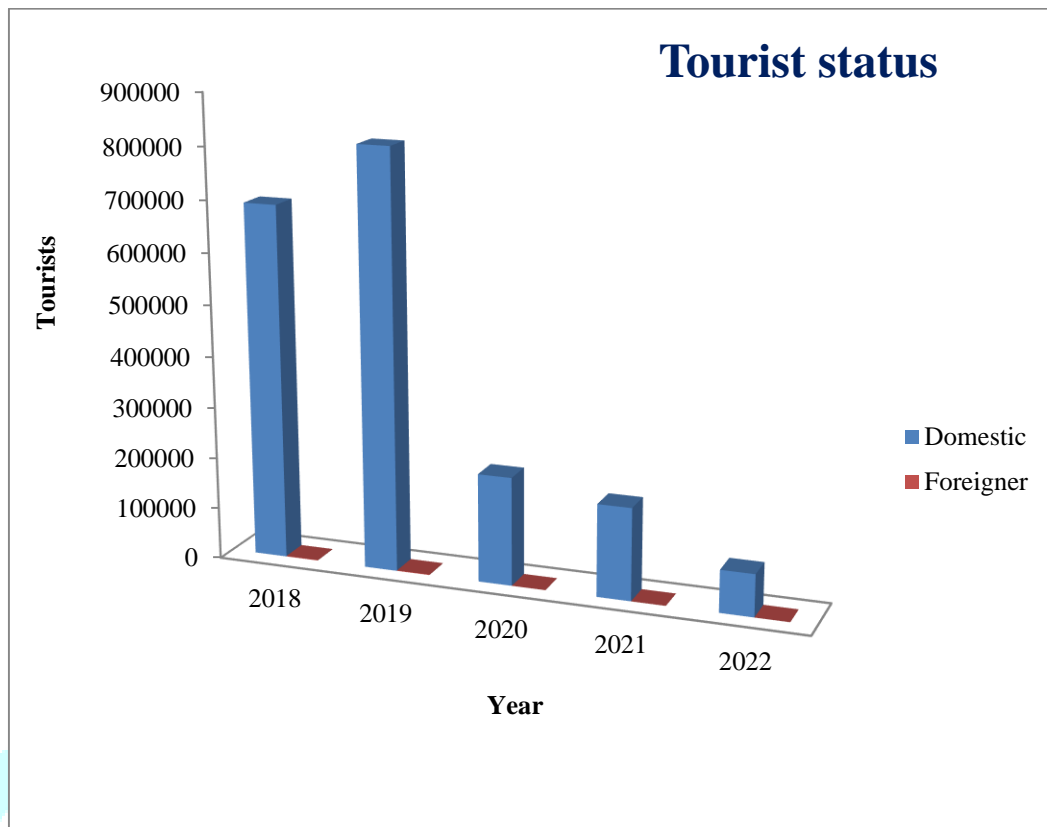
## Methodology

To fulfill the above objective present study is based on both secondary and primary data. The entire study area will be considered and analysis from each area will be getting primary data for the in-depth analysis of the specified. Relevant information will be in secondary data also. The study area will be considered, information will be obtained and the secondary data will provide the information to the data consisting of the Annual report of Karnataka State Tourism Department, International Tourism Agency, internet, newspapers, magazines, books, brochures, articles, thesis, and internet.

### Tourists Status in the B R Hills

Year	Domestic	Foreigner
2018	689850 (34.89%)	919 (45.67%)
2019	812805 (41.11%)	945 (46.96%)
2020	211350 (10.69%)	135 (6.70%)
2021	180210 (9.11%)	0 (0%)
2022	82747 (4.18%)	13 (0.64%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1976962</b> <b>(100%)</b>	<b>2012</b> <b>(100%)</b>

Source: District Tourism Department Chamarajanagar



Above the table related visits to tourists to the B R Hills tourism, considering five years of tourist data, there are 2019 (41.11%) of domestic tourists arrived, and the same for foreigners visiting the B R Hills. The lowest arrivals of tourists in the study area in 2021(0%) and 2022 (0.64%) year is lowest foreigner arrived is zero, because of covid 19 deceases is occupied in the entire worldwide, so lose arrived of foreign tourist in the study area. After the Covid disease slow movement of tourists arrived and more tourists are pilgrimage people and enjoy with scenic beauty of hills stations,

### Infrastructure facilities in the B R Hills

The tourist place provide infrastructure facilities for pilgrimage and tourist peoples satisfaction of the period, there are tourist safety challenges is 1 Police institute (police station) is protection in the study area, and food and accommodation facilities is very high coast in the b r hills there are 12 hotels and 14 lodges are available in the places, cleanness of the tourist area is wellness and 2 public toilets, public and private transpiration are maintain the service to tourist, drinking water is important of the study area sufficient safe drinking water facilities RO providing from temple authority, 1 number of the hospital is very helpful to tourists, the shopping area is providing of purchase of toys and playing things, parking area in there are 3 places for car, van, bus, jeep, scooters, etc.,

## The attraction of Nature tourism places of the trends

1. Tiger Reserve forest
2. K.Gudi jungle safari
3. Hills White cliff
4. Scenic beautiful nature
5. Rathosthava and bramha rathosthava festivals
6. Flora and Fauna. Wildlife sanctuary
7. Temples and historic elements
8. Hills station and scenic beauty,

### CONNECT TO THE NEAREST TOURIST SPOTS OF K. GUDI TOURISM PLACE

The Kyathadevara Gudi (K Gudi) Wilderness Camp opens up an opportunity for you to get up close and personal with nature. As the name suggests, it's everything you can expect out of a camp. It spells adventure and speaks the code of the jungle: respect everything around you. The B.R.T. Wildlife Sanctuary lives up to its name and spotting wildlife is the star attraction in these parts. This is elephant, gaur, tiger, and leopard terrain.

The forests are teeming with over 250 species of birds, including the velvet-fronted nuthatch, gold-fronted chloropsis, blossom-headed parakeet, and the malabar whistling thrush – so it's highly unlikely you'll ever get enough of this place. Jeep rides into the forests with naturalists to point out that anything you've missed is part of the program. We go out twice into the jungle in the jeep – once at dawn and once just before dusk falls. B.R. Hills is also a destination that can be explored on foot.

**How to Connectivity B R Hills:** By road, they are about 90 kilometers (56 mi) from Mysore and 160 kilometers (99 mi) from Bangalore. The road leading to the village on top of the hills may be approached either from Yelandur or Chamarajanagar. Kyathadevara Gudi or K Gudi is located close to BR Hills.



## Scenario of B R Hills



## Conclusions

Nature tourism is responsible travel to natural areas, which conserves the environment and improves the welfare of local people. It is tourism based on the natural attractions of an area. It is a pilgrimage site and derives its name from the Rangaswamy Temple located on top of a white cliff. The Temple is dedicated to Lord Ranganatha and the festivity in this temple during April attracts a lot of tourists. The tourist place provides infrastructure facilities to pilgrimage and tourist peoples' satisfaction over the period, The forests are teeming with over 250 species of birds, including the velvet-fronted nuthatch, gold-fronted chloropsis, blossom-headed parakeet and the malabar whistling thrush so it's highly unlikely you'll ever get enough of this place. The B R hills are located at the north-west of the Western Ghats and the westernmost edge of the Eastern Ghats. This area supports a diverse flora and fauna given the various habitat types present. there are 2019, domestic tourists arrived and the same foreigners also visited the b r hills. The lowest arrivals of tourists in the study area in 2021 and 2022 lowest foreigner arrived is zero, because of COVID-19 19 deceases is occupied in the entire worldwide, so lose arrived of foreign tourists in the study area.

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