



Mole National Park Fact Sheet

ACCRA, Ghana



- During the 1930s the region that would become Mole National Park was declared a Game Clearance Area by the national government. Authorities wanted to eliminate the animals upon which the tsetse fly depended. In the 1950s the policy was declared a success and the game clearances ended.
- In 1971 Mole National Park was formally established, causing villages within its boundaries to be resettled outside. Today 33 communities encircle the park. A principal objective of park management is to create and support economic opportunities for the 40,000 residents of those relocated villages.
- About 14,000 people visit the park annually. Approximately half are Ghanaian nationals and the remainder are foreign visitors.
- The park is the largest and most developed of Ghana's seven national parks and 21 protected areas. It is the only location where visitors regularly see elephants.
- The park comprises 4,577 square kilometers, or roughly 1,790 square miles.
- Mole contains four of the five "Big Five" African game animals: African elephant, African savanna buffalo, lion and leopard.
- The park is home to 93 species of mammals. Those commonly sought and seen include African elephant, several different antelope species (including Buffon's kob, Defassa waterbuck, bushbuck, hartebeest, Grey duiker and roan antelope), Nolan warthog, spotted hyena, Olive baboon, patas monkey and tantalus (green) monkey.
- Mole National Park is an international destination of note for birders. Approximately 350 species of birds visit or reside within it, including spectacular species such as saddle-billed storks, violet backed turacos, and red throated bee eaters.
- The park is home to 33 species of reptiles, including two species of crocodiles (Nile and short-snouted) and two species of python (African rock and royal).

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