

Morni Hills

Shivalik range of the Himalayas

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LIFE

Synergizing Ayurveda
and Vriksha Ayurveda





The Morni Hills, located in the Panchkula district of Haryana, are a striking offshoot of the Shivalik range of the Himalayas. These hills consist of two parallel ranges and offer a mix of rugged terrains, lush forests, and scenic vistas.

Elevation, Terrain and Geography

- Elevation: Approximately 1,220 meters (4,000 feet) above sea level.
- Vegetation: Dense forests with a mix of tropical and subtropical trees, including pine, oak, neem, and acacia.
- Wildlife: Home to a variety of birds, deer, wild boars, and occasionally leopards.
- Location: Approximately 45 km from Chandigarh and 280 km from Delhi, making it easily accessible by road.
- The terrain includes steep slopes, forested valleys, and small plateaus, providing an ideal setting for eco-tourism and sustainable living projects.

- The parallel hill ranges create a natural amphitheater-like landscape, enhancing the aesthetic appeal and creating an ideal setting for trekking and adventure activities.
- The forested slopes are home to a wide range of vegetation, including pine, oak, and flowering shrubs, which are typical of the lower Himalayan ranges.

UNIQUE FEATURES

Wellness-Oriented Design:

- Integrate yoga retreats, meditation centers, and Ayurvedic healing spaces.
- Use natural acoustics and designs to create peaceful, noise-free zones.



Community Spaces:

- Create shared gardens, amphitheaters, and learning hubs to encourage social interaction.
- Develop eco-playgrounds for children, promoting early environmental education.

Disaster Resilience:

- Design structures to withstand seismic activity common in hilly areas.
- Use fire-resistant natural materials and plan emergency exits for safety.

Replicability:

- The township can act as a model for similar projects across India and globally, demonstrating that sustainable development and tourism can coexist.

Tikkar Taal:

- Morni Hills is famous for two interconnected artificial lakes known as Tikkar Taal—Chhota Tikkar (small lake) and Bara

Tikkar (large lake).

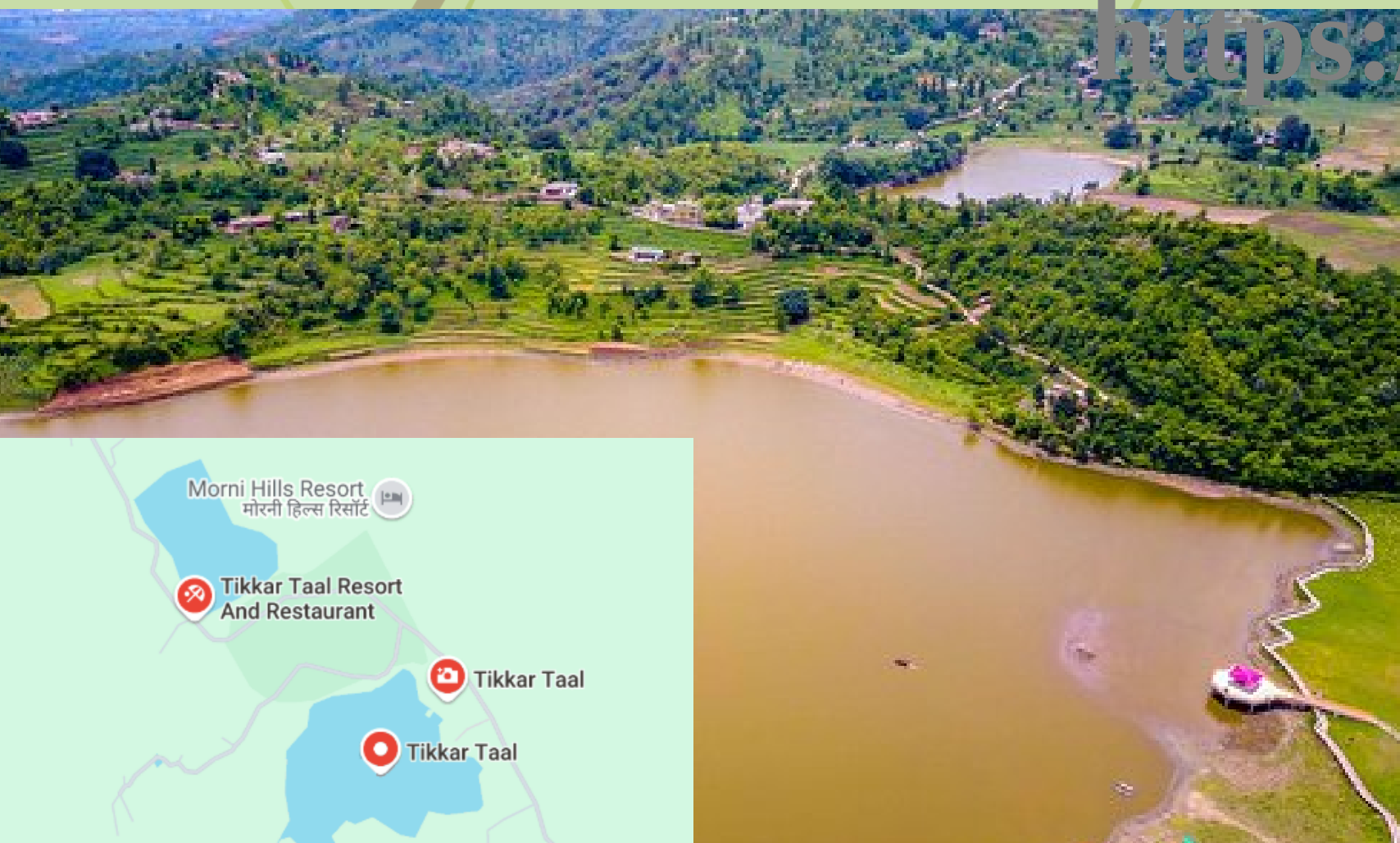
- These lakes are surrounded by hills and serve as a major attraction for picnics, boating, and photography.

Seasonal Streams and Natural Springs:

- Small streams and springs flow through the hills, adding to the charm of the area, especially during monsoons.

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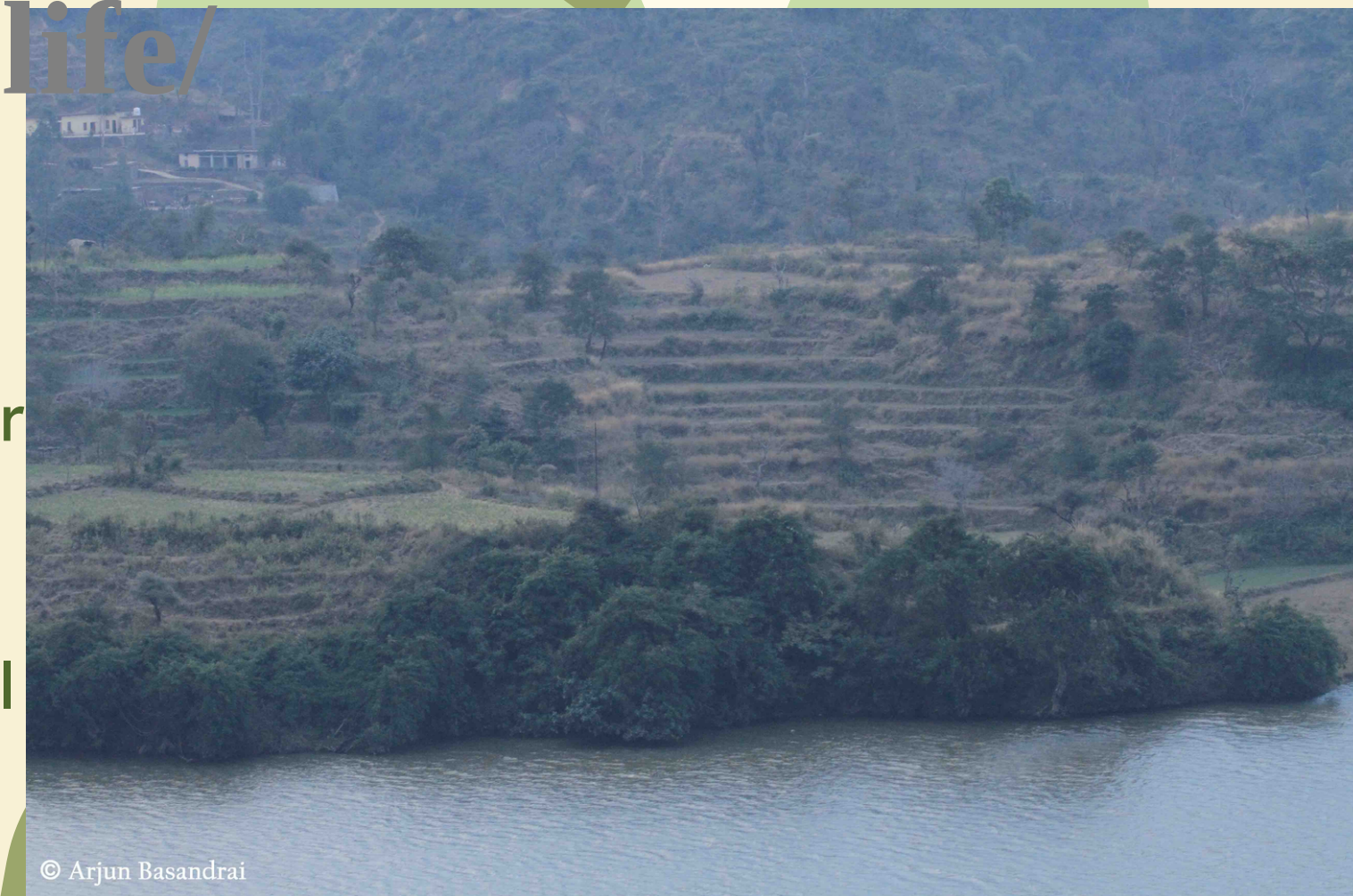


WATER BODIES

WHY MORNI HILLS IS IDEAL FOR NATURE TOWNSHIPS

- **Natural Beauty:** Lush greenery and tranquil surroundings provide a peaceful living environment.
- **Climate:** A moderate climate makes it suitable for year-round habitation and tourism.
- **Connectivity:** Proximity to Chandigarh and Delhi ensures accessibility while maintaining isolation from urban chaos.
- **Eco-Friendly Practices:** The untouched nature of the hills makes it ideal for implementing sustainable living principles.
- **Biodiversity:** Rich flora and fauna offer a perfect setting for eco-conscious lifestyles and wildlife preservation.

Building 108 eco-cottages in Morni Hills could serve as a model for sustainable living, blending comfort with environmental stewardship.







CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

The overall climate is conducive for year-round tourism, especially for nature enthusiasts.



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Summer (March to June): Pleasant and moderate, with temperatures ranging between 15°C to 30°C. Ideal for trekking and outdoor activities.

2

Monsoon (July to September): Experiences moderate rainfall, making the hills lush green and picturesque.

3

Winter (October to February): Cold but bearable, with temperatures dropping to around 5°C at night. Frost can occasionally be seen in the early mornings.

TOURISM

Morni Hills offers numerous attractions and activities for tourists:

1. **Nature Trails & Trekking:** Ideal for trekking enthusiasts, with trails leading through dense forests and hilltops.
2. **Bird Watching:** A paradise for bird watchers, with sightings of peacocks, quails, and hornbills.
3. **Adventure Activities:** Rock climbing, zorbing, and camping.
4. **Cultural Visits:** The hills have historical forts and temples, such as the Morni Fort, which reflects the area's cultural heritage.
5. **Boating at Tikkar Taal:** Recreational boating facilities are available in the lakes.
6. **Eco-Tourism:** The Haryana government is promoting eco-tourism with several sustainable development initiatives.



VISION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT:

Creating a Model Sustainable Township:

1. Zero Concrete: Use natural materials like bamboo, stone, and wood for cottage construction, maintaining harmony with the natural landscape.
2. Zero Plastics: Promote alternatives like jute bags, biodegradable packaging, and reusable items.
3. Zero Pollution: Implement green transportation methods like e-carts and bicycles. Encourage solar power and wind energy for electricity needs.
4. Clean Energy: Harness renewable energy sources, especially solar panels and micro-hydropower for localized power generation.
5. Waste Management: Use advanced composting and recycling methods to ensure minimal waste output.
6. Rainwater Harvesting: Collect and store rainwater for irrigation and other uses.
7. Organic Farming: Promote organic agriculture within the township to ensure self-sufficiency in food.
8. Community Involvement: Involve locals to create job opportunities and raise awareness about environmental conservation.

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Sustainability and Impact



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Vision for the Future
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- Sustainability and Impact of 108-Cottage Nature Sustainable Township in Morni Hills
- Creating a 108-cottage nature sustainable township in Morni Hills can serve as a model of eco-friendly development, aligning with environmental conservation, sustainable living, and community empowerment. Here's an analysis of its sustainability and impact
- The 108-cottage nature sustainable township in Morni Hills is not just a housing project but a movement towards a harmonious coexistence with nature. It aims to inspire individuals, organizations, and governments to embrace sustainability, proving that development does not have to come at the cost of the environment.

Sustainability Features of LIFE

Eco-Friendly Construction:

- Use locally-sourced materials like stone, bamboo, and mud for building.
- Incorporate green roofs, solar reflective paints, and insulation techniques to enhance energy efficiency.
- Adopt modular designs to ensure minimal land disruption and preservation of natural slopes.

Zero Concrete Policy:

- Replace traditional cement with alternatives like lime-based plasters or compressed stabilized earth blocks (CSEB) for construction.
- Focus on lightweight, prefabricated structures to reduce the carbon footprint.

Renewable Energy Integration:

- Install solar panels for electricity and water heating.
- Utilize wind turbines in high-altitude, breezy zones.
- Employ micro-hydro systems using water from nearby streams.

Water Management:

- Implement rainwater harvesting systems to meet water demands.
- Use natural filtration methods for water purification.
- Promote greywater recycling for irrigation.

Waste Management:

- Encourage zero-waste practices by recycling and composting.
- Establish facilities for processing organic waste into biogas and fertilizers.
- Provide education on waste segregation and sustainable practices for residents and visitors.

Green Transportation:

- Design pathways for electric buggies, bicycles, and walking trails to minimize vehicular emissions.
- Use electric or hybrid vehicles for essential transport needs.

Organic Farming and Permaculture:

- Dedicate parts of the township to organic farming, using techniques like crop rotation, companion planting, and natural pest control.
- Grow local, seasonal produce to reduce dependence on external supplies.

Zero Plastic Policy:

- Ban single-use plastics within the township.
- Provide eco-friendly alternatives like jute or cloth bags and biodegradable packaging.

Natural Landscaping:

- Preserve existing trees and plant native species to restore biodiversity.
- Create natural water channels and ponds for irrigation and wildlife habitat.

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Impact

Environmental Impact:

- Conservation of Biodiversity:
 - The project will create habitats for native flora and fauna, boosting local biodiversity.
- Reduce deforestation by integrating existing vegetation into designs.

Carbon Sequestration:

- Native tree plantations can act as carbon sinks, offsetting emissions from human activities.

Erosion Control:

- Terrace farming and afforestation prevent soil erosion, which is a common issue in hilly regions.

Economic Impact:

- Job Creation:
 - Provide employment opportunities in eco-construction, organic farming, maintenance, and tourism.
 - Train locals in sustainable practices, enabling skill development and better livelihoods.
- Boost to Eco-Tourism:
 - Attract tourists seeking sustainable and wellness-oriented experiences, generating steady revenue.
- Local Economy:
 - Encourage purchase of local handicrafts, organic produce, and other regional products.

Social Impact:

- Community Involvement:
 - Involve local communities in planning, management, and day-to-day operations of the township.
 - Build partnerships with educational institutions for research and skill-sharing.
- Awareness and Education:
 - Serve as a learning hub for visitors and residents, promoting eco-conscious living.
 - Host workshops on sustainability, conservation, and organic farming.
- Improved Quality of Life:
 - Provide a clean, serene environment for residents, promoting mental and physical well-being.

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Thank you