



# Uttarakhand's Valley of Flowers

## Why in News?

The Valley of Flowers trek in Uttarakhand will open on 1st June 2024. It is located within Uttarakhand's [Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve](#), a [United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization \(UNESCO\) World Heritage Site](#) since 2005.

## Key Points

- The Valley of Flowers National Park awaits trekkers with over **300 flower species indigenous to the Himalayas**, accessible during the **monsoon season from June to November**.
  - The early signs of spring with blooming potentilla, wild rose, and primrose mark the beginning of the season as the snow starts to melt.
- It includes a wide variety of floral species, **surpassing 300 types, like anemones, geraniums, blue poppies, and bluebells**.
- It is home to rare animal species such as the [grey langur](#), [flying squirrel](#), [Himalayan weasel](#), black bear, **red fox, lime butterfly**, [snow leopard](#), and [Himalayan monal](#).

## Biosphere Reserve

- Biosphere Reserve (BR) is an international designation by the **United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)** for representative parts of natural and cultural landscapes **extending over large areas of terrestrial or coastal/marine ecosystems** or a combination of both.
- Biosphere Reserves **tries to balance economic and social development** and maintenance of associated cultural values along with the preservation of nature.
- Biosphere Reserves are thus special environments for both people and nature and are **living examples of how human beings and nature can co-exist** while respecting each other's needs.

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