

# Khem Villas, Ranthambhore

## Giving Back More Water Than the Lodge Consumes



One of six rain-fed water bodies surrounded by indigenous planting recharging groundwater levels and enabling wildlife to thrive.



Wild inhabitants. Photo: Mittal Gala / Khem Villas.

By planting indigenous shrubs and trees, harvesting rainwater to store monsoon rains and by carefully reusing recycled wastewater, Khem Villas manages to give back more water than it takes from groundwater. Six artificial waterholes created long ago now look like natural wetlands and are a haven for wildlife. The extensive planting with indigenous trees, shrubs and grasses

acts as a natural aquifer; pathways made with natural materials to allow rainwater to percolate back into the ground.

Grey water is recycled into the lodge's ponds after going through a grease trap and reed filter using Khus grass. Black water is treated in septic tanks. Water in the chlorine-free plunge pool is fed back into a pond.



Aerated taps, one of several measures to conserve water.

Drinking water is cleaned using reverse osmosis and bottles with the filtered water provided to guests to minimise the use of plastic. Dual flush toilets, aerated taps and low flow showerheads minimise water use. Guests are encouraged to reuse towels and linen. A drip irrigation system is used to water the kitchen garden.

The lodge sources its water supply from open wells rather than bore holes. Thanks to their efforts, the water table is stable and around 40 feet just after the monsoon and 80 to 90 feet in summer months.



Khem Villas - an oasis of green in an arid landscape.