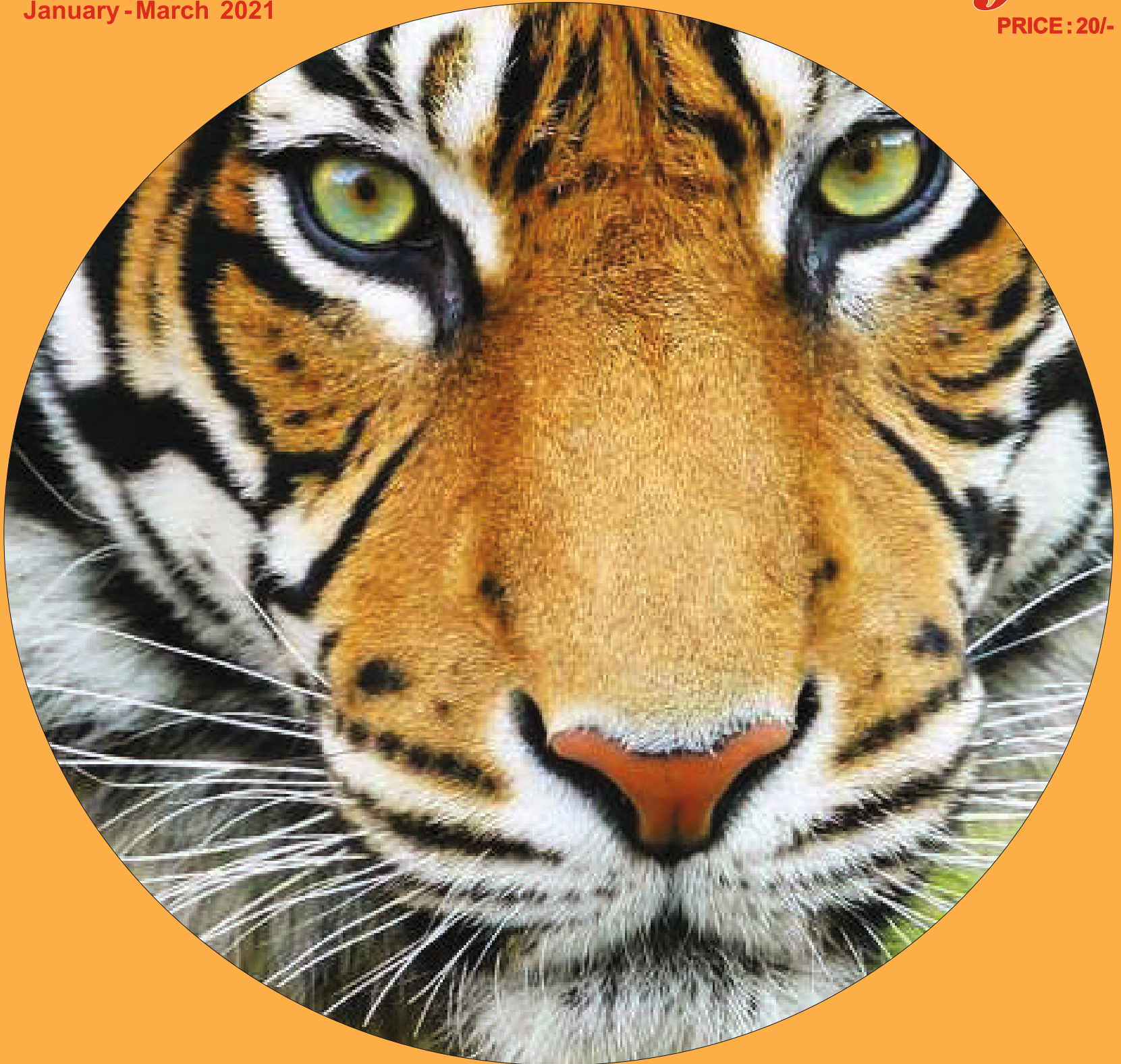


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# CHAR DHAM YATRA IN UTTRAKHAND



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# TOURISM & WILDLIFE

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The tourism industry of India is economically important and grows rapidly. The World Travel & Tourism Council calculated that tourism generated INR6.4 trillion or 6.6% of the nation's GDP in 2012. It supported 39.5 million jobs, 7.7% of its total employment. The sector is predicted to grow at an average annual rate of 7.9%

from 2013 to 2023. This gives India the third rank among countries with the fastest growing tourism industries over the next decade.



**Founder Editor  
Late G.C. Verma**

India has a large medical tourism sector which is expected to grow at an estimated rate of 30% annually to reach about 95 billion by 2015. This paper discusses how India is emerging as a popular tourist destination in the world, driven by the focus on innovation and creating value for tourists. It aimed change the attitude and behavior toward foreign tourists by stressing on the aspect that a guest has been held in high esteem in India since ancient times. It also examines the impact of India's economic growth on tourism, Contributors to economic growth, Role of Tourism industry in India's GDP, Foreign versus Domestic Tourists. The paper also explores that there has been a tremendous growth in tourism in India because of the policies of the government and support from all levels. Tourism is considered to be an economic bonanza. It is a multi-segment industry. While gauging the positive economic effects of tourism, we study its contribution to the generation of national income, expansion of employment opportunities, rising of tax revenue, generation of foreign exchange .and transformation of regional economy. Travel & Tourism is an important economic activity in most countries around the world. As well as its direct economic impact, the industry has significant indirect and induced impacts. Indian Tourism offers a potpourri of different cultures, traditions, festivals, and places of interest. There are a lot of options for the tourists. India is a country with rich cultural and traditional diversity. This aspect is even reflected in its tourism. The different parts of the country offer wide variety of interesting places to visit.



# The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980



Naresh Kumar Choubey(Journalist)

The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 came in to force with effect from October 25, 1980. Under the provisions of this Act, prior approval of the Central Government is essential for diversion of forest lands for the non-forestry purposes. In the national interest and in the interest of future generations, this Act, therefore, regulates the diversion of forest lands to non forestry purposes. The basic objective of the Act is, to regulate



the indiscriminate diversion of forest lands for non forestry uses and to maintain a logical balance between the developmental needs of the country and the conservation of natural heritage. The, guidelines have been issued under the Act from time to time, to simplify the procedures, to cut down delays and to make the Act more user friendly. To ensure this, recently, new rules under this Act have been framed and notified on 10/1/2003 by the Ministry of Environment and Forests.

The Act has succeeded in controlling the indiscriminate release of forest land for non forestry purposes. Prior to 1980, the rate of diversion of forest lands for non forestry purposes was about 1.43 lakh ha. per annum. But, with the advent of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, the rate of diversion of forest lands has come down to around 15000 ha. per annum and mostly diversion of forest land is allowed to meet the developmental needs for Drinking water

projects, Irrigation projects, Transmission lines, Railway lines, Roads, Power projects, Defense related projects, Mining etc. For such diversions of forest lands for non forestry purposes, compensatory afforestation is stipulated and catchment area treatment plan, wildlife habitat improvement plan, rehabilitation plan etc. are being implemented, to mitigate the ill effects of diversion of such vast area of green forests. To monitor the effective implementation of the compensatory afforestation in the country, an authority named as "Compensatory Afforestation Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA)" is being constituted at the national level. A monitoring cell is also being set up in the Ministry of Environment & Forests to monitor the movement of proposals at various stages and the compliance of the conditions stipulated in the forestry clearances by the user agencies. State Advisory Groups (SAGs) :-The State Advisory Groups (SAGs) constituted by the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India, under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 shall meet according to the timetable. In case any date indicated in the time-table happens to be a Government holiday, the meeting shall take place on the next working day.

The senior-most Conservator of Forests/Deputy Conservator of Forests of the Regional Office shall act as the Chairperson of the concerned SAG in the absence of the Chief Conservator of Forests/ Conservator of Forests. Nodal Officer of the State shall act as the Member-Secretary of the concerned SAG.

April to June 2019

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# TIME Oak celebrates Ramadan with authentic Iftar featuring flavours of Cairo and amazing 'getaway' packages



## 'From Cairo to Dubai' Ramadan Iftar

Indulge in an irresistible array of Arabic dishes featuring flavours from Cairo to Dubai, at **Pranzo** and **Al Bal** restaurants at **TIME Oak Hotel & Suites**.

Break your fast with dates and fresh fruit juices, followed by a variety of authentic hot and cold mezzeh and a choice of assorted soups and salads from the salad bar.

Main course dishes include an aromatic special lamb ouzi served with oriental rice, mixed grills, including beef, chicken and seafood as well as pasta dishes.

For dessert, a variety of dried fruits and delectable traditional Arabic desserts + famous Um Ali and French pastries

In addition, there will be a live cooking station with daily specials from the Chef such as kunafa and koshari, served from a Ramadan cart, as well as an action food station with saj, pizza and homemade breads.

Al Bal will also feature a live, mint tea service and sahlab drinks station.

**Time:** Sunset to 9:00pm

### **Prices:**

**AED 139** per person for the buffet

**AED 165** per person for buffet with shisha

*Children below the age of six eat for free and those aged 6 to 12 will receive a 50% discount.*

*Enjoy 30% discount when you book before 13th April 2021.*

*Offer valid during Ramadan and prices are inclusive of taxes and service charge. Call +971 4 437 7888 or email fb.oak@timehotels.ae for reservations.*

## **Ramadan takeaway**

Ramadan Iftar family meal suitable for 4-6 people at AED 299, featuring traditional lentil soup, roast oriental style lamb ouzi with an assortment of mezzeh, choice of two Ramadan juices and soft drinks, and finally, our signature baked Umm Ali and dates.

*Available daily. To place an order, please call +971 4 437 7888 or for more information on the menu, please log onto <http://www.timehotels.ae/>*

## **Ramadan Getaway**

Make this Ramadan a special occasion and take advantage of our unique getaway packages at **TIME Oak Hotel & Suites**.

Enjoy a leisurely stay in one of our modern, spacious and comfortable rooms with a complimentary Iftar buffet or Iftar takeaway box throughout the Holy Month.

Also relax and take advantage of a host of amenities including a temperature-controlled swimming pool, kids pool and play area, a gaming zone, as well as the practical benefits of a fully equipped kitchen, free WiFi and ample parking.

Located in the heart of Barsha Heights, the hotel is also conveniently located for a spot of retail therapy, with quick and easy access to Mall of the Emirates and Ibn Battuta Mall as well as a gentle stroll along the Jumeirah beachfront or Dubai Marina.

### **Prices:**

AED 259 (single occupancy)

AED 319 (double occupancy)

*Offer valid during Ramadan and prices include taxes and service charge. Call +971 4 4377920 or email [welcome.oak@timehotels.ae](mailto:welcome.oak@timehotels.ae) for bookings.*



# Malaysia pledge diamond partnership at GTS 2021

**Dubai, 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021:** Tourism Malaysia pledged partnership for the second consecutive time at the second edition of the Gulf Travel Show on 31<sup>st</sup> March and 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 as diamond partners. Tourism Malaysia will have its own pavilion with 13 booths consisting Tourism Malaysia Dubai, Tourism Malaysia Jeddah, Tourism Malaysia India with 3 DMC/Tour Operator partners and 7 hotels and resorts from different areas in the country. This platform will allow them to share the necessary precautions that they have implemented to ensure the safety of all travellers that will come when the borders open.

**Mr. MANOHARANPERIASAMY (Senior Director of International Promotion Asia & Africa Division – Malaysia Tourism Promotion Board)**

“India and Middle East market has been a key source market for us mainly due to the historical and traditional ties we have with them. Summer has always been a key Middle East market driver as we receive many travellers during this period whilst the month of May is the peak for Indian tourists. Over the past year, the pandemic however did hinder the situation, but now we are preparing once again to welcome our friends from India and the Middle East to a safer destination which would provide them what they require in terms of a secure, family friendly holiday escape. Our partnership for the second consecutive time with the virtual event Gulf Travel Show provides us the opportunity to renew partnerships and seek new connections that will help us when the time is right.”

**Mr. SHAHRIN MOKHTAR, Director of Tourism Malaysia – Dubai** shared, “Tourism Malaysia Dubai, Jeddah & India join forces with major tourism partners to spearhead Malaysia promotion in Virtual Gulf Travel Show 2021. Tourism Malaysia has become the Diamond partner in GTS 2021 to further communicate the “Malaysia Truly Asia” brand to the travel industry fraternity in MENA and India markets. This time we are planning to showcase Malaysia with our 10 selected tourism partners who will engaged with Middle East & India potential buyers during the 2 days virtual show. This



a great opportunity for us to interact with the industry players and plan for the New Normal once Malaysia opens its borders to welcome tourists. For this year, we are promoting the hashtag #WeMissYou to the market indicating that we miss the tourists coming to our beautiful country and can't wait to see them again at the Malaysian shore soon.”

Travel agents visiting Tourism Malaysia Pavilion in GTS 2021 2days' virtual event will enter a lucky draw with many prizes for hotels stays and holiday packages in Malaysia. As GTS 2021 Diamond partner, Tourism Malaysia also conducted an interactive virtual press conference on 31<sup>st</sup> March morning for 77 registered media from Middle East and India, who participated and got opportunity to ask questions for Tourism Malaysia officials.

**- Ends -**

*For more media releases, info and features on Malaysia's tourism industry, kindly visit the Media Centre of Tourism Malaysia's website at [www.tourism.gov.my](http://www.tourism.gov.my).*

#### **About Tourism Malaysia**

Malaysia Tourism Promotion Board, also known as Tourism Malaysia, is an agency under the Ministry of Tourism, Arts & Culture Malaysia. It focuses on the specific task of promoting Malaysia as a preferred tourism destination. Since its inception, it has emerged as a major player in the international tourism scene. In 2019, Malaysia registered 26.1 million tourist arrivals and RM86.14 billion tourist receipts, placing it among the major tourism destinations of the world.

# High-tea & conversations with Nepal Tourism Board



Dr Dhananjay Regmi  
CEO, Nepal Tourism Board (NTB)

Mar 23, 2021, New Delhi: Year 2021 has arrived and countries are gearing up to welcome international travellers. While the previous year may have been as disruptive as it could be, this year, recovery has already kicked off and people are all set to resume travel. With an aim to keep engagements going and updating the travel trade media on the latest happenings in Nepal and its preparedness for the future, Dr Dhananjay Regmi, Chief Executive Officer, Nepal Tourism Board (NTB), welcomes you to high-tea and a tête-à-tête Nepal, and its tourism board, have together undertaken several steps already to bring back international travellers. Ever since



Regmi says, “The previous year had disrupted the business of travel and tourism the world over. Nepal, too, suffered as other nations did, but the country’s administration was quick to respond to the pandemic by ordering a nationwide lockdown and preparing for the months to follow by Dr Dhananjay Regmi, CEO, Nepal Tourism Board (NTB) procuring essential medical supplies and equipment, upgrading the existing health infrastructure, training medical personnel and spreading awareness about the virus and precautions that needed to be taken among the general public. While we were forced to cancel the Visit Nepal Year 2020 campaign amidst the havoc, we are now gearing up to welcome international tourists. We have conducted webinars in the past to engage our travel trade partners in India, and keep them updated on Nepal’s constant and consistent effort in resuming tourism. We hope that together, we successfully fight the pandemic and work towards the betterment of our respective tourism sectors.”

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the lockdown in March last year, Nepal Tourism Board has gone the extra mile to address several issues brought on by the pandemic and brought the crisis under control. In October last year, in its bid to revive the hard-hit tourism industry, Nepal announced that foreign tourists, including trekking trekkers, with a COVID-negative report were not required to quarantine themselves anymore.

The tourism industry initiated a programme for carrying out instant antigen tests for COVID-19 for arriving foreign tourists at Tribhuvan International Airport in the capital city of Kathmandu.



Nepal already has an air bubble arrangement with India that allows both Nepal Airlines and Air India to operate between Kathmandu and New Delhi. In late January this year, Nepal even commenced its vaccination drive against COVID-19.

Click here for downloadable photos: <https://we.tl/t-lmFc3Ukqxs>

## About Buzz Travel Marketing India

Buzz Travel Marketing India has over 25 years of experience in the travel industry. It is one of India’s most dynamic and proactive travel representation companies offering Sales, Marketing, Media and PR Services for international tourism products. It is a focused marketing organization, which develops and builds brands, coupled with sales and distribution through the Indian travel industry and direct consumer channels.

Tourism & Wildlife



# Environment: beautiful and full of natural resources



Aryanshi Shrish

Environment is the visible or non-visible surroundings which support life on this earth. This earth is full of natural surroundings, some are biotic and some are non biotic. Biotic element is that element that has life like human, bird, animal, plants and micro organisms. Whereas abiotic elements are those which have no life like air, sunlight, water, land, soil, minerals, etc. Element comes in categories of biotic and abiotic, further can be divided among four types of sphere like



Biosphere, Hydrosphere, lithosphere and atmosphere. Biotic and abiotic elements reacts with each other in some manner like fresh water, sunlight and soil are used for growing plants same as plants produce oxygen that is highly required by all the living organisms existed on this earth. Human beings use all the available natural resources in different manner for better living on earth.

At its initial stage this earth was so beautiful and full of natural resources that we even cannot describe. But, as time passed, due to increased population the requirement of resources has also been increased and now the current situation is so worst that we cannot surely say that for how much time we would be able to use these resources as they are continuously disappearing from the earth.

Use of natural resources should be carefully planned and executed. It is completely wrong to cut the forest as trees are the key operator of natural cycle. Forest cutting may cause the poor situation of drought, increased heating temperature, unstable seasons, uncertain rainfall, flood, decreased agricultural quality or the worst one "global warming" which is completely not acceptable for the existence of life on earth.

For giving a better and healthy life to our future generations, we all should unite with take some pledge about prevention of our environment with less and safe use of natural resources.

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April to June 2019

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# Best Tourist Places to Visit in Andhra Pradesh

At a distance of 60 km from Rajahmundry, 180 km from Vijayawada, 20 km from Polavaram, 260 km from Vizag & 410 km from Hyderabad, Papi Kondalu is a breathtakingly beautiful hill range bounded by River Godavari in the state of Andhra Pradesh. Papi hills are a set of three hills which form a beautiful gorge on the Godavari River spread across East Godavari and West Godavari districts. Entire area of Papi Kondalu is covered by tropical rain forests and it was recently declared as a protected National Park and is one of the top places to experience the Tourism in Andhra Pradesh. Papikondalu is one of the top attractions you must include in Vizag tour packages.



The original name for this hill range was 'Papidi Kondalu'. Papidi is a rough translation for partition in Telugu. It is believed that the place was visited by Lord Rama and goddess Sita during their exile. Papi Kondalu has to be reached by boat from Rajahmundry, Pattisam (35 km from Rajahmundry), Polavaram (40 km from Rajahmundry), Kunavaram (50 km from Bhadrachalam) or Sriram Giri (60 km from Bhadrachalam). The boat service from Rajahmundry to Bhadrachalam is a wonderful experience and it is operated in post monsoon season.

Apart from enjoying the view of the hills, valley and waterfalls, tourists can engage in activities like camping and trekking. There are several sights that fall on the way like Perantallapalli, Gandipoamma Temple and Pattiseema. Several tribal communities have made their dwellings on these hills whose main occupation is agriculture, fishing and making handicrafts. There is a waterfall at Munivaatam that is a popular tourist attraction.

The boat rides usually include full-day trips starting from Rajahmundry/ Pattisam / Polavaram / Kunavaram / Sriram Giri with break at Perantallapalli and back. Both AP Tourism and Private operators offer these tours from Rajahmundry. There are also one-way trips between Rajahmundry/ Pattisam/Polavaram and

Kunavaram/Sriram Giri. There are few private operators who offer 2 day trips from Rajahmundry with overnight stay at Kollur Bamboo Resort. Trips usually start early morning between 6 to 9 AM. One has to book the boat and the huts in advance through tourist agencies or AP Tourism.

The Rajahmundry Airport at Madhurapudi (70 km away) has limited domestic services from Chennai, Madurai, Vijayawada, Bangalore and Hyderabad. Rajahmundry is well connected to other neighboring cities of Andhra Pradesh & Telangana by road and rail. It has trains from Hyderabad, Vijayawada, Vizag, Chennai, Bangalore, Mumbai, Bilsapur, Trivandrum, Kochi, Kakinada, Nagercoil, Bhubaneswar, Tirupati, Puri, Kolkata, etc.

The city has 4 bus stations. The main APSRTC Bus complex is located on the Morampudi Road. The other three bus stands are Kotipalli Bus Stand in Innispet, Gokavaram Bus Stand in Aryapuram, and the Kakinada Bus Stand near Kambalcheruvu. It is connected by bus with Chennai, Bangalore, Vizag, Tirupati and Hyderabad.

The best time to visit Papi Kondalu is from October to January while the Peak Season is from November to December. Usually Papikondalu is visited from Rajahmundry as a day trip or two day trip with night stay at Kollur Camp.





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Welcome to Pulari Gardens Tourist Resorts and enjoy our hospitality with unmatched Service. We are situated at Varkala, 3.4 km from Varkala Sivagiri Railway Station and a walking distance to Papanasam Beach, Varkala Temple, Varkala Cliff and Center for performing Arts. Nearest International Airport Trivanadrum 50km. Nearest City Kollam 37km.



KAPPILE BEACH



PADMANABHASWAMY



VARKALA SIVAGIRI MUTT



Guest enjoy carroms game



ANJENGO FORT

## What to see in Varkala & Around

Every year thousands of pilgrims at Papanasam beach to pay homage to their ancestors. Centuary old Sri Jananrdhana Swamy Temple also many worshipers visit daily. many people visit Varkala - Sivagiri Mutt, the place of Sree Narayana Guru's Samathi. Centre for performing Arts(new), Aquarium,

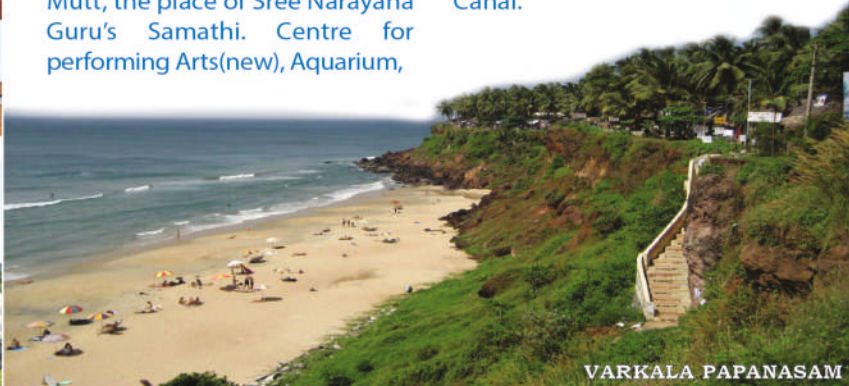
Edava - Kappil beaches, Kappil Lake and water sports Centre, Priyadarshini boat club, Puthenkulam Elephant ride, Jatayupara Nature Park (with world's Largest bird sculpture) (new), Golden island, Anjengo Fort, Varkala T. S Canal.



CENTER PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE



JADAYA PARA



VARKALA PAPANASAM



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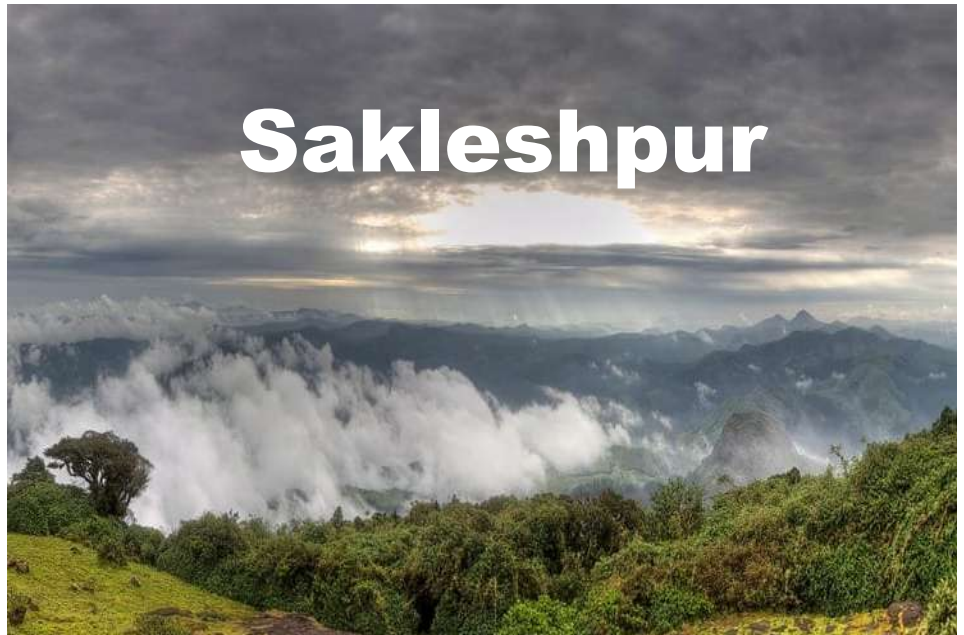
Pulari Gardens



# Tourist Places to Visit in Karnataka

Mysore is one of the most famous tourist destinations of South India. Originally known as Mysuru, it is the largest districts of Karnataka. Formerly known as the capital of the 'Kingdom of Mysore', Mysore was the name by which the state of Karnataka was popular as. The city is praised across the country for its arresting buildings and monuments along with its flamboyant imperial heritage. Its world Heritage listed palace of the city is perhaps something that brings most travellers here.

Mysuru is also a burgeoning centre for the production of superior quality incense, silk and sandalwood. At present, the Ashtanga yoga is



Chamundeswari. It is celebrated with fervor and solemnity as the State festival here

A hill station in the heights of Western Ghats of India, Sakleshpur is a small town located in the state of Karnataka. Famous for being surrounded by a surprising number of plantations of coffee, tea and spices, Sakleshpur's economy thrives on these. Apart from that, with the recent development in the tourism happening around the town, places to visit in Sakleshpur have recently gathered a lot of fame for themselves because of their beauty and the kind of experiences that they harbour, both of which are unparalleled.

another drawcard in Mysore that attracts the visitors from across the world accredited to its reputation of being India's best place to practice yoga.

This City of Palaces has a number of places situated in the city. The main palace of the Mysore is Ambavilas Palace which is also one of the prime attractions of this region accredited to its beautiful monuments. This tourism hotspot attracts several millions of tourists from across the country every year. Dasara (Dusshera) which represents the victory of Good over Evil, marks the worship of Devi

Easily connected with Major cities like Bangalore and Mangalore, Sakleshpur has a bounty of beautiful places to see, both manmade and nature's gifts. A prime example of that is the ages-old Manjarabad Fort constructed in the form of a star, which is also one of the prime tourist places in Sakleshpur. But that is not the only one, the list of names goes on and on as to where you should go to see Sakleshpur treating you with its best views of natural beauty, sometimes mingling with the manmade structures.

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The 600 year old Sakleshwara temple that sits on the river Hemavathi's banks is a piece of fine craftsmanship in surroundings that are meant to take your breath away. And taking your breath away brings to mind the Bisle View Point, offering a panoramic view of the region and hills around, as well as the rainforests of the area. You can see as far away as the Pushpagiri, Dodda Betta and Kumara Parvatha Hills.

And no, the hill station is not just about the sights as there is a long list of things to do in Sakleshpur. The hill station knows how to live on the adventurous edge of life too. Sakleshpur is a heaven for trekking enthusiasts, and that is why this town has taken the definition of trekking to a whole new level by introducing something new like Railway Bridge Trekking. You can trek on the 52km long railway track (trek) between

district of Karnataka, and is etymologically translated to 'cow's ear.' According to popular mythological belief, it is the place where Lord Shiva emerged from the incarnation of Mother Earth in the form of a cow. Interspersed with ancient temples, the town is home to one of the oldest temples since time immemorial known as Mahabaleshwar, enshrined with Lord Shiva. The town is about 59 km from Karwar, 483 km from Bengaluru, and 238 km from Mangalore.

Furthermore, the rustic outlook of the town has attracted the attention of a lot of travelers and foreigners. There are several beaches, pilgrimage sights, and waterfalls that are reverberating tourist attractions. In fact, the town is situated around the River Aghanashini, which is considered to be deemed and sacred site for devotees.



Sakleshpur and Kukke Subramanya road junction, which was closed down long ago. This unforgettable experience takes you through the scenes of at least 25 waterfalls.

And as far as the question of staying in Sakleshpur is concerned, nature stays in Sakleshpur are bound to take your breath away with their surroundings, features and comfort alongside the local hospitality that you will experience here. There is no one type in the places to stay in Sakleshpur and that is what makes it worth experiencing. So take your family, friends, or partner and come to Sakleshpur, and even if no one agrees, come solo. But do not think of missing out on so much fun.

Gokarna is a city located in Uttara Kannada

However, due to the recent tourist influx, the town attracts both adrenaline seekers and those looking for spiritual solace. It is the town of golden beaches named after the way they are shaped like Om Beach and Half Moon Beach. Paradise Beach does no injustice to its name! The tall palm trees, serene waves of the ocean gushing towards the rocks, and the evenings spent watching the sun melting into the ocean add a surrealistic appeal to the place.

Apart from beaches, there is the Mahabaleshwar Temple that attracts many devotees and saints. Yana is another dainty town located in the vicinity of Gokarna, whose lavish surroundings and rocky terrain is perfect for activities like cycling and trekking. Mountaineering is another popular sport.

The serene beaches pose as perfect sites for watersport activities like surfing, scuba diving, snorkeling, parasailing, and jet skiing. If you want to indulge in watersport activities, then the best time to visit the place is post-monsoon, from September to December. Winters in Gokarna are flamboyant, with a mildly cold climate and lush green surroundings. Summers in Gokarna are hot and humid, followed by the showers that cool the surroundings down with heavy rainfall.



# Tourist Places In Assam 2021

## Unveiling The Hidden Charm Of The North-East!

### Kaziranga National Park: Home To One-horned Rhinoceros

The Kaziranga National Park is home to two-thirds of the planet's population of the one-horned rhinoceros. Apart from that, this national park is also a World Heritage Site and a major highlight on the Assam tourist places map. It's vibrant, well



preserved, sustained ecology, and a versatile biodiversity is what contributes to keeping this place on the top of the list of tourist places in

Assam. Other than the one-horned Rhino, the park draws its popularity from other pleasant surprises like the Swamp Deer, Elephants, Wild Buffalos, Chinese Pangolins, Bengal Foxes, Gibbons, Civets, Sloth Bears, Leopards, and Flying Squirrels to name a few. It's also a tiger reserve since it houses an enormous population of the royal Bengal Tigers, making it one of the most important Assam points of interest. This is certainly among the best places to visit in Assam.

Ideal Duration: 1 Night/2 Days

Places to Stay: The Greenwood Hotel, Hotel KRC Palace, Heritage Tezpur, Hotel KF, Aditya's Hotel Bikram

Things to do: Wildlife tours in Kaziranga National Park, Elephant Safari, Jeep safari

Places to Visit: Wild Mahseer at Addabarie Tea Estate, Orang National Park, Hoollongapar Gibbon Sanctuary

Best Time To Visit: November to April

Famous For: One-horned rhinoceros



### Manas National Park: Biosphere Reserve

The next on the list of Assam places to visit is the Manas National Park, which is a UNESCO Natural World Heritage site, a Project Tiger Reserve, an Elephant Reserve, a Biosphere Reserve all in one, and the best tourist place in Assam! Being famous for the rare golden langur and the adorable red panda, Manas is one of the best national parks in Assam and even all of India for those who wish to witness the rare species of India's flora. It's one of the best tourist attractions in Assam owing to not only its rich biodiversity but also for its stunning scenery and surreal natural landscape ranging from forested hills, alluvial



grasslands, and tropical evergreen forests. Home to India's second-largest tiger population, it harbours the maximum population of endangered Indian species as listed in the IUCN Red Book.

Places to Stay: Radisson Blu Hotel Guwahati, Hotel Atithi, Debadaru Guest House, Saikia Nest the Home-stay, Shreemoyee Inn  
Best Time To Visit: October to April

Ideal Duration: 1 Day

Places to Stay: Lodge Alakananda, Hotel Mayur, Hotel Himalaya, Hotel The Raj Palace, Pam Pam Inn

Things to do: Jeep Safari, Elephant Safari, River Rafting, Village & Tea Plantations Visit, Birdwatching

Best Time To Visit: October to May

Famous For: Rare and endangered endemic wildlife such as the Assam roofed turtle, hispid hare, golden langur and pygmy hog.



### **Kamakhya Temple: Religious**



Famous For: Kamakhya Temple is a famous Hindu temple.

### **Tourist Places In Jorhat**

A perfect blend of history, culture, and natural beauty, Jorhat has numerous attractions holding both national and international importance. It draws its popularity from the world's largest river island – Majuli – located 20 km from this town, as well as the Jorhat Gymkhana Club which is the first to be ever built in Asia apart from being the third oldest in the entire world. Jorhat is undoubtedly one of the best Assam destinations that

endow visitors with tremendous scenic beauty and virgin landscapes.

Highlights: History, Nature, Heritage  
Prime Attraction: Majuli, Gibbon Wildlife Sanctuary, Kakochang Waterfalls, Gymkhana Club, Sukapha Samannay Kshetra, Bangalpukhari, Cinnamora Tea Estate, Lachit Borphukan Maidam, Thengal Bhawan  
Ideal Trip Duration: 2 Nights 3 Days

**Let's take a look at some of the best tourist places in Assam**

### **Expedition**

One of the 51 Shakti Peeths in India, the Kamakhya Temple carries a myth to protect devotees from evil eyes. It's one of the most popular and famous tourist places in Assam for pilgrims and tourists alike owing to its amazing Tantric adoration. Located atop Nilachal Hills, this temple's main deity is Lord Shiva and Daksha Yagna (Death Incarnation). This temple is certainly one of the most revered temples in Guwahati.

Tip: Visit at the time of the Ambubachi festival.

April to June 2019

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# Tourist Places to Visit in Goa

Baga Beach, Calangute Beach, Grand Island, Dudhsagar Waterfalls, Fort Aguada, Candolim Beach, Tito's Street, Arambol Beach, Bom Jesus Basilica, Palolem Beach, Curlies, Club Cubana, Anjuna Flea Market, Chapora Fort, Mapusa Friday Market, Divar Island, Salim Ali Bird Sanctuary and many more.

Deck up your itinerary list with the spectacular places in Goa and get ready to be awe-struck with its surprises. Serving as the hot spot for vacationists from both near and far, Goa is all in all a place for the party animals and solace seekers alike. From the ravishing nightlife pubs to the ever fantastic beaches there is something for everyone. Apart from this, one must not dare to miss out on the Goan churches which not only cater to ultimate tranquillity but also exhibit the architecture of the colonial period.

Tourist places in Goa never fail to stun the visitants, as each one of them highlights something unusual of its own. While the Baga beach is reckoned for the adrenaline-pumping adventures like Jet skiing, kitesurfing, parasailing, and waterboarding the Calangute Beach is famed as the "Queen of beaches" due to its picturesque landscapes.

Whether you are touring the place with your bunch of buddies or family, there is no dearth of options and you can explore the places that you like. You can also try hands-on scuba diving on the Grand Island and witness the scenic view from Aguada fort.

## Dudhsagar Waterfalls

The Dudhsagar Waterfalls are situated on the Goa-Karnataka border and are one of India's must-see sights. The four-tiered waterfall structure is one of the tallest in India and is located on the Mandovi River. The white water cascades down from a height of nearly 1017 feet

off a nearly steep mountain face. They form a part of the Bhagwan Mahaveer Sanctuary and Mollem National Park, so the best way to reach them is by entering the national park and taking a van allocated by the park to the falls.

The Dudhsagar trek inside the park is closed to



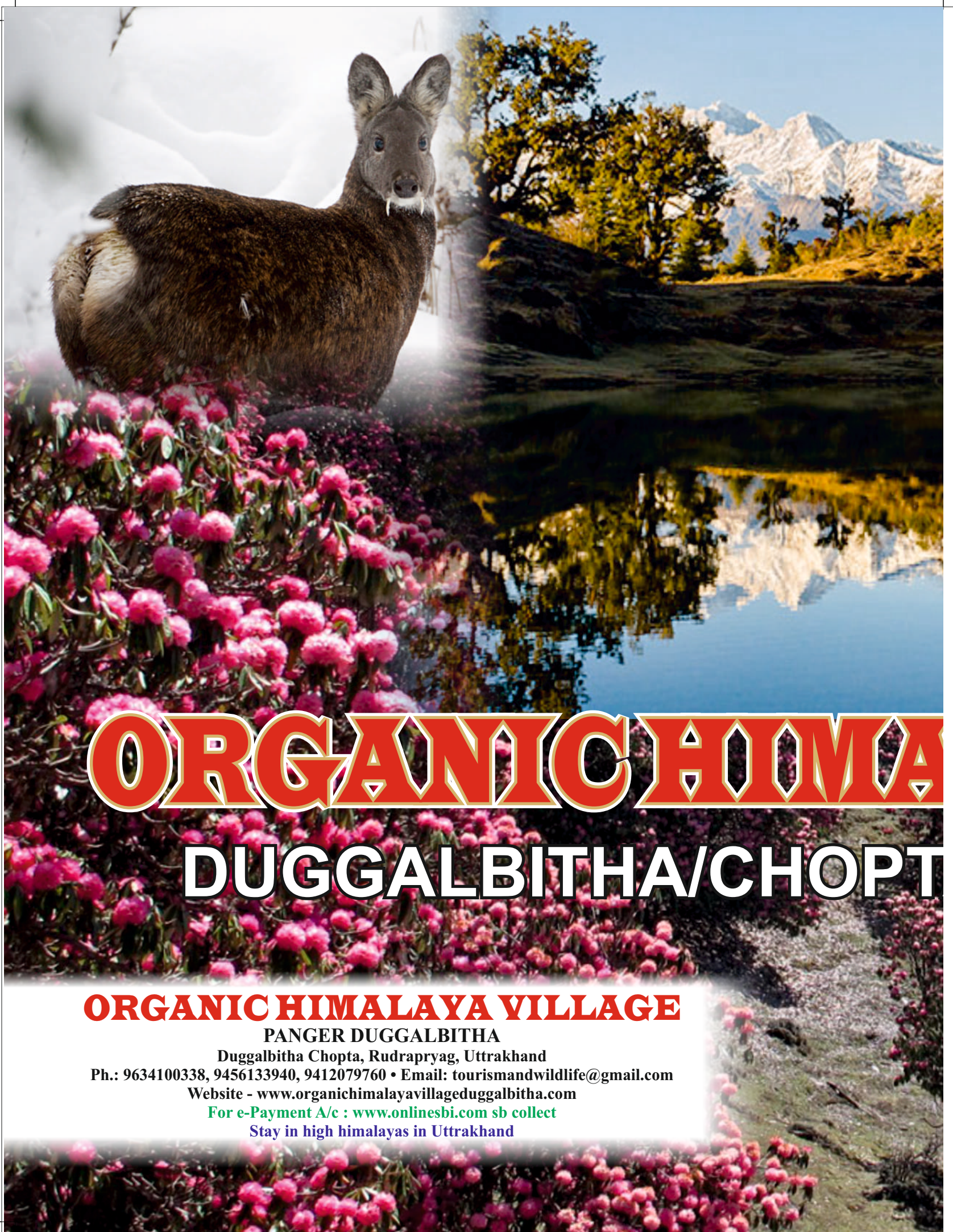
the public but you can still reach the waterfalls by trekking from Kulem and following the jeep trail. Another possible route is the trek from Castle Rock in Karnataka. Reaching the waterfalls will not be an easy task but it is one that is worth every ounce of effort put into it. They are best experienced during the monsoons as they lose their force during the dry season.

Many tours are organized over this time so you can choose to go as a part of a group. Some tours even have overnight camping options. But remember to go well-prepared to ensure a good experience, especially if you are going on a self-organized trek. The lush green jungle and the beautiful waterfall sending up their forceful sprays are a sight to remember long after you have left Dudhsagar behind.

Location: Sanguem Taluka

How to reach from Panaji: Take a train up to Kulem railway station. However, don't expect a proper platform here. It is a rough stop.





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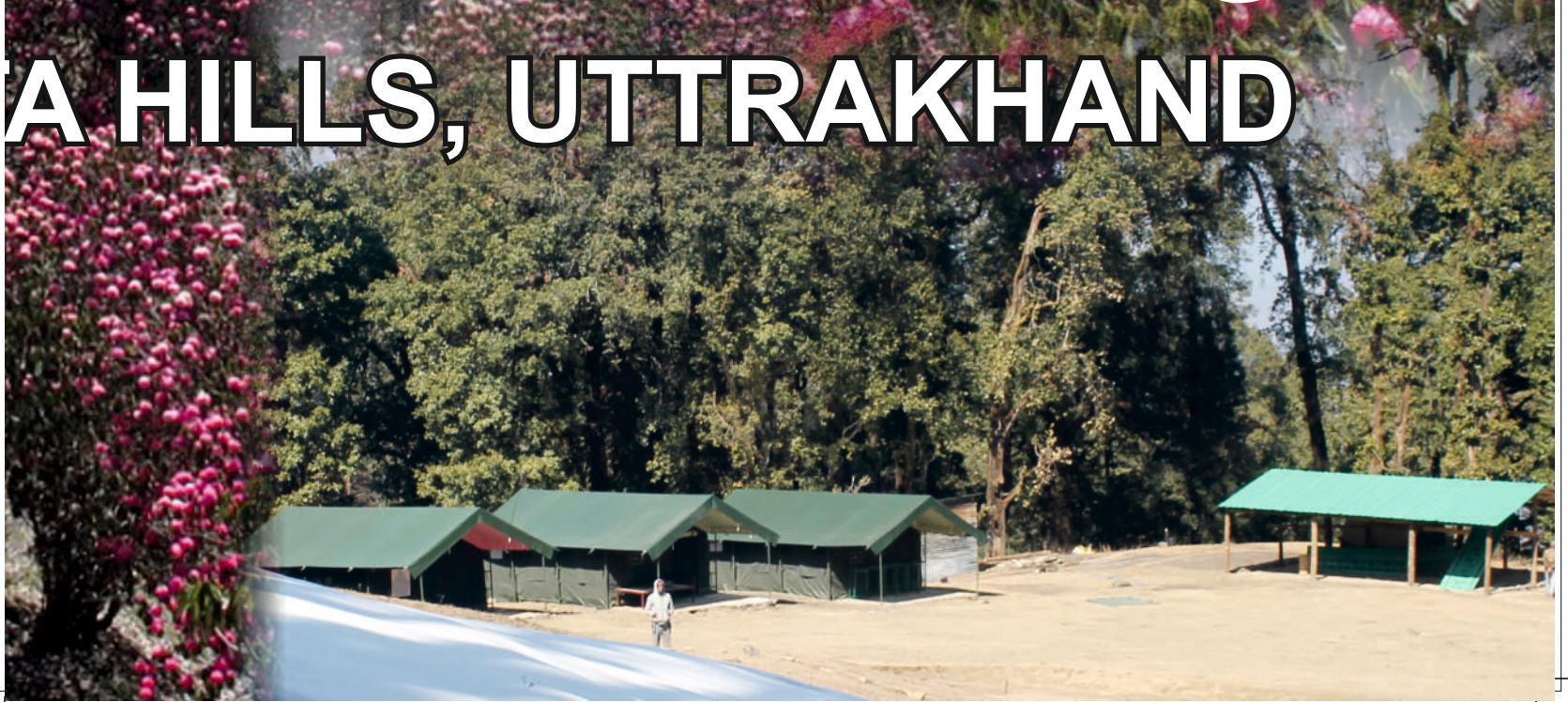




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# HIMALAYA VILLAGE

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# Attractions In Pondicherry That Showcase The French Culture In India

India is unique but did you know that you can experience France in India! Pondicherry, the favorite Union territory of India, one of the seven; is a charming holiday destination in India. The former French colony along the Bay of Bengal is truly enthralling. The top attractions in Pondicherry will create for you a memorable vacation with interesting sights and experiences.

Read on as you get introduced the charming concoction of picturesque beaches, appealing monuments, delightful cafes, by lanes which can explore on bicycles, watersports and so much more.

## Puducherry Museum

Trace the French roots and even older histories at



the Puducherry museum. Explore the wonderful collection of artifacts, relics and historic treasures. From archeological findings of Arikamedu Roman settlement, to Chola and Pallava dynasties, there are various eras of history preserved here.

Listed among the top attractions in Pondicherry, the museum has stone-carved statues, bronze sculptures of Indian Gods and Goddesses, fossilized trunks of ancient trees, models of modes of transportation, brass temple lamps, church relics, handicrafts, coins, shells and fossils. A completed section is dedicated to the history and legendary French colonial information. Do check out the painting gallery which has colonial prints, Tanjore paintings as well as contemporary works in glass, colors,

pastels, and oils.

## Kallialay Surf School

One of the premium surfing schools in India, Kallialay Surf School is one of the unmissable tourist attractions in Pondicherry. Located on the Serenity beach, the school was started by two brothers, Juan and Samai Reboul from Spain who settled down in Auroville.

Catch some waves and enjoy the thrill of riding one, if you are a learner you can choose from different kinds of packages and training according to your interest, budget and requirements. You can also avail surfing equipment of international standards. Also, an annual festival, the Summer Swell



Challenge calls for visitors from all around the world.



## Sikkim Tourist Places

Tsomo Lake, Nathula Pass, Yuksom, Lachung, Lachen, Yumthang Valley, Teesta River, Ravangla, Pelling, Zuluk, Namchi, Khangchendzonga National Park, Rumtek Monastery and many other beautiful places.

Housing the world's third highest peak Mount Kanchenjunga (8586 meters) within its bounds, this Himalayan state offers you ample reasons to visit it right away. Book your slot of Kanchenjunga trek today and conquer the challenging trail. Sikkim tourist places are outspread in four divisions of the state which are North, South, East, and West.

The North Sikkim is dotted with dense Alpine forest, steep valleys, pristine waterfalls, tundra regions, and melting snow glaciers. Lachung, Lachen, Chungthang, Yumthang Valley, Mangan, Zemu glacier, Khangchendzonga National Park, etc. fall in this region. Our well crafted 6 Days North Sikkim Tour (Flat 15% Off + 3000 Cashback) covers all these attractions of Sikkim.

Places like Namchi, Temi, Turuk, Yangang to name a few belong to South district the best for tea plantation. Rumtek Monastery, Nathula, Zuluk, Lake Tsomo and the state capital Gangtok dwells in the district of East Sikkim. Here is the Gangtok Special Tour Package (Flat 32% Off) that has got all these places included in its itinerary.

Yuksom and Singalila are few of the popular getaways in West Sikkim district which is also known as Gyalshing. You can Book Our West Sikkim Tour (Flat 18% Off) to explore this region of Sikkim. So, check the following list and start planning your visit to Sikkim to discover its vast offerings!

### Kanchenjunga Base Camp (61 Km from Gangtok)

Located at the height of almost 14,000ft above sea level, the Kanchenjunga Base camp is one of the best Sikkim tourist places and a heaven for all the adventurers. Together forming one of the most beautiful parts of the Himalayas, the Kanchenjunga range is one of the most picturesque regions of Sikkim, and all that can be seen in utmost clarity and mightiness from the base camp.

The real adventure for people is to see the third highest mountain in the world up close to here, and that is why this place is worth the visit at least once in a lifetime.

Location: Dzungri, Sikkim

April to June 2019



Best time to visit: April to June and Mid September to October.

### Yumthang Valley of Flowers (128 Km from Gangtok)

The undulating meadows, the grazing yaks by the banks of wild Teesta river and the many hot springs amid the towering mountain peaks position Yumthang valley among the top places to visit in Sikkim. The valley of flowers is carpeted at a height of more than 11,000 feet above sea level at around 128 kilometres from Gangtok. You can book one of



our Gangtok Tours from a vivid choice of packages we have for you so that you don't miss out the best of Gangtok.

Come to visit the valley in late February to march when the Losar festival is celebrated by the locals. During the month of April and June, the Rhododendrons bloom and envelop the valley in full glory.

Location: North Sikkim District, Gangtok, Sikkim 737120, India

Best time to visit: March to mid-June.

Cost: INR 150 for Indian nationals.

The time required to visit: 5 to 6 hours.

Opening Timings: 6 AM to 6 PM on all days of the week.

# Tourist Places to Visit in West Bengal

Darjeeling, Kolkata, Jalpaiguri, Siliguri, Kalimpong, Bagdogra, New Digha, Yambong, Hooghly, Bishnupur, Birbhum, Sundarban, Bankura, Midnapore, Murshidabad, and many more.

Places to visit in West Bengal are considered to be the favourite haunt of the globetrotters all across the world due to its famous attractions and ruthless beauty. From the quaint little town of Midnapore that has a number of eco-parks and forests to the scenic town of Bakura that is home to umpteen number of terracota temples, you'll be greeted with some of the best options to explore over here. Hooghly is one of the places in West Bengal as it has a vast number of colonial buildings and shopping lanes. Birbhum is another popular city that harbours several wildlife sanctuaries and national parks that are home to a wide variety of flora and fauna.

There are some of the most popular places to see in West Bengal that have something for every kind of traveller. From the royal palaces to museums and scenic Ghats, you'll be intimidated with the tons of options to explore over here. The vast expanse of tea gardens and the beautiful parks and forests further allure the visitors to gasp into the endless beauty of this place.

West Bengal is also the abode to some of the divine temples that offer spiritual bliss and solace to the visitors. It is dotted with some of the best hotels and lodges where you can have a relaxing stay. If you're in West Bengal, then exploring its food scene is a must; the streets of West Bengal are replete with premium cafes and restaurants where you can have the best local cuisines.

## Siliguri

A quaint town at the foothills of the Himalayan ranges, Siliguri is a postcard-perfect amalgamation of urban culture and natural beauty. The picturesque city is endowed with the best of nature, full to the brim with its rolling green tea gardens and the snow-clad Himalayan mountaintops peeking into the horizon at a distance.

Owing to its rich wildlife population, tourism in Siliguri is synonymous with its wildlife safari facilities. The vast Mahananda Wildlife sanctuary, sprawling between the banks of Teesta and Mahananda, is home to a number of species of animals and birds, and also provides its guests ample opportunities for trekking and bird watching. The sanctuary also houses the North Bengal Wild Animals Park, where tourists can avail jeep rides to watch the animals play and be in their natural habitats.

A major tourist attraction in Siliguri is the Salugara Monastery, famous for its 100-foot stupa built by Tibetan Buddhist Monks. The monastery, known as The Great International Tashi Gomang Stupa, is situated only 6 kms away from the main town and houses five major Buddhist relics, making it one of the most popular Buddhist monasteries in the world. Siliguri, however, is not negligent to other faiths. One can also find here the magnificent ISKCON temple dedicated to Lord Krishna, and Kali Mandir which welcomes a number of pilgrims each year.

If one is looking to shop in Siliguri, the Hong Kong market on Hill Cart Road is the place to go. A flea

market selling goods at a fairly cheap rate, the Hong Kong market is a popular go-to place for tourists and is thronged by shoppers throughout the year.



The best time to visit Siliguri would be during the winter months between November and February when the weather is fairly cold and outdoor activities such as trekking, safaris, and bird-watching can be enjoyed in a humidity-free atmosphere.

Siliguri is well connected to all nearby cities in West Bengal by road and rail. The Siliguri railway station is the main junction of the town. The Darjeeling-Himalayan toy train, a world-famous attraction, can be availed from Siliguri junction if one desires to travel to Darjeeling from here. The nearest airport to Siliguri is the Bagdogra airport, from whence one may avail buses or cars to reach the place.



# Jalpaiguri



Situated at the foothills of Himalayas in Darjeeling is a small hill station called Bagdogra. Just 11 km away from Siliguri, it is one of the most peaceful and untouched places in West Bengal. Often regarded as the gateway town to North-East India and the Himalayas, it is one of the most desired hill stations in the state. 'It is better to explore the beauty of the same place once than hear about it a thousand times,' Bagdogra is one of those places for sure. The hovering clouds on top of mountains, lushy tea estates and gardens and uninfluenced from human pollution adds on to the beauty of this hill station.

The blissful Teesta river will make you stop frequently to behold her calmness and solace.

Jalpaiguri is a district in the northern part of West Bengal which shares its borders with two countries, namely Bhutan in the north and Bangladesh in the south. During the partition of India, after independence, a part of Jalpaiguri district went into East Pakistan, now Bangladesh. Jalpaiguri also has a significant Nepalese population being very close to the country. Jalpaiguri experiences a huge exodus of tourists each year owing to its exquisite landscapes, serene river banks, rolling tea gardens and for housing two of India's popular wildlife sanctuaries - Gorumara National Park and the Chapramari wildlife sanctuary. Several tourists come to Jalpaiguri just to wade through the dense forested lands on elephant back and view the wide variety of flora and fauna here.



# Bagdogra

In fact, Jalpaiguri ranks second in the list of popular places to visit in West Bengal. This picturesque place has small villages which offer unique scenery depending on their strategic location. Chalsa is one such village which is ethereal and looks like a painting on canvas. It is the place from where the beautiful tea gardens in Dooars can be viewed. In order to enjoy sightseeing in Jalpaiguri, winters are the best time. Between October to March the temperature is pleasant, slightly on the cooler side but that makes it ideal for trekking, do a safari, or simply to rest in the river-studded valley. Temperatures here rarely drop below 5 degrees and it is also the best time to view the animals in the wilderness.

Those who come to Jalpaiguri to view several exotic species of birds, must not miss these months, as the winged friends are at their resplendent best in the season. Bagdogra International Airport is the closest airport to Jalpaiguri and there are a number of taxis and reserved cars available from the airport to reach Jalpaiguri. There are multiple trains from Kolkata and other nearby cities which run daily to the Jalpaiguri Road Station. Siliguri, also an important city in North Bengal, is well connected to Jalpaiguri through multiple buses plying at regular intervals in the day between them.

The place is blessed with floral beauty with a blend of greenery and serenity which makes it an ideal destination to travel, especially in the monsoon. Bagdogra is a base for the tourists travelling to Darjeeling, Siliguri, Sikkim and Bhutan. This North-Eastern beauty packs a trip full of thrill and adventure from breathtaking river rafting in Teesta to the astonishing North Bengal Science Center. Walk through beautiful mountain slopes over the rising sun, relish the town in rambling toy trains and savour delicious Tibetan food around every corner of this station.

Himalaya World Museum, Dreamland Amusement Park, Jorpokhri Wildlife Sanctuary are some other famous places to visit in and around the city. The average temperature in Bagdogra stands between 10°C to 35°C throughout the year. Summer season experiences the peak of tourism in this town, with not so heavy rainfall and springy weather. The quiet and chilly weather during winters also marks a good time for travelers. The refreshing winter mist in the air gives a sign of natural purity with dazzling sunrise view in the cold morning. At sunset, you can see a combination of the most beautiful colors in the sky, which you don't want to miss.

April to June 2019

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# Crown Group company, 'OSK India' Signs MoU with 'United Shipbuilding Corporation (OSK Russia)' to aid Indian Navy with Indigenous Capabilities: A Big Shot in the Arm for “Atmanirbhar Bharat” Mission

- *OSK India Pvt. Ltd. (OIPL) to provide comprehensive services and much needed product support to the Indian Navy*

- *Impetus to 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' – OSK India to design and produce spares & components certified by the International Partner, OSK Russia*

- *Enable key objectives of 'Indo Russian IGA' and provide timely support for end-to-end after-sales service*

**BENGALURU, February 3, 2021** - To provide its best contribution and impetus to the Atmanirbhar Bharat' mission for the nation as envisaged under the charismatic leadership of Honorable PM Shri Narendra Modi, OSK India Pvt. Ltd. (OIPL), a Crown Group Company, today signed an MoU with United Shipbuilding Corporation of Russia, to provide augmented indigenous product and services support to the Indian Navy.

The exclusive cooperation agreement with United Shipbuilding Corporation of Russia is for maintenance and servicing of Indian naval ships and for manufacturing & supply of spares.

Speaking on the occasion, Commodore Rakesh Anand, CEO of OSK India Pvt Ltd (former CMD of Mazagon Docks Limited), explained how this will lead to enhanced maintenance facilities for the Indian Navy to always keep its assets in combat ready position. “The Indian Navy possesses a substantial fleet of Russian Warships and Submarines which have been acquired over the years. These Ships and Submarines require continuous maintenance support so as to be combat ready. The need to strengthen maintenance support to the Indian Navy has led to the creation of OSK India Pvt Ltd (OIPL). The Company is supported by a team of highly qualified and experienced engineers, supervisors and technicians. The personnel are highly conversant with technologies which are installed on board Naval platforms.”

“The advantages of services provided by OIPL to the Indian Navy are several. Firstly, there will be a single window solution, both for supply of spares and repairs. Secondly, we are capable of providing OEM driven

solutions for many long standing issues. And last but



not the least there will be reduced turnaround time for repair activities and shortened delivery frame for repairs,” he added.

OIPL is a part of the Crown group and is a Strategic Business Unit of the Marine Engineering Division of the Crown Group set up to provide product and services support to the Indian Navy. OSK is a Russian holding company having ownership of major Russian shipyards and critical equipment manufacturers in Russia.

OIPL has been authorized to receive orders for Indian Navy Ships and Submarines of projects 1135.6, 61 ME , 1241 RE, 266ME , 877 EKM, for supply of components and spare parts, technical service and repair of related weapon systems and equipment. He added further: M/s. OSK India Pvt. Ltd. (OIPL) has a strategic tie up with JSC United Shipbuilding Corporation (OSK) and has been created to provide the following services, through a state of art electronic repair workshop: -

- a) Repair and Overhaul (RoH) of Russian origin weapon system and equipment
- b) Repair of electronic modules
- c) After sales support and supply of spares and units for Naval Ships and Submarines of Russian origin



Commodore Rakesh Anand (Retd) emphasized that a large pool of highly trained and experienced engineers and technicians are available with the company to undertake critical repairs and refits of complex weapon systems. "The Marine Division has offices and workshops spread across the country and has presence in Mumbai, Goa, Karwar, Kochi, Visakhapatnam and Kolkata . It also has an office co-located with the Crown Group Headquarters at New Delhi.

Talking about the **Crown Group's Marine Division capabilities**, Commodore Rakesh Anand said: "The Marine Division of the Crown Group apart from OIPL also comprises of M/s. Dynatron Integrated Technologies Pvt. Ltd. M/s. Dynatron is a major Engineering firm in India, which was set up in 1985 and provides repair and maintenance services to ships and submarines of the Indian Navy and Indian Coast Guard. Over the years, Dynatron has grown from strength to strength and has leveraged on strategic alliances and partnerships to create niche manufacturing and repair capabilities. The capabilities have thus improved from discrete equipment and system repairs and overhaul to that of major refit of complete platform."

He said that a wide range of machine tools from basic lathes, CNC (3 and 5 axis) lathes and milling machine on one end to additive manufacturing on the other extreme are available with M/s Dynatron. The entire range of machining viz turning, milling, thread rolling, grinding and general engineering with state of art inspection and quality control facility are available with the company. The company also has a clean room facility and a range of test and trial equipment."

"M/s. Dynatron of the marine division has a long term partnership with JSC sevmash and its sister company OSK ROS Marine. While working with JSC sevmash, the company has built experience and capability on various machinery, equipment and systems of Vikramaditya."

M/S Dynatron also has sole authorisation for repairs and maintenance of Gearboxes and thrusters from ZF Marine (Germany) fitted on Warships and vessels of Indian Navy and Coast Guard. Dynatron further has

exclusive partnership with Kubota engines Japan which are coupled with mass marine Generators Italy. Talking on this Commodore Rakesh Anand enumerated the range of capabilities that exist with M/s. Dynatron:

- a) Complete refit and repair of small and medium Naval and Coast Guard platforms
- b) Overhaul of Diesel engines, Gas Turbines and complex Gear boxes
- c) Overhaul of alternators upto one MW
- d) Fixed pitch propeller manufacturing
- e) 10-300 HP centrifugal pump repairs and overhaul
- f) Flight deck blasting and painting

In keeping with the Gol vision of 'AtmaNirbhar Bharat', the Marine division is also working towards establishing capability for manufacturing propulsion shafting and Magazine Fire Fighting System (MFFS) for warships and submarines," Commodore Rakesh Anand said.

## About Crown Group

Founded in 1978, Crown Group has over 40 years of expertise across industry verticals including DEFENCE ENGINEERING, ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, INFRASTRUCTURE & HOSPITALITY. Crown Group has established itself as a technology provider, precision component manufacturer and a strategic partner in the country's defence sector. The Group is among the rapidly emerging conglomerates in India driving Indigenous Opportunities in the Defence Sector in line with the Government of India's policy of "Atmanirbhar Abhiyan".

The conglomerate has been implementing several indigenous advanced technologies through a wide network of manufacturing industries that it operates and supports. It is a market leader across domains having four decades of rich legacy and experience in the marine, aerospace and land forces, including areas such as aerospace engineering, marine engineering, industrial and military engineering, information technology, export trading and real estate development.



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# Signum Hotels expand footprint in Europe

## Set to open Signum Adrenaline Park Tara in Serbia

**February 2021:** Signum Hotels & Resorts continues to strengthen its presence in Europe with another hotel signing. A new-build Signum Adrenaline Park Tara is scheduled to open in Serbia in April 2021 as the latest addition to the company's premium lifestyle collection of exceptional hotels.

**Signum Adrenaline Park** Tara will be the group's first hotel in Eastern Europe, strengthening the company's brand presence in this region. The 40-room hotel will have a restaurant, meeting space for 100 guests and outdoor parking. Travelers and shoppers will be delighted by the central location since it is just 200 meters from the Tara river, 10kms from airport and only 200 meters from the railway station. Signum Adrenaline Park Tara is truly one-of-a-kind, distilling the best of its location through interior design, exceptional guest amenities and the expertise of its people.

Announcing the signing, **Mehul Sharma, Founder & CEO - Signum Hotels & Resorts** said, 'we are excited to mark our presence in a new region that holds great potential for tourism. This new hotel signing is in line with our strategy to expand across exceptional destinations globally. We are looking forward to the hotel launch by end-April 2021.'

**Milan Popovich, Owner - Adrenaline Park** commented, 'we are pleased to collaborate with Signum hotels for this venture. It will be our outmost delight to offer heart-warming hospitality to travellers visiting Serbia for business or leisure.'

True to the group's 'experiential stay' service philosophy, guests of Signum Adrenaline Park Tara can expect staff who deliver extraordinary attention to detail and exceptional knowledge of the destination. Together with its locally curated art programs, focus on hyperlocal sustainability and helpful recommendations on exploring the



best of the city (such as adventure sports), the hotel offers an authentic experience of Belgrade both inside and outside its walls.

**About Signum Hotels & Resorts |**  
[www.signumhotels.com](http://www.signumhotels.com)

Signum Hotels & Resorts is a new-age hotel management firm offering specialized services to hotels across the Asia Pacific region. It offers exceptional service provided by a diverse team with a remarkable combined experience of over 650+ years across varied hospitality verticals. The emerging hospitality company has already made its mark with 12 hotels across India and 18 service apartments in London and vies to manage 1000+ keys by 2021.

Signum Hotels provide B2B services in the form of hospitality solutions and cater to the B2C market as well. The group is fiercely determined to be the best choice for large scale as well as medium scale investors and developers by lending their expertise in managing hospitality solutions.

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# Panna National Park

## The Gemstone of Indian National Parks

The Panna National Park is generally not overly crowded with tourists compared to the other neighbouring national parks, which makes it a surreal, quiet and soothing environment to be in. The wildlife here is diverse and includes deer species like Sambars (which are

listed in the 'Vulnerable' category of the IUCN red data list), wild dogs (Dholes), jackals, Indian Gaur and Nilgai (the largest antelopes in India), and of course big wild cats like leopards and tigers, among others. Not many know this, but Panna is also home to the oldest female elephant, called Vatsala, who at present is around 96 years old.

Panna National Park was considered as one of the best managed and maintained national parks in India by the Ministry of Tourism of India and bagged the Award of Excellence in the year 2007. However due to poaching and other practices, the number of tigers in the park reduced to only 2-4 in 2008. An efficient team headed by IFS Officer, Mr. R. Shreenivasa Murthy, reintroduced tigers from other national parks to Panna with proper monitoring and protection. They achieved successful breeding and thereafter the number of tigers satisfactorily rose up, reaching to 35 today. Panna is thus now mostly known for its incredible tiger conservation.

The park also houses a variety of forest birds including 6 types of vultures, Paradise Flycatchers, and Savanah Nightjars. These colourful, feisty birds are an absolute treat to the eyes. While the adult male Paradise Flycatcher, which is also the State Bird of Madhya Pradesh, has fine white feathers and is aptly called Dudhraj (milk-king) in Hindi, the Savanah Nightjar is a master of camouflage, and is difficult to spot.



If one is not completely engrossed by the scenic beauty of the park, one can also visit tourist places like Ken Gharial Sanctuary, Raneh Fall, Pandav Fall, Dhubela Museum, Ajaygarh Fort, Kalinjar Fort and Khajuraho Temples.

### GETTING THERE:

**By Air:** The nearest airport is Civil Aerodrome Khajuraho which is around 64 kms away from the park.

**By Road:** Well-built roads are connected to the most of the major cities of India, and are easily accessible.

**By Rail:** Satna and Jhansi are the nearest railway stations. Regular train services from here connect to the major cities in India.

### BEST TIME TO VISIT:

During the summer ground vegetation is sparse and hence there are maximum chances to spot elusive wildlife. However, it is extremely hot and dry during this time of the year. Therefore, if one has a problem with the heat, it is advisable to go there in the winter, which is from November to February.



# पर्यटन क्षेत्र में स्वरोजगार, सरकारी अनुदान व मार्गदर्शन के साथ

## ट्रैकिंग ट्रैक्शन सेंटर होमस्टे अनुदान योजना

- पर्यटन विभाग द्वारा स्थानीय व्यक्तियों को रोजगार उपलब्ध कराने के लिए ट्रैकिंग ट्रैक्शन सेंटर होमस्टे योजना क्रियान्वित की गयी है।
- ट्रैकिंग सेंटर के दो किलोमीटर के दायरे में आने वाले गांव व अधिसूचित ट्रैक पर पड़ने वाले पड़वाओं के गांवों में होमस्टे के लिए सरकार की ओर से वित्तीय सहायता दी जायेगी।
- राजकीय सहायता अनुदान के रूप में नए कक्षों के निर्माण हेतु प्रतिकक्ष ₹ 60000 अटैच टॉयलेट की सुविधा के साथ तथा पूर्व से निर्मित कक्षों की साज-सज्जा हेतु ₹ 25000 प्रतिकक्ष, अधिकतम 6 कक्षों तक का भुगतान किया जायेगा।

### ट्रैकिंग ट्रैक्शन सेंटर होमस्टे अनुदान योजना-वर्तमान में अधिसूचित किए गए गांव

<b>बागेश्वर</b>	ट्रैकिंग सेंटर (खाती) - खाती, दऊ, बैकुनी गांव
<b>पिथौरागढ़</b>	ट्रैकिंग सेंटर (सरमोली) - सरमोली, सुरिंग, रिलकोट, मरतोली एवं मिलम ट्रैकिंग सेंटर (दर) - दर, नांगलिंग, सौन, डाकर, दुरव। ट्रैकिंग सेंटर (पांगु) - पांगु, कूटी, गुजी, कूटी।
<b>चमोली</b>	ट्रैकिंग सेंटर (लोहाजंग) - लोहाजंग, मुन्दोली, बॉक, कुलिंग, दिदिना, बाण, वलाण, हिमनी एवं बेस ट्रैकिंग सेंटर (तपोवन) - तपोवन, रिंगी, सुभाई, सलधार।
<b>उत्तरकाशी</b>	ट्रैकिंग सेंटर (हर्षिल) - हर्षिल, बगोरी, धराली, मुखवा ट्रैकिंग सेंटर (सांकारी) - सांकारी सौंड, कोटगांव, गंगाड, ओसला ट्रैकिंग सेंटर (अगोड़ा) - अगोड़ा, भंकुली, गजोली, दासड़ा, नौगांव, दन्डालका, मिसणी
<b>दिल्ली</b>	ट्रैकिंग सेंटर (धुनु) - धुनु, गानीडाल, ऋषिधर, सथाला, मल्ला, मेहरगांव ट्रैकिंग सेंटर (युनु) - रीचक, गंगी, पुजार गांव, सेंदवाल गांव, चैत्वाण गांव, जोगीयाड़ा, भाटगांव, अकवा गांव, मल्ला गवणा व तल्लागवणा।
<b>रूद्रप्रयाग</b>	ट्रैकिंग सेंटर (पंतवाड़ी) - पंतवाड़ी, बांडासारी, तेवा, औतंड, देवलसारी। ट्रैकिंग सेंटर (बुडाकेदार) - बुडाकेदार, कोटी, पिस्वाड़। ट्रैकिंग सेंटर (सागी) - दिलमी, देड़ा, मन्तूर, सागी

### कुल अधिसूचित गांव - 73

अधिक जानकारी के लिये जिला पर्यटन विकास अधिकारी से सम्पर्क करें।  
 रुद्रप्रयाग (7060038441), बागेश्वर (9458300455, 05963-221562), पिथौरागढ़ (8057223111, 05964-225527),  
 चमोली (9792376998/01372-253185), उत्तरकाशी (8954615410/1374-223130)  
 दिल्ली (9412998518/01376-233240), से सम्पर्क किया जा सकता है।

### उत्तराखण्ड पर्यटन विकास परिषद

पं. दीनरयाल उपाध्याय पर्यटन भवन, निकट ओएनजीसी हेलीपैड, गाढ़ीकैन्ड, देहरादून-248001 (इंडिया), फोन नं.: 0135-2559898



# Top 10 Most Visited Tourist Destinations of Uttarakhand

**Rishikesh** : Internationally known as the Yoga capital, spiritual, religious and adventurous tourism hub, Rishikesh is one of the top visited places in Uttarakhand in the Himalayas and is visited by domestic and international tourists every year.

**Nainital** : Nainital is one of the top 10 most visited tourist destinations of Uttarakhand not just for its charming Naini Lake, but other sightseeing opportunities & a rich colonial heritage.

**Mussoorie** : What makes Mussoorie counted among the top 10 most visited tourist destinations of Uttarakhand is Kempty Falls, temples, boating, Cable Car Ride & Mall Road.

**Corbett National Park** : Visit Corbett National Park, the oldest national park in India as well as the largest tiger reserve. It's one of the best places to spot the Royal Bengal Tiger in India.

**Valley of Flowers** : Valley of Flowers is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and is home to more than 350 species of flowers. Red fox and musk deer are some of the exotic animals found.

**Auli** : Auli is one of the top skiing destinations in India & the world & most visited destinations in Uttarakhand by skiing enthusiasts. Tourists can also enjoy camping & sightseeing.

**Kedarnath Dham** : Kedarnath Dham is one of the most visited tourist pilgrimage destinations of Uttarakhand. Situated at 3,584 meters, it's one of the 12 Jyotirlingas & most important among Panch Kedars.

**Haridwar** : Har Ki Pauri is one of the most sacred ghats in Haridwar which is said to contain the foot imprints of Lord Vishnu. The evening Ganga Aarti is a major attraction.

**Chopta - Tungnath** : Chopta is one of the most visited tourist attractions in Uttarakhand for its Tungnath Temple, the highest Shiva Temple in the world. Sightseeing, camping & trekking are also popular.

**Chakrata** : Chakrata finds a place among the most visited tourist attractions of Uttarakhand because of its spectacular views, Tiger Falls, ambience and a picnic spot.

**Rishikesh** : Styled as the 'Yoga Capital of the



World,' Rishikesh is adorned with eternity and spiritualism. Perched at the foothills of the Himalayan Shivaliks in the Indian state of Uttarakhand, it serves as the year-round magnet to all the spiritual seekers across the globe. The exquisite setting of the main town, the magnificence of the fast-flowing Ganges, the mysticism of forested hills, the crowd of the downtown area and the breathtaking escapades, define this holy city at its best. Rightly referred as the 'Gateway to Garhwal Himalayas,' Rishikesh enchants the visitors with its innate piety and natural bliss. It is the corridor to the ultimate pilgrimage of the Hindus, the Char Dham Yatra; Kedarnath, Badrinath, Yamunotri, and Gangotri. Dotted with innumerable spiritual ashrams, Rishikesh catapulted to the Western fame, when Beatles visited the place and immersed themselves into the yogic retreats of Maharishi Mahesh Yogi's ashram. The place offers a contrasting possibility of peaceful holiness and adventurous engagements. Plan a trip to Rishikesh and decide your own preference. Either soak in the eternal spiritualism of the place or the enthralling cascades of the whirling Ganges. Away from the fast-paced life of the city concretes, relax a while by meditating amidst a serene environment.



**Nainital** : Surrounded by the steep forested hills of



Kumaon on the outer Himalayas, Nainital is a city that grew up around its namesake, Lake Naini. A favorite destination for honeymooners, this hill station, with its mythological past, is a part of the Indian state of Uttarakhand. With a landscape dotted with a plethora of lakes like Tallital, Mallital, Sattal, and Bhimtal, it is no wonder that the region is known as the Lake District of India. A spider's web of scenic trekking trails covers the hillsides surrounding Nainital. The breathtaking panorama of the tangled ridges and distant peaks of the mighty Himalayas will hold you spellbound. Spend some time promenading along Mall Road and explore the exotic cuisines of Nainital and grab some unique souvenirs. Aside from gorgeous surroundings, the city also offers other attractions like Nainital Zoo, a cable-car ride to Snow View, an amusement park called Mountain Magic, the impressive Governor's residence, Raj Bhavan with its extensive grounds and many beautiful churches. Whether it is boating on the emerald green lakes or clambering through the lush forests or simply relaxing in the lap of Mother Nature, Nainital is sure to bring out the romantic in you.

**Mussoorie** : Mussoorie, located in the Indian state of Uttarakhand, gives a stunning view of the spectacular Himalayas. Renowned as the 'Queen of Hills', Mussoorie was the summer getaway for the British during their colonial rule in India. A climb to Lal Tibba, the highest point in town, enriches the soul with inner peace one misses in busy city lives. Be spellbound by the beauty of the gushing Kempty Falls and enjoy various activities. The Happy Valley is a place where HH Dalai Lama settled with fellow Tibetans and started first Tibetan school in 1960. Saint Mary's church, is the oldest church in the Himalayan region,

which is currently under renovation. Company Gardens, Gun Hill, Lake



Misty, Jwala Devi Temple, Jawahar Aquarium, Jhari Pani and Bhatta falls are some of the other attractions in Mussoorie. The Mussoorie Heritage Centre is an old era building that showcases the handicrafts indigenous to this hill station. Mussoorie is also home to some of the finest education institutes in the country and has the training centre for the Indian Administrative Services. The richness in natural beauty, amalgamation of cultures and the serenity in lifestyle makes it an ideal destination for all.

**Corbett National Park** : Encompassing the



oldest national park in India, the Jim Corbett National Park, and several other beautiful valleys, the region of Corbett in the Indian state of Uttarakhand, is reminiscent of the vivid world conjured by Rudyard Kipling in his book, 'The Jungle Book.' Hilly ridges interspersed with flat valleys and green grasslands complementing marshy wetlands, Corbett has

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a wide variety of flora and fauna. A soul with wanderlust is drawn to this region, with its spectacular panoramas and adventurous vibe. Located a hop, skip and jump away from the hill station of Nainital, Corbett is home to over 500 species of birds and 50 species of mammals like tigers, leopards, spotted deer, elephants, wild boars and sloth bears. This sanctuary for wild beasts brings out the daredevil in you, as you go on jeep safaris, elephant safaris and trek through the dense forests.

**Valley of Flowers** : Valley of Flowers in Uttarakhand



is a paradise for nature lovers and professional photographers. If witnessing different types of flowers and learning about them is what fascinates you the most, then nothing can be better than travelling to Uttarakhand's Valley Of Flowers. Splashed with color hundreds of kinds of flowers, the valley is blessed with different flowers in different seasons.

**Auli** : Covered under a blanket of glittering snow



almost year-round, Auli is one of the most sought-after ski destinations in the world. This enchanting town in the Indian state of Uttarakhand is called 'Auli Bhugyal' or meadow, by the tribal people of the region. Surrounded by dense forests, Auli offers breath-taking views of the mighty Himalayas that tower over this district, like sentinels of old. Witness the stunning vision of Nanda Devi Peak, Mana Peak and Kamet Peak as the first rays of the sun hit their snow-covered slopes. Get your adrenalin pumping on the steep slopes around Auli, as you ski over the virgin snow. Experience the novelty of riding on the longest Gondola cable car ride in Asia, which covers a distance of 4 Km. Grab your snow boots and get ready to trek along some panoramic trails, while in this hill station

**Kedarnath Dham** : Kedarnath is a holy town



nestled in the Himalayas. Located in Uttarakhand, it is one of the most sacred pilgrimages of Lord Shiva and is one of the famous Char Dham sites. This scenic city offers a tranquil ambiance with its snow-white peaks, luscious landscapes, green forests and vibrant rhododendrons. Renowned for the Kedarnath Temple, the city is both a religious center and an idyllic holiday destination. It is not just the devout, but also the people who love to conquer the rough terrain of Garhwal, who visit this hilly land. The other spots to visit in



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**Haridwar :** Surrounded by the majestic Shivalik Hills on one side and the mighty Ganges River on the other, Haridwar exudes a mysterious charm that goes further than its reputation as a renowned pilgrimage center. This holy city in Uttarakhand attracts millions of tourists and pilgrims every year. The chaotic

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# Tourist Places to Visit in Orissa

Teeming with a vibrant cultural history, Orissa is home to some of the most stunning places to visit. The temples of the state are some of the most popular tourist places in Orissa. The temples here boast of stunning architectural details that stand testament to the various kingdoms that flourished in the state's history. While the 12th century Jagannath temple in Puri welcomes pilgrims from across the world, the 7th century Lingaraj Temple in Bhubaneswar is revered by Shaivites everywhere. Other popular temples here include Bhubaneswar's Rajarani Temple, Mukteshwar Temple and Parashurameshvara Temple.



The history of Orissa can be further explored by visiting the caves here, which are among the most interesting places to visit in Orissa. Believed to have been built about 2,000 years ago, the cave complexes at Udayagiri and Khandagiri are delightful architectural wonders.

The beaches along the coastline are some of the other delightful places to see in Orissa. Puri Beach, Swargadwar Beach and the beach at Paradeep are some of the most stunning beaches here. Nature lovers can also enjoy a stunning weekend getaway to the district Jeypore, with its dense forests, limestone caves and beautiful misty waterfalls.

## Paradeep

One of the most important and oldest seaports in the country, the historic Paradeep is located in the Jagatsinghpur District. This 17th-century sea-transportation area, initially a harbour, played an important role during the British regime and the famine of 1886. The coastal landscape of Paradeep is dotted with beautiful beaches, miles of dense forest, waterfalls, and forts. One of the best destinations in the country for an offbeat beachside getaway, Paradeep is visited by nature lovers from all over the country.

One of the best places to visit here is the main port area, considered to be the most scenic areas on the East-Indian coastline. One can see fascinatingly huge ships and other marine activities at this beautiful confluence of estuaries of Paradeep, Mahanadi, and the Bay of Bengal. Head over to the Gahirmatha Beach to spend a day under the sun savouring views of turquoise-green waters and spotting white crocodiles and Olive Ridley turtles. Visit the Bhitarkanika National Park to see the luxuriant mangroves and exotic animals like Saltwater Crocodiles, Wild pigs, Darters, Pythons, etc.

If you want to spend some time with yourself amidst serenity, do so at the tranquil ambience of the Jhankad Temple. Dedicated to Goddess Sarala, this temple also hosts festivals like Chandan Jatra, Dola Purnima, and Parbana. Marvel at the rare species of fish housed at the Marine Aquarium here. Climb the lighthouse at Paradeep Beach to get stunning sunset views and enjoy local snacks at the shacks near the lighthouse.

The summer months of March-May see sweltering heat with temperatures rising to 41°C. Heavy monsoon rains begin in May and continue till September. The best time to visit the place is between October-March when the weather is cool and pleasant dropping to around 12°C.





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Land Line 080 4372 9909

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[corporates@paddingtonresorts.com](mailto:corporates@paddingtonresorts.com)

Paddington Resorts & Spa a special finesse about its activities, stands a class above all the competition. Bona fide luxury awaits guests who choose Paddington Resorts for their stay at this gorgeous and scenic hill station.

Used only 07 acres of 22 sprawling acres filled with coffee/ spices plantations, Resort offers some of the finest rooms available in Coorg! Replete with all modern amenities, each and every room is an absolute joy to stay in.

#### Guest Room Amenities

- Welcome Drink
- Package Drinking Water
- Free WI-FI
- Tea & Coffee Maker
- Iron Board on request
- Wake up call Service
- Mini-bar
- LED TV with Satellite connection
- Electronic Safe
- Guest Stationary
- In House Laundry
- Hair Dryer on request
- Work Desk
- Cosmetic Mirror
- Smoking / Non Smoking Rooms
- Full length wardrobe
- Choice of News Paper
- Premium Toiletries & Bathrobe

#### Transportation

- Kushalnagar Bus Stand 13Km
- Madikeri Town 22Km
- Mysore City Railway Station 102Km

#### Airports

- Bangalore 268Km
- Mangalore Airport 243Km





# Bondla Wildlife Sanctuary



38 kms from Margao is the smaller of the three wildlife sanctuaries of Goa - the Bondla Wildlife Sanctuary. More than a sanctuary, it is an ideal jungle resort, a major attraction for school going children and nature lovers. Its mini zoo, sprawling deer park in natural habitat, botanical and rose gardens attract people throughout the year. The Bondla wildlife sanctuary is about 50 Kms from Panaji and 38 Kms from Margao and 20 Kms east of Ponda. It is more of a jungle resort with tourist cottages available on site run by the Forest Department. The common animals that inhabit the sanctuary are the Gaur and the Sambhar deer. It is a popular destination for school picnics. It is closed on Mondays. There are tour buses that make a stop over at Bondla from Margao and Panaji.

The Sanctuary is just 8 sq. km. in size, located among hills at the junction of three Talukas viz. Ponda, Sanguem and Sattari. It boasts of a Mini Zoo, Deer Safari Park, Formal Gardens, Botanic Gardens and Eco-Tourism Cottages. It is connected to Ponda as well as Molem by a good tar-road.

Late evenings and nights are very pleasant. Bondla is a Paradise for Eco-Tourists. The area is covered with Moist Deciduous Forests, with small patches of Evergreens and Canes along the nullahs.

The State Tree *Terninalia crenulata* (Matti) and Rosewood are common here. Others are

*Lagerstroemia* (Naked Maiden of the Forest / Nano), Kindall, Jamba, *Mimusops*, *Saraca indica* etc. The thorny bamboo *Bambusa arundinacea* and Giant Lianas (*Entada*) abound. Gaur the state animal is frequently seen. The Panther is the largest carnivora and the Jungle Cat, Leopard Cat, Toddy Cat are others. Herbivorous consist of Deers (Sambar, Spotted, Hog, Barking and Mouse) Wild Boar, Porcupines Scaly Ant Eater, and Malabar Giant Squirrel. The diminutive Flying lizard (*Draco*) is fairly common. Over a hundred species of birds are residents. The State Bird (Ruby Throated Yellow Bulbul) can be seen... and the Common Grey Hornbill and Golden Backed



Woodpecker are daily visitors to the Garden.

**Zoological Park-** A tiny Zoo permits one to see the fauna of Goa in moated enclosures with natural surroundings. Animal exhibits include, Panther, Lion, Gaur, Sambar, Deers (Spotted, Hog & Barking ) Sloth Bear, Crocodiles, Reptiles etc.

**Deer Safari Park-** Visitors can move among deers in vehicles inside the sprawling Deer Safari Park housing Sambar and Spotted Deers.

**Formal Gardens-** Spacious lawns, exotic trees, varieties of roses, and colourful flowering plants in the middle of the forest do.



# We're moments



# We're timeless



# We're Egypt



Hello,  
I'll never forget the look of awe on my wife's face when we took our first Nile cruise thirty years ago. Special moments like that made this one of our favourite trips. It's like you're time travelling as you go through different historical dynasties on the Nile's banks. Now, my granddaughter is back from the pool. She wants me to tell her stories about our ancient kings and the Karnak Temple... for the fifth time!  
Join us.

Omar

See you on a  
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*Loi Krathong*  
*The Festival of Light*  
*17 November*

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