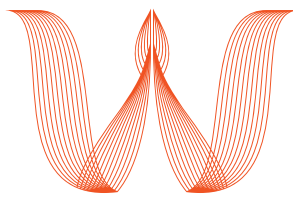


SERVICE DIRECTORY

About Bhubaneswar



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BHUBANESWAR

ABOUT BHUBANESWAR

Area: 422 Km²

Elevation: 58 m

Weather: 38 °C, Wind N at 8 Km/h, 22% Humidity

Population: 8.38 lakhs (2011)

BHUBANESWAR

Bhubaneswar stands near the ruins of Sisupalgarh, the ancient capital of the erstwhile province of Kalinga. Dhauli, near Bhubaneswar, was the site of the Kalinga War, in which the Mauryan emperor Ashoka invaded and annexed Kalinga.

Bhubaneswar is the capital and largest city of the Indian state of Odisha. The region, especially the old town, was historically often depicted as Ekamra Kshetra (area) adorned with mango trees (ekamra).

700 temples, which once stood here, earned it the nickname - "Temple City." It still boasts of a cluster of magnificent temples, constituting virtually a complete record of Kalinga architecture almost from its nascence to its culmination.

Bhubaneswar is an administrative, information technology, education and tourism city. It was ranked as the best place to do business in India by the World Bank in 2014. This city has emerged as one of the fastest growing trading and commercial hubs in the state and in Eastern India. Tourism is a vital industry, with Bhubaneswar having attracted nearly 1.5 million tourists in 2019.

LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

Udayagiri and Khandagiri

Location: Khandagiri

Distance from Hotel: 2.8 Kms (13 mins)

Timing: 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Udayagiri and Khandagiri Caves are rock cut caves believed to have been carved out by Jain monks. The caves sit adjacent to each other and have inscriptions written all over its walls.

Within the two caves, there are many small caves that have important stone carvings, footprints, and sculptures. Upon Khandagiri Hills, a beautiful Jain temple is available for exploration.

Ratnagiri Buddhist Excavation

Distance from hotel: 99.6 Kms

Timing: Sunrise to Sunset

The Ratnagiri Buddhist Excavation site has plenty of stone carvings that date back to the time when Ashoka was king. Visit this magnificent site to have a glance at the many stone carved Stupas in different sizes and shapes. At the Ratnagiri Buddhist Excavation site, you will also come across ruins of an old monastery.

Biju Patnaik Park

Distance from hotel: 8.1 Kms (26 min)

Timing: 4:00 AM to 12:00 PM; 3:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Relax and unwind in the company of nature at the Biju Patnaik Park. The park is surrounded by lovely trees and flowers. Kids will love the nearby play area, which is equipped with slides and rides. In winter, there is a huge flower exhibition held at the park.

Shanti Stupa (Peace Pagoda)

Location: Dhauli Giri

Distance from hotel: 16 Kms (45 mins)

Timing: 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM

The Shanti Stupa is also called Peace Pagoda and was built by the Japan Buddha Sangh and the Kalinga Nippon Buddha Sangh in the 70s. It is situated at the top of the Dhauli Giri hill, about 7 Kms away from Bhubaneswar (on the way to Puri).

Many tourists and locals frequent this place to meditate and pray. The Shanti Stupa is surrounded by stupas and inscriptions believed to have been from the period of King Ashoka's reign.

Nandankanan Zoo

Location: NK Road, near the Police Station

Distance from hotel: 21.2 Kms (50 mins)

Timing: 7:30 AM to 5:30 PM

Located inside the Chandaka forest, the Nandankanan Zoo houses more than 67 species of animals. The zoo also houses a botanical garden with different varieties of plants. Animals such as crocodiles, tigers, lions, and monkeys reside at the zoo.

Museum of Tribal Arts & Artifacts

Location: Nayapalli CRPF Colony

Distance from hotel: 6.4 Kms (18 mins)

Timing: Tuesday to Saturday: 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Located just off the highway, the Museum of Tribal Arts & Artefacts displays clothing, bead ornaments, and other cultural artifacts that are synonymous with the tribal people of Odisha.

There is a separate gallery in the museum where agricultural equipment, as well as fishing and hunting weapons used by the tribal people of the state, are displayed. At the museum, you can shop for colorful cloth paintings drawn by the Saora people.

Odisha Modern Art Gallery

Location: 132, Forest Park

Distance from Hotel: 7.7 Kms (23 mins)

Timing: 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM

Located close to the airport, the Odisha Modern Art Gallery houses contemporary paintings by local as well as international artists. While some of the art is permanently exhibited at the gallery, there are many travelling exhibits held here.

Lingaraj Mandir

Location: Lingaraj Road

Distance from Hotel: 10 Kms (30 mins)

Timing: 6:00 AM to 9:00 PM

This historic temple is said to have been built by Yayati Kesari. It is one of the popular temples in the city and attracts a lot of devotees from across India. The tower has a height of 180 feet and, inside the sanctorum, there is an eight-inch shiva lingam. The temple is surrounded by a beautiful garden with exotic plants and gorgeous flowers.

DAY TRIPS

Puri

Distance: 60 Kms

Time: 90 mins

Puri is a city and a municipality in the state of Odisha in Eastern India. It is the district headquarters of Puri district and is situated on the Bay of Bengal, 60 kilometers south of the state capital of Bhubaneswar.

Puri is known by several names since the ancient times, and was locally known as "Sri Kshetra" and the Jagannath temple is known as "Badadeula."

Puri, the holy land of Jagannatha, also known by the popular vernacular name Srikshetram, has many ancient names in the Hindu scriptures.

Konark

Distance from Hotel: 66 Kms (120 mins)

Discover the beautiful and famous Indian town Konark, which is known for the Sun Temple, architecture, sculpture and beaches, and taste local delicacies on this fantastic 10-hour experience with a personal guide in an air-conditioned car.

Highlights:

Explore the beautiful Konark, including the 13th-century Sun Temple dedicated to the Hindu Sun-God, Surya.

Discover the two natural beaches - Ramachandi Beach and Chandrabhaga Beach - and many other touristic attractions.

Water Activities at Puri-Konark Marine Drive: Jet skiing, kayaking, parasailing, scuba diving, snorkelling and surfing.

Chilika Lake

Timing: 6:00 AM TO 9:00 PM

Distance from Hotel: 54.7 Kms

Time: 90 mins

Chilika Lake is a brackish water lagoon, spread over the Puri, Khurda and Ganjam districts of Odisha state on the east coast of India, at the mouth of the Daya River, flowing into the Bay of Bengal, covering an area of over 1,100 Km². It is the largest coastal lagoon in India and the largest brackish water lagoon in the world after the New Caledonian Barrier Reef. It has been listed as a tentative UNESCO World Heritage site.

It is the largest wintering ground for migratory birds on the Indian sub-continent. The lake is home to a number of threatened species of plants and animals.

Mangalajodi Bird Watching

Best Time to visit: November – February

Open till: 9:00 AM to 6:30 PM

Distance from Hotel: 60.4 Kms

Time: 90 mins

The Mangalajodi side of Chilika is filled with marshy wetlands. That makes this area a perfect spot for birds to fly in from all parts of the world to nest and breed.

More than 230 species of birds live in Mangalajodi or call it their home during the winter months. It is also one of the largest wintering grounds in Asia. Over 100 exotic bird species fly in from Eurasia and the Arctic regions every November – February to escape the chilling cold of their home bases. Mangalajodi provides them with warmth and friendly environs.

Mangalajodi remains less explored, except amongst the birdwatcher community. Hundreds of birdwatchers flock to this obscure village every year to capture gorgeous shots of their favorite feathered friends.

Chandaka Dampara Wildlife Sanctuary – Nature Trail

Open till: 10:00 AM to 5.00 PM

Distance from Hotel: 30 Kms

Time: 60 mins

Known for its splendor and pristinely home to many species, the Chandaka-Dampara sanctuary signifies a tale of success. Spread over an area of 193.39 sq.km on the up land of North-Eastern Ghat of biotic region, Chandaka-Dampara sanctuary is a treasure house of biodiversity. The park is known for successful conservation of elephants, which is the principal species here. It is also home to a number of threatened wild animals and birds. Chandaka landscape got a sanctuary status in 1982 Notification of Government.

SPORTS

Bhubaneswar's major sporting arena is the Kalinga Stadium, having facilities for football, hockey, basketball, tennis, table tennis and swimming. It is known for hosting the Odisha Hockey World Cup in November–December 2018. Kalinga Lancers, the sixth franchise of Hockey India League and Odisha FC, a franchise of Indian Super League, are based in Bhubaneswar with Kalinga Stadium as their home ground.

East Coast Railway Stadium, a prominent cricket stadium hosts Ranji Trophy and other matches.

CUISINE

The city's cuisine includes rice and a fish curry known as Machha Jhola, which can be accompanied by desserts such as Rasagola, Rasabali, Chhena Gaja, Chhena Jhilli and Chhena Poda. Odisha's large repertoire of seafood dishes includes various preparations of lobsters and crabs brought in from Chilika Lake.

FESTIVALS

Ratha-Yatra: The "Temple Car Festival," is the most important festival in Odisha and Bhubaneswar. The festival commemorates Jagannatha, who is said to have been the incarnation of India's revered deity, Vishnu.

Ashokashtami: During the month of March or April, the image of Lingaraja (Shiva) and other deities are taken in a procession from Lingaraja Temple to the Mausima Temple, in a temple car that carries the deities, known as Rukuna Ratha.

Durga Puja: Held in September-October, Durga Puja is an occasion for glamorous celebrations.

Other Main Festivals: Ekamra Festival, Kalinga Mahotsaba (for traditional martial arts), Dhauli-Kalinga Mahotsaba (for classical dance forms), Rajarani Music Festival (for classical music) and Mukteswara Dance Festival (for Odishi dance).

CHURCH

Church of Christ

Unit 4, Near OBC ATM, Bhubaneswar, Odisha 751020

GURUDWARA

Gurudwara Singh Sabhau

Janpath Rd, Unit 3, Kharabela Nagar, Bhubaneswar, Odisha 751001

MASJID

Jama Masjid Capital Mosque

near Madrasa Jamiul Uloom, Unit 4, Bhouma Nagar, Bhubaneswar, Odisha 751001