

BHUBANESWAR : SIGHTS & ATTRACTION

Lingaraj Temple

11th Century monument-54 meters one of the most celebrated Saiva Centres of India.

Dhauigiri

The battle ground of Kalinga war during 3rd century BC which transformed Emperor Ashoka into Dharmashoka. Buddhist peace Pagoda built in 1970s. Famous for Ashokan Rock Edict and the Dhabaleswar Temple.

Rajarani Temple

The Rajarani temple, dating back to the eleventh century monument- famous for its decorative sculptures- Angasikharas, i.e. Temple Composed of Temples. It is set in open paddy fields, and the entire structure exudes grace and elegance.

Brahmeswar Temple

A complex of temples with graceful sculptures on its walls reflecting the skills of Oriya sculptors, it is a miniature of Lingaraj Temple. Unlike Lingaraj Temple, it is open for all including foreigners.

Khandagiri Udaygiri

The twin hills also known as Kumaragiri and Kumarigiri, famous for a number of caves built for the Jain Ascetics around 1st-2nd century BC by the Emperor Kharveli Hatigumpha inscription containing 13 years of lithic record of his reign. A valuable source of Indian History.

64 Yogini

On the outskirts of Bhubaneswar, 15 km south- east of the city, is a small, circular temple, the Yogini Temple, dating to the early ninth century. It is hypaethral (open to the sky), and belongs to a genre of architecture completely apart from the major Orissan school.

Mukteswar Temple

10th Century monument - dedicated to Lord Siva, referred as the gem of Orissan Architecture.

Ekamra Haat

Located in the heart of the city, Ekamra Haat is the perfect place where one can find the Orissan Handicrafts & Textiles. A wide range of items like terracotta, patta, painting, horn toys, dhokra, stone sculpture etc. are sold directly by the artisans here.

BDA Nicco Park

Built in 1998-City's only Amusement Park - with boating facility, rides and games- big hit among the young crowd and Children - an ideal place for outing in the evenings and enjoying variety of entertainment.

Regional Plant Research Centre (Ekamra Kanan)

Spread over 500 acres of land, Asia's largest Cacti Park breathtaking collection of Cacti, roses and other rare plants - great attraction for plant lovers, naturalists and researchers alike.

Regional Science Centre (Science Park)

Built in late 80s- collection of Science instruments and models Children can learn Science with fun- has a games corner of children and a prehistoric theme park

Indira Gandhi Park

Built in memory of Late Indira Gandhi in the 80's- she had delivered her last public speech here- the greenery of the park provides the much needed respite from the hectic pace of city life - flowers, plant, mounds, fountains a the statue of Indira Gandhi are the main attractions.

Biju Patnaik Park

Biju Patnaik Park formerly called Forest Park is situated at Unit-I, Bhubaneswar. One can easily locate this Park in front of Capital Hospital, Unit-VI, Bhubaneswar. It is a wonderful expanse of green in the heart of the City. This Park has been developed by NALCO and is maintained by BMC. Senior citizens as well as people along with their children frequently visit this Park for morning walk and evening amusement. A life-size statue of Biju Patnaik is installed at the centre of the Park. Here entry is free to all.

Pathani Samant Planetarium

Built in 1990- the state of the Art Planetarium to Commemorate the contribution of Famous Oriya Astronomer and Mathematician Pathani Samant- Audio Visual Shows on space Science is the main Attraction.

Nandankanan

Situated 18 kms from Bhubaneswar- Started on 29/12/1960 spread over 472 Ha. A combination of a beautiful botanical garden and a Zoo is world famous for its White Tigers- Lion Safari, White Tiger Safari, Nocturnal Animal house, Reptile Park, Cable Car and a Sprawling lake with boating facility.

Jayadev Kenduvilwa

It is 25 kms distance from Bhubaneswar. The birth place of 12th century saint poet Jayadev. The 12 kunjās as described in Gita Govinda and the museum here can attract any tourist irrespective of caste, colour, creed, religion and region.

Atri

Atri is by road about 42 km. from Bhubaneswar. The water of the hot spring is collected in a reservoir which is provided with outlets to prevent stagnation. The circumference of the reservoir is 10 feet and the depth is 15 feet. The water is clear and stones lying at the bottom of the reservoir are visible when the sun's rays fall on the water. The temple of Hatakeswara (Siva) is situated near-by where Sivaratri and Makar Sankranti festivals are held and are attended by a large number of people. The Makar Sankranti festivals lasts for about a fortnight. On the Sankranti day nearly twenty thousand people congregate at the mela.

Pipili

One of the most important cottage industries encouraged by temple rituals was the creation of applique work Applique in Orissa is an old temple art, which has been refined to perfection. A fine example of the craft is the enormous applique canopies above the reigning deity of Puri, Lord Jagannath. Applique art is the process of cutting coloured cloth into shapes of animals, birds, flowers, leaves and other decorative motifs and stitching them on to a piece of cloth that can ultimately be used as a lamp shade, a hand bag or even a garden umbrella. The village of Pipli, 20 kms. from Bhubaneswar, is the site of beautiful applique work, created by artists, quite a few of whom have won national awards for their crafts.

Source & Courtesy : Orissa Guide, March-2006