

Aurangabad

Known as the City of Gates, Aurangabad served as a merchandising hub in the day of the Silk Route, and it continues to be the center of manufacturing in the modern times. The city is a must visit for history, architecture, archaeology and culture enthusiasts.



Famous For : City

Named after the Mughal emperor Aurangzeb, Aurangabad houses the famous paintings and caves of Ajanta and Ellora, recognized by UNESCO as a world heritage site. Another tourist attraction is Bibi-ka-Maqbara, which resembles the Taj Mahal and is the burial chamber of Aurangzeb's wife. The various gates that populate the city are also notable for their architectural magnificence and intricate carvings namely, Delhi Gate, Kala Darwaza, Rangeen Darwaza and Paitahn gate. Woven Himroo shawls, Mashru and Kimkhab weaves, Paithani sarees and semi precious stones jewellery are must buys from its popular markets.

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When To VISIT



<http://www.ixigo.com/weather-in-aurangabad-lp-1138419>

Jan	Cold weather. Carry Heavy woollen.	Max: 21.0°C	Min: 12.0°C	Rain: 4.0mm
Feb	Cold weather. Carry Heavy woollen.	Max: 24.0°C	Min: 14.10000038 1469727°C	Rain: 4.0mm
Mar	Pleasant weather. Carry Light woollen.	Max: 28.0°C	Min: 18.70000076 2939453°C	Rain: 7.0mm
Apr	Pleasant weather. Carry Light woollen.	Max: 31.0°C	Min: 22.5°C	Rain: 7.0mm
May	Pleasant weather. Carry Light woollen.	Max: 32.0°C	Min: 24.70000076 2939453°C	Rain: 20.0mm
Jun	Pleasant weather. Carry Light woollen, umbrella.	Max: 29.0°C	Min: 23.5°C	Rain: 133.0mm
Jul	Pleasant weather. Carry Light woollen, umbrella.			

Max: 25.5°C	Min: 22.29999923 7060547°C	Rain: 151.0mm
Aug	Pleasant weather. Carry Light woollen, umbrella.	
Max: 25.0°C	Min: 21.60000038 1469727°C	Rain: 169.0mm
Sep	Pleasant weather. Carry Light woollen, umbrella.	
Max: 25.0°C	Min: 21.20000076 2939453°C	Rain: 142.0mm
Oct	Pleasant weather. Carry Light woollen.	
Max: 25.5°C	Min: 18.5°C	Rain: 49.0mm
Nov	Cold weather. Carry Heavy woollen.	
Max: 23.0°C	Min: 14.89999961 8530273°C	Rain: 27.0mm
Dec	Cold weather. Carry Heavy woollen.	
Max: 21.5°C	Min: 11.69999980 9265137°C	Rain: 11.0mm

What To SEE



5 Sights

<http://www.ixigo.com/places-to-visit-see-in-aurangabad-lp-1138419>

1 Ellora Caves



 Aurangabad, Maharashtra 431005, India

Locally known as "Verul Leni", Ellora Caves, Maharashtra represent one of the largest rock-cut monastic-temple complexes in the entire world. A World Heritage Site, Ellora is famous for the largest single monolithic excavation in the world, the great Kailasa (Cave No. 16). The caves are hewn out of the volcanic basaltic formation of Maharashtra, which is known as the "Deccan Trap", with brownish red coloured channels (near Cave No. 32) through which the volcanic lava once flowed.

The epitome of Indian rock-cut architecture, Ellora Caves has in total 34 caves that are excavated out of the vertical face of the Charanandri Hills, between the period of 5th and 11th century. The caves are divided into Hindu, Buddhist, and Jain caves, which include rock-cut temples, viharas, and mathas, built between the 5th and the 10th century. There are 12 Buddhist Caves (caves no. 1 to 12), 17 Hindu caves (cave no. 13 to 29) and 5 Jain caves (cave no. 30 to 34), which are built in proximity to demonstrate the religious harmony prevalent during this period of Indian history.

2 Bibi ka Maqbara



 Aurangabad, Maharashtra 431001, India

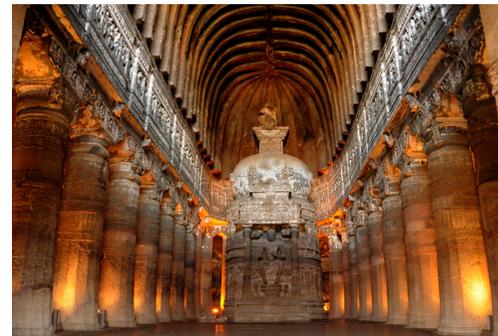
The burial place of Aurangzeb's wife, Bibi ka Maqbara was built in 1679 CE by Aurangzeb's son, in the memory of his mother, Rabia-Durrani. Built exactly like the Taj Mahal, the maqbara is framed by four lofty minarets that stand at the corners of the terrace, while their part-octagonal bases continuing down to ground level. However, there is no use of semi-precious stones, the major detail in which it differs from the Taj Mahal, giving it its colloquial name - "the poor man's Taj Mahal".

Erected by Prince Azam Shah, it stands in the middle of a spacious and formally planned garden, complete with water channels, fountains and axial ponds. This garden is enclosed by high crenelated walls with fortresses set at intervals, and open pavilions on three sides. The central focus of

this vast enclosure is the tomb itself, which is raised on a high terrace overlooking the gardens and waterways. You can see the simple, unadorned grave at the lower level by a flight of steps that descend from the terrace. White marble is used throughout with intricate carving and inlay work, interspersed with delicately moulded stucco work.

To the west of the tomb, there is a small mosque with finely worked cusped arches and corner minarets. Small recesses, arabesques and rosettes embellish the facade. A small archaeological museum is located behind the monument honouring the history of its architecture and fascinating story.

3 Ajanta Caves



 Near Jalgaon, Aurangabad, Maharashtra 431117, India

The majestic Ajanta Caves, in Aurangabad district, are 29 rock-cut caves, dating from the second century BC to about 480 or 650

CE. Excavated in horseshoe shape, these caves derive their name from a nearby village named Ajanta located about 12 km away. A UNESCO world heritage site, it has been described as 'the finest surviving examples of Indian art, especially painting' by the Archaeological Survey of India given its masterpieces of Buddhist religious art, with depictions of the Jataka tales and figures of the Buddha.

The world famous paintings of Ajanta can also be divided into two broad phases. The first phase is noticed in the form of fragmentary specimens in caves no. 9 and 10, datable to second century B.C., while the second phase can be noticed in caves no. 1, 2, 16 and 17, which started around 5th to 6th centuries AD and continued over the next two centuries. These paintings were executed after elaborate preparation of the rock surface initially. The colours and shades utilised vary from red and yellow ochre to lime, kaolin, terra verte, gypsum, lamp black and lapis lazuli.

4 Gautala Wildlife Sanctuary



 Gautala Wildlife Sanctuary, Aurangabad, Maharashtra 413001, India

A protected area of Maharashtra, Gautala Wildlife Sanctuary lies in the Satmala and Ajantha hill ranges of the Western Ghats. Administratively in Aurangabad district, it was established in 1986 in an existing reserved forest area. Covering an area of 64,399 acres, it is spread in the hill ranges of Sahyadri in the proximity of Aurangabad and Chalisgaon. The diversity of vegetation scattered intermittently support the rich fauna and floral of the sanctuary. Especially, it is ideal for the development of sloth bear habitat and for resident and migratory birds.

The flora of this place includes dry deciduous forest with rich natural vegetation and draught resistant trees like Anjan, Khair, Dhawada. Apart from this there are many plant species in the sanctuary that have commercial and medicinal values. The wide range of fauna comprises of different species of mammals, reptiles and birds with the prominent ones being Sambar, Panther, Nilgai (Blue Bull), Barking Deer, Wild Boar, Wild Dog, Wild Cat, Bear, Bison, Chital, Peacock and Monkey. The best time to visit the sanctuary is from

August to February. This sanctuary is a must see place once you come to Aurangabad so as to experience the beauty of Mother Nature.

5 Grishneshwar Temple

 Grishneshwar, Ellora, Near Ellora Caves, Verul, Aurangabad, Maharashtra 431102, India

One of the ancient pilgrim destinations, Grishneshwar is the abode of one of the holy 12 Jyotirlingas, the ancient and holiest Grishneshwar Jyotirlinga temple. The temple has been built by Ahilyabhai Holkar, and is also known as Kusumeswar, Ghushmeswara, or Grushmeswara. These names are related legendary stories of the origin of Grishneshwar.

According to a legend, it is believed that a devout woman Kusuma offered worship to Shiva regularly, as a part of her daily ritual worship, by immersing a Shivalingam in a tank. Kusuma's husband's first wife, envy of her piety, murdered Kusuma's son in cold blood. An angry Kusuma continued her ritual worship, and the moment she immersed the Shivalingam in the tank, her son was miraculously resurrected. Shiva is said to have appeared in front of her and the villagers and thus worshipped in the form of a Jyotirlinga Ghushmeshwar here, also known as Kusumeshwar Jyotirlinga.

₹ Rs. 50

Apart from devotees, many tourists visit this place to understand the ancient temple customs and routines along with the ancient architectural style of the temple. What also attracts them is the images and the inscriptions of the temple. The festival of Maha Shivaratri is a very important here and is celebrated with much vigour, during which thousands of devotees flock to this temple town.

The name of the restaurant 'Swad' is well reflected in its delicious pure vegetarian dishes, which are not to be missed while visiting Aurangabad. This place is famed for its scrumptious Gujarati Thali, served for lunch and dinner, which will leave you asking for more. Centrally located, Swad is quite near the railway station and the bus stop, and makes for a great family restaurant. The courteous staff and their hospitality adds to this restaurant's appeal. The Gujarati specialities are a must try including puranpoli with lots of ghee on top of it, dal khichadi and chaas (buttermilk).



1 Swad Restaurant



 Near Kranti Chowk, Osmanpura, Aurangabad, Maharashtra, India

Apart from this, Swad also serves Pizzas, ice-creams and shakes. This restaurant is truly a must try given its yummy food at reasonable rates.

2 Kream n Krunch



4, Chandrakala Arcade, Nirala Bazar, Nirala Bazar, Aurangabad, Maharashtra 431001, India

One of the city's most popular restaurants, Kream n Krunch offers a multi-faceted menu with a wide range of delicious dishes. You will be spoilt for choice given their excitingly diverse food and drink menu which has something for everyone. From entrees to hot and cold appetizers to noodles and rice dishes, this place has it all!

The friendly and gracious service coupled with inspired seasonal cuisine and boutique wines add to the existing charm of this place. Started as a small milk supply joint in 2001, it is today a prominent name in food industry.

3 Madhuban Restaurant



Welcome Rama International Hotel, Aurangabad, Maharashtra, India

Located within Rama International Hotel, Madhuban serves delicious Chinese, Indian, Italian and Mexican cuisines. The layout of the restaurant allows ambient natural lighting during the day, which coupled with Madhubani paintings add to the existing charm of this place.

Overlooking the patio though its French windows, with lush verdant lawns, seasonal flowers and waterfall, the restaurant offers best of both Indian as well as International cuisines.

4 Flame and Grill



Prozone Mall, Block No G 78, Cidco, Mukundwadi, Chikhalthana, Aurangabad, 431210, Maharashtra, India

If you love Tandoori food, you will surely

love the food here. Those who don't count calories are more than welcome in Flame and Grill as there is a buffet system here. For starters, you get unlimited preparations of Indian grilled veggies, chicken, mutton, paneer (cottage cheese) and fish. There is an in-built grill in each table where the tandoori items sizzles. And if that doesn't fill you up, just pick up a plate and sample the buffet spread and you will be surprised at the variety.

With pleasant ambience, the place has a sophisticated yet comfortable feel. Try this place once and you will surely want to come here again.

5 Tandoor Restaurant and Bar



Shyam Chambers, Bansilal Nagar, Station Road, Aurangabad, 431005, Maharashtra, India

Situated on the way to the railway station, Tandoor Restaurant serves delicious tandoori dishes along with flavorful North Indian and Chinese vegetarian cuisine. A small but cozy restaurant, this place is great for foodies. Do try their Tandoori platter with a mug of chilled beer.

Quick

LOCATE

<http://www.ixigo.com/hotels-in-aurangabad-lp-1138419>

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D: Gautala Wildlife Sanctuary

E: Ghrishneshwar Temple



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M: Hotel Aurangabad Regency

N: Hiranya Resorts



Food

O: Swad Restaurant

P: Kream n Krunch

Q: Madhuban Restaurant

R: Flame and Grill

S: Tandoor Restaurant and Bar

