
ABOUT RAIPUR

Raipur is capital city of Chhattisgarh state in Central India. The region's economy has been traditionally based on agricultural-processing steel alloy, cement and rice. It serves as a regional center for trade and commerce in range of local forest and agricultural products. Raipur is indeed a major tourist destination. Raipur is one of the biggest industrial centers in India. Raipur was initially a part of Madhya Pradesh before Chhattisgarh was formed and that happened in the year 2000 and since Raipur has made its place and one of the most visited places of the state.

HISTORY OF RAIPUR

Raipur is a pretty old city, even by the yardstick of the many ancient cities found in the Indian subcontinent. Kings of the Satvahana dynasty ruled the region between the 2nd and 3rd centuries AD and were followed by the Somvanshi kings whose capital was at Sirpur, a few hours away from Raipur. The earliest evidence of Raipur's existence can be found in the 9th century ruins in the southern part of modern Raipur. A later dynasty, the Kalchuris had their capital at Ratanpur, and it was a scion of this dynasty, King Ramachandra, who founded the city of Raipur, subsequently the capital city of his kingdom. The city was named 'Raipur' after Ramachandra's son Brahmdeo Rai. Once the region disintegrated into small little principalities, it passed from one powerful empire to the other till it came under the British in 1854. The British made Chhattisgarh a separate administrative area or Commissary with its district headquarters at Raipur.



SIGHTSEEING ATTRACTIONS IN RAIPUR

- **DOODHADHARI MONASTERY AND TEMPLE**

Doodhari Monastery and Temple that was built in dedication to Rama. It was built by King Jaitsing in the 17th century. The Doodhadhari Monastery and Temple located in the banks of a river which is popular among tourist named in the memory of Balbhadra Das a saint. The monastery Situated in the southern part of Raipur, this temple lies on the banks of another tourist attraction called as the Maharajbandh River. The monastery and temple is both visited by not just tourists but also by devotees who throng in large numbers to pay their respects and offerings. The other great reason why people come here even if they are not believers is that the brilliant architecture of this temple that is filled with beautiful carvings.



- **VIVEKANAND SAROVAR**



Situated right in the heart of the city is the beautiful Vivekanand Sarovar which is also popularly called as Budha Talab. The name of the lake is obviously derived from the great Swami Vivekanand who was a famous and renowned philosopher. It is believed the Vivekananda had lived in the vicinity on his visits to this gorgeous city of Raipur. There was a particular spot near this lake that is said to have been his desired spot for meditation.

We can see a tall statue of Vivkeananda that is 37 feet height and this installation of the statue was done very recently. It has been set up in a garden that is situated close to the lake. There is a provision for boating in this area which attracts the tourist. A day spend in this lake is sure to keep you engaged and entertained. Most tourists visit this place since the lake and it surroundings make for an ideal place to have serenity and tranquillity.

- **MAHANT GHASIDAS MEMORIAL MUSEUM**

Mahant Ghasi Memorial Museum Built by Raja Mahant Ghasidas of Rajnandgaon, it was set up in 1875, which is the tenth oldest museums in the country. This museum is a historical octagon building using a traditional British style of architecture that will definitely attract people who love architecture. The dome of this building looks similar to a crown of the British which has a total of two floors and five galleries. The museum also has a beautiful and quaint library inside and these two are located in the same building. The galleries display stunning collection of many traditional kalachuri sculptures, ancient coins, carvings, inscriptions and also Buddhist bronzes, along with the many ornaments and clothes that were mostly used by the tribes of Chhattisgarh.



This museum gives a perfect insight into the history of the state and also the lifestyle of the people living in Chhattisgarh. Their galleries are divided into different categories and each of these galleries display things relevant to the name given.

The Archeological Gallery exhibits the many artifacts of the Stone Age, whereas the Sculpture Gallery exhibits the beautifully carved idols of the different Gods and also Goddesses. The many other galleries of this museum are the Natural History Gallery, the Tribal Gallery, the Anthropology Gallery and the Ancient Arms and Armory Gallery. Art lovers will enjoy visiting the Museum because of the magnificent art works, and crafts.

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- **MAHAMAYA TEMPLE**

The Mahamaya temple located banks of kharoon river at sea fort area in Raipur is an another key attraction for the tourist visiting Raipur. It was built in dedication to Mahamaya, a form of Durga and devotees from all across the country visit this temple to worship and offer their prayers. Visiting this temple during Navratri and durga pooja , is a visual spectacle The whole temple is illuminated and beautifully decorated during these festivals with much pomp and grandeur. The Kho Kho Lake and also the Budhapara Lake are situated close to the temples which are two other attractions that can be visited after visiting the temple. It is best to visit the temple from the month of October to March.



- **BUDHAPARA LAKE**

The Budhapara Lake was built by King Brahmadei who was also a Kalchuri Emperor in the era 1404 AD. This is a paramount place for people fond of solitude and peace away from all the city chaos. The alluring waters of this lake evoke sense of peace and serenity by just gazing at the beautiful nature and the waters of the lake flowing smoothly.



- **KEVALYA DHAM**

The Kevalya Dham is a Jain temple which is one of the prime tourist attractions of Raipur. The temple is made of white marble and is popularly called as the Sri Adinath Jain Swhetambhar Tirth.

The temple complex has a total of 26 temples that are small and big. Almost all these temples are built of white marble and architecture buffs will surely love the sight of these magnificent temples.



These temples have idols of 24 Thirthankars and as we walk into each temple we will see the idols that are equally stunning. And these temples and idols are what forms to be a large temple complex along with an idol of Risabhdev. The temple also houses a Dharamshala that has every modern facility.

- **NANDAVAN GARDEN**

The Nandavan Garden, located in Raipur is situated on the banks of the beautiful Khaaroon River. The Nandavan Garden is not just a garden area, but also boasts of a mini zoo that has many animals like the tigers, panthers, lions and also deers. This place is an ultimate spot for those who love nature and wildlife. The ever blooming flora and fauna that surrounds the park makes it for a beautiful view.



The Nandavan Garden is a place that offers rejuvenation and recreational activities for travellers and tourists as well. The Park is open on all days from 9 am to 5 pm.

The city is fast emerging as an important industrial hub for coal, steel, power and aluminium industries in the country. Raipur has very well-connected to all the major cities of India as well as with the countries