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# Hill stations in India

**Hill stations** are towns at higher elevations than the nearby plains or valleys. While rulers in precolonial times also used to escape the heat and humidity of summer by venturing to higher ground, most hill stations were established during the [British Raj](#), as the British colonists sought to live in a climate more comfortable and similar to home. The concept of the Hill Station spread beyond India to Britain's other colonies in Asia such as [Burma](#) and [Malaya](#), and even to the colonial possessions of other Western powers, such as the [French-ruled Vietnam](#).

## Understand





Map of Hill stations in India

The tourist season for the hill stations generally peaks during the Indian summer. However, they have a different kind of beauty and charm during winter, with many hill stations receiving healthy amounts of snow and offering activities such as skiing and snowboarding.



# Destinations

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## Andhra Pradesh

- **1 Araku Valley.** Comparatively lesser known, Araku Valley has caves, waterfalls and a museum of tribal art to keep you entertained. The famous dish of the area is bongulo (bamboo) chicken.   (updated Aug 2020)



## Arunachal Pradesh

- **2 Tawang.** The off-the-beaten-path character of Tawang means that on the one hand, the surrounding scenery is unspoilt and the views are breathtaking but on the other, there is limited development and infrastructure to support visitors staying in the town.   (updated Feb 2020)



## Assam

- **3 Silchar.**  





## Gujarat

- **4 Saputara.** Doesn't get overwhelmed with tourists like other hill stations though it gets a healthy number of visitors.   (updated Jan 2020)





## Haryana

- **5 Morni.** The only genuine hill station in the state. Well connected to Chandigarh.   (updated Aug 2020)







## Himachal Pradesh

- **6 Shimla.** The capital of Himachal Pradesh.   (updated Apr 2021)
- **7 Manali,** Himachal Pradesh. Has developed into one of the adventure sports hubs in India. Skiing, paragliding, mountain biking, rafting and camping are among the popular activities here.   (updated Nov 2019)


## Jammu and Kashmir

- **8 Srinagar.** The summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir. It is known for its stunning lakes and amazing landscape. The hill station houses a number of Mughal gardens and even a tulip garden.  
- **9 Gulmarg.** The winter sports capital of India, Gulmarg is one of the country's best places for skiing and snowboarding.   (updated Nov 2019)



## Karnataka

- **10 Chikmagalur** (*Chikkamagaluru*). Bucks the trend of other hill stations by having a large number of coffee plantations instead of tea. Also home to many picturesque waterfalls and wildlife.   (updated Jan 2020)
- **11 Madikeri**.   (updated Jan 2020)
- **12 Nandi Hills**.   (updated Nov 2019)







Tea gardens with the *Nilgiris* (blue mountains) in the background at Munnar 

## Kerala

- **Vythiri**. Good climate and place of serene natural beauty with valleys and hills.
- **13 Munnar**. Full of vast tea plantations. Popular place for honeymooners in the south.   (updated Nov 2019)









## Ladakh

- **14 Leh**. One of the highest towns of India.   (updated Apr 2021)
- **15 Dras**. Has the reputation of being the coldest inhabited locality in the country.   (updated Aug 2020)


## Madhya Pradesh

- **16 Pachmarhi**. Known as the Queen of Satpura.   (updated Feb 2020)



## Maharashtra

- **17 Lonavla**. One of the go-to hill stations for the residents of Mumbai, famous for its *chikki* (peanut brittle).   (updated Nov 2019)
- **18 Panchgani**.  
- **19 Matheran**. Located atop Sahyadris Mountain range. Connected by a narrow-gauge railway.  
- **20 Mahabaleshwar**. The summer capital of the Bombay presidency during the British period.  



Lakes and lush green hills are not what most people think of when they hear of Rajasthan. 



## Manipur

- **21 Ukhrul**. Has the world's only habitat for the world's only terrestrial lily in Sirohi National Park. The Shirui lily (*Lilium macklineae*), can't be grown except as part of its own natural habitat, despite numerous attempts by scientists.  



## Meghalaya

- **22 Shillong**.  





## Odisha

- **23 Daringbadi.** Known as the Kashmir of Odisha.   (updated Dec 2019)

## Rajasthan

- **24 Mount Abu.** The only hill station of note in the arid state of Rajasthan. With its lakes, rivers and waterfalls, Mount Abu is aptly described as an oasis in the desert.   (updated Nov 2019)





## Sikkim

- **25 Gangtok.** Capital of Sikkim.  
- **26 Yuksom (Yuksam).** Yuksom serves as the starting point of the Dzongri - Goechala Trek. The 8 - 9 day trek is the most popular in Sikkim and leads to the base of the third highest mountain in the world, Kangchenjunga. Yuksom also has its share of history and is the first capital of the Kingdom of Sikkim. The stone throne on which the coronation took place in 1641 can still be seen and is a protected site under ASI.   (updated Jan 2020)

## Tamil Nadu

- **27 Ooty (Udhagamandalam).**   (updated Sep 2022)

## Uttarakhand

- **28 Mussoorie.** Famous for its lush green hills, colonial architecture and natural landmarks such as Kempty Falls and Mussoorie Lake. Offers a variety of outdoor activities including trekking, paragliding and camping.  
- **29 Nainital.** The town is centred upon the crescent/kidney shaped lake of which there are stunning views from the mountains from all angles.   (updated Nov 2019)

## West Bengal

- **30 Darjeeling.** Known as the Queen of the Hills. Renowned for its prized tea and "Toy Train" steam locomotive still in operation.   (updated Nov 2019)
- **31 Kalimpong.** Kalimpong was ceded by Bhutan after it lost the Anglo-Bhutan War in 1864. The hill station was established by the British as an alternative to Darjeeling. India's highest mountain and the world's third highest, Kangchenjunga, is visible from the town.   (updated May 2020)
- **32 Kurseong.** Land of white orchid  

## Stay safe

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Some hill stations, particularly those in the Himalayas, are prone to landslides during the monsoon season.

## See also

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- Hill stations
  - Hill stations in Pakistan
  - Trekking in Nepal
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