

# Famous Historic Monuments You Must Visit in Odisha

## 1. Archaeological Site Museum, Konark



Founded in 1968, the museum houses around 260 sculptures from the Konark temple complex. These are of deities, animals, figures in erotic postures and mythological characters among other subjects.

**Open** 10am to 5pm; Friday **closed**.

**Getting there:** The museum is located right near the temple, at the northern end.

## 2. Ancient Rremains on Udayagiri and Khandagiri Hill



Khandagiri has 15 caves. The ones to pore over include the Tatowa and Ananta Gumpha, which have some gorgeous carvings; Navamuni Gumpha, which has sculptures of nine Jain tirthankaras; Barabhuji Gumpha, with its sculptures of 12-armed devis; and Trusula Gumpha, with more eye-catching Jain relief work.

**Open** daily, 6am to 8pm.

**Getting there:** The caves are just 15 minutes away from Bhubaneswar by road.

### 3. Ratnagiri Monastery



A hilltop in Ratnagiri in Jajpur district is the site of a Buddhist enclave that developed from the fifth to the thirteenth centuries CE. The site contains a large stupa, a number of votive stupas and three monasteries, of which one is particularly large and houses a huge statue of the Buddha.

**Open** 9am to 5pm; Friday **closed**.

**Getting there:** Ratnagiri is a two-hour drive from Bhubaneswar.



#### 4. Archaeological Museum, Ratnagiri



Once you're done taking in the ruins at Ratnagiri, poke your head into the archaeological museum containing antiquities from the area. The exhibits include votive stupas, terracotta seals and figurines, stone, metal and ivory sculptures and inscriptions. The museum is located right on the hill.

**Open** 9am to 5pm; Friday **closed**.

**Getting there:** Ratnagiri is a two-hour drive from Bhubaneswar.

## 5. Barabati Fort, Cuttack



Located at a distance of 8 km from Cuttack, Barabati Fort dates back to 11<sup>th</sup> century. It was built by Ganga dynasty. It is a nine storeyed palace and was constructed with fortification as a protection from the attacks of the enemies. The carved gates of the fort add beauty to it. You can also have wonderful view of the entire city of Cuttack from this fort. The fort is spread across an area of 102 acres.

- **Timing:** Sunrise to Sunset
- **Best time to visit:** October to March