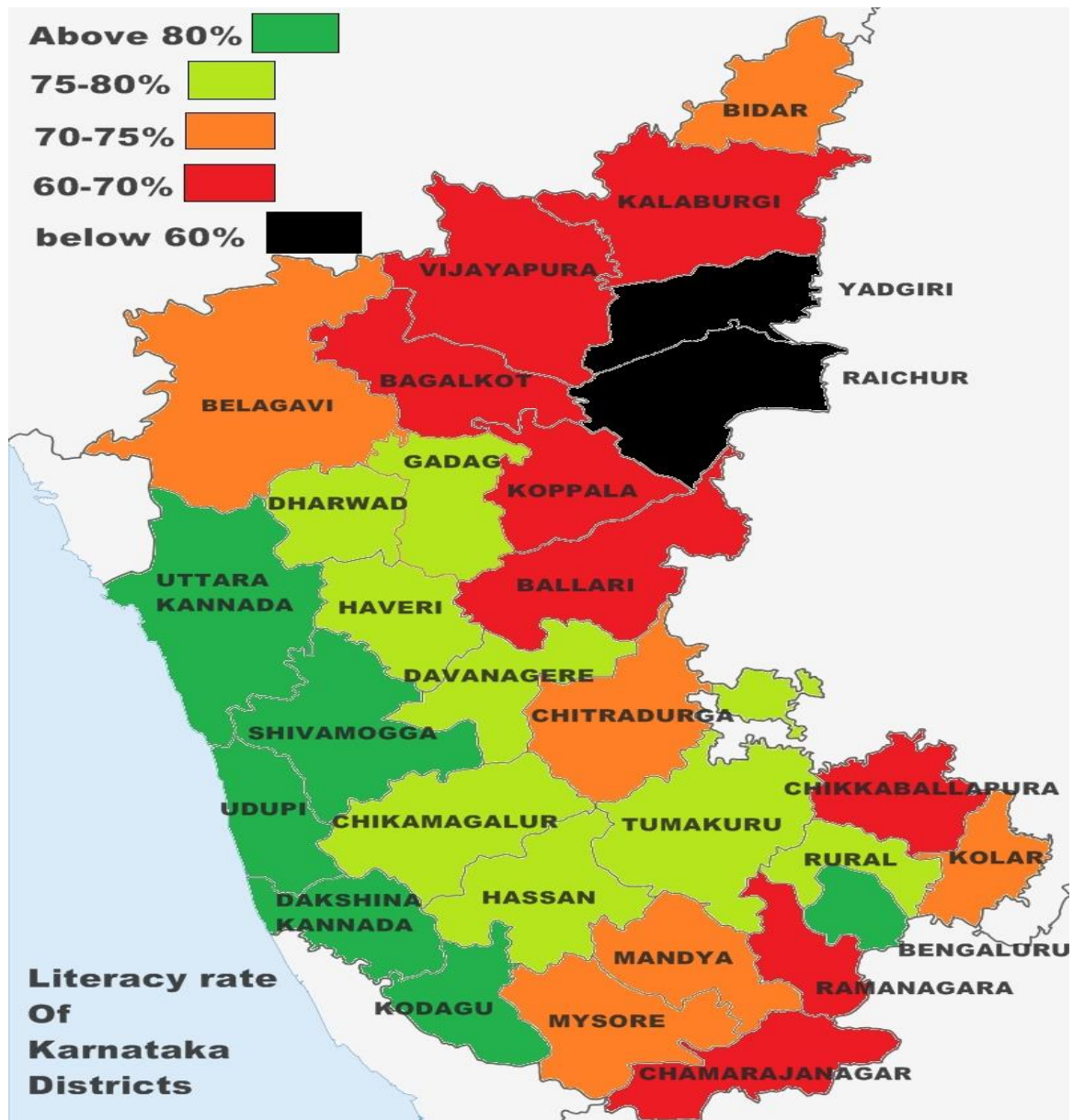




# KARNATAKA MONUMENTS

[Make my plan](#)  
We make it easy for you...

# Monuments to be visited in Karnataka ...



# 1. Belgaum Fort



The Belgaum Fort is the main landmark of historic city of Belgaum and hold important place as heritage site in Karnataka that reflects the history of the city. At the entrance of the fort, there are two shrines, Ganapati and Durga. There are two Jinalayas done in the later Chalukya style dating around 1204 AD. Out of the two temple, one lies in ruin. It is believed that there were once 108 Jain Temples and 101 Shiva Temples in the premises of the fort. Even today, we can find stones belonging to some of these structures. Apart from the Jain and Shiva temples, there are two mosques, namely Jamia Masjid and Safa Masjid, which are also situated inside the fort. These mosques are built in Mughal and Deccani styles and have minars, domes and arches. Outside the mosque, to the right is an underground passage believed to lead to Yellurgad.



## 2. Hampi Groups of Monuments



Situated on the southern bank of River Tungabhadra, Hampi is monument city that is gradually becoming a popular tourist destination in North Karnataka and boasts once being the seat of Vijayanagara Empire. The city is said to have established between AD 1336 – 1570. The major construction is reckoned to have been done during the reigning period of Raja Krishnadeva Raya, the most important ruler of the dynasty. Today, although Hampi lies in ruins but is still an epitome of rich architecture and reflection of passion for constructing massive structures. Amongst the restored edifices in Hampi is the Virupaksha Temple. Spread in 25 sq kms there are a plethora of rock cut structures seeing which you will get awe struck.

### 3. Choubara





In the heart of the Bidar town is situated Chaubara, an ancient clock tower. Chaubara literally means a building that faces in four different directions, and thus one can see the situated on crossroads in the town of Bidar. The tower is said to have been constructed in pre-Islamic period but strangely follows semi-Islamic architecture. It has a circular base and is built of black trap masonry with a large clock placed on the top, which can be reached by a meandering flight of eighty stairs. The clock tower is built as an observation point and measures 71 feet in height. This cylindrical structure offers incredible view of the entire city from the top.

#### 4. Bidar Fort



Located on the edge of Bidar plateau, Bidar Fort is an important historical monument in Karnataka. Built by Adil Shah done in red laterite stone around the old fort in 1428 by Ahmed Shah Bahmani. Bidar fort has numerous monuments within its complex, amongst the most prominent are the Rangin Mahal or Painted Palace; the Takht Mahal, or throne room; the Jami Masjid or Great Mosque and the Sola Khamba Masjid or the Sixteen-Pillar mosque. One of the unusual features

of the fort is the historic water supply system, called karez. It basically consisted of a network of underground canals that is fixed with vertical shafts to the surface. The 'karez' helped in transporting it through the underground tunnels to the houses of the people for various uses like drinking, washing, watering livestock, and irrigating fields etc.

## 5. Gol Gumbaz in Bijapur



The Gol Gumbaz is yet another important heritage and monument to see in Karnataka. The monument is said to be the last resting place of Muhammad Adil Shah (AD 1626-56), the seventh ruler of the Adil Shahi dynasty. It is also reckoned to be the landmark of Bijapur. The Gol Gumbaz is an excellent example of Islamic architecture to be seen in the Deccan region in particular. The monument is replete with the trademark elements of the traditional Islamic or Persian style of architecture and the most noticeable feature of it is the central dome. The monument flaunts its massive cube, octagonal seven-storied towers, arches on the sides, decorative paneling, pillars and a crescent finial surmounting the spires.



## 6. Gommateshvara Bahubali in Shravanabelagola



Built by the Ganga dynasty minister and commander, Chavundaraya, the statue of Bahubali is amongst the must see in Karnataka. It is a 57-foot tall statue that is situated above a hill in Shravanabelagola, in the Hassan district of Karnataka. This massive statue was built in around 981 and is also one of the largest free-standing statues in the world. The presence of this colossal statue makes Shravanabelagola an important Jain pilgrimage in Karnataka.



## 7. Bangalore Palace



Bangalore Palace was built in the year 1944 by Wodeyar dynasty and is adorned with magnificent woodcarvings and Tudor-style architecture. It is in fact one of the finest modern day monument that must be visited in Karnataka. The palace has an architecture that is quite similar to castles built in Normandy and England. Although the palace has apparently lost much of its original work but it still manages to attract tourists. One can still behold the fortified towers, gothic windows, battlements and turrets. The inner walls of the Bangalore Palace are also festooned with paintings belonging to the mid-19th century. The other attractions of the palace include a dining table of the Diwan of Mysore, Sir Mirza Ismail.

## 8. Mysore Palace



The official residence and seat of the Wodeyars, Mysore Palace is certainly one of the most famous places to see in Karnataka. Done in Indo- Saracenic with a tinge of Hindu, Islamic and Gothic architecture style, it is a three-story stone structure with marble domes and a 145 ft five-story tower. The palace is surrounded by a large garden. There are three major exclusive temple buildings within the Old Fort and about 18 inside the palace heart building that faces the Chamundi Hills. Mysore Palace is one of the finest tourism places in Karnataka, and thus is unmissable.



## 9. Group of Monuments in Pattadakal



Keeping the rich history of Karnataka alive, the group of monuments in Pattadakal are ideal for heritage tourism in the state. These monuments represent high point of an eclectic art which in the 7th and 8th centuries under the Chalukya dynasty, achieved architectural forms. At Pattadakal one can go for sightseeing of imposing nine Hindu temples, as well as a Jain shrine. One masterpiece from the group that stands out is the Temple of Virupaksha, built around 740 AD by Queen Lokamahadevi to remember her husband's victory over the kings of the South. Each temple here offers a delight witnessing experience with carvings, sculptures and shape making it an extraordinary place that should not be missed if your are history buff.

## 10. Namdroling Monastery in Bylakuppe



The Namdroling Nyingmapa Monastery, which is also known as the Thegchog Namdrol Shedrub Dargye Ling is said to be the largest teaching center of the Nyingma lineage of Tibetan Buddhism in the world. This prestigious monastery is located in Bylakuppe, which is in Mysuru district and is home to a sangha community that has more than five thousand Buddhist monks and nuns; a religious college (or shedra) and a hospital. The monastery was built by the 11th ruler of the Palyul lineage named Drubwang Padma Norbu Rinpoche in the year 1963 and ever since has been an important seat for Buddhism in India. Visiting Namdroling is probably one of the best things to do in Karnataka heritage tour.