

## ELEPHANTA CAVES

### Gharapuri, Mumbai, Maharashtra, India

God

The Elephanta Caves (natively known as Gharapurichi Leni, Gharapuri) are a network of sculpted caves located on Elephanta Island, Gharapuri. The island, located in the lap of the Arabian Sea, consists of two groups of caves-the first is a large group of five Hindu caves, the second, a smaller group of two Buddhist caves. The Hindu caves contain rock cut stone sculptures, representing the Shaiva Hindu sect, dedicated to the Lord Shiva. It's presence on the world map is due to a unique group of caves, which was identified by UNESCO as a World Heritage site in as early as 1981. These archaeological remains provide evidence of occupation from as early as 2nd century B.C.

#### Best Season To Visit

The best season to visit the temple is Winter season. The best months to visit are September to February.

#### Weather

Highest - March to May (39°C during day and 22°C during night)Average - May (35°C during the day and 25°C during night)Lowest - December to February (34°C during day and 16°C during night)Monsoon season - June to September

#### Dress Code

Wear light-weight, warm clothes in multiple layers.

Don't wear heavy cotton clothing, neoprene and polyester clothing is ideal.

Wear a long-sleeve shirt and full-length pants.

Bring a torch with you to the caves as many of them are quite dark and lighting is poor.

Never use alcohol or drugs before entering a cave.

Avoid touching cave formations, especially with your bare hands. Cave formations are delicate and may break easily.

transport connections

Name  
Distance  
Contact Number

MSRTC Mumbai Central

21.6 KM  
1800-22-1250

Mahim Junction

27.6 KM  
139

Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport

21.8 KM  
022-66851010

Deity

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