

# Ayodhya: The Sacred City

Ayodhya, located in Uttar Pradesh, India, is one of the seven most sacred cities in Hinduism. It is revered as the birthplace of Lord Rama, a central deity in the Ramayana. The city holds immense religious, historical, and cultural significance, attracting millions of pilgrims and tourists annually.

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## Tourism in Ayodhya

### 1. Religious Tourism

Ayodhya is primarily known for its religious importance, with temples and sacred sites drawing devotees from across the world.

#### Ram Janmabhoomi Temple

- The most famous religious site in Ayodhya, believed to be the birthplace of Lord Rama.
- A grand temple is being constructed, which is expected to enhance religious tourism exponentially.

#### Hanuman Garhi

- A prominent temple dedicated to Lord Hanuman, featuring a steep climb of 76 steps.
- Devotees visit to seek blessings before heading to Ram Janmabhoomi.

## Kanak Bhawan

- A temple known for its stunning idols of Lord Rama and Goddess Sita adorned with gold ornaments.

## Treta Ke Thakur Temple

- Associated with Lord Rama performing the Ashwamedha Yagna.
- Houses ancient idols made of black stone.

## Nageshwarnath Temple

- Dedicated to Lord Shiva, believed to have been built by Kush, son of Lord Rama.
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## 2. Historical & Cultural Tourism

### Ram Ki Paidi

- A series of ghats on the banks of the Sarayu River, where devotees take holy dips.

### Guptar Ghat

- Believed to be the place where Lord Rama took Jal Samadhi.

## Tulsi Smarak Bhawan

- Dedicated to the poet-saint Tulsidas, who composed the *Ramcharitmanas*.

## Dashrath Mahal

- The former palace of King Dashrath, father of Lord Rama, known for its grandeur.
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## 3. Natural & Scenic Attractions

### Sarayu River

- A sacred river where visitors enjoy boating and scenic views.

### Mani Parbat & Sugriv Parbat

- Hillocks associated with Ramayana legends, offering panoramic views.
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## 4. Festivals & Events

## Ram Navami

- Celebrated as Lord Rama's birthday with grand processions and festivities.

## Deepotsav

- Ayodhya's Deepotsav has set Guinness World Records for lighting millions of diyas on Diwali.

## Kartik Purnima

- Thousands of devotees take a holy dip in the Sarayu River.

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## 5. Infrastructure & Tourism Development

- **Ayodhya Airport:** A new international airport is being developed to enhance connectivity.
- **Rail & Road Network:** Improved rail and road networks are making travel easier.
- **Hotels & Resorts:** Several new accommodations, including luxury hotels, are emerging.