**Hoysaleswara temple**, also referred simply as the **Halebidu temple**, is a 12th-century [Hindu](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hinduism) temple dedicated to [Shiva](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shiva). It is the largest monument in [Halebidu](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Halebidu" \o "Halebidu), a town in the state of [Karnataka](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Karnataka), India and the former capital of the [Hoysala Empire](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hoysala_Empire" \o "Hoysala Empire). The temple was built on the banks of a large man-made lake, and sponsored by King [Vishnuvardhana](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vishnuvardhana" \o "Vishnuvardhana) of the Hoysala Empire.[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hoysaleswara_Temple#cite_note-unesco2014-1) Its construction started around 1121 CE and was complete in 1160 CE.