* History

A Historical Perspective :

* Nashik was known as Panchavati before Ramayana period. Nashik has mythological, historical, social and cultural importance. The city is situated on the banks of the Godavari River, making it one of the holiest places for Hindus all over the world. Nashik has a rich historical past, as the mythology has it that Lord Rama, the King of Ayodhya, made Nashik his abode during his 14 years in exile. At the same place Lord Laxman, by the wish of Lord Rama, cut the nose of “Shurpnakha” and thus this city was named as “Nashik”. After the fall of the Satavahana empire, the Abhiras or Ahirs ruled in the north east and the Chutus in Maharashtra and Kuntala. The Puranas state that ten Abhiras ruled for, 67 years. The Nasik inscription speaks of king Madhuriputra Ishvarasena, the Abhir and a son of Shivadatla. This dynasty originated in A. D. 249-50, an era called Kalachuri or Chedi in later times.
* In Kritayuga, Nashik was ‘Trikantak’, ‘Janasthana’ in Dwaparyuga and later in Kuliyuga it became ‘Navashikh’ or ‘Nashik’. Classical Sanskrit poets like Valmiki, Kalidasa and Bhavabhuti have paid rich tributes here. In 150 BC Nashik was the country’s largest market place. From 1487 A.D, the province came under the rule of Mughals and was known as Gulshanabad. It was also home of Emperor Akbar who wrote at length about Nashik in Ein-e-Akbari. It was also known as the ‘Land of the Brave’ during the regime of Shivaji. The most important historical significance is that Kumbh Mela is conducted at Nashik once every twelve years, out of 4 places in India
* Museums

## Artillery Centre

Artillery Centre is located in the vicinity of Nashik Road. Nashik also has Deolali Cantonment Board, CAT, and artillery museum. It is the biggest Artillery Center in Asia. This artillery centre was shifted from Pakistan in 1947. Indian Army Officers and Soldiers are trained here. Training for Bofors Gun is given here.

## Coin Museum- Anjaneri

It is located on the Nashik Trimbakeshwar Road about 20 km from Nashik City. The Museum has fine collection of research and well documented history of Indian Currencies. Coin Museum was established in 1980 under the Indian Institute of Research in Numismatic Studies. This museum is the only museum of its kind in Asia. The environment around the museum is picturesque, since it is located in the backdrop of the enthralling.

1. **Datasaheb Fhalake Museum**

It is located within Nashik City on Mumbai road (NH 3), about 8 km from Central Bus Stand. The Dadasaheb Phalke was the legendary person who was the progressive spirit behind the century old Indian Cinema.He born at Nashik on 30 th April 1870. In 1913 he produced the first Indian film Raja Harishchandraand in the span of years produced 95 fims and 26 documentaries in a studio setup at Nashik till 1932. This memorial is a tribute to this great visionary, Dadasaheb Phalke Smarak is committed towards edifying, devout and rational development. The building contains a place for meditation, a main conference hall and an exhibition center. The Smarak also displays the works of the Dadasaheb Phalke. The memorial spreads across a vast extend of 29 acres. It also has Budhda smarak , garden and dancing fountains.

1. Gargoti-Museum

The Mineral Museum It is situated in Malegaon industrial area of Sinnar which is at the distance of 28 km from Nashik city. Sinnar is a small bustling town, renowned for the award winning mineral museum called Gargoti Museum. It is one of the best museums in the world with large collection of zeolites which are micro porous crystalline solids with well defined rich structures similar to that of diamonds or other precious stones. Pride of India, Sarswati Puraskar, Sinnar Gaurav are some among the awards that have been given to appreciate this mesmerizing museum. Gargoti museum is the only museum in India that displays the mineral treasures of the earth like rocks, minerals and crystals varying in nature, shape, color and application. The exhibits in the museums includes specimen of diamonds, cut stones, light green cubical apophyllite, crystals of yellow calcite, blue-green aquamarine, cavansite and rare foreign minerals. These are displayed in two galleries namely Minerals from the Deccan Plateau located on the first floor and The Prestige Gallery on the ground floor. A souvenir shop is also attached to the museums where necklaces, mineral specimen, lapidary items, post card pictures and posters can be purchased.

* EVENTS

## Simhastha Kumbhamela

Millions of people, who gather without any invitation, notice or summon from all over the globe to participate in the stream of knowledge and spirituality on the banks of sacred rivers is Kumbhamela. Kumbha is a sanskrit word for pitcher, sometimes referred to as the kalasha. Kumbh as also a zodiac sign for Aquarius in Indian astrology . Mela means a gathering or a meet or simply a fair. The Kumbh celebration rotates at four places in India on certain celestial alignment of traversing planets. Millions of devotees baths into the sacred rivers with belief that it cleanse their souls leading to salvation. In Naardiya purana, Shiva Purana, Brahma Purana it is mentioned regarding events of Kumbh that Kumbh festival starts from Haridwar. After Haridwar it is celebrated at Prayag, Nashik-Trimbakeshwar and Ujjain. It is celebrated at these places after every 12 years .While Ardha Kumbha (which is celebrated after every six years) is held at Haridwar and Allahabad.

1. Ram- Rathyatra

Ramnavmi Rathayatra which Nashik City mainly knows as Trith shetra, is the place where Lord Ramachandra stayed for more than 12 years in the area known as Panchavati. The Janmotsava of Lord Ramachandra begins from the first day of Chaitra till the Chaitra Poornima, spanning 15 days.The Janmotsava takes place exactly at 1200hrs (in the noon) when thousands of piligrims are present on this holy occassion. This janmotsav is celebrated by the Sansthan Shri Kalaram Mandir, Panchavati every year.

1. Rahad Rangpanchmi

The traditional celebration took place at Rahads (specially constructed huge pits filled to the brim with water colour) in Shani chowk and Dilli Darwaja. While giving a modern touch to the festival, water showers were set up at Main Road, Gadge Maharaj statue, Sakshi Ganesh temple, Rokdoba Talim, Gulalwadi and other parts of the city, for the people to enjoy. Notably, none of the youngsters anywhere in the city were seen harassing the passers-by while playing colours, informed police sources.

1. Chaitrotsav At Vani

The most important festival of the Saptashrungi temple is Chaitrotsav, "the Chaitra festival". The festival starts on [Rama Navami](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rama_Navami) (the ninth lunar day in the bright fortnight of the Hindu month of [Chaitra](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chaitra)) and culminates on Chaitra Poornima (full moon day), the biggest day of the festival.[[15]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saptashrungi#cite_note-15) The festival is also attended specifically by childless women making vows seeking blessings of goddess for children. About 250,000 attend the festival on the final day and as many as 1 million gather on the last three days of the nine-day festival. The devotees come from states of Maharashtra, [Gujarat](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gujarat), Madhya Pradesh and [Rajasthan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rajasthan). Many devotees also walk all the way from Nashik (60 kilometres (37 mi)), [Dhule](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dhule" \o "Dhule) (150 kilometres (93 mi)) and other towns.[[16]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saptashrungi#cite_note-16) Devotees often circumambulate (see *[pradakshina](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pradakshina" \o "Pradakshina)*) the whole hill. Hindus generally circumbulate the deity or the sanctum, however since the goddess's icon is carved on the hill side, the whole hill has to be circumbulated.

* CONSERTS

1. Sula Fest

The annual live music festival ‘SulaFest’ takes place at their [Nashik](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nashik) winery.[[19]](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sula_Vineyards#cite_note-smartceo2-19)

SulaFest is an annual two-day 'gourmet world music festival' held at Sula Vineyards in [Nashik](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nashik). With an exception to the 10th SulaFest which was a three-day festival. Started in 2008,[[20]](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sula_Vineyards" \l "cite_note-20) this festival offers music, drinks, food, and fashion. Some of the activities the festival-goers can engage in include grape stomping, wine tasting, and camping.[[21]](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sula_Vineyards#cite_note-21)

|  |
| --- |
| **The Must Have Items Of The City** |

|  |
| --- |
| Nashik city is a gem in the crown of Maharashtra. The city is a pilgrimage, shopping hub, industrial center and a true beauty for the eyes. The city is well known for many of its specialities among the frequent visitors. If you are coming to Nashik please do try your hands at the specialities of the city that are listed below. **Specialities of Nashik / Famous Items Nashik**   * **Kismis :** A Kismis is any dried grape. Also popularly known as raisins, currants and sultanas. It is locally known by the name of “Manuka”. You can find many varieties of Kismis in the city depending on its size, color, taste and price. The dry fruit is a healthy food since it contains antioxidant (keeping impurities at bay), is high in fiber (cures constipation), best source of quick energy, lower risk of osteoporosis, good for eyes etc. * **Grapes :** Nashik is very famous for its table and wine grapes. The grapes are sure to tickle your taste buds. The black, green, seed and seedless varities are all popular. Grapes from the city are exported to Europe, the Middle East, and Asia. * **Chivda :** Chivda is a traditional Maharashtrian snack. The Nashik Chivda is very unique and delicious. It is a combination of flattened rice (Poha in Marathi), roasted gram, dried coconut, fried curry leaves, peanuts, sometimes cashews and masalas. Some famous brands selling Nashik Chivda are – Kondaji, Madhavji etc. You must try some and to love it. * **Misal :** The Misal is a delicacy made from the mixture of various sprouts like mung, matki, chana, beans and lots of spicy, oily masala. The Misal Pav is a relatively cheap yet nutritional snack or meal. It is a must must have if you are in Nashik. * **Wine :** Nashik is the “Wine Capital of India”, so how can one miss it when in the city. There are around 33 wineries in and around Nashik. You can get white, red etc types of quality and exclusive Wines in Nashik. * **Guava :** Nashik is also known as the “Kitchen garden” of Mumbai and other neighboring cities. The Guavas (Peru in Marathi) from Nashik are popular for their unique taste. Other fruits like pomegranate, grapes are also good. The vegetables especially the green leafy ones are also very cheap and of fine quality. |