

GENERAL

GEOGRAPHY

CLIMATE

FLORA

DEMOGRAPHICS

CULTURE

# Narkanda

discover the beauty of the hills





# Narkanda

GENERAL

GEOGRAPHY

CLIMATE

FLORA

DEMOGRAPHICS

CULTURE

## General

Narkanda is a town and a nagar panchayat in Shimla district in the Indian state of Himachal Pradesh. It is at an altitude of 2708 meters on the Hindustan-Tibet Road (NH 22) in Himachal Pradesh, India within a fir (abies pindrow) forest. It is about 65 km away from Shimla and surrounded by the Himalayan Range.

It is a skiing resort in winter. It connects Shimla with Rampur and a detour also goes to Thanedhar, the prime apple belt of Himachal Pradesh where Satyananda Stokes started the apple culture.



# Narkanda

GENERAL

GEOGRAPHY

CLIMATE

FLORA

DEMOGRAPHICS

CULTURE

## Geography

Narkanda is located at 31.27°N 77.45°E.[1] It has an average elevation of 2708 metres (8599 feet). Hatu Peak which is at 3200 m (11,155 ft) is 8 km from Narkanda. Kotgarh is 16 km from Narkanda and known for apple orchards. Kumarsain which is 18 km from Narkanda is the nearest town and Narkanda comes under Kumarsain administrative subdivision. Satyanand Stokes brought the apple to this place and helped strengthen the economy of this area. Today Rs 3,000 Crore direct and indirect income is generated through apple production. Presently apple growers are shifting to bring their farm under cherry cultivation to fetch fast money in their pocket as holdings are marginalised due to population factor. The grandson of Mr. Stokes is experimenting to develop new variety of apple for better production.



# Narkanda

GENERAL

GEOGRAPHY

CLIMATE

FLORA

DEMOGRAPHICS

CULTURE

## Climate

This town experiences a pleasant weather throughout the year. During the summer time from April to June, the maximum temperature is around 20°C while the minimum temperature is 10°C. While the months of July to September, Narkanda experiences the monsoon season, the months of November till March are the months when this town is covered in the sheets of snow. The maximum temperature during this time are 7-8°C and can drop till - 5to-10°C during the nights .





# Narkanda

GENERAL

GEOGRAPHY

CLIMATE

FLORA

DEMOGRAPHICS

CULTURE

## Flora

The area is dominated by a large temperate forest mostly consist of Conifer, Oak, Maple, Populus, Aesculus, Corylus, Holly species. Tree species include:

Conifer: There are several species of conifers growing in the area which cover the substantial part of the forest. These include: *Abies pindrow*, *Cedrus deodara*, *Cryptomeria japonica*, *Picea smithiana*, *Pinus wallichiana* and *Taxus contorta*.]

Oak: *Quercus semecarpifolia* and *Quercus floribunda* are native to the area.

Maple: *Acer caesium* and *Acer acuminatum* are native to the area.

Poplar: *Populus ciliata* is native to the area.

Aesculus: *Aesculus indica* is native to the area.

Hazelnut: *Corylus jacquemontii* is native to the area.

Holly: *Ilex dipyrena* is native to the area.

Apart from these trees, there are various species shrubs like *Berberis aristata* and flower plants growing in the area. Recently, the forest has been cleared for the apple orchards.



# Narkanda

GENERAL

GEOGRAPHY

CLIMATE

FLORA

DEMOGRAPHICS

CULTURE

## Demographics

As of 2010 India census, Narkanda had a population of 2712. Males constitute 62% of the population and females 38%. Narkanda has an average literacy rate of 80%, higher than the national average of 59.5%: male literacy is 85%, and female literacy is 72%. In Narkanda, 15% of the population is under 6 years of age.





# Narkanda

[GENERAL](#)[GEOGRAPHY](#)[CLIMATE](#)[FLORA](#)[DEMOGRAPHICS](#)[CULTURE](#)

## Culture

Although being a major destination for adventurous explorers, this town has remained aloof to commercialization and urbanisation. This keeps its essence and beauty intact, along with its culture and heritage. Exclusive to Narkanda is its folk culture. Bakayang dance, Kayang dance, jataru Kayang dance, Bnayangchu dance and Rasa dance are the folk dances which you will witness only in this part of the world. Music is the soul of any place and the music in Narkanda is dominated by an array of authentic instruments like Ektara Chimta, Flute, Ghungroo, Manjara, Ghariyal, etc. This town is famous for its indigenous music. Sung by the locals with their heart and soul, this music is absolutely pleasant to hear. In the true secular style, you will see the inhabitants celebrating Diwali and Holi with as much zeal as they would celebrate Christmas or Lohri with. Along with nature, this town has been gifted with art too. Bamboo items and metal artefacts and jewellery made by the tribes of this area, are world-famous. You can take beautiful souvenirs with you, back home. The cuisine of this little town has a pure Himachali influence, with simple, lip-smacking dishes. Their meaty delights are spicy to suit the

