Chandrapur

**Chandrapur district** (earlier known as *Chanda district*) is a [district](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_districts_of_Maharashtra" \o "List of districts of Maharashtra) in the [Nagpur Division](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nagpur_Division" \o "Nagpur Division) in the [Indian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/India" \o "India) state of [Maharashtra](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maharashtra" \o "Maharashtra). Chandrapur was the largest district in [India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/India" \o "India) until the [Gadchiroli](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gadchiroli_district" \o "Gadchiroli district) and Sironcha [tehsils](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tehsil" \o "Tehsil) were split into separate districts in 1981. In 2011, the district population was 2,204,307.[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chandrapur_district#cite_note-1)

Chandrapur district is known for its [super thermal power station](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chandrapur_Super_Thermal_Power_Station" \o "Chandrapur Super Thermal Power Station), and its vast reserves of coal in [Wardha Valley Coalfield](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wardha_Valley_Coalfield" \o "Wardha Valley Coalfield).[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chandrapur_district#cite_note-2) Chandrapur also has large reservoirs of [limestone](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Limestone" \o "Limestone) which is a raw material for cement manufacturing in the district.

Chandrapur district is known for its cleanliness. Now Chandrapur city is in the top 10 cleanest cities India and 2 in Maharashtra after Navi Mumbai by The minister of housing and urban affairs rank cities based on the cleanliness index.[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chandrapur_district#cite_note-3)

[Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tadoba_Andhari_Tiger_Reserve) in the district is one of India's twenty-eight [Project Tiger](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Project_Tiger" \o "Project Tiger) reserves. The 2015 census of [tigers](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tiger" \o "Tiger) found that 120 of Maharashtra's 170 tigers were located in Chandrapur district.

The Chandrapur district is located in the far east of Maharashtra state. It is part of Nagpur division. The district is in the eastern part of the Vidarbha region. The Chandrapur district is located between 19.30’ N and 20.45’ N latitude and at 78.46’ E longitude. The district is surrounded by [Bhandara](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bhandara,_Maharashtra) and Nagpur districts at its northern side, [Wardha](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wardha_district) and [Yavatmal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yavatmal_district) districts at its western side, Gadchiroli district on the eastern side and [Komaram Bheem](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Komaram_Bheem_district) and [Adilabad](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adilabad_district) districts of [Telangana](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Telangana) state on the southern side. In the Survey of India degree sheet, it falls in NOS 55 LF and 56 I M.

22 lakhs

88.22 %

11,443 km²

Destinations

1mahakali temple

Chandrapur's pride and essence lies in the Mahakali Temple which is iconic to the town. The temple has two entrances with the Ganesh and Hanuman Temples at the rear side with the Shani Mandir positioned next to it. Small shops selling coconut, cloth, incense sticks and flowers are available near both the entry gatesChandrapur's pride and essence lies in the Mahakali Temple which is iconic to the town. The temple has two entrances with the Ganesh and Hanuman Temples at the rear side with the Shani Mandir positioned next to it. Small shops selling coconut, cloth, incense sticks and flowers are available near both the entry gates.  
  
Inside the Mahakali Mandir, one gets to see two idols. The first is the standing deity clad in red, yellow and orange colours while the other is seen in a reclining position. One needs to get below the ground level inside a tunnel to get a glimpse of the reclining deity. Priests assist devotees with various offerings and pujas.

An annual fair is held every year in the month of April.

Shops selling kitchen appliances, toys, bangles, imitation jewellery and clothes along with magic shows and circus could be enjoyed during the fair as well.

Temple-managed dharamshalas for accommodating devotees for free are found in close proximity to the temple premises.

Tuesday is considered most sacred for a worship in the temple.

7:00 AM - 10:00 PM

CHANDRAPUR, MAHARASHTRA, India (IN)

2Tadoba National Park

Notably Maharashtra's oldest and largest National Park, the "Tadoba National Park", also known as the "Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve" is one of India's 47 project tiger reserves existing in India. It lies in the Chandrapur district of Maharashtra state and is approximately 150 km from Nagpur city. The total area of the tiger reserve is 1,727 Sq.km, which includes the Tadoba National Park, created in the year 1955. The Andhari Wildlife Sanctuary was formed in the year 1986 and was amalgamated with the park in 1995 to establish the present Tadoba Andheri Tiger Reserve. The word 'Tadoba' is derived from the name of God "Tadoba" or "Taru," which is praised by local tribal people of this region and "Andhari" is derived from the name of Andhari river that flows in this area. According to the 2010 National Census on Tigers, there are about 43 tigers in the reserve, which is one of the highest in India. Here are some highlights of the park…

* The park is open for visitors from 15th October to 30th June every season and remains full-day closed on every Tuesday.
* The vegetation of Tadoba forest is of Southern tropical dry deciduous type and is spread on around 626 sq.km.
* Teak is the prominent tree species in the forest and there are a few lakes, which makes sure the park has rich water resources.
* Major part of this forest lies in the hilly area, thus many hillocks and terrains provide shelter to the wild animals here.
* It has a dense forest area, smooth meadows, deep valleys, and a great atmosphere to stabilize more numbers of tigers.
* The main attraction of the Tadoba National Park is Jungle or Tiger Safari in an open top gypsy.
* There is good chance to spot the shy Sloth Bear and Wild Dogs.
* One can find some of the Central India’s best native woodland bird species in this forest.
* Accommodation facilities are available and are mainly concentrated among two of its popular entrance gates i.e. Kolara Gate and Mohurli Gate.

The Tadoba National Park is divided into three separate forest ranges, i.e. Tadoba north range, Kolsa south range, and Morhurli range, which is sandwiched in between the first two. There are two lakes and one river in the park, which gets filled every monsoon, the ‘Tadoba Lake,’ ‘Kolsa Lake,’ and ‘Tadoba River.’ These lakes and rivers provide vital ingredients needed to sustain the park’s life.

The Tadoba Tiger Reserve is rich in flora and fauna. Some of the famous and wildly seen flora of this park include, Teak, Ain, Bija, Dhauda, Hald, Salai, Semal, Tendu, Beheda, Hirda, Karaya gum, Mahua Madhuca, Arjun, Bamboo, Bheria, Black Plum, and many others. Apart from this the list of animals noted in this part include, Tigers, Indian leopards, Sloth bears, Gaur, Nilgai, Dhole, Striped Hyena, Small Indian Civet, Jungle Cats, Sambar, Spotted Deer, Barking Deer, Chital, Marsh Crocodile, Indian Python, Indian Cobra, Grey-headed Fish Eagle, Crested Serpent Eagle, Peacock, Jewel Beetles, Wolf Spiders, etc.

Car / Jeep Rs 20/-. per day

Gypsy fee (6 seats) Rs 2,000

Chandrapur, Maharashtra 442401

10am-6pm

3Bhdravati jain temple

It is difficult to find out how much ancient this shrine is but from relics it is definitely known that it is very ancient. The Archeological Department of the Government of India declared this shrine as a protected monument. Till the last century half the portion of the idol remained buried under ground and people of the surrounding called the idol as Kesaria Baba offering to it “Sindur” (Red powder) with faith and devotion. On representations made by Swetamber community householders of Chanda, Wardha and Hinganghar the government handed over the shrine to the community in the year 1912 A.D. with all rights and obligation incumbent thereto. The Governor if Madhya Pradesh at that time Sri Frank Sly having been impressed by the sight of Sri Kesaria Babu donated 142 acres of land for the shrine on behalf of the Government to the Jain community with all entitlements. Therefore extensive repairs and renovations were carried out on the shrine.

On Maha Sukla Panchami in Vikram year 1966 (1910 A.D.) , Sri Chaturbhujabhai, manager of Sri Antarikshji had a dream in which her found himself roaming in a dense forest nearby Bhanduk. Suddenly he saw a Nagdev (snake-God) who showed him a great shrine and indicated that in the city Bhadravari there already existed a shrine of Sri Kesaria Parshvanath Bhagwan which needed resuscitation by him. After this “adesh” (command) the Nagdev disappeared. On the basis of this dream, Sri Chaturbhujabhai started out in search of the shrine on Maha Sukla 9 and during the rambling, he saw this shrine. He narrated the whole story to the community members of Chanda and immediately necessary action began. The community first took over the administration of shrine from the Government of the day and from that day devotees have started calling the Lord as “Sapna Dev” Lord of Dreams Sri Kesaria Parshvanath Bhagwan. Even today many miracles happen here. Every year a festival fair is held on Posh Krishna Dasami, when devout followers in thousands from great distances gather for offering their prayers.

Besides this, in this garden itself are located one temple of Sri Adhishvar Bhagwan, one of Sri Gurumandir and one that of Sri Padmavati Devi.

There are many idols here which are ancient and discovered from under the ground. The relics found from the ruins are worth seeing fro the art displayed in them. In upper portion of the temple there is installed a quadruple idol with faces in four directions. This is a very ancient idol which reflects there different Tirthankars viz, Sri Parshva Prabhu, Sri Chandra Prabhu and Sri Adhinath Prabhu and this is its unique feature.

Panchashil Nagar, Bhadravati, Maharashtra 442902

3Chandrapur Super Thermal Power Station

**Chandrapur Super Thermal Power Station** (often abbreviated as **CSTPS**) is a [thermal power plant](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thermal_power_plant" \o "Thermal power plant) located in [Chandrapur district](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chandrapur_district" \o "Chandrapur district) in the Indian state of [Maharashtra](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maharashtra" \o "Maharashtra). The power plant is one of the coal based power plants of [MAHAGENCO](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maharashtra_State_Power_Generation_Company_Limited" \o "Maharashtra State Power Generation Company Limited). The coal for the power plant is sourced from Durgapur and Padmapur Collieries of [Western Coalfields Limited](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Western_Coalfields_Limited" \o "Western Coalfields Limited).[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chandrapur_Super_Thermal_Power_Station#cite_note-1) The plant was officially inaugurated by the then Prime Minister [Indira Gandhi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indira_Gandhi" \o "Indira Gandhi) on 8 October 1984.[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chandrapur_Super_Thermal_Power_Station" \l "cite_note-2)

With the total capacity of 3340MW,[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chandrapur_Super_Thermal_Power_Station" \l "cite_note-3) the plant is the largest power plant in the Maharashtra. It accounts for more than 25% of [Maharashtra](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maharashtra" \o "Maharashtra)'s total needs.[*[citation needed](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Citation_needed" \o "Wikipedia:Citation needed)*] The plant gets water supply from [Erai Dam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Erai_Dam" \o "Erai Dam) when in normal conditions. In the summer of 2010 due to less water in Erai, the plant also got water supply from [Chargaon Dam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chargaon_Dam" \o "Chargaon Dam).

Open 24 hours everyday

5Ancient Caves

The **Vijasan Caves** are a series of caves containing Buddhist art[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vijasan_Caves#cite_note-:1-1) located near the village of Vijasan in Chandrapur district, [Maharashtra](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maharashtra), India. Some of the caves at Vijasan have been in use since the 1st century AD. The closest nearby city is [Bhadravati](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bhadravati,_Maharashtra). The oldest sites around Vijasan date to the 1st century AD, during the reign of [Yajna Sri Satakarni](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yajna_Sri_Satakarni" \o "Yajna Sri Satakarni) of the [Satavahana dynasty](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Satavahana_dynasty" \o "Satavahana dynasty).[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vijasan_Caves#cite_note-:0-2) Like similar megalithic caves, the caves at Vijasan were cut into stone foothills with intentionally narrow tunnels to prevent collapse.[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vijasan_Caves" \l "cite_note-3) The main cave at Vijasan extends 71 ft (~21 meters) into the rock in a straight line, ending in a chamber with a carved Buddha.[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vijasan_Caves" \l "cite_note-:1-1) The tunnel also contains galleries furnished with wall carvings of religious scenes, though some of these have been damaged. Other, smaller caves and archaeological sites are also present in the area around Vijasan.[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vijasan_Caves#cite_note-:1-1)

By the 19th century, the caves were being used to shelter the village's cattle. The caves were visited by British general [Alexander Cunningham](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexander_Cunningham" \o "Alexander Cunningham), who mentioned them in one of his books.[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vijasan_Caves" \l "cite_note-:0-2) The largest cave has been designated a [Monument of National Importance](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monuments_of_National_Importance" \o "Monuments of National Importance) by the [Archaeological Survey of India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Archaeological_Survey_of_India" \o "Archaeological Survey of India).[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vijasan_Caves#cite_note-:0-2)

8:00 AM - 8:00 PM

6Achaleshwar Mahadeva Temple

The Achaleshwar Madadeva Temple is located just outside the Gond fort in Chandrapur town. As old as 2500 years, the historic temple is the only place where the great toe of Lord Shiva is worshipped. The temple is situated inside the Achalgarh fort and is a holder of the glory of great mythology, theology, folklore and even history.  
  
Achaleshwar Madadeva Temple is a lime structure with intricate carvings with decoration masterpiece of the artisans of the bygone era. The temple also houses a 4 tonnes Nandi statue built from an alloy of five different metals. Apparently, the temple is built around the toe impression of Shiva near an Agni Kund. The sacred bull Nandi is seen in near the entrance facing the sanctum sanctorum. And the statue of Nandi is believed to have protected the temple from Muslim invaders attack by releasing countless bumble bees onto the attackers and defending the temple from destruction. Within the temple is a pit, that is believed to be a doorway to Naraka (Hell). Near the temple is a pond with three massive stone bull statues that are believed to be the demons. The inner Santorum of the temple is built not by marble slabs but by huge marble blocks. There is a large open space for performing parikrama. The temple houses beautiful sculptures of Goddess Chamunda inside the temple along with the shiv lings. This enchanting temple is very popular among the pilgrims and history lovers.  
  
Shivratri festival is celebrated with great devotion and enthusiasm here. Locals and few tousists come to capture the environment in their cameras. Since this place is not as popular as the other places in Chandrapur, not many outsiders come to visit the temple.

6:00 AM - 9:00 PM.

7Anandvan Ashram

Anandwan Ashram in Warora, established in 1951 by a social activist who went by the name of Muralidhar Devidas Amte, or more popularly Baba Amte. The ashram is managed by the Maharogi Sewa Samiti which is a popular organisation for many social services. The Anandwan Ashram is located in Warora, about 49 kms from Chandrapur. It used to be a barren lifeless area which has now been turned to a lovely green forest with the help of the leprosy patients it houses.  
  
The Ashram serves as a community rehabilitation centre for the downtrodden people of the society, essentially the leprosy patients who are down with some disability and are disowned by their families and the society itself. The place provides them with a feeling of belongingness and help them fight the rejection they have been provided with all their lives. The Ashram also gives them an opportunity to contribute to the world and tell them the ways to do it. The Anandwan Ashram is one of the largest institutions of it's kind and attracts a large number of visitors. It is open to every needy of the society and is a very humane programme. The son of Baba Amte who goes by the name of Dr. Vikas Amte is the main head of the Ashram who looks after it and caters to the need of everyone. Baba Amte won many national and international awards because of his working for the society.  
  
When you visit the Anandwan Ashram, you feel peace and happiness looking at the work the place has done for the needy. There are many small scale industries and jobs you can visit that are run by the leprosy patients who have been cured want to make a living around the place itself. The silent and beautiful roads lead to the Ashram and when you enter the place, you find the Krutagyata Bhawan (Gratitude Home). What is inspiring is that the place grew from just a few inmates to thousands over the years. The entry to the Ashram is free of cost and there are no fixed timings.

8 Ballalpur Fort

The Ballalpur Fort, a ruined architecture in the Ballalpur town is one of the famous tourist attractions in the vicinity of Chandrapur in the state of Maharashtra. It is 16 kms southeast of Chandrapur. Ballalpur is recently being recognize for the coal mines and paper mills it possesses, making the Ballalpur fort prone to tourists and visitors. The building, however ruined is still majestic to look at, in the middle of the woods and the wild.  
  
The Ballalpur Fort was built by the Good King Khandakya Ballalshah, who ruled over the place with Ballalpur as the capital city. He is known to establish Chandrapur as well which is one of the famous districts of Maharashtra, known for many tourist attractions. He built the fort on the Eastern bank of the Warda river that flows through the area. The Ballalpur fort was built during 1437-62 AD. The fort, in the shape of a large square is built inside walls and bastions. Most of the buildings which stood tall once are now completely in ruins. However the walls on the outside still stand tall and royal in all their glory. The gates are also intact and they are sat at right angles to each other. On the side of the Warda river exists another small gate.  
  
The fort is one of the three famous forts located in the district of Chandrapur: the Ballalpur fort, the Chandrapur fort and the Manikgarh fort). All of these forts are of tribal origin. The Ballalpur fort, besides it's historical value also holds a certain tourist place value. With the ruins it's set in, the wilderness of the area and the rawness of the whole place, it invites an adventurer right inside. It is a place to visit, admire and bask in. The whole fort takes you to an other place, somewhere far from your worries and daily troubles. It makes you escape into another zone, the feeling of vacations, travelling and exploring sets in. Chandrapur is best to visit during November to February when the temperature is perfect. All the other seasons come with extreme weather conditions.  
  
There is no particular timing to visit the fort as it is open at all times. It is not guarded or maintained. The place is open to animals as well as tourists and one can expect all sorts of surprises in the middle of the wild

all times.

9 Chandrapur Fort

Chandrapur Fort is located within the city limits of Chandrapur. The city gets its name from the fort, which was earlier called Chanda fort and was later renamed as Chandrapur fort. The word 'Chandra' means 'moon' and 'pur' means 'settlement'. The fort was built by the noble king Khandakya Ballal shah during the 13th century.  
  
Chandrapur was ruled by various people before the 12th century after which the Adivasi (indigenous) people (also known as Gond rulers) in India took over the land. The Chandrapur fort is situated in the confluence of Irai and Jharpat rivers, it is no doubt a colossal structure which stretches along the length and breadth of Chandrapur city. The fort has huge walls with small openings at the top, there are four gates through which one can enter this fort they are Jatpura Gate in the north, Acalesvar Gate in the east, Binba Gate in the west and Pathanpura Gate in the south.  
  
The Pathanpura gate is the main gate of the fort, it has beautiful bold arches with carvings on either side of the gate, there are few windows such as Vithoba khidki and Chor khidki. The whole structure reflects the rich Indian architecture, it also symbolises the inviolability of Chandrapur. The fort was occupied by the Marathas after the death of the Gond king. The Maratha's ruled for quite some time after which the fort was annexed by the British, during the pre-independence the fort was vandalised and the actual buildings that were constructed within the fort were taken down leaving the fort walls and gates. After the independence, no major refurbishment took place, which resulted in the exploitation of the fort by the people and was in a bad state. Looking at this wonderful historical structure deteriorating few people grouped together voluntarily helped cleaning the fort up to 6 km and pledged to clean the rest and restore this masterpiece.  
  
As the fort is within the city, you can find many buildings being constructed adjacent the fort, some of the main roads also pass through it. The moment you step into the city you will find various sections of the fort like a jig-saw puzzle where some parts are lost permanently, and others are in desperate need of renovation. The fort can be visited throughout the year rain or shine. There are no fixed visiting hours; however, it is preferred to visit the fort during timings 7:00 AM - 8:00 PM and the entry here is free, the exploration time is one hour. Make sure to carry enough water and wear comfortable clothes also take a hat or an umbrella as the place is quite hot. A pair of binoculars would be great for sightseeing.

7:00 AM - 8:00 PM

Free

Vada Pav

 the Indian version of a burger, which is very famous

Sabudana Vada and khichdi

The vada is simply made with the khichdi but potatoes are added to this and it is deep fried

Kaanda Pohe

This is a popular snack dish amongst chandrapur

Aloo Vadi

 It is basically colocasia leaves mixed with a paste made out of several spices, gram flour and other herbs.

Kothambir Vadi

This crispy green square shaped dish is worth the try.

Makai Chiwda

A snack preparation made of wheat or maize.