

01. Virupaksha Temple

Place - Hampi

District : Vijayanagara

Taluk : Hospet

Locality : Hampi

Geo - Coordinates:

Lat : 15.335213°N

Long : 76.458788 °E



History

The temple consists of a garbhagriha, an antarala, a ardhmantapa and a large mahamantapa. The mahamantapa is also named as rangamantapa. It is an highly ornate structure built by Krishnadevaraya. It is a five aisled mantapa with various types of composite pillars. On all the four sides, along the beams of the clerestory and above them are friezes with many figures in bas-relief. The entrance of the ardhmantapa is flanked by a fine pair of huge dwarapalas (2.7 m). The exterior walls are decorated with many bas-reliefs and has a multipetalled lotus motif in the central ceiling.

The garbhagriha is enclosed by a narrow covered pradakshinapatha. The sikhara is of the tri-tala and has a large central stupa with four smaller stupis at the corners. A linga known as Virupaksha-linga is installed in the sanctum. The walls of the garbhagriha are made up of large plain neatly dressed slabs. The shrine is surrounded by an inner court, with a mahadwara in the east. The gopura of the dwara is named after Krishnadevaraya, which was built by him about 1510 A.D. passing through this gopura one enters the large outer court yard containing many sub-shrines and a large number of mantapas. The gopura of this entrance is about 35 m. Tall. The inner court has number of shrines like, Mukti Narasimha, pataleswara and Navadurga. The north corridor contains two of the earliest structures of the temple, namely the Parvati and Bhuvaneswari shrines. Both have highly ornate and decorated lathe turned pillars, carved ceilings and wide door – Jambs character site of the later Chalukyan style.

3D Point Cloud

