

How to Reach

By Air : The nearest airport is at Khajuraho (175km).

By Rail : The nearest railhead is at Chitrakootdham (Karwi) (11 km) on the Jhansi - Manikpur main line.

By Road : Regular bus services connect Chitrakoot with Jhansi, Mahoba, Chitrakootdham, Harpalpur, Satna and Chhatarpur.

Best Season : October to March

Your Host

Tourist Bungalow

Tel : 07670-265326, 9713548525

E-mail : chitrakoot@mptourism.com

Mandakini Resort

Tel : 07670-265325, 9713548525

E-mail : mandakini@mptourism.com



Tourist Bungalow



Mandakini Resort

MADHYA PRADESH STATE TOURISM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.

HEAD OFFICE-BHOPAL

Marketing Division - Paryatan Bhawan, Bhadbhada Road, Bhopal - 462 003
Tel: 0755-2774340/42, 4027100, 2778383, Fax: 0755-2779476, 2774289, Toll Free: 1800 233 7777,
E-mail: info@mptourism.com

MARKETING OFFICES

AHMEDABAD - 219, 'Supermall' 2nd Floor, Near Lal Bungalow, C.G. Road, Ahmedabad - 380 006
Tel: 079 - 26462977, 9510593900, Mob : 8103750082 Telefax: 079-26462978, E-mail:
ahmedabad@mptourism.com

BENGALURU - Premise No. 4/3, Shop No. 5, Sunkada Chikanna Complex Loop Lane off, Race
Course Road, Gandhinagar, Bengaluru-560009 Tel : 080-25502288, 09407515764, E-mail :
bengaluru@mptourism.com

HYDERABAD - Ground Floor, Balyogi Paryatan Bhavan, Opp. ITC Kakatiya Hotel, Begumpet Main
Road, Hyderabad - 500 016 Tel: 040-40034319, Telefax: 040-23407785,
E-mail: hyderabad@mptourism.com

KOLKATA - 'Chitrakoot', Room No. 67, 6th Floor, 230-A, A.J.C. Bose Road, Kolkata - 700 020
Tel : 033-22833526, Telefax: 033 - 22875855, E-mail: kolkata@mptourism.com

LUCKNOW - Rajarishi Purshotam Das Tandon Paryatan Bhawan, 1st Floor, C-13, Vipin Khand,
Gomti Nagar, Lucknow - 226 010, Tel: 0522-4021413, E-mail: lucknow@mptourism.com

MUMBAI - 45, World Trade Centre, Cuffe Parade, Colaba, Mumbai - 400 005
Tel : 022-22187603, Telefax: 022-22160614, E-mail: mumbai@mptourism.com

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NEW DELHI - Room No.12, Hotel Janpath, Janpath Road, New Delhi - 110 001 Tel: 011-23366528,
23341185/86/87, Telefax: 011-23347264, E-mail: delhi@mptourism.com

NOIDA - Mrgnayane Emporium, Brahmaputra Shopping Complex, Sector 29, Noida
Tel : 0120-4330070, E-mail: noida@mptourism.com

PUNE - Shop No. 6, 1st Floor, Bholse Shrine Arcade, J.M. Road, Deccan Gymkhana, Pune - 411004
Telefax: 020-25536616, E-mail: pune@mptourism.com

RAIPUR - 103 First Floor, MM Silver Plaza, Ring Road No.1 Raipur.
Tel : 0771-4048810, E-mail: raipur@mptourism.com

RAJKOT - 122, First Floor, Cosmo Complex, Near Mahila College Chowk, Kalawad Road,
Rajkot-360001, Tel: 0281-2927966, Mob. : 99429197990, E-mail: rajkot@mptourism.com

SURAT - C/O Gujarat Tourism, Jilla Seva Sadan-2, Block-A, Ground Floor, Athihava Road, Surat
Tel: 0261-2918688, Mob.: 09978794098, E-mail: surat@mptourism.com

VARANASI - 52, Patel Nagar, Mint House, Nadesar, Varanasi (UP) - 221 002
Mobile No. 09235402180, Email : varanasi@mptourism.com

REGIONAL/TOURIST OFFICES

Bhopal - Paryatan Bhawan, Bhadbhada Road, Bhopal Tel:0755-2766750, 2779631

E-mail: bhopal@mptourism.com, **City Booking Office:** Palash Residency Tel: 0755-2550588 E-mail:
ctbhopal@mptourism.com, **Airport Counter Bhopal** Tel: 0755-2646667, E-mail:
bhojairport@mptourism.com, **Tourist Office:** Railway Station, Bhopal, Tel: 0755-2746827 E-mail:
tobhopal@mptourism.com,

Gwalior - Tansen Residency, 6, Gandhi Road, Gwalior Tel: 0751-2234557, 4056726, Fax: 0751-
2340371, E-mail: gwalior@mptourism.com, **Tourist Office, Deori**, Mob. : 09329170105

Indore - 42, Residency Area, Opp. Saint Paul H. S. School, Indore, Tel: 0731-2499566, 2499466,
Telefax: 0731-2491345, E-mail: indore@mptourism.com, **Airport Counter**, Indore, Tel: 0731-
2620404, E-mail: Indoreairport@mptourism.com

Jabalpur - Rani Durgavati "Paryatan Bhawan" Paryatan Tiraha, Near Collectorate North Civil Lines,
Jabalpur Tel: 0761-2677290, Telefax: 0761-2677590, E-mail: jabalpur@mptourism.com

Tourist Information Counter: Khatia (Kantha National Park) Tel: 07649-277242,
E-mail: khatia@mptourism.com

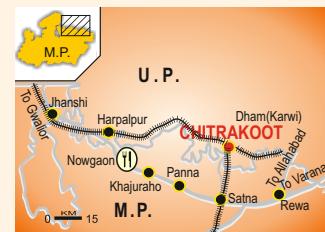
Jhansi - Railway Station, Jhansi, Tel: 0510-2442622, E-mail: tojhansi@mptourism.com

Khajuraho - Tourist Interpretation & Facilitation Centre, Near Circuit House, Khajuraho
Tel: 07686-274051, Fax: 07686-272330, E-mail: khajuraho@mptourism.com **Airport Counter**,
Khajuraho, Tel: 07686-274648, **Tourist Information Counter**, Railway Station, Khajuraho

Pachmarhi - Amaltas Complex, Near Tehsil, Pachmarhi, Tel: 07578-252100, Fax: 07578-252029,
E-mail: pachmarhi@mptourism.com, **Tourist Office** : Bus Stand, Pachmarhi, Tel : 07578-252029,

Ujjain - Tourist Office : Near Mahakaleshwar Temple, Ujjain, Tel : 0734-2552263,
E-mail: toujjain@mptourism.com

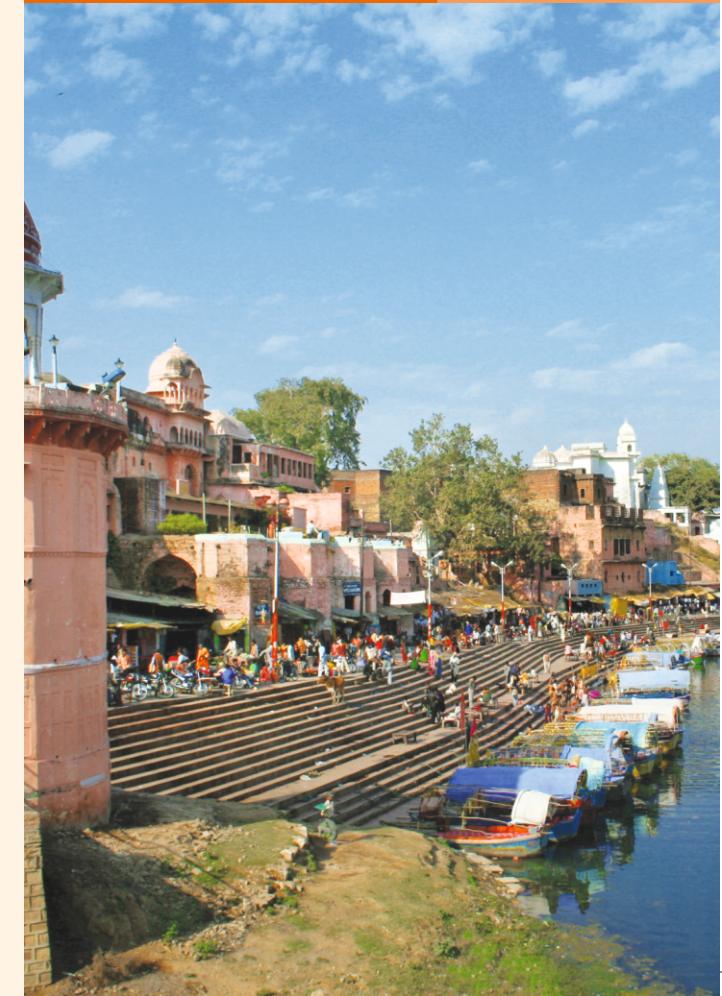
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The heart of
Incredible India

CHITRAKOOT

Abode of the Gods



Chirakoot, 'the hill of many wonders,' nestles peacefully in the northern spurs of the Vindhya range, a place of tranquil forest glades and quiet rivers and streams where calm and repose are all-pervading. This loveliest of Nature's gifts is also hallowed ground, blessed by the gods and sanctified by the faith of pilgrims. For Chitrakoot's spiritual legacy stretches back to legendary ages: it was in these deep forests that Rama and Sita spent eleven of their fourteen years of exile; here, that the great sage Atri and Sati Anusuya meditated; and here where the principal trinity of the Hindu pantheon, Brahma, Vishnu and Mahesh took their incarnations. Sufferers and seekers, poets and visionaries, princes and noblemen have, through the ages, sought and found solace in Chitrakoot, drawn inspiration from its sublime natural beauty, gained spiritual strength from its serene temples and, in turn, become part of the hallowed legend that is Chitrakoot.

What to See

Ramghat : The ghats that line the banks of the river Mandakini reveal a constantly moving and changing kaleidoscope of religious activity. Here, amidst the chanting of hymns and the sweet fragrance of incense, holy men in saffron robes sit in silent meditation or offer the solace of their wisdom to the countless pilgrims who converge here. With the very first rays of dawn that gleam upon the river, Ramghat stirs into life as the devout of all ages take the ritual, purifying dip in the



Chitrakoot is sanctified by the faith of pilgrims

waters and invoke the blessings of the gods. The activity builds up in a crescendo of colour and spontaneous expressions of faith through the day, past high noon, gently diminishing as the setting sun picks out the bright colours of flower petals floating down the river, while the evening 'arti' lends its melodious cadences to the deepening dusk. At all times, Ramghat witnesses a deep and abiding faith which finds expression in the rituals which honour the sanctity of Chitrakoot.

The rippling blue green waters of the Mandakini can be traversed by



Kaleidoscope of religious activity on the banks of the holy Mandakini

boats, readily available for hire.

Kamadgiri : Kamadgiri, the original Chitrakoot, is a place of prime religious significance. A forested hill, it is skirted all along its base by a chain of temples and is venerated today, as the holy embodiment of Rama. The Bharat Milap temple is located here, marking the spot where Bharat is said to have met Rama to persuade him to return to the throne of Ayodhya. Many are the faithful who perform the ritual circuit (parikrama) of the sacred hill, to ask for a boon or a blessing.

Janaki Kund : Upstream from Ramghat is a serenely beautiful stretch of the Mandakini, a symphony of nature in tones of earth-brown and leaf-green, the intense blue of the river waters finding a paler echo in the canopy of the sky. In this idyllic pastoral setting, it is said, Sita would bathe in the crystal clear waters, during the years of her exile with Rama. Certainly, this quiet spot seems to have been specially blessed, for an aura of total harmony and quietude haloed it, setting it apart from the bustle of the everyday world. There are two approaches to Janaki Kund : 2 km up from Ramghat by boat, or by road along a foliage-lined drive.

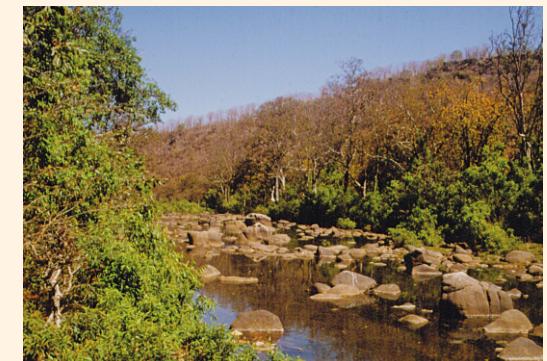
Sati Anusuya : Sati Anusuya is located further upstream, set amidst thick forests that resound to the melody of birdsong all day. It was here that Atri Muni, his wife Anusuya, and their three sons (who were the three incarnations of Brahma, Vishnu and Mahesh), are said to have meditated. The Mandakini is believed to have been created by Anusuya through her meditation. Sati Anusuya lies about 16 km. from the town and can be reached by road - an undulating, curving drive through densely wooded areas.

Sphatik Shila: A few kilometers beyond Janaki Kund is again a densely forested area on the banks of the Mandakini. One can climb up to the boulder which bears the impression of Rama's footprint and where Sita was pecked at, by Jayant in the form of a crow. There are large fish in the river here, easily visible in the pellucid water and a few temples.

Gupt - Godavari : 18 km from the town by road is a natural wonder located at some distance upside of a hill. The wonder here is a pair of caves, one high and wide with an entrance through which one can barely pass, and the other, long and narrow with a stream of water running along its base. It is believed that Rama and his brother Lakshman held court in the latter cave, which has two natural, throne-like rocks.

Hanuman Dhara : Located on a rock-face several hundred feet up a steep hillside is a spring, said to have been created by Rama to assuage Hanuman when the latter returned after setting Lanka afire. A couple of temples commemorate this spot which offers a panoramic view of Chitrakoot. There is an open, paved area here in the shade of a massive peepul tree, a lovely halting place after the long climb up.

Bharat Koop : Bharat Koop is where Bharat stored holy water collected from all the places of pilgrimage in India. It is a small, isolated spot, a few kilometres from town.



Calm and repose are all pervading at Chitrakoot