

Chitragupta AI is an innovative location-based AI application specifically designed for the cities of Patiala, Chandigarh, Kurukshetra and Zirakpur. Developed using Python and integrated with the powerful Stream Gemini API, this project aims to provide residents and visitors with intelligent, real-time information and services tailored to their geographic location. Whether it's finding local businesses, getting updates on traffic conditions, or exploring cultural landmarks, Chitragupta leverages cutting-edge technology to enhance the urban experience and deliver personalized, context-aware insights to its users.

Some special snacking options in patiala :

- 1) Boston and Co : located at leela bhawan Patiala
- 2) HC burger: located at leela bhawan Patiala
- 3) Veera ji malai chaamp : located at bhupindra road Patiala
- 4) The dribbles cafe(TDC): located at leela bhawan Patiala
- 5) Henry chaamp: located at arya samaj Patiala
- 6) Deepak chaamp: located at quila chownk Patiala

Some famous places in Patiala or places to visit in patiala

- 1) Shri Kali Devi mandir
- 2) Gurdwara Dukhniwaran Sahib
- 3) Baradari Gardens
- 4) Omaxe Mall
- 5) Moti Bagh Palace
- 6) Patiala Heritage Walk

History of Patiala

Famous for ‘peg’, ‘pagri’, ‘paranda’ (tasselled tag for braiding hair and ‘Jutti’ (footwear), joyous buoyance, royal demeanor, sensuous and graceful feminine gait and Aristocracy, Patiala presents a beautiful bouquet of life-style even to a casual visitor to the city. A brilliant spectrum of Rajput, Mughal and Punjabi cultures, a fine blend of modernity and tradition and a judicious synthesis of all that is beautiful in form and bold in spirit conjure up a vision called ‘Patiala’.

Patiala, an erstwhile princely state, capital of PEPSU and a district headquarters of Punjab are situated in the Malwa region of Punjab. Malwa has the largest number of districts in the reorganised Punjab, and antiquity of some of the cities goes back to the ancient and early medieval period. Patiala is relatively a young city, a few years more than two centuries old.

In the 18th century, the political vacuum created by the downfall of the Mughals was successfully filled up by the Sikh Misldars in Punjab by thwarting the designs of both the Marathas and the Afghans. One among these independent principalities of the Sikhs was that established by Baba Ala Singh at Patiala.

The early history of the founders of Patiala state is more of a myth mystery than reality. The rulers of the erstwhile states of Patiala, Nabha and Jind trace their ancestry to one Chaudhary Phul. Apparently the appellation of dynasty 'Phulkian' is derived from their common founder. One of his sons, Chaudhary Ram Singh was baptised and blessed by Guru Gobind Singh. His son Ala Singh assumed the leadership in 1714 A.D. when Banda Bahadur was engaged in the fierce struggle against the Mughals. A man with vision and courage, Ala Singh carved out an independent principality from a petty Zamindari of 30 villages. Under his successors, it expanded into a big State, touching the Shivaliks in north, Rajasthan in the south and upper courses of the Jamuna and the Sutlej. While confronting the most trying and challenging circumstances in the middle eighteenth century, Baba Ala Singh, unlike many of his contemporaries, displayed tremendous courage and shrewdness in dealing with the Mughals, Afghans and Marathas, and successfully established and maintained a state which he had started building up bit by bit from its nucleus Barnala. In 1763 Baba Ala Singh laid the foundation of the Patiala fort known as Qila Mubarak, around 'which the present city of Patiala is built.

After the third Battle of Panipat in 1761 in which the Marathas were defeated, the writ of the Afghans prevailed throughout Punjab. It is at this stage that the rulers of Patiala began to acquire ensigns of royalty. Ahmad Shah Abdali bestowed upon Ala Singh drum and banner after latter's death, his grandson Amar Singh, succeeded and received the title of Raja-i-Rajgan. He was also allowed to strike coins, After forty years of ceaseless struggle with the Mughals, Afghans and Marathas, the borders of the Patiala state witnessed the trailing blaze of Ranjit Singh in the north and that of the British in the east. Bestowed with the gift and instinct of survival, and of making right choice at the right time, the Raja of Patiala entered into a treaty with the British against Ranjit Singh in 1808, thus becoming collaborator in the grand empire building process by the British in, the sub-continent of India. The rulers of Patiala such as Karam Singh, Narinder Singh, Mahendra Singh, Rajinder Singh, Bhupinder Singh and Yadvindra Singh were treated with respect and dignity by the British.

It was Maharaja Bhupinder Singh (1900-1930) who gave the Patiala state a prominent place on the political map of India and, in the field of international sports. Most of the buildings with splendid architectural designs were constructed during his reign. His son Yadvindra Singh was among those Indian princes who, readily came forward to sign the Instrument of Accession, thus facilitating the process of national integration. In recognition of his services,

he was appointed the Rajpramukh of the newly established state of PEPSU. Eulogizing his role of the Maharaja in fighting against the intrigues and manoeuvres of the unfriendly and hostile princes of India, Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel the then Deputy Prime Minister and in charge of Home Affairs Ministry remarked :”I must mention the notable contribution which His Highness, the Maharaja of Patiala, has made to the unity and integrity of India. He took the cause of the country at a time when there were few friends amongst the princely order and when serious attempts were being made to balkanize India. It was his patriotic lead that contributed in a large measure, to a change in the attitude of the princes to the problem of accession to the Indian Dominion.”

Though historians have tried to trace the origin of Patiala (as far as the name is concerned) to Rig Vedic literature yet the town as it stands today was founded by Ala Singh with the construction of the Qila Mubarak in the year 1763. One gets the impression as if the city was designed and developed according to a plan akin to that of temple architecture. In the heart of the city was the seat of the king similar to the house of the deity and the residential areas of communities developed almost status-wise. Close to Qila Mubarak were the Mohallas of the Khattris, Aroras, Baniyas along with the big Havelis of the nobility, The first settlers of Patiala were the Hindus of Sirhind, who opened their business establishments outside the Darshani Gate. The lower caste got settled on the peripheral areas of the Patiala city now known as Chur Majris. As in all the medieval towns, there were separate localities of dancing girls. Dharampura Bazar was one such in Patiala, which was frequented by the ruling elite. In the late nineteenth century, the ruling class having been granted huge Jagirs became rich and started constructing huge mansions with sprawling lawns. Some of the buildings though shabbily maintained, stand as mute evidence of that feudal glory. Maharaja Narendra Singh (1845-1862) fortified the city of Patiala by constructing ramparts and ten gates around the city. Some of these gates have been demolished to facilitate the flow of traffic. Inside the walls, besides the residences, there are Mandis and Bazars and a visitor with meagre amount in his pocket can still indulge in the luxury of purchasing traditional goods famous for their art and beauty such as embroidered Juti and Phulkari.

Patiala (Punjabi pronunciation: [pət̪eːːla]) is a city in southeastern [Punjab](#), northwestern [India](#). It is the fourth largest city in the state and is the administrative capital of [Patiala district](#). Patiala is located around the [Qila Mubarak](#) (the 'Blessed Castle') constructed by the [Sidhu Jat Sikh](#) chieftain [Ala Singh](#), who founded the royal dynasty of [Patiala State](#) in 1763, and after whom the city is named.

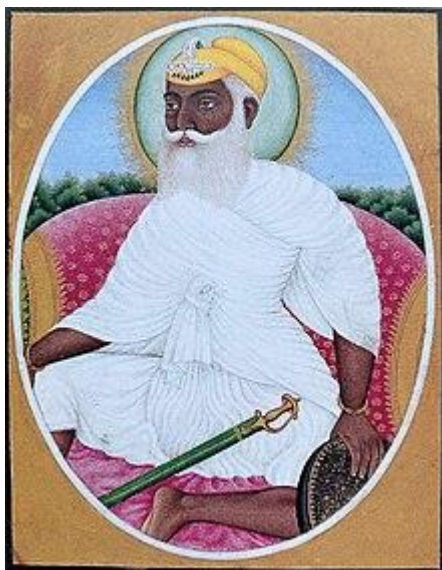
In popular culture, the city remains famous for its traditional [Patiala shahi turban](#) (a type of headgear), [paranda](#) (a tasselled tag for braiding hair), *Patiala salwar* (a type of female trousers), [jutti](#) (a type of footwear) and [Patiala peg](#) (a measure of liquor). Patiala is also known as the Royal City and the Beautiful City.^[2]

Etymology

'Patiala' comes from the roots *pati* and *ala*, the former is a local word for a "strip of land" and 'ala' comes from the name of the founder of the city, [Ala Singh](#). So, 'Patiala' can be translated into English to mean 'the land of Ala Singh'.^[3]

History

Main article: [Patiala State](#)



[Ala Singh](#), the founder of Patiala

Patiala state was established in 1763 by [Ala Singh](#), a [Jat Sikh](#) chieftain, who laid the foundation of the Patiala fort known as [Qila Mubarak](#), around 'which the present city of Patiala is built. After the [Third Battle of Panipat](#) in 1761 in which the [Marathas](#) was defeated by the [Afghans](#), the writ of the Afghans prevailed throughout [Punjab](#). It is at this stage that the rulers of Patiala began to acquire ensigns of royalty. The Patiala state saw more than forty years of a ceaseless power struggle with the [Afghan Durrani Empire](#), [Maratha Empire](#) and the [Sikh Empire](#) of [Lahore](#).

In 1808, the Raja of Patiala entered into a treaty with the [British](#) against [Sikh](#) ruler [Maharaja Ranjit Singh](#) of Lahore in 1808, thus becoming collaborator in the grand empire-building process by the British in the sub-continent of India. Patiala became a [17-gun salute](#) state during the [British Raj](#). The rulers of Patiala such as Karam Singh, Narinder Singh, [Mahendra Singh](#), [Rajinder Singh](#), [Bhupinder Singh](#), and [Yadvindra Singh](#) were treated with respect and dignity by the British.

The city of Patiala was designed and developed according to a plan akin to that of [temple architecture](#), the first settlers of Patiala were the [Hindus](#) of [Sirhind](#), who opened their business establishments outside the Darshani Gate.^[4]

Geography

Patiala is located at [30.32°N 76.40°E](#).^[5] It has an average elevation of 250 metres (820 feet). During the short existence of [PEPSU](#), Patiala served as its capital city.

Climate

Climate data for Patiala (1981–2010, extremes 1901–2010)

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year
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Record high °C (°F)	28.4 (83.1)	33.3 (91.9)	37.8 (100.0)	44.6 (112.3)	47.0 (116.6)	46.4 (115.5)	45.0 (113.0)	42.7 (108.9)	40.6 (105.1)	38.9 (102.0)	35.4 (95.7)	29.4 (84.9)	47.0 (116.6)
Mean daily maximum °C (°F)	19.2 (66.6)	22.0 (71.6)	27.3 (81.1)	34.8 (94.6)	38.6 (101.5)	38.6 (101.5)	34.2 (93.6)	33.0 (91.4)	32.9 (91.2)	31.7 (89.1)	27.3 (81.1)	21.8 (71.2)	30.1 (86.2)
Mean daily minimum °C (°F)	6.6 (43.9)	9.0 (48.2)	13.6 (56.5)	18.6 (65.5)	23.4 (74.1)	26.2 (79.2)	26.5 (79.7)	25.9 (78.6)	23.6 (74.5)	17.3 (63.1)	11.2 (52.2)	7.4 (45.3)	17.4 (63.3)
Record low °C (°F)	−0.9 (30.4)	0.1 (32.2)	3.5 (38.3)	9.9 (49.8)	15.0 (59.0)	18.2 (64.8)	20.4 (68.7)	20.1 (68.2)	15.0 (59.0)	10.0 (50.0)	3.7 (38.7)	0.4 (32.7)	−0.9 (30.4)
Average rainfall mm (inches)	28.2 (1.11)	24.5 (0.96)	15.6 (0.61)	10.6 (0.42)	21.6 (0.85)	73.1 (2.88)	216.9 (8.54)	224.1 (8.82)	120.7 (4.75)	10.3 (0.41)	2.2 (0.09)	10.3 (0.41)	758.1 (29.85)
Average rainy days	2.0	1.7	1.0	1.2	1.6	3.3	7.2	7.3	3.4	0.5	0.3	0.6	30.2
Average <u>relative humidity</u> (%) (at 17:30 <u>IST</u>)	68	61	53	33	31	43	69	76	70	58	59	66	57

Source: [India Meteorological Department](#)^{[6][7]}

Demographics

According to the 2021 census, Patiala UA had a population of 820,000 and Patiala city 763,280.^[1] Males constituted 54% of the population, and females 46%. Patiala had an average literacy rate of 86%, higher than the national average of 64.9%. In Patiala, 10% of the population was under 5 years of age.

Religion

Religion in Patiala City (2011) ^[8]	
Religion	Percent
Hinduism	57.22%

Sikhism	39.96%
Islam	1.87%
Christianity	0.41%
Others	0.54%

[Hinduism](#) is the largest religion in Patiala city, with a significant [Sikh](#) minority.

Religious groups in Patiala City (1881–2011)^[a]

	1881 ^{[10][11]: 52}		1891 ^{[13]: 68}		1901 ^{[15]: 44}		1911 ^{[17]: 23}		1921 ^{[19]: 25}		1931 ^{[21]: 26}		1941 ^{[9]: 32}		2011 ^[22]	
	0 ^{[12]: 250}		[14]		[16]: 26		[18]: 19		[20]: 21							
Religious group	Pop.	%	Pop	%	Pop	%	Pop	%	Pop	%	Pop.	%	Pop.	%	Pop.	%
Hinduism	24,96	46.55	27,6	49.4	27,0	50.5	19,8	42.3	20,2	42.6	22,7	41.2	27,3	39.1	255,	57.2
ॐ	3	%	29	6%	44	1%	74	1%	55	1%	64 ^[b]	9%	61 ^[b]	7%	362	2%
Islam 🕌	21,11	39.38	22,1	39.6	21,5	40.2	19,1	40.7	19,3	40.7	21,5	39.1	26,1	37.3	8,36	1.87
	9	%	21	%	43	3%	54	8%	45	%	91	6%	16	9%	1	%
Sikhism	7,101	13.24	5,75	10.3	4,72	8.82	7,47	15.9	7,45	15.6	10,4	18.9	15,8	22.7	178,	39.9
☪️		%	5	%	0	%	7	2%	5	8%	62	8%	94	5%	336	6%
Jainism	435	0.81%	234	0.42	103	0.19	249	0.53	247	0.52	183	0.33	146	0.21	719	0.16
👤				%		%		%		%		%		%		%
Christianity ✝️	—	—	62	0.11	109	0.2	207	0.44	216	0.45	127	0.23	0	0%	1,82	0.41
				%		%		%		%		%			4	%
Zoroastrianism ✨	—	—	55	0.1	26	0.05	13	0.03	10	0.02	2	0%	—	—	—	—
				%		%		%		%						
Buddhism 🌸	—	—	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	3	0.01	0	0%	—	—	133	0.03
										%						%
Others	11	0.02%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	333	0.48	1,51	0.34
				%		%		%		%		%		%	1	%
Total population	53,629	100%	55,856	100	53,545	100	46,974	100	47,531	100	55,129	100	69,850	100	446,246	100
				%		%		%		%		%		%		%

Government and politics

Civic administration

[Patiala Municipal Corporation](#) (PMC) is the local body responsible for governing, developing and managing the city. PMC is further divided into 60 municipal wards.

Patiala Development Authority (PDA) is an agency responsible for the planning and development of the greater Patiala Metropolitan Area, which is revising the Patiala Master Plan and Building Bylaws. Patiala Development Department, a special department of the Government of Punjab, has been recently formed for overall development.

Patiala consists of three assembly constituencies: Patiala Urban, Patiala Rural, and Sanaur.

District administration

The [Deputy Commissioner](#), an officer belonging to the [Indian Administrative Service](#), is the overall in-charge of the General Administration in the [district](#). He is assisted by a number of officers belonging to the Punjab Civil Service and other Punjab state services.

The brand-new Mini Secretariat on Nabha Road, which houses all the major offices including that of the DC and the SSP, was completed in record time, owing to the initiative of the member of parliament of Patiala and local administration.

In India, an Inspector General (IG) of Police is a two-star rank of the Indian Police Service. The ranks above this are Additional Director General (Addl. DG) and Director General (DG) of police. In Patiala, joint commissioners are at the rank of DIG and only additional commissioners are at the rank of IG.

The [Senior Superintendent of Police](#), an officer belonging to the [Indian Police Service](#), is responsible for maintaining law and order and related issues in the district. He is assisted by the officers of the Punjab Police Service and other Punjab Police officials.

The Divisional Forest Officer, an officer belonging to the [Indian Forest Service](#), is responsible for the management of the Forests, Environment and Wild-Life in the district. He is assisted by the officers of the Punjab Forest Service and other Punjab Forest officials and Punjab Wild-Life officials.

Sectoral development is looked after by the district head officer of each development department such as PWD, Health, Education, Agriculture, Animal husbandry, etc. These officers are from Punjab state services.

[Tourist attractions](#)

Kali Devi Mandir



The [Murti](#) of Maa kali at the [Shri Kali Devi Temple, Patiala](#). The temple was commissioned by the Sikh ruler of Patiala, [Maharaja Bhupinder Singh](#) in 1936.

[Kali Devi Temple](#) is a [Hindu temple](#) dedicated to [Maa Kaali](#). The temple was built by the Sikh ruler of the Patiala State, [Maharaja Bhupinder Singh](#), who financed the building of the temple in his capital and oversaw its installation in 1936. Legend has it that the Maharaja built the temple to protect the city from flooding and performed annual sacrifice at the temple. Bhupinder Singh ruled the princely state of Patiala from 1900 to 1938. He brought the 6-ft statue of Divine Mother Kali and Paawan Jyoti from Bengal to Patiala and offered the first [Bali](#) (sacrifice) of a water buffalo to the temple. Because of the temple's beautiful structure, it has been declared a national monument. This large complex attracts devotees, [Hindu](#) and [Sikh](#), from distant places. ^{[\[citation needed\]](#)}

A much older temple of Raj Rajeshwari is also situated in the center of this complex. The temple is situated opposite the Baradari garden at Mall Road. Devotees offer mustard oil, daal (lentils), sweets, coconuts, bangles, and chunnis, goats, hens, and [liquor](#) to the Divine Mother here. As an average estimate, devotees offer more than 60,000 liquor bottles during Navratras alone, which are distributed to the beggars sitting outside the temple and go into a 'Sharab Kund' built on the temple's premises. ^{[\[23\]](#)}

Gurdwara Dukh Niwaran Sahib



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[Gurdwara Dukh Nivaran Sahib](#), Patiala

According to local tradition, supported by an old handwritten document preserved in the Gurdwara, one Bhag Ram, a Jhivar of [Lehal](#), waited upon the ninth Guru of Sikhs [Guru Tegh Bahadur](#) during his sojourn at Saifabad (now Bahadurgarh). He requested that the Guru might be pleased to visit and bless his village so that its inhabitants could be rid of a severe and mysterious sickness that had been their bane for a long time.

The [Guru](#) visited Lehal on Magh sudi 5, 1728 Bikram/24 January 1672 and stayed under a [banyan tree](#) by the side of a pond. The sickness in the village subsided. The site where Guru Tegh Bahadur had sat came to be known as [Dukh Nivaran](#), literally meaning eradicator of suffering. Devotees have faith in the healing qualities of water in the Sarovar attached to the shrine. It is still believed that any illness can be cured by 'ishnaan' on five consecutive [Panchami](#). It is in the vicinity of Patiala Bus Station.

Gurdwara Moti Bagh



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Gurudwara Moti Baag is situated on the outskirts of Patiala City. When Shri Guru Teg Bahadur started his journey towards [Delhi](#), he came here via [Kiratpur Sahib](#), Bharatgarh Sahib, Roap Makar, [Kabulpur](#), etc. Saint Saif Ali Khan was a great follower of Guru, To fulfill his wish Guru Sahib came to his Place Saifabad (Bahadur Garh). The holly Guru stayed here for 3 Months. Saif Ali Khan Served the Guru with great devotion. In the daytime Guru Teg Bahadur used to meditate on the Place inside the Qila (Fort) and at night time, he would come here. From here the Guru left for [Samana](#) and stayed in the Haveli of Muhamad Bakhshish. From there onward, Guru Sahib left towards Cheeka Via Karhali, Balbera.

Bahadurgarh Fort

The Bahadurgarh Fort is 6 kilometers away from Patiala city. It is situated on Patiala-Chandigarh road. The fort was constructed by [Mughal](#) Nawab Saif Khan in 1658 A.D where [Guru Teg Bahadur](#) visited him and later renovated by a Sikh ruler Maharaja Karam Singh in 1837. The construction of the entire fort was completed in eight years. A sum of ten lakh rupees was spent on its construction. It covers an area of 2 km² (0.77 sq mi). The fort is enclosed within two rounded walls and a moat. The circumference of the fort is slightly over two kilometers.^[24]

The name Bahadurgarh fort was given by Maharaja Karam Singh as a tribute to the Sikh Guru Teg Bahadur who stayed here for three months and nine days before leaving for Delhi where he was executed by [Aurangzeb](#) in 1675 CE.^{[25][26][27][24]} The fort consists of a historical Gurdwara Sahib (a Sikh temple) named Gurdwara Sahib Patshai Nauvin. This Gurudwara shows fine Sikh architecture. This Gurudwara is controlled by the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabhandak Committee. People visit this Gurudwara on the occasion of the festival of Baisakhi on 13 April, every year.^[24]

Qila Mubarak complex



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A gate of the Qila Mubarak in Patiala, built in the 18th century



The Darshani Gate (the main gate of the [Qila Mubarak](#)), built in the 18th century. The city was built around the fort.

The Qila Mubarak complex stands on a 10-acre ground in the heart of the city and contains the main palace or Qila Androon (literally, 'inner fort'), the [guesthouse](#) or Ran Baas and the Darbar Hall. Outside the Qila are the Darshani Gate, a Shiva temple, and bazaar shops which border the streets that run around the Qila and sell precious ornaments, colourful hand-woven fabrics, '[jootis](#)' and bright 'Paradis'.

It was the principal residence of the Patiala royals until the construction of Old Moti Bagh Palace.

The entrance is through an imposing gate. The architectural style of the palace is a synthesis of late Mughal and Rajasthani. The complex has ten courtyards along the north–south axis. Each courtyard is unique in size and character, some being broad, others very small and others mere slits in the fabric of the building. Though the Androon is a single interconnected building, it is spoken of as a series of palaces. Each set of rooms makes a cluster around a courtyard, and each carries a name: Topkhana, Qila Mubarak, Sheesh Mahal, Treasury, and Prison. Ten of the rooms are painted with frescoes or decorated intricately with mirrors and gilt.

In a tiny portion of the complex is a little British construction with Gothic arches, fireplaces made of marble, and built-in toilets perched on the Mughal Rajasthani roof. Burj Baba Ala Singh has had a fire smouldering ever since the time of Ala Singh, along with a flame brought by him from Jwalaji. Every year it's decorated beautifully for the Heritage Festival.

Sheesh Mahal



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The suspension bridge at Sheesh Mahal, Patiala

A part of the Old Moti Bagh Palace built in the 19th century by the Maharajas is the famous Sheesh Mahal, literally meaning the Palace of Mirrors. The mahal contains a large number of frescoes, most of which were made under His Highness Maharaja Narinder Singh. A lake in front of the palace adds to the beauty. Lakshman Jhula, a bridge built across the lake, is a famous attraction. A museum housing the largest collection of medals from the world collected by [His Highness Maharaja Bhupinder Singh](#) is here.

Currently, the museum along with the main building is closed for public viewing because of renovation. However, tourists can access the surroundings of the Mahal along with the Lakshman Jhula.

Baradari Gardens



Rajindra Kothi, Patiala located in the Baradari Gardens, now a heritage hotel

The Baradari Gardens, the garden with 12 gates, are in the north of old Patiala city, just outside Sheranwala Gate. The garden complex, set up during the reign of Maharaja Rajindera Singh, has extensive vegetation of rare trees, shrubs, and flowers dotted with impressive Colonial buildings and a marble statue of Maharaja Rajindera Singh. It was built as a royal

residence with a cricket stadium, a skating rink, and a small palace set in its heart named Rajindera Kothi. The gardens include a museum building with collections of Maharaja Ranjeet Singh.

After extensive restoration, it opened as a heritage hotel run by [Neemrana Hotels](#) group in 2009. It is Punjab's first heritage hotel. It is near Press Club Patiala which was established in 2006 and is now headed by Parveen Komal, president. ^[28]



Royal Dining Hall

Press Club Patiala is situated at Barandari Garden Near 20 No. Railway Crossing. Headed by Mr. Parveen Komal President www.pressclubpatiala.com. It was established by Captain Amrinder Singh Chief Minister Of Punjab in 2006.

12 Royal Gates of Patiala

- Darshani Gate - Main entrance of Quilla Mubarak
- Sanouri Gate
- Lahori Gate
- Sherawala Gate
- Sunami Gate
- Sirhindi Gate
- Ghalori Gate
- Safabadi Gate
- Top Khana Gate
- Nabha Gate
- Samania Gate
- Rajindera Gate

National Institute of Sports

Founded in 1961, [Netaji Subhas National Institute of Sports](#) (NIS) is Asia's largest sports institute in princely city of Patiala. The institute was renamed Netaji Subhas National Institute of Sports in January 1973.



Netaji Subhash National Institute of Sports (NSNIS), Patiala

NIS is housed in the Old Moti Bagh palace of the erstwhile royal family of Patiala, which was purchased by the government of India after Indian Independence. Today, several sports memorabilia, like a has (doughnut-shaped exercise disc), weighing 95 kg, used by the Great Gama for squats, Major Dhyan Chand's gold medal, from 1928 Amsterdam Olympics, and PT Usha 1986 Seoul Asiad shoes, are housed at the National Institute of Sports Museum. ^[29]

Patiala Central State Library



Central library Patiala 02

Patiala Central State Library is one of the oldest libraries in the state. It was opened in 1956. It is named after the former Punjab Chief Minister Giani Gurmukh Singh Musafir. The library has a rare collection of books. There are more than 1,35,000 books in the library. Out of it, more than 15,000 books are archival books and 3,000 rare manuscripts. ^[30]

Culture and traditions



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[Phulkari](#) from Patiala

Patiala's sway over the Malwa area extended beyond merely political influence. Patiala was equally the set of religious and cultural life. Educationally, Patiala was at the forefront. Patiala was the first town in this part of the country to have a degree college – the [Mohindra College](#) – in 1870.

Patiala has seen the evolution of a distinct style of architecture. Borrowing from the [Rajput](#) style, its beauty and elegance are molded according to the local traditions.



Phul Cinema on the Mall facing the Fountain Chowk is built in [Art Deco](#) style

With the active patronage of the Maharajas of Patiala, a well-established style of [Hindustani](#) music called the "[Patiala gharana](#)" came into existence and has held its own up to the present times. This school of music has had several famous musicians, many of whom came to Patiala after the disintegration of the [Mughal Court](#) at [Delhi](#) in the 18th century. At the turn of the century, Ustad Ali Bux was the most renowned exponent of this Gharana. Later, his sons Ustad [Akhtar Hussain Khan](#) and [Ustad Bade Ghulam Ali Khan](#) achieved worldwide fame and brought glory to the Patiala Gharana.

After the partition of British India, the Muslim community was massacred or forced to flee the city en masse to [Pakistan](#). At the same time, many [Hindu](#) and [Sikh](#) refugees migrated from Pakistan and settled on the Muslim properties in Patiala. The then Maharaja of Patiala, [His Highness Yadavindra Singh](#), [Rajpramukh](#) of [PEPSU](#) with his wife [Her Highness Maharani Mohinder Kaur](#) organized a large number of camps and worked tirelessly for the people.

Transport

[\[31\]](#)

It is connected to cities like Ambala, Kaithal, Chandigarh, Amritsar, Delhi etc. by road. Patiala is well connected to cities like Ludhiana, Jalandhar and Amritsar, on NH 1 via State

Highway no. 8 till Sirhind, which is on NH 1. Patiala is well connected to Delhi by road as well as by rail. NH 64 (Zirakpur – Patiala – Sangrur – Bhatinda) connects Patiala with Rajpura (on NH 1 and very well connected to Delhi) and [Zirakpur](#) (suburb of Chandigarh). Patiala has a [railway station](#) under [Ambala railway division](#) and [Patiala Airport](#), which is not operational. The nearest domestic airport is [Chandigarh Airport](#), which is approximately 62 km (39 mi) from the city. Patiala is located very close to Nabha city. The distance between Patiala and Nabha is approximately 27 km (17 mi) and it takes approximately half an hour by road to reach Nabha.^[32]

Patiala is connected by road to all the major towns.

Education



[Mohindra College](#), Patiala

Since [Indian independence](#) in 1947, Patiala has emerged as a major education centre in the state of Punjab. The city houses the [Thapar Institute of Engineering and Technology](#),^[33] [LM Thapar School of Management](#),^[34] [Jagat Guru Nanak Dev Punjab State Open University](#), [Punjab Sports University](#), [Punjabi University](#),^[35] [Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law](#),^[36] [General Shivdev Singh Diwan Gurbachan Singh Khalsa College](#),^[37] [Government Mohindra College](#), [Aryans College of Law](#), [Multani Mal Modi College](#), [Government Medical College, Patiala](#), [Thapar Polytechnic College](#), and [Govt. Bikram College of Commerce](#),^[38] one of the premier commerce colleges in northern India.

[Netaji Subhas National Institute of Sports](#), Patiala is a sports hub of north India. [Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law](#), Patiala^[39] was the first national law school of the north region established under the Punjab Government Act of 2006.

List of Universities in Patiala:

Name	Type of university
Punjabi University	State University
Thapar University	Deemed University
Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law	National University
Punjab Sports University	State University
Jagat Guru Nanak Dev Punjab State Open University	State University
Chitkara University	Private University

Notable schools:

- [The British Co-Ed High School](#)
- [Our Lady of Fatima Convent Sec. School](#), Patiala



This section **may contain [unverified](#) or [indiscriminate](#) information** in [embedded lists](#). Please help [clean up the lists](#) by removing items or incorporating them into the text of the article.
(April 2024)

- [Guru Nanak Foundation Public School](#), Patiala
- [St. Peter's Academy, Patiala](#)
- [Yadavindra Public School, Patiala](#) (YPS Patiala)

Sports

Patiala is home to numerous inter-state sporting teams in tournaments like Black Elephants. The city has facilities for cricket, swimming, shooting, skating and hockey. The city has stadiums such as Dhruv Pandove Ground, Raja Bhalinder Stadium, Yadavindra Sports Stadium (YPS) and [National Institute of Sports](#).

The latest addition to sports is the state-of-the-art shotgun shooting ranges housing New Moti Bagh Gun Club in village Maine. Founded by the royal family of Patiala, these ranges are home to the Indian Shotgun Shooting team who routinely trains here. It has recently hosted the 2nd Asian Shotgun Championship.^[40]

Notable people

Some special snacking options in zirakpur:

- 1) Chaat ka Chaska(CKC): located at oxford street zirakpur
- 2) Circle of Crust : located at oxford street zirakpur
- 3) Sahil Chinese cuisine : located at VIP road zirakpur
- 4) Xero degrees: located at oxford street zirakpur
- 5) PB65 : located at oxford street zirakpur

Chandigarh, the capital of the northern Indian states of Punjab and Haryana, is a city known for its unique architecture, clean streets, and well-planned urban design. Designed by the Swiss-French modernist architect Le Corbusier, Chandigarh is a city that beautifully blends nature with urbanization. Whether you're a history buff, a nature lover, or a foodie, Chandigarh has something to offer for everyone. Here's a comprehensive guide to the must-visit places and street food delights in Chandigarh.

Following is the list of famous places in Chandigarh:

Rock Garden

Location: Sector 1

Description: Created by Nek Chand, this garden is a stunning 40-acre sculpture garden made entirely of industrial & home waste. The Rock Garden is a testament to creativity and resourcefulness, with intricate pathways, waterfalls, and sculptures.

Sukhna Lake

Location: Sector 1

Description: A man-made reservoir at the foothills of the Himalayas, Sukhna Lake is a serene spot perfect for boating, picnics, and leisurely walks. It's also a haven for bird watchers, especially during the winter months when migratory birds visit.

Rose Garden

Location: Sector 16

Description: Also known as Zakir Hussain Rose Garden, this is Asia's largest rose garden, spread over 30 acres. It boasts more than 1,600 different species of roses and several fountains, making it a delightful spot for nature lovers.

Elante Mall

Location: Industrial Area, Phase I

Description: One of the largest shopping malls in India, Elante Mall offers a wide range of shopping, dining, and entertainment options, including international brands and a multiplex.

Sector 17 Plaza

Location: Sector 17

Description: The commercial heart of Chandigarh, Sector 17 is a bustling area with numerous shops, cafes, and restaurants. It's a great place for shopping and experiencing the city's vibrant atmosphere.

Capitol Complex

Location: Sector 1

Description: A UNESCO World Heritage Site, the Capitol Complex includes the Legislative Assembly, the High Court, and the Secretariat. Designed by Le Corbusier, this complex is a marvel of modern architecture.

Pinjore Gardens

Location: Pinjore, Haryana (about 20 km from Chandigarh)

Description: Also known as Yadavindra Gardens, these historic Mughal gardens are famous for their lush greenery, fountains, and traditional Mughal architecture.

Snacking options in Chandigarh:

Chandigarh's Sector 22 Market

Specialties: Chaat, Golgappa, Aloo Tikki

Description: This market is a paradise for street food lovers. The chaat stalls here offer a variety of tangy and spicy snacks that are a must-try.

Garg Chaat

Location: Sector 23

Specialties: Chaat, Dahi Bhalla, Bhalla Papdi

Description: Known for its delicious and hygienic chaat, Garg Chaat is a favorite among locals and tourists alike.

Indian Coffee House

Location: Sector 17

Specialties: South Indian dishes, Coffee

Description: A nostalgic spot serving affordable and tasty South Indian fare along with its famous coffee, this place is perfect for a quick bite.

Bholey di Hatti

Location: Sector 44

Specialties: Chole Bhature

Description: Famous for its spicy and flavorful chole bhature, Bholey di Hatti is a must-visit for anyone craving this iconic North Indian dish.

Sindhi Sweets

Location: Multiple locations

Specialties: Sweets, Chaat, Snacks

Description: A popular chain in Chandigarh, Sindhi Sweets offers a wide variety of sweets and savory snacks, perfect for satisfying your sweet tooth and hunger pangs.

Kulfi at Kesar da Dhaba

Location: Sector 35

Specialties: Kulfi

Description: This place serves some of the best kulfi (traditional Indian ice cream) in town. It's a perfect dessert to cool off after a day of exploring.

Chandigarh's Night Food Street

Location: Near PGIMER, Sector 14

Specialties: Mixed cuisines, late-night snacks

Description: This food street comes alive at night, offering a variety of snacks and meals ranging from Punjabi to Chinese, catering to the late-night crowd.

Conclusion

Chandigarh, with its blend of modernity and tradition, offers a unique experience for visitors. From architectural marvels and lush gardens to bustling markets and mouth-watering street food, the city has something to offer everyone. Whether you're visiting for a short trip or planning an extended stay, make sure to explore these spots to truly experience the essence of Chandigarh.

Zirakpur got its name from a small village, which is now a part of the present Zirakpur town. For long it remained a bunch of small villages located along the Chandigarh-Ambala highway. Then Chandigarh started to expand, and these villages started to seem like a part of Chandigarh. Before the year 2000, the city had a population of less than twenty thousand. Soon a small village Baltana, which is a part of Zirakpur now, started having some population growth being near Panchkula and Chandigarh. The upcoming 5500-acre GMADA Aerotropolis project near Dayalpura has increased the interest of investors in the region.

Zirakpur is a planned[2] satellite city, in Mohali District, Punjab, neighboring Mohali, Chandigarh in India. It is set on the foothills of Shivalik hills. It is part of the tehsil Dera Bassi. It is the gateway to Chandigarh from Delhi. It comprises mainly the following areas near Chandigarh Airport including VIP Road, Dhakoli, Lohgarh, Bhabat, Bishanpura, Kishanpura, Nabha, Gazipur, Baltana, Singhpura, Peer Muchalla and Dyalpura. This town is situated on the junction of national highways Himalayan Expressway, National Highway 5 (India) towards Shimla, Ambala Chandigarh Expressway towards Ambala and National Highway 7 (India) towards Patiala.

Dayalpura: The nearest area to the planned urban estate of Aerocity, IT city Mohali and Chandigarh International Airport. The 200 ft wide planned road through Dayalpura would connect Zirakpur directly to Besttech tower chauk in Mohali near Chandigarh border, shortening the distance of whole Zirakpur. There is a large chunk of shaamlat (Municipal council) land, where govt has planned a Govt Medical College & hospital[3] like GMCH 32. A top-class stadium for special sportspersons,[4] a police station, a fire station, startup incubation centre, and a big municipal park are also planned here because of the need and demand. A new high-end market with ample parking is going to come up on 82 ft wide that would connect 'High Ground Road' to Airport Road and Aerocity. The area is a leading destination in attracting real estate investments in Zirakpur. HighGround road is becoming the next VIP road.

Chatt: The Chattbir Zoo (Mahinder Singh Zoological park) is famous all around northern India, and sees a large number of daily tourists. A lake is being planned adjacent Chattbir and Shatabgarh on the dam on river Ghaghar.

According to the [Puranas](#), Kurukshetra is a region named after [King Kuru](#), the ancestor of Kauravas and Pandavas in the [Kuru kingdom](#), as depicted in epic [Mahabharata](#). The [Kurukshetra War](#) of the [Mahabharata](#) is believed to have taken place here. [Thaneswar](#) whose urban area is merged with Kurukshetra is a pilgrimage site with many locations attributed to [Mahabharata](#).^[3]

In the Vedas Kurukshetra is described not as a city but as a region ("[kshetra](#)" means "region" in Sanskrit). The boundaries of Kurukshetra correspond roughly to the central and western parts of the state of [Haryana](#) and Punjab. According to the [Taittiriya Aranyaka](#) 5.1.1., the Kurukshetra region is south of Turghna (Srughna/Sugh in [Sirhind](#), Punjab), north of [Khandava](#) (Delhi and [Mewat](#) region), east of [Maru](#) (desert), and west of Parin.^[4]

According to the [Vamana Purana](#), King Kuru chose land at the banks of the [Sarasvati River](#) for embedding spirituality with eight virtues: austerity ([Tapas](#)), truth ([Satya](#)), forgiveness (Kshama), kindness ([Daya](#)), purity (Shuddha), charity ([Daana](#)), devotion ([Yajna](#)), and conduct ([Brahmacharya](#)). Lord [Vishnu](#) was impressed with the acts of King Kuru and blessed him with two boons—first, that this land forever will be known as a Holy Land after his name as Kurukshetra (the land of Kuru); second that anyone dying on this land will go to heaven.

The land of Kurukshetra was situated between two rivers—the [Sarasvati](#) and the [Drishadvati](#).

History

[Kuru Kingdom](#), founded by [King Puru](#)—the ancestors of [Kauravas](#) and [Pandavas](#) Vedic [Indo-Aryan](#) tribal union in northern [Iron Age](#)^{[5][6]} (c. 1200 – c. 900 BCE), developed into the first recorded [state-level society](#) ([janapada](#)) in the [Indian subcontinent](#).^{[7][8][9]} This kingdom documented their ritual hymns into collections called the [Vedas](#), and developed new rituals which gained their position in [Indian civilization](#) as the [Srauta](#) rituals,^[7] which contributed to the "classical synthesis"^[9] or "[Hindu synthesis](#)" (roots of Hinduism).^[10] It was the dominant political and cultural center of the middle Vedic Period during the reigns of [Parikshit](#) and [Janamejaya](#),^[7] but declined in importance during the late Vedic period (c. 900 – c. 500 BCE) and had become "something of a backwater"^[9] by the [Mahajanapada period](#) in the 5th century BCE. Traditions and legends about the Kurus continued into the post-Vedic period, providing the basis for the [Mahabharata](#) epic.^[7] The time-frame and geographical extent of the Kuru kingdom (as determined by [philological study](#) of the Vedic literature) corresponds with the archaeological [Painted Grey Ware culture](#).^[9]

Kurukshetra was conquered by the [Mauryan](#) empire in the late 4th century BCE and subsequently became a center of Buddhism and Hinduism. The history of Kurukshetra is little-known in between the collapse of the Mauryans and the rise of the [Kushans](#) who conquered the region. After the decline of Kushan power in the region, Kurukshetra became independent only to become conquered by the [Gupta empire](#) in the early 4th century CE. Under Gupta rule, Kurukshetra experienced a cultural and religious revival and became a center for Hinduism. After the fall of the Gupta, the [Pushyabhuti dynasty](#) ruled over Kurukshetra.^[11]

Kurukshetra reached the zenith of its progress during the reign of King [Harsha](#) (c. 590–647 CE) during which Chinese scholar [Xuanzang](#) visited Thanesar. Civil war broke out when Harsha (of the Pushyabhuti dynasty) died without a successor in 647. A Kashmiri army briefly conquered Kurukshetra in 733 but were unable to establish dominion in the area. In 736, the [Tomara dynasty](#) was founded and they took over the region. Around the early 9th century, Kurukshetra lost its independence to Bengal. [Mahmud of Ghazni](#) sacked Kurukshetra in 1014 and Muslim raiders sacked it in 1034. Kurukshetra was incorporated into the [Delhi Sultanate](#) in 1206. Other than a short moment of independence from the result of a rebellion within the Sultanate in 1240, Kurukshetra was under the control of Delhi until 1388.^[11]

Kurukshetra became independent once again after the steep decline of the Delhi Sultanate and the raids of [Tamerlane](#) near the region. The [Sayyid dynasty](#) incorporated Kurukshetra into their territory though the city likely enjoyed some autonomy. The area was much more firmly controlled under the subsequent [Lodi dynasty](#). Some damages to Kurukshetra and its structures occurred during this period. Kurukshetra became part of the [Mughal Empire](#) after [Babur](#) quashed a local rebellion in 1526. Under [Akbar](#), Kurukshetra once again became a spiritual center not only for Hindus but also for Sikhs and Muslims.^[11]

Between the late 17th and early 18th centuries, Kurukshetra was controlled by the forces of the [Maratha Empire](#) until the British took over Delhi in 1803. In 1805, the British took Kurukshetra after defeating the Maratha forces in the [Second Anglo-Maratha War](#), who were controlling the city. Since 1947, Kurukshetra has become a popular spiritual center and has seen much infrastructure, development, and restoration of old structures.^[11]

Geography

[Wikimedia](#) | © [OpenStreetMap](#)

Show zoomed inShow zoomed midShow zoomed outShow all

Kuruksetra is located at around 30° North and 77° East.


Kurukshetra city is surrounded by [Patiala](#), [Ludhiana](#), [Jalandhar](#), [Amritsar](#) to the northwest, [Ambala](#), [Chandigarh](#), [Shimla](#) to the north, [Yamuna Nagar](#), [Jagadhri](#), [Dehradun](#) to the northeast, [Pehowa](#), [Cheeka](#), [Mansa](#) to the west, [Ladwa](#), [Saharanpur](#), [Roorkee](#) to the east, [Kaithal](#), [Jind](#), [Hisar](#) to the southwest, [Karnal](#), [Panipat](#), [Sonipat](#), [New Delhi](#) to the south, and [Shamli](#), [Muzaffarnagar](#), [Meerut](#) to the southeast.


Climate


The climate of the district varies as the temperature in summer reaches as high as 47 °C (117 °F), and as low 1 °C (34 °F) in winter, with rains in July and August.


Demography

Religion in Kurukshetra city (2011) ^[12]

 Hinduism (83.47%)

 Sikhism (14.55%)

 Islam (1.66%)

 Christianity (0.20%)

 Other/Not Stated (0.12%)

In 2017, the government declared Kurukshetra a holy city and the sale, possession, and consumption of meat are banned within the limits of the Municipal Corporation due to its religious significance.^[13]

Transport

[Kurukshetra Junction railway station](#) is a [junction station](#) at the junction of [Delhi–Kalka line](#) and Kurukshetra–Jind branch line.^[14] It serves Kurukshetra and [Thanesar](#) city.

Tourism

Kurukshetra is an important Hindu pilgrimage destination, and there are several pilgrimage sites surrounding the city. The [Hindi](#) phrase [48 kos parikrama](#) refers to a roughly 90-km traditional circle ([Parikrama](#)) around the holy city (1 kos equals about 3.00 km or 1.91 miles), and a complete [parikrama](#) refers to a pilgrimage to all these sites on foot.^{[15][16]} The International [Gita Mahotsav](#), held every year in Kurukshetra on the [Shukla Ekadashi](#)—the 11th day of the [waxing moon](#) of the [Margashirsha](#) (*Agrahayan*) month of the [Hindu calendar](#), celebrates the day [Bhagavad Gita](#) was revealed to [Arjuna](#) by [Krishna](#) in the [battlefield of Kurukshetra](#).^[17]

Hindu religious sites

- [Brahma Sarovar](#): Every year [lakhs](#) (hundreds of thousands) of people come to take a holy bath at Brahma Sarovar on the occasion of "Somavati Amavasya" (Sacred No-Moon Day that happens on a Monday) and on solar eclipses. They believe that a bath in the holy Sarovar frees all sins and cycle of birth-death. The Sarovar is one of Asia's largest man-made ponds.^[18] [Hindu genealogy registers](#) are kept here.
- [Sannihit Sarovar](#): The pond is believed to be the meeting point of seven sacred Saraswatis. The Sarovar, according to popular belief, contains [sacred water](#). Bathing in the waters of the tank on the day of Amavasya (night of complete darkness) or on the day of an eclipse bestows blessings equivalent to performing the Ashvamedh Yajna.
- [Jyotisar](#): The famous site where [Bhagavad Gita](#) was delivered to Arjuna under the tree. The tree of that time is witness to Gita.
- [Sthaneshwar Mahadev Temple](#)

Museums

- [Kurukshetra Panorama and Science Centre](#): A mural depiction of the Mahabharata war.
- [Dharohar Museum](#): A museum about the tradition and cultural depiction of Haryana located in [Kurukshetra University](#).

Historical sites

- [Sheikh Chilli's Tomb](#): This monument is maintained by the [Archaeological Survey of India](#). It was built during the [Mughal era](#) in remembrance of Sufi Saint Sheikh Chehli, believed to be the spiritual teacher of Mughal Prince [Dara Shikoh](#). The Prince's main 'Murshid' or 'Sheikh' (Spiritual Guide), however, is historically known to have been Hazrat Sheikh [Mian Mir](#) Sahib, of [Lahore](#),^[19] although Sheikh Chehli might have been an additional teacher. Another theory is that the site of the so-called [maqbara](#) or tomb. Sheikh Chaheli's Tomb and the madarasa are associated with the Sufi saint Abdu'r-Rahim alias Aabd-ul-Razak, popularly known as Shaikh Chehli (also pronounced Chilli).^[20]
- The Pathar Masjid is built of red sandstone and is known for its fluted minaret.
- [Nabha House](#), a palatial building was constructed by the royal family of Nabha principality.^[21]

