Karma
ROYAL
MONTE RIO
GOA, INDIA

DESTINATION PROFILE

WE CREATE... EXPERIENCES

HOW TO GET THERE

Coming from Goa International Airport :

Goa is connected by air, road and rail. The drive from the Goa International airport is 42 kms which passes the scenic landscape through the quaint and peaceful villages of Saligao.

The nearest railway station is at Thivim which is 22 kms from the resort. The other railway station is Madgao railway station which is 90 kms from the resort. Bus terminal is at Panaji which is 18 kms from the resort.

Services of Taxi's can be availed from the prepaid counter at the airport or railway station or at the bus terminal in Panaji.

Taxi Services t the Airport :
Prepaid Airport Taxi Counter;
c/o. Goa International
Airport, Vasco
Phone Number :
+91 (0) 97647 51235
Website :
www.taxi2airport.com

Taxi service at the Margao Railway Station:
Prepaid Taxi Counter; c/o.
Goa International Airport,
Vasco
Phone Number :
+91 (0) 95450 08100
Website :
prepaid-taxi.business.site

Taxi service at the Resort:
KARMA ROYAL MONTERIO
Phone Number :
+91 832 6716200
Email :
monterio@karmagroup.com

Where to buy groceries
LAS VEGAS SUPERMARKET
Address :
No: 26/6, Viegas Vaddo,
Arpora, Bardez, Goa, 403509
Open : 7.30 Am to 10:30PM
Phone : +91 (0) 95455 36367

Britto's Bar & Restaurant, Baga

Britto's Bar & Restaurant, Baga

Norling Restaurant

GOA ON THE PLATE

—

OUR TOP PICKS OF RESTAURANTS
IN THE REGION

Britto's Bar & Restaurant, Baga

Brittos bar & restaurant is located on the famous Baga beach in Calangute, Goa. It is a restaurant that has a very beautiful ambience and is a great place to spend the evenings in Goa.
The Brittos restaurant specialises in Goan, Chinese, Tandoor & Continental cuisine and is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner. One can get some mouth-watering and relishing food here and the sea-food platter is just mesmerizing.

Open daily from 9:00AM to 12:00AM
House No.7, 171, Calangute - Baga Rd, Saunta Vaddo, Baga, Goa

+91 8322277331 | 073876 27948

Jamies Restaurant, Baga

Making way for a hearty meal is Jamies Restaurant in Goa. Established in the year 2009, this place is synonymous with delicious food that can satiate all food cravings. It is home to some of the most appreciated cuisines which include Continental, Italian.

Open daily from 12:00PM to 11:00PM
Survey No 259/2A, Near Baga Bridge, Calangute, Goa - 403516, Arpora

+91 9764364377 | +91 9764362379 | www.thefishermanswharf.in

Baba Au Rhum, Anjuna

Thalassa - Greek restaurant, Vagator

Thalassa - Greek restaurant, Vagator

Thalassa - Greek restaurant, Vagator

Perched on a hilltop, overlooking the magnificent Arabian Sea and picturesque small Vagator beach lies Thalassa. Not just a Greek taverna in Goa, but a place where the warmth and sheer happiness of Greek hospitality amalgamates instinctively with the laid back, free and tranquil atmosphere and vibe of Goa.With multi-generational family recipes the flavours remain reassuringly authentic and homemade.

Open daily from 9:00AM to 11:30PM

Small Vagator, Ozran, Near Nine Bar, Vagator, Goa 403509

+91 98500 33537 | www.thalassaindia.com

Baba Au Rhum, Anjuna

Baba au Rhum is a great little cafe/bakery/restaurant on a back road in Anjuna, northern Goa. It's run by Dayini Feraud, who grew up in the Auroville community in Tamil Nadu, and if you know what a free-spirited culture that place has, you'll understand the vibe. Sitting among paddy fields, under a canopy of billowing cotton fabric and mango trees, try a hot almond croissant. Go for a table on an elevated platform, lie back on the cushions and peer at the sky through the leaves.

Open daily from 9:30AM to 10:30PM

House No. 1054, Sim Vaddo, Anjuna, Goa 403509

+91 98228 66366

Louvre Museum Hall

Basilica of Bom Jesus

Shri Mangeshi temple

Shri Mangeshi temple

PLACES TO VISIT WHILE STAYING AT KARMA ROYAL MONTERIO

Basilica Of Bom Jesus

The Basilica of Bom Jesus which is located 25 kms from the resort enshrines the sacred remains of Goa's patron saint Francis Xavier who died on a sea voyage to China in 1552. Legend says that when the body of Xavier was transferred to Goa the following year, the body was found as fresh as the day it was buried. The embalmed body of the saint lies in an airtight glass coffin which is placed in a silver casket. The Construction of the church began in 1594 and completed in May 1605. This church is the first Minor Basilica in India and is regarded as one of the best examples of baroque architecture.

Shri Mangeshi Temple

The Mangesh Linga is said to have been consecrated on the mountain of Mangireesh (Mongir) on the banks of river Bhagirathi by Lord Brahma himself, from where the Saraswat Brahmins brought it to Trihotrapuri in Bihar. They carried the linga on to Gomantaka and settled at Mathagrama, the present-day Madgoa, establishing their most sacred and ancient temple of Mangesh on the banks of the river Gomati or Zuari as it is called today. Lord Mangesh is worshipped here in the shape of a Shiva linga.

When, in the year 1560, the Portuguese started Christian conversions in Salcette taluka, the Saraswats of Vatsa Gotra felt insecure and shifted the Mangesh Linga from the original site at the Kushasthali to Priol in Atrunja Taluka, which at that time was ruled by the Hindu kings of Sonde. After remaining in the house of a temple priest for some time, the Sri Mangesh deity was finally installed in its present site at Priol.

Calangute Beach
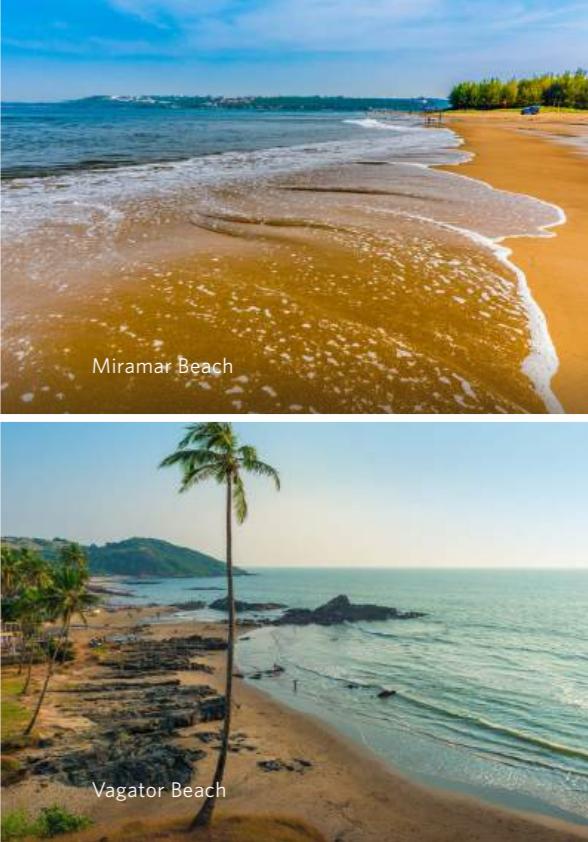
Baga Beach

Dudhsagar Waterfall

Anjuna Beach

Miramar Beach

Vagator Beach

Dudhsagar Waterfalls

Dudhsagar Falls is a four-tiered waterfall located on the Mandovi River in the Indian state of Goa. It is 86 kms from the resort. The drive from the resort to Dudhsagar is 86 kms to the East which passes the scenic landscape through the quaint and peaceful.

The falls is located in the Bhagwan Mahaveer Sanctuary and Mollem National Park among the Western Ghats. The waterfall forms the border between Karnataka and Goa states. The area is surrounded by deciduous forests with a rich biodiversity. The falls are not particularly spectacular during the dry season but during the monsoon season however, the falls are fed by rains and form a huge force of water.

Baga Beach

Baga is the pinnacle – or nadir – of Goan beach life, depending on your perspective! Baga beach runs seamlessly into the state's other legendary stretch of sand, Calangute, but is arguably better maintained and equipped than its neighbour. It is 10 minutes walking distance from the resort.

Calangute Beach

Termed as the Queen of Beaches, Calangute is the largest beach in North Goa and the first choice for every tourist to visit. The peak tourist season is during Christmas and New Year, and during the summer in May. The beach offers water sport activities like parasailing and water skiing, among others. It is 3 kms from the resort.

Vagator Beach
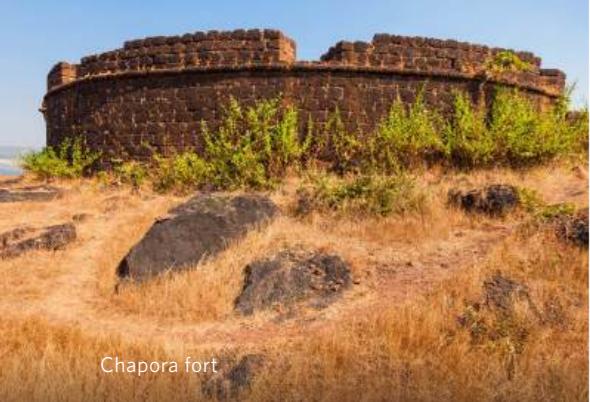
Much photographed thanks to its dramatic prospect of headlands and clean curves of perfectly flat sand and the dramatic Chapora fort, Vagator, just north of Anjuna, is a Goan icon that's well worth taking the time to visit. The beach itself is average; it's the spectacular backdrop that makes Vagator stand out. It is 5 kms from the resort.

Miramar Beach

Situated right in the heart of Goa's capital, Panaji, no one would describe Miramar as the state's prettiest stretch of sand. But it does have its own charm and is perfect for families, with lots of excellent street food offerings. Sunsets are spectacular and the beach really comes to its own as the sun goes down and locals and visitors throng here, bringing the place to life. It is 20 kms from the resort.

Anjuna Beach

Folded up by azure water of Arabian Sea and with hills in the background, Anjuna Beach in Goa is a perfect paradise for beach lovers. Situated just 8 km away in the west of Mapusa town, this beach is blessed with a bizarre array of red laterite rocks. It is beautifully embellished with picturesque sceneries and so the place is reckoned among the hottest tourist destination of India. Further, its credible palms and rocky crescent give great pleasure to be at Anjuna Beach. It's distinguished due to the formation of unusual rock placed on a small inlet of white sand and black rock protruding into the sea. It is 4 kms from the resort.

Chapora fort

Ashvem Beach

Dona Paula

Spice Plantations

Arvalem Waterfalls

Anjuna Flea Market

Ashvem Beach

Comparatively a lesser known beach among tourists, Ashwem Beach is ideal for tourists wishing to spend some alone time at a beautiful location. Ashwem has a lovely landscape known for its stones surrounding the beach carved by the shellfish. The view that the shoreline gives is a standout amongst the most wonderful sights at any point seen. Ashwem Beach is best known for the Olive Ridley Turtles and government has devoted to a Turtle Beach here for conserving this endangered species.

Chapora Fort

It rises high above the Chapora River. Before the Portuguese arrived in Goa in 1510, this location was the site of another fort. The fort changed hands several times after Portuguese acquired Bardez. Trying to end the Portuguese rule in Goa, Prince Akbar joined his father's enemies, the Marathas in 1683 and made this place his base camp. It became the northern outpost of the Old Conquests. After the Portuguese recovered from an encounter with the Marathas, they strengthened their northern defences and provided shelter to the people there. It is 6 kms from the resort.

Arvalem Waterfalls

The Arvalem Waterfall also known as Harvalem falls is a very scenic and beautiful picnic spot. This beautiful waterfall forms a huge lake at the bottom, which is much popular amongst the swimmers. The colour of the waterfall becomes muddy brown in monsoon rains and the water flow is quite less in summer. It is 36 kms from the resort.

Dona Paula

Also called the Lovers Paradise, the Dona Paula Beach is particularly famous for the romantic legend associated with it. As per the legend, Viceroy's daughter Dona Paula de Menezes jumped off the cliff after facing opposition from her family due to her love affair with fisherman's son. This place pulls in its sightseers who come to stand amazed at its innate magnificence, immaculate shoreline and the sentimental legend associated with it. The beach is a perfect blend of romance, buzzing nightlife and adventure and listed amongst the best beaches in Goa. It is 25 kms from the resort.

Spice Plantations

In Goa there are some major spice plantations, where visitors can see how spice plants look in their natural environment, and how they are grown and processed. For tourists they organize special informative and entertaining tours in such places as Savoi Spice Plantation, Sahakari Spice Farms, Tropical Spice Plantation, that are engaged in organic farming. Almost all Goa spice plantations are located in Ponda at a distance of 30-40 km from the capital Panaji. The regular tour lasts about an hour.

Anjuna Flea Market

Having started off as a "Hippie exchange" of commodities, it is now a full-fledged market. Held from 9.00 AM to 6.00 PM every Wednesday, Anjuna Market is one of the most famous and sought after flea markets in Goa. Apart from the various trinkets and knick-knacks on sale, it also has live performances by bands that play from a variety of genres, ranging from rock to jazz.

Mapusa City

Mapusa City

Panjim City

HIGHLIGHTS OF GOA

Panjim City

Panaji also known as Panjim, (Portuguese: Panjim) is the capital of the Indian state of Goa and the headquarters of North Goa district and situated 38.8 kms from the resort. It lies on the banks of the Mandovi River. Panjim has terraced hills, concrete buildings with balconies and red-tiled roofs, churches, and a riverside promenade. There are avenues lined with gulmohar, acacia and other trees. The Baroque Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception Church is located overlooking the main square known as Praça da Igreja. This city of stepped streets and a seven kilometre long promenade was built on a planned grid system after the Portuguese relocated the capital form Velha Goa in the 17th century.

Mapusa City

Is a town in the Chamba district in the state of Himachal Pradesh, in northern India. According to the 2001 Indian census the town is situated on the banks of the Ravi River (a major tributary of the Trans-Himalayan Indus River), at its confluence with the Sal River. Chambial were the Rulers of Chamba State Chambials use suffix Varmans. Though historical records date the history of the Chamba region to the Kolian tribes in the 2nd century BC, the area was formally ruled by the Maru dynasty, starting with the Raju Maru from around 500 AD, ruling from the ancient capital of Bharmour, which is located 65 kilometres (40 mi) from the town of Chamba.

Mormugao Port

Mormugao Port
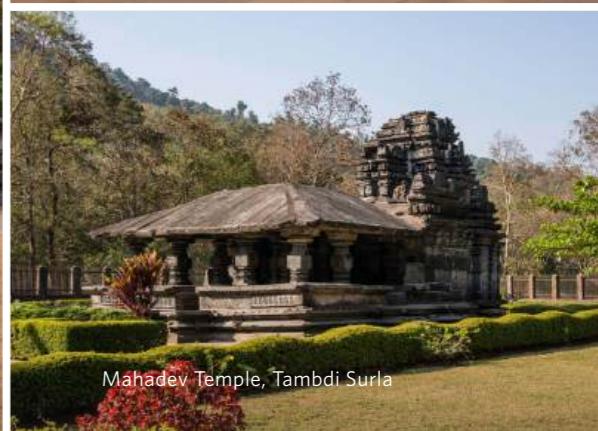
Mormugao Port

Mahadev Temple, Tambdi Surla

Mahadev Temple, Tambdi Surla

Mahadev Temple, Tambdi Surla

Mahadev Temple, Tambdi Surla

Mormugao Port

Mormugao is Goa's main port and is located at 15.25°N 73.98°E 32 kms from the resort. It has an average elevation of 2 metres (7 feet). When the Portuguese colonised part of Goa in the sixteenth century, they based their operations in the central district of Tiswadi, notably in the international emporium 'City of Goa', now Old Goa. As threats to their maritime supremacy increased, they built forts on various hillocks, especially along the coast. In 1624, they began to build their fortified town on the headland overlooking Mormugao harbour.

In 1683, the Portuguese in Goa were in grave danger from the Marathas. Almost certain defeat was averted when Sambhaji suddenly lifted siege and rushed to defend his own kingdom from the Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb. The narrow escape, no less than the decline of the City of Goa, convinced the Portuguese viceroy, Dom Francisco de Távora, that he should shift the capital of the Portuguese holdings in India to Mormugao's formidable fortress.

In 1685, the new city's principal edifices were under construction, with the Jesuit priest Father Teotónio Rebelo in charge. The Jesuit architects made a consistent effort to avoid the ornate style of the time. The austere viceregal palace still stands, having been used, after its short stint as a palace, in various capacities, including as the hotel which housed the British agents who in 1943 destroyed German ships anchored in Mormugao's neutral waters. Viceroys after Távora found Mormugao too secluded for their liking. The administrative headquarters were moved to the new city of Panjim, which is till today Goa's chief city.

Ever since it was accorded the status of a Major Port in 1963, the Mormugao port has contributed immensely to growth of maritime trade in India. It is the leading iron ore exporting port of India with an annual throughput of around 27.33 million tonnes of iron ore traffic.

Mahadev Temple, Tambdi Surla

The temple situated 72 kms from the resort, is dedicated to Lord Shiva and is reminiscent of the temples at Aihole in neighbouring Karnataka. There is a linga (symbol of Lord Shiva) mounted on a pedestal inside the inner sanctum, and local legend has it that a huge king cobra is in permanent residence in the dimly lit interior.

The temple consists of garbhagriha, antarala and a pillared Nandi mandapa built of basalt. The four pillars, embellished with intricate carvings of elephants and chains support a stone ceiling decorated with finely carved Ashtoken lotus flowers.

The intricate carvings created by skilled craftsmen adorn the interior and the sides of the building. Bas-relief figures of Lord Shiva, Lord Vishnu and Lord Brahma, with their respective consorts appear on panels at the sides of the temple. Unusually, the mandap (pillared hall) is covered with a roof of plain grey sloping slabs. The temple faces east so that the first rays of the rising sun shine on the deity. There is a small mandap and the inner sanctum is surmounted by a three-tiered tower whose top is incomplete or has been dismantled sometime in the distant past.

There is a headless Nandi (bull, Shiva's vehicle) in the centre of the mandap, surrounded by four matching columns. The symbol of the Kadamba kingdom, an elephant trampling a horse is carved on the base of one of the columns. The river Surla flows nearby and is reachable for ritual bathing by a flight of stone steps.

Mahalasa Temple, Ponda Goa

Mahalasa Temple, Ponda Goa

Mahalasa Temple, Ponda Goa

Reis Magos Fort

Reis Magos Fort

Reis Magos Fort

Mahalasa Temple, Ponda Goa

Mahalasa is identified with Mohini, the female avatar of the God Vishnu. Mahalasa has four hands, carrying a Trishula, a sword, a severed head, and a drinking bowl. She stands on a prostrate man or demon, as a tiger or lion licks blood dripping from the severed head. She also wears the yajnopavita (sacred thread), which is generally dedicated on male deities. While in this shrine, Mahalasa is associated with Mohini and Vishnu, in the Khandoba cult, she is regarded as a form of Goddess Parvati and wife of Khandoba, a form of Shiva (Parvati's husband).

Generally, the male or main deity accompanies the right hand position (considered superior to the left). However, in joint processions or functions, Shantadurga is given the right hand seat, while Mahalasa sits on her left, as per the lore that Mahalasa gave the former the honour. Sunday holds a special significance for the temple and the presiding goddess. On this day, Palakhi Seva is performed in addition to other rituals. The goddess is taken out for a ride around the temple in a palanquin (palakhi). The palanquin is decked up with flowers and traditional colourful decorations. A large crowd gathers to participate in the event and the devotees sing her praises. The temple is situated 31.5 kms from the resort.

Reis Magos Fort, Panjim

Reis Magos Fort is located on the northern bank of the River Mandovi across to the city of Panaji in North Goa. It is situated 12 kms from the resort. This Fort is one of the prime Goa Tourist Places and one of the major heritage sites in Goa state.

This Fort was built by the Portuguese Viceroy Alfonso de Noronha in 1551 and was rebuilt in 1707. It was played an important role in the defence of Goa in 1739 against the Marathas. Originally it was an armed outpost built by the Adil Shah in the late 1400 and got destroyed in 1500. In the beginning the Portuguese used this Fort as a shelter for the viceroys and dignitaries who arrived from Lisbon. But gradually Portuguese realized the strategic importance of this Fort and used it to ward off Maratha armies.

Reis Magos Fort Fort is quite small compared to other forts in Goa. It was used as a residence for viceroys and later converted to a fortress. It was constructed using laterite and is located on a hill that can be accessed through a ramp or a narrow staircase. From the Fort one can obtain a beautiful view of the River Mandovi. The other features of the Fort are the high sloping walls, underground rooms, passages, cylindrical turrets looking out towards the Mandovi River.

Palolem, Beach

Sinquerim Beach, Candolim

Palolem, Beach

Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception Church

Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception Church, Goa

Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception Church

Palolem, Beach

Palolem Beach is located at 15°00'36''N 74°01'24''E, within 2.5 kilometres of the market town of Chaudi in South Goa, and 84 kms from the resort.

Palolem Beach is largely unspoiled and is inhabited by both local fishermen and by foreign tourists who live in shacks along the shore or in the main village itself.[3] It is about one mile (approximately 1.61 km) long and is crescent-shaped; one can view the entire beach from either end. Both ends of the beach consist of rocks jutting out into the sea. The depth of the sea increases gradually, being shallowest at the northern end of the beach, making it safe for average swimmers, and the currents are not fast.

The nearest airport is Dabolim Airport which is about 67 km away. The nearest railway station is Canacona railway station which can be reached from Madgoan junction railway station in just 30 mins. There are bus services at a regular interval of 30 mins from the beach to the Kadamba Transport Corporation (KTC) Bus Depot in Margao. The nearest KTC depot is at Canacona.

Sinquerim Beach, Candolim

Located 5.5 kms from the resort, it is at the far southern end of North Goa, just a short drive from the capital Panjim, Sinquerim Beach is one of the quieter beaches in Goa's north. This beach has managed to retain its quiet and peaceful vibes, despite being the first resort in Goa developed for tourism. Backed by verdant green palms and boasting the presence of the 16th-century Fort Aguada, this uninterrupted 9km beach is easily accessed from the neighbouring Taj Fort Aguada and Taj Holiday Village hotels.

Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception Church, Goa

The Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception Church (Nossa Senhora da Immaculada Conceição) is located in Panjim, Goa, India. The Church conducts mass every day in English, Konkani, and Portuguese.[1]

The colonial Portuguese Baroque style church was first built in 1541 as a chapel on a hill side overlooking the city of Panjim. It was eventually replaced by a larger church in the 1600s as part of Portuguese Goa's religious expansion.[2][3]This church houses the ancient bell that was removed from the Augustinian ruins of the Church of Our Lady of Grace (Nossa Senhora da Graça) in the once famed city of Old Goa. This bell is considered to be the second largest of its kind in Goa, surpassed only by the Golden Bell which resides in the Sé Cathedral in Old Goa.

The church is located in Panjim and sits atop a hill facing the square below. The city's municipal garden (Garcia da orta) lies to its southeast and can be seen from atop the hill. The site was once the location of a colonial port landing where ships sailing from Lisbon made first call, and where sailors disembarked before they proceeding further inland to Ela (now Old Goa) - the capital of Goa until the 19th century.[2] A laterite stone walkway with ziz-zag stairs ascend the church while lines of thin and tall palm trees form part of the scene.

Se Cathedral, Old Goa
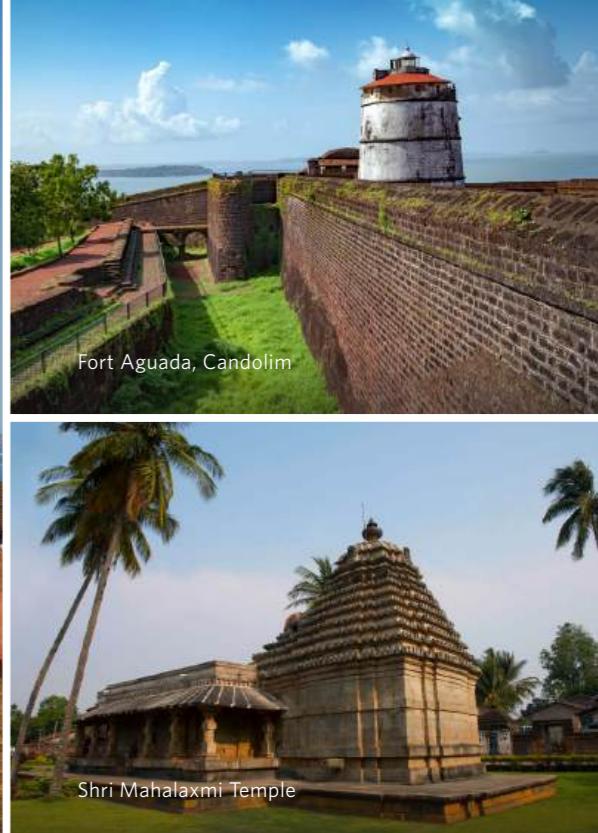
Se Cathedral, Old Goa

Se Cathedral, Old Goa

Fort Aguada, Candolim

Fort Aguada, Candolim

Fort Aguada, Candolim

Shri Mahalaxmi Temple

Se Cathedral, Old Goa

The word Sé is Portuguese for See. The Se Cathedral was built to commemorate the victory of the Portuguese under Afonso de Albuquerque over a Muslim army, leading to the capture of the city of Goa in 1510. Since the day of the victory happened to be on the feast of Saint Catherine, the cathedral was dedicated to her.

It was commissioned by Governor George Cabral to be enlarged in 1552 on the remains of an earlier structure. Construction of the church began in 1562 in the reign of King Dom Sebastião.[2][3] The cathedral was completed in 1619 and was consecrated in 1640. It had two towers, but one collapsed in 1776 and was never rebuilt.

In 1953, the Cathedral was presented with "The Golden Rose" by Venerable Pope Pius XII. The Golden Rose is a gold ornament, which the Popes of the Catholic Church have traditionally blessed and conferred as a token of reverence or affection. It is placed on the tomb of St. Francis Xavier.

Brahma Temple, Valpoi

Legend has it that Brahma the creator of the Hindu holy trinity was to have just one temple at Pushkar, in Rajasthan. However, little known to many, there is another Brahma temple, this one tucked away in a remote village of Nagargao in Valpoi, Goa.

"The Brahma statue in this temple stands tall and elegant. The statue of Lord Brahma blesses all those who come to see him. The beautifully chiseled image of Brahma is dated to the Kadamba period and belongs to the 12th century. The importance of this temple and Brahma idol lies in the fact that it is the original piece of sculpture chiseled out of a black stone during the Kadamba period. Inside the temple the idol of Lord Brahma stands at the center and wears a beard. Brahma is shown in Trimurti form that is the trinity of Brahma - Vishnu - Mahesh.

Fort Aguada, Candolim

The fort was constructed in 1612 to guard against the Dutch and the Marathas. It was a reference point for the vessels coming from Europe at that time. This old Portuguese fort stands on the beach south of Candolim, at the shore of the Mandovi River. It was initially tasked with defence of shipping and the nearby Bardez sub district.

A freshwater spring within the fort provided water supply to the ships that used to stop by. This is how the fort got its name: Aguada, meaning Water. Crews of passing ships would often visit to replenish their fresh water stores. On the fort stand a four-storey Portuguese lighthouse, erected in 1864 and the oldest of its kind in Asia. Built in 1612, it was once the grandstand of 79 cannons. It has the capacity of storing 2,376,000 gallons of water, one of the biggest freshwater storages of the time in whole of Asia. This fort is divided in two segments: the upper part acted as fort and watering station, while the lower part served as a safe berth for Portuguese ships. Whereas the upper part has a moat, underground water storage chamber, gunpowder room, light house and bastions, it also has a secret escape passage to use during time of war and emergency. The lighthouse at initial stage is used to emit light once in 7 minutes. In 1834 it was changed to emit light creating eclipse every 30 seconds; however it was abandoned in 1976.
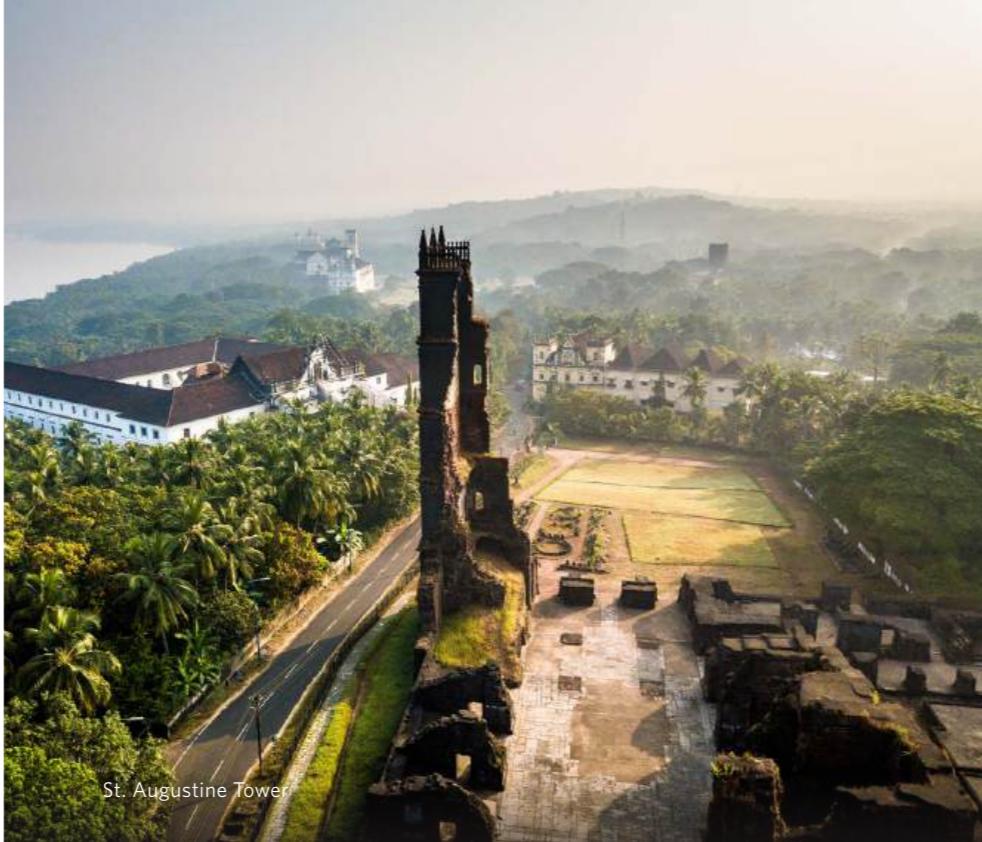
Shri Mahalaxmi Temple – Bandora

Shri Mahalaxmi Temple is situated in North Goa. It is one of the most visited places in Goa and an important pilgrimage site for Hindus.
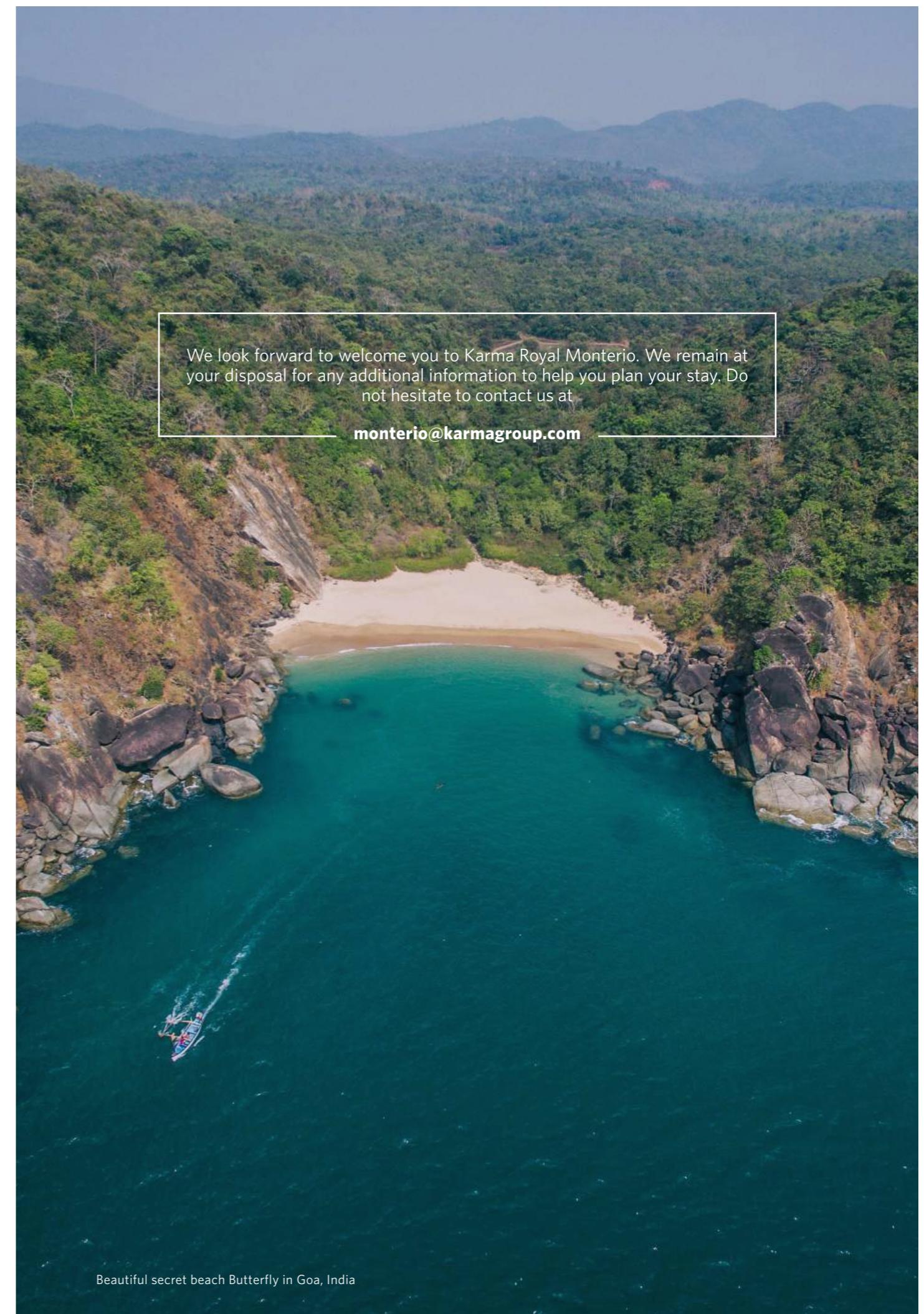
Shri Mahalaxmi Temple is situated in the village of Bandora about 4 km from Ponda and 27 kms from the resort. This Temple is dedicated to Lord Vishnu's consort Mahalaxmi. The temple is considered as the abode of the original Goddess of the Shakti cult and its unique feature is that the Devi wears linga on her head.

St. Augustine Tower


Shanta Durga Temple

St. Augustine Tower

We look forward to welcome you to Karma Royal Monterio. We remain at your disposal for any additional information to help you plan your stay. Do not hesitate to contact us at

monterio@karmagroup.com

Beautiful secret beach Butterfly in Goa, India

St. Augustine Tower

Church of St. Augustine is a ruined church complex located in Old Goa and 36.7 kms from the resort. The church was completed in 1602 and is part of the World Heritage Site, Churches and convents of Goa.

The church was built on top of the Monte Santo (Holy Hill), between 1597 and 1602 by Augustinian friars who landed in Goa in 1587. The church was considered as one of the three great Augustinian churches in the Iberian world along with El Escorial and the Monastery of São Vicente de Fora.

The church was abandoned in 1835 after the Portuguese government of Goa began evicting many religious orders in Goa under its new repressive policies. The subsequent neglect caused the vault of the church to collapse in 1842. The body collapsed soon after and by 1871, the bell was moved from the tower to Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception Church in Panjim, where it remains to date. In 1931, the facade of the church and half the tower collapsed and by 1938, most of the other parts had also collapsed. Currently only half the tower remains, and it is one of the most visited tourist destinations in Goa. The ruins were featured in the song Gumnaam Hai Koi from the 1965 suspense thriller movie Gumnaam.

Shanta Durga Temple

The Shanta Durga or Shanteri Temple is at Kapilpura or Kavele, also in Atrunja taluka. This deity is believed to have been carried by Loma Sharma of Kaushik Gotra when the Saraswats came to Goa from Trihotrapuri (present-day Trihut division) in the Mithila region of Bihar. A story in the Skandapurana speaks of how Lord Shiva, when defeated by his spouse Parvati in a game of dice, had left mount Kailash and gone to Gomanchala near Kushasthali for tapasya (penance). It is here that he heard the cries of the Saraswat Brahmin, Loma Sharma, caught by a crocodile in the river Aghanashini. When Shiva saved Loma Sharma, he prayed to the Lord to remain in Kushasthali. Similarly, when Parvati arrived looking for Shiva, she was also requested to stay at the nearby village of Keloshi (Kadalivana).

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GOA, INDIA