Must visit places in Bilaspur, HP

A city situated in the lap of the Himalayas which usually remains away from the sight of tourists. Although there are many beautiful tourist places in Himachal Pradesh for sightseeing, Bilaspur is also no less in terms of beauty. Bilasuper is famous for its beauty as well as historical reasons. Bilaspur is a city in the Indian state of Himachal Pradesh; this city is located in the west of India, near Govind Nagar, near a beautiful artificial lake. Bilaspur is also known as Kalhur. The city also witnessed the ruling Chandela Rajputs dynasty in the 7th century. Being the grand city in Himachal Pradesh, it attracts a large number of tourists. Temples, caves, sanctuaries are the major attractions of this city. The temples and ancient forts located here are the centers of attraction for tourists. This place has the largest Bhakra Dam, which is known all over the world. Apart from this, there are many tourist spots around here, which attract tourists.

## History:

Bilaspur was the capital of the independent Punjab Hill State until 1894, before the encroachment of the Gurkhas. The Gurkhas were driven out by the British army the very next year. Almost the entire city, including the old palace and a famous temple, was submerged in Govindsagar. The new town was built sometime after the 1950s. Bilaspur is the main city of the district, whose foundation was laid by Raja Deepchandra in 1653 AD. He had established this city in the memory of Maharishi Vyas of Mahabharata and kept its original name as Vyaspur, which deteriorated to Bilaspur. Legend has it that Ved Vyas did penance in a cave near this place. Vyasgufa still stands at the bottom of a hill on the left bank of the Sutlej. Markandeya's ashram is also four miles away from here. It is said that both the sages used to visit each other through a tunnel.

## Best time to visit Bilasuper:

March to October is the best time to visit Bilaspur is from. During these month, the weather of Bilaspur remains very pleasant. If you come here on this time you'll find temperature ranges from 15 °C to 25 °C.

## How to reach Bilaspur

* **By Air:** If you are planning to visit the beautiful city Bilaspur, you can come here via flight. Shimla is the nearest airport to this city. Shimla airport is located in Himachal Pradesh at about 124 km. You can use Regular cab services here.
* **By Road:** There are regular buses to Bilaspur from other major cities of India.
* **By Train:** Any railway station is not present in the Bilaspur city. The nearest railway station is Kiratpur Sahib Junction in Punjab, 98 km away from the city, and receives regular trains from all the country's major cities.

## Things to Do In Bilaspur:

There are many different types of sports for entertainment in the city of Bilaspur in Himachal Pradesh. The names of some of those entertainment games are given below.

## Adventure Sports Hub Bilaspur HP:

Bilaspur is a small hill town where there is no dearth of adventure. After seeing the amazing structure of Bhakra Dam and Gobind Sagar Lake, you can also enjoy adventure sports in the man-made reservoir here. The Gobind Sagar Lake does not just store water but also offers various water sports. Here tourists can enjoy boating, water skiing, kayaking, boating, and regattas in the lake's still waters. Not only that, but Bilaspur is also famous for its paragliding which gives you a chance to witness beautiful views from the sky, with lush green hills, Sutlej River, and the majestic Bhakra Dam.

## Water Sports & Fishing:

The Gobind Sagar Lake in Bilaspur offers water skiing, sailing, kayaking, regattas, motorboat racing, and many more water sports. Along with this, boats are also available on rent here for a nominal fee. Fishing is also a favorite and popular activity in the lake as it houses a wide variety of fish, including the names of labero dero and puestreta.

## Paragliding:

Bilaspur is a very good place for those interested in paragliding. This area is naturally perfect for adventure sports. Bilaspur can offer up to 8 hours flight with the most popular paragliding sites and an ideal landing ground near a lake. The Bandla hills here are also a popular place for paragliding.

## Visiting places in Bilaspur:

### Shri Naina Devi Ji Temple, Bilaspur:

Bilaspur is also famous for its spirituality and Shri Naina Devi Ji Temple is a good example of it. This temple one of the most prominent places for worship. This temple is dedicated to Goddess Sati, an incarnation of Goddess Durga. The temple is located in district Bilaspur and is one of the 51 Shaktipeeths, where Sati's eyes fell after Lord Vishnu cut her body into 51 pieces to save the earth from the wrath of Shiva. A huge crowd of devotees visit this holy place to seek the blessings of Maa Durga. A large pilgrism's crowd come here,during Shravan Ashtami and Navratras of Chaitra and Ashwin.

### Bahadurpur Fort:

Visiting Himachal means being surrounded by greenery and mountains from all sides. Among all these in Bilasuper, if there is any center of attraction for the tourists, it is 'Bahadurpur Fort.' Even today, tourists are mesmerized by seeing this decades-old palace. This palace, present at one end of the city, is still a fine example of ancient beauty and architecture. It is said that this fort was established in the year 1835, although today, many parts of it are transformed into ruins.

### Laxmi Narayan Mandir, Bilaspur:

The famous Laxmi Narayan Temple of Bilaspur is located near the bus stand in Bilaspur district of Himachal Pradesh. It is built in the Shikhar style of architecture, and the deity here is Lord Vishnu with his consort, Goddess Lakshmi. Other deities like Lord Shiva, Ranganatha, Maa Durga, and Baba Bengali are present. Many tourists, pilgrims, and devotees visit this temple to seek the blessings of Lord Vishnu and Goddess Lakshmi and enjoy the natural beauty of Bilaspur.

### Saryun Fort:

Surrounded by many forts having historical importance, the Saryun Fort of Bilaspur is also very popular. Saryun Fort, situated at 1500 meters above sea level, is completely made of stone. This fort is a fine specimen of timeless old-time architecture with historical significance. Local people say that the stones used to build the fort will never be used to build any house.

### Gobind Sagar Lake, Bilaspur:

Gobind Sagar Lake is a man-made reservoir created in 1976; Its source is the Hydel Dam at Bhakra. One of the highest gravity dams globally, Bhakra Dam, is situated at the height of 225.5 meters from its lowest foundation. Its reservoir – Gobind Sagar – is 90 kilometers long and covers about 170 square kilometers. The dam was dedicated to the nation by Late Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru on November 20, 1963. The eye-catching Gobind Sagar Lake is famous for sightseeing, adventure activities, recreational entertainment, etc. The lake is a treat for nature lovers and adventure junkies.

The Gobind Sagar Lake is the epitome of true Himalayan beauty. In the middle of the Himalayan range, lush green mountains add to its beauty. Gobind Sagar Lake is one of the most visited tourist places and is famous for its flora and fauna and various fish species. In 1962, the lake was recognized as a 'waterfowl refuge.' Gobind Sagar Lake is home to many birds and animals such as panther, wolf, chausingha, sambar, hyena, sloth bear, nilgai, chinkara, etc., wild boar. Fishing is a regular activity in the reservoir, which names over fifty species and subspecies of fish, such as tor putitora (mahseer), labero dero (gid), Mystus senghala (singhara), and mirror carp.

The water level in Gobind Sagar Lake keeps fluctuating. One can enjoy many sporting activities in the reservoir like swimming, surfing, water-skiing, kayaking, rowing, canoeing, and white water river rafting. All the water sports organized here are regulated by Himachal Pradesh Tourism and carried out under the strictness of the Department of Tourism and Civil Aviation.

### Kandrour Bridge, Bilaspur:

Kandaur bridge is an ancient link between Hamirpur and Bilaspur district. This bridge was built in 1965. This beautiful bridge is worth a visit as it is built across the Sutlej River and is one of the tallest bridges in the world. It is situated at a distance of 8 km from Bilaspur on National Highway 88. With the astounding vision surrounding the bridge and the Sutlej River, this Kandaur Bridge is one of the most famous sightseer attractions of Bilaspur.

### Koldam Dam, Bilaspur:

NTPC Limited's Koldam Dam Hydropower Project is popularly known as Kolam. This dam is one of the most beautiful places in Bilaspur that attracts many tourists from different parts of the country. The Koldam Dam was planned to be commissioned in 2000, and Atal Bihari Vajpayee laid its first brick in the same year. Still, proper construction started in 2004 and is currently under construction on the Sutlej River on National Highway 21.

### Bachhretu Fort:

Bachretu Fort is an ancient fort located in Bilaspur district, built in the 14th century during the reign of Raja Ratan Chand of Bilaspur. This magnificent structure is now in ruins but is considered of great historical importance in the country. Bachretu Fort is situated at an altitude of 3000 feet above sea level. The fort now comes under the Archaeological Survey of India and is open to tourists. Bachretu Fort is a perfect attraction for history buffs and photography enthusiasts.

### Bhakra Dam, Bilaspur:

Located on the edge of the North Indian states of Punjab and Himachal Pradesh, the legendary Bhakra Dam is the biggest straight gravity dam globally. The view of this huge dam and the surrounding forests is stunning, and hence, many tourists visit this wonderful place to have a glimpse of this engineering marvel. Bhakra Dam is located in Bhakra village of Bilaspur, which is about 13 km from Nangal Basti. This dam is four decades old. The dam is visited every year by over 2 to 3 lakh visitors from all over the world.

### Fort Kahlur:

Kahlur Fort or Kot-Kahlur is a majestic structure situated about 3600 feet above sea level in the Bilaspur district. Bilaspur was known as a princely state Kahlur during the British period. Situated on a hill, this fort is a major attraction of Bilaspur, and due to its proximity to Bilaspur, tourists often come here for picnics. History lovers and architecture lovers find this fort very attractive. Kahlur Fort is an ancient structure made entirely of stone. From here, tourists can have a beautiful panoramic view of the green hills under the clear blue sky.

### Beas Caves:

Beas Cave, which has mythological and historical importance, is one of the important places of interest in Bilaspur. Tourists and travelers like this place very much. An interesting story is associated with this cave. Legend has it that Rishi Vyas once meditated in this cave, and Vyasa Rishi wrote the epic story of Mahabharata. Vyas Cave has become a place of revered pilgrimage and is visited by many tourists every year for various reasons.

### Markandeya, Bilaspur

The picturesque surrounding of Markandeya is something that one must see during their visit to Bilaspur. The artistic Markandeya Ji temple here holds prominent importance, especially among couples who desire babies, and is named after the famous sage Markandeya, who lived here. The distance of this temple from Bilaspur is 20 km . You can come here by private car or bus. Markandeya Ji is worshiped here as the savior of children, and the couple prays to him for the long life of their children.