Mahabaleshwar: Best place for family vacations

Mahabaleshwar means "God of Great Power". Mahabaleshwar is a beautiful place which is located at the western end of the Ghat Mountains in Maharashtra. It is an evergreen forest that attracts nature lovers. The former capital of Mumbai Province during British rule was a stunning upland surrounded by mountains. It is also the source of the Krishna River. It is an idyllic destination for honeymooners and nature lovers and young people, and travellers on a budget.

Mahabaleshwar is a travel destination with otherworldly natural beauty, a true place for couples and weekend getaways. This mountainous place has many traveller attractions such as Mahabaleshwar Temple, Elephant Head Cape, Mapro Garden, Venna Lake, Panch Ganga Temple, Pratapgarh Fort, Krishna Bai Temple, Lingmala Waterfall, Helen Cape, Bhilar Waterfall, Carnac Point, Helen's Point, Atibalehwar temple, Morarji Castle, Dhobi Waterfall, Moraj Castle is a scenic spot in this mounting area. In this article, I will give you some important things about the journey of Mahabaleshwar and the places of interest there, which will be of great use to you during your visit to Mahabaleshwar. So let's take a tour of the hill station Mahabaleshwar :

## History of Mahabaleshwar:

Mahabaleshwar was first discovered by Raja Singhan. He built the famous Mahabaleshwar temple here. After the 17th century, Shivaji Raje occupied this area and built Pratapgarh Fort here. In 1819, the British took Mahabaleshwar in their hands. After independence, Mahabaleshwar emerged as a hill station. Mahabaleshwar was known as Malcolm Peth and was in the safe custody of the British authority before developing into one of the most visited hill stations in the country today.

## How to reach Mahabaleshwar?

Mahabaleshwar is a perfect holiday destination, and this famous hill station is well connected by road to all the major cities of Maharashtra. Mahabaleshwar has good connectivity with the rest of the country. So you will not have any problem coming here. Mahabaleshwar is a place that does not have an airport or railway station, yet you can easily come here due to good connectivity to Pune. You can easily find taxis or buses from the Pune airport and railway station to take you to this unique little station on the hill. If you are going from Mumbai to Mahabaleshwar, then it would be better to travel by road.

## Perfect time to visit Mahabaleshwar:

* **November to February:** Winter is the best season for youngsters to visit Mahabaleshwar. Honeymoon couples can use the cooler temperatures this season as an opportunity to unwind.
* **July to October:** This is the time when it rains in Mahabaleshwar. If you like the rainy season, then definitely come to Mahabaleshwar. The natural beauty here is worth seeing in this season. The monsoon season is perfect for trekking here, and the waterfalls present in the soft layers of the Western Ghats are breathtaking.
* **March to June:** In Mahabaleshwar, the summer season going on. Unlike the heat of Maharashtra, in Mahabaleshwar, you'll not feel very hot. If you want to escape the heat of Maharashtra, then you should come here. The weather is great for outdoor activities and sightseeing.

## Sightseeing’s in Mahabaleshwar:

### Elephants Head Point

If you want to spend some moments of relaxation in Mahabaleshwar Hill Station, then Elephant Head Point is the best place. Rock formations are present at the site, which forms the trunk of an elephant. It is one of the most visited and famous attractions of Mahabaleshwar. Elephant Point got its name during the British Rule, and the governor of Bombay was Sir Mount Elstinton. It is believed that it was founded in 1930 by Dr Murray. Today only the ruins of this hotel exist; in its place, the local authorities construct a picnic shed for tourists.

### Mahabaleshwar Temple

Mahabaleshwar Temple is an ancient temple dedicated to Lord Shiva located in the Satara district of Maharashtra. This temple is located at a distance of about 6 kilometres from the city of Mahabaleshwar. This temple is a major temple for Hindus. Mahabaleshwar Temple is a wonderful specimen of Maratha heritage. Raja Chanda Rao Mer built this ancient temple during the 16th century. This is an attractive and very beautiful temple where Lord Shiva ji has a magnificent Shivling. Apart from this, due to the location of this place in the middle of the hills, the view here is very beautiful. Every year lakhs of devotees come to visit this temple.

### Chinaman's Falls

Chinaman's Falls is located in the Koyana Valley towards the south, about 2.5 km from Mahabaleshwar and is one of the famous places to visit in Mahabaleshwar. Do you know why the falls are named Chinaman Waterfall? It is believed that the gardens around it were looked after by the Chinese, which is why this waterfall was named Chinaman Falls. Watch the water sparkle like gold and diamonds as the sun's rays hit the waterfalls.

The atmosphere here is very calm, due to which the tourists coming here feel quite relaxed. The charming waterfalls and gardens here make it a perfect holiday destination. So, plan a picnic with friends and family at Chinaman Falls. The best time to visit the waterfall is during the monsoon season. This soothing location makes it a perfect place to visit in Mahabaleshwar.

### Venna Lake

Venna Lake is one of the famous tourist places in Mahabaleshwar. This lake is situated at a distance of 3 km from Mahabaleshwar on the way to Panchgani. This lake was built by Shri Appasaheb Maharaj, who was the king of Satara. This lake is an artificial lake that is surrounded by grass and trees. The beauty of this lake attracts a lot of tourists. There is also a boating facility in this lake which attracts tourists a lot. The circumference of the lake is about 7-8 KM. The basic reason for creating this lake was to meet the extreme need for water for the residents of Mahabaleshwar. One can see the beautiful view of the beautiful Chhatrapati Pratap Singh Udyan situated in this Vena Lake.

Venna Lake A popular place for photography, Venna Lake is especially good for families and honeymoon couples. Here tourists can also enjoy a paddleboat. For a paddleboat, you have to pay Rs 400 for around 1 hour, and a maximum of 6 people can enjoy the ride together. The boating club is open only till sunset. Apart from boating, you can also enjoy fun sports like horse riding, merry-go-round, toy train.

### Mepro Garden:

Situated at 11 km from Mahabaleshwar on the Mahabaleshwar-Panchgani road, Mepro Garden is a popular place. You must watch it at least once. The place is particularly famous for its strawberry produce and has a variety of chocolates, squash and fruit crushes, and more. Inside this large garden is a chocolate factory, as well as a nursery. In addition, it has a large number of plants and flowers. You must plan to visit this place in March or April to attend the famous Strawberry Festival during the Easter weekend.

### Pratapgarh Fort

Pratapgarh Fort is a huge fort located in the Satara district of Maharashtra. Pratapgarh Fort is one of the best places to visit in Mahabaleshwar and is preferred by people interested in adventure, history and nature. Pratapgarh Fort is one of the major tourist places in Mahabaleshwar. This fort is situated at a distance of about 20 km from Mahabaleshwar. Pratapgarh Fort is Situated at an altitude of about 1000 meters above sea level. This fort is a historical fort that Chhatrapati Shivaji built in 1656. This place is very important from the historical point of view because there was a war between Shivaji Maharaj and Afzal Khan, and Shivaji Maharaj won in this war. So today this place is the favourite place of the tourists.

This Pratapgarh fort has been built in two parts - the lower fort and the upper fort. Upper Fort is a rough square-shaped fort built on top of a hill. There are some permanent buildings which include the temple of Lord Mahadev. The fort is situated at an altitude of up to 250 meters. This part is located in the northwest part of the fort. Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj built this hill fort to overlook the Village of Kineshwar.

### Lingmala Waterfall Point –

Situated at a distance of 6 km from Mahabaleshwar Bus Stand, this Lingmala Waterfall is situated at an altitude of 1278 meters above sea level. Once you reach the main gate, a trek of about 1.5 km, which takes you towards the spectacular waterfall. The beautiful waterfall is one of the most popular places around Mahabaleshwar due to its alluring beauty. You can enjoy swimming inside the small waterfall, but it is not possible in the big waterfall. The best time to visit Lingmala is between July and December. Water is typically divided by projecting rocks, which form about a third into thin silver streaks.

Lingmala Falls is visited by thousands of locals as well as tourists every year. Tourists admire the beauty of the falls. The majestic Dhobi Falls and Chinaman Falls are situated near the Lingmala Waterfalls. True natural beauty can be seen here as the waterfalls are lush green and surrounded by vegetation cover. A must-see place for Nirvana seekers, nature lovers and photographers. It is a great place for picnics with friends and family because of its natural beauty and ecstatic location.

### Tapola:

Tapola is one of the Maharashtra tourism destinations; Tapola is a beautiful tourist destination of Maharashtra located 28 km from Mahabaleshwar. Due to its priceless natural beauty, Tapola is called Mini Kashmir. It is an ideal destination for nature lovers; this place has many forts in the dense forest area, the view of these forts is quite picturesque. There are many sightseeing places to visit near Tapola Lake. The biggest tourist attraction of this place is trekking which excites the travellers a lot.

Tourists visiting here also enjoy boat tours, during which beautiful places like Triveni Sangam, Bamnoli Island and much more can be seen. The place displays its true beauty during July and August when it is full of blooming flowers. This place reflects the glorious past of our Indian history. The most important attraction is a visit to Sivasagar Lake. The lake offers various activities to the tourists like water scooter riding, swimming and even kayaking. A trip to Tapola can be enjoyed during October and February.

### Panchgani:

Panchgani is a picturesque and beautiful tourist place in Mahabaleshwar. Panchgani is situated at a distance of 20 km from Mahabaleshwar, and it is situated at a distance of 45 km from Tapola. Panchgani Hill, situated at an altitude of 1334 meters, offers beautiful views from the five hills surrounding it. Panchgani is a popular hill station near Mahabaleshwar; ancient British and Parsi houses surround the place. Hence, Panchgani is a favourite among tourists; Panchgani is a weekend picnic spot with family and friends.

### Wilson point

Wilson Point is the highest tourist destination of Mahabaleshwar. Situated at a distance of about 1.5 km from Mahabaleshwar, this place is famous among tourists because of the beautiful views of sunrise and sunset.

### Bombay Point

This beautiful place is known for its breathtaking view of the sunset. At the time of sunset, the view here seems as if vermilion has been scattered all around in the sky. The distance of Bombay Point from Mahabaleshwar Bazar is about three kilometres.

### Lodwick Point:

Lodwick Point has located 5 km to the west of Mahabaleshwar, which looks like an elephant's head. This point provides an unmatched view of Pratapgarh Fort and Elphinstone Point. A huge statue of Lord Lodwick is situated. Some local guides guide the tourists and provide information about the area. Lodwick Point was earlier known as 'Sydney Point'. It was built to honour General Lo0dwick, the first officer in the British Army to climb the mountain and reach this point. To honour his brave soul, a pillar was erected here by his son. The height of this pillar is twenty-five feet.

### Arthur's Seat

Arthur's Seat or Suicide Point is also known as the Queen of All Points. Here one gets the most spectacular and attractive view of the dense valleys of the Brahma-Aryana and Savitri rivers. If you go up from here, you can also see a window point and Tiger Spring. Take a guide along with you as the trek trail gets quite confusing at times.