Orcha; one of the best places to visit in Mansoon

If you are a lover of heritage, then the magnificent temples, beautiful palaces, and forts of Orchha can compel you to come here. The unparalleled beauty here makes it an ideal place to visit in the monsoon. The beauty of the Raja Mahal, Jahangir Mahal, and Rani Mahal are incredibly delightful. The magnificence here is worth seeing during the monsoon season. Orchha is located in Madhya Pradesh and is a place that is one of the best places to visit during the rainy season. In monsoon, this place looks gorgeous with all the royal buildings and greenery. If you want, you can take pleasure in city driving in the monsoon season to get a better experience.

## History of Orcha:

Orchha means "secret place." Orchha is standing on the banks of the Betwa River in Madhya Pradesh with its glorious history. Surrounded by greenery and hills, Orchha is considered the second Ayodhya. The reason for this is the belief that the child form of Lord Rama resides here. Once the capital of Bundelkhand, Orchha is famous for its temples and forts. Many rulers in different periods ruled India, and they created such unique samples of the architecture, which still attract us.

The history of Orchha starts from the 8th century. Orchha was founded by the Parihar emperor Mihir Bhoj. After the reign of the Parihar kings, the kings of the Chandela dynasty ruled here. The condition of Orchha was not good during the rule of the Chandela dynasty. After the Chandelas, Orchha was ruled by the Bundelas. The Bundelas re-established this city, and since then, Orchha has stood with its glorious past.

## How to reach?

Orchha is 120 km from Gwalior, and the distance of this city is about 16 km from Jhansi. Orchha is situated on the Jhansi-Khajuraho route, and Orchha and Jhansi are connected by regular bus services. In addition, there is a regular bus service from Delhi, Gwalior, and Varanasi to Orchha.

The nearest airport to Orchha is Khajuraho, which is about 163 km away. This airport is connected by regular flights to major cities of the country, including Delhi. The nearest railway headquarters to Orchha is Jhansi. Jhansi is connected to the main cities of the country, including Delhi, by rail.

## Tourist destinations:

The pleasant atmosphere of Orchha attracts you here. Orchha is a place where many historical wars were fought. The historical places of Orchha give testimony of these wars even today. The number of significant attractions of Orchha is quite large. But in this article, based on Orchha tourism, we will talk about the significant tourist places of Orchha.

## Orchha Fort-

Orchha Fort is situated on an island on the banks of the Betwa River. Apart from the beautiful location, there are many other places to visit near the fort. It has many palaces and temples. The three most essential palaces to be seen inside the fort are the Jahangir Mahal, the Raj Mahal, and the famous Rai Parveen Mahal. The Jahangir Mahal reflects the architectural splendor that was prevalent in Orkha in the past. The views from the multi-story balcony in the palace are spectacular. Raj Mahal is one of the oldest historical monuments in Orchha Fort. Rai Parveen Mahal, now in ruins, was a beautiful palace with magnificent gardens surrounding it. Rai Parveen was a poet and dancer. Her charm attracted King Indramani, who built a palace for her. Ram Raja Mandir, which is a very famous temple in Orchha, was earlier a palace. This palace turned temple is the only place where Rama is worshiped as a king. This fort of Orchha is very famous among tourists in Orchha scenic spots.

## Jahangir Mahal, Orchha-

The palace was built as a garrison and stronghold for the Mughals to control the Bundela region. In 1598, Bharat Bhushan defeated Veer Dev Singh and completed the construction of this palace.

This palace is one such place where you will get to see the excellence of Mughal architecture. The domes located in this palace are built according to Timurid customs, and the gates here are so big that elephants can quickly enter them. The relatively high position compared to the surrounding area made this palace a significant palace for the Mughals.

If you are going on a trip to the best tourist places of Orchha with your friends or family, then definitely include Jahangir Mahal in your trip.

## Rajmahal, Orchha-

Rajmahal is located in the historical place Orchha of Madhya Pradesh. The vast palace of Orchha, constantly flaunting its ancient splendour, is an example. Showcasing a combination of Rajput and Mughal architecture, Raj Mahal is a majestic palace known for its stunning work of stone latticework. It has two audience halls, Darbar-e-Khas and Darbar-e-Aam, which resonate with their old splendour. Every year, thousands of visitors from different parts of the world visit the Raj Mahal. When you reach the top floor, you will be amazed to see the remains of the exquisite glasswork on the walls. When sunlight falls on these mirrors, they create a truly surreal effect, illuminating the entire room. Earlier, people of the royal dynasty lived here, and its high-rise balcony was its identity in a way. The architectural skill is evident in the different floors. These storeys, which are interconnected by protruding paths, are proportional on all four sides. The entire structure of the palace consists of minarets and domed pavilions.

## Chaturbhuj Temple-

The word 'Chaturbhuj' literally means four-armed and according to religious belief, Lord Rama is a quadrilateral, an incarnation of Lord Vishnu. This temple is magnificent and attractive. This temple is so high that tourists can see it from a long distance. Built on a platform 4.5 meters high, long stairs lead to the main temple. It is said that this is the place where an idol of Lord Rama was to be installed, but failing to do so, King Madhukar, the then ruler of Orchha, decided to install an idol of Lord Vishnu here.

King Madhukar is said to have built this temple for his wife Ganesh Kumari, who was a devotee of Lord Rama. Legend has it that a lord appeared to the queen in a dream and asked her to build a temple. The queen went to Ayodhya, the birthplace of Ram, to buy the idol. On his return, he kept the idol in his palace as the temple was still under construction. After the temple was built, he decided to move it, but the idol did not move. Thus, an idol of Lord Vishnu was placed in the sanctum sanctorum. The temple's architecture is truly unique as it resembles a multi-storeyed palace with arched gateways, a central tower and is closed from all sides. The outer decoration of the temple is done with the lotus symbol and other symbols of religious importance. Today, the temple comes under the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).

If you are going on a trip to the main tourist places of Orchha, then you must come here to experience the spirituality and see the quadrilateral form of Lord Vishnu in your trip.

## Rai Praveen Mahal Orchha-

Rai Praveen Mahal is a palace located inside the Orchha Fort in Orchha. This palace is magnificent. Inside this palace, you get to see paintings decorated with beautiful colors. You get to see the painting of a dancer dancing in this painting. Rai Praveen Mahal is a small palace. Here you also get to see the garden. This palace was built by Inderjit Singh in 1572 AD. He built this palace for his court poet, singer, and dancer Rai Praveen. This palace is two-storeyed. You will love coming here.

There are many places in Orchha Fort like the old palace, ruins, Sheesh Mahal, Bakasarai Kothi you get to see.

## Shahi chhatris -

Shahi Chattris is one of the most beautiful tourist places located in Orchha. Shahi Chattris is located in Orchha, on the banks of the Betwa River. Here you get to see beautiful umbrellas. The garden is available to see, and the beautiful view of the Orchha river is available to see. There are 14 umbrellas here. This Chhatri is situated near Kanchana Ghat of Betwa River. There is a beautiful garden here, where you can sit and enjoy the beautiful view. The Bundela rulers built this Chhatriya. Here you can come with your family and friends. They were built in the 17th century. These umbrellas have been built to pay respect to the deceased ancestors of the Bundela kings. Their architecture is impressive. This is an excellent place for photography.

## Jarai's Monastery-

Situated around 20 km from Orchha and displaying the stunning style, Jarai Ka Matha Temple has been established as a heritage site by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI). Built by a Pratihara king Mihir Bhoja in 860 AD, this red sandstone temple, with four sub-temples, is dedicated to goddess Amba, whose many forms are closely carved on the temple walls. The idol or picture of the main deity is missing from the sanctum. Only the statue of the right leg with a back and the ornament of the woman on a lotus stalk can be seen. However, a miniature, sixteen-armed statue of a goddess is placed on a stone altar in the center of the entrance. This confirms that initially, the temple was built for a goddess.

## Barua Sagar Fort-

Standing directly in front of an ancient lake, Barua Sagar Kailash is a majestic sight, about 20 km from the cities of Orchha and Jhansi, on the way to Khajuraho. The fort marks the battlefield fought between the Marathas and the Bundelas in 1744. The beautiful Barua Sagar Tal was built around 260 years ago when Raja Udit Singh of Orchha built a dam. The embankment structure is a unique example of architecture and engineering. On the northeast side of the lake are the ruins of two old Chandela temples built of granite. Sitting on the banks of the lake, watching the fort is a pleasant experience. Do not forget to take your camera with you when visiting this picturesque place.

## Betwa river in Orchha-

The Betwa River flowing through the heritage town of Orchha adds a beautiful feather to the sights of Orchha. The river has a lot to offer to tourists visiting Heritage Town Orchha and its nearby places.

Apart from the majestic sunset views, the Betwa River is a perfect destination for rafting and boating lovers. Rafting is possible on the river, and tickets are organized from Betwa Retreat or Sheesh Mahal from MP Tourism. The best time to visit this river is during monsoons as it is perfect for rafting and boating. . After an extensive trek down the Heritage Lane in Orchha city, visit this place to experience the serenity as the cool breeze brings with it a sense of victory and freedom.

## Orchha Wildlife Sanctuary

Orchha Wildlife Sanctuary provides a perfect holiday for tourists visiting the historical attractions of Orchha. While the city boasts of the history and culture of the Bundela dynasty, the wildlife sanctuary offers visitors closeness to nature. Wildlife Sanctuary is worth visiting Orchha tourist places list as it revitalizes your mind, body, and soul with a close encounter with nature.

The serene river of Betwa with splendid flora and fauna will mesmerize you. The Betwa river passes through the sanctuary here and joins the sea. This river acts as a lifeline for the animals in the forest. A safari in this sanctuary promises an excellent ride through the forest habitat of over 200 bird species.

This place is spread over a size of 46 sq km. Established in 1994, it is one of the top tourist destinations for animal lovers. Some of the animals seen here in the sanctuary are leopards, tigers, jackals, monkeys, peacocks, etc. It also houses 200 migratory birds, including woodpeckers, owls, kingfishers, black swans, etc.

**Visiting Timings and Entry Fees in Orchha Wildlife Sanctuary**

The time to visit here is from 9 in the morning to 5 in the evening to 10 in the night. Entry Fee ₹ 10 for Indians, ₹ 150 for Foreigners

## Sundar Palace

Built by Rajkumar Dhun Bhajan, son of Raja Jujhar Singh, Sundar Mahal has recently become a pilgrimage place for Muslims. The palace symbolizes love as the prince fell in love with a Muslim girl and accepted Islam as his religion, leaving all his princely states. Parivartan saw the prince resorting to meditation and renunciation and retired to the same place after getting married.

Sundar Mahal is one of the popular places to visit in Orchha, where his followers still gather in large numbers to worship the saint from the former prince. Sundar Mahal also reflects diversity and secularism as it is one of the few Muslim structures in the ghost town of Orchha, which has predominantly Hindu temples.

The time to visit here is from 9 am to 7 pm. There is no entry fee to visit the palace.

## At the End-

Don’t waste your time sitting at your home. Instead, book your seat and visit this place.