<u>Varanasi Travel Itinerary</u>



Varanasi, one of the oldest cities in the world, offers more than just its famous ghats and busy streets. It's a place of deep spirituality, timeless history, and hidden treasures. Explore the offbeat side of Varanasi, where you'll uncover its authentic charm and connect with the soul of the city. Here's your guide to an unforgettable journey through the lanes of Varanasi

Budget-Friendly Stays

- Mad Squad Hostel
- Maa Vaishno Guest House
- ▶ Gypsy Diaries
- Cookie Stay
- **▶** Banaras Gully House
- ▶ Back Packers Park
- ▶ Ganga Putra Inn
- ▶ Hotel O Lotus Inn
- Hotel Ojus Grand

Day-to-Day Schedule

• Day 1:

Check-in and enjoy a South Indian breakfast before visiting Kaal Bhairav for blessings. Explore Shri Gopal Mandir, Sherwali Kothi, and try tea and Makkhan Toast at Lakshmi Chai. Walk through Vishwanath Gali and explore the local markets and vibrant lanes of Kashi. Pay a visit to Vishalakshmi Temple, then head to Nepali Mandir at the ghats. Attend the magical Ganga Aarti at Dashashwamedh Ghat in the evening, followed by a relaxing rooftop cafe dinner.

• Day 2:

Begin with the morning Ganga Aarti and enjoy a serene boat ride to witness the sunrise. Take a heritage walk from Bindhu Madhav Temple, exploring over 15 temples along the way. Indulge in the iconic Banarasi Kachori Sabzi, Jalebi, and sip chai at local spots. Pay homage at Shri Kashi Vishwanath and Maa Annapurna, then enjoy lunch at Annapurna Bhandara. Visit the Banarasi Saree weavers and learn about Varanasi's textile art. Relax at your accommodation and enjoy the rest of the evening at your own pace.

• Day 3:

After breakfast, head to Ramnagar Fort for a tour of its regal history and the Kashi Naresh Museum. Explore Sarnath, a sacred Buddhist pilgrimage site, and learn about Buddha's teachings. Stop for an authentic lunch of Baati-Chokha before shopping in the vibrant markets. End your day with a delicious dinner and a farewell to Varanasi.

Adventurous Activities

- Ganga Aarti
- **▶** Boat Ride
- ▶ Ghat Walk
- ▶ Hot Air Balloon Ride at 80 Ghat
- Parasailing
- ▶ Water Sports
- Camel Ride

Tourist Places

- Kaal Bhairav Mandir
- ▶ Kashi Vishwanath Temple
- Manikarnika Ghat
- > Sankat Mochan Hanuman Mandir
- Dashashwamedh Ghat
- Assi Ghat
- ▶ Pashupatinath Temple
- Nepali Temple
- Ramnagar Fort

Local & Instagram-Famous Cafés

- Lakshmi Chai
- Ram Bhandar Kachori
- Kashi Chaat
- ▶ Blue Lassi
- Deena Chaat Bhandar
- ▶ Pizzeria Vatika Cafe (Best Apple Pie!)

Nightlife

- > Assi Ghat after 9 PM: Musicians and artists gather here, bringing the ghats to life at
- > night.
- > Vibe with locals and artists around the ghats under the stars.

Secret Tips

- Varanasi has 88 ghats—explore them beyond the famous ones!
- Stay near Godolia Chowk for easy access to most places.
- Don't miss out on the Maleyo from Pehelwan Lassi.
- Boat rides typically cost ₹250-400 (shared) or ₹600 for private rides.
- Manikarnika Ghat is a cremation site, so it's not a typical tourist attraction, but worth visiting for its cultural significance.

Best Time to Visit

• The best time to visit Varanasi is during winter (November - February) when the temperature is pleasant. Summer can be harsh, with high temperatures making sightseeing uncomfortable.

Phone Connectivity

- Airtel, Vodafone & Jio work well in this area .
- Connectivity can be patchy in remote areas.

Must-Pack Essentials

- 1. Comfortable clothes and walking shoes
- 2. Sandals or flip-flops for the ghats
- 3. A lightweight jacket for winter evenings
- 4. Hat or cap if visiting in summer

Roadmap

