

Tour Name: Best of Maharashtra

Tour Duration: 9 Nights/ 10 Days

Tour Map: <https://tinyurl.com/bdu32jxh>

Tour Overview

Embark on a captivating journey through Maharashtra's rich heritage on the "Best of Maharashtra." Begin in Mumbai, the bustling metropolis known for its iconic landmarks and vibrant culture. Explore the ancient temples and holy sites of Nashik, nestled on the banks of the Godavari River. Discover Aurangabad's historical treasures, including the UNESCO-listed Ajanta and Ellora Caves, marvels of ancient rock-cut architecture and religious art. In Lonavala and Khandala, unwind amidst scenic viewpoints, ancient caves, and historic forts, offering breathtaking vistas of the Sahyadri mountains. This tour promises an immersive experience into Maharashtra's diverse cultural tapestry and architectural splendors.

Tour Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive Mumbai

- Arrival at Mumbai airport. Meet and greet by our representative.
- Transfer to the hotel for check-in (standard check-in time applies).
- Mumbai, the bustling metropolis known for its vibrant culture, historic landmarks, and lively atmosphere.
- Rest of the day at leisure to relax after travel and explore the nearby area.
- Overnight stay at the hotel in Mumbai.

Day 2: Mumbai Sightseeing

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Start the city tour with a scenic drive along Marine Drive, also known as the Queen's Necklace, offering panoramic views of the Arabian Sea.
- Visit the iconic Gateway of India, a symbol of Mumbai's architectural heritage and a starting point for ferry rides.
- Board a ferry to Elephanta Caves, located on Elephanta Island (closed on Mondays), renowned for its rock-cut temples dedicated to Lord Shiva.

- Return to Gateway of India and continue the city tour, passing by Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus (CST) and Parliament House.
- Explore Dhobi Ghat, an open-air laundry where Mumbai's washermen (dhobis) wash clothes in traditional stone basins.
- Visit Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya (formerly Prince of Wales Museum), housing a vast collection of art, artifacts, and natural history exhibits.
- Overnight stay at the hotel in Mumbai.

Day 3: Mumbai - Nashik (170kms)

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Drive to Nashik, a city with a rich cultural and religious heritage, located on the banks of River Godavari.
- Check-in at the hotel in Nashik.
- Excursion to visit Trimbakeshwar Jyotirlinga Temple, one of the 12 Jyotirlingas of Lord Shiva, known for its powerful spiritual significance and intricate architecture.
- Enjoy a wine tasting tour at renowned wineries such as Sula Vineyards, Soma Vine Village, and York Winery, experiencing Nashik's emerging wine culture.
- Overnight stay at the hotel in Nashik.

Day 4: Nashik - Aurangabad (190kms)

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Visit Panchavati Temple Complex, including Ram Kund, a holy tank believed to be where Lord Rama bathed during his exile.
- Explore Shri Kalaram Sansthan Mandir, a prominent temple dedicated to Lord Rama, known for its striking architecture and spiritual significance.
- Visit Sundarnarayan Temple and ISKCON Temple, representing different facets of Hindu spirituality.
- Explore the ancient Pandavleni Caves, rock-cut caves dating back to the 1st century BCE, used as Buddhist monastic dwellings.
- After sightseeing drive to Aurangabad.
- Check-in at the hotel.

- Evening at leisure.
- Overnight stay at the hotel in Aurangabad.

Day 5: Aurangabad - Ajanta Caves (100kms one way)

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Excursion to Ajanta Caves, a UNESCO World Heritage site renowned for its ancient Buddhist cave temples and exquisite rock-cut sculptures.
- Explore the 30 caves, dating from the 2nd century BCE to the 6th century CE, showcasing intricate artwork depicting the life of Buddha and his teachings.
- Admire the unique architecture and detailed frescoes in the Chaitya and Vihara style caves.
- Return to Aurangabad in the evening.
- Overnight stay at the hotel in Aurangabad.

Day 6: Aurangabad - Ellora Caves

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Visit Ellora Caves, another UNESCO World Heritage site featuring rock-cut monasteries and temples spanning Hindu, Buddhist, and Jain faiths.
- Explore the remarkable Kailasa Temple, carved out of a single rock, dedicated to Lord Shiva and considered one of the largest monolithic structures in the world.
- Visit other notable caves such as the Jain temples and the Buddhist viharas, each showcasing distinct architectural styles.
- Visit Grishneshwar Temple, one of the 12 Jyotirlinga shrines dedicated to Lord Shiva, known for its architectural beauty and religious significance.
- Explore Daulatabad Fort, a medieval hill fortress with intricate defense mechanisms and panoramic views.
- Return to Aurangabad.
- Overnight stay at the hotel in Aurangabad.

Day 7: Aurangabad - Lonavala via Shani Shingnapur (275kms)

- Breakfast at the hotel.

- Drive to Lonavala via Shani Shingnapur, a unique village known for its belief in Lord Shani's protection and the absence of doors in homes.
- Visit Shani Temple, dedicated to Lord Shanidev, and witness the local customs and rituals.
- Continue the scenic drive to Lonavala.
- Check-in at the hotel upon arrival.
- Evening at leisure to enjoy the tranquil surroundings of the hill station.
- Overnight stay at the hotel in Lonavala.

Day 8: Lonavala - Khandala Sightseeing

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Visit Karla Caves and Bhaja Caves, ancient Buddhist rock-cut caves with intricate sculptures and serene surroundings.
- Explore Lohagad Fort, a historic hill fort used by Maratha ruler Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, offering breathtaking views of the Sahyadri range.
- Visit Bhushi Dam, a popular spot for its cascading waterfalls and serene ambiance.
- Enjoy scenic viewpoints such as Tiger Point (also known as Tiger's Leap) and Sunset Point in Lonavala, offering panoramic vistas of the surrounding valleys and hills.
- Enjoy leisure time exploring the hill station of Lonavala.
- Overnight stay at the hotel in Lonavala.

Day 9: Lonavala - Mumbai (85kms)

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Drive back to Mumbai.
- Optional shopping tour in Mumbai, visiting popular markets like Dadar, Fort, and Colaba Causeway.
- Check-in at the hotel in Mumbai.
- Evening at leisure for personal activities or relaxation.
- Overnight stay at the hotel in Mumbai.

AGORA VOYAGES (OPC) PVT. LTD.

Approved by Ministry of Tourism, Government of India | Member – IATO

Day 10: Mumbai - Departure

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Transfer to Mumbai airport for your onward journey.
- End of the tour.

Package Price (USD Per Person Sharing Double/Twin Room)

Valid for Travel: Until 20 September 2027

Persons	Solo	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3★ Standard	2,869	1,573	1,345	1,403	1,256	1,229	1,149	1,089
4★ Deluxe	3,345	1,782	1,553	1,611	1,464	1,438	1,358	1,297
5★ Luxury	4,255	2,373	2,034	2,092	1,945	1,919	1,839	1,779

Single Room Supplement

3★ Standard: USD 390 | 4★ Deluxe: USD 658 | 5★ Luxury: USD 1,087

Triple Sharing Discount (Per Person)

3★ Standard: USD 31 | 4★ Deluxe: USD 80 | 5★ Luxury: USD 118

Price Includes:

- Assistance on arrival at airport.
- 9 Nights' accommodation in selected price category hotels.
- Daily breakfast at hotels.
- Private AC car/van for airport transfers, sightseeing, and excursions as per the program.
- English speaking tour guide on sightseeing days (local guide in each city), as per program.
- Monument entrances and activities charges mentioned in the itinerary.
- Bottled drinking water in car.
- Government taxes.

Price Does Not Include:

- Any flight tickets.
- Camera charges at monuments if any.
- Meals other than mentioned in the inclusions.
- Expenses of personal nature like liquor, laundry, tips, telephone, fax, internet etc.
- Gratuities and optional activities.
- Anything not mentioned in inclusions.

Hotels used or similar for 9 nights' accommodation

3 Star Hotels

- Mumbai x 2 nights: Hotel Godwin, Colaba/ Hotel Suba Palace
- Nasik x 1 night: Enrise by Sayaji Nashik/ Lily Sarovar Portico
- Aurangabad x 3 nights: The Fern Residency/ Amarpreet Hotel
- Lonavala x 2 nights: Citrus Hotels/ Sarovar Portico
- Mumbai x 1 night: Hotel Godwin, Colaba/ Hotel Suba Palace

4 Star Hotels

- Mumbai x 2 nights: Fariyas Hotel/ The Gordon House
- Nasik x 1 night: Regenta Resort Soma Village/ Hotel Express Inn
- Aurangabad x 3 nights: Lemon Tree Hotel
- Lonavala x 2 nights: The Fern/ Resort by Meritas
- Mumbai x 1 night: Fariyas Hotel/ The Gordon House

5 Star Hotels

- Mumbai x 2 nights: Trident Hotel/ President, Mumbai - IHCL SeleQtions
- Nasik x 1 night: The Gateway Hotel Ambad/ Beyond by Sula
- Aurangabad x 3 nights: WelcomHotel Rama International/ Vivanta Aurangabad

AGORA VOYAGES (OPC) PVT. LTD.

Approved by Ministry of Tourism, Government of India | Member – IATO

- Lonavala x 2 nights: Fariyas Resort Lonavala/ Della Adventure Resorts
- Mumbai x 1 night: Trident Hotel/ President, Mumbai - IHCL SeleQtions

Payment Policy:

- Deposit of 25% of the package cost at the time of booking.
- Deposit of 50% of the package cost, 30 days prior to arrival date
- Deposit of 100% of the package cost, 10 days prior to arrival date

Cancellation policy:

- Note: Written cancellation will be accepted on all working days, except Sundays. Any cancellation sent on Sundays will be considered on the next working day (Monday).
- X-mas and New Year Period (20 Dec to 05 Jan): The payment is non-refundable during this period.
- After Trip Commencement: If you cancel the trip after it has commenced, the refund will be limited to the amount we are able to recover from hoteliers/contractors. We are not responsible for refunds on unused hotel accommodations, chartered transportation, or missed meals.
- 61 days or more before the tour: No cancellation charges.
- Between 60 to 30 days before the tour: Cancellation charges equal to 20% of the full tour booking value.
- Between 30 to 15 days before the tour: Cancellation charges equal to 50% of the full tour booking value.
- Within 5 days before the tour or no show: Cancellation charges equal to 90% of the full tour booking value.

Our Liabilities & Limitations:

- Price Changes: After the finalization of the tour/service cost, if there are any hikes in entrance fees, taxes, fuel costs, or guide charges by the Government of India, these will be charged as extra.
- Role as Agent: Agora Voyages acts only as an agent for hotels, airlines, transporters, railways, and contractors providing services. All receipts, contracts, and tickets issued by us are subject to terms and conditions of the service providers.
- Itinerary Changes: All itineraries are sample itineraries intended to provide a general idea. We reserve the right to change the schedule based on factors such as

AGORA VOYAGES (OPC) PVT. LTD.

Approved by Ministry of Tourism, Government of India | Member – IATO

weather, road conditions, or the physical ability of participants to ensure safety, comfort, and well-being.

- **Rate Modifications:** Our rates are based on negotiated rates with hotels and airlines. If the rates are modified by these service providers, we reserve the right to adjust the quoted rates accordingly. Hotel bookings are based on usual check-in and check-out times, unless otherwise indicated.
- **Liability Disclaimer:** We are not responsible for delays, alterations, or expenses incurred due to natural hazards, flight cancellations, accidents, weather, sickness, political closures, or any unforeseen incidents.
- **Damage, Loss, or Injury:** We are not responsible for any loss, injury, or damage to persons, property, or otherwise, caused by acts of God, fire, accidents, machinery breakdowns, political disturbances, theft, epidemics, or other factors beyond our control.
- **Insurance:** We do not offer insurance for accidents, sickness, theft, or other unforeseen circumstances. We recommend travelers arrange for insurance in their home country. All personal property and baggage are at the client's risk at all times.
- **Unforeseen Circumstances:** We are not responsible for costs arising from landslides, roadblocks, bad weather, or similar unforeseen circumstances.

Tipping

- Tipping is not included in our price. It is optional but often expected in the travel industry. There is no limit on the amount you can tip, though the average guideline is around \$10-15 per day for guides, drivers, and other crew members.

Trip Comments

- After your trip, we would love to hear your experience. Any photos, suggestions, or feedback will be greatly appreciated. While we strive to make every trip perfect, we acknowledge that there is always room for improvement. Your comments, whether positive or constructive, are invaluable to us.