

## **Planning A Trip to India for Taking A Dip into Spirituality**

India is one nation that perfectly signifies the idea of “unity in diversity”. It is the land where multihued cultures reside together enjoying a common bond of love and peace. You may find religions like Sikhism, Jainism, Christianity, Buddhism and Islam here each of which has its own noteworthy past. This is the reason why every nook and corner of this country has been dotted with a temple, mosque, gurudwara or a church taking spirituality to another level. Indians truly stand by the philosophy of sarva dharma sambhava, which intends equality and respect for all religions.

Here are some of the top **religious destinations** which bring in loads of travelers from near and far for **planning a trip to India**.

### **Vaishno Devi**

This is perhaps the most popular religious spot for Hindus. Dedicated to adi Shakti, Vaishno Devi resides in the hills of Katra. All year long people flock here to take the blessings of Goddess Durga. The temple houses three natural rock formations which are worshipped by the pilgrims. The walk to Vaishno Devi is surely a tough one; however, climbing the same gives an unworldly pleasure that lasts with you for a lifetime.

### **Tirumala Venkateswara Temple**

This is the most visited Hindu temple in India. It has been dedicated to god Vishnu. The main attractions of the temple are Padi Kavali Maha Dwara, Sampangi Pradakshinam, Ranga Mandapam and Tirumala Raya Mandapam. The best time to visit Tirumala Venkateswara Temple is during the Brahmotsavam festival when the temple stays drenched in the colors of festivities.

### **Golden Temple**

When the beautiful reflection of the serene golden edifice falls on the Amrit Sarovar (Pool of Nectar), the sight of Golden Temple looks an astonishing one. Raised by the fourth Sikh Guru, Ramdass Sahib Ji, it is the most popular Sikh pilgrimage site in the country. The most famed and sacred part of the Golden Temple complex is the Hari Mandir that features a stunning golden edifice at the center of a large body of water. The Gurudwara has witnessed many events in the history but it still stands high with pride. People come here to soothe their worldly tensions in its peaceful aura mingling with spirituality.

### **Sarnath**

Sarnath is situated just 12 km from the city of Varanasi. It is a known religious site for Buddhists where they come to meditate and connect with the almighty. It is believed that after receiving enlightenment in Bodhgaya, the Buddha went to Sarnath. There he taught what he learned and the event was marked as “the turning of the wheel of the Dharma”. Though most of the ancient buildings at Sarnath were ruined by the Turks, one can still find the ruins the Dharmekh Stupa here which impresses everyone with their beautiful work. Also, the Ashoka Pillar at Sarnath is a great attraction that charms travelers with its interesting carvings and legendary history.

### **Moinuddin Chishti**

Moinuddin Chishti is a much popular and visited dargah located in Ajmer. Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti was a renowned Sufi saint in Indian Subcontinent. Today not only Muslim pilgrims, but Hindus and Sikhs also pay visit to this holy destination. It is believed that that dargah makes everyone wishes come true.