



Bateswar Group of Temples

Pradesh. It is about 500 feet above ground level spread over an area of 8 km on a steep scarp of the Vindhya Range. Kachwaha Rajputs are said to have built the fort when they occupied Narwar in the 10th century. Kachwaha, Parihara, and Tomara Rajputs held Narwar successively from 12th century onwards, until it was captured by the Mughals in the 16th century. It was conquered by the Maratha chief Scindia in the early 19th century.

Abul Fazl's tomb - Antri i.e. Antakpuri near Gwalior is an ancient township which was established around 1,500 years ago. One of the gems in Mughal Emperor Akbar's court Abul Fazl the writer of book Ain-e-Akbari was murdered here on 19th August 1602 by Bundela ruler of Orchha by the order of Salim, the rebel and the son of Akbar. Committal of Abul Fazl's beheaded body was done here. Abul Fazl's tomb is situated at the same place.

Tansen Festival - The tomb of Tansen at Gwalior is the venue of the world renowned music festival. Organised jointly by the Department of Culture, Govt of Madhya Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh Tourism, in the month of December. It hosts the masters as well as upcoming artists of Indian classical music in a 3 days event which is awaited by music lovers across the country. Interactive sessions on Indian classical music is also a part of the event.



How to Reach

By Air : Gwalior is connected to Delhi and Mumbai.

By Rail : Gwalior is on the Central Railway's main Delhi-Mumbai and Delhi-Chennai lines. Among other major trains, the Taj and Shatabdi Expresses connect Gwalior with Delhi and Agra.

By Road : Gwalior is connected by road with Agra, Mathura, Jaipur, Delhi, Lucknow, Bhopal, Chanderi, Indore, Jhansi, Khajuraho, Rewa, Ujjain and Shivpuri.

Your Host

Tansen Residency

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Tansen Residency

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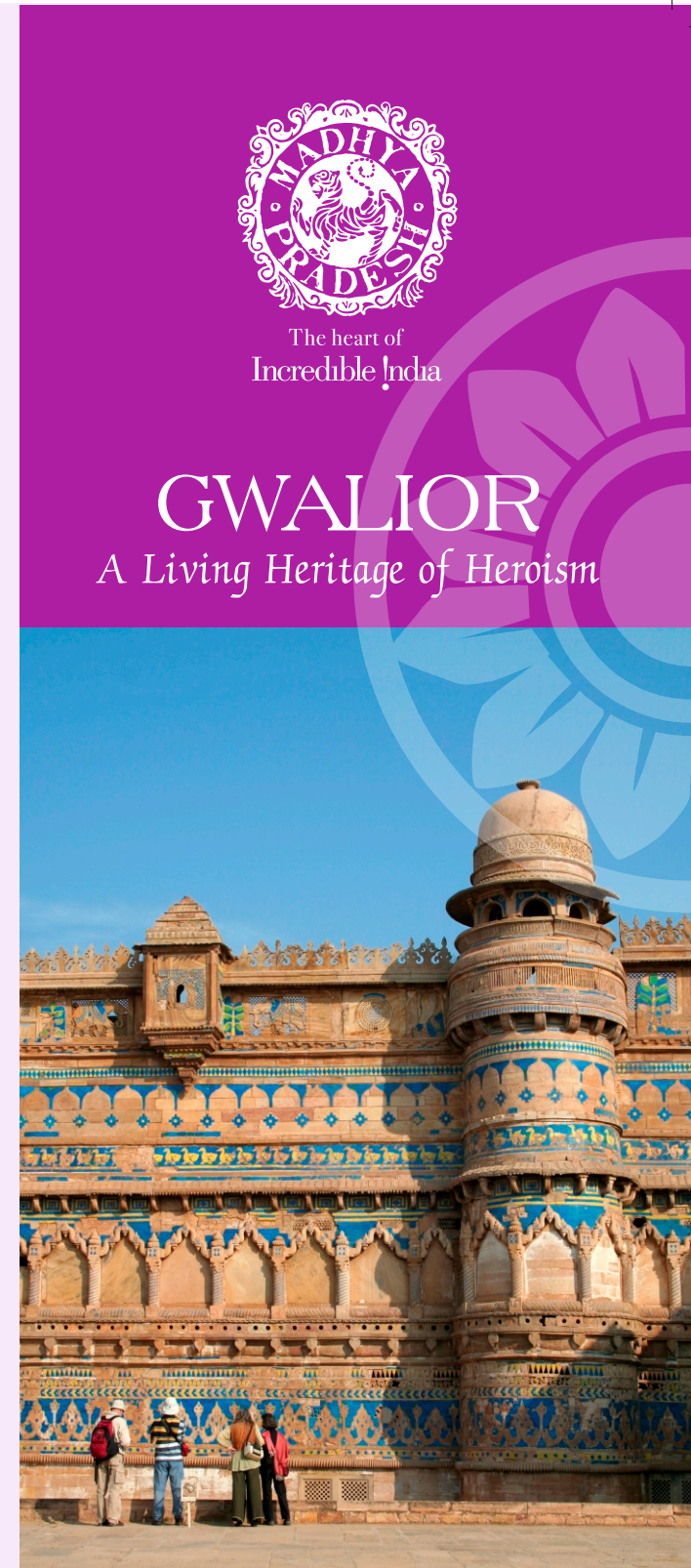
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Wayside Amenities





Jai Vilas Palace



Myth and history come together in an ancient inscription which proves that this region was occupied in 525 AD. Since then it has housed successive lines of rulers that have appeared like comets, blazing briefly, across the ancient skies of our land. Huns, Pratihars, Kachhwahs, Ghoris, Tomars, Mughals, the East India Company and eventually the Scindias before it was absorbed into the Republic of India. You could, therefore, start your visit to Gwalior by driving up to the fort atop the rock and walking through the high-points of its history. On, better still, get there on a starlit night and let an excellent son-et-lumiere bring its chequered past to life; and then return the next morning to stroll through one of the most legendary forts in India, at your own pace.

What to see

The Fort - Described by the Mughal Emperor Babur as 'the pearl among the fortresses of Hind', the Gwalior Fort is a structure of imposing scale whose beleaguered history is etched on every surface.

Held to be the most impregnable fortress in all of north and central India, its 10 m high wall enclose some stunning examples of medieval architecture. The Fort runs for at least 204 kms from the north-east to the south-west with a maximum width of 820 m.

Royal Memorials - South of the town are elaborate cenotaphs dedicated to the kings and queens of Gwalior. Though no longer as resplendent as they once were, daily rituals continue here as a matter of course.

The indomitable Rani of Jhansi, heroine of the 1857 uprising, who breathed her last in Gwalior fighting the British, is commemorated here with a sterling statue at a major crossing, at the spot where she was cremated.

Chhatra of Maharani Laxmi Bai - After getting surrounded by the British Army and having no chance of survival, Maharani Laxmi Bai is said to have died of her wounds at this very place after she jumped off the Gwalior Fort along with her horse. The Chhatra is dedicated to her.

Gujari Mahal - This palace, built by Man Singh for his Gujjar Queen, Mrignayni, has a charming legend to its name. The interior was converted in 1922 into an Archaeological Museum housing rare antiquities, some of them dating back to the 1st century AD. These include inscriptions, stone pillars, coins and an exquisite statue of a salabhanjika or tree nymph from Gyarasapur.

Man Singh Palace - Raja Man Singh Tomar (1486-1517) the great connoisseur of music and art, built the four - storied Man Mandir Palace (also known as the Man Singh Palace). This invincible citadel towers majestically over the city on a sandstone hill with six colossal cylindrical

towers capped with cupolas. In their heyday, the cupolas were gilded with copper and gold leaves.

It displays several typical features of Rajput architecture including corbelled brackets, chhatris and elaborate lattice-work.

Suraj Kund - Situated inside the fort, there is a big water tank which has a history entwined with the origin of the city of Gwalior. So the king built a large tank or the saint's advice, to store the miracle waters of the spring and help other people. Besides Suraj Kund is a Surya Mandir believed to date back to the 3rd century AD. Enshrined within is a small image of Hanuman, obviously a much later addition.

Teli ka Mandir and Sas Bahu ka Mandir - The reign of the Gurjara Pratihara King, Mihirabhoja of Kannauj, during the 8th-9th century, witnessed the members of the Teli caste (Teli meaning oil merchant) constructing a 23 m high Vishnu temple inside the fort, which became unique owing to its architectural hybridity. Literally meaning the temple of the mother-in-law and daughter-in-law, the pair of temples was built by the Kachchapaghata King Mahipala around 1093, supposedly for his mother and wife, and are in the Nagara style.

Gurudwara Data Bandhi Chhod - Built in the memory of Guru Hargobind Saheb, the 6th Sikh Guru who was imprisoned here by Emperor Jehangir for over two years.

Jai Vilas Palace and Museum - Jai Vilas Palace (1872-74), situated in Lashkar, about 2 kms from the railway station, is the opulent residence of the Scindias the erstwhile royal family of Gwalior. It was originally built to welcome the Prince of Wales, Edward VII in 1875. Designed by Lt. Col. Sir Michael Filose, the palace display a fusion of both Tuscan and Corinthian architectural styles. Though the palace continues to serve as the Scindia residence, a part of it, 35 rooms in all, has been converted into the privately



Sas Bahu ka Mandir

owned Jiyaji Rao Scindia Museum.

Tansen's Tomb - Tansen's Tomb is an embodiment of Gwalior's living heritage, as musicians coming for the annual Tansen Sangeet Samaroh (Tansen Music Festival), which is held annually during November – December near the tomb, pay homage to him before the beginning of the festival. During this five-night festival, audiences are regaled by performances by eminent musicians. The Tansen samman, bestowed on an accomplished music artiste at the end of the event, is one of the highest honours in the field of classical music in the country.

Ghaus Mohammed's Tomb - The tomb of Mohammed Ghaus, a 16th century Sufi Saint and teacher, is set in a garden in the old town of Hazira. The story goes that he was an Afghan prince who had become a Sufi Saint and helped Babur in the annexation of the Gwalior Fort.

His mausoleum, a specimen of delicate craftsmanship, is made up of sandstone and is covered on all sides by jaali worked stone screens. Built during the reign of Akbar, the tomb combines the Lodhi style of architecture with ornamentation peculiar to Gujarat, as noticed particularly in its perforated screens.

Kala Vithika and Municipal Museum - The Kala Vithika is another treasure house of the arts. It remains closed on Sundays and public holidays. The Municipal Corporation Museum, open all days except Mondays, has a very fine natural history section.

Sarod Ghar - This Museum of Music has been set up in the old ancestral house of the legendary Ustad Hafiz Ali Khan. It houses ancient instruments of the great Indian masters of yesteryears.

Sun Temple - Located near the Residency at Morar, the Sun Temple takes its inspiration from the famous Konark Sun Temple in Orissa.

Maharaj Bada or Jiwaji chowk - It is the centre of the Lashkar area of the city, which is the heart of city's economy. It is the start and end point of several local transport routes.

Excursions

Bateswar Group of Temples - 40 km via Malanpur towards north of Gwalior : The Bateswar Group of Temples comprises of in number of stunning temples in various states of preservation. Most of these are single cell shrines with shikharas, surmounted by amalakas. The main temple here is known as the Bhuteswar Mahadev Temple. The temples at Bateswara belong to Pratihara and Kachapaghata period spanning between 8th and 12th century AD.

Sihoniya (Kakanmath Temple) - 90 km via Morena : The Shiva Temple locally known as Kakanmath is built on a spacious platform which, on plan consists of a sanctum, a pillared hall and a porch. The lofty spire now partly in ruins was covered with sculptures and artistic designs. The pillars in the halls are massive, tall and majestic covered with fine decorative carvings. The temple is dated to 11th century AD.

Padavli - 38 km via Malanpur towards north of Gwalior : The fortress at Padavli was built by the Jat Ranas of Gohad. Among the most conspicuous architecture at this site is the temple inside the fortress. This Shiva temple consists of a Mandapa with intricately carved ceiling and sturdy pillars.

Mitavli - 40 km via Malanpur : The temple stands on a circular platform in an open court enclosed by a circular wall with small cells and colonnade inside with a Shiva image in each cell. It is dated to the 14th century AD. On the basis of an inscription dated to V.S. 1380 (1323 AD) it can be claimed that the temple was built by the erstwhile ruler Maharaja Devapala. This type of circular architecture is unique to the Gwalior region.

Barai - 27 km from Gwalior : There is an old theatre known as Rasli Ghar with traces of ruined rooms built around circular open ground lined at internal with lamp posts. Surmounted with small cupolas, resembling in style the cupolas of Man-Mandir in Gwalior Fort.

Narwar Fort - Narwar Fort is situated atop a hill, at Narwar in Madhya