

BEST OF THE WEST
MUMBAI - AURANGABAD - AJANTA - ELLORA

05 NIGHTS / 06 DAYS

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

Take on the journey to discover the jewels of the Western India - covering Mumbai, Aurangabad, Ajanta & Ellora.

- Excitement starts with Mumbai - the richest metro lifestyle in India at the shore of Arabian Sea and admiring the sublime colonial architecture.
- Gape at the hand-carved brilliance of Kailasa Temple, the star beauty of Ellora's cave temple.
- Mull over Ajanta's fascinating Buddhist art in a series of rock-cut caves a world heritage site set in a stunning landscape and dating back to 200 BC to AD 650.
- The World Heritage - listed cave temples of Ellora are the pinnacles of Deccan rock-cut architecture of 600 AD to 1000 AD.

BEST TIME TO VISIT:

High Season: September - March

Low Season: April - August

DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 01: ARRIVE MUMBAI

Welcome to Mumbai - *the financial capital of modern India along the shore of the Arabian Sea.*

Assistance at the airport and transfer to the hotel. Rest of the day is free to explore Mumbai on your own. Overnight at Mumbai.

Day 02: MUMBAI

Morning proceed for sightseeing of Mumbai, covering Mani Bhavan, the house where Mahatma Gandhi used to stay during his visit to Mumbai and now a Museum displaying photographs, letters, and personal items used by him. Visit the Prince of Wales Museum and the Jain Temple. The wall of the temple is adorned with colorful paintings depicting various incidents in the lives of the 24 Tirthankaras, Drive pass the "Towers of Silence", Kamala Nehru Park and Hanging Gardens situated on the slope of Malabar Hill offering a panoramic view of Marine Drive. Drive through Crawford market, Dhobi Ghat, Marine Drive and the Gateway of India, built to commemorate the visit of King George - V. Rest of the day is free for leisure or for shopping.

Overnight at Mumbai.

Day 03: MUMBAI - AURANGABAD

Morning transfer to the airport for onward flight to Aurangabad. On arrival at Aurangabad, pickup and transfer to the hotel. Later proceed for half day sightseeing of Aurangabad followed by shopping.

Overnight at Aurangabad.

Day 04: AURANGABAD - AJANTA - AURANGABAD

Morning proceed for full day excursion to Ajanta, (approx 110 kms / 2.5 hrs per way). **Ajanta Caves** (Ajanta caves are closed on Mondays) are cut from the volcanic lavas of the Deccan trap in a steep crescent-shaped hillside in a forested ravine of the Sahyadri hills. These caves are very old consisting of 24 monasteries and temples hewn out of solid rock. The wall paintings and frescoes of these caves are a wealth of colors.

Later on proceed to Civic-cum-Cultural Complex, a gallery of local art and crafts and shopping complex.
Evening return back to the hotel. Rest of the evening at leisure.
Overnight at Aurangabad.

Day 05: AURANGABAD - ELLORA - AURANGABAD

Morning proceed to visit the Ellora caves (40 kms / 01 hrs). The caves are over 2000 years old and consist of temples and monasteries hewn from rocks by Buddhist, Hindu and Jain monks and craftsmen. Afternoon drive back to Aurangabad, transfer to the hotel. Rest of the evening at leisure.
Overnight at Aurangabad. (Ellora caves are closed on Tuesdays).

Day 06: DEPART AURANGABAD - MUMBAI

Morning at leisure, later on transfer to the airport to take flight to Mumbai, on arrival proceed to International Terminal for connecting homebound flight.
