
HERITAGE
CIRCUIT





Bihar

The state of Bihar and the surrounding areas offer a number of places of historic relevance. The Heritage circuit covers places of heritage significance and their importance in the circuit.

DARBHANGA



Raj Palace

The Raj area is a well-planned and beautifully laid-out complex of palaces, temples, offices, parks, gardens and ponds. The Maharajas of Darbhanga have traditionally been very great patrons of art and literature and encouraged the scholars of Maithili and Sanskrit. There are a number of palaces built by the successive Maharajas, important among them being Nargauna Palace, Anandbagh Bhawan and Bela Palace.

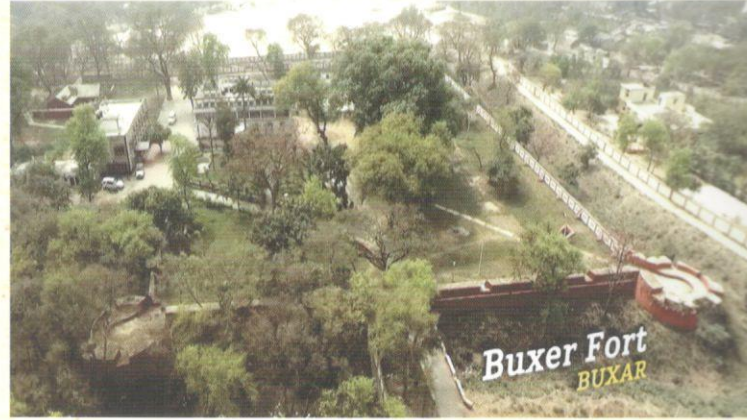
How to Reach

Air : Jayprakash Narayan International Airport is the nearest airport.

Rail : Darbhanga Junction is the nearest Railway Station.

Road : Darbhanga is well connected to nearby towns by roads.

BUXAR



Buxar Fort

Buxar Fort is one of the historic monuments, situated along river Ganga in the town of Buxar. The historic fort was erected by King Rudra Deo in 1054 AD. Besides the historic fort, Gauri Shankar Temple, Nath Baba Temple and many others are tourist attractions near the fort.

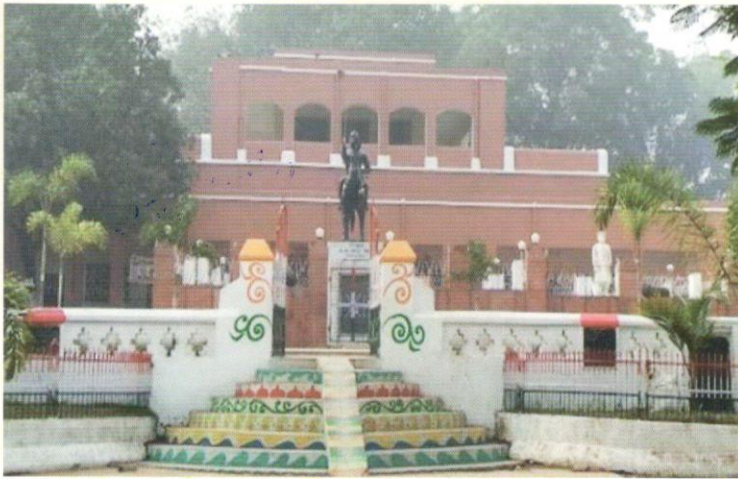
How to Reach

Air : Jayprakash Narayan International Airport is the nearest airport.

Rail : Buxar is the nearest railway station.

Road : There are regular buses from major cities to Buxar.

BHOJPUR



Jagdishpur Fort

Babu Veer Kunwar Singh, the foremost freedom fighter of the state resided in this fort. Jagdishpur fort is located at Jagdishpur, 30 km away from Arrah. Arrah is the district headquarters of Bhojpur. The fort holds great historical significance as it was the epicentre of first freedom struggle. Every year, 23 April is celebrated as 'Vijay Mahotsav Diwas' or the Victory Day in Jagdishpur, marking the anniversary of the freedom Jagdishpur attained from suzerainty of the British.

The fort underwent a major revamp in 2005-06 for creating it as a tourist attraction. A few portions of the fort were converted into a memorial. The flag of Veer Kunwar Singh has been preserved in this gallery. Now, the main building stands tall with a statue of Babu Kunwar Singh riding a horse. It also houses one big tank on each side of the house as well as a Kachehri.

How to Reach

Air : Jayprakash Narayan International Airport is the nearest airport.

Rail : Arrah is the nearest railway station.

Road : Arrah is well connected to nearby towns by roads.

PATNA



Patna Museum

1917 is the year when Patna Museum started during British Raj. The Museum boasts of a gigantic coin collection, bronze and stone sculptures, paper documents, thankas, miniatures and costumes and an array of archaeological finds. The whole collection is divided into 7 categories according to subject and materials. The collection consists of archaeological objects, coins, art objects, paintings, instruments, textiles, paintings, thankas, bronze images and sculptures and terra cotta images by Hindu and Buddhist artists. Other than that, the Bihar Museum is the official repository of pre-1800 archaeological finds. On a regular basis, cataloguing and digitization is done at Bihar Museum.



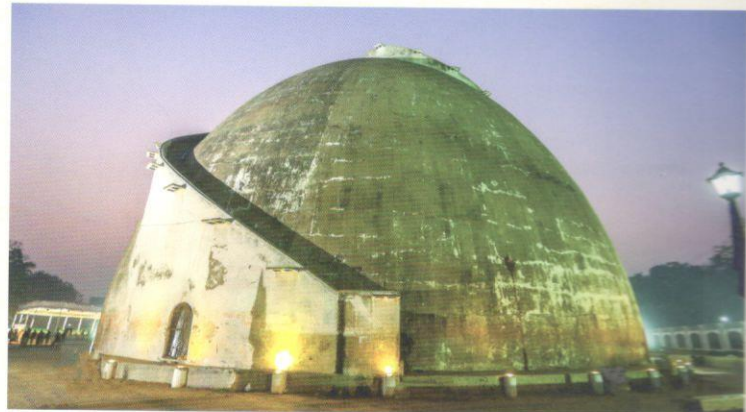
Kumharar

This is an area where the excavation of Patliputra happened. Among the archaeological remains of the Mauryan period discovered here, a hypostyle 80-pillared hall was the most talked about finding. The excavation findings belong to the ancient capital of Ajatshatru, Chandragupta and Ashoka. The site is situated at a 5kms east of Patna Railway Station.



Khuda Bakhsh Library

Home to 21,000 oriental manuscripts & 2.5 lakh printed books Khuda Bakhsh Oriental Public library was inaugurated by Khan Bahadur Khuda Bakhsh in 1891. It gained the status of a national library of India by the Parliament in 1969. It is an autonomous organization under Ministry of Culture, Government of India. It is a treasure trove of Urdu literature as some of the rare manuscripts are not available anywhere else in the world. It is repository which attracts scholars from around the world.



Golghar

Conceptualised initially as a storehouse for grains, Golghar is a beehive shaped building, without any pillars and it can store upto 140000 tons of grains. History goes, that the granary was built for the perpetual prevention of famine in these areas by Warren Hastings, the then Governor-General of India in 1784. At present, it offers a spectacular view of the city along with the river Ganga.



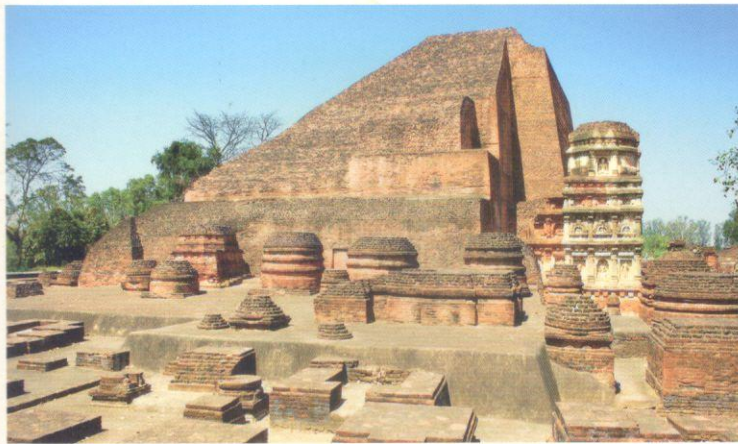
Maner Sharif

Maner or Maner Sharif is one of the chief spiritual destinations. It houses two famous Muslim tombs- tomb of Sufi saint Makhdoom Yahya Maneri, known as the Bari Dargah (the great shrine). The other one is of Makhdum Shah Daulat, popularly called Chhoti Dargah (the small shrine). The walls of dargah reflects intricate patterns while the ceiling has passages from the Qur'an.

How to Reach

Air : Jayprakash Narayan International Airport is the nearest airport.
Rail : Patna is connected by rail to Mumbai, Kolkata, Guwahati, Ranchi, Varanasi.
Road : All weather roads connect Patna with the rest of Bihar. There are regular interstate bus services as well.

NALANDA



Nalanda University

Nalanda is an ancient city renowned for education and boasts of the world's first residential university. Nalanda flourished as an institute during the Maurya Empire. According to historians, 24th Jain tirthankar- Mahavir Jain spent 14 rainy seasons in Nalanda. This is Bihar's 2nd World UNESCO site which during its prime time used to attract students and scholars from across the world.

How to Reach

Air : Jayprakash Narayan International Airport is the nearest airport.
Rail : Nalanda is the nearest railway station.
Road : Nalanda is connected by good road with Rajgir, Bodh Gaya, Gaya, Patna, Pawapuri, Bihar, Sharif etc.

MUNGER



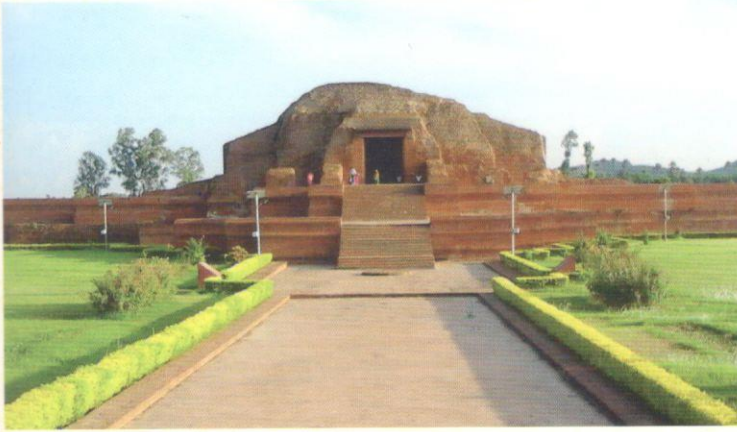
Red Fort

Munger Fort, or Red Fort in reality is an enclosed township surrounded by high walls with four gates. The boundary wall in some parts is still intact. Situated on the banks of river Ganga, the fort was mounted during the early rule of Slave dynasty of India, as per historical records. It's spread across 222 acres on top of a rocky hilltop. At present, the fort houses mostly government offices and residences of town officials, and a jail. The gardens of the palace can be imagined from the two gates and the boundary portion still existing.

How to Reach

Air : Jayprakash Narayan International Airport is the nearest airport.
Rail : The nearest station to Munger is Jamalpur Railway Station.
Road : Munger is well connected by road to major destinations in Bihar.

BHAGALPUR



Vikramshila University

Founded by King Dharmapala, Vikramshila University was another centre of learning alongside Nalanda. Vikramashila is known to us through Tibetan sources primarily the writings of Taranatha, the Tibetan monk historian. Around 1200 century, this prestigious educational institution was destroyed by Bakhtiyar Khilji.

How to Reach

Air : Jayprakash Narayan International Airport is the nearest airport.

Rail : Bhagalpur Railway Junction is the nearest rail station.

Road : Bhagalpur is well connected by roads to nearby towns.

GAYA



Mahabodhi Temple

A unanimous choice to visit for people around the world of Buddhist faith, this UNESCO Heritage Site is well managed by Bodhgaya Temple Management Committee. The Mahabodhi Temple means "Great Awakening Temple". This site boasts of the Bodhi Tree under which the Buddha attained enlightenment. Tourists as well as devotees flock here from all over the world to witness over two thousand years old Buddhist pilgrimage. The main temple compound in spite of being made with brick covered with Stucco (much less durable than stone), stands the test of time. The temple complex includes two large straight-sided shikhara towers, the largest over 55 metres (180 feet) high.



Vishnupad Mandir

Vishnupad Mandir, located beside the Falgu river in Gaya district is a Hindu temple. Inside the temple compound Lord Vishnu's foot print is engraved on a basalt rock, known as Dharmasila. The Pandas or priests of this temple are Brahmkalpit Brahmans. Devotees believe, the footprint consists of nine different symbols including Shankam, Chakram and Gadham.

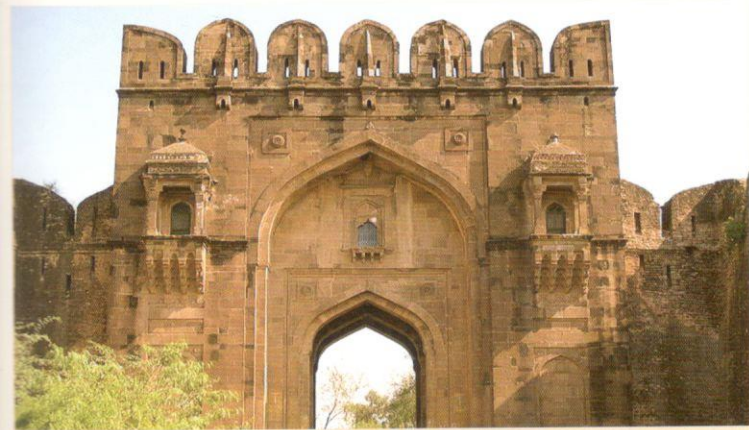
How to Reach

Air : Gaya International Airport is the nearest airport.

Rail : The nearest railway station is Gaya.

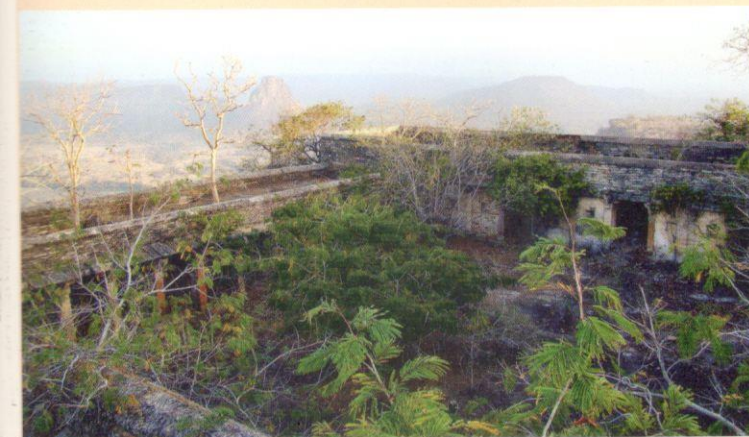
Road : Gaya is connected by road to Nalanda, Rajgir, Patna, Varanasi and Kolkata.

ROHTAS



Rohtasgarh Fort

Situated on the banks of Sone river, Rohtasgarh Fort is one of the ancient hill forts of India. In the city of Rohtas, the hill that holds the fort up is 1500 meter high. Tourists have to climb the stairs to reach the gate of the fort. The fort compound consists of several gates, temples, and mosques. The main entrance of the fort, Hathiya Pol or Elephant Gate is noteworthy.



Shergarh Fort

Earlier known as Nawabgadh, the Shergarh Fort is situated near Sher Shah's tomb in Sasaram. Sher Shah, a renowned ruler spent his entire childhood here. Going by historical facts, the fort was built in between 1540-1545. In side the fort area there are temple, grave and Imambara.

How to Reach

Air : Gaya International Airport is the nearest airport.
Rail : Sasaram Junction is the nearest railway station.
Road : Sasaram is well connected to major cities of the country by road.

NAWADA



Sarvodaya Ashram

Dr. Rajendra Prasad inaugurated the Sarvodaya Ashram in Nawada district. Under the able guidance and supervision of Shree Jai Prakash Narayan, this ashram flourished. Situated one and half miles away from Kawakole Police station at Village Sekhodewra, the ashram is one of the popular tourist destination of Nawada. The ashram has hills in the background, one of prime reasons to attract tourist.

How to Reach

Air : Gaya international Airport is the nearest Airport.
Rail : Nawada is the nearest Railway Station.
Road : There are regular buses from other major towns within Bihar.



DARBHANGA FORT, DARBHANGA



Directorate of Tourism, Government of Bihar
Website: www.bihartourism.gov.in