

Sufi Circuit

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Bihar

The hallowed spiritual aura imbibed in the ancient city of Pataliputra positioned Bihar as a popular thinking ground for the liberal religious sects. With the advent of Sufism in India, Bihar became one of the first places where the Sufi saints took up residence as early as 11th century. Several mosques and Khanquahs of eminent saints were constructed across Bihar, which later became centers of learning. There are several holy places in Bihar associated with Sufism and the faith still thrives in the state.

Vaishali

Hajipur Karbala

District - Vaishali

Located 32 km east of Hajipur, in Vaishali district of Bihar, this Karbala was constructed 175 years ago by Shah Alam. It houses a tomb of Muslim saint Diwan Shah Ali, who is known to have performed miracles and became famous for his teachings.

How to Reach

Air : The nearest airport is Jayprakash Narayan International Airport.

Rail : The nearest railway stations are Hajipur and Muzaffarpur.

Road : Vaishali is well connected with roads & regular bus services.



Patna

Maner Sharif, Maner

District - Patna



Lying in the extreme north-west of Danapur subdivision, Maner or Maner Sharif has a rich religious history associated with the birth of Sufism in India, and derives its name from the great Sufi saint Hazrat Makhdoom Shah Yahya Maneri, the proponent of Sufism. It is the most important and oldest center of Sufism in Bihar, which attracts followers from across the world. Maner houses two famous tombs, of Shah Daulat or Makhdum Daulat, known as Choti Dargah, and the other one is of Sheikh Yahya Maneri or Makhdoom Yahya known as Bari Dargah. The magnificent mausoleum of Shah Daulat, by far the finest monuments of the Mughals in Eastern India, is an exemplary display of the grand style of Afghan and Mughal architecture. The walls of the building are adorned with exceptional carvings of great delicacy, while inscriptions from the Qur'an are carved on the ceiling.



Phulwari Sharif

District - Patna

The Khanqah Mujibia, founded by Hazrat Pir Mujibullah Qadri in the 18th century at Phulwari Sharif is an important Islamic pilgrimage. It has been always a favourite abode of Sufi saints during various times. An old Madrasa housed in the campus has been an important center for Islamic teachings since its inception. The Khanqah preserves the sacred hair of the beard of Prophet Hazrat Muhammad Saheb, which draws devotees believing in the power of the Saint throng at this small town of Phulwari Sharif around the year.



Begu Hajjam's Mosque

District - Patna

Built by Khan Muazzam Nazir Khan during the reign of Alauddin Shah Sultan of Gaur in the year 1509 AD, Begu Hajjam's Mosque stands on the eastern side of Khajekalan Ghat. The mosque gets its name from its renovator, Begu Hajjam, who renovated it in 1645. The mosque has the honour of being the oldest mosque in Patna. The distinctive features of the mosque include glazed tiles which reflect the styles of the Gaur. Fine carvings on the doorways are another important architectural feature of the mosque.

Khanqah Emadia Qalandaria, Mangal Talab

District - Patna:

Located) at Mangal Talab, the Khanqah Emadia Qalandaria was established by the saint Hazrat Khwaja Emaduddin Qalandar, a descendant of the prominent Sufi Saint Hazrat Pir Muzibullah Qadri. The Khanqah, besides giving importance to the main aim of serving the cause of Islam, gave priority to foster amity and brotherhood among all communities and was always ready for the service to humanity.



Dargah Sharif, Mithan Ghat

District - Patna

Built by the Mughal Prince Azim at Mithan Ghat, on the banks of river Ganges, during Aurangzeb's reign, the Dargah Sharif is a double storied mosque built for Mulla Mittan, the prince's teacher. During the 18th Century, the great Sufi Saint Hazrat Makhdoom Munnem used to preach his teachings from the Dargah. An annual urs – Chiraga is held every year at the Dargah 5 days after the Eid Festival where devotees assemble in great numbers.



How To Reach:

Air: The nearest airport is Jayprakash Narayan International Airport.Train: The nearest Railway Stations are Gulzarbagh and Patna Sahib.Road: Patna is well connected to other major cities of the country by road.

Jehanabad

Hazrat Bibi Kamal ka Maqbara

District - Jehanabad

The mausoleum of Makhdooma Bibi Kamal, the first woman Sufi saint of the country is situated 8 km east of Jehanabad town, at Kako. Bibi Kamal, even as a girl came to acquire spiritual and religious powers. Bibi Kamal was a major proponent of religious tolerance and love. Even today, People irrespective of their faith visit the Dargah of Bibi Kamal which is famous for healing powers for the mentally ill and those with acute diseases. Every year at Bibi Kamal's urs, cooked rice is distributed among devotees seeking her blessings.

How To Reach:

- Air : The nearest airport is Gaya International Airport.
- Rail : The nearest railway station is Jehanabad.
- Road : Instead of Jahanabad you can a get a bus to Hilsa on regular basis.



Nalanda Ibrahim Baya Maqbara

District - Nalanda

Located a top the Pir Pahari hills, the Maqbara of Ibrahim Mallick Baya was built about 600 years ago. Ibrahim Mallick came to India around 1339 CE and served as a general under Delhi Sultan Mohammad Tughlaq and won several battles. He was conferred the title Bafya from the court of Sultan for his many successful campaigns. He was also known for his spiritual stint. The minimal aestheticism of his mausoleum creates a saintly aura. The well maintained drivable road facilitates cars to reach almost at the top of the hill.



How To Reach:

- Air : The nearest airport is Jayprakash Narayan International Airport.
- Rail : The nearest railway station is Bihar Sharif.

Road : Bihar Sharif is well connected to nearby towns by road.

Munger Jamia Rahmani Khanqah

District - Munger

The Khanquah was incepted by the distinguished Sufi saint Hazrat Maulana Mohammad Ali Mungeri, more than 100 years ago, in 1901. Besides developing spiritual merit, he had initiated several initiatives which inspired Muslims to develop interest in contemporary education. In addition, he was one of the great Indian Muslims who actively participated in the Independence movement, making the Khanqah a fervent ground for Indian freedom fighters. Leaders like Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, Maulana Ali Jauhar also visited this Khanqah to propound the independence movement. The library Kitab Khana Rahmani takes pride in its precious collections of original manuscripts. A striking feature of this place is the holy graves of the Saints covered by grassy earth



without any worldly construction or cover that is sought after by the devotees for blessings.

How To Reach:

Air : The nearest airport is Jayprakash Narayan International Airport.

Rail : The nearest railway station is Jamalpur Railway Station. Road : Munger is well connected to nearby towns by road.

Aurangabad

Amjhar Sharif Mazaar

District - Aurangabad

Amjhar Sharif is of enormous religious significance as it houses the ancient mazaar (tomb) of the chief representative of the Qadri order of Sufism Hazrat Saiyadana Mohammad Jilani Amjhari Qadri. As the myth goes, he had carried two saplings from the middle-east in search of a place where they would take root. His belief was that this would also be the place where his teachings would flourish. Two large trees in the garden of the Mazaar are supposed to have grown from the same saplings.



How To Reach:

- Air : The nearest Airport is Gaya International Airport.
- Rail : The nearest railway stations is Anugrah Narayana Road.
- Road : Aurangabad is well connected with nearby towns by road.

Rohtas Sher Shah Suri's Mausoleum

District - Rohtas

An exemplary example of Indo-Islamic architecture in red sandstone, the mausoleum of Sher Shah Suri, the founder of the Suri Dynasty in Northern India, stands in the middle of an artificial lake. The tomb is built on square stone plinth with an octagonal plan, which symbolizes paradise according to the Qur'an. Several ornate chhatris adorn the double layered dome and platform, which houses the remains of the emperor and his close kin. The tomb was built by his son, Saleem Shah and according to an inscription in the Mehraab was completed on 16th August, 1545.



How To Reach:

- Air : The nearest airport is Jayprakash Narayan International Airport.
- Rail : Sasaram Railway Station is the nearest railway station.
- Road: Sasaram is well connected with other cities within Bihar such as Patna, Aurangabad and Gaya. Private cabs and buses are easily available.



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