

# SHIRDI, AJANTA & ELLORA CAVES

*8 Days / 7 Nights*

## DAY 01 KUALA LUMPUR – MUMBAI

Board your flight to Mumbai. You will be met on arrival at the **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport Mumbai**

Proceed to the hotel for check-in. Overnight in Mumbai.

*Overnight in Mumbai.*

## DAY 02 MUMBAI – BHIMASHANKAR - PUNE (B)



This morning, after breakfast, check-out of the hotel and proceed to leave for Pune, via visiting Bhimashankar **temple** (6.5 hrs drive from Mumbai), one of the Jyotirlinga temple. Later continue to drive to Pune and check-into hotel. Overnight in Pune.

*Overnight in Pune.*



**DAY 03**
**PUNE - AURANGABAD**
**(B)**

After breakfast, check-out of the hotel and proceed on a city tour of Pune, visit Aga Khan Palace, Shaniwar Wada & Dagdusheth Halwai Ganpati Temple. After this, proceed to Aurangabad. Check-into your hotel. Overnight.

*Overnight in Aurangabad.*


**DAY 04**
**AURANGABAD**
**(B)**

After breakfast, leave for a full day excursion to the Buddhist caves at **Ajanta**. In the early 19th century, a British hunting party stumbled upon the 28 caves on the horse-shoe bend of the river Waghura. The rock-cut caves had paintings on verandahs, inner walls and ceilings that revealed some of the most beautiful masterpieces of world art. In his first sermon Dhammacakkappavattana Sutta, The Buddha taught seekers to avoid the two extremes – the path of sensual pleasure and that of extreme penance and austerity. Since sensual cravings and aversions hindered achieving the state



of nirvana; paintings and sculptures being instruments of sensual gratification had no use on the path to enlightenment. However, after his death, followers of his teachings gradually evolved imagery parallel to Hinduism. The frescoes and sculptures of Ajanta are indeed heady.

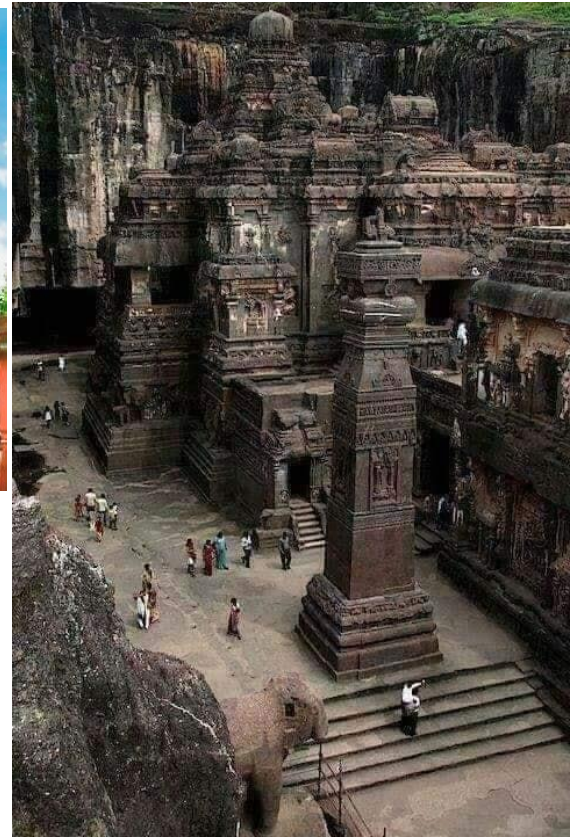
*Overnight in Aurangabad.*







Today, after breakfast, check-out of hotel and proceed to visit **Ellora Caves** – which has 34 monasteries and temples, extending over more than 2 km. The magnitude of the sculpture can be compared to carving a whole cathedra out of solid rock, interior and exterior. The technique needed a profound knowledge of rock formation and structure. The centerpiece of Ellora is the Kailasha Temple. In its galleries are recreated various scenes from Shiva myths. Created out of nearly 3 million cubic feet of stone, the temple is the most famous structure of the Rashtrakuta dynasty. The complex has truly outstanding relief panels cut into the side walls of the courtyard. Later visit **Grishneshwar Temple** - dedicated to Lord Shiva and is one of the twelve Jyotirlingas, the sacred abodes of Shiva. Thereafter drive to Shirdi, via visiting Shani



**Signapur Temple.** Arrive in Shirdi in the evening and check into your hotel for overnight stay.

*Overnight in Shirdi.*





Today morning, around 3.30am, visit Sai Baba Temple where the main gate is opened at 4 am to witness the bathing plus Kakad Aarti at 4.30am. After offering the morning prayer, return to the hotel for Breakfast. Sri Sai Baba, popularly known as the "Child of God", preached faith and tolerance towards all religions. Later, you may also visit Panchmukhi Ganesh Temple and Sai Heritage Village Approx. 3-4 km from Shirdi Sai Baba Temple. Sai Heritage Village is the first ever pilgrimage cum picnic-based theme park situated on Shirdi - Ahmednagar Highway in Shirdi. Overnight in Shirdi.

### *Overnight in Shirdi*







Today morning, check-out of the hotel and drive to Mumbai. Enroute visit Trimbakeshwar Temple at Nashik. This is one of the most popular temples which is situated in Trimbak village. This temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva. Later continue to drive to Mumbai. Check-into your hotel, overnight in Mumbai.

*Overnight in Mumbai.*





Today, after breakfast, enjoy a short city tour of Mumbai and thereafter time for your last-minute shopping. Check-out of hotel at 12noon. Evening transfer to the airport to board your return flight to Kuala Lumpur.

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#### **Package includes:**

- 7 Nights stay on Twin/Double sharing at 3\*hotels.
- Meals as stated in the itinerary (B:- Breakfast) - Total 7 Breakfasts
- All transfers, tours & inter-city drives by AC vehicle with driver as per itinerary only.
- Local English-speaking Guide from Day 2 – Day 8

**NOT INCLUDED:** Any flight tickets, airport taxes, Meals other than specified, entry/admission fees at the places of visits, guides other than specified, visa fee, travel insurance, covid test, tips, excess baggage charges, medical insurance, laundry charges, mineral water, drinks, camera fees (video/still), telephone charges, all personal expenses and items not mentioned under 'Cost Includes'.

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