

AURANGABAD

2 nights / 3 days

Aurangabad is one of the oldest cities in Maharashtra with a cultural heritage that includes, the Ajanta - Ellora caves and Daulatabad Fort. The town is named after Aurangzeb, the last Mughal emperor, and has many places to see, admire and know about. Several fine Mughal monuments surround Aurangabad, including Aurangzeb's mausoleum for his wife, the 'Bibi-ka-Maqbara' resembling Taj Mahal. The city is also famous for its Bidri work and Himroo products.

Day 01 MUMBAI-AURANGABAD

- **Half day City tour**
- **Local shopping**
- **Overnight**

: Morning transfer to airport to connect flight for Aurangabad

1200 hrs : Arrive Aurangabad & check-in at hotel

1400 hrs : Afternoon Aurangabad city tour
Visit Bibi Ka Maqbara is an excellent example of Persian architecture. This monument was built around 1657-1661, by the last Mughal emperor Aurangzeb, for his wife named Rabia Durrani. Panchakki is an impressive pre-Mughal watermill harnessed to operate large grain-grinding stones. It was built in 1624 to commemorate the memory of the Sufi saint Baba Shah Musafir, whose tomb lies nearby. Panchakki takes its name from the mill which was considered a marvel of engineering at that time.



1700 hrs : Evening at leisure to explore local bazaars
: Overnight at hotel.

Day 02 IN AURANGABAD

- **Visit Ajanta caves (closed on Mondays)**
- **Overnight**
-

0830 hrs : Breakfast at hotel

0930 hrs : Excursion to Ajanta

Nestling in an inner fold of the Sahyardi hills, 100 km from Aurangabad in the shape of a mammoth horse-shoe, are the 30 rock-hewn caves of Ajanta. The Caves date from the 2nd century BC. . Discovered in 1819 by a group of British army officers, these startling achievements took around 600 years to create. Carved with little more than a hammer and chisel, Ajanta, once the retreat of Buddhist

monastic orders features several 'chaityas (chapels) and 'viharas' (monasteries).



The exquisite wall and ceiling paintings, panels and sculptures of Buddha's life are famous throughout the world as the earliest and finest examples of Buddhist pictorial art.

1700 hrs : Return to hotel
: Overnight at hotel.

Day 03 AURANGABAD-MUMBAI

- **Visit to Ellora (closed on Tuesdays) & Daulatabad fort**
- **Transfer to Aurangabad Airport.**
- **Board flight for respective destination.**

0830 hrs : Breakfast at hotel.
: Check-out of the hotel & proceed to visit Ellora caves



Impressive in their own right is the rock-hewn temples and monasteries of Ellora that lie just 30 km away from Aurangabad city. In all, there are 34 cave temples, 12 Mahayana Buddhist caves (550-750 AD), 17 Hindu caves (600-875 AD) and 5 caves of the Jain faith (800-1000 AD) Kailas Temple (cave16), the central attraction at Ellora, is the most remarkable.



Thereafter visit Daulatabad fort-Rising dramatically over 600 ft above the Deccan plain, standing on a pyramid - shaped hill, is this impressive fortress, once known as 'Devgeri' meaning "Hills of Gods". This fort served as the head quarters of the powerful Yadava rulers. It is supposed to have been originally a Buddhist monastery. Over its remains, the first fort was built in the 9th century and later between the 11th to 14th centuries, the present fort was constructed.

1600 hrs :Thereafter transfer to Aurangabad Airport to board flight for Mumbai.

Tour Ends