



MAHARASHTRA A WORLD WITHIN

Directorate of Tourism, Tourism Department, GoM

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AREWARE BEACH



KALU WATERFALL



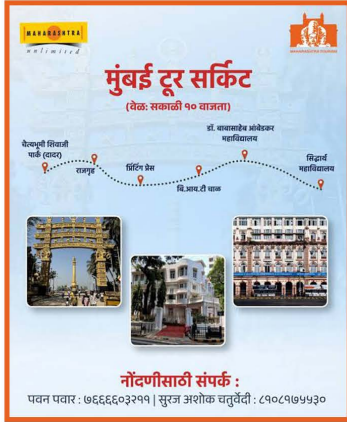
CHIKHALDARA

Events That Define Maharashtra

April 2026 continued Maharashtra's positive tourism trajectory, supported by favourable summer travel conditions, holiday periods, and sustained cultural and tourism activities across the state. Destinations remained active and well-visited, reflecting steady tourist participation and sustained interest in Maharashtra's diverse tourism offerings.

Special Tour Circuit on Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Birth Anniversary Successfully Conducted Across Mumbai, Nashik & Nagpur

To mark the occasion of the Birth Anniversary of Bharat Ratna Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar, the Department of Tourism, Government of Maharashtra, organised the Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Tour Circuit on 13th and 14th April 2026. The tour circuit was successfully conducted across Mumbai, Nashik, and Nagpur.



The inaugural ceremony of the tour circuit was held on Monday, April 13, 2026, in the presence of dignitaries. Mr Santosh Rokade, Deputy Secretary, Department of Tourism, Government of Maharashtra, and Ms Naveli Deshmukh, Youth Ambassador of Maharashtra Tourism, were present on the occasion. The dignitaries flagged off the tour circuit, marking the commencement of the initiative.

The tour circuit was organised free of cost for tourists and followers. Citizens and tourists of all ages participated in the two-day tour circuit.

Koyna Daulat Dongri Festival Concludes with Over 2 Lakh Visitors, 3-Days of Extension Drives Record Turnout

The Koyna Daulat Dongri Festival 2026 successfully concluded on April 9, with a remarkable turnout of more than 2 lakh visitors, solidifying its reputation as one of the most sought-after rural tourism projects in Maharashtra. The three days added to the schedule, announced by the Honourable Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Mr Eknath Shinde, on April 6, were instrumental in attracting more visitors to the festival.



Drawing inspiration from the event's success, Deputy Chief Minister Mr Eknath Shinde announced to organise the Koyna Backwater Festival during the upcoming winter season, aiming to take it to the global level. Honourable Minister of Tourism Mr Shambhuraj Desai expressed his gratitude to the organisers and government officials for the festival's overwhelming success.

Among those who graced the festival with their presence were Dr B. N. Patil (IAS), Director, Directorate of Tourism, Government of Maharashtra, Mr Neelesh Gatne (IAS), Managing Director, Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation, Mr Raviraj Desai, President of Morna Education Institution, and Mr Yashraj Desai, Chairman of Loknete Balasaheb Desai Co-operative Sugar Factory, among others.

'Khagol Darshan Mahotsav 2026' Concludes with Great Enthusiasm

On the occasion of the Golden Jubilee Year of the Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation (MTDC), and in celebration of International Dark Sky Week, the Department of Tourism, Government of Maharashtra, organised the 'Khagol Darshan Mahotsav 2026' from April 24 to 26, at MTDC Lonar in Buldhana district and Harihareshwar in Raigad district.

The festival was conducted under the leadership of Honourable Minister of Tourism, Mr Shambhuraj Desai, and Honourable Minister of State for Tourism, Mr Indranil Naik. The initiative was further guided by Mr Sanjay Khandare (IAS), Principal Secretary (Tourism), Govt. of Maharashtra and Mr Neelesh Gatne (IAS), Managing Director, MTDC, Govt. of Maharashtra. On the occasion of this festival, distinguished dignitaries, including Mr Chandrashekhra Jaiswal, General Manager, MTDC and Mr Santosh Rokade, Deputy Secretary, Department of Tourism, Govt. of Maharashtra, were present.

The festival featured a range of engaging activities, including stargazing sessions, expert-led guidance, and interactive science programs. It also offered citizens a unique and memorable opportunity to explore and experience the wonders of the night sky through guided astronomical observation.

• Event to look forward to:

'Mango Festival 2026' to Be Held at Kunkeshwar

With the aim of boosting tourism in the Konkan region and promoting local tourism, the state's Tourism Department has organised the 'Mango Festival 2026' on the occasion of the Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation's (MTDC) golden jubilee.

Honourable Minister of Tourism, Shambhuraj Desai, announced that the festival will be held at Kunkeshwar in Devgad taluka, Sindhudurg district, from May 15 to 18, 2026. He also extended a warm invitation to tourists and Konkan enthusiasts to attend the festival in large numbers and savour the unique flavours of Konkan's culture and its celebrated mangoes.

The festival will offer visitors a rare opportunity to purchase mangoes directly from farmers, along with a variety of distinctive local Konkan products. Additionally, guidance camps will be organised to inform mango-growing farmers about various government schemes and support initiatives designed to benefit them.



• News in Focus

Koyna Backwater Festival 2026 – Comprehensive Planning Underway for a Grand Showcase at Mahabaleshwar-Tapola

With the aim of showcasing the vast expanse and natural beauty of the Koyna reservoir on a global stage and strengthening Mahabaleshwar's identity as an international tourism destination, the **Koyna Backwater Festival 2026** will be held on a grand scale.

In this context, a key planning meeting was held at Sahyadri Guest House under the chairmanship of the **Honourable Minister of Tourism, Mr Shambhuraj Desai**. As per the directives of the Honourable Chief Minister and both Deputy Chief Ministers, the minister instructed state and local authorities to prepare a detailed, comprehensive plan for the festival and to submit a final report.



The meeting was attended by Mr Sanjay Khandare (IAS), Principal Secretary (Tourism), Govt. of Maharashtra, Dr B. N. Patil (IAS), Director, Directorate of Tourism, Govt. of Maharashtra, Mr Neelesh Gatne (IAS), Managing Director, Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation, Mr Santosh Rokade, Deputy Secretary, Department of Tourism, Govt. of Maharashtra, Mr Vijay Powar, Deputy Secretary, Department of Tourism, Govt. of Maharashtra, Mr Chandrashekhar Jaiswal, General Manager, Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation and Mr Santosh Jadhav, Joint Director, Directorate of Tourism, Govt. of Maharashtra, Mr Sushil Pawar, Assistant Director, Directorate of Tourism, Govt. of Maharashtra and other officials.

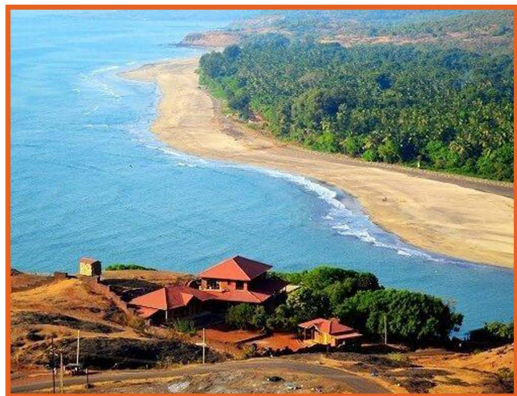
**“We will prioritise multilingual and multidimensional promotion to give Maharashtra’s tourism a global identity”
– Minister of Tourism Shambhuraj Desai**

The Government of Maharashtra aims to enhance its national and international recognition through the state's rich tourism heritage, Honourable Minister of Tourism Mr Shambhuraj Desai said, adding that a new generation of communication strategy would be adopted to achieve this objective. He was addressing the Media Plan 2026 review meeting held at Sahyadri Guest House, where an in-depth assessment of the Tourism Department's branding and promotional initiatives was undertaken.

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Strong Performance by Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation in Konkan Region; Record Growth in Revenue

The Konkan region of the Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation (MTDC), an undertaking of the Government of Maharashtra, has recorded notable performance in the tourism sector, achieving a significant increase in revenue. The tourist resort at Ganpatipule has recorded a turnover exceeding ₹10 crore, while Tarkarli has generated revenue of ₹3.20 crore. Despite limited room availability, this performance reflects efficient management, stated Honourable Minister of Tourism Mr Shambhuraj Desai. He was speaking at a meeting of the Tourism Department held at Sahyadri Guest House.



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Women-Led Tourism Policy Gains Strong Momentum in Konkan



The women-centric tourism policy, "Aai," implemented by the Tourism and Cultural Affairs Department of the Government of Maharashtra, is showing commendable growth in all five districts of the Konkan region. Under this initiative, 343 applications from 67 women tourism entrepreneurs have been selected, and ₹14,92,697 in interest reimbursement has been paid.

Designed to foster entrepreneurship and leadership among women, the policy enables aspiring female entrepreneurs to access loans from nationalised banks to establish tourism-related ventures. The state government supports these efforts by offering an interest subsidy of up to ₹4.5 lakh on such loans.

Since the implementation of the scheme in Konkan, it has attracted favourable responses from many women across the region. So far, 814 women have registered online, out of which 602 proposals have already been sanctioned.

Top Summer Destinations of Maharashtra

Pawna Lake



The scenic Sahyadri ranges of Maharashtra are full of treasures, and Pawna Lake is one of them. Once the sun sets and darkness covers the skies above, the stars reflected on the lake below become a sight to behold. Accompanied by tents, a bonfire, and leisurely conversations that go beyond midnight, time stands still for a while. Whether you arrive seeking solitude or shared stillness, Pawna wraps you in a kind of calm that lingers long after you leave.

Aare Ware Beach

Aare Ware Beach offers a quiet escape along Maharashtra's Konkan coast, where twin shores meet clear waters and soft sands. Reached by a winding coastal road, the journey offers sweeping views of the Arabian Sea. Visitors can stroll at ease, watch vivid sunsets, and spot occasional turtles. Swimming isn't recommended due to strong currents, but a zipline above the sea adds adventure. Nearby Ganpatipule and Ratnadurga Fort expand the experience with culture, history, and coastal panoramas.



Rajmachi Fort



Adventure brings out the best in everything, and there is none better than the Rajmachi Fort. The forest trail leading up to this fort creates suspense, building up until the fort is seen for the first time, a masterpiece built and fortified by Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. At night, the place takes on a new identity, offering a spectacular out-of-this-world experience. With the wind playing tunes through the stone, it is the darkness that sets the scene, with stars lighting the sky.





MAHARASHTRA TOURISM







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