

# ABODE OF THE SAINT

SHIRDI SAI BABA TEMPLE



The power of faith has transformed Shirdi, a tiny village in Ahmednagar, Maharashtra into a revered pilgrimage centre. Believers come here to pay obeisance to Sai Baba, the spiritual leader who made the village his home and lived here until he attained samadhi in 1918. The saint was known to perform miracles and spread teachings about One God. The 200 sq mts temple complex includes the Samadhi Mandir and the place where he once lived (Dwarkamai). Around 25,000 devotees visit Shirdi daily and the number of visitors shoots up to one lakh during festival days. The complex has facilities to make the experience a smooth one for pilgrims, such as Darshan Lane, donation counters, prasad counters, a canteen, railway reservation counter and book stalls. The Shri Sai Prasadalya kitchen is the second largest in the country and serves thousands of devotees every day.

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## FESTIVALS AT SHIRDI

Pilgrims pour into Shirdi in large numbers for the three festivals that are celebrated in a grand manner. Organised by the Shri Saibaba Sansthan Trust, this includes Ramnavami, Guru Purnima and Vijayadashmi. On these days, Shirdi resounds to the sounds of bhajans or devotional music. Religious ceremonies and readings from the scriptures (parayana) are part of the celebrations. Vibrant processions with chariots and palanquins wind their way through the streets. The Samadhi Mandir is open all night during festivals, with special events held the night before at Dwarkamai.



# CONNECTING SPIRITUALLY WITH BABA

Visiting the temple complex is a spiritual experience. As you wander around the various buildings and holy spots, you will feel the connection with Baba in your heart and soul.

## SAMADHI MANDIR

The stone temple has a statue of Baba seated on a throne. Made of Italian marble, the life-sized statue is just behind the Samadhi. The marble railing around the Samadhi and two silver pillars in front of it are full of ornamental decorations.

## DWARKAMAI

Situated to the right of Samadhi Mandir, the two-level structure has portraits and relics of Sai Baba and items of everyday use that belonged to him.

## GURUSTHAN

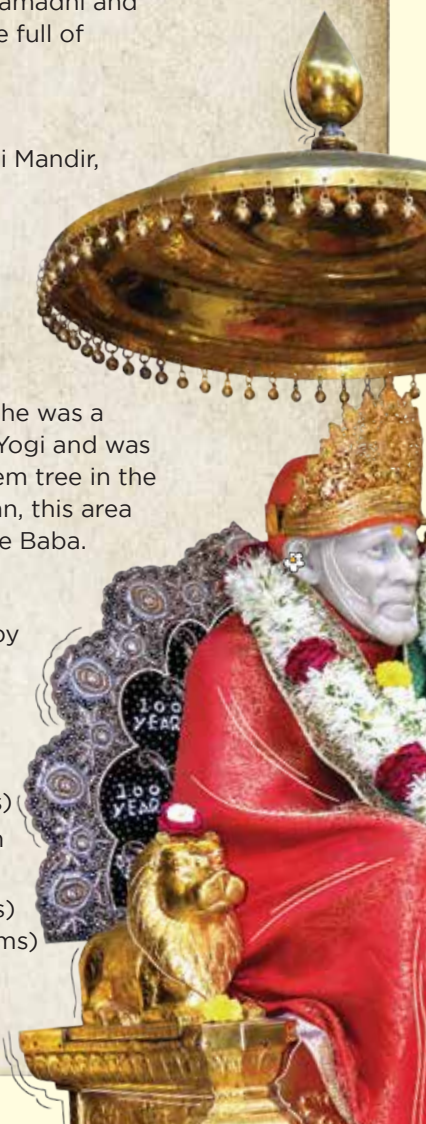
Sai Baba arrived in Shirdi when he was a young boy in the form of a Bal Yogi and was first spotted seated under a neem tree in the village. Now known as Gurusthan, this area has a shrine and a portrait of the Baba.

## LENDI BAUG

This small garden was created by Baba and it is believed that he watered it daily.

## Getting there

- By Air : Shirdi Airport (15 kms)
- By Rail : Shirdi Railway Station (3 kms)
- By Road : Aurangabad (103 kms)  
Shirdi Bus Stand (2 kms)





## TEMPLE DAILY SCHEDULE

4:45 am	: Temple opens	✿
5:00 am	: Bhupali	
5:15 am	: Kakad Aarti	
5:50 am	: Mangal Snaan in Samadhi Mandir	
6:20 am	: Aarti "Shirdi Majhe Pandharpur"	
6:25 am	: Darshan begins at Samadhi Mandir	
11:30 am	: Dhuni Pooja with rice and ghee in Dwarkamai	
12:00 pm	: Mid-day Aarti	
4:00 pm	: Pothi (Devotional Reading / Study) In Samadhi Mandir	
Sunset	: Dhoop Aarti	
8:30 - 10:00 pm	: Devotional songs in the Samadhi Mandir & Cultural Programmes	
10:00 pm	: Shej Aarti	✿



# ATTRACTIONS IN AND AROUND

## SHANI SHINGNAPUR (75 KMS)

This quaint village is famous for the temple dedicated to Shani, the Hindu god associated with the planet (graha), Saturn.

The homes here have no doors, as the residents believe that God protects them.

Officially, no theft has ever been reported in the village.

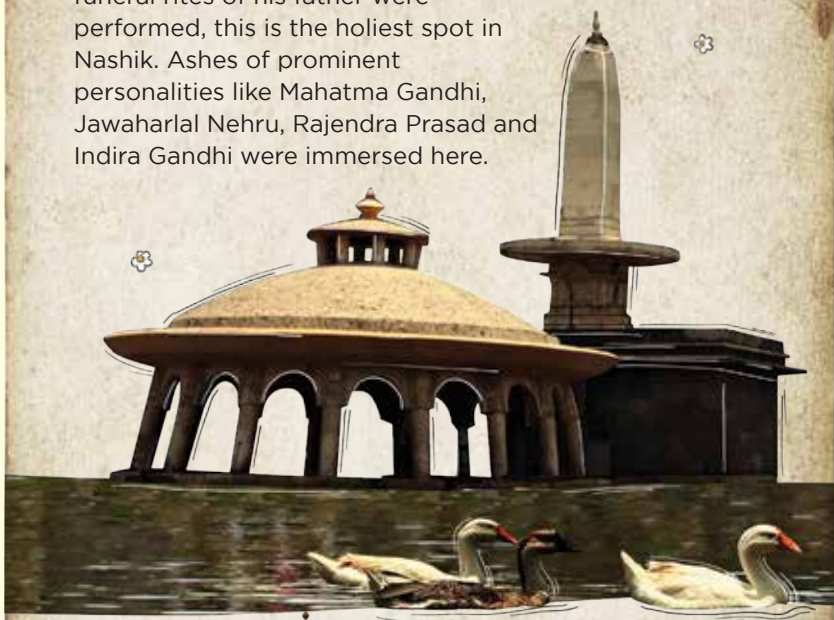


## ELLORA CAVES (100 KMS)

The UNESCO World Heritage Site in Chhatrapati Sambhaji Nagar has 34 rock-cut caves dating from the 6th century. Its sculptures have elements of Hinduism, Jainism and Buddhism, symbolising India's spirit of religious coexistence.

### RAMKUND (95 KMS)

Believed to be the place where Lord Rama used to bathe and where the funeral rites of his father were performed, this is the holiest spot in Nashik. Ashes of prominent personalities like Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, Rajendra Prasad and Indira Gandhi were immersed here.



### MUKTIDHAM (85 KMS)

This marble complex in Nashik is dedicated to several gods and goddesses. All the 12 Jyotirlingas are also replicated here. The temple is a must-visit for visitors to the city

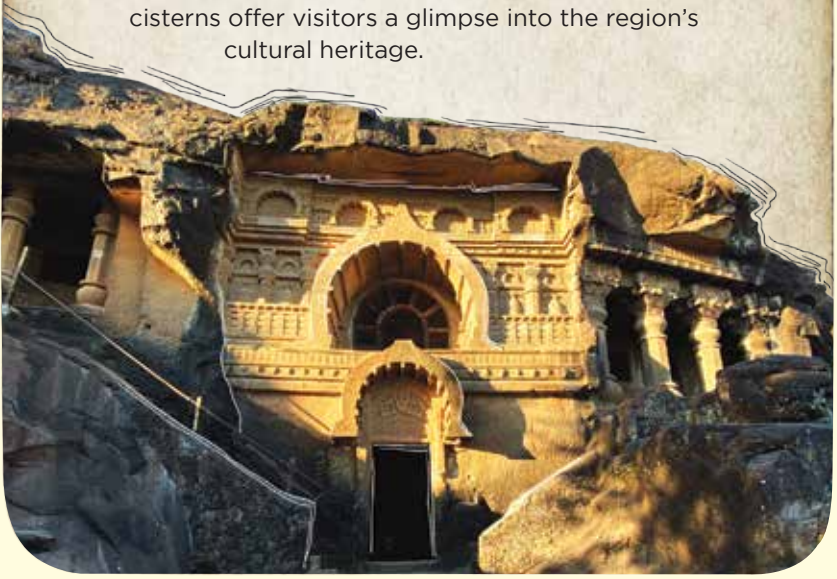






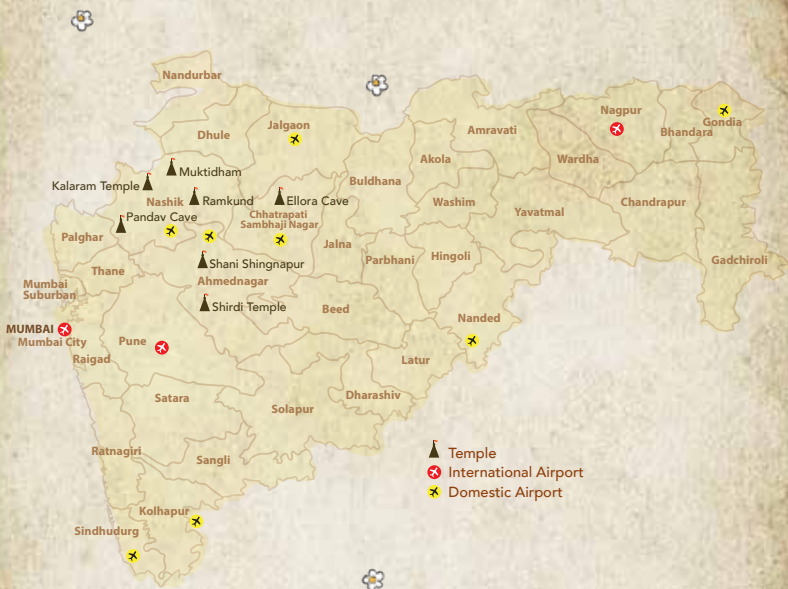
### **KALARAM TEMPLE (95 KMS)**

This temple in Panchavati, Nashik, is dedicated to Lord Rama. The name of the temple literally means “Black Rama” and is derived from the black coloured idol of the deity.



### **PANDAVLENI CAVES (97 KMS)**

Comprising a cluster of 24 caverns dating back to the 3rd century, this Buddhist legacy gradually evolved into a prominent Jain centre. The intricate sculptures, spacious chambers and functional water cisterns offer visitors a glimpse into the region’s cultural heritage.



### For More Information

Head Office No: 022 69107600, Konkan: 022-20876416 / 27560002,  
Nagpur: 0712-2533327, Pune: 020-29900289  
Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar: 0240-2990457, Amravati: 0271-2661611  
Nashik: 0253-2995464

To know more:

Send **SHIRDI** to 📞 +91 94038 78864.

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