



# Pilgrimage to Haridwar : Gateway to Divinity & Serenity

## Delhi-Haridwar- Rishikesh-Delhi

### Day 1:

#### Delhi-Haridwar -04 hrs drive

##### **Morning: Drive to Haridwar**

Haridwar, the 'Gateway to God,' is among the renowned seven spiritual destinations in India, where the holy Ganges, the most sacred of all Indian rivers, graces the Indo-Gangetic plains. Located at the foothills of the Himalayas, it is a city of myriad temples and ashrams, with an overriding spirit of divinity permeating its every corner. Haridwar is also one of the four holy Indian cities that host the Kumbh Mela, a pious gathering of millions of Hindu devotees every 12 years.

**Afternoon:** Check into the hotel in Haridwar

**Evening:** Visit Har Ki Pauri to witness the most pious and renowned Ganga Aarti on the banks of the River Ganges.

The iconic landmark of the city, Har Ki Pauri is one of the most frequented sightseeing places in Haridwar that boasts immense spiritual and cultural significance, attracting millions of pilgrims and tourists from all over the world. The highlight of Har Ki Pauri is the daily evening Ganga Aarti, a captivating ritual performed at dusk. As the sun sets and darkness envelops the surroundings, the ghat comes alive with the rhythmic chants of Vedic hymns, the resonating sounds of conch shells, and the mesmerizing sight of countless oil lamps gently floating in the river.

**Overnight:** Stay in Haridwar.

## Day 2: Haridwar City Tour

**Morning:** After breakfast, visit Mansa Devi Temple, Shanti Kunj, Daksh Temple, Bharat Mata Mandir

Dedicated to Goddess Mansa Devi, the Mansa Devi Temple is a revered Hindu pilgrimage site that offers breathtaking views of the city of Haridwar and the sacred Ganga River flowing nearby. It is believed that Goddess Mansa Devi has the power to fulfill the heartfelt wishes of her devotees. People from all walks of life visit the temple to offer prayers, express their desires, and seek the goddess's divine blessings in their lives.

A prominent center for spiritual and moral upliftment, Shanti Kunj offers a peaceful sanctuary for individuals seeking inner transformation and spiritual growth. It is a renowned ashram that follows the principles and teachings of the Gayatri Pariwar, a socio-spiritual organization that aims to awaken human potential and foster universal brotherhood. The ashram emphasizes the practice of Gayatri Sadhana, which involves the recitation of the Gayatri Mantra, a powerful Vedic hymn believed to bestow divine blessings and spiritual enlightenment.

The ancient temple of Daksha Mahadev also known as Daksheshwar Mahadev Temple, is situated in the south Kankhal town in Haridwar. A sacred place of great devotion and faith among Lord Shiva devotees, it is the epicenter of worship, especially in the holy month of Saavan as per Hindu calendar. This temple of Lord Shiva is named after King Daksha Prajapati, father of Sati. This temple is dedicated to Bharat Mata and was originally the only one of its kind in the world. The Bharat Mata Mandir was created by philanthropist and freedom fighter Shiv Prasad Gupta and was inaugurated by Mahatma Gandhi in 1936.

**Overnight:** Stay in Haridwar.





## Day 3:

### Rajaji National Park-Rishikesh- 01 hrs drive

Early Morning at 0530 a.m. -Visit Rajaji National Park in Haridwar to see a diverse range of flora and fauna. Sprawling over an area of 820 square km, the Rajaji National Park is a renowned national park that provides shelter to a varied species of wildlife - birds, animals, mammals, reptiles, and amphibians. Here you can spot Asian elephants, Bengal tigers, leopards, sloth bears, Indian gaurs, sambar, spotted deer, and barking deer along with langurs, macaques, jackals, hyenas, and wild boars. The avian diversity of Rajaji National Park is equally impressive with over 315 species of birds documented.

**Afternoon:** Travel to Rishikesh (approx. 1 hour by road). Check into your Hotel

Located in the foothills of the Himalayas, Rishikesh stands as a beacon of tranquillity and enlightenment. Set against the backdrop of the Himalayas, with the pristine Ganga flowing through it, the ancient town of Rishikesh is one of the major tourist and pilgrimage hubs in northern India, where people from across the world arrive in search of peace. Rishikesh is commonly referred to as the 'yoga capital of the world' and rightly so. The destination is abuzz with visitors, who come here to learn yoga, meditation and an overriding sense of wellbeing and balance, physical , mental and spiritual.

**Evening:** Attend the Ganga Aarti at Triveni Ghat

Located on the sacred banks of the Ganga River in Rishikesh, Triveni Ghat is a symbol of spiritual sanctity and cultural significance. It is famous for being the spot where three of India's most sacred rivers—Ganga, Yamuna, and Saraswati—converge, drawing thousands of pilgrims, tourists, and seekers to its tranquil shores.

**Overnight:** Stay in Rishikesh.

# Day 4:

## Rishikesh City Tour

**Morning:** Enjoy a yoga or meditation session

**Morning:** Explore Rishikesh, visit Laxman Jhula, Ram Jhula, Parmath Niketan Ashram, Swarg Ashram and Geeta Bhavan, Bharat Mandir and Neelkanth Temple

Laxman Jhula is a renowned attraction of Rishikesh. This is a suspension bridge, built in early 20th century on the holy Ganges, connecting its two shores. It is 450 feet long, built in early 20th century. Laxman Jhula was named after Lord Ram's younger brother Lakshman, and has temples standing stoic on both sides, including the famed Lakshman Temple at Tapovan.

Ram Jhula is a prominent iron suspension bridge in Rishikesh, Uttarakhand, India, connecting Shivananda Nagar (Muni Ki Reti) to Swargashram, and is a popular tourist attraction and a vital link between the two banks of the Ganges river.

Parmath Niketan Ashram is a true spiritual haven, lying on the holy banks of Mother Ganga in the lap of the lush Himalayas. It is the largest ashram in Rishikesh, with verdant gardens that are a source of infinite solace and rest for thousands of pilgrims from across the world.

Geeta Bhavan- Swarg Ashram

Geeta Bhawan is a large complex located at the banks of holy river Ganga in Swargashram, Rishikesh.

Bharat Mandir – a living chronicle of faith etched in stone is also known as the Hrishikesh Narayan Temple. Steeped in legend and history, Bharat Mandir emerges as a beacon of tranquillity, its aura touching the souls of pilgrims and curious visitors alike. The temple's story unfolds like an epic saga, with its main edifice attributed to the visionary Adi Guru Shankaracharya in the 12th century, as chronicled in the hallowed pages of Kedarkhand. Yet, like a phoenix rising from ashes, the temple stood defiant against the ravages of time and invasion, rebuilding itself after the tumultuous Timur invasion of 1398 AD to reclaim its place as a cornerstone of Rishikesh's spiritual landscape.

A Neelkanth Mahadev Temple tour from Rishikesh involves a scenic trek or drive to the temple, a visit to the temple dedicated to Lord Shiva, and potentially a stop at Patna Waterfalls en-route, offering a spiritual and nature-filled experience.

Overnight: Stay in Rishikesh.





## Day 5: Rishikesh City Tour

**Morning:** Enjoy a refreshing white water rafting adventure

With a distance of just 9 km, it is the shortest stretch for rafting in Rishikesh. The activity takes about 1 hour 30 minutes to complete and includes three Grade I and II rapids.

**Afternoon:** Visit Beatles Ashram: Visit the Chaurasi Kutia, also known as the Beatles Ashram, for a unique experience. In February 1968, the English rock band the Beatles travelled to Rishikesh in northern India to take part in a Transcendental Meditation (TM) training course at the ashram of Maharishi Mahesh Yogi

Vashishtha Gufa Ashram- Vashistha Cave is an ancient cave with a fascinating history. It is believed that Sage Vashistha, human son of Lord Brahma and one of the great seven sages and his wife meditated here for many years.

Optional Neer Garh Waterfall: Neer Garh Waterfall, a confluence of three waterfalls, is a popular destination near Rishikesh, known for its breathtaking scenic beauty, located about 5 km from Lakshman Jhula. Enjoy a trek to this beautiful destination, including swimming amidst the abundance of nature.

**Overnight:** Stay in Rishikesh.

Day 6: Rishikesh –New Delhi -05 hrs drive

Morning: Drive to New Delhi

End of Services