

Jain circuit



The 24th and the last Tirthankara of the Jains, Bhagwan Mahavira, was born in 599 B.C. as a prince in Bihar, India. During his early 30s, he left his family and royal household, gave up his worldly possessions, including clothing to become a monk. He practiced meditation for years, stayed without food for long periods, travelled bare feet to ensure he did not hurt animals and birds. He preached that right faith (samyak-darshana), right knowledge (samyak-jnana), and right conduct (samyak-charitra) together will help attain the liberation of one's self.



Bihar

Being the birthplace of Bhagwan Mahavira, Bihar is considered to be a holy destination of the Jains. He stayed for a number of years in North and South Bihar and had gathered considerable number of monk followers known as Nirgranthas. The Nirgranthas discarded all social bonds and became known as Jains after the death of Bhagwan Mahavira. Bhagwan Mahavira is said to have breathed his last at Apapa(Pawa) in Bihar. There are many sacred places in Bihar associated with Bhagwan Mahavira and other Jain Monks that are considered to be venerated pilgrim locations.

Kamaldah



Kamaldah

District – Patna

In Kamaldah, Patna there are high mounds of brick ruins on which stand two famous Jain temples of the medieval period. There is a mausoleum of Jain saint Sri Sthulibhadra and the temple of Sudarshan Swami. Pilgrims congregate in large groups to seek blessings in these two Jain temples.

How to Reach

Air: Jay Prakash Narayan International Airport, Patna (PAT) is well connected to all the major Indian cities by regular flights services.

Rail: Patna Railway Station (154 Km.) is the nearest railway station.

Road: Patna is well connected by road. There are many BSTDC buses and private buses which you can avail.

Where to Stay: You can book Hotel Kautilya Vihar, Patna-1. There are many moderately priced hotels as well in Patna.

Kund Gram



Kund Gram

District – Muzaffarpur

Kund Gram is well-regarded for being the birth place of Bhagwan Mahavira, the 24th Tirthankar of Jain religion. Thousands of tourists visit the Bhagwan Mahavira Temple every season. As per popular belief, the birth of Bhagwan Mahavira took place at Kundagrama and he lived in Vaniyagrama. Kundagrama is identified with the modern village of Vasokund.

How to Reach

Air: The nearest airport is Jay Prakash Narayan International Airport, Patna (PAT)

Rail: The nearest railway station is Muzaffarpur Junction (MFP)

Road: You can avail readily available BSTDC buses or available private buses.

Where to Stay: There are many moderately priced hotels and BSTDC hotels in Muzaffarpur.

Vaishali

Vaishali was one of the earliest republics in the world. Vaishali is believed to be the birthplace of Bhagwan Mahavira, the twenty-fourth and last tirthankara of present cosmic age. Hence, Vaishali is revered as a pious and auspicious pilgrimage spot for Jains.

Bawan Pokhar Jain Temple



Bawan Pokhar Jain Temple

District – Vaishali

As per popular belief, the Bawanpokhar temple is believed to be the birthplace of Bhagwan Mahavira. As the name suggests, the place houses three ancient Digambar Jain temples. There is a water body near this holy place. As per historical records, this temple was built by the Pallava Kings during the Pala period. There are numerous hotels to stay near this temple like Club Mahindra Resort, Hotel Sejal Inn. For detailed information, contact BSTDC.

How to Reach

Air: Jay Prakash Narayan International Airport, Patna (PAT) (68 Km) is the nearest airport

Rail: The nearest railway stations are Hajipur (35 Km) and Muzaffarpur (40 Km).

Road: You can avail BSTDC buses or easily available private buses.

Where to Stay: You can book your stay at one of the BSTDC hotels. There are several moderately priced private hotels as well.

Samwasaran



Samwasaran

District – Nalanda

The term Samwasarana or Samosharana refers to the divine preaching hall of the Tirthankara. As per popular belief, the 24th Tirthankara Bhagwan Mahavira had delivered his first and last sermon to his disciples here. As a mark of respect and to pay tribute to the holy event, the Svetambara Jains had built a temple here. There is a magnificent white marble conical shaped shrine with a large flight of steps standing erect in the middle of the white marble yard.

Pawapuri Jal Mandir



Pawapuri Jal Mandir

District – Nalanda

It is here that the great Bhagwan Mahavira, the 24th Tirthankara, is believed to have attained Moksha or Nirvana. Pawapuri Jal Mandir is located in a small town Pawa in the Nalanda district which is also known as Apapuri or the sinless place. In the middle of a blooming lotus lake, floats this quaint marvelous sparkling white marble temple as beautiful as a beacon in the middle of a water lily pond. Starting from the causeway that connects the temple with the mainland, to pink-white large lotuses, and chirping of water birds, this is a must-to-be-visited place in Bihar.

How to Reach

Air: The nearest airport is Jay Prakash Narayan International Airport, Patna (PAT) at a distance of 89 kms.

Rail: The nearest railway stations are Rajgir (12 Km), Gaya (95 Km).

Road: Nalanda is connected by good road with Rajgir, Bodhi Gaya, Gaya, Patna, Pawapuri, Bihar Sharif etc.

Where to Stay: Tourists can stay at private hotels or Tourists Bungalows of Bihar State Tourism Development Corporation - Tathagal Vihar, Ajatshatru Vihar and Gautam Vihar.

Veerayatan



Veerayatan

District – Nalanda

Veerayatan, situated at Rajgir, was established in 1973 on the occasion of 2500th Janm Kalyank Varsh of Bhagwan Mahavira. It is a socio-religious institution in Bihar that works with a motive 'service to humanity'. It works towards improving quality of life by providing unflinching service in the field of community health, education and employment. Veerayatan has a 100 bedded charitable eye hospital and basic medical tests are done and medicines given for free. Also, tricycles and calipers are distributed to disabled patients. The beautiful art gallery "Shri Brahmī Kala Mandiram" explains the life of all the 24 Tirthankars along with Jain religion and its culture. The gallery consists of more than 50 beautiful panels showcasing Bhagwan Mahavira's life and conveying the importance of Ahimsa.

Where To Stay: You can stay at Ajatsatru Vihar (accommodation of BSTDC). There are many moderately priced hotels where you can stay.

Kundalpur Jain Temple



Kundalpur Jain Temple

District – Nalanda

Approximately 0.75 Km away from Nalanda ruins, Kundalpur is believed to be the birth place of Gautam Gandhara, the first disciple of Bhagwan Mahavira. It houses the statues of Bhagwan Mahavira, Adinath Swami, and Gautam Gandhara. A temple with huge open spaces, it is one of the most important and sacred pilgrimage sites of the Jains. There are 72 idols of Jinas in a separate two storeyed building.

Son Bhandar



Son Bhandar

District – Nalanda

There are two rock-cut caves, adjacent to each other, excavated on the southern face of the Vaibhara hill, facing the western portion of the valley. Of them the western one is locally called as Son-Bhandar- i.e. - Treasury of gold. Inside, on the southern wall of the cave, are carved six small figures of Jain Tirthankaras which represent Padmaprabha, Parshvanatha and Mahavira.

Maniyar Math



Maniyar Math

District – Nalanda

Situated in the middle of the valley of Rajgir, the Maniyar Math has been created in the shape of a stupa with a conical corrugated iron shade. It is called the Nirman Koop of Queen Chalanna and Sheelbhadra in Jain history. It is considered to be one of the most important and multilayered archaeological places to visit in Rajgir. When this site was excavated several ancient Jain images along with Buddhist and Hindu images were found.

How to Reach

Air: The nearest airport is Jay Prakash Narayan International Airport, Patna (PAT) at a distance of 89 kms.

Rail: The nearest railway stations are Rajgir (12 Km), Gaya (95 Km).

Road: Nalanda is connected by good road with Rajgir, Bodhi Gaya, Gaya, Patna, Pawapuri, Bihar Sharif etc.

Where to Stay: Tourists can stay at private hotels or Tourists Bungalows of Bihar State Tourism Development Corporation - Tathagal Vihar, Ajatshatru Vihar and Gautam Vihar.

Sri Digambar Jain Mandir



Sri Digambar Jain Mandir

District – Nalanda

This sacred site is believed to be the place of salvation of Bhagwan Mahavira. This place has a huge lake with Lotus flowers with a Jain temple right in the middle. Presently, this temple is under the Shwetambar Jains. This tirth is the place of the last monsoon sojourns of Mahavira Swami. Several kings and rich merchants had come to hear the sermons of Bhagawan Mahavira. Tourists from across the world flock in huge numbers to take blessings here.

Bhagwan Mahavira
Janmbhumi



Bhagwan Mahavira Janmbhumi

District - Nalanda

Nalanda has been believed to be the birth place of Bhagwan Mahavira. Vardhamaan was born in a palace named 'Nandyavarth Maha'. Apart from the 101 feet high Mahavira Temple, you can also find artistically constructed temples like, Rishabhdev Temple, Trikal Chaobisi Temple, and Shantinath Temple in Nandyavartha Mahal. There's an art gallery with photographs associated with Bhagwan Mahavira.

Lachhwar Temple



Lachhwar Temple

District – Jamui

The Lachhwar Jain Temple is situated in a village in the Jamui District about four miles south of Sikandara. The huge Jain temple along with a dharamshala was built by Raj Dhanpat Singh Bahadur of Murshidabad in 1857. Lachhaur is popular as the birth place of Bhagwan Mahavera, the 24th Tirthankar of the Jains.

Kund Ghat

District - Jamui

Kund Ghat is famous for the presence of Kundeshwari Devi temple. The temple is considered to be a place of prominence for the Jains.

How to reach

Air: The nearest Airports are Jay Prakash Narayan International Airport, Patna (PAT) (161 Km) and Gaya International Airport (141 Km)

Rail: Jamui Rail Junction is the nearest station.

Road: Jamui is well connected by roads via BSTDC buses. One can reach Jamui driving on the Delhi-Kolkata- main road that connects Mughalsara-Patna route.



Masadh Jain Temple

District – Bhojpur

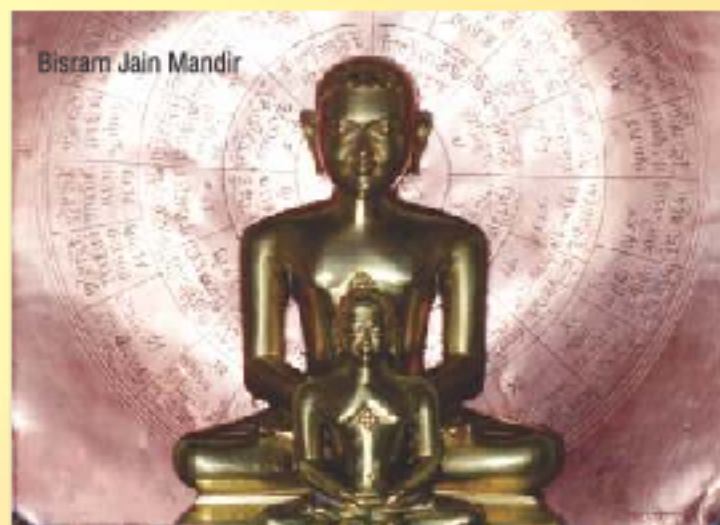
The Masadh village, situated about 9 km southwest of Arrah town, houses an ancient Jain temple which is dedicated to Parshwanath. The temple consists of eight images which are from 1386 A.D. Archaeological records suggest that the completion of this historic temple took place in the year 1819 A.D.

How to reach

Air: Jay Prakash Narayan International Airport, Patna (PAT) (44 Km) is the nearest airport to Bhojpur.

Rail: Arrah Junction is the nearest railway station, situated in between Patna-Mughalsara Railway line.

Road: All major towns/places of Bihar are well-connected by road to Bhojpur District.



Jain Mandir

District – Bhojpur

As per popular belief, it is said that the 24th Jain Tirthankara Bhagwan Mahavira took a break here for some relaxation during his wanderings. So, came the name Bisram. Jains and people belonging to all faiths visit this holy place all year round. There are 45 Jain temples other than Jain Mandir where devotees seek blessings.

Mandar Hill



Mandar Hill

District – Banka

This awe-inspiringly isolated, singular boulder hill looks like a huge monolith of 700 ft. The 12th Jain Tirthankara Vasupujya is believed to have attained Nirvana or Moksha over here. And, in his memory a well decorated temple has been built on top of this hill. There is a beautiful lake in the middle of the rock hill.

How to Reach

Rail: Mandar Hill Railway Station is the nearest railway station.

Road: Banka is the nearest town to Baunsi having good road connectivity.



Gonavajee

District – Nawada

When you travel roughly one kilometre north of Nawada on Patna-Ranchi road you reach the beautiful and sacred village of Gonavajee. Gonavajee is a place of pilgrimage for the Jains of both sects, Digambar and Shwetambar. There are two famous Jain temples here – The Digambar Jain temple built in 1925 and Shwetambar Jain Temple built some 800 years ago.

How to Reach

Rail: Nawadah Railway Station and Sadipur Halt Railway Station are the nearest railway stations.

Road: Patna is well connected by roads BSTDC buses. Gaya is the nearest town.



Champapuri Vasupujya Jinalaya

Champapuri Vasupujya Jinalaya

District – Bhagalpur

Vasupujya Swami was the twelfth Tirthankara in Jainism of the Avasarpini. The statue of Vasupujya is located at Champapur, Bihar. Vasupujya Jinalaya is a grand temple built by the Shwetambar sect. Shrines of Shantinath and Mahavira Jina along with other Jinas are found here. The temple is decorated with several ornaments and motifs which denote Jain tales.

How to Reach

Air: The nearest Airport is Jay Prakash Narayan International Airport, Patna (PAT)

Rail: The nearest Railway Station is Bhagalpur (BGP) and Nathnagar (NAT)

Road: Bhagalpur is well connected to nearby cities by NH 80 and NH 31 which is connected by the Vikramshila Setu.

Where to Stay: You can stay at Hotel Rajhans International and Hotel Nihar at Kutchery Chawk.

For more information regarding transportation and hospitality services, contact Bihar State Tourism Development Corporation (BSTDC).
For more information, visit: www.bstdc.bih.nic.in

PATNA

Nearest Airport: Patna/3Kms Nearest Railway Station: Patna/1Kms
Name: Kautilya Vihar, Beer Chand Patel Path, Patna-1. Phone: 0612-2225411, 2210219,
2210242 Fax: 0612-2236218.

RAJGIR

Nearest Airport: Patna/114 Kms Nearest Railway Station: Rajgir/3 Kms
Name: Tathagat Vihar, Rajgir. Telephone: 06112-255176.
Name: Ajatshatru Vihar, Rajgir-803 152. Telephone: 06112-255027.
Name: Gautam Vihar, Rajgir-803 152. Telephone: 06112-255273

VAISHALI

Nearest Airport: Patna/70Km Nearest Railway Station: Muzaffarpur/40Kms/Hajipur/5km
Name: Ambapali Vihar, Vaishali-844 128. Phone 06225-285425.
Name: Youth Hostel



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For more information regarding transportation and hospitality services, contact Bihar State Tourism Development Corporation (BSTDC).
For more information, visit: www.bstdc.bih.nic.in