



# Ramayana Circuit



Bihar has a strong tie to the epic Ramayana. It is stated that when Rama was young, he and his brother followed Vishwamitra into a beautiful forest to safeguard the sages. At this point, Vishwamitra speaks to the brothers in their lineage, telling them stories about the beginning of the world. It tells us of Sita's birth in Janaka's realm, as well as the stories that would follow her, such as the lifting of Shiva's beautiful bow. At this time, Rama and Sita are married and Sage Valmiki writes the epic in his hermitage, where Sita takes safety after being exiled from Rama's realm. There are Several Places in Bihar which were the part of Epic moments of Ramayana and which is being memorised in the form of temples, and pilgrims. These are the important tourist places to be visit.

## Punaura Dham

### Sitamarhi

The place where Janaka's plough dashed against the casket 2 kilometres from Sitamarhi is considered the birthplace of Sita and known today as Punaura Dham. Home to the Punaura Dham Mandir. one of the most revered religious sites in Sitamarhi, it enshrines Rama-Janaki idols besides those of Lakshmana-Urmila and Bharata-Mandavi. Small temples of Hanuman and Shiva are also present in the temple's vicinity. Sitamarhi's signature monument is Janaki to some legends, King Janaka excavated a tank at the place where Sita emerged from the casket which is today lies in south of Janaki Mandir and is known as Janaki Kund.

## Haleshwar Sthan

### Sitamarhi

Legends say that the spot where Siradhwaja Janaka performed the haleshti yagna and started to drive his hul (plough) is today known as Haleshwar Sthan. Located 4 kilometres to the west of Sitamarhi town. Haleshwar Sthan is famed for the Haleshwarnath temple dedicated to Lord Shiva established by King Janaka on the occasion of putra yeshti yajna. The stone Shivalinga in the sanctum is believed to be the original image through which King Janaka invoked Shiva.





माँ जानकी जन्म स्थली  
पुनौरा धाम

Punaura Dham, Sitamarhi

# Panth Pakar

## Sitamarhi

After the wedding ceremony of Lord Rama and Maa Sita in Janakpur, while returning to Ayodhya, the new bride Sita's first halt place near Sitamarhi where she alights from her palanquin and rest under Banyan tree. This place known as Panth Pakar. This mystical place with tales surrounding a thick cluster of pakar trees.

### How to Reach

- Air** : The Nearest Airport is Jay Prakash International Airport, Patna.  
**Rail** : The Nearest Railway Station is Sitamarhi Railway Station.  
**Road** : Sitamarhi is well connected by road. Bus and Taxi Services can be used to reach here.

# Girijasthan Phullahar

## Madhubani

Maa Sita, the daughter of King Janaka, who had his capital at Janakpur close by, used to come to Phulher village, collect sweet-smelling blossoms and offer them to the Girija deity at the temple. Maa Sita, accompanied by her devoted Sakhi, ventured to a serene location. Meanwhile, Sri Ramachandra, accompanied by Lakshmana, joined them amidst the fragrant surroundings, engrossed in the gentle act of flower-plucking. The bashful Sita's eyes fell on Sri Ramachandra and Sri Ramachandra too was captivated by the coy girl.

Both felt a great joy in seeing each other and they hurried back to their respective abodes. This was the first meeting of Sri Ramachandra and Maa Sita and it took place in the vicinity of the Girija Devi temple. The Balakanda of Ramayana depicts this meeting in a very fascinating manner.

### How to Reach

- Air** : The Nearest Airport is Jay Prakash Narayan International Airport, Patna.  
**Rail** : The Nearest Railway Station is Madhubani Railway Station.  
**Road** : Madhubani is well connected by road. Bus and Taxi Services can be used to reach here.



# Ahilya Sthan

## Darbhanga

When Ayodhya princes Rama and Lakshmana, along with Sage Vishwamitra were headed towards Janakpur for Sita's Swayamvara, they rest awhile at a secluded, verdant spot. Rama noticed a rishi's ashram nearby and wonders why no one was around. It is then that Vishwamitra narrated him the story of Ahilya or Ahalya.

After Rama hearing the story, he is filled with compassion for Ahilya and on the instruction of Vishwamitra, he lightly touched the stone that is her, with his foot. She immediately regains human form, praises the prince of Ayodhya and reunites with Gautama.

### How to Reach

- Air** : The nearest airport is Jay Prakash International Airport, Patna.
- Rail** : The Nearest Railway Station is Darbhanga Railway Station.
- Road** : Darbhanga is well connected by road. Bus and Taxi Services can be used to reach here.



Ahilya Sthan, Darbhanga



Rama Rekha Ghat, Buxar

## Rama Rekha Ghat

### Buxar

There is a mythology associated with this ghat which is on the banks of the river Ganges that when Lord Shri Ram was accused of killing a woman after killing Tadka and to get rid of the sin, he went to the same nearby Ganges bank and took a dip. Near the same ghat, Lord Shri Ram made a Shivling out of clay and worshiped, while performing a water bath to the Shivling, then the soil started flowing due to the rawness, then Shri Ram put his arms around the Shivling and then took a water bath, but after removing his hand, Lord Shri Ram's hand's line was inscribed on the Shivling as well as his footprints were printed on the soil there.

Shivling is still in existence at Ram Rekha Ghat. This Ghat in itself reflects the feeling of devotion and reverence. Devotees always come and worship at this holy land.

### How to Reach

**Air** : The Nearest Airport is Jay Prakash Narayan International Airport, Patna.

**Rail** : The Nearest Railway Station is Buxar Railway Station.

**Road** : Buxar is well connected by road. Bus and Taxi Services can be used to reach here.

# Ahirauli

## Buxar

Ahirauli, situated about 5 km northeast of Buxar, is associated with the legend of Devi Ahilya. According to the legend, Rishi Gautam cursed his wife, Ahilya, turning her into a stone. The story goes that when Lord Ram's feet touched the stone, Ahilya came back to life.

## How to Reach

- Air** : The Nearest Airport is Jay Prakash International Airport, Patna.  
**Rail** : The Nearest Railway Station is Buxar Railway Station.  
**Road** : Buxar is well connected by road. Bus and Taxi Services can be used to reach here.

# Giddeshwar

## Jamui

Giddeshwar place is in Khaira block is about 15 kilometers away from Jamui district. It is related to the incident of Ramayana period. It is said that during the fight between Ram and Ravana, when Ravana was kidnapping Sita and taking her to Lanka, this is the place when the vulture king Jatayu fought with Ravana. Even today, this place is a tourist attraction for the people of the area. There is also Giddeshwar Mahadev Temple which is the center of faith for the people here. According to the legend, it was on this mountain that Jatayu fought with Ravana when he kidnapped Mother Sita.

## How to Reach

- Air** : The Nearest Airport is Jay Prakash Narayan International Airport, Patna.  
**Rail** : The Nearest Railway Station is Jamui Railway Station.  
**Road** : Jamui is well connected by road. Bus and Taxi Services can be used to reach here.



# Ram Chaura

## Vaishali

This place, where Rama taken a bath before proceeding to Janakpur, is popularly known as Ramchaura. Located in the city of Hajipur, Ramchaura is home to a temple dedicated to Rama. Locals believe that the place was actually visited by Rama since his footprints are etched on stone at an altitude of 15 metres from the ground around where a temple was later built. An inscription above the footprints, when translated, loosely reads: "The earth from the jungle path that Lord Rama travelled has been integrated here and worshipping these would add virtue to the devout."

## How to Reach

- Air** : The Nearest Airport is Jay Prakash International Airport, Patna.
- Rail** : The Nearest Railway Station is Hajipur Railway Station.
- Road** : Vaishali is well connected by road. Bus and Taxi Services can be used to reach here.



# Tar

## Bhojpur

The village of Tar, 10 kilometres north-west of Piro in modern-day Bhojpur district is said to be the area where Rama slew Tarka. An ancient tank in the area, according to legend, was once the wrestling ground of Tarka.

## How to Reach

- Air** : The Nearest Airport is Jay Prakash Narayan International Airport, Patna.
- Rail** : The Nearest Railway Station is Buxar Railway Station.
- Road** : Piro is well connected by road. Bus and Taxi Services can be used to reach here.

# Sita Kund

## Gaya

The Sita Kund is situated on the banks of the Falgu River, Gaya, right in front of the Vishnupad Temple. It is believed to be the place where Mata Sita performed Pind Daan for her father-in-law Maharaja Dasharatha. It is also believed, when Lord Rama, Mata Sita and Lakshmana were in exile for 14 years, Mata Sita took a bath in this Kund and hence the name Sita Kund. Today, this Kund is considered a spiritually significant place.

## How to Reach

- Air** : The Nearest Airport is Gaya International Airport, Gaya.  
**Rail** : The Nearest Railway Station is Gaya Railway Station.  
**Road** : Gaya is well connected by road. Bus and Taxi Services can be used to reach here.

## Sita Kund

### Munger

Sita Kund is reminiscent of one of the most emotionally fraught moments in the Ramayana—the agni pariksha (fire ordeal). According to local folklore after the fire ordeal, Maa Sita bathed in a pool of water that turned hot as it absorbed the heat from her body. Thereafter, it is believed that the pool has always remained hot and has come to be known as Sita Kund. This hot spring is a big draw among pilgrims and tourists, who gather here in large numbers on the full moon day in the month of Magh (corresponding to January-February). The water here is clear and transparent, symbolising the purity of the epic heroine's mind and body. Experts offer several scientific explanations, including thermodynamics and volcanic activity, as to why the water always maintains a high temperature.

## How to Reach

- Air** : The Nearest Airport is Jay Prakash Narayan International Airport, Patna.  
**Rail** : The Nearest Railway Station is Jamalpur Railway Station.  
**Road** : Munger is well connected by road. Bus and Taxi Services can be used to reach here.





Sita Thapa, Aurangabad

## Sita Thapa

### Aurangabad

According to local folklore, on their way to Gaya. Rama. Sita and Lakshmana rest at a picturesque spot in Nima village, now in Aurangabad district of Bihar. This spot, known as Sita Thapa or the place where Sita's handprint or thapa is present, bears testimony to this event.

A small temple-like structure enclosing the handprints of Sita is the main draw here. It is said that the temple stands exactly on the spot where Rama and Sita built a kutir to rest. Beside the path leading up to the temple is a rock that also has her footprints. The temple stands adjacent to a serene lake. Nearby are two other temples - an ancient Shiva temple and another dedicated to the ten avatars of Vishnu.

### How to Reach

- Air** : The Nearest Airport is Gaya International Airport, Gaya.
- Rail** : The Nearest Railway Station is Anugrah Narayan Road Railway Station.
- Road** : Aurangabad is well connected by road. Bus and Taxi Services can be used to reach here.

# Valmiki Nagar

## West Champaran

Sage Valmiki had built his own ashram here which is known as Valmiki Nagar. Maa Sita takes refuge when whispers get loud about her chastity, following the defeat of Ravana and Rama-Sita-Lakshmana's return to Ayodhya. Sita, who is then pregnant, decides to take shelter in the ashram of Sage Valmiki and soon gives birth to two sons - Lav and Kush. Valmiki takes on the responsibility of protecting and educating the boys and begins to write the story of Rama - which is today famous as the country's first Sanskrit epic poem.

It is at this point where the family reunites but when Rama requests Sita to return with him and the children to Ayodhya, she refuses and instead chooses to let the ground beneath her open up and swallow her whole - symbolic of entering the earth that she was born out of.

## How to Reach

- Air** : The Nearest Airport is Jay Prakash Narayan International Airport, Patna.
- Rail** : The Nearest Railway Station is Valmiki Nagar Raad Railway Station.
- Road** : West Champaran is well connected by road. Bus and Taxi Services can be used to reach here.

## Other Places in Ramayan Circuit

- o Chanki Garh, West Champaran
- o Gautam Kund, Darbhanga
- o Ramshilla, Gaya
- o Kako, Jehanabad





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