

Incredible India



*One destination.
Countless stories.*

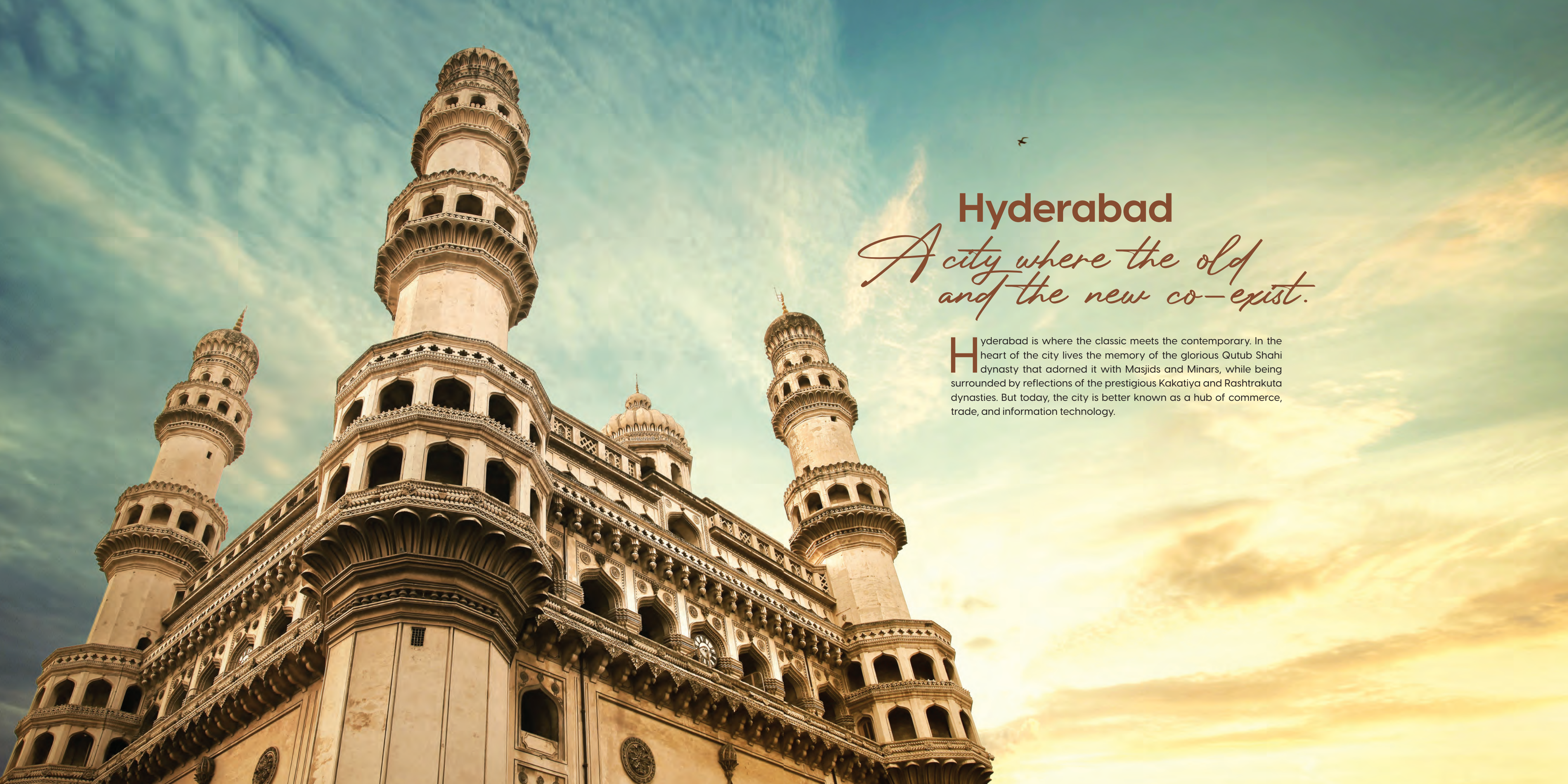


Introduction

Te^Telangana may be a relatively new state, but it boasts a long and storied history. A true legacy of the many dynasties that ruled this region over the years - Satavahanas, Rashtrakutas, Kakatiyas, Qutub Shahis and Asaf Jahis. This is further enriched by immigrant cultures from different parts of India. Consequently, Telangana is a treasure trove of architecture, monuments, fortresses, heritage buildings and museums.

Nature lovers will find numerous waterfalls and lakes lending a touch of gorgeousness to the lush greens. Numerous wildlife sanctuaries too are spread across the region. And if that wasn't enough, there is the paradox that is Hyderabad. A city caught between old world charm and new age tech, yet embracing both as only this city can.

With these pages we hope to take you through a tiny discovery of the unique destinations of Telangana which we are certain will whet your appetite for more. And when you visit, we truly recommend bringing your appetite, as the culinary delights that await you here are a trip unto itself.



Hyderabad

*A city where the old
and the new co-exist.*

Hyderabad is where the classic meets the contemporary. In the heart of the city lives the memory of the glorious Qutub Shahi dynasty that adorned it with Masjids and Minars, while being surrounded by reflections of the prestigious Kakatiya and Rashtrakuta dynasties. But today, the city is better known as a hub of commerce, trade, and information technology.

Golconda Fort

Built atop the Golconda hills during 1143, this one-time mud fort was later fortified by the Bahmani Sultanate and subsequently by the Qutub Shahi Dynasty between the 14th and 17th centuries. The fort comprises ruins of palaces, a mosque and a hilltop pavillion. The ancient battlements include mounted cannons, four drawbridges, eight gateways, majestic halls and stables. One of the more stunning features is the acoustics of the palace. A handclap at the entrance can be heard on the hilltop, almost a kilometre away. The sound and light show every evening retells its history and transports you back in time. A must-see for all visitors.



Qutub Shahi Tombs



Located in the popular Ibrahim Bagh, the Qutub Shahi Tombs are the Deccan's largest necropolis. These tombs were built for the kings of the Qutub Shahi Dynasty and are a short walk from the iconic Golconda Fort. Among the earliest monuments in Hyderabad, the Qutub Shahi Tombs have aged rather well. They house 7 tombs and mosques that pay homage to the erstwhile rulers of Golconda. These are domed structures built on a square base surrounded by pointed arches, a distinctive style that blends both Persian and Indian forms. The tombs display intricately carved stonework and are surrounded by landscaped gardens, a true 'feast for the senses.'

Charminar



Charminar was constructed in 1591 as a token of respect to Allah for stopping the spread of a deadly plague. The iconic edifice is both a monument and mosque with people from all over the world coming to lay eyes on this magnificent marvel, each year. As much as it is a historic wonder, it is also a global icon of Hyderabad. 'Char' in Urdu means Four and 'Minar' means Pillar or Tower and true to its name, the structure boasts 4 ornate towers supported by four grand arches. Built with granite, limestone, mortar and pulverized marble, the structure has stucco decorations with balustrades and balconies.

Salar Jung Museum



Located on the banks of the Musi River, the Salar Jung Museum is one of the three national museums of India and is considered to be the largest one man collection. Nawab Mir Yusuf Ali Khan Salar Jung III (1889-1949), former Prime Minister of the seventh Nizam of Hyderabad, spent a substantial amount of his income and took over 35 years to build this priceless collection which includes sculptures, carpets, clocks and furniture from Japan, China, Burma, Nepal, India, Persia, Egypt, Europe and North America. The museum's collection was sourced from the property of the Salar Jung family. It is one of the largest museums in the world. The most famous pieces among the sculptures are 'Veiled Rebecca' and 'Mephistopheles'. There also exists a collection of jade swords, armoury items, ivory artefacts and many others. A must see for every art enthusiast and history buff.



Chowmahalla Palace

Chowmahalla Palace is one of the most beautiful palaces of the Nizams. Located in the heart of the old city, it was the seat of the Asaf Jahi dynasty and was the official residence of the Nizams of Hyderabad while they ruled the state. Built in the neoclassical style, there actually exists four palaces within Chowmahalla. It boasts of Mughal domes and arches and numerous Persian elements like the ornate stucco work. Recently, 19 spectacular chandeliers of Belgian crystal were reinstalled to recreate some of its lost splendour. This splendid palace was awarded the prestigious UNESCO Asia Pacific Merit Award for cultural heritage conservation.



Falaknuma Palace

Falaknuma is a beautiful palace in Hyderabad that passed from the Paigah family to the Nizam of Hyderabad. Spread over 32-acres, the name 'Falaknuma' means Mirror of the Sky in Urdu. Designed by an English architect, the palace is completely made of Italian marble and stained glass, representing both Italian and Tudor influences. The reception room's ceiling is decorated with frescoes and gilded reliefs while the library is topped with a carved walnut roof that's a replica of the library in Windsor Castle. With 60 rooms and 22 halls, the palace holds an impressive trove of the Nizam's treasures including paintings, statues, furniture, manuscripts, books, an exquisite jade collection and a huge selection of Qurans. Not to mention, it houses the world's longest dining table that seats 101 guests. The Falaknuma dining room is also another marvel in acoustic engineering that allows the faintest whisper to be heard from one corner of the room to another.



Nizam Museum

Once home to the Nizams, this 'old palace' is today a museum that houses a rare and wide array of gifts that the last Nizam Mir Osman Ali Khan Asaf Jahi VII received from dignitaries of various states and countries on his silver jubilee celebrations in 1936. A golden wooden throne, gold box inlaid with diamonds, miniature replica of Jubilee Hall, a glass inlay painting of the Nizam, a wooden writing box studded with mother-of-pearl, and diamond and gold-studded daggers are just some of what's on display here. But there is one other thing that makes this museum stand out. It houses the world's largest walk-in wardrobe.



Ramoji Film City



One of the most popular destinations in Hyderabad, Ramoji offers much more than full-fledged film studios with just about every facility and service for film-makers, it is also the world's largest integrated film city and India's only thematic holiday destination that captures the magic of cinema. Here visitors can take a ride to space, walk the sets of Bahubali, explore dark and mysterious caves, even the Wild West, or take in one or more of the daily live shows where hundreds of artists put up dance performances and action-packed stunt shows. Ramoji also offers a number of hotels to stay and a choice of restaurants for every palate. This is one holiday destination that is sure to capture the imagination.

Buddhavanam

*Big on spirituality.
Some may even say
'Biggest.'*

One of the most fascinating tourism projects in Telangana is Buddhavanam at Nagarjuna Sagar, approximately 145 kms from Hyderabad. This project is an integrated development of Nagarjuna Sagar as part of the Krishna Valley Buddhist circuit. Spread over 274 acres, making it the largest of its kind in Asia, Buddhavanam is being designed as a spiritual centre and theme park to attract a good number of domestic and foreign tourists especially from South-East Asian countries. Nagarjunakonda, which is now transformed into Nagarjuna Sagar reservoir, once served as the capital city of Ikshvaku dynasty.

Nagarjunakonda was named after the famous Buddhist scholar and Madhyamika Philosopher, Acharya Nagarjuna. At Buddhavanam, major events from the life of Lord Buddha are depicted. There are interesting sculptures, relics, stupas and others that would spike interest and enhance awareness. Telangana Tourism operates ferry services, covering the picturesque dam and exotic locations of Nallamala forests. The trips are ideal for corporate outings and family getaways.



Kawal Wildlife Sanctuary

*Tiger, tiger
burning bright.*

About 270 kms from Hyderabad lies Jannaram Mandal, in Mancherial District of Telangana, most famous for the Kawal Tiger Reserve. Spread over a total area of 2015 square kilometers, the reserve is home to more than just tigers. Other wild species that you may encounter here include nilgai, chinkara, blackbuck, sambar, spotted deer, wolf, jackal, fox, leopard, and the jungle cat. The reserve is located in the Sahyadri mountains and has a rich and diverse ecology that includes dense forests, grasslands, open areas, rivers, streams, and water bodies. As of July 2021, the reserve was home to over 45 tigers.



Yadagirigutta Temple

*Faith so strong, it called not one,
but 5 forms of Narasimha.*

This unique temple is located just 42 kms from Hyderabad and is the seat of Lord Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy. Legend has it that the sage Yada Maharshi embarked on a great penance which culminated in Lord Narasimha Swamy appearing in a 'darshan' to the staunch devotee and granting his desire. Following which, it is believed that Lord Narasimha Swamy came into existence in five different forms - Jwala Narasimha, Yogananda Narasimha, Gandaberunda Narasimha, Lakshmi Narasimha and Ugra Narasimha. This is the only place these 5 forms are depicted together. Hence, Yadagirigutta is also known as 'Pancha (five) Narasimha Kshetram'.



Bhadrachalam Temple

*The line between lore
and legend is a
little blurred here.*

Bhadrachalam Temple is located 320 kms from Hyderabad and associated with the 17th century saint and composer Kancharla Gopanna, who was popularly known as Bhakta Ramadas. The story goes that Gopanna, who served as the Tahsildar of Bhadrachalam, misappropriated government funds for the construction of this temple and was imprisoned in the dungeons of Golconda Fort by the Sultan for his crime. However, he was subsequently released after Lord Rama himself miraculously reimbursed the money to the Sultan. After Gopanna was released he became known as Bhadrachalam Ramadas (servant of Ram) and began composing innumerable songs in Telugu in praise of Lord Rama.



Pochampally

*Here art never goes
out of fashion.*

Amere 40 kms from Hyderabad, Pochampally is quite well known for Vinoba Bhave's 'Bhoodan Movement' which found its genesis here. The place was later renamed as Bhoodan Pochampally after the movement which set the ball rolling for other events. Pochampally region is well-known for Ikat weaving. This is a unique process of weaving. Using a sequence of tying and dyeing sections of bundled yarn in multi-hued designs. The threads are woven into a fabric of glimmering silk and soft cotton. Sometimes, these are woven into single shades or vibrant combinations. The Ikat process has a wide array of products like sarees, garments and other accessories. Tourists or visitors can learn Ikat weaving, visit the Markandeya temple or watch age old dance forms - 'golla suddulu' and 'dappulu' amongst other things. The traditional craft has obtained a place on the Geographical Indications (GI) registry. Pochampally was recognised as the 'Best Tourism Village' by the UNWTO in 2021.



Ramappa Temple

*Temple or
science exhibit?
You tell us.*

Ramappa Temple, just 70 kms from Warangal, is unique for many reasons, not the least of which is the fact that it is named after its sculptor rather than the deity that resides within. Based on the inscriptions discovered, the temple dates back to the year 1213 AD and is believed to have been built by General Recherla Rudra during the period of the Kakatiya ruler, Ganapati Deva. The temple majestically rises on a 6-foot beautiful star-shaped platform and the presiding deity here is Rudreshwara. The temple is a perfect example of Kakatiyan genius with intricate carvings adorning the walls, pillars and ceilings. The roof or 'garbhalayam' of the temple is constructed with bricks that are so light they literally float on water. Moreover, the foundation was laid using 'sandbox technique' which makes the temple resistant to earthquakes. History narrates that it took 40 years to build this architectural marvel. In 2021, Ramappa became Telegana's first UNESCO World Heritage Site.



Kaleshwaram

*Gods of destruction
and death - not that
different after all.*

Around 125 kms from Karimnagar, in Bhupalpally is Kaleshwaram, most notable for the multi-purpose Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project. KLIP is currently one of the largest of its kind in the world. Divided into 7 links and 28 packages spanning a distance of approximately 500 kms through 13 districts and utilizing a canal network of over 1800 kms, the project aims to produce a total of 280 thousand million cubic feet of water and thereby increase the total cultivable land area in the state by 1,825,000 acres.

Kaleshwaram is also home to Mukteswara Swamy Temple. Here two Shiva Lingas can be found on a single pedestal. They are believed to be 'Lord Shiva' and 'Lord Yama' and are collectively known as Kaleshwara Mukteswara Swamy.



Laknavaram

*Ever seen a lake
on fire? It happens
every day.*

Less than 25 kms from Ramappa is Laknavaram, one of the more unique lakes in India. Discovered by the Kakatiya rulers, the sheer vastness of this lake is bound to mesmerize. The huge lake, which is spread over 10,000 acres; irrigates 3,500 acres of land. Perfectly nestled in the midst of mountains, Laknavaram is a splendid sight especially during sunrise and sunset. This is because the lake turns scarlet-red and makes the water glisten and dance in scintillating beauty. Furthermore, the lake has 13 stunning islands, three of which are connected with rope suspension bridges. Haritha cottages, close by, offer excellent views of the lake. Boat rides in these waters are a favourite among visitors.

Jogulamba Temple

*The celestial seat of
the mother goddess.*

Jogulamba Temple in Jogulamba Gadwal, 220 kms from Hyderabad, is considered a sacred Shakti Peetham, where Sati Devi's upper teeth fell. The story of the Shakti Peethas finds its roots in the Hindu mythology of Daksha Yaga and Sati's self-immolation. Shakti Peethas are temples that are viewed as celestial and divine seats of the Mother Goddess. These are the places where the body parts of Sati Devi's corpse are believed to have fallen, when Lord Shiva in his sorrow wandered throughout Aryavarta carrying Sati's body. As a result of these mythological beliefs, the shrine is considered to be hugely powerful.



Bogatha Waterfalls

As in life, some of the best surprises await you off the beaten path.

Bogatha is a distinctive waterfall located in the interiors of Mulugu district's forests. While it may be only the second biggest waterfall in Telangana, it is no less breathtaking. In fact, the width of these falls has earned it the sobriquet, 'The Telangana Niagara' or 'Telangana Niagara Jalapatham'. The water flows here all year round, although it is recommended that you visit between June and November as it is at its magnificent best during and immediately after the monsoons. Bogatha waterfalls presents a splendid spectacle of white frothing water amidst a rich landscape of jagged rocks that takes a 329 km drive from Hyderabad and a bit of a trek to actually find. This is a great spot for the itinerary of every nature and adventure lover!



TELANGANA STATE TOURISM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.
(A State Government Undertaking)

HARITHA HOTELS & RESORTS

Alampur	Jannaram	Singoor
Alisagar	Kadem	Singotam
Ananthagiri - Vikarabad	Kaleshwaram	Somasila
Basar	Kesaragutta	Tadvai
Bhadrachalam	Kondagattu	Taramati Baradari - Hyderabad
Dharmapuri	Laknavaram Lake Resort	The Plaza - Hyderabad
Edupayala	Mannanur	Vemulawada
Eegalapenta	Medak Fort	Vijay Vihar - Nagarjuna Sagar
Gadwal	Pakal	Yadadri
Haritha Indur Inn- Nizamabad	Pochampally	
Haritha Kakatiya - Warangal	Shamirpet	
Haritha Ramappa		

**IDEAL DESTINATION FOR
EVENTS & PHOTOSHOOTS**

Taramati Baradari	-	Hyderabad
The Plaza	-	Hyderabad
Shamirpet Lake Resort		
Ananthagiri Vikarabad		
Hill View Resort		
Vijay Vihar	-	Nagarjuna Sagar
Haritha Kakatiya	-	Warangal
Haritha Indur Inn	-	Nizamabad
Mahathi Indoor Auditorium	-	Gajwel
Laknavaram & Ramappa		

BOATING & CRUISE HIRE FACILITIES

Lumbini Park	-	Hyderabad
Durgam Cheruvu	-	Hyderabad
Nagarjuna Sagar		
Somasila Backwater		
Laknavaram		

SOUND & LIGHT SHOW

Golconda Fort	-	Hyderabad
Kakatiya Fort	-	Warangal
Elagandal Fort	-	Karimnagar



EEGALAPENTA



SOMASILA



TARAMATI BARADARI



NAGARJUNA SAGAR



LAKNAVARAM LAKE



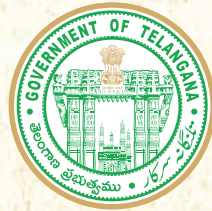
WEDDINGS



Scan to
know more
about
Telangana.

For customised tours contact: +91 9705597706 Email: customizedtours@tstdc.in

For corporate & group bookings, contact: +91 98485 40371 / 98481 26947 / 98483 06435 / 96666 51561 | Email: marketing@tstdc.in



TOURISM DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
Telangana Secretariat, Hyderabad, Telangana - 500 022
Toll Free No. : 1800 425 46464
www.tstdc.in