

Monsoon in Maharashtra

Mahabaleshwar

MENTION Maharashtra and Mumbai, the city that never sleeps, comes to mind. But Maharashtra means more than Mumbai. Gifted with 720 kms of coastline, world heritage sites of Ajanta, Ellora and Elephanta caves, unspoiled beaches and water sports, wildlife and trekking, verdant hills and rushing streams nestling quaint hill stations, whispering coconut groves, scenic coastal villages, coastal forts and cave temples, the state has something to offer everyone.

By announcing their special monsoon packages at discounted rates (upto 30 per cent), the Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation wants people to look beyond Mumbai and take the road less travelled. This doesn't mean the back of beyond, for these destinations are well connected by road and rail.

Bhandardara

Nestling amidst the hills Bhandardara is a beautiful holiday resort. It is an ideal getaway if you want to trek or go on a picnic. Places to see include the Radha Falls, the clean and large Arthur Lake, the Ratangadh Fort, the ancient Amritheshwar temple, the Agastha Rishi Ashram, Wilson Dam and Mount Kalsubai, the highest peak in Maharashtra.

The nearest rail head is at Igatpuri which is 45 km away. The nearest airport is at Nasik which is 93 kms away. By road the distance between Mumbai

and Bhandardara is 191 kms. A package for three days and two nights between Monday and Thursday would cost Rs 4,000 for three at a Lake Side Luxury Cottage while an economic room would cost RS 1,000 for two.



TRAVEL