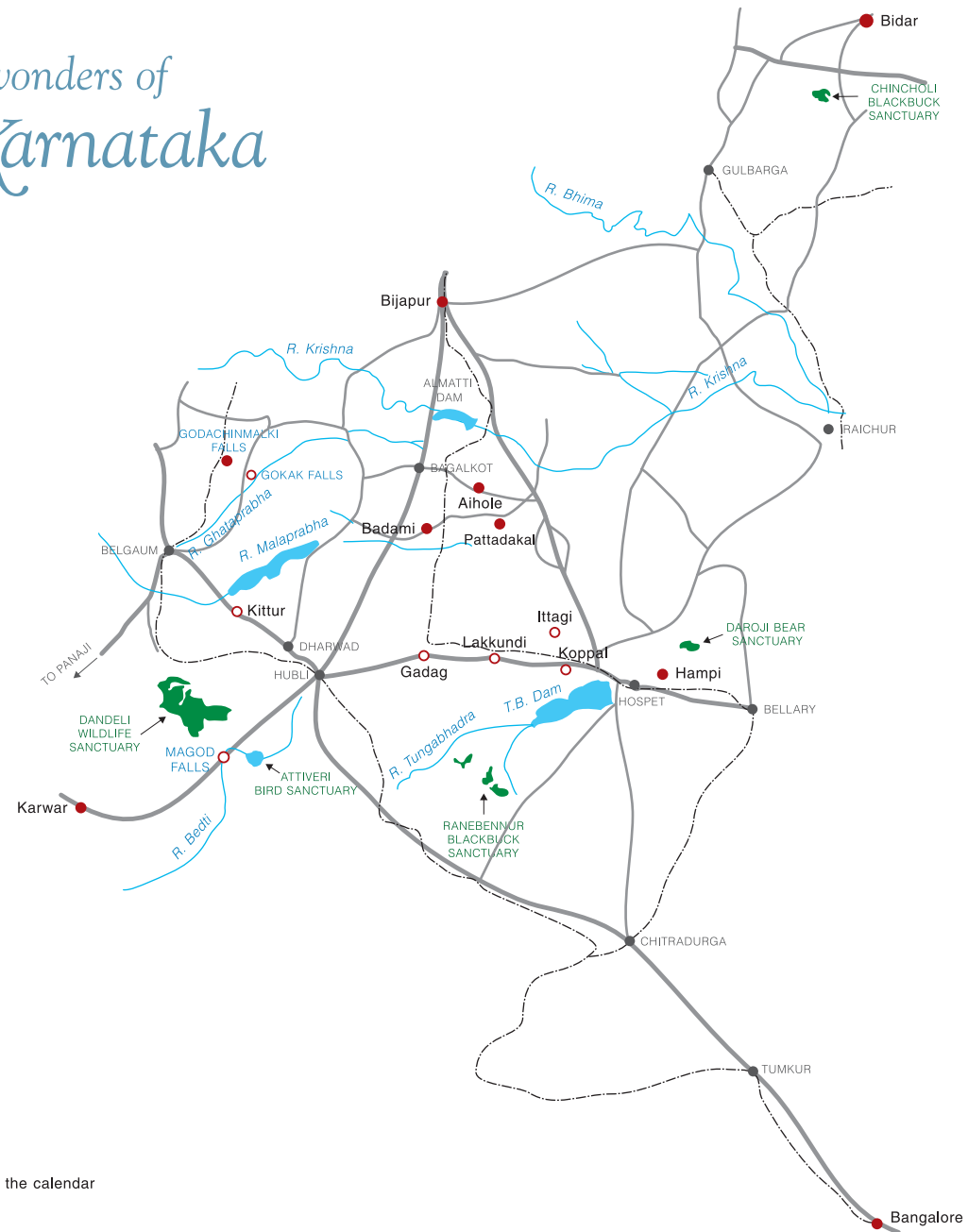


Discover the wonders of  
North Karnataka



● Places of interest shown in the calendar  
○ Other places of interest

Discover the wonders of  
North Karnataka

To most of us, South Karnataka is familiar territory. Bangalore is the commercial capital of the state; nearby Mysore is regarded as its cultural capital. Places of tourist interest like Belur, Halebid and Sravanabelagola are well known and much visited. North Karnataka, on the other hand, is a bit of a mystery.

This vast region, with its endless vistas of plateau covered in black soil, has given Karnataka its geographical, historical and cultural identity. North Karnataka has been the seat of all the great empires of Karnataka; the fountainhead of Indian temple architecture. Mystic poets of North Karnataka—like Basavanna, Akkamahadevi and Allamaprabhu—have composed poems and prose that are considered classics of world literature.

An aerial view of Karnataka would reveal three distinct landscapes: a coastal stretch, rimmed by the Arabian Sea; a range of hills, contiguous to the Western Ghats; and a vast plain or plateau. North Karnataka—which comprises the districts of Raichur, Bidar, Gulbarga, Bellary, Haveri, Dharwad, Uttara Kannada, Belgaum, Bijapur, Gadag and Bagalkot—covers all three types of topography.

North Karnataka, at a height of 300 metres to 700 metres above sea level, is filled with landscapes of breathtaking beauty. Rabindranath Tagore believed the silvery beaches of Karwar to be the most beautiful in India. There are cliffs, rocky landscapes, forest-covered hills, valleys, rivers, waterfalls... The happy corollaries to such landscapes are a variety of trees and flowers, birds and animals; sights that can be savoured in several national parks and wildlife sanctuaries.



View of Agastyatirtha Tank from cliff top, Badami

Great dynasties and empires have left their footprints in this region. The cradle of temple architecture in India, dating back to the 5th to 8th century, reposes at Aihole, Badami and Pattadakal. The powerful Vijayanagar emperors had their capital at Hampi. Its opulence and beauty were legendary; the likes of which, "the eye has not seen nor ear heard", to quote Persian chronicler Abdur Razak. Both Pattadakal and Hampi are on UNESCO's World Heritage List of 851 sites across the world, selected for their priceless cultural or natural heritage value. (They are the only sites in Karnataka to be accorded this status.) The Bahamani sultanate wrote its history in stone at Bidar and Bijapur, with forts and fortifications, and great monuments like the Gol Gumbaz and the Ibrahim Rouza. The list can go on and on...

We have published well-researched and designed calendars on landmarks and landscapes of tourist importance in and around Bangalore, Mysore and Chikmagalur. We hope you will enjoy our itinerary for 2008: this journey through North Karnataka.



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wishes you a happy & prosperous 2008



Stone Chariot at Vijayavithala Temple, Hampi

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15 MAKARA SANKRANTHI	16	17	18	19
20	21	22 <sup>o</sup>	23	24	25	26 REPUBLIC DAY
27	28	29	30	31		

January 2008



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PHOTOGRAPH BY: V. NAGARAJA

Stone Chariot at Vijayavithala Temple, Hampi

350 km from Bangalore, 13 km from Hospet

The delicately carved, monolithic Stone Chariot is an iconic structure. It stands in the courtyard of the famous Vijayavithala Temple, which dates back to the early 16th century. The temple is also famous for its musical pillars, covered with mythical and animal figures. When struck, each pillar emits one of the seven musical notes, resembling the sounds produced by different instruments.

Hampi, located on the banks of the Tungabhadra River, was once the vibrant capital of the powerful and opulent Vijayanagar Empire (1336-1565), which extended from the Arabian Sea to the Bay of Bengal and from the Deccan plateau to peninsular India. The incredible archaeological ruins at Hampi, spread across 70 sq km, are on UNESCO's World Heritage List of 851 sites across the world, selected for their cultural or natural heritage value. It is estimated that Hampi has 54 world heritage monuments and 650 national monuments, with 300 more monuments awaiting protection.

A brilliantly planned and well administered metropolis, 16th century Hampi had a population of 500,000 and covered 23 sq km. Chroniclers like Ibn-Batuta, Nicolo Conti, Abdur Razak and Domingo Paes were dazzled by Hampi's wealth and prosperity. They wrote of bazaars filled with gems and gold, overflowing granaries, thriving commercial trade and artists and artisans of vision and skill. "The city of Bijanagar (Vijayanagar) is such that the eye has not seen nor ear heard of any place resembling it upon the whole earth," wrote the Persian, Abdur Razak, in 1433.

Historians divide the city into two areas: the Sacred Centre, in which Hampi's temples are located, and the Royal Centre, home to its secular structures (described in the next sheet). While Hinduism was the prevalent religion, ruins of a few Jain temples are also to be found. And many monuments, religious and secular, blend Hindu and Islamic architectural styles.

The Virupaksha Temple complex is famous for its 160-foot tower, carved gateways, statues of Goddess Bhuvaneshwari and Pampa, and scenes from Hindu mythology. An imposing statue of Narasimha, a Shiva linga and two Ganesha idols are also found here.

BRIGADE GROUP'S 2008 CALENDAR  
CONCEPT: BRIGADE GROUP  
TEXT AND DESIGN: resourcedesign.co.in  
PRINTED AT: MYTEC  
FLYLEAF PHOTOGRAPH OF AGASTYATIRTHA TANK, BADAMI, BY: MANOJ SINDAGI



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Holidays / Festivals in January

- 1 New Year's Day (R)
- 12 Second Saturday (S)
- 15 Makara Sankranti / Pongal (S)
- 19 Last Day of Muharram (C, S)
- 26 Republic Day (C, S)

S—State  
C—Central  
R—Restricted





Elephants' Stables, Hampi

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February 2008



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PHOTOGRAPH BY: V. NAGARAJA

Elephants' Stables, Hampi

350 km from Bangalore, 13 km from Hospet

The Elephants' Stables, viewed here from the Guards' Quarters, are located within the Royal Centre at Hampi. Built in the Indo-Saracenic style, the stables are a domed structure with 11 enclosures to shelter the royal household's elephants. The area in front of the stables was used as a parade ground for both elephants and troops. (The Vijayanagar army included over 1000 elephants, 12,000 horses and over a lakh foot-soldiers.)

The Vijayanagar Empire (1424-1646) rose on the ruins of the Hoysala kingdom. Historians believe it was founded by two Hindu princes, Harihara (or Hakka) and Bukka, to fight the Muslim invasion of South India. Hampi, with natural fortifications provided by rock and river, made an ideal capital.

Under the rule of four successive dynasties (Sangama, Saluva, Tuluva and Aravidu) the empire flourished for the next 230 years, and reached its zenith under Krishnadevaraya (who reigned between 1509-29), renowned as a patron of arts, literature and religion. The Vijayanagar kingdom was subsequently weakened by battles with the Deccan sultans.

Monuments relating to Hampi's royal past—palaces, administrative buildings and some temples connected to royalty—are scattered around the southern part of its rugged, surrealistic landscape: the Royal Centre, covering an area of about 2 sq km. Some of the more famous structures here are:



King's Balance, Hampi

V. NAGARAJA

• The King's Balance: two 15-foot-high granite pillars topped by a 12-foot cross-beam. On special occasions, scales were suspended from the transom and the emperor was ceremonially weighed against precious stones and gold, which were later distributed to



Lotus Mahal, Hampi

T.N.A. PERUMAL

• The Queen's Bath: a square structure, built with mortar mixed with stone rubble, for the ladies of the royal family.

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Conversion Factors

1 inch	= 2.54 cm	1 sqm	= 0.0002471 acre
1 cm	= 0.3937 inch	1 sft	= 0.093 sqm
1 foot	= 30.48 cm	1 sq yard	= 0.836 sqm
1 metre	= 3.281 feet	1 acre	= 43560 sft
1 yard	= 0.914 metre	1 acre	= 0.4047 hectare
1 km	= 0.621 mile	1 acre	= 40 guntas
1 mile	= 1.609 km	1 gunta	= 1089 sft
1 sqm	= 10.764 sft	1 hectare	= 2.471 acres
1 sqm	= 1.196 sq yards	1 HP	= 0.746 KW

Holidays / Festivals in February

09 Second Saturday (S)  
15 Madhvanavami (R)

S—State  
C—Central  
R—Restricted





Sloth Bear with cubs, Daroji Bear Sanctuary, Bellary

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

March 2008



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PHOTOGRAPH BY: T.N.A. PERUMAL

Sloth Bear with cubs, Daroji Bear Sanctuary, Bellary

365 km from Bangalore, 15 km from Hospet

The Mahabharata tells the story of a 21-day battle between Krishna and Jambavantha, King of Bears, at a place called Kishkinda, near Hampi. People living in the rocky hillocks between Daroji and Ramasagar—believed to be the Kishkinda of mythology—feel this explains the abundance of sloth bears (*Melursinus ursinus*) in the area.

Even the British noticed the unusual presence of bears in the region: in 1885, they named a local hill *Karadikallu Gudda* or Hillock of Bears. Under the initiative of concerned citizens like M.Y. Ghorpade (of the Sandur royal family and a world-renowned wildlife photographer), the Daroji Bear Sanctuary was finally formed in 1994.

Today, the sanctuary covers an area of roughly 55 sq km in the Billikallu Reserve forest area, and is home to over 140 sloth bears, which live in small caves and hillocks around Daroji. The once bleak and barren landscape has been planted with groves of fruit-bearing trees like the local seethapal and Japanese cherry, berry-producing bushes and a variety of flora. Apart from the fruits of this effort, bears also enjoy termites and honey (common to the area) and a nutritious concoction of jaggery, set out for them by Forest Department staff. (These "jaggery smears" allow visitors to catch a view of these normally reclusive and nocturnal creatures.)

Apart from sloth bears, the Sanctuary also shelters a reassuringly rich range of wildlife: the bonnet macaque, common langur, jungle cat, panther, common civet, fox, jackal, pangolin, striped hyena, starred tortoise and Indian flap shell. Snakes sighted at the sanctuary include the common krait, spectacled cobra, red-sand boa, chequered keelback, Indian rock python, Russell's viper and reptiles like the rock agama, Indian chameleon, monitor lizard and spotted skink. In addition, nearly 27 species of butterflies and nearly 90 species of birds are found here.

Other major sanctuaries in North Karnataka are the Chincholi and Ranebennur Blackbuck Sanctuaries, Dandeli and Anshi National Parks and the Gudavi and Attiveri Bird Sanctuaries.



Peacock,  
Daroji Bear Sanctuary



Blackbuck, Ranebennur

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Holidays / Festivals in March

- 5 Mahashivaratri (R)
- 8 Second Saturday (S)
- 21 Id-Meelad / Good Friday (C,S)
- 22 Holy Feast (R)

S—State  
C—Central  
R—Restricted





Fort, Bidar

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 CHANDRAMANA UGADI	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

April 2008



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PHOTOGRAPH BY: SUSHEELA NAIR

Fort, Bidar

729 km from Bangalore, 409 km from Hospet,  
277 km from Bijapur, 110 km from Gulbarga

The main gateway of Bidar Fort (15th century) was built by Bahamani Sultan Ahmad Shah Wali. The Fort had a protective 3-mile-long wall that encircled the town, and included 37 cannon-surmounted bastions. The old city, in the heart of the Fort, was famous for the Rangin Mahal (with wooden pillars carved with ornate Persian designs) and the Solah Kambh Masjid (a 16-pillared mosque). Other important monuments include the Royal Pavilion, Gagan Mahal, Diwan-e-Am and Takhat Mahal.

We are aware that Hampi's past glory as a rich and splendid metropolis is the stuff of legends. To the north is another city whose urban planning and architecture are equally remarkable.

Bidar is a city steeped in history. Part of the Chalukya Empire between the 6th and 10th century, Bidar was subsequently occupied by the Yadavas of Devagiri, the Kakatiyas of Warangal and then, in the 15th century, by the Bahamani sultans. Their rule (1347 AD-1527 AD) marked the beginning of a golden age of Deccani art and culture in South India. Bidar and Bijapur were, at different times, their capital. The Barid Dynasty, once ministers of the Bahamani sultans, gained power during the early 15th century. Their tombs, especially that of Ali Barid Shah, are notable for their exquisite ornamentation and gardens.

Khwaza Mahmud Gawan—the Persian scholar, general of Mohamad Shah III and minister to three Bahamani sultans—founded the Madarasa, or college, in 1472. The three-storied building, though now in ruins, still bears traces of its past glory: with minarets, great arches, and brilliantly coloured chevron tilework. The library of the Madarasa is said to have had a collection of over 3000 books.



Madarasah, Bidar

Interestingly, the religious reformation at the end of the 12th century led to the establishment of several religious centres in the area. The most important of these are the Nanak Jhara, the largest Sikh temple in Karnataka and the Narasimha Jhara shrine.

The Barid Shahi Sultanate of Bidar was absorbed by the Bijapur Sultanate in 1619 and, in turn, was annexed by the Mughal Emperor Aurangazeb. It was governed by the Nizams of Hyderabad till their rule was ended by the British and became part of the erstwhile Mysore state in 1956.

Luxury living options in Mysore



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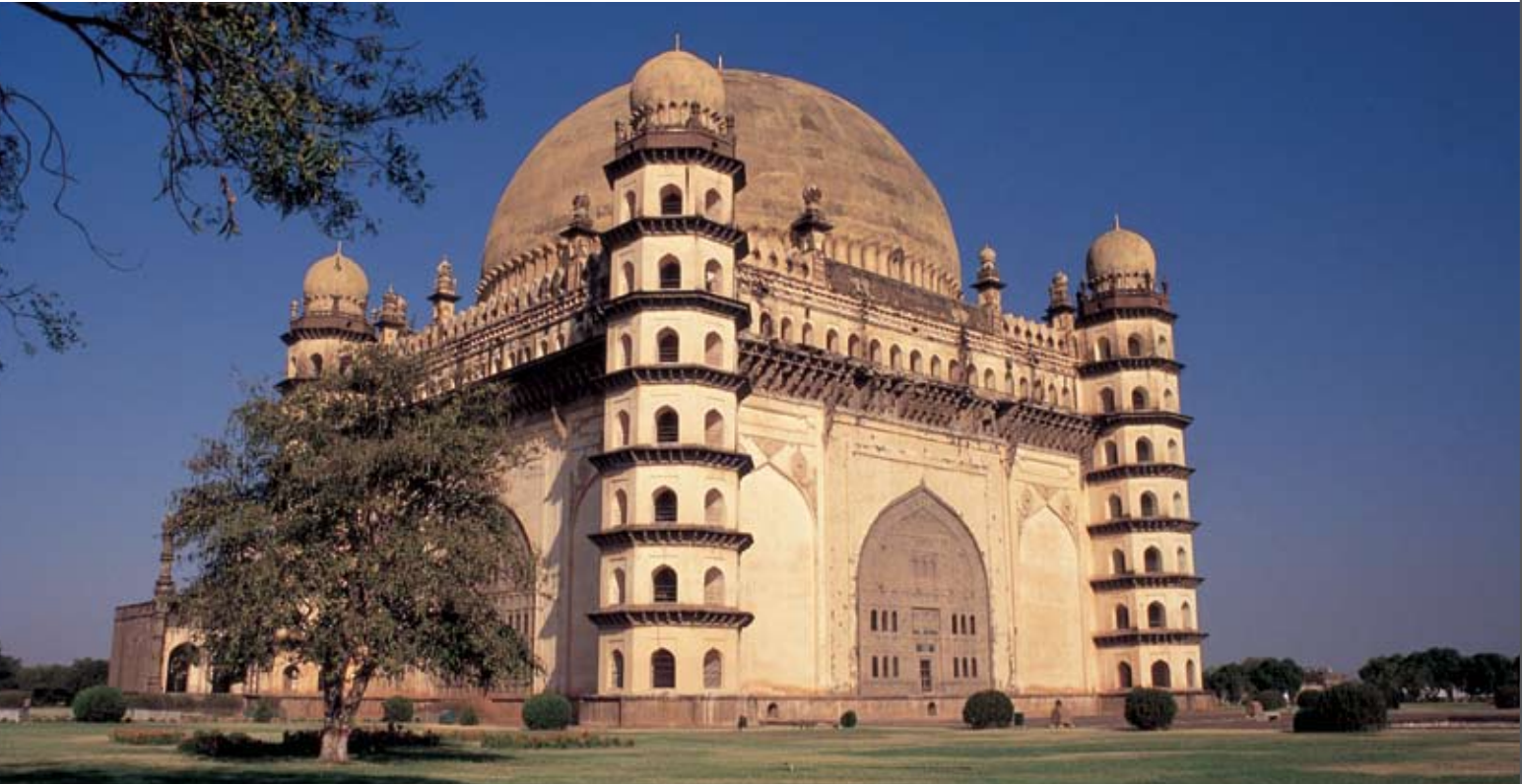
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Holidays / Festivals in April

- 7 Chandramana Ugadi (S)
- 12 Second Saturday (C, S)
- 13 Soura Ugadi
- 14 Dr Ambedkar Jayanthi / Sri Ramanavami (C, S)
- 22 Mahaveera Jayanthi (S)

S—State  
C—Central  
R—Restricted





Gol Gumbaz, Bijapur

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1 MAY DAY	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

May 2008



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PHOTOGRAPH BY: H. SATISH

Gol Gumbaz, Bijapur

579 km from Bangalore, 277 km from Bidar, 159 km from Gulbarga,  
132 km from Badami

The Gol Gumbaz, one of South Asia's most famous buildings, was commissioned by Muhammad Adil Shah (1626-56). The semicircular dome, measuring 43.9 metres in diameter, was, at the time of construction, the largest unsupported dome in the world. The acoustical qualities of the gallery inside the dome are so phenomenal that a whisper can be heard 38 metres away and is echoed 10 times over. It is Muhammad Adil Shah's mausoleum.

Bijapur—the City of Victory—was once the capital of the Adil Shahi Dynasty (1489-1686) and played a significant role in the history of Karnataka. The Bijapur kingdom was a confederacy of five Bahamani Sultanates, which were responsible for a partial eclipse of Hindu domination in the south. While anchoring and spreading Islam, they also practised religious tolerance.

The Bahamani Empire is remembered for its lasting and enriching impact on the art and architecture of the land. The Persian influence on the music, literature, art and architecture of the Bahamani era evolved into a distinctive style. This legacy still survives: in the remains of 50 mosques, 20 dargas, 20 palaces and a fort, located in and around the city.

Bijapur, set in an open landscape, lacked natural defences. Yusuf Adil Shah, the Governor of Bijapur (1490-1510) fortified the city with walls 6 km in circumference, with 100 bastions and 6 imposing doorways.

Sultan Ibrahim Adil Shah II, a gifted poet, calligrapher and musician, was the dynasty's greatest patron of the arts. Artists, artisans, writers and thinkers from all over the Islamic world were drawn to his court. He built



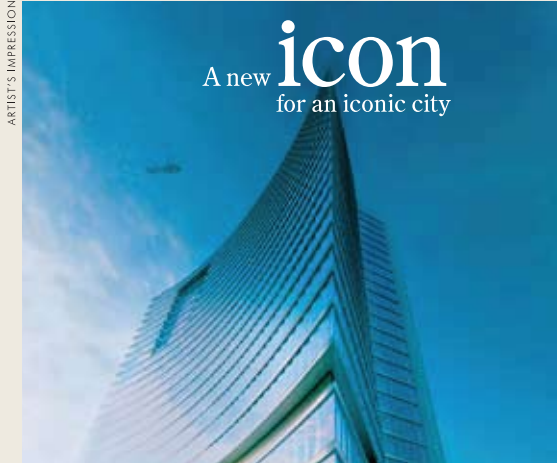
SUSHEELA NAIR

Ibrahim Rouza, Bijapur

the beautiful Ibrahim Rouza—both a tomb and mosque—famous for its perfect symmetry; delicate minarets, cupolas and platforms; and ceilings carved with lines from the Koran. It is considered one of the finest examples of Islamic architecture in the Deccan. In fact, it was studied by architects of the Taj Mahal—before they began construction on their masterpiece.

Other important monuments in Bijapur are the round fort in the heart of the city; the Gagan Mahal, both the tomb of Ali Adil Shah and a palace; Asar Mahal or Hall of Justice; the Mehtar Mahal and Mecca Masjid, exclusively for ladies; and the Jami Mosque, which covers 3 acres and can accommodate 2286 people for namaz.

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Holidays / Festivals in May

- 1 May Day (C, S)
- 7 Basava Jayanthi (C, S)
- 9 Sri Ramanuja Jayanthi (R)
- 10 Sri Shankara Jayanthi (R) /  
Second Saturday (S)
- 19 Buddha Poonima (R)

S—State  
C—Central  
R—Restricted





Durga Temple, Aihole

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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29	30					

June 2008



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PHOTOGRAPH BY: MANOJ SINDAGI

**Durga Temple, Aihole**  
30 km from Badami or Bagalkot, 10 km from Pattadakal, 140 km from Hospet

The Durga Temple (7th to early 8th century), dedicated to Vishnu, is remarkable for its many path-breaking innovations in Indian temple architecture: it stands on a platform; it is the first temple in India to have a tower or mantapa and a circumambulatory gallery around the sanctum sanctorum for pradikshana; and though Buddhist-inspired, it features only Hindu reliefs. It is the most profusely and elaborately decorated temple in Aihole (also known as Aivalli).

Set in the midst of sandstone cliffs are three tiny villages—Aihole, Badami and Pattadakal—that contain some of the earliest examples of Dravidian temple architecture to be found in India. (Pattadakal is on UNESCO's World Heritage List of 851 places of priceless cultural or natural heritage value.)

The temples of Aihole were built by the Chalukyas of Badami, the first great empire of Karnataka, who ruled over the Deccan plateau between the 6th and 8th centuries.



Nataraja, Ravalaphadi Cave Temple, Aihole

Aihole, their first capital, was one of the oldest and greatest centres of experimental temple building. It is considered the cradle of Indian architecture, marking the transformation from rock-cut to structural temples.

There are about 125 temples, divided into 22 groups, scattered in and around the village of Aihole. These temples mark the transition from wood to stone and blend Buddhist, Hoysala, Jain, Rekhanagara, Nagara and Dravida architectural styles. According to the historian Percy Brown, their prolific building was "clearly the result of an enthusiasm which was religious in origin and in intensity of purpose."

The 5th century *Ladkhan Temple*, which features a medley of architectural styles, is probably the earliest extant structural stone temple in India. The *Megutti Temple*, built in 634 AD, is the most ancient of Aihole's temples and its only dated monument. It is a Jain temple, with an image of Mahavira in its sanctum and a cluster of freestanding temples just outside. Two other especially noteworthy temples are the 7th century *Huchimalligudi Temple* and the *Ravalaphadi Cave Temple*, which pays tribute to Shiva in his various incarnations.



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WORLD TIMES Based on (+) or (–) Indian Standard Time (IST)

Australia		Singapore	2:30 (+)
• Perth	2:30 (+)	South Africa	3:30 (–)
• Brisbane	4:30 (+)	Thailand	1:30 (+)
China	2:30 (+)	UAE	1:30 (–)
Germany	4:30 (–)	UK	5:30 (–)
Japan	3:30 (+)	USA and Canada	
Kenya	2:30 (–)	• Pacific time	13:30 (–)
Kuwait	2:30 (–)	• Mountain time	12:30 (–)
Malaysia	2:30 (+)	• Central time	11:30 (–)
New Zealand	6:30 (+)	• Eastern time	10:30 (–)
Nigeria	4:30 (–)		

Holidays / Festivals in June

14 Second Saturday (\$)

S—State  
C—Central  
R—Restricted





Bhootanatha Temples, Badami

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27	28	29	30	31		

July 2008



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PHOTOGRAPH BY: MANOJ SINDAGI

Bhootanatha Temples, Badami

499 km from Bangalore, 186 km from Hospet, 130 km from Bijapur  
30 km from Aihole, 22 km from Pattadakal

The famous Bhootanatha Temples—dedicated to Shiva in his incarnation as Bhootanatha or the God of Souls—are located on the banks of the 5th century Agastyatirtha Tank, at Badami. This temple dates back to the 8th century. Interestingly, while the sanctum and inner hall belong to the Early Chalukyan period, the outer hall overlooking the tank is Later Chalukyan. Carvings of the incarnations of Vishnu, as well as some Jain figures, are found behind the temple.

Badami, once known as Vatapi, lies in a ravine between two rock-covered hills. Between 540 AD and 757 AD, this small town was the second capital of the Early Chalukyan Empire, founded by Emperor Pulikesi I. At its height, the empire covered the area we now know as Karnataka, Maharashtra and Gujarat, and also parts of Orissa and Andhra Pradesh. By consolidating different belts into one territory, the Early Chalukyas created, for the first time in the region, a sense of common identity, culture and language.

But the Chalukyas are remembered for a legacy much more impressive than mere empire building: they were great patrons of the arts. Artists, artisans and craftsmen were encouraged to innovate and experiment with different artistic and architectural styles.

Badami is famous for its structural temples and remarkable cave temples, which were carved out of solid rock.

MANOJ SINDAGI



Malegitti Shivalaya Temple, Badami

The early structural temples in Badami resemble large court halls, to which shrines are attached. The oldest of these is Malegitti, with its famous sculpture of Shiva as a weaver of garlands. The historic Badami Fort, built by Tippu Sultan in the 18th century, is located atop the cliff, just above the cave temples. In its time, the fort enclosed the city's most precious properties: its temples, treasury, granaries and watchtowers. Also near the tank are: Yellamma Temple, a functioning mosque (also built by Tippu), an archaeological museum and a sculpture gallery, with sculptures like the Lajja-Gauri images relating to the fertility cult that flourished at the time.

Corporate Social Responsibility



YOUNG ACHIEVERS OF 2007, WITH COMMITTEE & CHIEF GUEST



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STATUE AT ULSOOR

Over the 21 years of Brigade's evolution, we have taken many initiatives as corporate citizens, in Bangalore and Mysore. We have

- Developed and constructed the 24th main road extension in J.P. Nagar, now known as Brigade Millennium Road.
- Instituted the state-wide Young Achiever Award, in association with Rotary Bangalore Midtown—to recognise the achievements of young people in Karnataka.
- Installed a statue of Swami Vivekananda at Ulsoor.

Apart from these, we have also undertaken re-development of slums, renovation of police stations, adoption and beautification of parks and traffic islands and setting up of public toilets.



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Holidays / Festivals in July

12 Second Saturday (S)

S—State  
C—Central  
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Rock-cut cave Temple, Badami

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
31					1	2
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
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INDEPENDENCE DAY

August 2008



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PHOTOGRAPH BY: MANOJ SINDAGI

Rock-cut Cave Temple, Badami

499 km from Bangalore, 186 km from Hospet, 113 km from Bijapur, 30 km from Aihole

The world famous rock-cut cave temples of Badami (of which one is seen here), dating back to the 6th century, are reached by ascending 200 steps carved out of the stony cliff. These temples were the inspiration and model for the magnificent Kailasanatha rock-cut temple (8th century) at Ellora—a great example of Chalukya art. Tippu’s Fort, from the 18th century, stands atop the cliff.

Each of the four rock-cut temples at Badami has been hollowed out of sheer rock and features a common plan: an entrance porch with pillars, a hall with columns and an inner sanctum. The temples are lavishly decorated, with exquisite murals, sculptures and carvings. Considering the cliff is composed of hard sandstone, one can only marvel at the skill and craftsmanship of the Chalukyan artisans. The cave temples are numbered 1 to 4, from west to east. This also corresponds to their location (lowest to highest) and possible order of construction.

**Cave No. 1** is dedicated to Shiva. It has a celebrated panel of Shiva in the avatar of Nataraja, portrayed in 81 different dancing poses. **Cave No. 2** is dedicated to Vishnu, who, in the heroic form of Varaha, was an emblem of the Early Chalukyan kings. Carved panels recount stories of Vishnu saving the world from Bali. The whole composition is supported on a prominent frieze of dwarf musicians.

**Cave No. 3**, dedicated to Vishnu, is believed to be the best and most elaborate of the four. According to an inscription, it was dedicated in 578 AD by Mangalesha, brother of Chalukyan King Kirtivarman I (556 AD-597 AD). About 70 feet wide, it is best known for its masterwork: the Sheshashayee Vishnu sculpture, which shows Vishnu seated in the lalitasana (posture of royal ease) on Shesha, the cosmic snake. **Cave No. 4** is Jain, rather than Hindu, and has a statue of a meditating Mahavira, as well as images of Padmavathi and other Jain Thirthankaras.



Sheshashayee Vishnu sculpture, Cave No. 3

The Early Chalukyan Empire was followed by a succession of dynasties—the Rashtrakutas, the later Chalukyas of Kalyana, the Kalachuryas, the Yadavas of Devagiri, the Hoysalas of Halebid, the Vijaynagar Empire, the Adil Shahi rulers of Bijapur, the Marathas—and, finally, the British, who made it a part of the erstwhile Bombay Presidency. Badami became part of Karnataka when the states were reorganised in 1956.

Brigade's 5-star hotels...with international associates



SHERATON BANGALORE HOTEL @ BRIGADE GATEWAY

In a pioneering initiative, Brigade has entered into arrangements with international hospitality brands like Starwood Asia Pacific Hotels and Resorts and InterContinental, for the operation and management of its hotel projects under the brand names Sheraton and Holiday Inn respectively.

Strategically located within the premises of Brigade Gateway, a lifestyle enclave, Sheraton Bangalore Hotel will be connected to North Star Office Tower and Orion Mall & Multiplex by sky-bridges, and will feature: four restaurants, a convention centre, banqueting facilities, health club and spa, and more. Furthering its reach in Karnataka, Brigade will also set up a Sheraton Hotel in Mysore, featuring excellent business facilities, hospitality space and a convention centre.

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R A H U K A L A	Sunday	4:30	-	6:00	p.m.
	Monday	7:30	-	9:00	a.m.
	Tuesday	3:00	-	4:30	p.m.
	Wednesday	12:00	-	1:30	p.m.
	Thursday	1:30	-	3:00	p.m.
	Friday	10:30	-	12:00	noon
	Saturday	9:00	-	10:30	a.m.

Holidays / Festivals in August

- 9 Second Saturday (S)
- 15 Independence Day (C, S) / Varamahalakshmi Vrataha (R)
- 16 Rig-Yajur Upakarma (R)
- 17 Shab-e-Barat (R)
- 23 Janmashtami (R)

S—State  
C—Central  
R—Restricted





A part of the Temple Complex, Pattadakal

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3 GANESHA CHATURTHI	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

September 2008



PHOTOGRAPH BY: H. SATISH

A part of the Temple Complex, Pattadakal

514 km from Bangalore, 22 km from Badami, 17 km from Aihole

Two of the temples seen here are: the Galaganatha Temple (left), dedicated to Shiva, which portrays his different avatars: inside he is the destroyer; outside he is Nataraja, the preserver; and the Sangamesh-wara Temple, commissioned by King Vikramaditya around 720 AD, but never completed.

The group of temples at Pattadakal (7th and 8th century) comprises 9 temples in different forms: some with single shikharas in the North Indian style, some flat roofed, some with tall gopurams or towers.

The architectural themes explored at Aihole and continued at Badami reached the next stage of evolution at another small village located on the left bank of the Malaprabha River. This is Pattadakal, the last capital city of the Early Chalukyas, and the second place in Karnataka to be awarded the status of a World Heritage site by UNESCO (Hampi is the other). The aesthetically harmonious blend of the southern dravida-vimana and northern rekha nagara prasada styles are best seen here.



Galaganatha Temple, Pattadakal

Pattadakal means "the place of coronation". Epigraphs and literature indicate that it was indeed a city of royal splendour and spectacle. It was also a cultural capital, where art and architecture flourished under royal patronage, and a political and religious centre.

Compared to those at Aihole and Badami, these temples show greater sophistication in concept and architecture; their ornamentation is more elaborate and descriptive. The Virupaksha Temple is the largest and most outstanding of the nine. It was commissioned in 740 AD, by King Vikramaditya II's wife, Queen Lokamahadevi, to commemorate her husband's victory over the kings from the South. Dedicated to Shiva, the temple is famous for its detailed carvings: 16 monolithic pillars illustrate mythological stories and scenes from the Mahabharata and Ramayana unfold on the walls. Percy Brown, a 19th century art historian says, "...every one of its grey weather-worn stones, in spite of the passage of centuries, is yet warm with life and feeling."

The 8th century Kasivishveshvara Temple was once a Vishnu temple, but was later dedicated to Shiva. It features an abundance of detailed carving, all depicting scenes from the epics and statues of both Garuda and Nandi outside.

An exotic retreat in Chikmagalur



OUR FORTHCOMING BANYAN TREE HILL RESORT AT CHIKMAGALUR

Brigade is partnering with Banyan Tree Hotels and Resorts—owners of both the Banyan Tree and Angsana brand of resorts and spas—to manage its hill resort in Chikmagalur, in the Western Ghats. The Banyan Tree Resort & Spa, along with Angsana Resort & Spa, will feature around 116 keys.

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Holidays / Festivals in September

- 2 Swarnagowri Vratha (R)
- 3 Ganesh Chaturthi (C, S)
- 12 Tiru Onam (R)
- 13 Second Saturday (S)
- 14 Ananthapadmanabha Vratha (C, S)
- 26 Jummat-ul-vida (R)
- 28 Mahalaya Amavasye (C, S)

S—State  
C—Central  
R—Restricted





Godachinmalki Falls, Belgaum

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2 GANDHI JAYANTHI	3	4
5	6	7	8 MAHANAVAMI / AYUDHA POOJA	9 VIJAYADASAMI	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29 BALIPADYAMI	30	31	

October 2008



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PHOTOGRAPH BY: H. SATISH

Godachinmalki Falls, Belgaum

538 km from Bangalore, 45 km from Belgaum, 20 km from Gokak

The Godachinmalki Falls are also known as the Markandeya Falls, since they are on the river of the same name. They enjoy a beautiful and exotic, if slightly inaccessible, setting. Located within a green valley, they can be reached only on foot, which involves a pleasant 2.5 km trek through the forest. The falls are more gentle than most—instead of one dramatic steep drop, there are two descents: the first drop is 25 metres and the second about 18 metres. After this double fall, the Markandeya River flows on to join the Ghataprabha River at Ghodgeri.

Most of North Karnataka's rivers originate in the Western Ghats. The Krishna and its tributaries—the Bhima, Ghataprabha, Malaprabha and Tungabhadra—cover a length of about 700 km. (The Krishna's basin covers 13 districts and about 60% of Karnataka's geographical area!) The river Godavari's tributaries, and some of Karnataka's west-flowing rivers—the Sharavati, Kali, Gangavati (Bedti), Aghanashini and Netravati—make up the other major river systems of the area.



Bridge over the river Kali

Where there are rivers, elevations and rains, there are usually spectacular waterfalls. North Karnataka is no exception. Belgaum district alone has more than six big waterfalls, of which the Gokak and Godachinmalki falls are the most magnificent...and most popular with tourists.

The Ghataprabha River creates the Gokak Falls as it descends 52 metres down a sandstone cliff into a gorge. The Gokak Falls are often compared to Niagara Falls, because of their distinctive horse-shoe shape. In flood, the falls extend across 177 metres. Intrepid visitors will enjoy walking across the 201-metre long hanging bridge, suspended 14 metres above the river. Walking 'over' the waterfall on this seemingly fragile bridge is an incredible experience; you see water coming at you on one side, flowing an even course, and then watch as it makes its furious, downward disappearance on the other. Several temples and monuments, dating back to the days of the Later Chalukyas of Kalyana, are found on the banks of the river. It is interesting to note that India's first hydel power project was initiated here in 1887.

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Holidays / Festivals in October

- 1 Ramzan (C, S)
- 2 Gandhi Jayanthi (C, S)
- 8 Mahanavami / Ayudha Pooja (C, S)
- 9 Vijayadasami (C, S)
- 11 Second Saturday (S)
- 17 Tula Sankramana (R)
- 27 Naraka Chaturdashi (C, S)
- 29 Bali Padyami (C, S)

S—State  
C—Central  
R—Restricted





Karwar Beach

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
30						1 KANNADA RAJYOTSAVA
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

November 2008



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PHOTOGRAPH BY: H. SATISH

Karwar Beach

520 km from Bangalore, 112 km from Dandeli, 22 km from Goa

Rabindranath Tagore believed the silvery beaches of Karwar to be the most beautiful in India. Karnataka's palm-fringed coastline covers 300 km of glorious natural scenery—beaches, estuaries, monsoon wetlands, agricultural and forest lands, and mountains—along the three districts of Dakshina Kannada, Udupi and Uttara Kannada.

The Arabian Sea laps against pristine beaches that form part of Karnataka's coastal plain, also known as the Karavali. This is a picturesque strip of land, made fertile by rivers and rains, alluvium-rich soil and a humid climate. Green rice fields, coconut trees and fishing boats define the landscape—and economy—of the region. The coastline is peppered with cities that bear musical names: Gokarna, Malpe, Murdeshwara, Maravanthe, Kumta...

The beaches of North Karnataka are breathtakingly lovely. Gokarna, located at the confluence of two rivers, has five different beaches: Gokarna, Kudle, Om, Half Moon and Paradise (also known as Full Moon). Maravanthe beach is famous for the sea turtles that come to the beach in droves every nesting season (October to December). Murudeshwara Beach is a popular destination not



Jet skiing: riding the waves

SUSHEELA NAIR



Devbagh Beach, Karwar

only for its surf and sands, but also for its famous temple and statue of Shiva. The stretches of surf between Gokarna and Karwar are perfect for water sports: surfing is possible at Maravanthe beach and scuba diving at Devbagh, an island off the Karwar coast.

The ridges of the Sahyadris or Western Ghats, one of the 25 recognised biodiversity hot spots in the world, can often be glimpsed to the east. Over twenty rivers flow through these Ghats, and pass through the coastal stretch before merging with the sea. Each estuary seems to have its own small port. In ancient times, many of these ports were gateways of commercial and cultural contact with places like Egypt and Sumeria.

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As part of its expanding operations, Brigade has entered into a management tie-up with Accor, the European leader in hotels and tourism, to run its upcoming serviced residence at Koramangala, Bangalore—which will be known as Mercure Homestead Residences.

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Holidays / Festivals in November

- 1 Kannada Rajyotsava (S)
- 8 Second Saturday (S)
- 13 Gurunanak Jayanthi (R)

S—State  
C—Central  
R—Restricted





Whitewater rafting on the Kali River, Dandeli

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12 <sup>o</sup>	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 CHRISTMAS	26	27 <sup>.</sup>
28	29	30	31			

December 2008



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PHOTOGRAPH BY: MANOJ SINDAGI

Whitewater rafting on the Kali River, Dandeli

481 km from Bangalore, 117 km from Karwar, 57 km from Dharwad

As with most adventure sports, whitewater rafting is classified by degree of difficulty: it can range from a gentle "canoe" ride to a wild, spine-chilling run down a steep rock-littered gradient, accompanied by crashing, frothing water. Whitewater rafting on the Kali River is becoming an increasingly popular sport, with about 9 km to 14 km of river rafting on Class 3 rapids, under expert guidance and instruction.

The Kali River flows for 184 km through the densely forested Western Ghats before merging with the Arabian Sea. In its meandering journey, the river passes through the Dandeli Wildlife Sanctuary—a 400 sq km reserve filled with deciduous and semi-evergreen forests; deep gorges and valleys; waterfalls, pools and streams; and a breath-taking range of plants, animals, birds and reptiles.

Other water sports in the area are kayaking, canoeing and canyoning. (The last is a new sport around the world; in Southern Asia, it is practised only in Nepal and Dandeli. It involves riding a descending stream as it drops over waterfalls and boulders.) A more gentle way to travel the Kali is by coracle, a circular boat, woven with bamboo and lined with buffalo hide. A coracle ride provides amazing opportunities to photograph nature and wildlife.

Dandeli offers excellent opportunities for trekking too. A popular trekking route covers the rugged teak-and-bamboo forest trail along the Kali river and its tributary, the Kaneri, descending 1000 steps to pass through the Kavla caves (ancient limestone caves believed to have been inhabited by humans during prehistoric times. A naturally formed Shiva Linga is found inside.) Other favoured trekking routes include the *Railway Track Trek* between the towns of Donigal and

SUSHEELA NAIR



Yaana Rocks, near Kumta

Kukke Subramanya and the beach trek starting at Karwar, southwards through the beaches of Belikere, Gokarna, Om, Kutle, Baada, Kumta, Dhareshwar, Haldipur, Kasarkod and Bhatkal.

Trekking and rock climbing are also common at the Yaana Rocks—two gigantic limestone rock formations and numerous smaller ones set amidst the dense forest in the Sahyadri mountains, 25 km from Kumta and 40 km from Sirsi; and at Badami and Hampi, where the red sandstone makes for an enjoyable climbing experience.



THE BRIGADE SCHOOLS

Two new schools in the offing



CONVOCATION DAY



CHEMISTRY LAB



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Our first school, located in the Brigade Millennium enclave in J.P. Nagar, was started in 2004. It soon earned the reputation of being an institution of excellence.

We propose to start another school in the Brigade Gateway enclave, in Malleswaram-Rajajinagar. A third school—this one an international school offering both the ISCE and the IGCSE Boards—is being set up in the Whitefield area. It is expected to be operational from June 2009 and will open with Pre-school to Std 5 (which could be extended up to Std 7, depending on demand).

All schools will be managed by the Brigade Foundation, a not-for-profit trust set up by Brigade.

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Holidays / Festivals in December

- 9    Bakrid (C, S)
- 12    Huthari (R)
- 13    Second Saturday (S)
- 25    Christmas (C, S)

S—State  
C—Central  
R—Restricted





2009

JANUARY

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FEBRUARY

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MARCH

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APRIL

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MAY

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JULY

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AUGUST

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SEPTEMBER

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OCTOBER

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NOVEMBER

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29	30					

DECEMBER

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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		