

TOURIST ATTRACTIONS WITHIN LUCKNOW DIVISION NER

1. AYODHYA

The birth place of Lord Rama on the banks of Saryu. Katra B.G. Rail head, a terminal station on Mankapur-Katra branch line of Lucknow-Gorakhpur Railway is about 7 kms from Ayodhya route.



Saryu Ghat



Shree Ram Janmabhoomi Temple

2. BAHRAICH

Bahraich is famous for the Dargah of Ghazi Saiyyad Salar Masud, 11th century Islamic saint and soldier. Built by Firoz Shah Tughlaq, it is believed that people taking bath in the water of this Dargah become free from all skin diseases. The annual festival (Urs) at the Dargah is attended by thousands of people coming from far-off places.



Dargah of Ghazi Saiyyad Salar Masud

3. BARABANKI

Dewa Sharif is a pilgrimage town situated 40 Kilometers from Lucknow and 12 kilometers from the district headquarter of Barabanki. The place is renowned as the birthplace of Haji Waris Ali Shah who influenced the lives of many with his message of universal love for humanity.

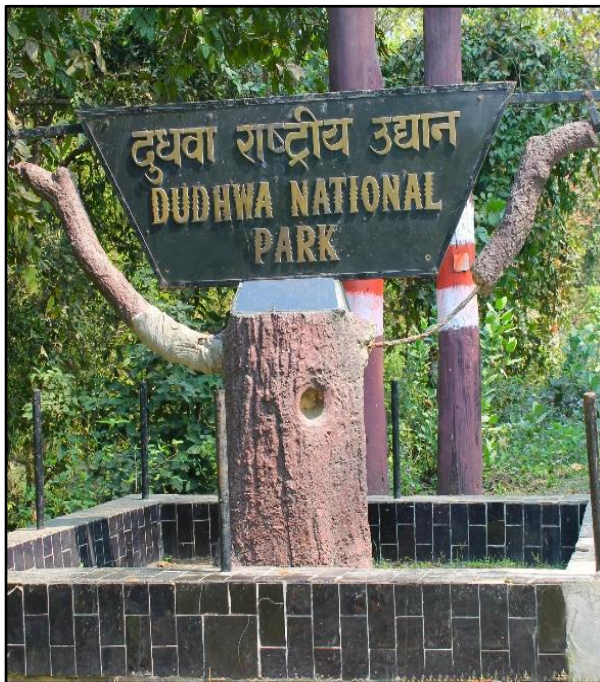


Dewa Sharif

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4. DUDHWA NATIONAL PARK

Located in Lakhimpur Khiri District, 250 kilometers from Lucknow, Dudhwa National Park is stretched in an area across 810 square kilometers. The core area of the park itself is spanned around 650 square Kilometers. Although Dudhwa National Park has a range of animals as well as avian population, the park is famous as a perfect habitat for swamp deers and tigers. Dudhwa was declared a national park in the year 1958. In the due course, keeping in mind its importance, it was first converted to a wildlife sanctuary in the year 1977 and was later declared a Project Tiger reserve in the year 1988.



Dudhwa National Park

5. GORAKHPUR

Headquarters of North Eastern Railway, Gorakhpur is famous for the temple of Baba Gorakhnath, a great Hindu Saint and Guru of Kanphata Yogis. The city rose to prominence in 12th century when it became the center of famous Hindu tantrik and ascetic, Baba Gorakhnath. Gorakhnath has influenced generations of Hindus who follow his Nath sect. The world-famous printing institution, Geeta Press, about 4 kms from Gorakhpur Railway station, is a charitable institution fully committed for publication and popularizing religious literature. The Geeta Bhawan situated within its premises has teachings of Geeta inscribed on the walls in marble.



Gorakhnath Temple



Railway Museum

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6. GOLA GOKARANNATH

Gola Gokarannath is a tehsil headquarters in the Lakhimpur Kheri district of Uttar Pradesh. This ancient religious town is home to the renowned Gokarannath Temple dedicated to Lord Shiva. During the month of Sawan and on the occasion of Mahashivratri, millions of devotees visit this place to offer prayers to Lord Shiva. It is also known as 'Chhoti Kashi' (Little Kashi).



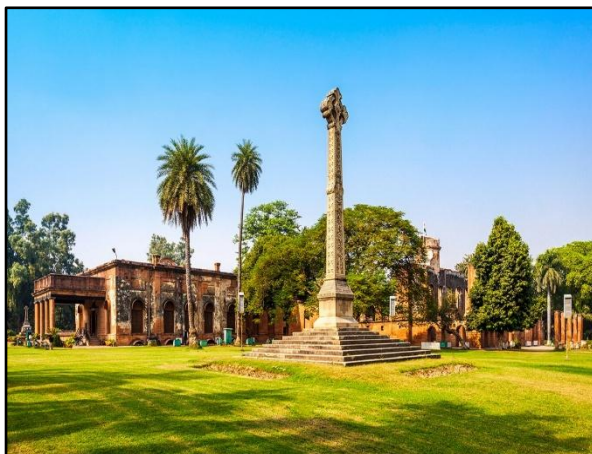
Gola Gokarannath Temple

7. LUCKNOW

It is believed that the city has been named after Lakshman, the younger brother of Lord Rama. The city was earlier called Lakshmanpur. Overtime this name transformed into the current Lucknow. The city was ruled by Nawab Wajid Ali Shah and later passed to East India Company, after Nawabs lost the battle of Buxar in the year 1764. The city remained the capital of Awadh or Oudh province of the British and went on to become the capital of Uttar Pradesh.

Capital of U.P. on the bank of river Gomti, Lucknow is the city of art, culture and nawabs. Chattar Manjil, Chota Imambara, Bara Imambara, Shah Najaf Imambara, Roomi Darwaza, Clock tower, Machchi Bhawan, Shah Najaf and Jama Masjid, Hanuman Temple Aliganj Chandrika Devi Temple & etc. are the marvelous pieces of architecture. The famous, Residency of Lucknow is associated with freedom struggle of India. The Charbagh Railway station of both Northern and North Eastern Railway standing side by side are excellent piece of Oudh architecture.

Imambaras are the sites of annual 'Azadari' or mourning sessions that occur in the Islamic Month of Mohharum and called 'Asura'. The Tazia processions and Marsia sessions of the old city are trademarks of Lucknow and so are its foods.



Residency



Bara Imambara

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Rumi Darwaza



Chandrika Devi Temple



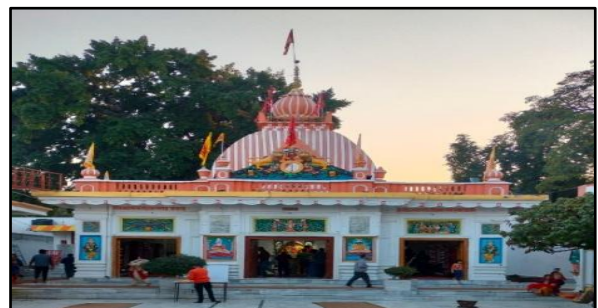
Safed Baradari



Lucknow Zoo



Janeshwar Mishra Park



Hanuman Temple Aliganj

8. MAGHAR

Celebrated for tomb of great Saint Kabir situated in Maghar, is between Basti and Gorakhpur. The place is revered equally by both Hindus and Muslims.



Sant Kabir Samadhi Sthal

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9. NAUGARH - SIDDHARTH NAGAR

Prince Sidhartha (Gautam) was born under the Sal trees in Lumbani situated at a distance of about 35 kms from Siddharthnagar Railway station, Siddharthnagar being the Rail head. It was also the capital of Shakya dynasty. The University of Siddharth Nagar, is a state university located at Kapilvastu which is at a distance of 20 kms from Siddharthnagar railway station. Piprahwa, located at a distance of 20 Kms from Siddharthnagar railway station, is best known for its archaeological site. A large stupa, the ruins of several monasteries and a museum are located within the site.



Siddharth University



Piprahwa Stupa

10. SITAPUR

In Sitapur District, almost 50 kilometers from Lucknow, is Naimisaranya, the place where Bhagavatam was spoken. Steeped in Hindu mythology, the place offers significant site for spiritual and historical exploration. The key attraction includes Chakra Tirtha, Lalita Devi Temple, Vyas Gaddi, Pandav Kila. It is also said that a pilgrimage to Badrinath and Kedarnath is incomplete without a visit to Naimisaranya. In the Mahabharata it is said that "Anyone who fasts, prays, and attains perfection at Naimisaranya finds happiness in the entire world."

It is believed that Lord Balarama, Dadhici Muni, the Pandavas, Prabhu Nityananda, and Ramanujacharya came here. The Pandavas, came here when they were in exile. This is the place where the demigods came to ask Dadhici for his body, to be able to create a weapon that would be able to kill the demon Vritrasura. Lord Rama is said to have performed a sacrifice here for killing Ravana.

It is said that if you bathe in Chakra-tirtha Kund and make an offering to the presiding deity, Lalita, on a full moon day that falls on a Monday, you will wash away all the sins committed in a lifetime.



Teerth Kund



Lalita Devi Temple



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11.SHRAVASTI

As per Bhagavata Purana, this city was build by a king called Shrivasthi who descended from the Ikshvaku dynasty. This city situated at about 29 kms from Balrampur was the capital of the ancient Indian Kingdom of Kosala which was ruled by Lava. Also, at this place the Budha lived most after his enlightenment. The city also has the pride of being the place where many of Vinaya rules, Jatakas and Sutras were first discussed.

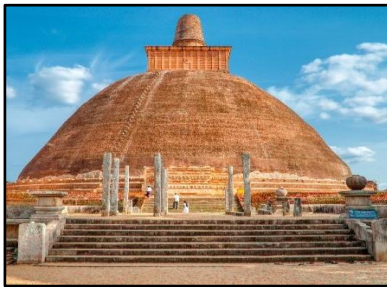
It is at Shrivasthi, where Lord Buddha is supposed to have astonished rival teachers by performing miracles. It is in Shrivasthi that Buddha transformed, Angulimal, from a dacoit into a Buddhist monk. He also delivered many important sermons here. The two, 21 meters high, pillars erected by Emperor Ashoka mark these sites. They are on either side of the Eastern gateway of the Jetavana monastery. Shrivasthi was a flourishing center of learning during the Gupta period too. When the famed Chinese traveler Hiuen Tsang visited this site, he found several damaged Stupas and ruins of monasteries at this place.

Saheth is one of the most visited clusters of shrines in the Buddhist tourism circuit of Eastern Uttar Pradesh. Saheth covers an area of around 35 square Kilometers and is revealed that Saheth was the original site of once magnanimous Jetavana monastery.

Maheth is another important cluster of shrines in Shrivasthi. Though not as famous as Saheth, Maheth also has a cluster of shrines that are very popular among the tourists visiting Shrivasthi. In fact, Maheth was the actual site of the erstwhile Shrivasthi city. Spread across the area of near about 400 acres, Maheth was the site of numerous shrines and Stupas.



Angulimala Stupa



Jetavana Monastery



Anathapindikika Stupa

12.SWAMINARAYAN CHHAPIYA

Swaminarayan Mandir, situated in the Gonda district, 2 kms far from Chhapiya station, is the birthplace of the founder of Swaminarayan Sampraday, with many Akshardham temples in India and abroad. Also, there are important places nearby, namely 'Shravan Pokhar' – a place where Shravan Kumar was accidentally killed by prince Dashrath and 'Makhauda Dham' where king Dashrath performed the Putra Kameshti Yagya' for a son



Swami Narayan Temple

13.TULSIPUR

Tulsipur is associated with ancient city of Shrivasthi and Devi Patan Temple a famous shakti peeth of Ma Durga.



Devi Patan Temple