

2024: Visit India



Visit India – September /October 2024



Chatrapati Shivaji Terminus , Mumbai

The subcontinent of India has much to offer people from all walks of life, covering a plethora of interests and passions. Scattered across the country are meticulously crafted museums showcasing centuries of history, iconic railway buildings that have stood the test of time, narrow gauge hill railways, and some of the oldest working steam locomotives in the world.



APHTRO 2024 VISIT INDIA

27 Sep

Fri, 27 Sep: World Tourism Day.
Delhi - National Rail Museum



28 Sep:

Sat, 28 Sep: Delhi - Fairy Queen,
Steam Locos, Transport Museum



29 Sep – 02 Oct

Sun, 29 Sep: Delhi /Bagdogra-Siliguri

Mon, 30 Sep: Ride on the UNESCO
World Heritage Darjeeling
Himalayan Railway to Darjeeling

Tue, 01 Oct: Local interactions and
possible rides on the DHR

Wed, 02 Oct: Bagdogra /Mumbai



02 Oct – 05 Oct

Wed, 02 Oct: Bagdogra /Mumbai

Thu, 03 Oct: Visit Chhatrapati Shivaji
Terminus and evening fly Mumbai
/Coimbatore

Fri, 04 Oct: Ride on the UNESCO
World Heritage Nilgiri Mountain
Railway

Sat, 05 Oct: Coimbatore /Mumbai or
Chennai and departure.



EXPRESS YOUR INTEREST

Epic Journeys on World Heritage Railways

The subcontinent of India has much to offer people from all walks of life, covering a plethora of interests and passions. Scattered across the country are meticulously crafted museums showcasing centuries of history, iconic railway buildings that have stood the test of time, narrow gauge hill railways, and some of the oldest working steam locomotives in the world.

Heritage rails and their scenic memorable routes are not just mere tourist attractions, they are an integral part of the history of the land. A myriad of opportunities are available today to experience the many Heritage Rail Journeys in India and rekindle the memories of the golden age of rail travel when the journey and not the destination was of more essence.

India is home to the UNESCO World Heritage Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus in Mumbai, as well as three fully operational mountain railways designated as UNESCO World Heritage sites. These are the *Darjeeling Himalayan Railway* in West Bengal, the *Nilgiri Mountain Railway* in Tamil Nadu, and the *Kalka– Shimla Railway* in Himachal Pradesh.

Come - experience India's Railway Heritage.



Visit the National Rail Museum, New Delhi



The **National Rail Museum** has a collection of over 160 years of Rail history in the Indian sub-continent. The museum has over 80 real-life sized outdoor exhibits comprising of locomotives, saloons, carriages, cranes, and special coaches of various gauges. A curated journey with an expert of the railways as it evolved in the subcontinent over the centuries.



F-734, first locomotive built in India - 1895





E 207 – built 1878





B-777 Darjeeling Himalayan Railway



Day Trip to the Rewari Loco Shed



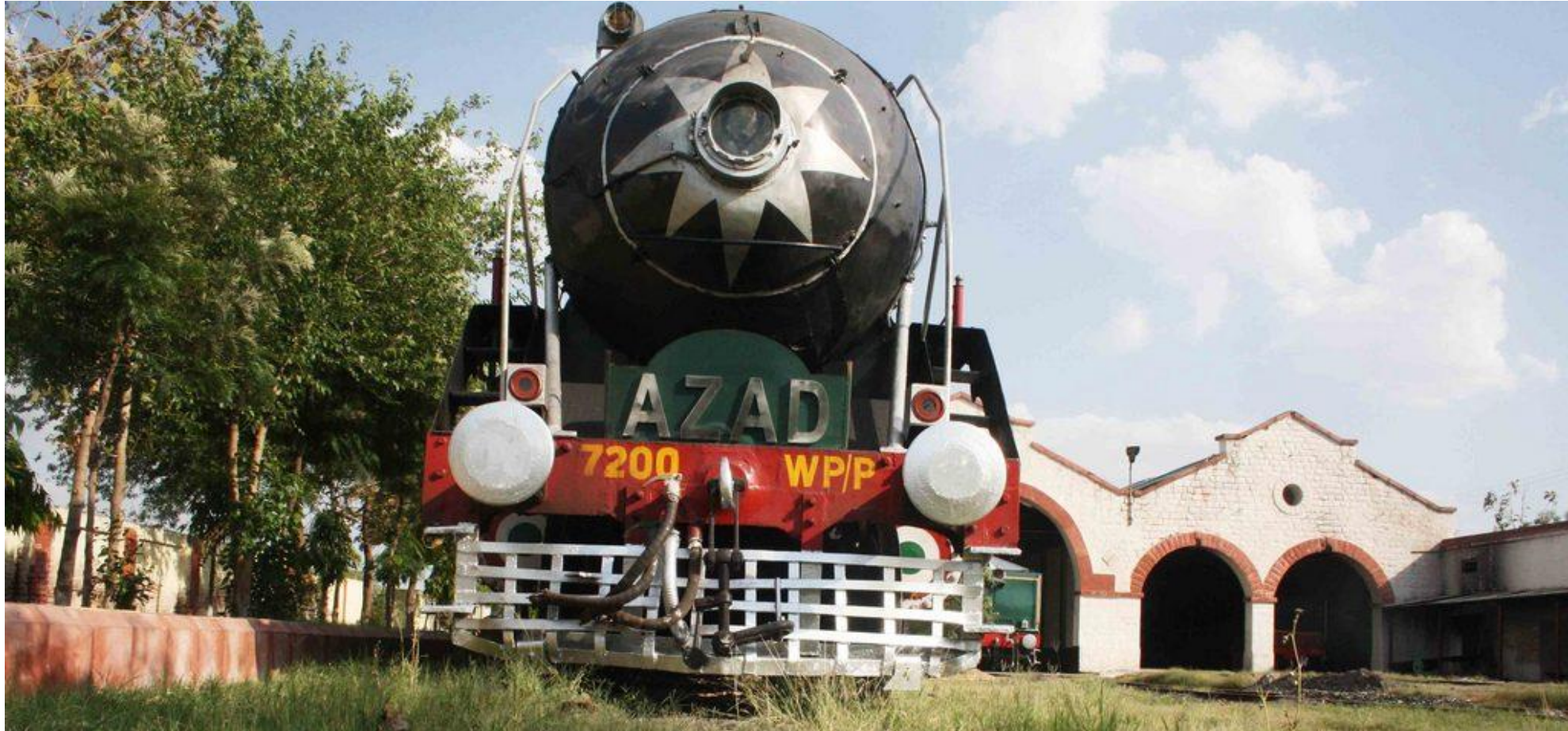
The Rewari Loco Shed houses some of India's last surviving steam locomotives. A highlight of the loco shed is the 1855 built Fairy Queen, one of world's oldest operational steam locomotive. There are also many other steam beauties that have been restored at the loco shed.





EIR 22 – Fairy Queen - One of the world's oldest operational steam locomotives





Azad WP 7200 Steam Locomotive





Akbar - WP 7161 at the Rewari Junction



Visit The Heritage Transport Museum



The museum showcases the evolution of transportation in India and sets a benchmark in interpretation, exhibition and in communication.

As the first private museum of its scale in India, it is conceived as a didactive space that engages visitor participation in learning while remaining a family experience.

The Heritage Transport Museum is situated on a three acre plot, off National Highway 8 at Tauru-Gurgaon.





The Jodhpur Saloon – 1930





1940's Wood-bodied Tram from Kolkata





Kerr Stuart & Jung Steam Locomotives - 1953





1950's Rail Bus





Bagnall



Darjeeling Himalayan Railway



This narrow-gauge railway started in 1880 and runs from Siliguri to Darjeeling, the heart of West Bengal's tea country. The toy train, powered by a steam engine, takes 8 hours to complete an 88-km scenic journey. The highlights include spiral loops and zigzags en route – an engineering feat that enables the train to climb from 1000 metres to 2,300 metres at its highest point.

The journey of 88.48km starts at New Jalpaiguri and goes through Siliguri - Sukhna – Rangtong – Tindharia – Gayabari – Mahanadi – Kurseong – Tung – Sonada and Ghum at 2258m to reach Darjeeling.



Darjeeling Himalayan Railway



Train Gauge	Narrow 610mm (2 feet)	
Track Length	88.48 km	Total journey 08 hrs
Project Launched 1878	Siliguri – Kurseong August 1880	Kurseong – Darjeeling July 1881
Bridges	554	
Stations	10	
Gradient Curves	906 bends, 6 zigzag reverses and 3 loops	74% curves
Height	Starting New Jalpaiguri at 100m	Darjeeling at 2000m, highest point Ghum at 2258m
UNESCO World Heritage	5th December 1999	





Chattrapati Shivaji Terminus



Chatrapati Shivaji Terminus , Mumbai

UNESCO World Heritage **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus**, formerly **Victoria Terminus**. Built in Victorian Italianate Gothic Revival style in 1887 it is a magnificent structure. The skyline, turrets, pointed arches, and eccentric ground plan take in from the classical Indian palace architecture. Wood carvings, tiles, ornamental iron and brass railings, grills for the ticket offices, the balustrades for the grand staircases and other ornamental elements make for an ideal example of 19th century design. The interior is crowned by a high octagonal central dome and its ornamentation by means of statuary, bas-reliefs, and friezes is exuberant. The main structure is built from a blend of Indian sandstone and limestone, while high-quality Italian marble was used for the key decorative elements.



Nilgiri Mountain Railway



Nilgiri Mountain Railway

The Nilgiri Mountain Railway is a 46 km metre gauge line that connects Mettupalayam at 330m with the hill resort of Ootacamund at 2200m in South India, passing through Hillgrove – Coonoor – Wellington – Aravankadu – Ketti – Lovedale. It is the only railway in India that uses a 'rack and pinion' rail system operated by special steam locomotives. It traverses 208 curves, 16 tunnels and 250 bridges through the 'Blue Mountain' hill range.

The initial line started operations on 15th June 1899 between Mettupalayam and Coonoor (28 km) and later extended to Ooty by 15th October 1908. Nilgiri Mountain Railway (NMR) was granted World Heritage Status by UNESCO on 15th July 2005.

The steepest gradient on this line is 1 in 23 and there is no rack on it as provided between Coonoor and Mettupalayam. The sharpest curve on the section is 17.5 degrees.



Nilgiri Mountain Railway



Train Gauge	Narrow (762mm) – 2ft 6 inches	
Track Length	45.88 km	Total journey 5 hrs
Project Launched 1854	Mettupalayam-Coonoor operational 15 June 1899	Coonoor-Ooty added by 15 October 1908.
Bridges	250 bridges	
Tunnels	16	
Stations	08	
Gradient Curves	208 curves	Average gradient 1:24.5
Height	Starting Mettupalayam at 330m	Finishing at Ooty 2200m
UNESCO World Heritage	15th July 2005	







Thank You!

