

Locales in this category have hosted shoots of prominent films such as

Xuanzang,

Sati Mahananda,

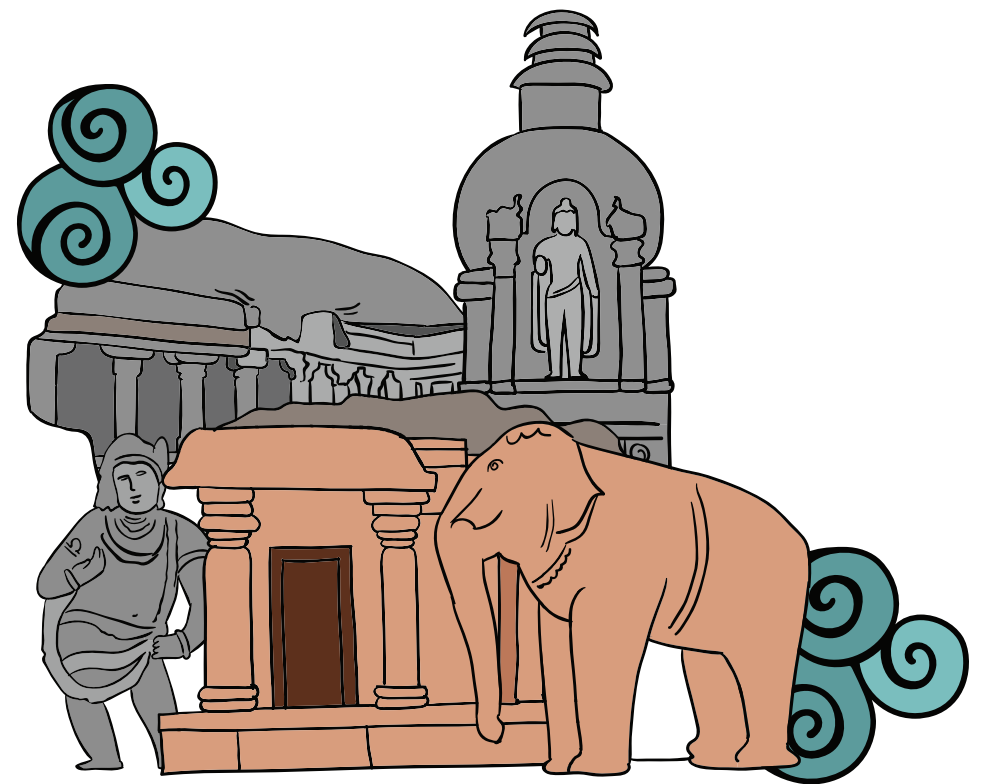
Commando-A One Man Army,

One 2 Ka Four,

Ajitha and Chandri

besides popular TV series **CID**

Caves





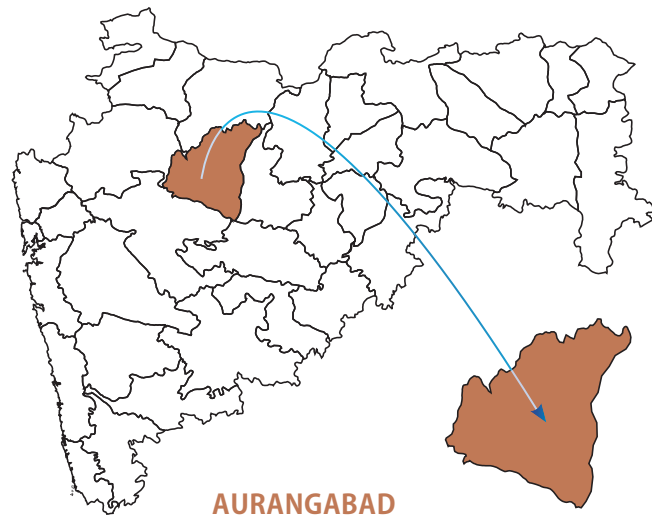
AJANTA AND ELLORA – WORLD HERITAGE CAVES

A UNESCO World Heritage Site, the rock-cut Ajanta and Ellora Caves display the finest examples of Indian painting and sculpture.

The first Buddhist cave monuments in Ajanta date back to the 2nd and 1st centuries BCE (Before Common Era). Excavated as a horse-shoe shaped rock surface, nearly 76 metres in height, the Ajanta Caves overlook a narrow stream called Waghora. The paintings and sculptures of Ajanta are considered masterpieces of Buddhist religious art.

Ellora Caves, with its uninterrupted sequence of monuments dating from 600 to 1000 CE (Common Era), brings ancient Indian civilisation to life. The Ellora Cave complex is not only a unique artistic creation, but with sanctuaries devoted to Buddhism, Hinduism and Jainism, it is also illustrative of the spirit of tolerance that characterised ancient India. Ellora is known for the largest single monolithic excavation in the world – the great Kailasa Temple (Cave 16), dedicated to Lord Shiva.

Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation (MTDC) has developed replica centres of both Ajanta and Ellora Caves where shooting is possible without any restrictions.



AURANGABAD

LOCATION FACT FILE

- Ajanta and Ellora Caves are located near Aurangabad city in Aurangabad district. Aurangabad city has a population of ~11,75,116.
- The average maximum temperature is 40 degree Celsius and minimum is 14 degree Celsius.
- Connectivity is by rail (Jalgaon, 60 km), air (Aurangabad, 97 km) and road (Aurangabad-Mumbai, 451 km; Aurangabad-Pune, 235 km).
- Nearby attractions include Aurangabad Caves, Bibi Ka Maqbara, Daulatabad Fort, etc.
- Aurangabad city has several star category hotels and resorts. Budget hotel options are also plenty.
- There are adequate number of restaurants and catering facilities in the city.
- Support infrastructure in terms of pre-and post-production equipment, artistes, technicians, etc. can be sourced from Mumbai. Limited support is available in Aurangabad as well.
- The annual Ellora Music Festival attracts high tourist footfall.
- Films shot here include Indo-China production *Xuanzang*, *Sati Mahananda*, *Ajintha* and more.

PERMISSION AND FEE DETAILS

AUTHORITY

Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation

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FEE (INR)

Rates for Visitor Center Cave Replica is yet to be decided by MTDC

AUTHORITY

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FEE (INR)

Category	Fee	Deposit
A	1,00,000	50,000

AUTHORITY

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FEE (INR)

Not applicable

AUTHORITY

Police Department

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 Web: www.aurangabadcitypolice.gov.in

FEE (INR)

Police protection charges as applicable, depending on the number of personnel deployed

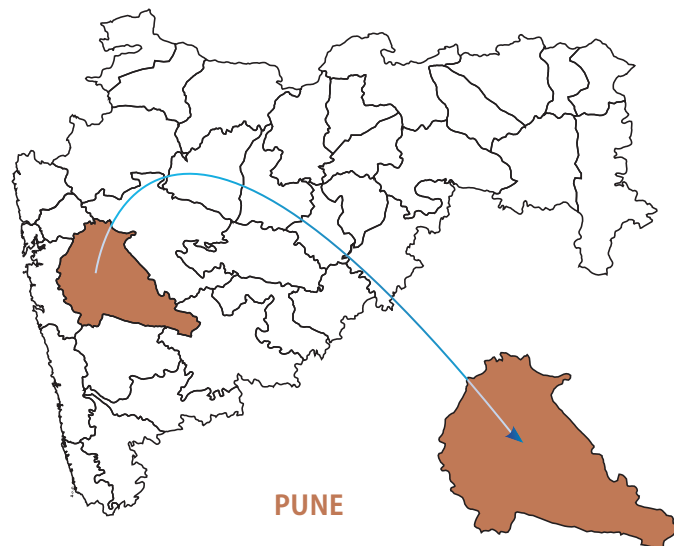




BHAJA CAVES – ORNATE FACADES AND STUPAS

Bhaja or Baje Caves, comprising 25 caves, were carved approximately 2,200 years ago, in ~200 BCE (Before Common Era). It is an important centre of the Hinayana school of Buddhism in Maharashtra.

Bhaja Caves are famous for their ornate facades and elaborately carved stupas. The most impressive monument of the caves is the large shrine known as *chaityagriha* (Cave XII). It demonstrates prototypes of wooden architecture, a vaulted horseshoe-shaped ceiling and an open, horseshoe-arched entrance.



LOCATION FACT FILE

- Bhaja Caves is near Lonavala in Pune district. Lonavala has a population of ~57,698.
- The average maximum temperature is 38 degree Celsius while the minimum is 12 degree Celsius.
- It is connected by rail (Pune, 59 km), air (Pune, 63.2 km) and road (Mumbai, 96 km).
- Nearby attractions include Karla Caves, Lohagad Fort, Western Ghats, Pavana Lake, Lion's Point, etc.
- Several luxury resorts, star and budget hotels are available in Lonavala and Pune.
- Restaurants and catering facilities are abundantly available in Lonavala and Pune.
- Medical facilities are also available in Lonavala and Pune.
- Support infrastructure in terms of pre- and post-production equipment, artistes, technicians, etc. can be sourced from Mumbai/ Pune.

PERMISSION AND FEE DETAILS

AUTHORITY

Archaeological Survey Of India (Mumbai Circle)

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FEE (INR)

Category	Fee	Deposit
B	50,000	10,000

AUTHORITY

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CONTACT DETAILS

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FEE (INR)

No charges mentioned by Gram Panchayat

AUTHORITY

Police Department

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Web: puneruralpolice.gov.in

FEE (INR)

Police protection charges as applicable, depending on the number of personnel deployed

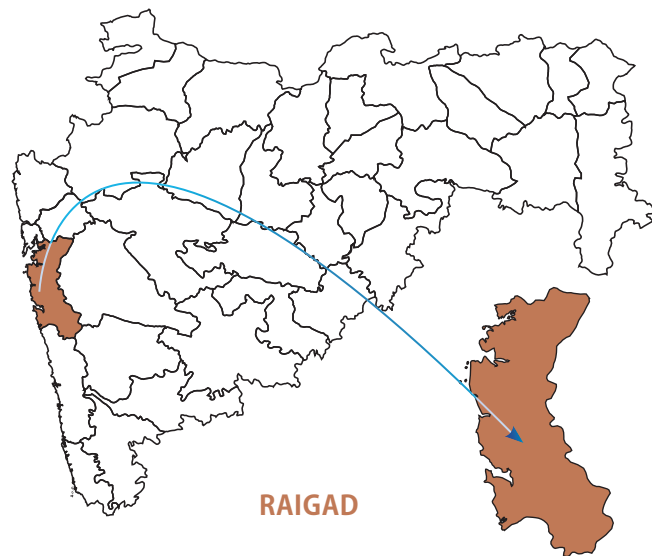




ELEPHANTA – NETWORK OF SCULPTED CAVES

The island of Gharapuri, popularly known as the City of Caves, is situated on the east side of the harbour of the Arabian Sea over an area of ~16 sq km. The rock-cut Elephanta Caves were constructed in the mid-5th and 6th centuries CE (Common Era).

It is composed of two groups of caves showcasing fine specimens of rock-cut architecture and art of medieval India. The first is a large group of five Hindu caves, while the second is a smaller group of two Buddhist caves. The main cave is renowned for the carvings that exalt Shiva in various forms as well as the famous Mahesamurti, the three-headed sculpture of Shiva. The entire cave complex is about 60,000 sq ft and composed of natural rock.



LOCATION FACT FILE

- Elephanta Caves are in Elephanta Island in Raigad district. The island has a population of ~1,200 people who are mainly engaged in rice cultivation, fishing and repair of boats.
- The average maximum temperature is 38 degree Celsius while the minimum is 12 degree Celsius.
- The island can be accessed by a 45-minute ferry ride from the Gateway of India, Mumbai. The nearest railway station from the ferry point is CST, Mumbai (4 km). Mumbai airport is 22 km away from the ferry point. Ferry services are closed during monsoons (June-August).
- Nearby attractions include Cannon Hill, Gateway of India, etc.
- A toy train service which covers a kilometre stretch of walk is also available at the landing station of the island. Dolly services are also available for trekking up to the caves.
- Overnight halt is not permitted on the island. Day rests are available at MTDC Chalukya. Besides two restaurants – MTDC Chalukya and Elephanta Port Restaurant – the island also has several food stalls.
- Star category and budget hotels are abundantly available in Mumbai.
- MTDC holds a spectacular annual dance festival at the Elephanta Caves in the month of February.
- Support infrastructure in terms of pre- and post-production equipment, artistes, technicians, etc. can be sourced from Mumbai.
- *One 2 Ka Four* is among several films that have been shot here.

PERMISSION AND FEE DETAILS

AUTHORITY

Archaeological Survey Of India (Mumbai Circle)

CONTACT DETAILS

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FEE (INR)

Category	Fee	Deposit
A	1,00,000	50,000

AUTHORITY

Gram Panchayat, Gharapuri

CONTACT DETAILS

Sarpanch
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FEE (INR)

No charges mentioned by Gram Panchayat

AUTHORITY

Police Department

CONTACT DETAILS

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Tel: +91-22-22620111

FEE (INR)

Police protection charges as applicable, depending on the number of personnel deployed





KANHERI – LARGEST CAVE EXCAVATION ON A SINGLE HILL

Nestled deep inside the Sanjay Gandhi National Park in the Borivali region of Mumbai are more than a 100 rock-cut Buddhist caves. Excavated as early as in mid-3rd century BCE (Before Common Era) and in occupation right up to 11th century CE (Common Era), the biggest attractions of Kanheri Caves are the ~22-23-ft-high Buddha figures in Cave 3, the 11-headed Avalokiteshvara in Cave 41 and the panel of Bodhisattva Avalokiteshvara – where Avalokiteshvara is depicted as helping his devotees solve various problems – in Caves 2, 41 and 90.

The Kanheri Caves have the earliest images of Buddha in south India and were made famous all over the world by Chinese monk-traveller Hiuen Tsang who visited the monastery in 7th century CE. Hiuen Tsang is believed to have carried back to China a wooden image of Bodhisattva Avalokiteshvara and numerous Sanskrit Buddhist manuscripts.



LOCATION FACT FILE

- Kanheri Caves falls in Mumbai Suburban district which has a population of ~93,32,481.
- The average maximum temperature is 34 degree Celsius and minimum is 18 degree Celsius.
- Mumbai is well connected by road, rail and air. Local transport takes one to the Kanheri Caves.
- Star and budget category hotels as well as catering facilities are abundantly available in Mumbai.
- As the hub of Indian cinema, support infrastructure in terms of pre- and post-production equipment, artistes, technicians, etc., is also easily available in Mumbai.
- Online application for film shooting permission is available for Sanjay Gandhi National Park; film shoots are not encouraged on Saturdays and Sundays since a large number of tourists visit the park during weekends.
- *Commando-A One Man Army* and *Chandri* are among the many films that were shot here. It was also the location for TV series *CID*.

PERMISSION AND FEE DETAILS

AUTHORITY

Archaeological Survey Of India (Mumbai Circle)

CONTACT DETAILS

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FEE (INR)

Category	Fee	Deposit
B	50,000	10,000

AUTHORITY

Sanjay Gandhi National Park (SGNP)

CONTACT DETAILS

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FEE (INR)

Not applicable. However, SGNP authorities have to be informed as the convoy will have to pass through SGNP land.

AUTHORITY

Police Department

CONTACT DETAILS

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 Web: www.mumbaipolice.maharashtra.gov.in

FEE (INR)

Police protection charges as applicable, depending on the number of personnel deployed

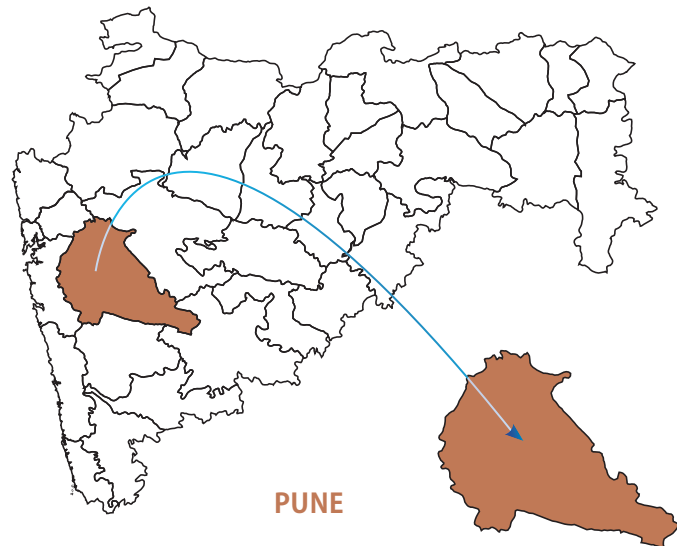




KARLA CAVES – ROCK-CUT ARCHITECTURE

The Karla Caves – a complex of Buddhist rock-cut cave shrines – developed over the period between 2nd century BCE (Before Common Era) and 5th century CE (Common Era). The oldest of the cave shrines is believed to date back to 160 BCE. The complex is built into a rocky hillside, with large windows cut into the rock to ensure that natural light illuminates the caves' interiors.

The main cave features a large, intricately-carved prayer hall dating back to 1st century BCE. This is among the largest rock-cut *chaityas* in India, measuring 148 ft in length and 46 ft in height. Arched entrances and vaulted interiors are the other notable features of these caves.



LOCATION FACT FILE

- Karla Caves is located near Lonavala in Pune district. Lonavala has a population of ~57,698.
- The average maximum temperature is 38 degree Celsius and minimum is 12 degree Celsius.
- It is connected by rail (Pune, 59 km), air (Pune, 63.2 km) and road (Mumbai, 96 km).
- Nearby attractions include Bhaja Caves, Lohagad Fort, Western Ghats, Pavana Lake, Lion's Point, etc.
- Several luxury resorts and star and budget category hotels are available in Lonavala and Pune.
- Restaurants and catering facilities are abundantly available in Lonavala and Pune.
- Medical facilities are also available in Lonavala and Pune.
- Support infrastructure in terms of pre- and post-production equipment, artistes, technicians, etc. can be sourced from Mumbai/Pune.

PERMISSION AND FEE DETAILS

AUTHORITY

Archaeological Survey Of India (Mumbai Circle)

CONTACT DETAILS

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E-mail: circlemum.asi@gmail.com
Web: asimumbaicircle.com

FEE (INR)

Category	Fee	Deposit
B	50,000	10,000

AUTHORITY

Gram Panchayat, Karla

CONTACT DETAILS

Sarpanch
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FEE (INR)

No charges mentioned by Gram Panchayat

AUTHORITY

Police Department

CONTACT DETAILS

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FEE (INR)

Police protection charges as applicable, depending on the number of personnel deployed

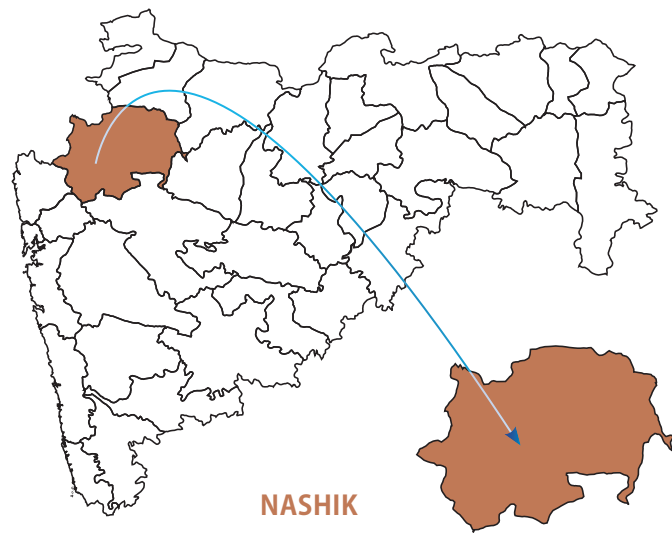




PANDAVLENI – HINAYANA BUDDHIST CAVES

Pandavleni Caves is a 2,000-year-old group of 24 caves in Nashik, one of the holiest cities in India. Also known as Trirashmi Caves, these were carved between 3rd century BCE (Before Common Era) and 2nd century CE (Common Era) and depict the tales of three dynasties that once ruled Nashik – the Kshatrapas, the Satavahanas and the Abhirs.

Since all the caves face east, visitors are advised tours in the early morning hours when sunlight falls directly on their beautiful carvings. Of the 24 caves, two are major attractions – the main cave or *chaitya*, meaning prayer hall, and the tenth cave, which is complete in terms of structure as well as inscriptions.



LOCATION FACT FILE

- Pandavleni Caves is near Nashik city in Nashik district. Nashik city has a population of ~14,86,053.
- The average maximum temperature is 34 degree Celsius while the minimum is 17 degree Celsius.
- The cave complex is connected by rail (Nashik, 7.8 km), air (Mumbai, 135 km) and road (Mumbai, 135 km).
- Nearby attractions include Triambakeshwar, Kalaram Temple, Ram Ghat (known for Kumbh Mela), Bhandardara Dam, Igatpuri, vineyards, etc.
- Several star and budget category hotels/resorts are available in Nashik.
- Nashik has plenty of restaurants and catering facilities.
- The city also has good medical facilities and speciality hospitals.
- Support infrastructure in terms of pre- and post-production equipment, artistes, technicians, etc. can be sourced from Mumbai. Nashik also has a few options.

PERMISSION AND FEE DETAILS

AUTHORITY

Department Of Archaeology & Museum
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CONTACT DETAILS

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FEE (INR)

Category	Marathi (Per day)	Non Marathi (Per day)
Non Mumbai	10,000	25,000

AUTHORITY

Police Department

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FEE (INR)

Police protection charges as applicable, depending on the number of personnel deployed

