



## MAHABALESWAR: THE WORLD FAMOUS TOURIST ATTRACTION

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### Introduction:

Tourism is the part and parcel of the 20<sup>th</sup> century social and international economical process. It is the most effective and leading business of the world which provided work for lot of people. In the year 2000 early 90 crores of people took part in travelling and in tourism. It was much mysterious that amount 700 billion American dollars were expenditure on it. Tourism increases national integrity, unity, thoughts and better understanding among the nations. Tourism means to take travel from one place to another place and return on the same place within a time limit. 20<sup>th</sup> century man is much curious, serious, strange mysterious to take search of unknown and mysterious places and things.

### Climatic information of Mahabaleshwar:

Mahabaleshwar is a hill station at a height of about 4400ft in Maharashtra. The maximum and minimum temperatures vary significantly however it remains pleasant throughout the year. The weather in Mahabaleshwar is conducive for strawberry cultivation. The summer months in the Mahabaleshwar stretches from March to June. The temperature can rise up to maximum of 29 Celsius and fall to a minimum of 16 Celsius at night. The day is warm but because of its height there is a constant breeze blowing and so the weather is mild and pleasant. The monsoon season in Mahabaleshwar lasts from mid-June to September. The annual rainfall in Mahabaleshwar is approximately 660cm. The rainfall enhances the beauty of the hills and tourist can find many waterfalls around the area. The weather remains cold and damp. This time is the best for honeymoon couples. The winter season in Mahabaleshwar begins in November and last until mid March. Temperatures can rise up to a maximum 24 Celsius and fall to a minimum of 5 Celsius. Due to its proximity to the Arabian Sea the hills do not get cold. The days are pleasant and the sun is soft. However, at night be prepared to use woolens to avoid the cold. This period sees a lot

of tourists as the place are ideal for Christmas and New Year celebrations. The best time to visit is October to May. From November to January there is a festive atmosphere in the air and the place is abundant with tourists. From February to May the weather is mild and the sun is not harsh. Tourists who do not like monsoons should avoid visiting Mahabaleshwar during the monsoon season

### Seasons for tourist:

1. **Summer**
2. **Rainy Season:** Lingmala, Venna Lake and other waterfall in adjoining area.
3. **Winter season:** Snowfall, dense fog, frost situation, farm strawberry festivals.

### Objective:

The Satara district is a part of the western Maharashtra. It is placed in the company of hills, mountains of Sahyadri hills. The Pune district is on the side of the east Ratnagiri on the west side and the Sangli on the south side. The river Krishna is the main river in Satara district. It is the historical city and Ajinkyatara fort as the main attraction of the people for tourism. It was the kingdom city of the Maratha in the era of Queen Tarabai. The Kaas Lake is the tourist and attraction center. It is only 26km from Satara city.

- 1) The main (objective) of the present paper is to study and observation of the tourist centers in Satara district.
- 2) The importance of the tourism center Mahabaleshwar as the attraction of the Indian as well as foreign tourists.

### Study Area:

**Satara** – There are some attractive tourism centers in Satara district. The fort Sajjangad is only 1 km from Satara. The fort Ajinkyatara is also famous fort of Satara district. Mahabaleshwar is the heart of Satara and breathe of tourists in all times and all ages. Indian travellers are attracted to see and enjoy the lovely beauty and weather of Mahabaleshwar. It is the most beautiful city with a fine location of Western Ghats range of Maharashtra. It is much fair and famous hill

station not only Indian tourists but also tourists from all over the world. It is very green forested hill station, nearly 4500ft height from sea level. It is the most popular hill station and tourists attraction to observe, to study and to search its variety. There are many attractions of beauty spot in Mahabaleshwar.

**Introduction (Mahabaleshwar):**

Mahabaleshwar, a hill station in the Sahyadri range of Maharashtra, is one of the most popular tourist destinations in India. Blessed with the goodness of nature, this picturesque and serene destination offers mesmerizing views of the soaring peaks, verdant forests, green valleys and the sparkling rivers. Mahabaleshwar is the perfect destination to relax and rejuvenate in leisure. Some of the famous tourist attractions of Mahabaleshwar include Panchgani, Tapola and Pratapgad Fort. Kshetra Mahabaleshwar temple is another famous tourist attraction that is dedicated to Lord Shiva. It is also the origin of Maharashtra's five important rivers.

**Wilson Point:**

It is very popular point to give delight and comfort to the tourists. The beauty of the sun rise and sunset enjoyment from this highest point of Mahabaleshwar. A lot of couples visited Wilson point to grow their highest of life and love. Early in the morning you can enjoy its glory with the rising of the sun.

**Babington House:**

It is related to the most famous and beautiful country houses in Mahabaleshwar. A few people visited this house who have interest in the rural life style. Various books editions are found there to get information about it.

**Polo – Ground:**

It is a place near a famous tourist attraction Bombay point. You can enjoy the beauty of the forest along Tiger path. Tourists can also take enjoyment of sunset at Bombay point.

**Mapro Garden:**

It is very excellent place for taking walk without horse keepers nearly 3-7 kms in the morning.

In the evening time this place is much noisy and restless.

**Venna Lake:**

Venna lake is the glory of north Mahabaleshwar. The green trees secured a great escort to the lake by standing trees. There are many shops; street vendors serve people with great heart and deep love.

**How to reach Mahabaleshwar:**

**Foreign Tourist:**

Mahabaleshwar is situated at a distance of 266 km from Mumbai. Situated at an elevation of 1,353 meters above sea level. Mahabaleshwar is well connected to Mumbai by road. The best way to reach Mahabaleshwar from Mumbai is by road, a journey of about 5 hours 20 minutes by car. The places covered during the journey from Mumbai to Mahabaleshwar are Mumbai – 76km – 57 km Tathwade – 103 km Wai- 32 km Mahabaleshwar. Several ATMs and hospitals fall on the way. Rest stops, dhabas and restaurants such as Bhairwanath Chinese are present on the route. Petrol pumps of Hindustan Petroleum (HP), among others, are also available at regular intervals.

**Domestic Tourist:**

|                              |        |
|------------------------------|--------|
| - Mumbai to Mahabaleshwar    | 145 km |
| - Pune to Mahabaleshwar      | 71 km  |
| - Ahmedabad to Mahabaleshwar | 581 km |
| - Hyderabad to Mahabaleshwar | 516 km |
| - Nagpur to Mahabaleshwar    | 674 km |
| - Thane to Mahabaleshwar     | 163 km |
| - Bangalore to Mahabaleshwar | 696 km |
| - Surat to Mahabaleshwar     | 375 km |

By all means it is very convenient to every type of tourist to visit world famous hill station located in Satara District of Maharashtra State

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