

CHANDANNAGAR BY RIVER

Formerly a French colony, the town is located 35 kilometers north of Kolkata. The name Chandannagar is possibly derived from the shape of the bank of the river Ganges which is bent like a half moon (in Bengali, *Chand* means moon and *Nagar* implies city). Various French mansions, a church and a strand make Chandannagar worth visiting.

What to see at Chandannagar

The Chandannagar Museum, Church, Chandannagar Strand, French Bakery, Patal Bari,

BARANAGAR BY RIVER

Baranagar was originally a Portuguese settlement that became the seat of a Dutch trading station and an important river anchorage for Dutch shipping. In 1795 it was ceded to the British. Constituted as the municipality of North Suburban in 1869, the city was renamed Baranagar in 1889.

What to see at Baranagar

Natore's Rani Bhabani made a Terracotta Shiva temple named the Bhewaniswar Temple, Charbangla Temple, Jigagunj, Biri Factory, Jain Temple, Baranagar Math, St. James Church.

BANDEL BY RIVER

The antique clock of Bandel Imambara is made of solid brass with Arabic lettering and weighs around 3 tons. The interior of the Imambara is decked with several chandeliers, Iranian carpets and the teachings of Koran are inscribed on the wall. The Portuguese Church in Bandel, built in 1599 should also not be missed.

What to see at Bandel

Bandel Church, The Monastery, Hooghly Imambara, Hangeswari Temple, Pandua Bari Mosque.

MAYAPUR BY RIVER

Mayapur, which is the Headquarters of ISKCON temples, preaches the power of prayer to attain salvation. One also can visit the artisans at work at the workshops specialising in Bengal's handicraft, the bell metal wares.

SERAMPORE BY RIVER

This historic town remained under the Danish rule till 1845, after which the Danish Governor decided to sell it to the British East India Company. Built in 1818, the historic Serampore College, with its grand facade, is one of the oldest in the country, if not in Asia. Serampore also houses two Cemeteries from Danish times. Along the river are several colonial mansions, including the Baptist Mission Church.



Cruising on the Ganges is really captivating. To make these experiences even more delightful there are many private as well as government river cruise services available in and around Kolkata. Most of the river cruise services in West Bengal start from Kolkata. Please get in touch with any of the operators for a pleasant cruising experience on the river.



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River Cruise



Go with the Flow

Cruising the Ganges

Cruising on the Ganges is very enthralling owing to the fact that the banks on both sides of the river are imbued with historical importance. The picturesque view along both sides of the Ganga, the localities alongside the riverbank, the setting sun and boats and ships makes for a beautiful experience.

KOLKATA BY RIVER

A cruise on the Ganges is the most joyous way to explore the City of Joy. Kolkata's vibrant culture, dazzling tradition with a pinch of colonial heritage make it an interesting place. To top it all, the Hooghly River forms an integral part of this historical city. The river ghats (quays) have played a major role in Kolkata's development. There are 54 ghats and all have great history and heritage. Some of them are bathing ghats, ceremonial ghats where rituals are performed and then there are the ferry ghats which connect the two banks at various places. There are many monuments, memorials and markets by the river side, to be explored & experienced.

Visit points of Kolkata

Kumartuli, Howrah Bridge, Dalhousie Square, College Street Book Market, St. Paul's Cathedral, Victoria Memorial from outside.

In the evening cruise to Belur Math for evening aarti.



MURSHIDABAD BY RIVER

From the days when the Job Charnock dropped his anchor at Cossimbazar to the days when the Nawabs of Murshidabad made the city the capital of Bengal in 1716 AD, Experience historic Bengal in its full grandeur as you cruise down the river.

What to see at Murshidabad

Katra Mosque, Imambara, Hazarduari, Katgola Garden, Nasipur Rajbari, Tomb of Azimunnisa Begum

CRUISING INTO THE SUNDERBANS

At the tip of the Ganges is a mystic mangrove forest on the myriad islands. Lush Sundari trees, water changing its colour at every creek from muddy river to emerald blue sea, narrow creeks to several miles wide rivers, where the man and man eaters eat fish to survive, crabs climb the tree, tiger swim long distances and mighty crocodile bask in the sun. This is a wonderland indeed and to be explored through waterways only. From the north to the south east to west, the cruise transverses the entire area anchoring in the most exotic areas.

What to see in the Sunderbans

Sunderbans Tiger Reserve, Mangrove Forest Walking, Experiencing the Village Life, Visit to the Local Fish Market



KALNA & SHANTIPUR BY RIVER

This small town is famous for its ring of 108 Shiva Temples - an architectural marvel. There are a few other temples within the temple complex which are also worth visiting.

Visit to see in Shantipur - the weavers' colony of fine Bengal cottons, the village rich in handloom weaving. The weavers here blend traditional art with modern life style needs, offering rich variety of textiles, sarees, stoles, fabrics etc.

BANSBERIA BY RIVER

The history of Bansberia dates back to the days of Shah Jahan. In 1656, the Mughal emperor appointed Raghob Dattaroy of Patuli as the zamindar of an area that includes the present-day Bansberia. Legend has it that Raghob's son Rameshwar cleared a bamboo grove to build a fort, inspiring the name Bansberia. The Hangseshwari Temple, which betrays tantric influences, is the best known of the Bansberia structures, but the adjoining Ananta Basudeb temple, small and elegant and crowned by an octagonal turret, is no less interesting.

