Bishnupur

A charming little town in the Bankura district of West Bengal, Bishnupur is famous for Terracotta artwork and Baluchari sarees.

A town with a rich heritage, Bishnupur is also referred to as Mallabhum, after the Malla dynasty, who once ruled this region for almost a thousand years. The famous Terracotta temples were also built by the same rulers, sometime between the 17th and the 18th century. Each and every temple in this region bespeak of excellent craftsmanship and intricate carvings. The terracotta tiles show many scenes from the Mahabharata. Apart from temples, the place is also famous for terracotta pottery and other artifacts. The famous Baluchari sarees depicting scenes from the Mahabharata on the border and pallu, are also created here. As far as celebrations are concerned, the snake festival, Durga puja and Kali puja are some of the main festivals of this town.

The majestic Raas Mancha, the earliest terracotta structure here, is the focal point around which many hotels, shops and offices have come up. It served as an exhibition gallery during festivals. Recognisable by their curved hut-like roofs, most temples have intense relief work on terracotta panels on their walls, a delightful documentation of Bengal’s 17th-century society. Women pampering themselves in front of the mirror, a couple cosying up under an umbrella and the ubiquitous dancing women indicate a culture that believed in the good life. Bricks were used in building these temples because no stone was available in the vicinity. Most of the temples are found in three clusters.

The huge lakes in Bishnupur serve as charming picnic spots. Lal Bandh is one of the most serene spots in town. The Jogesh Chandra Pura Kirti Bhavan Museum exhibits manuscripts, metal jewellery, a music gallery, terracotta art, Baluchari saris and pattachitra.

The dingy alleys of Bishnupur town hold what may be the largest variety of craft traditions in Bengal. In the weavers’ colonies around Tantipara and Bagan, Baluchari saris, known for the mythological tales woven into their borders and ends, Krishna is seen counselling Arjuna or trying to calm down a miffed Radha. Bankura horses — of the pointy ears, necks long enough to shame giraffes and intricately designed saddle — and much decorated elephants and tigers can be had at Panchmura, a potter’s village. Bell-metal objects, white conch shells with mythological scenes carved on them, terracotta tiles — there’s much to admire and pick up.

When To VISIT


Jan
Cold weather. Carry Heavy woollen.
Max: 22.0°C  Min: 9.5°C  Rain: 6.0mm

Feb
Cold weather. Carry Heavy woollen.
Max: 25.10000038 1469727°C  Min: 12.5°C  Rain: 21.0mm

Mar
Pleasant weather. Carry Light woollen.
Max: 29.20000076 2939453°C  Min: 16.10000038 7060547°C  Rain: 30.0mm

Apr
Pleasant weather. Carry Light woollen.
Max: 32.40000152 5878906°C  Min: 19.79999923 7060547°C  Rain: 27.0mm

May
Pleasant weather. Carry Light woollen, umbrella.
Max: 31.29999923 7060547°C  Min: 19.79999923 7060547°C  Rain: 84.0mm

Jun
Pleasant weather. Carry Light woollen, umbrella.

**Max:** 31.10000038 1469727°C  
**Min:** 21.79999923 7060547°C  
**Rain:** 144.0mm

**Jul**  
Pleasant weather. Carry Light woollen, umbrella.

**Max:** 29.89999961 8530273°C  
**Min:** 22.89999961 8530273°C  
**Rain:** 213.0mm

**Aug**  
Pleasant weather. Carry Light woollen, umbrella.

**Max:** 20.5°C  
**Min:** 19.89999961 8530273°C  
**Rain:** 189.0mm

**Sep**  
Pleasant weather. Carry Light woollen, umbrella.

**Max:** 25.5°C  
**Min:** 19.89999961 8530273°C  
**Rain:** 186.0mm

**Oct**  
Pleasant weather. Carry Light woollen, umbrella.

**Max:** 27.5°C  
**Min:** 19.5°C  
**Rain:** 63.0mm

**Nov**  
Cold weather. Carry Heavy woollen.

**Max:** 24.89999961 8530273°C  
**Min:** 14.39999961 8530273°C  
**Rain:** 9.0mm

**Dec**  
Cold weather. Carry Heavy woollen.

**Max:** 22.70000076 2939453°C  
**Min:** 10.10000038 1469727°C  
**Rain:** 12.0mm

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**What To SEE**

1. **Jorebangla Temple**

   Dedicated to God Krishna and goddess Radha, this beautiful temple is a fine example of architectural brilliance of the local craftsmanship. The Shyam Rai Temple has five Orissa-style shikharas on a tapering Bengal chaia roof and rasamandala motifs on the walls — concentric circles depicting scenes from Krishna's life and the Ram-Ravana combat. Do plan a visit here on your Bishnupur tour.

2. **Shyamrai Temple**

   Recognisable by its curved hut-like roofs, Jorebangla Temple has intense relief work on terracotta panels on its walls, a delightful documentation of Bengal's 17th-century society. One of the most famous tourist attractions in town, this one remains flocked with devotees all year round.

3. **Rasmancha Temple**

   Recognisable by its curved hut-like roofs, Jorebangla Temple has intense relief work on terracotta panels on its walls, a delightful documentation of Bengal's 17th-century society. One of the most famous tourist attractions in town, this one remains flocked with devotees all year round.

4. **Shyamrai Temple**

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5. **Bishnupur Museum**

   The majestic Raas Mancha, the earliest terracotta structure here, is the focal point around which many hotels, shops and offices have come up. It served as an exhibition gallery during festivals. Don't miss this beautiful temple on your Bishnupur trip!
Bishnupur, West Bengal, India

The Jogesh Chandra Pura Kirti Bhavan Museum or Bishnupur Museum exhibits manuscripts, metal jewellery, a music gallery, terracotta art, Baluchari saris and pattachitra. A must visit attraction on your Bishnupur tour, this one takes you back to the historical time.

Where To Eat

2 Places

1. **Hotel Laxmi Park**

The in-house restaurant of Hotel Laxmi Park is a nice option if you a delicious meal at prices that won't hurt your pocket much! The menu here comprises mainly of Bengali dishes and it is recommended to try the local specialities when you are at this restaurant.

2. **Tourist Lodge**

Bengali meals are served at most restaurants in Bialiapara area and Tourist Lodge is one of those places where you can satiate your hunger pangs with the authentic local dishes. It may not be your typical restaurant when it comes to decor and ambiance, but worth visiting a place for the awesome food!