

PLACES OF INTEREST IN CHANDIGARH

- **Rock Garden:** spreading its creative wings, the Rock Garden brightens up Sector 1, which is a virtual fairyland and takes hours to enjoy. The Rock Garden is the lifetime dream of Mr.Nek Chand. It unfolds a world of people, monkeys, bears, waterfalls, twisted pathways, narrow lanes through mountains, all created from waste. Honoured and recognised the world over, Mr.Nek Chand continues this tremendous work of art, painstakingly developing each aspect of the garden to perfection
- **Gandhi Bhawan** : Dedicated to Gandhian principles the Gandhi Bhawan in sector 14, is within the Punjab University Campus and houses the library.
- **Sector 17** : The City Centre, housing the city's largest and most popular shopping complex. It has many commercial and recreational facilities. Here, the residents shop, lounge around or simply relax in the beautiful surroundings to enjoy the various fashion houses located here. Part of it is a Pedestrian Zone.
- **Zakir Rose Garden** : In Sector 16 has lush green lawns, impressive trees, and nearly 1600 varieties of roses. Fountains and bright lights enhance its beauty at night and provide a breath of fresh air to all who come to enjoy a walk and unwind.
- **Leisure Valley:** An 8 km long linear park which runs through the city. It has a Fitness Trail.
- **Sukhna Lake:** The beautiful lake that is the major attraction of the City beautiful. Sukhna ('wish-fulfilled') Lake on the northern fringe of the city is a great favourite with the locals and the visitors. Man-made in 1958 as an integral part of the city's Master Plan, the lake is a venue for water sports like yachting and rowing and has the largest rowing channel in Asia. Set with an impressive backdrop of the Shivalik Range, it is popular as a place to stroll, browse, picnic, and indulge in water-sports and fish; or, to just relax and watch the world go by. Facility for boating and rafting is there for the adventure seekers.

AROUND THE CITY

- **Yadavindra Gardens, Pinjore:** Built in a royal era, designed by Fidai Khan, architect to Emperor Aurangzeb, the Yadavindra gardens transport you to a time when grace reigned supreme. These 17th century gardens are located just 24 km from Chandigarh on NH22 to Kalka. Haryana Tourism has a complex which includes a motel, restaurant, cafe, bar, conference halls, open-air theatre and a mini zoo for all those who wish to relive the period and luxuriate in the traditional Mughal and Rajasthani styled terraces and fountains which come alive at night, reminiscent of the days gone by.
- **Morni Hills:** Set amidst the Shivaliks, Morni Hills is a pleasant interlude 45 kms from Chandigarh. In order to promote the natural surroundings, Haryana Tourism have developed a resort, the Mountain Quail which has guest rooms, restaurant, bar and is a haven for trekkers.
- **Mansa Devi Temple** : A popular worship shrine 12 km from Chandigarh. Worshippers throng the temple on festivals and religious occasions to pray and seek blessings.
- **Chhatbir Zoo:** Situated near Zirakpur, 20 km from Chandigarh it houses a large variety of fauna
- **Bhakra-Nangal:** 116 km away was India's first major hydel project. An artificial lake offers facilities for water sports. A nice drive to a landmark in the history of India whence commenced power generation in a bid towards self-reliance.

- **Kasauli:** A charming hill town, 67 km away from Chandigarh, it is an escape to paradise. Extremely popular with the city residents to beat the heat. Warped in clouds, sometimes raining or even bright sunshine, moody weather beckons. At night one gets a lovely view of the lights of Chandigarh from here.
- **Timber Trail** (35 kms from Chandigarh): A popular rope way tourist resort located in the picturesque valley near Parwanoo on the Kalka-Shimla highway. 'A must see' for tourists. People of Chandigarh frequently visit this resort on weekends.
- **Chail** (107 kms from Chandigarh): Built by the Maharaja of Patiala as the summer capital of the old princely State of Patiala, Chail provides a superb view of the mountains. The palace is an elegant hotel today. There are many smaller lodges located nearby. Chail boasts of the world's highest cricket-pitch.
- **Shimla** (120 kms from Chandigarh): Shimla , capital of Himachal Pradesh and once the summer capital of British India continues to be a popular destination. Driving from Chandigarh to Shimla, one passes through the large hill town of Solan, famous for its brewery. One may motor up to Solan and Shimla or take the picturesque mini-train. Northern Railway has introduced a luxury train 'Shivalik Palace'(Kalka-Shimla) on demand.
- **Renuka Lake** (95 kms from Chandigarh): The Renuka Lake is regarded as the embodiment of Renukaji, the wife of the sage Jamadagini and the mother of Parshuram one of the ten Avatars of Lord Vishnu. Shaped like the profile of a woman, the lake has the circumference of 2.5 km and is the largest in Himachal.

Shopping

Being well planned, the city offers a market in almost every sector. The Central Plaza of Sector 17 is the hub and has almost everything that one may desire. Most of the state and cooperative emporia are in Sector 17 and 22. Sector 22 also has its own fare of shopping delights and jewellery shops with traditional and exquisite jewellery on display. Some interesting shopping can be done at: Phulkari, Punjab Emporium, Sector 17, Leathera Punjab, Sectors 17, 22, 35, Weavco, Punjab Handlooms, Sector 17, Black Partridge, Haryana Emporium, Sector 17, Haryana State Handlooms. Sector 22, Chandigarh Emporium, CITCO, Sector 17, Khadi Gram Udyog Bhavan, Sectors 17, 22 & Gram Shilpa, Khadi Ashram, Sector 17. Most shops in Chandigarh are generally open from 1000 to 2100 Monday-Saturday. In stores and shopping centres major credit cards are accepted.