Odisha UNRAVELLED

Discover Odisha's best kept secrets



Mahendragiri Hills



ABOUT KISS

KALINGA INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

2 MILLION

Our goal is to help over 2 million indigenous youth overcome social inequalities, like poverty, by empowering them with free quality education

Over 30,000 students at our main campus in Bhubaneswar, 15,000 alumni and 15000 students at various satellite centres across the State

Inspired by Community

Founded to ameliorate the sufferings of underserved indigenous communities, KISS was started in the 90's by philanthropist & educator, Dr. Achyuta Samanta, who himself suffered a childhood marred by poverty & deprivation.

Innovative at its Core

We offer a fully free residential model of quality holistic education from KG to PG, to over 30,000 students - central to this model is the indigenous control of education, where importance is given to preserving culture, heritage and traditions of tribal communities.

Impact Driven for Sustainability

Lauded for its unique vision and approach to indigenous education KISS has inaugurated campuses in Balangir, Baripada, Balasore & Kalahandi with additional branches being constructed in all 30 districts of Odisha, KISS has directly & indirectly impacted over 150,000 indigenous people

RANKED #189 AMONG THE **TOP 500** NGO'S OF THE WORLD

RANKED AMONG **TOP 10** NGO'S OF INDIA BY NGO ADVISOR, GENEVA

CONFERRED WITH **LEADERSHIP AWARD** BY NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCHEDULED TRIBEES IN 2019

IN 2018, KISS WON THE PRESTIGIOUS **18TH ENERGY GLOBE AWARD** AT THE PRESIDENTIAL PALACE IN TEHRAN, FIRE CATEGORY

KISS WINS PRESTIGIOUS UNESCO INTL. LITERACY PRIZE 2022

KISS won the prestigious UNESCO King Sejong Literacy Prize 2022 for its outstanding literacy programme based on the recommendations of an international jury.

The UNESCO King Sejong Literacy Prize is sponsored by the Government of the Republic of Korea and recognizes contributions to mother language-based literacy development. KISS has received the award in the category of 'Mother Tongue Based Multilingual Education' programme'.





ABOUT KIIT

KALINGA INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRIALTECHNOLOGY

KIIT is one of the first institutions in the State of Odisha to attract foreign students into its various academic programmes. KIIT has students from over 65 countries, including most of the South Asian Nations, proving its reputation as a quality institution of professional education that transcends borders.

Quick Facts

23	3,000+	27,000+	16	15	25
World Class Campuses	Faculty & Researchers	Students	Sports Complexes with Swimming Pools	Food Courts	Sq. km. Academic Township

Ranked 1
Top Rank among the private Higer Education Institutions
ARIIA · MoE

20th
Among Indian Universities Ranked by NIRF, Govt of India
nirf

601-800
THE World University Rankings 2023
THE World University Rankings 2023

A++ Grade
Accredited by NAAC

Tier 1
Accreditation
Washington Accord
NBA National Board of Accreditation

Accredited by
IET UK
IET The Institution of Engineering and Technology

India's First
QS 5 Star
Rated University
QS

ISAS Badge by IAU
International Association of Universities

301-350
THE Young University Rankings
THE Young University Rankings

201-300
THE Impact Rankings 2022
THE University Impact Rankings

401-500
THE Subject Ranking 2023
Engineering
THE World University Rankings 2023

301-400
THE Subject Ranking 2023
Computer Science
THE World University Rankings 2023

501-600
THE Subject Ranking 2023
Clinical & Health
THE World University Rankings 2023



23rd in Best Indian University (Overall)

KIIT Deemed to be University has been placed in the rank band of 201-250 in the overall category among Asian universities by Times Higher Education (THE) ranking of Asia's best universities for 2022. With this accolade, KIIT has emerged as the best in Eastern India, performing at par with the prestigious institutions in India like the IITs, NITs and other reputed universities.

TRAVEL TO ODISHA

INDIA'S BEST KEPT SECRET

Odisha is a state of India known for its rich heritage and lineage of vibrant and diverse culture. It is the 9th largest state of India by area, and the eleventh largest by population. For avid road-trippers and adventurers, Odisha is a dream come true with pristine beaches, dense forests, exotic wildlife, stunning waterbodies, serene hill stations and more.

5 AMAZING REASONS TO VISIT ODISHA

- Intricately carved temples & monuments
- Untouched serene beaches
- Stunning ecotourism & wildlife
- Glorious Cultural Heritage
- Extraordinary arts, crafts & artefacts

WHAT TO SEE



JAGANNATH TEMPLE

Odisha is known as the land of Lord Jagannath. The temple, built in the 12th Century AD, sees pilgrims flocking to Puri year-round. Constructed in such a way that no shadow of the temple falls on the ground at any time of the day, the temple is both a religious and architectural marvel.



KONARK SUN TEMPLE

This pinnacle of Odisha temple architecture is an UNESCO World heritage Site. Dedicated to the Sun God, this structure leaves one spellbound with its massive structure, symmetry, precision & intricate detailing.



SIMLIPAL NATIONAL PARK

Adorned with beautiful flora & fauna, this national park and tiger reserve in Mayurbhanj district of Odisha once used to be a hunting ground for the rules of the province. Now, this is India's largest wildlife sanctuary & an integral part of the country's Tiger Project.



EKAMRA HERITAGE WALK

This guided introductory walking tour of the ancient temples in the old town area ('Ekamra Kshetra') of Bhubaneswar offers an intimate, close-up look at Bhubaneswar's heritage through fascinating stories on temple architecture, history & mythology.



MAHENDRAGIRI HILLS

Located in Gajapati district of Odisha, Mahendragiri peak is the second highest peak of the Eastern Ghats, and Odisha's 2nd biodiversity Heritage Site, boasting dense forests & natural waterfalls, along with points of mythological & archaeological interest.



GAHIRAMATHA BEACH

Located in Kendrapara district of Odisha, this beach separates the Bhitarkanika mangroves from the Bay of Bengal, and is the world's most important nesting beach for Olive Ridley Sea Turtles. It is Odisha's only marine wildlife sanctuary



DARINGBADI, KANDHAMAL

Known as the Kashmir of Odisha, Daringbadi has unparalleled views of lush greenery with dense forests and scenic mountainous viewpoints located amidst the Eastern Ghat Ranges in Kandhamal.



CHANDRAGIRI MONASTERY

Chadragiri Buddhist monastery is one of India's most famous Buddhist temples, inaugurated in 2010 by His Highness the Dalai Lama. Situated in the lap of nature, amidst greenery & a waterfall, this monastery in Gajapati district of Odisha offers a glimpse of Tibetan culture.

TOP RATED HOTELS



TRIDENT HOTEL

Located approximately five kilometres from central Bhubaneswar and 20 mins from Biju Patnaik International Airport, this 5 star hotel is an oasis of old world luxury, set amidst landscaped gardens and fruit orchards



MAYFAIR LAGOON- BBSR

One of Bhubaneswar's top rated 5 star luxury hotels, Mayfair Lagoon embodies the core values of Eastern hospitality, with its unique architectural grandeur and exquisite environs.



HOTEL SANDY'S TOWER

Conveniently located in Jaydev Vihar (Bhubaneswar) only 8kms from the airport and railway station, this stunning 4 star property boasts lavish views and excellent amenities & service, making it one of the city's most recommended stays.



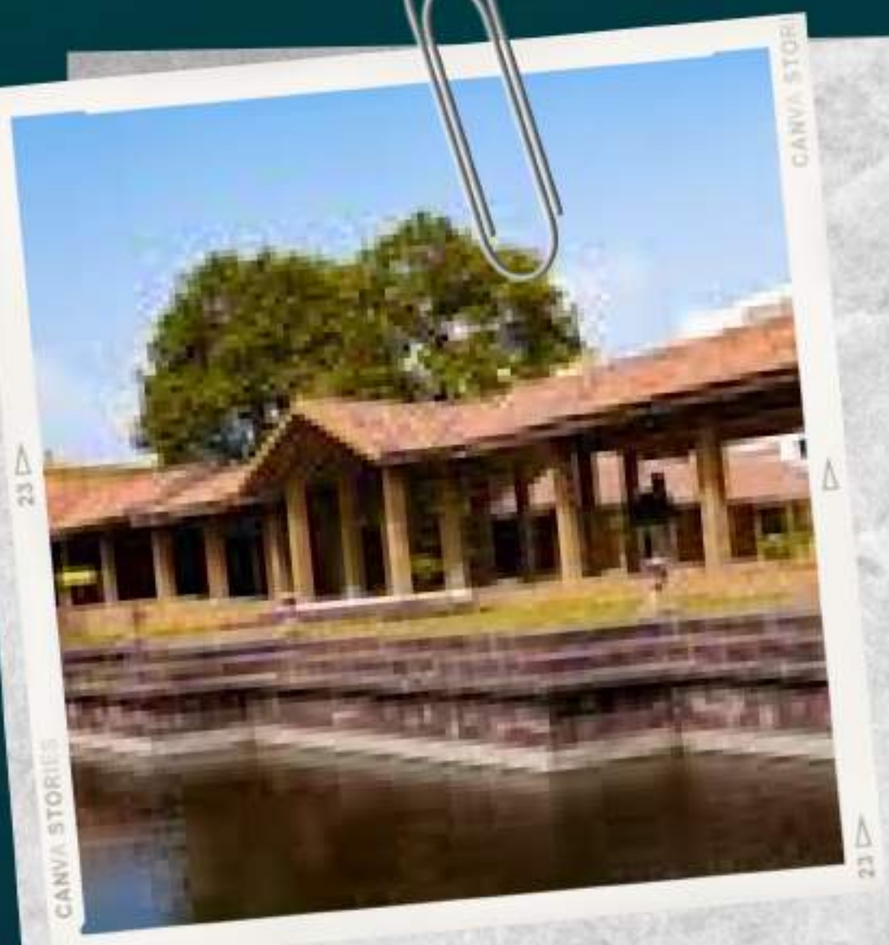
LOTUS RESORT

Surrounded by tropical land at the merging point of the Kushabhadra River and the Bay of Bengal, this sprawling eco retreat offers breathtaking views and private access to the Ramchandi beach. It offers quaint, comfortable beachside cottages in Konark, along with a range of delectable cuisines. It is located only 8km away from the 13th century Konark Sun Temple.

MAYFAIR HERITAGE, PURI

One of the best luxury hotels in Puri, with stunning views of the ocean from various parts of the property, with rooms, cottages and suites. Weeking Fig and almond trees aesthetically dot the beach front hotel and the premises contain a multitude of world class amenities to elevate one's experience.





Kalabhoomi Crafts Museum

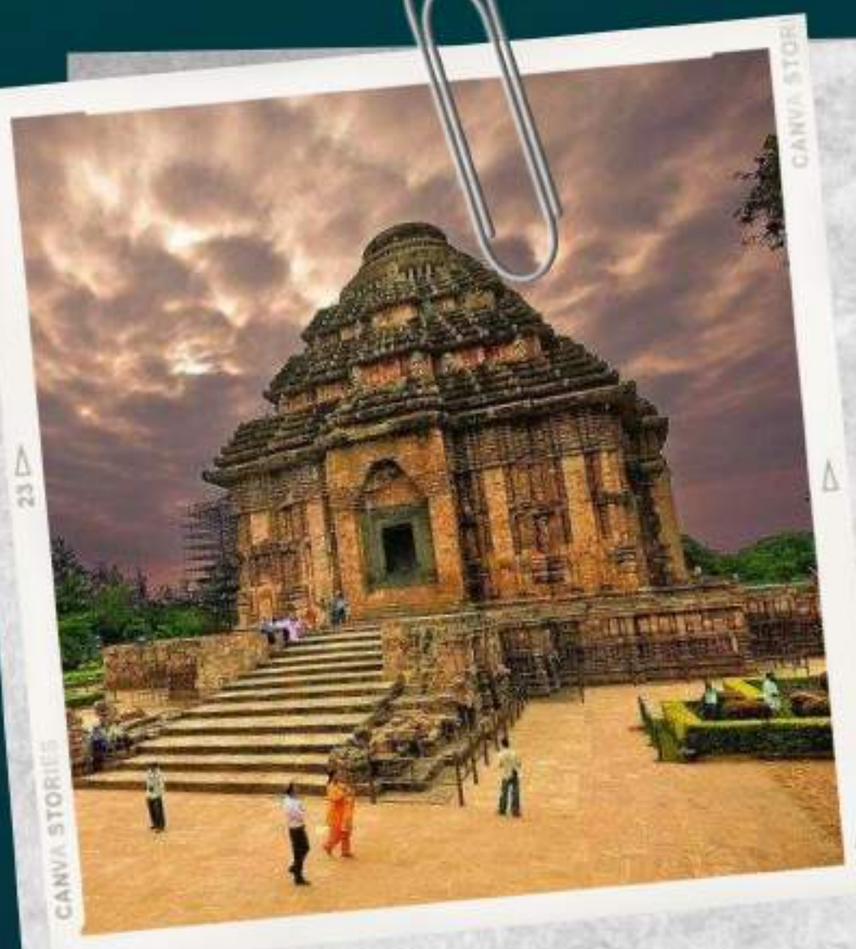
Discover the vibrant cultural tapestry of Odisha at Kalabhoomi, a captivating crafts museum celebrating the state's rich artistic heritage. Located in the heart of Bhubaneswar, Kalabhoomi offers a fascinating glimpse into the traditional crafts and artisanal techniques that have thrived in the region for centuries.

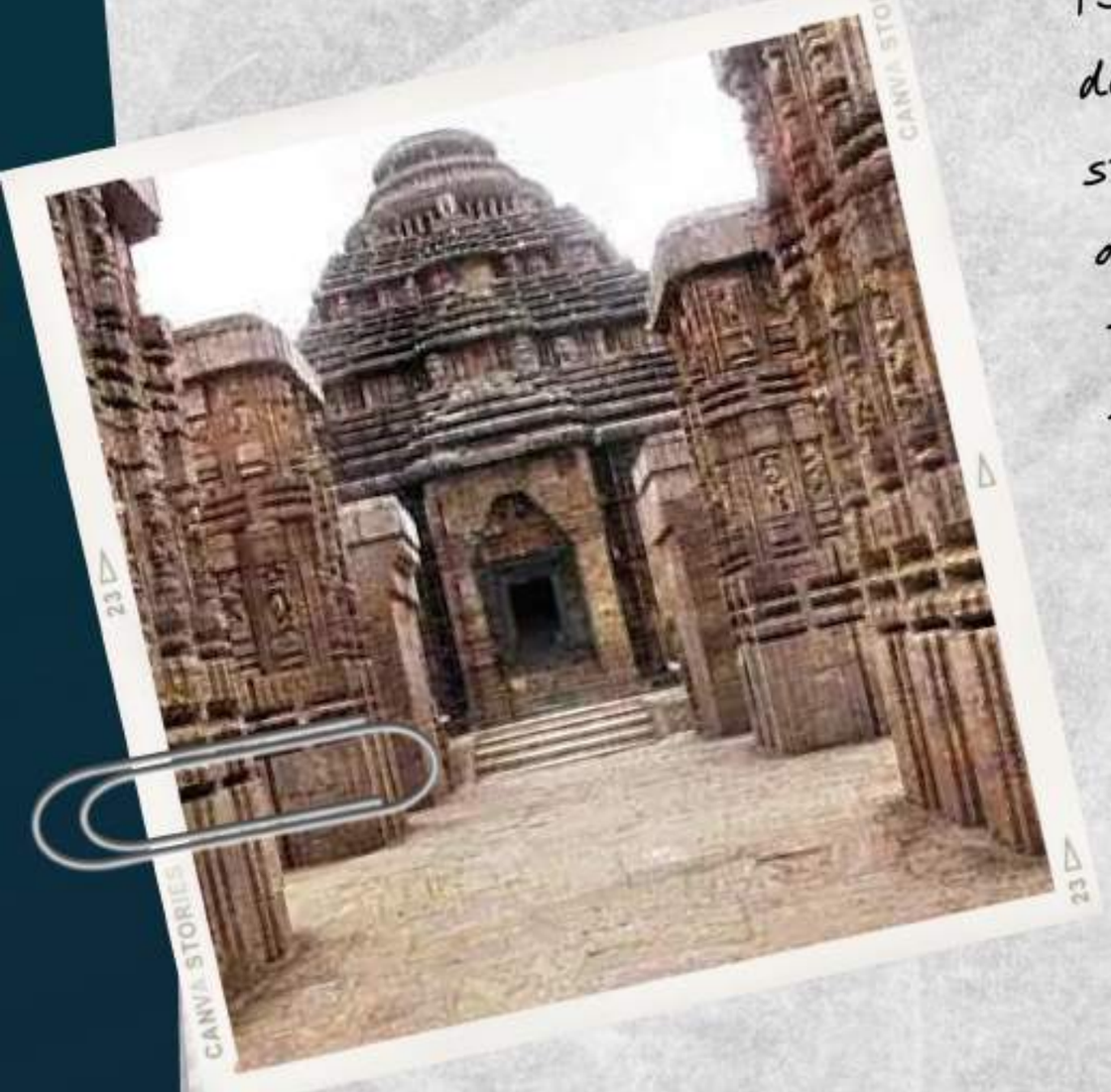


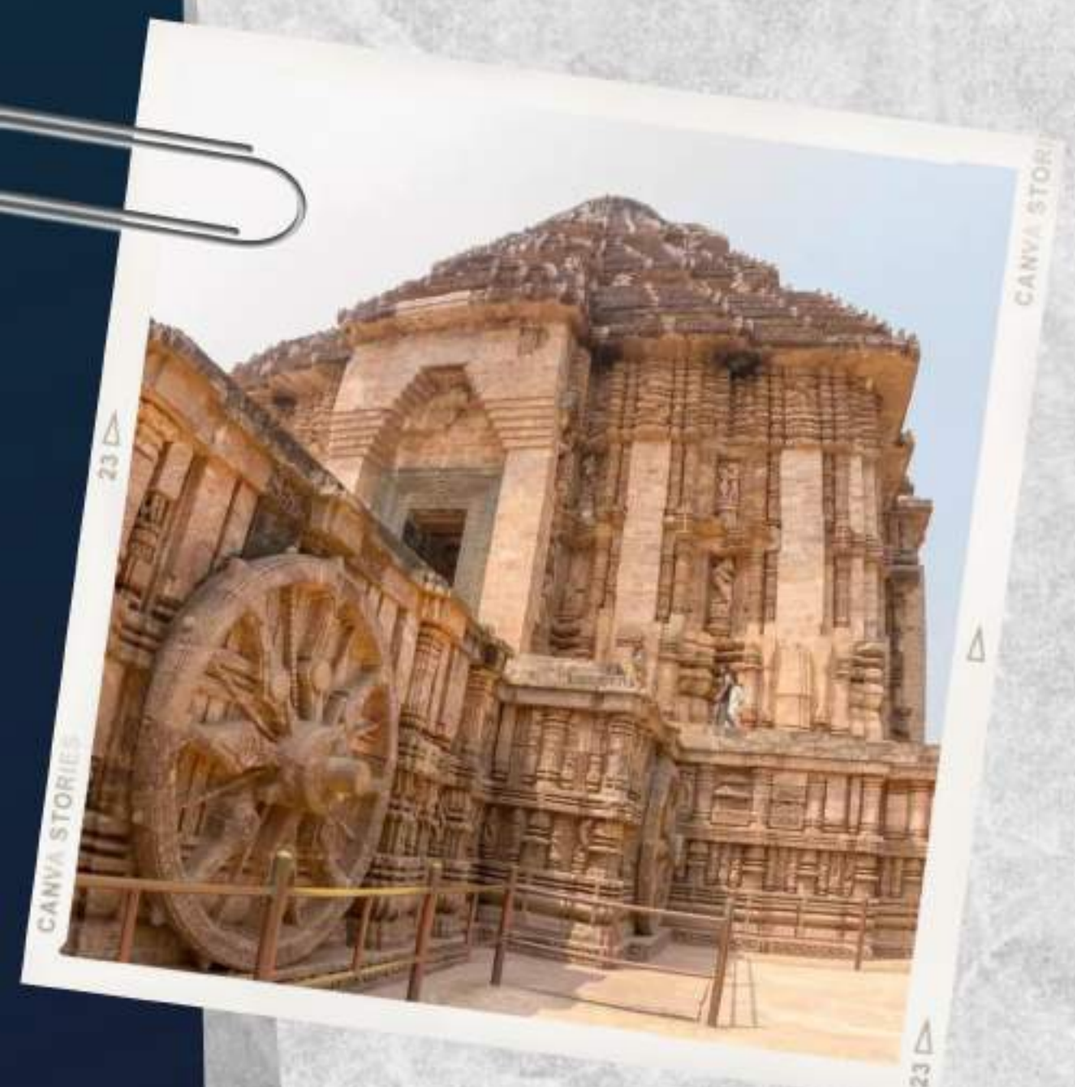
Step inside this cultural haven and be greeted by a treasure trove of handcrafted wonders, from intricate Pattachitra paintings to exquisite handloom textiles and intricately carved stone sculptures. Explore the various galleries and exhibits that showcase the diverse range of Odishan craftsmanship, each piece telling a story of tradition, innovation, and artistic mastery.



Immerse yourself in the immersive workshops and interactive displays that offer visitors a hands-on experience of Odisha's vibrant artisanal traditions. Whether you're admiring the skillful craftsmanship of local artisans or trying your hand at traditional crafts yourself, Kalabhoomi promises a memorable journey into the heart and soul of Odisha's rich cultural heritage.





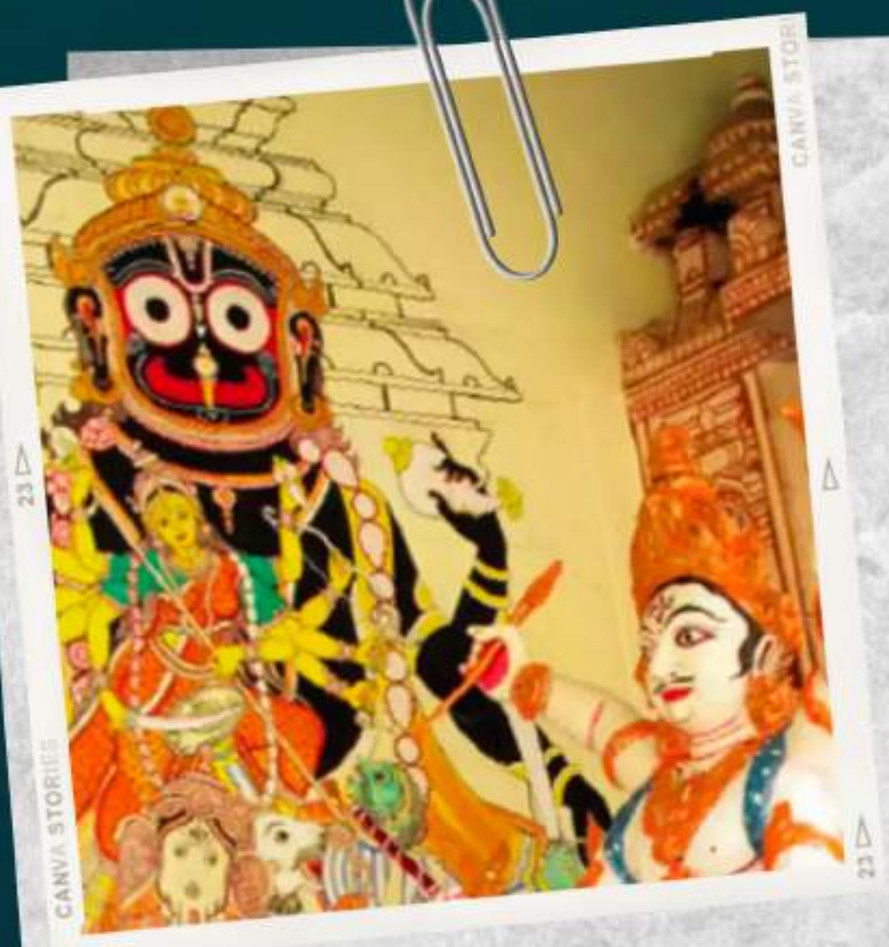


Konark Sun Temple

Experience the awe-inspiring grandeur of the Konark Sun Temple, a magnificent architectural gem nestled along Odisha's picturesque coastline. Dating back to the 13th century, this sacred marvel is dedicated to Surya, the Sun God, and stands as a testament to the ingenuity and artistic brilliance of ancient India. The unique architecture of the temple mimics the shape of Lord Surya's chariot.

As you wander through the temple complex, marvel at the intricate stone carvings and sculptures that adorn every surface, depicting celestial beings, mythological figures, and intricate motifs.

Bask in the tranquility of the surrounding landscape, where lush greenery provides a serene backdrop to this architectural wonder. Whether you're a history enthusiast, an architecture aficionado, or simply seeking a moment of spiritual solace, a visit to the Konark Sun Temple is sure to leave a lasting impression on your soul.



Raghurajpur Artist Village

Raghurajpur is a heritage crafts village in Puri district, known for its master Pattachitra painters, an art form which dates back to 5 BC in the region, and Gotipia dance troupes, the precursor to the Indian classical dance form of Odissi.



This quaint heritage art village, nestled about 10k away from the pilgrim city of Puri, underwent an artistic makeover as part of a unique mural competition by Odisha Lalit Kala Akademi in 2021.

The pandemic induced lockdown had curtailed the livelihood of many of artisans residing in Raghurajpur. This 5-day mural competition saw artisans transform the walls and façades of their homes into canvases for murals, making the competition a successful attempt to revive the arts village and artistically with beautifully intricate Pattachitra art.



A remuneration of INR 10,000 was provided by the Akademi to ach family that participated in the competition and five best artworks were selected for special awards.



Mangalajodi Bird Sanctuary

Best visited between November and March, Mangalajodi is an old village in Tangi, Khorda district of Odisha, situated at the north-eastern edge of Chilika Lake. Less than 2 hours drive away from Bhubaneswar, this village is trying to pave the path for sustainable tourism in Odisha.



20 years ago, this same village was rife with bird poachers, and there were merely 5,000 birds in peak season. Today, however, the situation has been reversed through concerted efforts by the Indian government and concerned conservationists. Poachers have turned protectors, and the villagers are actively involved in tracking and monitoring bird numbers, with around 4-5 lakh resident & migratory birds gathering here.

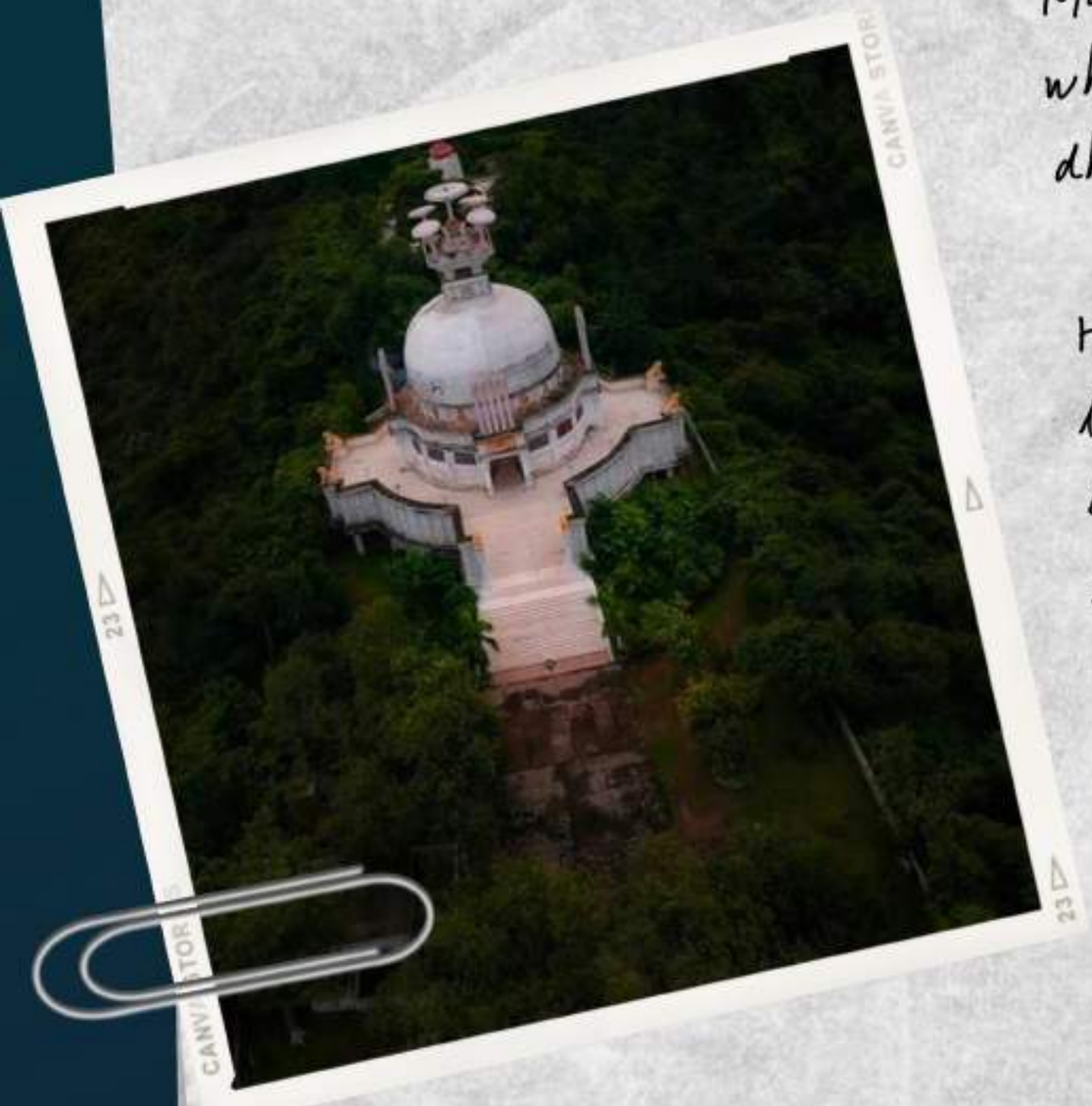


The villagers offer 2 hour tours in small, sleek flat-bottomed boats called Naukas/Dongas, guiding tourists through the brackish water lanes, enlightening them on bird species and origins, and helping them capture the best photographs. Tours start as early as 6am and the last one leaves at around 4pm. It is the only place in India where large flocks of different species of colourful birds can be seen from close proximity of boat.



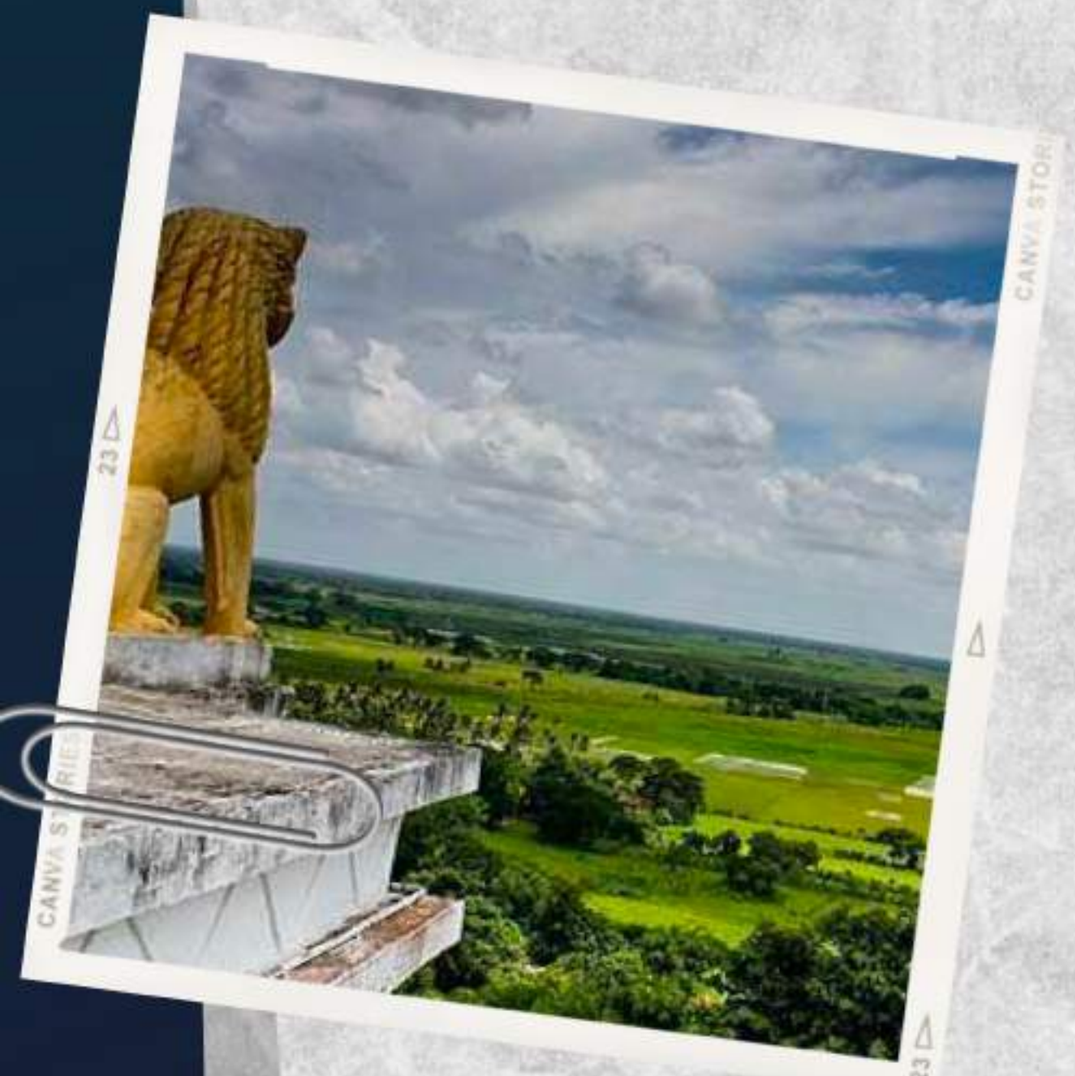
Dhauli shanti stupa

The shanti stupa of Dhauligiri is also known as the White Peace Pagoda. Located 7km outside the city limits of Bhubaneswar, Dhauligiri Hills are marked by the serenity of the Daya River, and are famous for the rock edicts of the Maurya Dynasty's legendary King Ashoka, who is said to have adopted the path of dharma at Dhauli Hills.



Historically, this marked the end of the long and bloody Battle of Kalinga, and beginning Ashoka's long-lasting legacy of serving mankind and spreading Buddhism far and wide in Odisha, India and beyond.

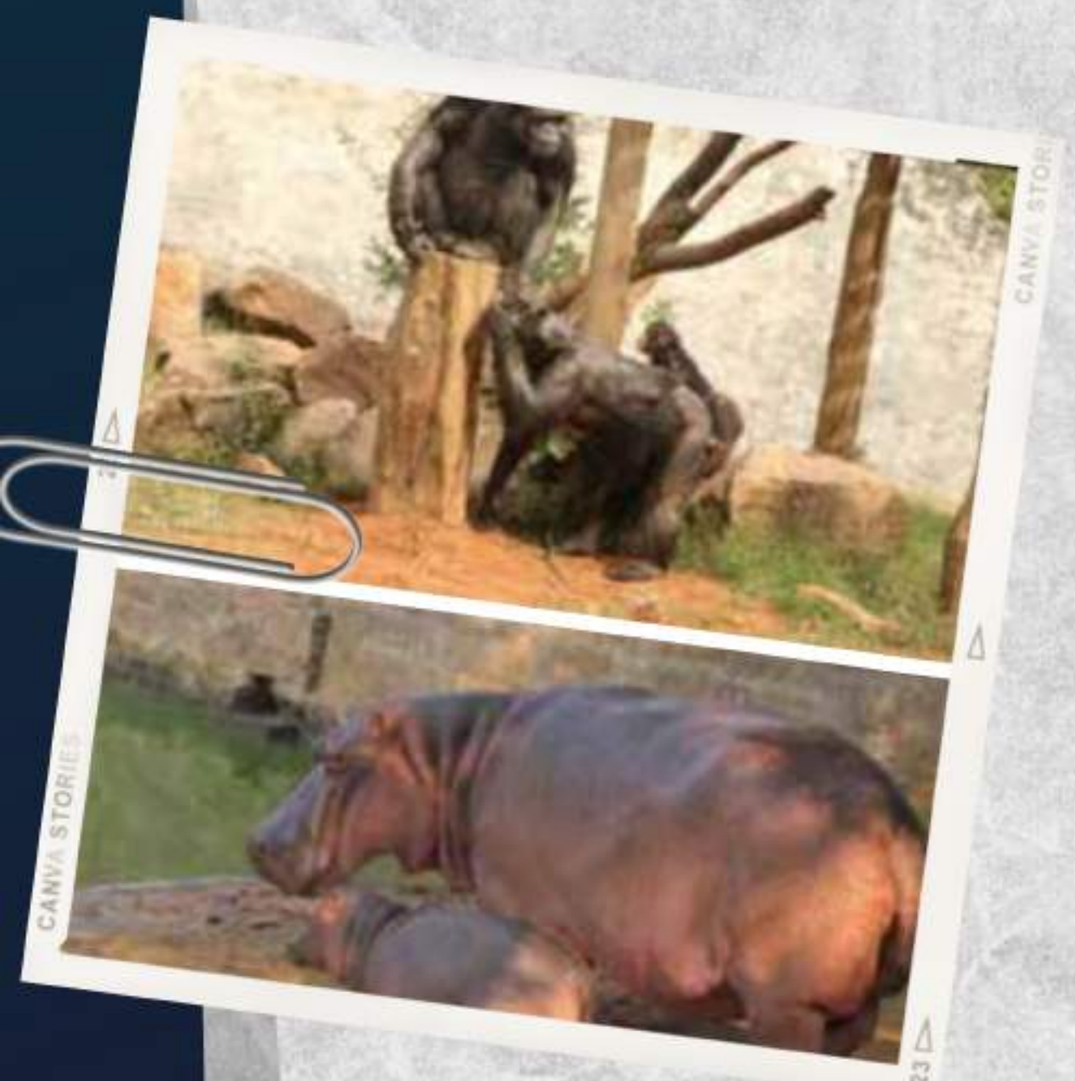
The dome structure of the shanti stupa possesses five umbrellas that symbolise five essential parts of Buddhism. These edicts shed much light on the miraculous transformation of a Great King from a ruthlessly ambitious warrior to a benevolent and highly evolved soul dedicating his later life to Buddhist way of life. The inscriptions on these rocks are clear even after 2000 years.



This popular tourist attraction is now the site of a daily light and sound show - a perfect amalgamation of art and multimedia technology - that recreates epic scenes from Dhauli's eventful past.





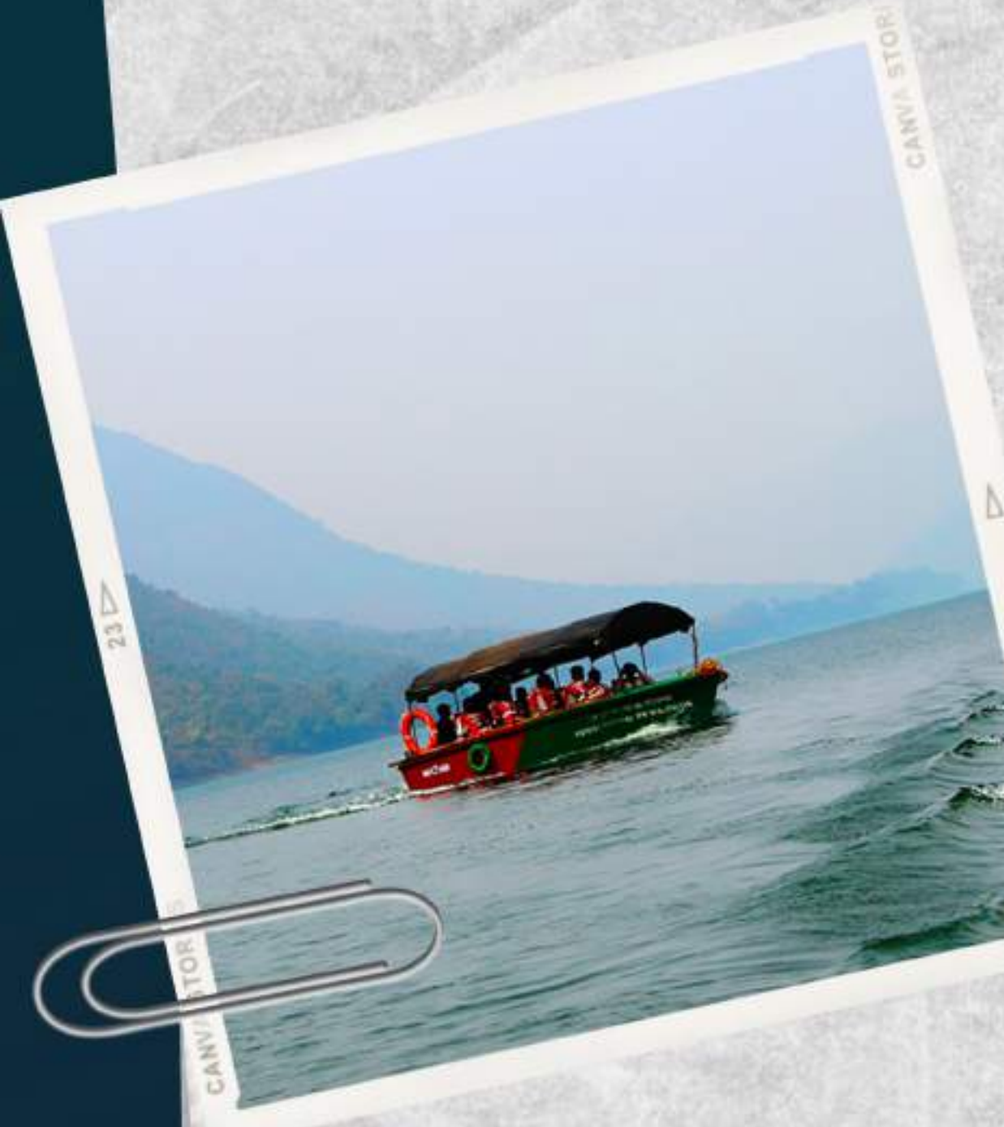


Nandankanan Zoological Park

Nandankanan Zoological park has had a very interesting beginning. In 1960, some wild animals from different parts of the state were sent for the World Agricultural Fair organised in New Delhi. After the end of the fair, the animals were returned to the state, and housed near Khandagiri Hils, and exhibited to the public. To mitigate the water scarcity and associated management issues there, the then Chief Minister, Dr. Gare Krushna Mahatab and Minister for Development, Dr. Radhanath Rath along with senior Forest officials, decided to establish a zoo on the bank of the Kanjia lake. This zoo is what we now know as Nandankanan - literally meaning "Garden of God".

The zoological park, together with the Kajia lake and state botanical garden is spread over an area of 4.37 sq. km and has emerged as a prominent and vibrant cetnre for biodiversity conservation and environmental education, spearheading many improvements to provide highest standards in hosing, husbandry and healthcare to the animals and endangered species it houses. With more than 3 million annual visitors, it his a pioneer in breeding endangered species like the gharial, Indian pangolin, and rated, and hosted the country's 1st white tiger safari in 1991. It is also the 1st zoo in the world where melanistic tigers were born. (2014) and displayed to visitors.







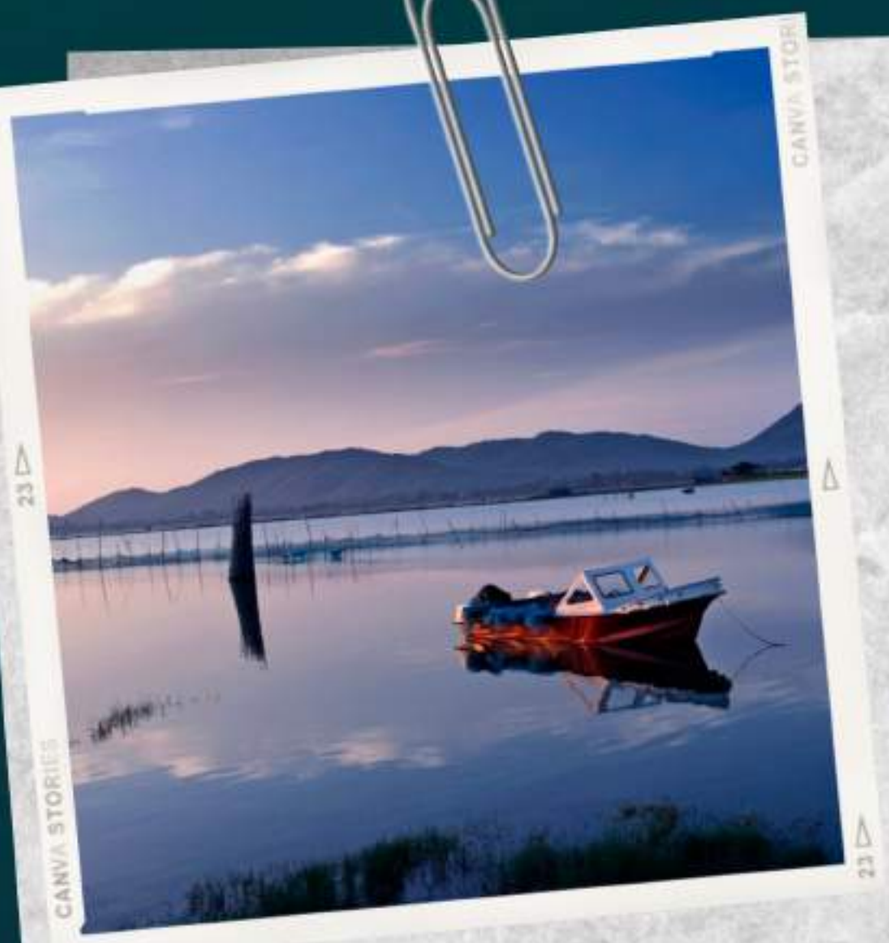
Satkosia Gorge & Tiger Reserve

The Satkosia Gorge Sanctuary covers parts of Angul, Dhenkanal, Cuttack, Boudh and Nayagarh districts of Odisha.

The Mahanadi flowing through a gorge stretching 22 KM makes for an awe inspiring sight. The Satkosia Tiger Reserve encompasses an area of 963.87 Sq KM, once it was a part of AbhayaAranya (Unending Forest range) which connected Odisha to Central India. The name satkosia literally means 7 Kos (a unit of distance measurement. Usually 1 Kos – 1.3 KM depending on the region). It is also known as the Gorge sanctuary. The place is bursting with flora and fauna and is a coveted destination for the nature lovers.

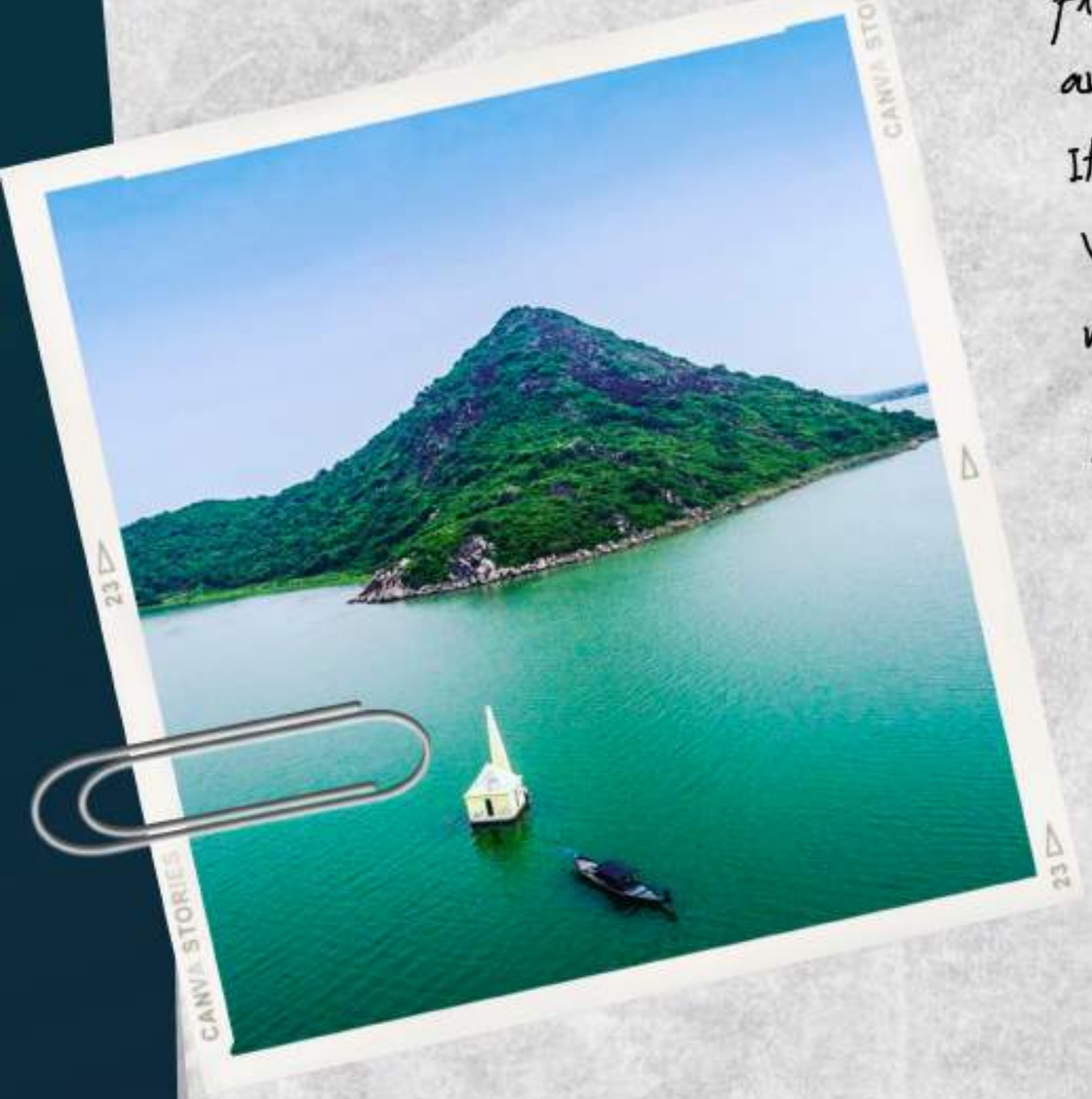
Satkosia Tiger Reserve hosts some attractive tourism destinations with night stay at multiple points within the sanctuary, each showcasing a unique characteristics of this beautiful haven.

see the rarest of nature's avian beauties through birding or get up close and personal with nature on organised treks, soak in leisure and breathtaking views of the gorge while boating.



Chilika Lake

Chilika lake is a brackish water lagoon, spread over the Puri, Khurda and Ganjam districts of Odisha state on the east coast of India, at the mouth of Daya River, flowing into the Bay of Bengal, covering an area of over 1,100 square kilometres. It is the biggest lake of India after Vembanad Lake. It is also the largest wintering ground for migratory waterfowl found anywhere on the Indian sub-continent, and is also home to a number of threatened species of plants and animals listed in the IUCN Red List of threatened Animals inhabit in the lagoon for atleast part of their life cycle.



While the lake is a beauty in itself, there are several places around its vicinity which are worthwhile to visit as well. Situated on the east coast of India, and connected to the Bay of Bengal through a narrow sea mouth, Chilika is also a lagoon.



Birdwatching is the main draw at this brackish coastal lagoon. The lake, which has been listed as a tentative UNESCO World Heritage site, is also home to rare and endangered Irrawaddy dolphins.

DR ACHYUTA SAMANTA

Hon'ble Founder, KIIT & KISS



Dr Samanta's 4K Focus



KIIT

One of India's most sought after private universities



KISS

Free Residential school for 80k indigenous children



KALARABANKA

One of India's 1st resilient smart villages



KANDHAMAL

Dr. Samanta's parliamentary constituency

DR. SAMANTA'S CAUSES

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT & PEACE

LITERATURE, CULTURE, MEDIA & SPIRITUALISM

PROMOTION OF SPORTS

HEALTH & WELL-BEING

AID & RELIEF WORK

DR. SAMANTA'S SOCIAL WELFARE INITIATIVES

1. **The Art of Giving**

   A social movement to promote kindness, compassion and generosity in society. It encourages people to give in all forms, not just material things, and promotes the idea that giving can bring peace and happiness to both the giver and the receiver.

2. **Kanya Kiran**

   An initiative that focuses on creating a safe environment for girls and promoting education to empower them. The program aims to eradicate sexual violence against girls and bring awareness about the importance of education for their overall development. Etymologically, it means girls are like rays of the sun.

3. **Education for All**

   An initiative that emphasizes the importance of quality education and strives to ensure that every child has access to it. The program aims to remove barriers to education, such as poverty, lack of infrastructure and promote a culture of learning.

4. **Health Empowerment for Rural Odisha (HERO)**

   An initiative to provide quality healthcare in rural areas of Odisha to bring it to par with its urban counterparts. It aims to reach the unreached and focuses on building health infrastructure, training healthcare professionals and conducting health campus to offer better services to rural communities.

5. **India Against Negativity**

   A forum for positive-minded people who want to combat negativity and promote positivity in society, this forum allows like-minded positive people to congregate and raise their voices to empower victims suffering at the hand of negativism.

6. New Mind New Dreams

An initiative that promotes awareness about education, health, human rights, sanitation, and hygiene among marginalised children and people. The program aims to empower children and people to see and achieve their dreams.

7. Art of Appreciation

A movement to promote happiness and positivity by appreciating the good qualities of people and things around us. The program encourages people to focus on the positive aspects of their lives and appreciate the good deeds. ofothers.

8. Kalinga Fellowship

The Kalinga Fellowship, in collaboration with Bridge Institute, Singapore, is an international program that focuses on eradicating sexual harassment against women. The program offers fellowships to individuals and organizations that work towards empowering women and promoting gender equality.

9. Parliamentarians for Indigenous People's Empowerment

A group of lawmakers who work towards empowering indigenous people, to promote the rights of indigenous people, protect their cultural heritage and provide them with necessary resources to improve their standards of living.