

10 Amazing Things to Do in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands

Sprinkled in the Bay of Bengal, Andaman and Nicobar Islands is a little slice of heaven on Earth. Enclosed in serenity and tranquility, it is hard to describe the beauty of Andaman. The crystal blue waters, idyllic beaches, coconut trees, and fascinating wildlife in the rain forest delight visitors and will leave you mesmerized. This unspoiled jewel invites travelers to soak in the pleasure of pristine beaches, feel the turquoise water at the feet and get awestruck by the picturesque sight around. Are you still not convinced? Here is a list of the amazing things to do that will give you a fulfilling experience during your trip to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Witness the Historic Cellular Jail, Port Blair

Located at the heart of Port Blair, Cellular Jail takes us to the dark era of the British rule in India. It is the mute witness of the atrocious punishments meted out to the Indian freedom fighters, who were prisoners in the jail. Previously, Cellular Jail had seven wings with each connected to the main tower in the center. Subsequently, the structure is damaged with only three out of the seven wings intact. In the present time, the jail is declared a National Memorial and give visitors a glimpse of the freedom struggles by Indian revolutionaries and leaders. Witness the iconic light and sound show that will take you through the dark history of Cellular Jail.

Watch the Sunset at Chidiya Tapu

One of the most amazing things to do in the Andaman Islands is to witness the spectacular sunset at Chidiya Tapu. Located at the southernmost point of South Andaman, Chidiya Tapu is often regarded as the best sunset spot in the entire island. The perfect mix of shimmering waves, chirpy birds, and charming sight along with the sunset view makes this place no less than a paradise.

The mangrove forest at Chidiya Tapu was largely affected by the Tsunami in 2004. However, the driftwood formations caused, as a result, enhance the beauty and add an unspoken charm to this place. No wonder, Chidiya Tapu leaves an imprint on the soul of visitors.

Immerse in the Rich History of Ross Island

Nestled in the Bay of Bengal, Ross Island is an abandoned settlement at a distance of two kilometers from Port Blair. Earlier it used to be the administrative headquarters for the British. But

unfortunately, the island wreaked havoc after it was hit by an earthquake in the year 1941. The colonial ruins are of great historical importance and add grace to this heritage site. Today, Ross Island is a humble abode with the soothing symphony of nature. It welcomes fellow travelers who want to spend some tranquil moments in nature's lap. You also get to witness deer and peacocks who roam around freely on the island.

Engage in Water Activities at North Bay Island

The tropical paradise is the hotspot for aqua adventures. And when we talk about water sports in the Andaman, North Bay tops the chart. It is one of the most popular islands known for brain corals. As this enchanting island offers fun water sports, it holds a special place in the hearts of adventure junkies. The key activities here are scuba diving, sea-walking, snorkeling, and glass bottom boat ride. They allow you to take a step closer to the aquatic world. Other significant activities are jet-ski and speedboat rides. A trip to the Andaman is indeed incomplete without engaging in these water activities at North Bay Island.

PLACE (North Bay Island) PHOTO HERE

Enjoy A Glass Bottom Boat Ride at Jolly Buoy Island

Set up in Mahatma Gandhi Marine Park, Jolly Buoy is one gem of an island. It is all about turquoise water, verdant greenery, idyllic beaches, and stunning corals. From Wandoor Beach, the island is only accessible by boat. The journey to Jolly Buoy Island is incredibly beautiful. It is an hour boat-ride through azure water and dense forest. During the monsoon season, Jolly Buoy Island is closed for six months (April – September). Savor the underwater coral view by engaging in a glass bottom boat ride. Usually, this activity is for a short duration. However, if visitors are willing to explore more of the underwater world, they can hire a boat all by themselves and enjoy. Apart from corals, you also get to witness colorful fish and other aquatic creatures. Spend some time on Jolly Buoy Island and let the magic of this place seep into the soul.

Day Trip to the Limestone Cave, Baratang

Andaman is no less than a wonderland and the charm of mangroves, caves, and forests often becomes secondary when compared to white sandy beaches. If you are seeking for a pure forest experience, head to Baratang Island. The journey is quite thrilling as one has to pass through Jirkitang, the reserve forest area for Jarawa tribe. Baratang Island is known for its natural wonder, the Limestone Cave. This cave is formed over millions of years of various deposits of shells, corals and other marine animals. In order to reach the cave, visitors need to pass through mangrove creeks and tranquil water. This boat ride is equally beautiful as the cave. The natural formations hanging down from the top have taken interesting shapes that are an absolute treat to the eyes. The interiors of the cave are dark so carry your torchlight with you.

Walk Along the Cleanest Beach in Asia, Radhanagar Beach

Your search for paradise ends at Radhanagar Beach, Havelock Island. In 2004, it has been awarded the title of Asia's best beach by Times Magazine and it remains a pristine spot. A tropical vacation in the Andaman is incomplete without getting a glimpse of the Radhanagar Beach. This unspoiled beach bordered with swaying palms, white powdery sand and emerald water will soothe the eyes as well as the soul. A walk through the stunning coastline of Radhanagar Beach is an absolute bliss that you cannot really miss during your Andaman holidays.

Indulge in Scuba Diving at Havelock Island

Havelock Island is all about idyllic beaches, crystal clear water, and pretty sight teamed with vibrant aquatic life. Indulging in the thrilling activity of scuba diving in this magical land is something that you will cherish forever. Unless you are suffering from a chronic disorder, there is no age or fitness limit when it comes to scuba diving on this island. You will be provided with a pair of fins and a mask so that you can witness the exotic underwater world. Scuba diving at Havelock is completely safe as it is strictly performed under the supervision of experienced instructors. This is truly a rewarding experience and it is advisable to not miss this fantastic opportunity when you are here.

Get a Closer Look at Marine life in Laxmanpur Beach 2, Neil Island

Laxmanpur Beach no.2 is a treasure trove for nature lovers. It is well known for its coral formations and spectacular marine life. The shallow water makes it easier for travelers to get a closer look at

the colorful corals and other marine creatures namely sea cucumbers, snails, starfish to name a few.

Another key attraction here is the rocky formation, popularly known as the Howrah Bridge. However, the coral points and the Howrah Bridge can only be witnessed during low tide. Embrace the captivating serenity and get to know more about the underwater world when you are here.

Witness Magnificent Sunrise at Sitapur Beach, Neil Island

Situated at the tip of Neil Island, Sitapur Beach is perfect for sunrise view. The journey through green fields and forests leading to the beach is also beautiful. The magical sunrise with an enchanting backdrop and lush views is something that you cannot really miss when you are here. The best way to relish this fascinating sight is to walk barefoot along the white sandy stretch and let the calm waves touch the feet.

Best Time to Visit the Andaman and Nicobar Islands

Andaman and Nicobar have a tropical climate that attracts visitors throughout the year. However, the best time to visit the island is from October to February when the weather is pleasant and ideal for sightseeing, beach tours, and water activities. The summer months, starting from late February till June is unbearably hot and humid. Monsoon in Andaman lasts from May until September when the waves are unpredictable and not advisable for a trip.

Getting to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands

Andaman is well connected to mainland India by flights as well as ships. There are frequent flights to Port Blair from major cities of Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata, Bangalore, Chennai, and Vishakhapatnam. Also, there are a few ships that sail every month from Chennai and Kolkata. The voyage usually takes three to four days of time. Traveling by ship is a thrilling journey for the adults but is not advisable when you are with kids. For getting around Andaman, there are government as well as private ferries available. These ferries connect Port Blair to the other Andaman Islands. The private ferry ticket bookings can be made online. But Government ferry tickets can be done by queuing up in the counter four to five days before the trip.

Visit Andaman Islands, India

So what are you waiting for? Just book your tickets to the Andaman Islands and Nicobar Islands and indulge in these memorable activities to delight the wanderlust soul.

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- Andaman and Nicobar Tourism, <https://www.andamantourism.gov.in/>
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