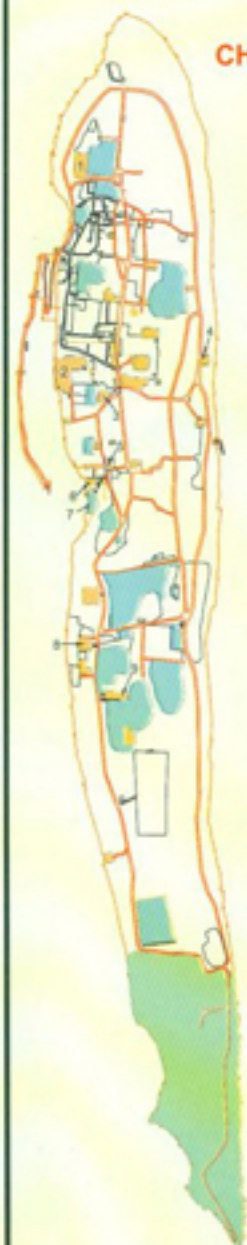


SITE PLAN OF CHITTAURGARH FORT



1. Ratan Singh Palace
2. Kumbha Palace
3. Kumbhaswamin Temple
4. Jain Kirti Stambh
5. Kirti Stambh (Vijay Stambh)
6. Samadhisvar Temple
7. Gaumukh Kund
8. Kalika Mata Temple
9. Padmini Palace



Visiting Hours : Daily Sunrise to Sunset

Entry Fee

Indian : Rs. 5/-
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Chittaurgarh Fort



**Archaeological Survey of India
Jaipur Circle, Jaipur**

Chittaurgarh Fort

Chittaurgarh Fort, the ancient Chitrakuta Durga occupies a place of pride in the history of Rajput chivalry and remained important seat of power from 7th to 16th cent. A.D. Covering an area of about 700 acres, the fort stands on a 152 mt. high hill and is said to be built by Chitrangad of the Mori dynasty in 7th cent. A.D. It has been a witness to the rulers of several dynasties such as the Mori or Mauryas (7-8th cent. AD), Pratiharas (9-10th cent. AD), Paramaras (10-11th cent. AD), Solankis (12th cent. AD) and lastly by Guhilots or Sisodias. During its long history, the fort suffered three sacks, the first in 1303 AD by Ala-ud-din Khilji, the second in 1535 AD by Bahadur Shah of Gujarat and the third by the Mughal Emperor Akbar in 1567-68 AD and each time the jauhar was performed. Its eventful history and rich monumental heritage is characterized by strong fortification, gateways, bastions, palaces, temples, towers and reservoirs which are fine examples of Rajput architecture.

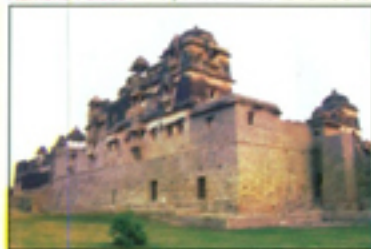


Gateways: The fort has seven gateways, the first is known as Padal Pol followed by Bhairav Pol, Hanuman Pol, Ganesh Pol, Joria Pol, Lakshman Pol and finally Ram Pol which was built in 1459 AD. The gateway located on the eastern side of the fort is known as Suraj Pol.

Kirtti Stambh: This magnificent tower locally known as Vijay Stambh was built by Maharana Kumbha in 1448 AD. Dedicated to Lord Vishnu, the tower is 37.19 mt. high and is divided into nine storeys. The inscription in the uppermost storey giving detailed chronological account of life and achievements of rulers of Chittaur was taken up by Rana Kumbha's court scholar Abri which was later completed by his son Mahesh. One can reach upto the top storey through internally arranged flight of steps. Names of

architect of this tower sutradhar Jaits with his three sons Napa, Puja and Poma are carved in the fifth Storey.

Kumbha Palace: The palace derives its name after



Maharana Kumbha (1433-68 AD) who undertook extensive repairs to the old edifices. The entrance to the palace is through two gateways known as Badi Pol and Tripolia Gate leading further to Suraj Gokhra, Zanana Mahal, Kanwarpada-ka-Mahal in the open courtyard. The palaces of Pannadhai and Meerabai are situated in the premises of the palace.

Padmini Palace: Named after Rani Padmini, the beautiful queen of Rana Ratan Singh, the palace stands at the northern periphery of the Padmini talab. It is said that it was from here Ala-ud-Din Khilji took a glimpse of legendary beauty of Rani Padmini through a mirror and later on attacked the fort. A three



storeyed pavilion known as Jal Mahal stands in the middle of the pond.

Ratan Singh Palace: Located along the Ratneshwar talab, this palace is attributed to Rana Ratan Singh II (1528-31 A.D.). It is rectangular on plan and comprises a courtyard surrounded by rooms and a pavilion with balcony on the eastern part of the second storey.

Kalika Mata Temple: Built by Raja Manbhanga in the 8th century AD, the temple was originally dedicated to Surya which is evident from the image of Surya carved in the centre of doorjamb of the sanctum. It has undergone renovations from time to time. It consists of a garbhagriha, an antarala, a closed mandapa and a porch. Presently, Kalika Mata or goddess Kali is worshipped as principal deity in the temple.

Samadhisishvar Temple: Dedicated to Lord Shiv, the temple was built by Bhoj Paramara in early 11th



century AD. Later on Mokal renovated it in 1428 AD. The temple consists of a garbhagriha, an antarala and a gudha-mandapa with mukh/mandapa (entrance porch) on all the three faces on northern, western and southern sides. A colossal image of three faced Shiv is enshrined in the sanctum.

Kumbhaswamin Temple: Originally dedicated to Varah (the boar incarnation of Vishnu) the temple was built in 8th century AD and largely renovated by Maharana Kumbha (1433-68 AD). It is built on a raised plinth and consists of a garbhagriha, an antarala, a mandapa, an ardhmandapa and an open



pradakshinapath. An image of Varah is shown in the principal niche on the back of the shrine. In front of the temple is an image of Garuda under a canopy. On the north, there is a small shrine known as Meera Mandir.

Jain Kirtti Stambh : This six storeyed tower



having a height of 24.50 mt. is dedicated to Adinath, the first Jain Tirthankar. It was built by *Shresthi* Jija in AD 1300. The tower is built on a raised platform and has internally arranged system of flight of steps. In the lower storey, images of standing Adinath are depicted on all the four cardinal directions whereas upper storeys contain

hundreds of miniature images.

Gaumukh Kund : Situated south of Samadhishvar temple, it is a large, deep, rock-cut tank of irregular oblong shape. A perennial underground stream of crystal clear water flows into it from a small natural cave through a "Gaumukh" (cow's head shaped out let).

