

Knowledge Roots

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Delhi

Delhi, the capital city of India, is a vibrant metropolis city in history and culture. Delhi is a mix of diverse cultures, languages, and cuisines, offering an adventure for food enthusiasts. The city's rich heritage, dynamic arts scene, and political significance make it a multifaceted destination that appeals to tourists, scholars, and seekers of history and culture.

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Geography

It is situated in the northern region of the Indian subcontinent.

The geographical coordinates of Delhi are approximately 28.6139 degrees North latitude and 77.2090 degrees East longitude.

Delhi is a landlocked city, and it shares its borders with the states of Haryana to the north, west, and south and with Uttar Pradesh to the east. It is strategically positioned on the west bank of the Yamuna River. The Yamuna River, one of the major tributaries of the Ganges, flows along the eastern side of Delhi.

Delhi has witnessed the rise and fall of several empires, including the Mauryas, Mughals, and the British. Each period has left its mark on the city's landscape, evident in its numerous forts, monuments, and ancient ruins.

Delhi covers an area of 1,483 sq. km, accounting for 0.05% of the country's geographical area.

The topography of Delhi is relatively flat, with some undulating terrain. The city has seen significant expansion and urbanization over the years, resulting in a mix of residential, commercial, and green areas. Delhi has several green spaces and parks, providing recreational areas for residents and visitors.

Climate

The city experiences a continental climate with significant temperature variations between seasons. Summers can be scorching, and winters can be chilly, while the monsoon season provides relief from the heat but introduces increased humidity.

Delhi State's Symbols

State Tree

Flamboyant or Gulmohar is the state tree of Delhi

State Flower

Alfalfa is a perennial flowering plant, is the state flower of Delhi.



State Animal

Blue Bull or Nilgai is a sturdy, thin-legged antelope, is the state animal of Delhi.



State Bird

House Sparrow or Goraya is the state bird of Delhi.



Natural Vegetation

The natural vegetation of Delhi included elements of tropical thorn forest, which is typical of arid and semi-arid regions.

The landscape featured scrub vegetation, consisting of hardy, low-growing plants adapted to the semi-arid climate.

Delicacies of Delhi

Delhi with its rich history and diverse culture, offers a vibrant culinary scene. The city is known for its eclectic mix of traditional Indian dishes and international cuisines.

1. Paranthé Wali Gali in Old Delhi is famous for its stuffed Paranthas. These paranthas come in a variety of fillings, including potato, paneer, and mixed vegetables, and are often served with yogurt and pickles.
2. Delhi's chaat, a savory and spicy snack include Aloo tikki chaat and Papri chaat, Bhalla Papdi, Dahi Puri, and Raj Kachori, etc. Chandni Chowk, one of Delhi's oldest and busiest markets, is renowned for its street food.
3. The kebabs, especially the seekh kebabs and mutton korma, are highly acclaimed.



4. Delhi is often credited with the invention of Butter Chicken. This creamy and flavorful dish has become a global favorite.
5. A classic North Indian dish, Chole Bhature consists of spicy chickpeas served with deep-fried bread. This hearty dish is a favorite for breakfast or brunch.
6. The streets of Delhi offer a variety of biryanis, each with its unique flavor profile. Whether it's chicken, mutton, or vegetarian biryani, you can find delicious options across the city.
8. Delhi is famous for its creamy and rich kulfis. You can find a variety of flavors, including malai, pista, mango, and more, at popular kulfi joints across the city.



Dialects of Delhi

Delhi, being a melting pot of cultures and a city with a diverse population, exhibits a linguistic diversity reflected in various dialects and languages spoken by its residents.

The prominent dialects and languages spoken in Delhi are Hindi, Punjabi, Urdu, English, Bengali, Etc.

Musical instruments used in Delhi

Delhi, with its diverse cultural heritage, has a rich tradition of music. Various musical instruments are used in Delhi across different genres, including classical, folk, and contemporary music.

- ❖ **Tabla** is a classical Indian percussion instrument widely used in North Indian classical music.
- ❖ The **harmonium**, a keyboard instrument that produces sound by blowing air through reeds.



- ❖ **Sitar** is a stringed instrument with a long neck and a gourd-shaped body. It is commonly used in Hindustani classical music.
- ❖ The **Sarod** is a stringed instrument known for its deep, clear sound. It is widely used in classical music performances.
- ❖ The **Flute** or bansuri is a wind instrument used in various forms of Indian classical music. It is also used in folk and devotional music.
- ❖ The **Shehnai** is a traditional Indian wind instrument often associated with auspicious occasions and weddings.
- ❖ The **Dhol** is a large drum with two heads, played on both sides. It is often used in energetic and celebratory music, including Bhangra.
- ❖ The **Dholak** is a two-headed hand drum that is widely used in folk music, bhajans and popular music genres.



Historical Monuments in Delhi

Delhi is home to well-known historical monuments like the Red Fort, Qutub Minar, and India Gate, there are lesser-known historical sites.

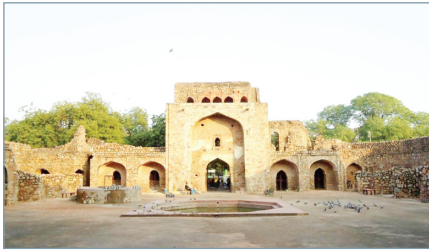
Feroz Shah Kotla Fort

It was built by Feroz Shah Tughlaq in the 14th century. It has a 13meter high Ashoka Pillar and a Baoli (stepwell) within its premises.



Adilabad Fort

It is a relatively less-visited site, located in the Mehrauli Archaeological Park. It was built by Sikandar Lodi.



Khairul Manzil Masjid

It is a mosque built by Maham Anga, the foster-mother of Akbar, situated near the Red Fort.

Chor Minar

It is a medieval minaret, located near the Qutub Minar complex, with 225 holes believed to have been used for displaying the severed heads of criminals.



Rajon Ki Baoli

It is a historic stepwell, situated within the Mehrauli Archaeological Park.

Kala Gumbad

It is a dome-shaped structure, found in the Lodhi Gardens, believed to be a tomb. It is part of the larger complex that includes the Sheesh Gumbad.



Recreational Places in Delhi

Delhi offers a wide range of recreational places and entertainment options for residents and visitors.

- ❖ **Connaught place** is a commercial and recreational hub with a mix of shops, restaurants, cafes, and cultural venues. It's a popular destination for shopping, dining, and entertainment.



- ❖ **Dilli Haat**, located in INA, is an open-air market showcasing crafts, traditional art, and cuisine from different states of India.



- ❖ **Hauz Khas Village** is a trendy neighborhood known for its artistic vibe, cafes, boutiques, and art galleries.



Museums in Delhi

National Museum is one of the largest museums in India. It houses an extensive collection of artifacts, art, and archaeological finds representing India's cultural heritage.



National Crafts Museum showcases traditional Indian crafts and folk art. It includes a variety of exhibits such as textiles, pottery, and tribal artifacts.

The **National Rail Museum** in Chanakyapuri is dedicated to the history of railways in India. It features vintage trains, models, and exhibits on the development of the railway system.



The **Air Force Museum**, situated near the Palam Air Force Station displays aircraft, missiles, and other artifacts related to the history of the Indian Air Force.

Doll museum, near ITO, features a collection of dolls from various countries and regions, offering a fascinating glimpse into different cultures.



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