

# Lingaraja Temple: A Majestic Hindu Temple in Bhubaneswar

Category: Travel

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[The Lingaraja Temple](#), located in Bhubaneswar, the capital of Odisha, India, is a magnificent Hindu temple dedicated to Lord Shiva. As one of the oldest temples in the city, it stands as a prominent landmark and a major tourist attraction in the state.

The temple's address is Lingaraj Temple, Lingaraj Temple Rd, Lingaraj Nagar, Old Town, Bhubaneswar, Odisha 751002. It stands tall with a height of 55 meters and showcases the beautiful Kalinga architecture, a style unique to the region.

Being the largest [temple in Bhubaneswar](#), the Lingaraja Temple boasts a central tower that reaches an impressive 180 feet (55 meters) in height. It is a true representation of the quintessence of Kalinga [architecture](#), reflecting the medieval stages of the architectural tradition in Bhubaneswar.

Historically, the [temple](#) is believed to have been built by the kings from the Somavamsi dynasty, with later additions from

the Ganga rulers. The temple follows the Deula style, consisting of four components: vimana (structure containing the sanctum), jagamohana (assembly hall), natamandira (festival hall), and bhoga-mandapa (hall of offerings). Each component increases in height compared to its predecessor, creating a visually striking structure.



Lingaraja Temple Orissa

The temple complex is enclosed by a large compound wall and features 108 other shrines. Bhubaneswar itself is known as Ekamra Kshetra, as the deity of Lingaraja was originally found under a mango tree (Ekamra), as mentioned in the Ekamra Purana, a 13th-century Sanskrit treatise.

Unlike many other temples in Bhubaneswar, the Lingaraja [Temple is an active place](#) of worship. It houses images of Vishnu, possibly due to the rising prominence of the Jagannath sect, which originated from the Ganga rulers who built the [Jagannath Temple](#) in Puri during the 12th century. The central deity of the temple, Lingaraja, is worshipped as [Lord Shiva](#).

The maintenance of the Lingaraja Temple is carried out by the Temple [Trust Board and the Archaeological Survey of India](#) (ASI). On an average day, the temple welcomes around 6,000 visitors, but during [festivals](#), it receives lakhs of visitors. One of the major [festivals](#) celebrated at the temple is Shivaratri, which attracts a significant number of devotees. In fact, during the 2012 Shivaratri [festival](#), the temple

witnessed an astounding 200,000 visitors.

While the temple compound is not open to non-Hindus, there is a viewing [platform beside the wall that offers](#) a good view of the main exteriors. This platform was originally erected for a visit by Lord Curzon, the Viceroy of [India](#).

[Visiting the Lingaraja Temple is a truly awe-inspiring experience](#). The grandeur of the architecture, the spiritual atmosphere, and the [rich history](#) make it a must-visit destination for anyone exploring the vibrant city of Bhubaneswar.