

## Ashtavinayak Tour

**Ashtavinayak** literally means "eight Ganeshas" in Sanskrit. Lord Ganesh is a Hindu deity of unity, prosperity & learning and removing obstacles. The term refers to eight Ganeshas. Ashtavinayaka journey refers to a pilgrimage to the eight Hindu temples in Maharashtra state of India that house eight distinct idols of Ganesh, in a pre-ascertained sequence. Each of these temples has its own individual legend and history, as distinct from each other as the idols in each temple. The form of each murti of Ganesh and his trunk are distinct from one another.

Mayureshwar Temple		<p>This temple is built from black stone and is covered on all four sides by minarets. The idol of Lord Ganesh is shown as riding a peacock, in the form of Mayureshwar believed to have slain the demon Sindhu at this spot. This temple is situated at a distance of 55 km from Pune. <a href="https://goo.gl/maps/cogmTFEqkbAzma3Q9">https://goo.gl/maps/cogmTFEqkbAzma3Q9</a></p>
Siddhivinayak Temple		<p>This is the only murti of these eight with the trunk positioned to the right. This temple is situated off the Pune-Solapur highway from the town of Srigonda-Ahmednagar district. <a href="https://goo.gl/maps/k8Pp1fhUU238Cvdy5">https://goo.gl/maps/k8Pp1fhUU238Cvdy5</a></p>

<p>Ballaleshwar Temple</p>		<p>The inner one houses the murti and has a Mushika (Ganesha's mouse vahana -vehicle) with modak in his forepaws in front of it. In this temple the besan laddu is given as Prasad. This temple is located 30km to the south west of Karjat railway station.  <a href="https://goo.gl/maps/UtfCzuCvjmRLAVEfA">https://goo.gl/maps/UtfCzuCvjmRLAVEfA</a></p>
<p>Varadavinayak Temple</p>		<p>This temple has amazing architecture. There are 4 elephants idols on all 4 sides of the temple, The temple is located three kilometres off Pune-Mumbai highway near Khopoli.  <a href="https://goo.gl/maps/iVhCZMjdujnTxUnr8">https://goo.gl/maps/iVhCZMjdujnTxUnr8</a></p>
<p>Chintamani Temple</p>		<p>This temple has a north entrance and the outer wall is made of wood. This temple was built by the Peshwas. The temple is located 22 km from Pune, off the Pune-Solapur highway.  <a href="https://goo.gl/maps/VFyyFgc6QvwKztDA6">https://goo.gl/maps/VFyyFgc6QvwKztDA6</a></p>

<p>Girijatmaj Temple</p>		<p>This temple stands amidst a cave complex of 18 caves which are of Buddhist origin and they are called as Ganesh-leni. The temple is 12km from Narayangaon which is 94 km from Pune on the Pune-Nashik highway.</p> <p><a href="https://goo.gl/maps/z4TFFNughA8NntLR6">https://goo.gl/maps/z4TFFNughA8NntLR6</a></p>
<p>Vigneshwar Temple</p>		<p>The Ganesha Idol here is called Shri Vighneshwar Vinayak. The main hall of the temple is around 20 feet long. This temple is situated just off the Pune-Nashik Highway in the town of Ozhar.</p> <p><a href="https://goo.gl/maps/qT6u4SjcCZjrsaSs9">https://goo.gl/maps/qT6u4SjcCZjrsaSs9</a></p>
<p>Mahaganapati Temple</p>		<p>The Mahaganapati at Ranjangoan is one of the most powerful representations of Lord Ganesh. Here Shiva is believed to have worshipped Ganesh before fighting the demon Tripurasura. The idol faces the east and is seated in a cross-legged position with a broad forehead, with its trunk pointing to the left. Mahaganapati is portrayed, seated on a lotus, flanked by his consorts Siddhi and Ridhi.</p> <p><a href="https://goo.gl/maps/nx8BzNJoF4N6xCEWA">https://goo.gl/maps/nx8BzNJoF4N6xCEWA</a></p>