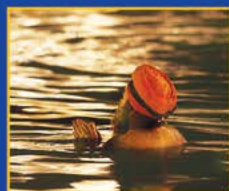


Complimentary Travel Guide to

SRI HARMANDIR SAHIB

(The Golden Temple Amritsar)

www.goldentempleamritsar.org



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THE GOLDEN TEMPLE AMRITSAR
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The Golden Temple

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Amritsar

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ਪੁਨ ਸੁ ਵੈਲਾ ਜਿਤੁ ਦਰਸਨੁ ਕਰਣਾ॥

Guru Granth Sahib
is carried in a
Golden Planiquin
to Sri Harmandir Sahib
for installation
in the early morning hrs.



www.goldentempleamritsar.org/dailyroutine



Sri Harmandir Sahib

(The Golden Temple Amritsar)

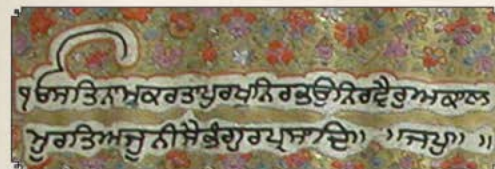
Harmandir: 'The Abode of God', Standing in the centre of the pool of nectar (Amrit Sarovar), is the epicentre of Sikhism. The pool of nectar (Amrit Sarovar) was got excavated by the 4th Sikh Master Guru Ram Das Ji, and it was brick lined during the times of Guru Arjan Dev (the 5th Sikh Master). The foundation stone of The Harmandir Sahib was laid by a Muslim saint Hazrat Sai Mian Mir from Lahore in 1589. The building of the sanctum sanctorum was completed in the year 1601. During the Gurus time it was a simple building made of small sized bricks called NanakShahi Bricks. It was beautified by the first Sikh ruler Maharaja Ranjit Singh in the year 1803-1830. It is said that at that time nearly 100 kilograms of gold was utilized and due this Gold Work the British named this Sikh Temple as Golden Temple.

From the day one, in Sri Harmandir Sahib either the hymns of Guru Granth Sahib are sung or recited, no idol, no tomb or human worship is there.

After the compilation of the Sikh holy scripture Sri Guru Granth Sahib was installed in Sri Harmandir Sahib in the year 1604 by Guru Arjan Dev Ji. The sanctum sanctorum has four doors on all the four directions which signifies that the place of God worship is open to all human beings irrespective of caste, colour, creed, sex, sect, rich, poor, whereas the Sanctum is not in any particular direction.

The day begins at Harmandir Sahib with singing of Hymns. Guru Granth Sahib is brought from Sri Akal Takhat Sahib every early morning for installation in Harmandir Sahib and is carried back in the late night hours for rest, after the evening prayer to Akal Takhat Sahib. In the due time Harmandir is cleaned, washed with milk and water, sheets are changed for the next day routine. As soon the Guru Granth Sahib is installed in the sanctum sanctorum, the priest will open it at random and read the first hymn. This is called Hukamnama, the order or thought of the day.

“The Mool Mantra”



the First words of **Guru Granth Sahib**

means:

- God is ONE
- Thy name is TRUE

and HE IS

- THE CREATOR
- FEARLESS
- WITHOUT HATRED
- TIMELESS
- SELF EXISTENT
- MADE KNOWN BY THE GURU



Daily Routine of Sri Harimandir Sahib

Nanakshahi Month (Sikh Calendar)	Chet	Vaisakh	Jaith
English Month	March April	April May	May June
Kiwad (Portals) Opening Time	2.30	2.15	2.00
Kirtan at Amrit Vela (Early dawn)	2.30	2.15	2.00
Asa Di War	3.30	3.15	3.00
Departure of Palki Sahib from Sri Akal Takhat Sahib	4.30	4.15	4.00
First Hukamnama	5.00	4.45	4.30
First Ardas	5.30	5.15	5.00
Second Ardas & Hukamnama	6.30-6.45	6.30	6.15
Holy reading of Rehras Sahib starts at sunset.			
Hukamnama at night	21.45	22.15	22.30
Departure of Palki Sahib from Sri Harimandir Sahib	22.00	22.30	22.45

There is a continuous singing of Gurbani Kirtan (hymns) at Sri Harimandir Sahib from the opening of its portals (doors) to their closing. Some minor changes are effected in the summer and winter months. After the departure of the Palki Sahib (palanquin) carrying Sri Guru Granth Sahib to The Akal Takhat Sahib, the devotees, accompanied by the Gurdwara staff, clean the Sri Harimandir Sahib for one hour. During this process these devotees sing the Gurbani Kirtan in melodious

A rare old picture of Golden Temple



www.goldentempleamritsar.org/dailyroutine

Harh	Sawan	Bhadon	Assu	Kattak	Maggar	Poh	Magh	Phaggan
Jun July	Jul Aug	Aug Sep	Sep Oct	Oct Nov	Nov Dec	Dec Jan	Jan Feb	Feb Mar
2.00	2.15	2.30	2.30	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	2.45
2.00	2.15	2.30	2.30	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	2.45
3.00	3.15	3.30	3.30	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	3.45
4.00	4.15	4.30	4.30	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	4.45
4.30	4.45	5.00	5.00	5.30	5.30	5.30	5.30	5.15
5.00	5.15	5.30	5.30	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	5.45
6.15	6.30	6.45	6.45	7.15	7.15	7.15	7.15	6.45-7.00
22.30	22.15	22.15	22.00	21.30	21.30	21.30	21.30	21.45
22.45	22.30	22.45	22.15	21.45	21.45	21.45	21.45	22.00

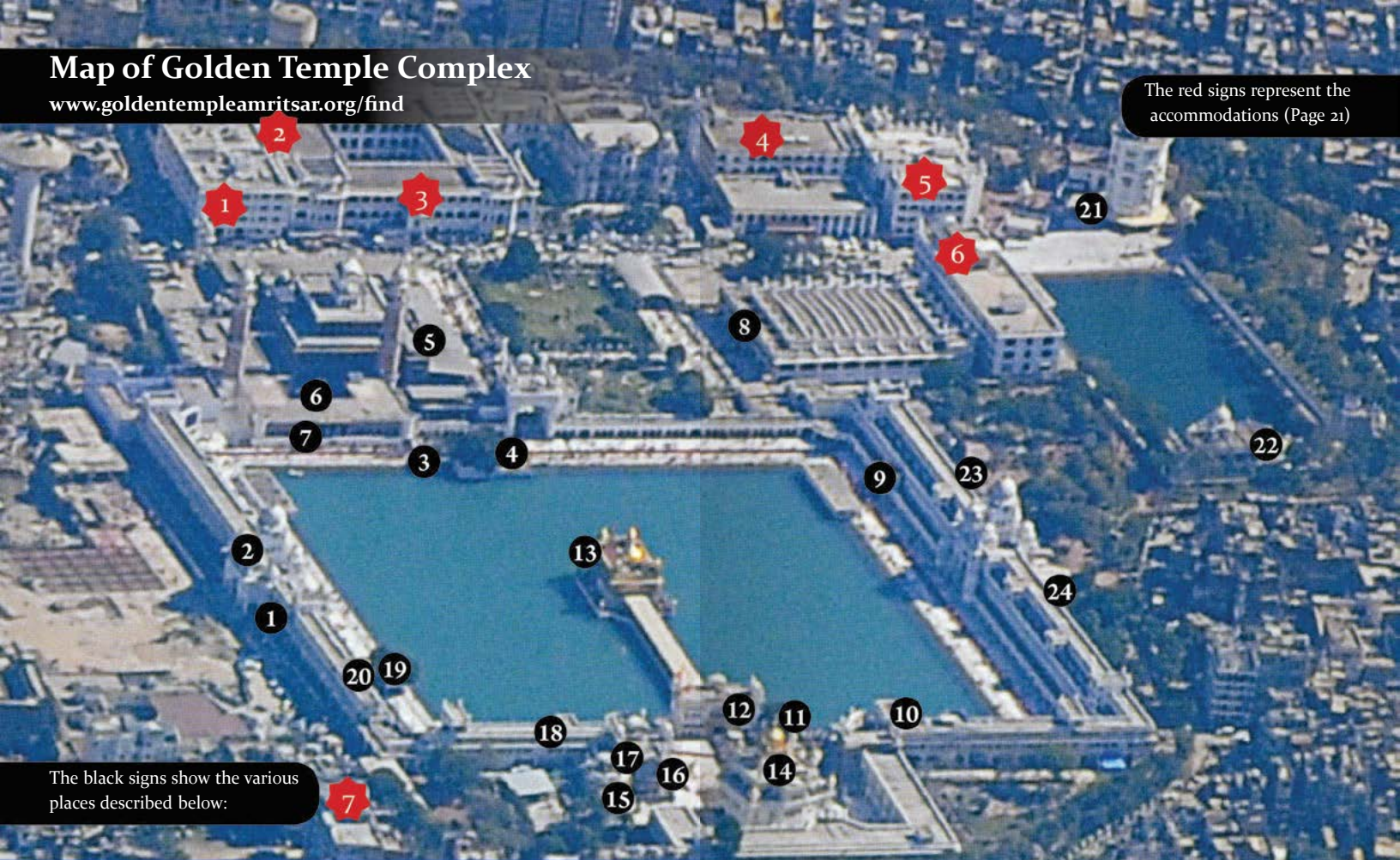
and devotional tones. After purifying the precincts, the rugs are spread, on which the Peera Sahib (a small cot) is placed to install the Sri Guru Granth Sahib in the early morning. At the completion of the Ardas (Sikh Prayer), Karah Prasad (holy offering) distributed among the devotees. At Sri Akal Takhat, after the Rehras (Evening Scripture) the weapons belonging to Guru Sahib (Sikh Masters) and Martyr Sikhs are displayed at about 8.00 p.m.

www.goldentempleamritsar.org/oldPhotos

Map of Golden Temple Complex

www.goldentempleamritsar.org/find

The red signs represent the accommodations (Page 21)



The black signs show the various places described below:

Historical Places

in Golden Temple Complex

www.goldentempleamritsar.org/placestovisit

1. INFORMATION OFFICE

www.goldentempleamritsar.org/info

Next to the main entrance on clock tower side, this office is being managed by S.G.P.C. (The Management Committee of Golden Temple). It provides free information regarding Golden Temple and Sikh Religion. It also provides Guided tours and Complimentary informative brochures

on the philosophy of Guru Nanak, Guru Granth Sahib, the Importance of Hair in Sikh Religion, and the Sikh Code of Conduct.

2. CENTRAL SIKH MUSEUM:

www.goldentempleamritsar.org/csm

This museum was established in the early 1960's. The great Sikh artist's work and rare pencil sketches by Princess Baamba add to its glory. The wooden



comb (Kangha) of Guru Gobind Singh, Arrows and Bow, Iron Chakras (circles) to be worn on the turban by Sikh warriors and Sanjoe (an iron jacket made of wires), Canons and Guns pertaining to Sikh Empire, Wooden

Canopy supporters covered with silver of Maharaja Ranjit Singh times, musical instruments like Saranda of Late Baba Sham Singh (Hymn Singer in The Golden Temple) are preserved in the museum.

The museum has been divided according to the Sikh History. In the very first hall, the life and style of Sikh Gurus, Hindu and Muslim Saints has been described through portraits. The second room shows the travels (Udasis) of Guru Nanak and some photos of rare art work on the walls of Gurdwara Baba Atal Rai. The next is followed by the Sikh Struggle



period after 1708. Portraits of the Sikh Martyrs (Bhai Mani Singh, Bhai Taru Singh, Bhai Dyala, Bhai Mati Dass), the prices for the heads of Sikhs being paid. Takes one to the Sikh Empire and after independence struggle of Punjabi Speaking state, Sikh-Nirankari Kand (Clash), Operation Blue Star period. The portraits of Sikh scholars, religious, social and political personalities are also displayed. Some hand written, ancient holy books are also preserved in the museum.

3. **DUKH BHANJANI BERI:**

www.goldentempleamritsar.org/dbb



On the eastern flank of the sarovar stands jujube tree known as Dukh Bhanjani (agony killer) Beri. The place is associated with the legend of a person suffering from leprosy got cured by taking a dip here. Due to this incidence Guru Ram Das started the excavation of the holy water tank named Amrit Sarovar.

4. **ATH SATH TIRATH:**

www.goldentempleamritsar.org/ast

While moving in the outer parikarma of Harmandir Sahib, around the holy pool of water, next to Dukh Bhanjani



Beri is the place known as Ath Sath Tirath, signifies that any one taking a dip here with devotion will have benefit of visit to 68 holy places. The marble palanquin on the raise platform, is the place where small pothis (manuscripts) of Gurbani were kept after they were obtained from the families of Gurus. These pothis (holy books) were brought to Amritsar for compilation of Adi Granth (Sri Guru Granth) Sahib by Guru Arjan Dev Ji.

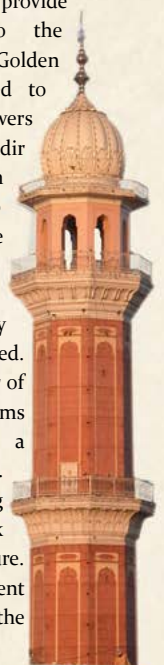
5. **GURU KA LANGAR**

See Page 19

6. **RAMGARHIA BUNGA, WATCH TOWERS**

www.goldentempleamritsar.org/bunga

The word Bunga stands for a place to live. During the Sikh Empire, several Sikh Generals and Royal Families got constructed nearly 99 Bungas in the walled city of Amritsar out of which the one constructed by Ramgarhia Missal (Sect) to provide accommodation to the Devotees coming to Golden Temple. There used to be 22 watch towers around the Harmandir Sahib (The Golden Temple) in order to keep a watch on the enemy (invaders). By the time 20 finished and only two towers survived. On the ground floor of the Bunga, some rooms with balcony and a open space is there. The whole building depicts the rare work of Sikh Architecture. One big basement is also there, but the entry is restricted.



7. HISTORICAL SEAT

www.goldentempleamritsar.org/hseat

In this Bunga another historical



achievement of the Sikh Generals of the Sikh Empire has been preserved. The Sikhs under the command of Jassa Singh Ramgarhia and Baghel Singh Croresinghia conquered "Delhi" in eighteen century, hoisted the Kesri (Orange) Sikh Flag on Red Fort (Delhi). On way back to Amritsar they carried along-with them the historical Marble Seat, on which the Mughal emperor used to sit, passed the orders of beheading Guru Teg Bahadur, the Sikh Devotees and innocent Hindus.

(The passage to the Ramgarhia Bunga, Towers and Historical Seat is from the Langer Side)

8. MANJI SAHIB:

www.goldentempleamritsar.org/ms

A widely spread and covered hall just opposite Sri Guru Ram Das Langar Hall, is a congregation hall. In Harmandir Sahib, Guru Granth Sahib is read or the hymns of Guru Granth Sahib are being sung, but at Diwan hall the Bani (hymns) are explained every morning and evening by the priest (the priest conversed with concept of Bani and Sikh history). The concept of



explaining Bani was initiated by Guru Arjan Dev himself and the tradition is still going on. Within the Diwan Hall complex is a small raised platform covered with a marble canopy. This is the place where Guru Arjan Dev recited Barah Mah (a bani related with the description of twelve months according to Lunar system). Diwan Hall is used for religious functions.

9. SHAHEED BUNGA BABA DEEP SINGH:

www.goldentempleamritsar.org/sb

This place stands as a memory to the bunga of Shaheed missal to which Baba Deep Singh belongs. In 1762 Harmandir Sahib was invaded by Mughal invader Ahmed Shah Abdali. As the news of sacrilege of Harmandir Sahib reached Baba Deep Singh, at once moved towards Amritsar, by the time it reached Tarn Taran city the strength rose to nearly 5000. Baba Deep Singh made a prayer that he reaches Harmandir Sahib while fighting the enemy. While nearly 6 miles from Amritsar there was a pitched battle between Baba Deep Singh and Shah Jamaan (the Mughal commander). Shah Jamaan fell down where as the head of Baba Deep Singh was nearly chopped off. One of the Sikh soldiers reminded Baba Deep Singh of the prayer he had made. Baba Deep Singh supported his head with left hand and continued moving towards Harmandir Sahib. This mere scene made the Mughal army run back foot. Baba Deep Singh reached Harmandir Sahib. This Gurdwara in memory of Baba Deep Singh, reminds one of the prayer made by a Sikh devotee and fulfilled.

10. KARAH PRASAD:

www.goldentempleamritsar.org/kp

Devotees can buy Karah Prasad (Pourage) for offering inside the



Sanctum Sanctorum.

11. LACHI BER:



www.goldentempleamritsar.org/lb

This particular Jujube Tree bears small fruits, stands next to the Darshani Deori. During the brick lining of the Amrit Sarovar (Pool of Nectar) and construction of Harmandir Sahib. Guru Arjan Dev ji and a close devotee

of the Guru, Bhai Salo Jee, used to sit here and supervise the construction.

In 1740 A.D. Harmandir Sahib was occupied by a Mughal Governor Massa Ranghar, who started desecrating Harmandir Sahib by using it as his court, watching dances and consuming wine. Two Sikh warriors Sukha Singh



Marhi Kamboke and Mehtab Singh Miran Kot promised the Sangat (Sikh Devotees) to teach a lesson to Massa Ranghar. They reached Harmandir Sahib posing as farmers to pay tax to Mughal Governor. They tied their horses with this jujube tree, went inside, chopped the head of Massa Ranghar and moved back.

12. DARSHNI DEORI:

www.goldentempleamritsar.org/dd

The main entrance leading to the pathway to Harmandir Sahib is known as Darshani Deori. As soon as Guru Granth Sahib is taken for Sukh Asan (for Rest at Night) to Akal Takhat Sahib, the gates of Darshani Deori are closed

from inside. The sewadar (attendants) on duty will allow only devotees with special permission from the Gurdwara authority for taking part in the night sewa (cleaning and washing of the sanctum sanctorum). Every morning devotees gather in front of the gate of Drashani Deori, recite the Shabads (hymns) till the gates are opened for the day. On one side of Darshani Deori there is a room meant for booking of Akhand Path, Ragis and on the other side is a room for keeping Planquin. This Deori was beautified with marble and fresco work during the time of Maharaja Ranjit Singh. The main doors of the Deori are decorated with silver sheets on one side and the other one with beautiful inlay work comprising ivory work.

13. HAR KI PAURI:

(The steps of Almighty God)

www.goldentempleamritsar.org/hkp

On the backside of the Sanctum Sanctorum is the place where devotees bow down to have a hand full of Amrit (Nectar) from the Amrit Sarovar.



The legend goes on that when the excavation of the holy Amrit Sarovar, and construction of Harmandir Sahib was going on, The Almighty God, himself took part in this noble cause at this very place. As we ascend upstairs this Pauri (Steps) from the side stairs, nonstop recitation (Akhand Path) of

Bani of Guru Granth Sahib goes on.

14. AKAL TAKHT

See Page 20

15. GURDWARA THRA SAHIB:

www.goldentempleamritsar.org/ts

Just next to Akal Takhat Sahib stands in the memory of historical visit of Ninth Sikh Master Guru Teg Bahadar to Harmandir Sahib. Prior to attaining Guruship Guru Teg Bahadar spent nearly 11 years in meditation at Baba Bakala Sahib. Makhan Shah lubana a devotee of Guru deposed 22 different persons claiming to be Guru and declared that he has found the true Guru (Guru Teg Bahadar). After that Guru Teg Bahadur came to Harmandir Sahib to pay obeisance but the priests closed the doors fearing they may lose their business. Guru Teg Bahadar stayed at this place for some time, made a prayer and left for next journey.

16. NISHAN SAHIB (FLAGS)

www.goldentempleamritsar.org/ns

Two Saffron flags stand testimony to



the Sikh concept of Miri (Temporal) and Piri (Spiritual) authority in Sikhism.

17. 1984 MEMORIAL

www.goldentempleamritsar.org/1984

This Gurdwara stands in the memory of Sikhs, killed during the Army Operation in 1984.

18. DAILY HUKAMNAMA

www.goldentempleamritsar.org/dh

Next to Nishan Sahib, A board displays the "order of the Day". Every morning when Guru Granth Sahib is installed inside the Sanctum Sanctorum, the very first hymn that is read by the priest is displayed on this board for the devotees.

19. BER BABA BUDHA JI:

www.goldentempleamritsar.org/bbbj

Baba Budha Jee, the first head priest of Harmandir Sahib, used to sit



under this Ber (tree) and supervise the excavation of Amrit Sarovar, construction of Harmandir Sahib. Baba Budha Ji lived for 125 years. He had the honour of coronation of Guru Angad Sahib to Guru Hargobind. The name "Boorah(Budha)" was in-fact given to him by Guru Nanak Dev Ji during his first meeting, as a child Budha. This Beri (tree) is more than 500 years old.

20. PINNI PRASAD

The devotees can buy Polythene packed dry prasad for their faraway homes.

21. GURDWARA

BABA ATAL RAI:

www.goldentempleamritsar.org/gbar

The 9th story building standing to the south of Harmandir Sahib on the far end of road dividing S.G.P.C. complex, Sarai and Harmandir Sahib complex, is in the memory of Baba Atal Rai, a son of 6th Guru Har Gobind Sahib ji.

Atal Rai, at the age of nine, revived one of his close friend, to life after his sudden death. Guru Hargobind considered his son's act against the Sikh tradition and rebuked him for performing a miracle. It is said that Atal Rai told his father that he would lay down his own life for breaking the law of nature by reviving his friend from the dead. So he went into a meditative trance and soon breathed his last.

22. GURDWARA BIBI KAULAN

www.goldentempleamritsar.org/gbk

This gurdwara is situated on the southern side of Harmandir Sahib and on the west of Gurudwara Baba Atal Sahib ji. This Gurudwara Sahib is in memory of Bibi Kaulan, a spiritual muslim Lady, daughter of Qazi of Lahore.

23. CORRESPONDENCE COURSE:

www.goldentempleamritsar.org/cc

In order to preach Sikh Religion and



Jalao (Jewelry Display)

www.goldentempleamritsar.org/jalao



The Precious Jewelry is displayed (called Jalao) at Sri Harmandir Sahib on the following occasions:

- Birth Day of Sri Guru Nanak Dev Ji (1st Master)
- Birth Day of Sri Guru Ram Das Ji (4th Master)
- Birth Day of Sri Guru Arjan Dev Ji (5th Master)
- Gurgaddi Diwas Guru Hargobind Sahib (6th Master)
- Birth Day of Sri Guru Teg Bahadur Ji (9th Master)
- Birth Day of Sri Guru Gobind Singh Ji (10th Master)
- First Prakash of Sri Guru Granth Sahib (Shabad Guru)



its Philosophy. This correspondence course was started in 2010.

24. SIKH REFERENCE LIBRARY:

www.goldentempleamritsar.org/srl

Sikh Reference Library is meant for the scholars interested in research of sikh history and gurbani. At present nearly 30 thousands Books, Magazines, News Papers, Periodicals on Sikh Religion

and History, some rare manuscripts and hand written copies of Guru Granth Sahib are preserved for the purpose of research. This library was also badly damaged in Operation Blue Star in 1984, now the SGPC is again working hard to maintain its glory. This library is only meant for the research scholars, hence the material is not allowed to be carried outside.

Guru Ka Langar (Community Kitchen)

www.goldentempleamritsar.org/langar



The tradition of serving and sharing of langar was initiated by Guru Nanak Dev Ji and then established by the 3rd Sikh Master Sri Guru Amar Dass Ji at Goindwal township. Even when the Mughal King Akbar came to meet

the Guru Amar Das Ji, as per the Sikh tradition, he sat among the ordinary people and shared langar (meals). In the Golden Temple Community Kitchen at an average 75,000 devotees or tourists take langar daily. This

number becomes almost double on special occasions. On average 100 Quintal Wheat Flour, 25 Quintal Cereals, 10 Quintal Rice, 5000 Ltr Milk, 10 Quintal Sugar, 5 Quintal Pure Ghee is used a day. Nearly 100 LPG Gas Cylinders are used to prepare the meals. 100's of employees and devotees render their services to the kitchen.



An exemplary painting of the Mughal Emperor sharing the meals

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Akal Takhat

www.goldentempleamritsar.org/akaltakht

'Akal' means, time-less (often used for Almighty-God) Takhat means a throne (seat) where the kings used to sit.

Hence Akal Takhat : the seat of Almighty.

Due to the excavation of the holy pool of nectar (Amrit-Sarovar), a raised place had appeared in front of Harmandir Sahib. As Guru Granth Sahib was installed in Harmandir Sahib in 1604, it was brought to this room for rest every night. Guru Arjan Dev used to rest under the cot meant for Guru Granth Sahib. This room now a days is, known as Kotha Sahib.

AKAL TAKHAT, The highest temporal seat of Sikhism was founded by the Sixth Sikh master Guru Har Gobind Sahib Ji in 1609, assisted by Baba Budha

Ji and Bhai Gurdas. Guru Hargobind Sahib used to hold the court, listened to the woes of needy, wore two swords of Miri and Piri at this place and ordered the Sikhs to bring weapons, horses as offering and be saint and soldier as well. The tradition of singing ballads of war heroes with stringed instrument (Sarangi and Dhad) began at this place.

Akal Takhat has its own traditions i.e. the priest will recite the evening prayer (Rehras Sahib) and Ardas, with a naked sword in the hand. Some rare weapons pertaining to the Sikh Gurus and Sikh warriors are displayed during the day in Golden Palanquin and explained to the visitors every evening.

Things to Remember

www.goldentempleamritsar.org/rem

- Leave your Shoes, Socks, Umbrellas, and baggage at the entrance and get a token for that.
- Cigarette, Biri, or other intoxicants in any shape, are strictly prohibited inside the holy premises. You can't carry them even in your bags.
- Please switch-off your mobiles before entering.
- Wash your feet/hands, and cover your head properly before entering the holy complex.
- Anyone can take a dip in the holy sarovar (pool of nectar) but use of soap or shampoo is not allowed. If you so desire, you can wash yourself with soap at the wash-rooms provided in the parikarma (periphery).
- The wet clothes may kindly be deposited in a Wet-Clothes-Room.
- Swimming is strictly prohibited in the sarovar.
- Do not accept eatables from strangers.
- Photography is not allowed in the Sanctum Sanctorum and on the bridge.
- Offerings in cash and kind are accepted in the Golden Temple.
- Please get a receipt on offering donations for langar (community kitchen), building.
- Reading of Newspapers, Magazines, books, playing cards is strictly prohibited.
- Every service in the Golden Temple is free of charges except for the charges of the rooms in the guest houses.
- Please deposit your valuables including jewelry and cash at the counters provided for the same in

the Sri Darbar Sahib complex.

- If any infant happens to urinate in the Parikarma, please clean it immediately or inform the duty Sewadars about it.

Accommodation

www.goldentempleamritsar.org/acco

1. Sri Guru Arjan Dev Niwas
2. New Akal Rest House
3. Sri Guru Ramdas Niwas
4. Sri Guru Nanak Niwas
5. Sri Guru Hargobind Niwas
6. Mata Ganga Ji Niwas
7. Sri Guru Gobind Singh NRI Yatra Niwas

Note : Contact regarding booking

Tel: 91-183-2553957, 58, 59

Facilities

www.goldentempleamritsar.org/facilities

- Free bus facility is available for the Airport and/or Railway Station from the area close to the SGPC office.
- Wheel chairs are available to the physically challenged and/or the very old. They can be procured from an office in the Parikarma near Ber Baba Budha Sahib.
- Bath-rooms and toilets for the pilgrims are at the back of Sri Guru Ram Das Niwas, near Information Office, Shoe Store, & near Gurdwara Baba Atal etc.
- Northern Railway- Ticket reservation office, ATM and postal facilities are also available.
- There are two free medical assistance and an ambulance is available in case of emergency.
- In case of any accident in Sri Harimandir Sahib Complex, contact the office of Parikarma Manager or Information office (Phone +91-183-2553951-60)



Amritsar



Indo - Pak Border (28 k.m.)
Guru Nanak Dev University (3.75 k.m.)
NH1 (G. T. Road)

See Map on Page 10-11

Bank of Baroda
Oriental Bank of Commerce
HDFC Bank

To Jalandhar,
Delhi

From Delhi
Jalandhar



Guru Amar Dass (the Third Sikh Master) pointing the site for the Amrit Sarovar (The Golden Temple) to Guru Ram Dass (the Fourth Sikh Master)

Amritsar

www.amritsarcity.org

Country	India
State	Punjab
District	Amritsar
Founded by	Guru Ram Das ji
Coordinates	31°37'11.98"N 74°52'35.33"E
Languages	Official Punjabi
Time zone	IST (UTC+5:30)
PIN	143-001
Telephone code	91-183-XXX XXXX
Website	www.amritsarcorp.com

Amritsar (The Pool of The Nectar of Immortality): is a city in the north-western part of India, in the state of Punjab (India).

Amritsar is 32 kilometres (20 mi) east of Lahore (Pakistan) and therefore,

very close to India's western border with Pakistan.

Amritsar is home to the Harmandir Sahib, also known as the Golden Temple, the spiritual and cultural centre of the Sikh religion. This important Sikh shrine attracts more visitors than the Taj Mahal in Agra and is the number one destination for non-resident-Indians (NRI) in the whole of India.

Amritsar is also known for the incidents of Jallianwala Bagh Massacre in 1919 under British Rule. The main commercial activities include tourism, carpets and fabrics, farm produce, handicrafts, service trades and light engineering. The city is known for its food and culture. Amritsar is also home to Central Khalsa Orphanage, which was once a home for Shaheed Udham Singh, a prominent figure in

the Indian independence movement. Partition of undivided India into India and Pakistan had the most profound effect on the demographics, economics, social structure and culture of Amritsar. The state of Punjab was divided between India and Pakistan and Amritsar became a border city, often on the front lines of India-Pakistan wars. Prior to partition, the Muslim league wanted to incorporate Amritsar into Pakistan because of the Amritsar's proximity to Lahore (a distance of 30 miles) and a nearly 50% Muslim population, but the city became part of India. Amritsar and Lahore experienced some of the worst communal riots during the partition of India.

Amritsar is located at 31°37'11.89"N 74°52'35.39"E with an average elevation of 234 metres (768 ft).

Amritsar has a warm continental climate, typical of North-Western India and experiences four seasons primarily: winter season (November to March) with temperature ranges from 4°C (39 °F) to about 19°C (66°F), summer season (April to June) where temperatures can reach 45°C (113°F), monsoon season (July to September) and post-monsoon season (September to November). Annual rainfall is about

790 millimetres (31.1 in).

CONNECTIVITY

Amritsar is well connected to Delhi, Jammu, Chandigarh & other major cities by road, train and by air.

BUSES: Frequent buses leave for Delhi (10 hours), Chandigarh (4-5 hrs), Pathankot (3 hrs), Jammu (6 hrs) and Attari on the India-Pakistan border (1¼ hrs). One/two buses go daily to Dalhousie (6 hrs), Dharamsala (6 hrs), Shimla (10 hrs) and Manali (14 hrs) in Himachal Pradesh, and Dehra Dun (11 hrs) in Uttarakhand.

Private buses for Delhi (with/without AC, 8½ hrs) leave from near the railway station at 10 p.m. Other private buses go to Chandigarh, Jammu and Katra from Gandhi Gate.

TRAINS: Reservation for trains is available on the Temple Complex (8.00 a.m. to 8.00 p.m.) on all days except Sunday (till 2 p.m.)

There are regular **Flights** of Indian Airlines, Jet Airways and Kingfisher from Delhi. The Rajasansi International Airport is about 15 km from the Golden Temple and is connected by domestic flights to Delhi, Srinagar and Chandigarh. There are regular international flights from London, Toronto, Singapore and other leading cities of the world to Amritsar.

Historical Gurdwaras



Gurdwara Baba Attal
in the memory of Baba Atal Rai



Guru Ke Mehal
Birth Place of 9th Guru (Master)



Quilla (Fort) Lohgarh
Guru Hargobind (6th Guru) used here a wooden
cannon in a battle with Mughals



Gurdwara Saragarhi
in the memory of 21 Sikh Soldiers, who fought with
the Afgan invaders at North-West Frontier



Gurdwara Baba Deep Singh
in the memory of Baba Deep Singh



Atari Sahib
(In the memory of Sixth Master
Guru Hargobind Sahib)



Gurdwara Guru Ka Vallah
(In the memory of Ninth Master
Guru Teg Bahadar)



Gurdwara Palah Sahib Khairabad
(In the memory of second Battle Guru
Hargobind Sahib with Mughals)

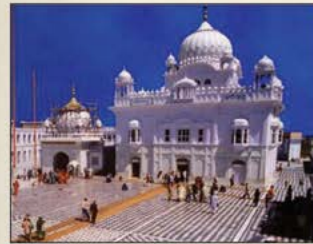
www.goldentempleamritsar.org/gurdwaras



Baba Bakala
(The meditation Place of Guru Teg Bahadar)



Khadur Sahib
(Gurmukhi Language was started by The Second
Master Guru Angad Dev Ji)



Bir Baba Budha Sahib
where Mata Ganga Ji was blessed by Baba Budha ji



Tarn Taran
(In the memory of Fifth Master Guru Arjan Dev
who founded Tarn Taran City also)



Bir Baba Budha Sahib
where Mata Ganga Ji was blessed by Baba Budha ji



Gurdwara Guru Ki Wadali
(The Birth Place of Guru Hargobind Sahib)

Five Sarovar (Sacred Pools) in Amritsar

www.goldentempleamritsar.org/Five-Sarovers-in-Amritsar.php

Many sacred Sikh shrines can be found in the Sikh holy city of Amritsar. Of particular importance are the five sacred pools in this city. These are called sarovars and it is the practice of some Sikhs to have a dip in all five of these holy pools:

1. Amritsar Sarovar (Harmandir)
2. Santokhsar Sarovar
3. Ramsar Sarovar
4. Kaulsar Sarovar
5. Bibeksar Sarovar

Tourists Interests

Jallianwala Bagh

The massacre is located in the vicinity of Golden Temple complex, the holiest shrine of Sikhism.

This houses a memorial of national importance, established in 1951 to commemorate the massacre by British occupying forces of peaceful celebrators on the occasion of the Sikh New Year on April 13, 1919 in

the Jallianwala Bagh Massacre. The memorial is managed by the Jallianwala Bagh National Memorial Trust.



Ram Tirath Mandir

According to the mythological beliefs, Lord Rama left her wife Sita in this very place where the temple stands now. It is believed that Valmiki - the great sage rescued her and gave her shelter. Sita gave birth to her sons - Luv and Kush and they grew up in the guidance of saint Valmiki.



Ram Bagh Garden

Maharaja Ranjit Singh (1780-1839) the Lion of Punjab, built the Ram Bagh and in its heart lies the Summer Palace of this great ruler.

Now the Summer Palace of Maharaja Ranjit Singh has been converted into a museum which speaks volumes on his times. On display are weapons dating back to Mughal times, portraits of ruling houses of Punjab and a replica of the diamond, "Kohinoor".

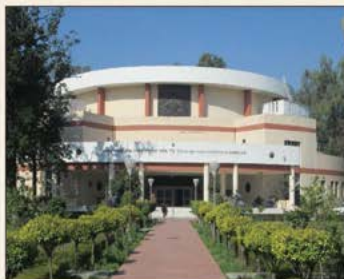
In those days the garden was



approached by a huge fortified gate which still exists in its original form and lies on the periphery of the garden.

Maharaja Ranjit Singh Panorama

Maharaja Ranjit Singh Panorama is a permanent visual documentation of Maharaja Ranjit Singh. An aesthetically designed tall cylindrical building surrounded with green garden near Summer Palace of Maharaja in the Rambagh Heritage Garden is now a landmark in the city of Amritsar.



Durgiana Mandir



Durgiana Mandir, an important religious pilgrimage of The Hindus. As it was visited by Maryada Parshotam Rama. Lov & Kush spent their childhood alongwith their mother Mata Sita on this soil in the Ashram of Maharishi Balmiki.

Wagah Border



The main entrance to India from Pakistan side in the Amritsar Distt.

is from this international check post. Every morning the national flags of Pakistan and India are hoisted on this post by the consecutive border forces of the both nations. In the evening there is a impressive parade by the border security force on the India side and the Pakistan rangers on the Pakistan side before taking of the respective national flags.

Guru Nanak Dev University

Guru Nanak Dev University situated on G. T. Road towards Atari Border, was established on November 24, 1969 to mark the 500th birth anniversary of Sri Guru Nanak Dev Ji.



Khalsa College



The campus also houses Khalsa College of Education, Khalsa College for Women, Khalsa College Girls

Khalsa College, the premier-most institute of higher learning, was established by the leaders of the Singh Sabha Movement in 1892.

High School, Khalsa College Boys Senior Secondary School and Khalsa College Public School.

Fairs & Festivals

Fairs and Festivals in Amritsar reflect the vibrant tradition of cultural extravaganza. Connoting different mythical and religious significance, the festivals and fairs of Amritsar are celebrated by the enthusiastic inhabitants of the place.



Kothe Da Mela.....	6 Feb	Shaheedi Jor Mela (Guru Arjan Dev Ji)	12 Jun
Basant	14 Jan	First Prakash Diwas	
Holi	27 Mar	Guru Granth Sahib.....	1 Sep
Vaisakhi	13 Apr	B'day Guru Ram Dass Ji	17 Nov
Dashera.....	13 Oct	B'day Guru Nanak Dev Ji	17 Nov
Dipawali.....	3 Nov	B'day Guru Gobind Singh Ji	

Shopping

Amritsar is a traders hub from the very beginning since its establishment by the forth Sikh Master Guru Ramdas. Amritsar use to be on the silk route ending up in China and a processing destination for Afghanistan tea leaves, Textile, Corrugated Box Making, Screw and various Machinery. The world famous OCM (now OXL), Swadeshi Woollen Mills, known for the tweeds are having there parental units in Amritsar. The city is also famous for its spicy Papad Warrrian, Punjabi Jutti, Tandoori Kulcha, Burfi wali Lassi.

Shawls, Lohis & Blankets

- Bazar Katra Ahluwala
- Shastri Market
- Putlighar
- Chheharta

Ladies Dress Materials

- Katra Jaimal Singh
- Lawrence Road

Papad Warrrian

- Bazar Papran (on the back side of Golden Temple)

Punjabi Jutti (Embroidered Shoes)

- Golden Temple Chowk
- Brahm Buta Market
- Hall Gate Chowk

Wooden Engraving

- Brahm Buta Market
- Katra Sher Singh

Machinery

- 100 Feet Road
- Focal Point

Eating Points



Sweets and Lassi

- Chowk Regent Cinema
- Lawrence Road (Opp. BBK DAV College)
- Dhab Khatikan (Opp. Hindu Sabha College)

- Chowk Passian
- Lawrence Road

Gol-gappe, Alloo Tikki, Chat

- Chowk Katra Ahluwala
- Near Crystal Chowk

Chana Bhatura

- Amrit Cinema Chowk
- Lawrence Road
- Katra Ahluwala

Alloo Wala Kulcha

- Golden Temple Chowk
- Kotwali Chowk

Important Telephone Numbers

DC Office.....	2226161-62, 94171-11922	Guru Nanak Dev Hosp.....	2573928
Mayor's off.	2545999, 94170-15150	Bibi Kaulan Ji Hospital.....	2580325
Cmsnr's Off.	9815304213, 2545155	Nagpal Nursing Home	
Civil Surgeon.....	2211864, 9814130387	Dr. Avtar Singh Arora.....	
Medical Officer Health.....	98724-26727	Amandeep Hospital.....	
Punjab Tourism.....	+91-183-2402452		
Information Office Golden Temple	+91-183-2553954-57-58		

Police Help Lines

Main Help line	2210300, 97811-30501
Police Control Room	100, 2225054
Golden Temple.....	97811-30219
Railway Station	97811-30256
Airport	98725-02337, 2214099

Maharaja Ranjit Singh Panorama

.....80540-10150, 98721-01050

Hospitals:

Guru Ram Das Charitable Hospital

..... 2553668, 2535039, 2535042

Ambulances

Punjab Health Services	108
Dhab Wasti Ram.....	2544440
Adlakha Hospital	2225353

Enquiries

Airport	2214353, 2204004
Indian Airlines/Air India.....	2214029
Jet Airways.....	2214033
Northern Railway.....	131, 2225028, 29, 35
Roadways.....	2551734, 2551735
The Golden Temple	2553953

Main Trains from Amritsar

(www.indianrail.gov.in) Helpline 139

Train Name	Train #	To	Dep.	Days of Run						
				M	T	W	T	F	S	S
Amritsar Shatabdi	2014	New Delhi	05:10	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Shane Punjab	2498	New Delhi	15:10	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Swarana Shatabdi	2030	New Delhi	17:00	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Garib Rath	2204	New Delhi	04:45	N	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y
Amritsar Dehradun Express	1058	Dadar Mumbai	08:35	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Golden Temple Mail	2904	Mumbai Central	21:25	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Amritsar Dehradun Jnshbdi	2054	Haridwar	07:00	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Amritsar Dehradun Exp	4632	Haridwar	22:15	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Amritsar Dadar Express	1058	Agra Cantt.	08:35	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Chhatisgarh Express	8238	Agra Cantt.	16:15	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Amritsar Hawrah Mail	3006	Lucknow, Patna	18:45	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

Main Nearest Cities & Public Places

www.amritsarcity.org/distances

Distance from Golden Temple	Pull Kanjri	32 k.m.
Jallianwala Bagh.....Walking Distance	Distances from Amritsar	
Bus Turminal.....1.5 k.m.	Jammu.....	206 k.m.
Railway Station.....3 k.m.	Chandigarh.....	254 k.m.
Maharaja Ranjit Singh Garden	Haridwar.....	407 k.m.
(Company Bagh).....3 k.m.	New Delhi.....	450 k.m.
Thakur Singh Art Gallery.....3 k.m.	Dehradun.....	463 k.m.
Virsa Vihar (Cultural Hub).....3 k.m.	Srinagar.....	548 k.m.
Lawrence Road.....4 k.m.	Agra Cantt.....	642 k.m.
Khalsa College.....6 k.m.	Jaipur.....	713 k.m.
Guru Nanak Dev University.....7 k.m.	Hill Stations	
Airport.....15 k.m.	Dalhousie.....	191 k.m.
Wagha Border.....32 k.m.	Shimla.....	345 k.m.
Hari Ke Pattan (Bird Sanctuary)	Kullu Manali	430 k.m.
.....25 k.m.	Mussoorie.....	500 k.m.

Taste of Amritsar



An aerial view of The Golden Temple Amritsar