

Ahilya Fort: A Historic Gem in Maheshwar

Category: Travel

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Welcome to [Ahilya Fort](#), a magnificent fortress located in the central Indian town of Maheshwar. Perched high above the sacred River Narmada, this historic fort holds a significant place in Indian history. It was here that Maharani Ahilyabai Holkar ruled from 1765 to 1796, leaving behind a legacy that still resonates today.

Ahilya Wada: The Maharani's Residence

Within the fort, Maharani Ahilyabai Holkar built Ahilya Wada, her personal residence, offices, and darbaar audience hall.

This architectural marvel showcases the grandeur and elegance of the 18th century. In the year 2000, Prince Richard Holkar, the descendant of Maharani Ahilyabai Holkar and son of the last Maharaja of Indore, converted Ahilya Wada into a guest residence. Today, it is known worldwide as the Ahilya Fort Hotel.

A Unique Stay Experience

The Ahilya Fort Hotel offers 19 rooms of character, spread across six buildings from the 18th century. While the buildings exude a sense of history, they are equipped with modern amenities and comforts to ensure a pleasant stay. As a guest, you can stroll through the three acres of courtyards, fountains, and gardens that connect different parts of the Wada. It's the perfect place to find a secluded spot, whether you want to read a book, enjoy a cup of tea, or simply watch butterflies flutter by.

Please note that some of our rooms require climbing a flight of 10-15 steps. However, we do have ground floor rooms available upon request.

Exploring Maheshwar

Located in the heart of Maheshwar, the Ahilya Fort Hotel provides an ideal base for exploring the town's highlights. Immerse yourself in the bustling village markets, where you can discover local handicrafts, textiles, and traditional artifacts. Don't miss the riverside complex of temples and cenotaphs, which offer a glimpse into the rich religious and cultural heritage of the region.

A Culinary Journey Fit for Royalty

At Ahilya Fort, dining is an experience like no other. Think of it as eating in the home of your host, Prince Richard

Holkar. We don't have a traditional restaurant or an extensive menu with numerous choices. Instead, Prince Richard curates a fixed menu every day, drawing inspiration from his internationally famous cookbook, "Cooking of the Maharajas."

Our team is more than happy to accommodate any dietary restrictions or allergies you may have. While the meal choices are fixed, the dining locations are not! Get ready to be surprised as we serve you at various spots throughout the fort, each with its own unique charm.

The day begins with breakfast on the Mandap sitout, offering breathtaking views of the Narmada River below, or in our garden cottage. For lunch, indulge in a light Western fare prepared with fresh produce from our organic house garden and farm. In the evening, join us at the Mandap for refreshments, followed by a traditional Thaali dinner. Experience regional specialties and dishes with a Holkar twist, showcasing the culinary heritage of the region.

Discover the Gardens

As you explore the Ahilya Fort Hotel, you'll be captivated by the stunning gardens designed and planted by Prince Richard himself. Spread throughout the property, these organic gardens are a visual delight. The Bageecha, or vegetable garden, provides the kitchen with seasonal salads, vegetables, and herbs, ensuring that every meal is fresh and flavorful. In one corner, you'll find our menagerie, where children and adults alike can interact with bunnies, ducks, and goats. And of course, no visit is complete without meeting our adorable grumble of royal pugs.

At Ahilya Fort, we strive to create an unforgettable experience for our guests. Whether you're immersing yourself in history, savoring delectable meals, or simply enjoying the tranquility of our gardens, every moment spent here is truly special. Come and discover the magic of Ahilya Fort, where

history, hospitality, and natural beauty intertwine.