



Basking in the bright sun lies the expanse of the shimmering white sand, awaiting to be caressed by the cool waves of the Arabian Sea. Huge rocks lie scattered, as if enjoying the subtle beauty of the setting. At a distance, a lighthouse is visible. Welcome to this tranquil beauty of a beach, take a walk on it to relax your stressed nerves. And to experience the idea of Bon Appétit, gorge on freshly cooked fish curry and rice in the shadows of the casuarinas trees. This is the Sagareshwar beach, 3 km from the small town of Vengurla.

Offering that treasured but increasingly elusive element called privacy and far removed from the bustle of maddening crowds, the beach holds visitors in absolute thrall.

“This is my idea of a perfect picture postcard,” a visitor says. The deep blue

sea held back by the shining sand lined with windswept palms and casuarinas is an absolute delight for one and all. The setting truly offers an out-of-the-world experience. Located on the southern part of the Maharashtra coastline in the district of Sindhudurg, Vengurla is lined with many picturesque beaches like Sagareshwar, which lie undiscovered in the lap of nature.

A busy port and commercial centre during the Dutch era and the British rule, Vengurla today lies tucked away in the lush green countryside. The Dutch Wakhar (warehouses), Crawford market, and the Lighthouse on Vengurla rocks or the Burnt Islands pay homage to Vengurla’s historical heritage. The Vengurla jetty lined with the ruins of the warehouses comes alive in the evening, with men returning from sea with the day’s booty and the women filling the baskets with huge silver fish.

This small town is the hometown of the famous Indian cricketer Sunil Gavaskar. The Shiroda village 10 km south of Vengurla main town is significant

because Mahatma Gandhi visited the salt pans here during the Salt Satyagraha in 1930. Besides the historical importance and its famed links, Vengurla is famous for its temples too — the Sagareshwar (Shiv) temple on the Sagareshwar beach, the 300-year-old Rameshwar temple, the Sateri Devi temple at Aravali village, and the Ganapati temple at Redi.

“Rustic at heart”, “Vintage, picturesque”, “Virgin and undiscovered” — these are samples of how Vengurla has been described by those who have been mesmerised by the beauty of this place. For the beach buffs, this place is heaven with several pristine beaches covered with greenery.

Just 522 km away by road from India’s commercial hub Mumbai, the coastal view is absolutely worth seeing. The nearest railway station is at Sawantwadi on the Konkan railway, which is just 28 km away from Vengurla.

Though staying options are limited, the MTDC Tent Resort at the Sagareshwar beach offers a wonderful view and a perfect place to stay.



The 300-year-old Rameshwar temple in Vengurla

Goa carnival goes green

Green groups in Goa fighting to maintain the state’s natural beauty joined the state-sponsored four-day carnival to highlight viable options to protect the environment.

Martin Luther King III visits India

Martin Luther III arrived in India to commemorate and retrace the steps of his father on the 50th anniversary celebration of the first visit by the pioneer of the American civil rights movement, Martin Luther King Jr to India. Siri Fort Auditorium in the city came alive to echoes of “Yes We Can” and “We Shall Overcome” for the occasion.

Big Bird Day in Delhi witnesses 231 species

Delhi recorded about 231 species of birds on February 22 at the fourth annual Big Bird Day, a day when the city’s birders carry out a census of the bird species in and around Delhi.

Kala Ghoda Arts festival in Mumbai

Gallery and pavement shows, exhibitions, literary events, film screenings, concerts, dance and theatre shows, a food fiesta, and a buzzing street festival captured the audiences and participants in Mumbai at the annual Kala Ghoda Art.

Khajuraho Dance Festival

The annual Khajuraho Dance Festival at the open-air auditorium in front of the Chitragupta Temple and the Vishwanatha Temple began on February 25. This weeklong festival is legendary, with the performances presented in a dreamlike setting with the illuminated temples of Khajuraho as a backdrop. Along with the dance performances, one can also see a number of craftsmen trading their indigenous arts and crafts to the visitors.

22nd Garden Tourism Festival in Delhi

Roses in Landscape was the theme for the 22nd Garden Tourism Festival organised by Delhi Tourism and the Government of India. There was an attractive display of plants, hanging baskets, floral animals, cacti and succulents and various cultural activities at the three-day fest.

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