



Research Before Departure

Thoroughly research the destination you plan to visit before you book your travel. The obvious things to be taken into account are safety and health risks. Outside of that, there are several other things to consider before traveling.

1. In case you are traveling through a city with a high crime rate, we strongly urge you to carefully plan your itinerary. Be sure to arrive at your destination during the day and travel during daylight hours.
2. Reviewing your insurance coverage is, again, very important. Ensure that you have the right coverage for your travel destination, as well as your activity and that you fully understand what is covered and what is not.
3. Take a quick look at the weather before leaving. Make a note of conditions and weather patterns that might impact the safety of your trip. For example, during certain times of the year, and depending on the destination, the weather can be a little worse. Try to avoid those time periods and destinations for travel.
4. Lodging is always a safety concern. Make sure you stay in hotels, Inns, Bed and Breakfasts, Spas and Resorts that have a good reputation and are in a safe location.

Packing for your Trip

Packing is another extremely important aspect of travel in order to have a safe and fun filled vacation. Careful planning ensures that you do not miss out on the important stuff.

1. Make sure that you are carrying copies of

all essential documents, like passports, insurance cards, credit cards, itinerary, etc. Preferably, send a scanned copy of these documents to your e-mail address. In case of theft or lost luggage, you always have a back up.

2. Dress modestly for travel. Make sure that unless absolutely required, you are not carrying your valuables and jewelry. Consider leaving valuables at home, rather than wearing them.
3. Carry medical records for everyone in the family, particularly your children, the elderly or anyone in your family with health issues.
4. Have a first aid kit small enough to keep on you at all times. Have a "frequently used" medications bag, with your children's daily medications, as well as medications for the flu, fevers and
5. If anyone takes prescription medication, be sure you carry enough for your trip and have a copy of prescriptions and your doctor's information in case you lose your medication and need a refill.

Carrying Cash and Credit Cards

The requirement of carrying cash and cards while on vacation cannot be eliminated. It's extremely important for you to observe certain guidelines to make certain that you do not become a victim of theft.

1. It is best to only carry enough cash for food, train, cab fare, bus fare, or other small items you may need. If you have to carry cash, always use a money belt that sits on your waist and is hidden underneath your clothing.
2. Credit cards are the safest way to pay for your vacation. If they are stolen, you have limited liability and they are easily replaced.



ever no matter what, you will need cash in order to settle small charges, like food, drinks etc. Small vendors might not accept credit cards. It's advisable that you stash your bills accordingly. The smaller bills for tips, taxis etc., in one place and the bigger bills stashed in another place.

Staying Safe While on Vacation

Common sense is truly your best friend when travelling, domestically or internationally. Be cautious and try to remain in safe well lit neighborhoods.

1. Try not to travel alone or use short cuts, narrow alleys or poorly lit streets.
2. Avoid scam artists by being wary of strangers who approach you and offer to be your guide or sell you something at bargain prices.
3. Being friendly with the locals really helps, but be cautious about discussing personal matters or your itinerary.

Safety Rules While Using Public Transport

Usage of public transport indeed might be one of the cheapest modes of commuting from one place to another, but it also is one of the most common ways in which you can have a bad experience.

1. Avoid unmarked taxis or cabs while traveling. Only take taxis or cabs clearly identified with official markings. If you don't know what the local cab markings are, ask the concierge at your hotel.
2. While on board a train or bus, do not accept food or drink from strangers.
3. Do not be afraid to alert authorities if you feel threatened in any way. Extra police are often assigned to ride trains on routes where crime is a serious problem.

Being informed about everything is the key to safety for every member of your family when it comes to travel. Proper research and preparation can avoid trouble that could potentially ruin your family's vacation.

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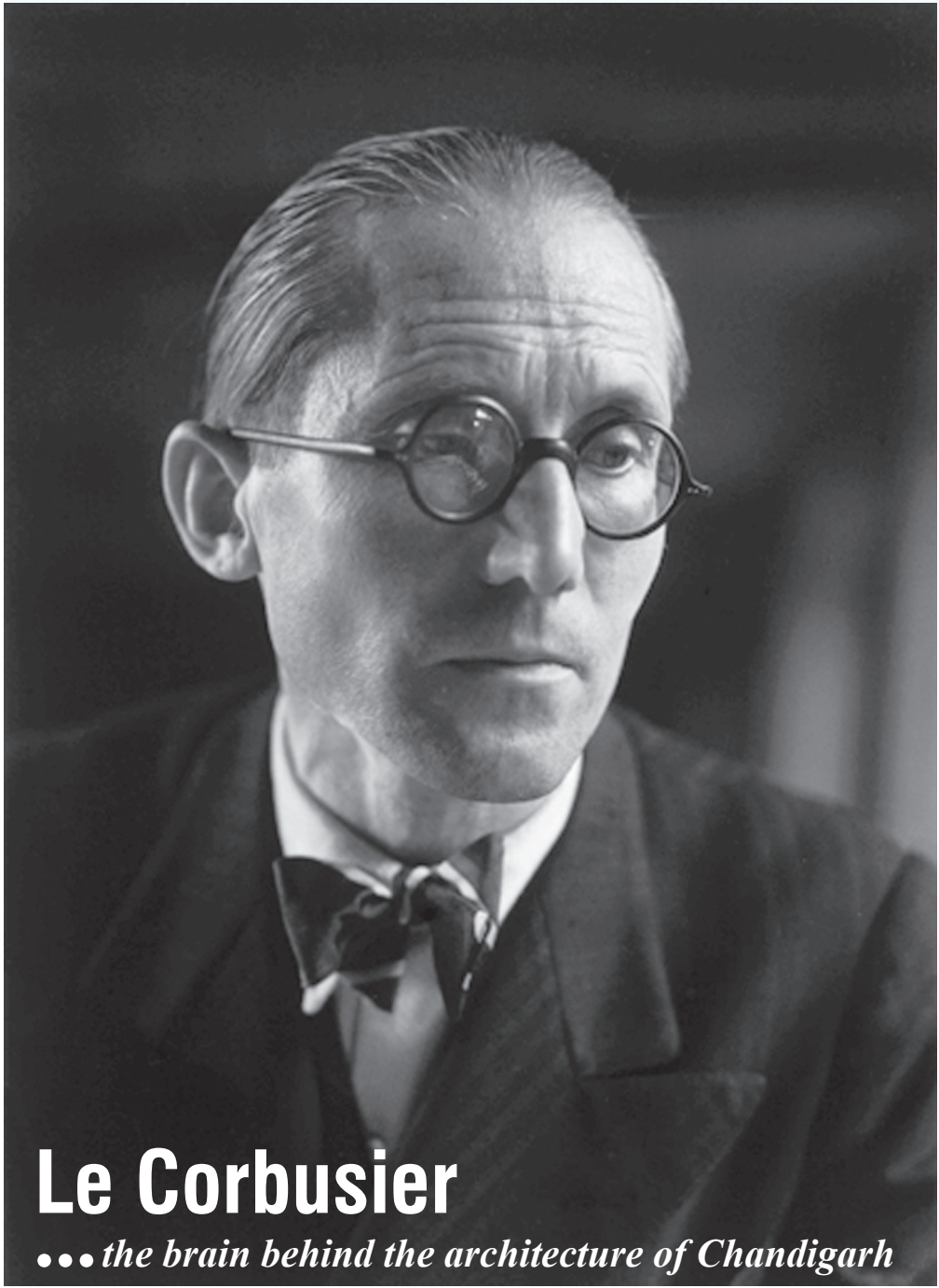
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Five points of Le Corbusier’s Architecture



Le Corbusier
...the brain behind the architecture of Chandigarh

Villa Savoye
It was Le Corbusier’s Villa Savoye (1929–1931) that most succinctly summed up his five points of architecture that he had elucidated in the journal L’Esprit Nouveau and his book Vers une architecture, which he had been devel-



oping throughout the 1920s. First, Le Corbusier lifted the bulk of the structure off the ground, supporting it by pilotis – reinforced concrete stilts. These pilotis, in providing the structural support for the house, allowed him to elucidate his next two points: a free façade, meaning non-supporting walls that could be designed as the architect wished, and an open floor plan, meaning that the floor space was free to be configured into rooms without concern for supporting walls. The second floor of the Villa Savoye includes long strips of ribbon windows that allow unencumbered views of the large surrounding yard, and which constitute the fourth point of his system. The fifth point was the roof garden to compensate for the green area consumed by the building and replacing it on the roof. A ramp rising from ground level to the third floor roof terrace allows for an architectural promenade through the structure. The white tubular railing recalls the industrial “ocean-liner” aesthetic that Le Corbusier much admired. As if to put an exclamation mark after Le Corbusier’s homage to modern industry, the driveway around the ground floor, with its semicircular path, measures the exact turning radius of a 1927 Citroën automobile.

The Modulor
Le Corbusier explicitly used the golden ratio in his Modulor system for the scale of architectural proportion. He saw this system as a continuation of the long tradition of Vitruvius, Leonardo da Vinci’s “Vitruvian Man”, the work of Leon Battista Alberti, and others who used the proportions of the human body to improve the appearance and function of architecture. In addition to the golden ratio, Le Corbusier based the system on human measurements, Fibonacci numbers, and the double unit.

He took Leonardo’s suggestion of the golden ratio in human proportions to an extreme: he sectioned his model human body’s height at the navel with the two sections in golden ratio, then subdivided those sections in golden ratio at the knees and throat; he used these golden ratio proportions in the Modulor system.

Le Corbusier’s 1927 Villa Stein in Garches exemplified the Modulor system’s application. The villa’s rectangular ground plan, elevation, and inner structure closely approximate golden rectangles.

Le Corbusier placed systems of harmony and proportion at the centre of his design philosophy, and his faith in the mathematical order of the universe was closely bound to the golden section and the Fibonacci series, which he described as “rhythms apparent to the eye and clear in their relations with one another. And these rhythms are at the very root of human activities. They resound in Man by an organic inevitability, the same fine inevitability which causes the tracing out of the Golden Section by children, old men, savages, and the learned.”

The Open Hand
The Open Hand Monument in Chandigarh, India
The Open Hand (La Main Ouverte) is a recurring motif in Le Corbusier’s architecture, a sign for him of “peace



and reconciliation. It is open to give and open to receive.” The largest of the many Open Hand sculptures that Le Corbusier created is a 28 meter high version in Chandigarh, India.

Furniture
Corbusier said: “Chairs are architecture, sofas are bourgeois.”
Le Corbusier began experimenting with furniture design in 1928 after inviting the architect, Charlotte Perriand, to join his studio. His cousin, Pierre Jeanneret, also



collaborated on many of the designs. Before the arrival of Perriand, Le Corbusier relied on ready-made furniture to furnish his projects, such as the simple pieces manufactured by Thonet, the company that manufactured his designs in the 1930s.

In 1928, Le Corbusier and Perriand began to put the expectations for furniture Le Corbusier outlined in his 1925 book L’Art Décoratif d’aujourd’hui into practice. In the book he defined three different furniture types: type-needs, type-furniture, and human-limb objects. He defined human-limb objects as: “Extensions of our limbs and adapted to human functions that are type-needs and type-functions, therefore type-objects and type-furniture. The human-limb object is a docile servant. A good servant is discreet and self-effacing in order to leave his master free. Certainly, works of art are tools, beautiful tools. And long live the good taste manifested by choice, subtlety, proportion, and harmony”.

The first results of the collaboration were three chrome-plated tubular steel chairs designed for two of his projects, The Maison la Roche in Paris and a pavilion for Barbara and Henry Church. The line of furniture was expanded for Le Corbusier’s 1929 Salon d’Automne installation, Equipment for the Home.

The most famous of these chairs are the now-iconic LC-1, LC-2, LC-3, and LC-4, originally titled “Basculant” (LC-1), “Fauteuil grand confort, petit modèle” (LC-2, “great comfort sofa, small model”), “Fauteuil grand confort, grand modèle” (LC-3, “great comfort sofa, large model”), and “Chaise longue” (LC-4, “Long chair”, English: “chaise lounge”). The LC-2 and LC-3 are more colloquially referred to as the petit confort and grand confort (abbreviation of full title, and due to respective sizes). The LC-2 (and similar LC-3) have been featured in a variety of media, notably the Maxell “blown away” advertisement.

In the year 1964, while Le Corbusier was still alive, Cassina S.p.A. of Milan acquired the exclusive worldwide rights to manufacture his furniture designs. Today many copies exist, but Cassina is still the only manufacturer authorized by the Fondation Le Corbusier; see US page.

Politics
In the 1930s, Le Corbusier associated with Georges Valois and Hubert Lagardelle and briefly edited the syndicalist journal Prélude. In 1934, he lectured in Rome on architecture, by invitation of Benito Mussolini. He sought out a position in urban planning in the Vichy regime and received an appointment on a committee studying urbanism. He drew up plans for the redesign of Algiers in which he criticized the perceived differences in living standards between Europeans and Africans in the city, describing a situation in which “the civilised live like rats in holes” yet “the barbarians live in solitude, in well-being.” These and plans for the redesign of other cities were ultimately ignored. After this defeat, Le Corbusier largely eschewed politics.

Although the politics of Lagardelle and Valois included elements of fascism, anti-semitism, and ultra-nationalism, Le Corbusier’s own affiliation with these movements remains uncertain. In La Ville radiuse, he conceives an essentially apolitical society, in which the bureaucracy of economic administration effectively replaces the state.

Le Corbusier was heavily indebted to the thought of the nineteenth-century French utopians Saint-Simon and Charles Fourier. There is a noteworthy resemblance between the concept of the unité and Fourier’s phalanstery. From Fourier, Le Corbusier adopted at least in part his no-

skyscrapers were set within large, rectangular park-like green spaces. At the center was a huge transportation hub, that on different levels included depots for buses and trains, as well as highway intersections, and at the top, an airport. He had the fanciful notion that commercial airliners would land between the huge skyscrapers. Le Corbusier segregated pedestrian circulation paths from the roadways and glorified the use of the automobile as a means of transportation. As one moved out from the central skyscrapers, smaller low-story, zigzag apartment blocks (set far back from the street amid green space), housed the inhabitants. Le Corbusier hoped that politically-minded industrialists in France would lead the way with their efficient Taylorist and Fordist strategies adopted from American industrial models to reorganize society. As Norma Evenson has put it, “the proposed city appeared to some an audacious and compelling vision of a brave new world, and to others a frigid megalomaniacally scaled negation of the familiar urban ambient.”

In this new industrial spirit, Le Corbusier contributed to a new journal called L’Esprit Nouveau that advocated the use of modern industrial techniques and strategies to transform society into a more efficient environment with a higher standard of living on all socioeconomic levels. He forcefully argued that this transformation was necessary to avoid the spectre of revolution that would otherwise shake society. His dictum, “Architecture or Revolution,” developed in his articles in this journal, became his rallying cry for the book Vers une architecture (Toward an Architecture, previously mistranslated into English as Towards an Architecture), which comprised selected articles he contributed to L’Esprit Nouveau between 1920 and 1923. In this book, Le Corbusier followed the influence of Walter Gropius and reprinted several photographs of North American factories and grain elevators.

Theoretical urban schemes continued to occupy Le Corbusier. He exhibited his “Plan Voisin,” sponsored by another famous automobile manufacturer, in 1925. In it, he proposed to bulldoze most of central Paris north of the Seine, and replace it with his sixty-story cruciform towers from the Contemporary City, placed in an orthogonal street grid and park-like green space. His scheme was met with criticism and scorn from French politicians and industrialists, although they were favorable to the ideas of Taylorism and Fordism underlying Le Corbusier designs. Nonetheless, it did provoke discussion concerning how to deal with the cramped, dirty conditions that enveloped much of the city.

In the 1930s, Le Corbusier expanded and reformulated his ideas on urbanism, eventually publishing them in La Ville radiuse (The Radiant City) of 1935. Perhaps the most significant difference between the Contemporary City and the Radiant City is that the latter abandons the class-based stratification of the former; housing is now assigned according to family size, not economic position. Some have read dark overtones into The Radiant City: from the “astoundingly beautiful assemblage of buildings” that was Stockholm, for example, Le Corbusier saw only “frightening chaos and saddening monotony.” He dreamed of “cleaning and purging” the city, bringing “a calm and powerful architecture”—referring to steel, plate glass, and reinforced concrete. Though Le Corbusier’s designs for Stockholm did not succeed, later architects took his ideas and partly “destroyed” the city with them.

La Ville radiuse also marks Le Corbusier’s increasing dissatisfaction with capitalism and his turn to the right-wing syndicalism of Hubert Lagardelle. During the Vichy regime, Le Corbusier received a position on a planning committee and made designs for Algiers and other cities. The central government ultimately rejected his plans, and after 1942 Le Corbusier withdrew from political activity.

tion of administrative, rather than political, government.

Criticisms
Since his death, Le Corbusier’s contribution has been hotly contested, as the architecture values and its accompanying aspects within modern architecture vary, both between different schools of thought and among practising architects. At the level of building, his later works expressed a complex understanding of modernity’s impact, yet his urban designs have drawn scorn from critics.

Technological historian and architecture critic Lewis Mumford wrote in Yesterday’s City of Tomorrow that the extravagant heights of Le Corbusier’s skyscrapers had no reason for existence apart from the fact that they had become technological possibilities. The open spaces in his central areas had no reason for existence either. Mumford wrote, since on the scale he imagined there was no motive during the business day for pedestrian circulation in the office quarter. By “mating utilitarian and financial image of the skyscraper city to the romantic image of the organic environment, Le Corbusier had, in fact, produced a sterile hybrid.”

The public housing projects influenced by his ideas are seen by some as having had the effect of isolating poor communities in monolithic high-rises and breaking the social ties integral to a community’s development. One of his most influential detractors has been Jane Jacobs, who delivered a scathing critique of Le Corbusier’s urban design theories in her seminal work The Death and Life of Great American Cities.

Historic Design of Chandigarh High Court
Designed by Le Corbusier, a French Architect, The High Court is a linear block with the main facade toward the piazza. It has a rhythmic arcade created by a parasol-like roof, which shades the entire building. Keeping in view the special dignity of the judges, Le Corbusier created a special entrance for them through a high portico resting on three giant pylons painted in bright colours. Very much in the tradition of the Buland Darwaza of Fatehpur-Sikri, this grand entrance with its awesome scale, is intended to manifest the Majesty of the Law to all who enter. Juxtaposed between the main courtroom of the Chief Justice and eight smaller courts, is a great entrance hall. Its scale—especially the height - is experienced most intensely while walking up the ramp. The symbolism of providing an “umbrella of shelter” of law to the ordinary citizen is most vividly manifested here. The continuity of the concrete piazza running into this space establishes a unique site and structural unity of the structure with the ground plane. The massive concrete pylons representing again the “Majesty of Law” are painted in bright primary colours and visually punctuate the otherwise rhythmic facade of the High Court. The rear side of this ceremonial entrance for the judges is a working entrance and a large car park at a sunken level. The massive piers and the blank end walls have interesting cut-outs and niches, to establish a playful connection with the human scale.



Tourism in Chandigarh

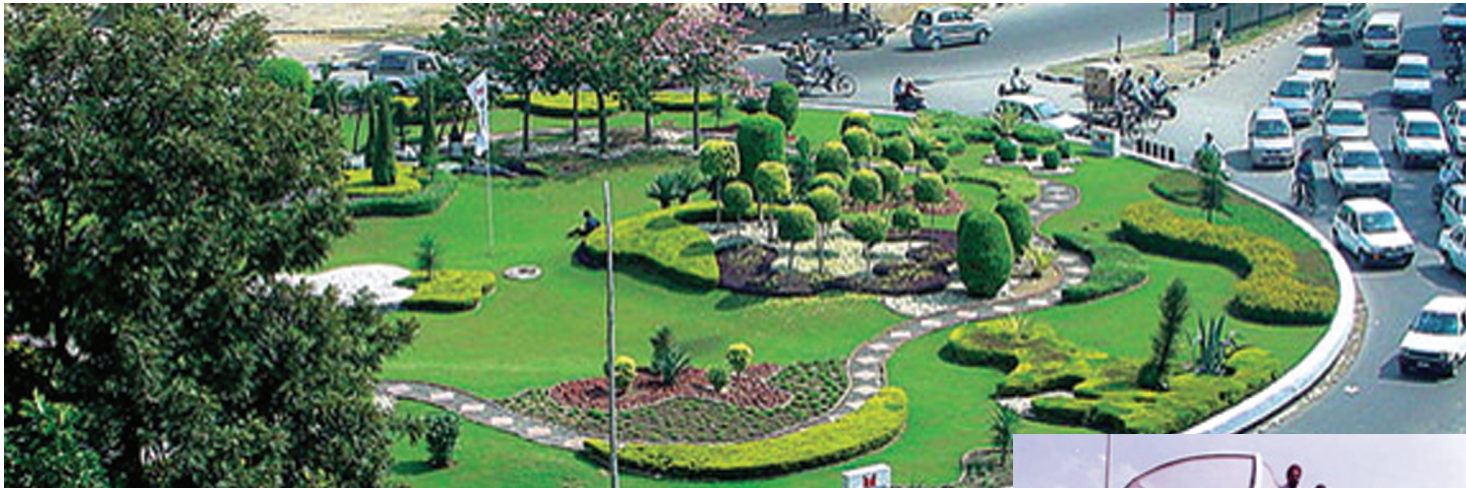
Picturesquely located at the foothills of Shivaliks, the Union territory of Chandigarh serves as the capital of Punjab and Haryana. The city derives its name from the temple of “Chandi Mandir” located in the vicinity of the site selected for the city. The deity ‘Chandi’, the goddess of power and a fort ‘garh’ beyond the temple gave the city its name “Chandigarh-The City Beautiful”. Known internationally for its architecture and urban planning, Chandigarh is home to numerous architectural projects of Le Corbusier, Pierre Jeanneret, Matthew Nowicki, and Albert Mayer. Some of the many tourist attractions in the city

ous, spic and span, green city rightly called “THE CITY BEAUTIFUL”.

LOCAL TRANSPORT

Hop on Hop off Tourist Coach

This Coach is one of its first kind in the country and is a major tourist attraction in itself due to its open top roof. The well furnished double decker coach moves in circular route covering all the major tourist destinations in the city.



include the Famous Rock Garden, an international dolls museum and a number of garden and parks. The city can also be used as a base to make excursions to nearby Kasauli, Chail, Solan and Shimla.

Chandigarh is the best-planned city in India, with architecture which is world-renowned, and a quality of life, which is unparalleled. As the capital of the states of Punjab and Haryana, and the Union Territory of Chandigarh it is a prestigious city. The face of modern India, Chandigarh, is the manifestation of a dream that Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru envisaged and Le Corbusier executed.

Serenity and a city are two diametrically opposite concepts, which however, get belied in the ‘City Beautiful’. Chandigarh is a rare epitome of modernization co-existing with nature’s preservation. It is here that the trees and plants are as much a part of the construction plans as the buildings and the roads. India’s first planned city, is a rich, prosper-

Half day tour which starts from Hotel Shivalikview, Sector-17, Chandigarh covers Zakir Rose Garden (Sector-16), Museum & Art Gallery (Sector-10), War Memorial & Bougainvillea Garden (Sector-03), Rock Garden (Sector-1) and Sukhana Lake.



Chandigarh Plaza Carnival



If you are going on a holiday to Chandigarh, then make sure you attend the Chandigarh Plaza Carnival. This cultural event gives one a fair idea about the lively attitude of the people of India and their love for dance and music.

The Chandigarh Plaza Carnival is a weekly event that is held every Saturday. The festival is held in an open-air stage in the Central plaza in sector 17. The carnival is three hour long festival which attracts a huge crowd from all across the city. The festival gives one an insight into the Punjabi culture and their love for music and dance.

The Plaza Carnival in Chandigarh involves a large number of cultural events and programs. The different types of programs that are held over here includes magic shows, dance performances, music performances, singing competitions, theatres and short plays and similar such programs. The most striking feature of this festival is that every week there is something new and innovative. No program is

repeated. Hence, unlike the other festivals and events in Chandigarh, this festival offers variety and, hence, is known for its innovativeness.

The Chandigarh Plaza Carnival showcases the talents of numerous local artists who otherwise do not get an opportunity to display their skills. A large number of singers, comedians, dancers, actors and acrobats perform in this glamorous event. You can get to listen to the traditional Bhangra songs along with the modern Bhangra pop in this festival. Youngsters love to attend this festival. This popular weekend festival is the ideal way to spend your weekend evenings with your friends. The vibrancy of this festival has increased its popularity. The Chandigarh Plaza Festival draws a huge crowd of people from all corners of the city.

Thus, if you looking for some fun and entertainment during your vacations in Chandigarh, attending the Chandigarh Plaza Festival is a good option.

How to reach Chandigarh

By AIR:

Indian Airlines, Jet Airways and Air Deccan connects Chandigarh with New Delhi the National Capital. Chandigarh Tourism has well maintained Tourist Information Centre at the Airport. The airport is 11 km from downtown. Taxis are available for Airport transfer.

By Train:

Chandigarh is linked with New Delhi, the National Capital by Rail. The Chandigarh Railway Station is 8 Kms from the city centre in Sector 17. The twice daily Shatabdi, Jan Shatabdi and Himalayan Queen connects New Delhi and Chandigarh. Paschim Express connects the city to Mumbai, SADBHAVNA to Lucknow, Kerala Sampark Kranti to Kerala and Chennai Express to Chennai.

By Road:

Chandigarh is well connected by road and buses provide an important transport link. There are services from various states such as Haryana, Punjab, Himachal, and Delhi. It is a gateway to Himachal Pradesh as one can reach hill stations like Kasauli, Chail, Shimla etc within a few hours drive. The hill stations Kullu & Manali with Rohtang Glacier are accessible from Chandigarh. The Union Territory of Chandigarh is well served by an excellent network of roads. The National Highways No. 21 (Ambala-Kinnaur) and 22 (Chandigarh-Leh) are the chief road arteries linking Chandigarh with the rest of the country.

The city is within motorable distance from a number of popular towns and pilgrimage centres. Buses of several State Road Transport Corporations connect Chandigarh with many cities and towns of neighbouring states. Buses may be air-conditioned, deluxe, semi-deluxe or ordinary. The Inter-State Bus Terminus (ISBT) is located in Sector 17 (City Centre).

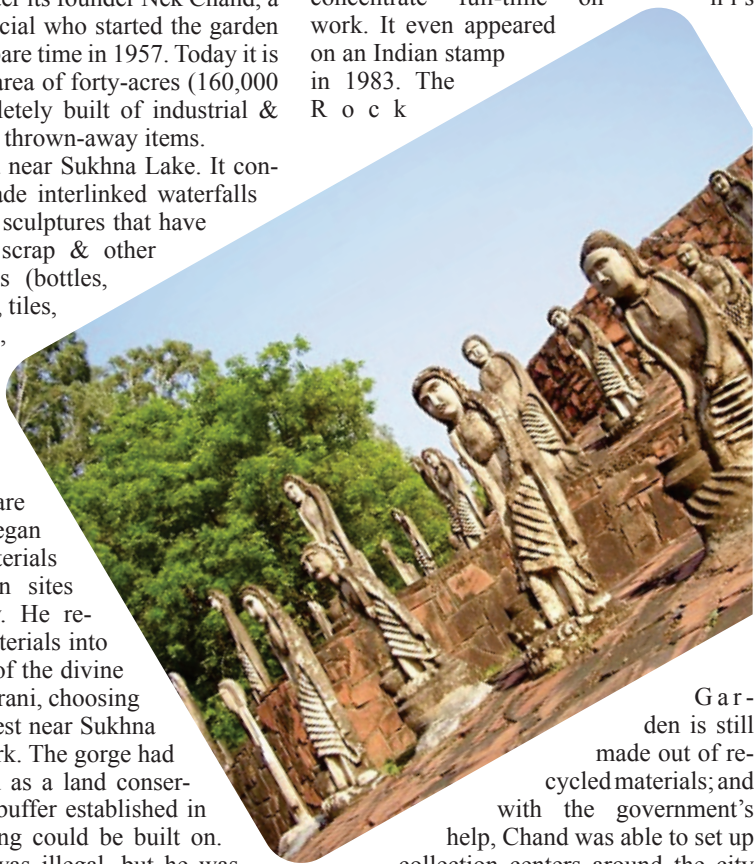
Rock Garden Headline

The Rock Garden or Rock Garden of Chandigarh is a Sculpture garden in Chandigarh, India, also known as Nek Chand’s Rock Garden after its founder Nek Chand, a government official who started the garden secretly in his spare time in 1957. Today it is spread over an area of forty-acres (160,000 m²), it is completely built of industrial & home waste and thrown-away items.

It is situated near Sukhna Lake. It consists of man-made interlinked waterfalls and many other sculptures that have been made of scrap & other kinds of wastes (bottles, glasses, bangles, tiles, ceramic pots, sinks, electrical waste, etc) which are placed in walled paths.

In his spare time, Chand began collecting materials from demolition sites around the city. He recycled these materials into his own vision of the divine kingdom of Sukrani, choosing a gorge in a forest near Sukhna Lake for his work. The gorge had been designated as a land conservancy, a forest buffer established in 1902 that nothing could be built on. Chand’s work was illegal, but he was able to hide it for eighteen years before it was discovered by the authorities in 1975. By this time, it had grown into a 12-acre (49,000 m²) complex of interlinked courtyards, each filled with hundreds of pottery-covered concrete sculptures of dancers, musicians, and animals. His work was in serious danger of being demolished, but he was able to get public opinion on his side, and in 1976 the park was inaugurated as a public space.

Nek Chand was given a salary, a title (“Sub-Divisional Engineer, Rock Garden”), & a workforce of 50 laborers so that he could concentrate full-time on his work. It even appeared on an Indian stamp in 1983. The Rock Garden



Garden is still made out of recycled materials; and with the government’s help, Chand was able to set up collection centers around the city for waste, especially rags and broken ceramics. When Chand left the country on a lecture tour in 1996, the city withdrew its funding, and vandals attacked the park. The Rock Garden Society took over the administration and upkeep of this unique visionary environment. The garden is visited by over five thousand people daily, with a total of more than twelve million visitors since its inception.

Chandigarh Golf Club

The Chandigarh Golf Club was laid out in 1962 over 9 holes initially and is located just south of Sukhna Lake and adjacent to the residence of the Punjab Governor in Sector 6, Chandigarh. It was subsequently expanded to a full 18 hole course in 1989. The 7,063-yard, par-72 course is known for its tight fairways, which are lined by thick mango, jamun, eucalyptus and kikar orchards, trees and thick roughs. There are quite a few dogleg holes here, but none gives the players a chance to take the shortcut as tall trees almost always guard the corners. The Club also possesses one of the longest par-5s in India, the seventh hole, which measures 613 yards. Its pride of Northern India.

Chandigarh Golf Club is the only one in Northern India having floodlit 9 hole golf course and floodlit driving range also called the Cradle of Indian Golf. Among its most celebrated sons are the reigning Asian Tour king of greens Jeev Milkha Singh, who became the first Indian to finish top ten in a major championship. It is also home to some of India’s finest golfers including Harmeet Kahlon, Sujjan Singh, Amandeep Johal, Gur-



baaz Mann, Harinder Gupta, Ranjit Singh, Abhijeet Chadha, H.S. Kang, Irina Brar etc.

Course was laid out in 1962 just south of Sukhna Lake and adjacent to the residence of the Punjab Governor in Sector 6, Chandigarh.

The 7,063-yard, par-72 course is an environmental lung for the city with its rich and varied species of trees and shrubs. The course is known for its tight fairways, which are lined by thick mango, jamun, eucalyptus and kikar orchards trees and thick roughs. There are quite a few dogleg holes here, but none gives the players a chance to take the shortcut as tall trees almost always guard the corners. The Club also possesses one of the longest par-5s in India, the seventh hole, which measures 613 yards.





About VISA

What is a U.S. Visa?

A citizen of a foreign country who seeks to enter the United States (U.S.) generally must first obtain a U.S. visa, which is placed in the traveler's passport, a travel document issued by the traveler's country of citizenship. Certain international travelers may be eligible to travel to the U.S. without a visa if they meet the requirements for visa-free travel. The Visa section of this website is all about U.S. visas for foreign citizens to travel to the U.S.

How Can I use a Visa to Enter the U.S.?

Having a U.S. visa allows you to travel to a port of entry, airport or land border crossing, and request permission of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Customs and Border Protection (CBP) inspector to enter the U.S. While having a visa does not guarantee entry to the U.S., it does indicate a consular officer at a U.S. Embassy or

Reading and Understanding a Visa



Consulate abroad has determined you are eligible to seek entry for that specific purpose. DHS/CBP inspectors, guardians of the nation's borders, are responsible for admission of travelers to the U.S., for a specified status and period of time. DHS also has responsibility for immigration matters while you are present in the U.S.

What Types of Visas Are There?

The type of visa you must obtain is defined by U.S. immigration law, and re-

lates to the purpose of your travel. There are two main categories of U.S. visas:

- Nonimmigrant visas – For travel to the U.S. on a temporary basis.
- Immigrant visas – For travel to live permanently in the U.S.

VISA TYPES

Welcome to this official United States visa information source. The Visa section of this website is all about U.S. visas for foreign citizens to travel to the U.S. Before traveling to the U.S., a citizen of a foreign country must generally obtain a nonimmigrant visa for temporary stay or an immigrant visa for permanent residence. The type of visa you will need is based on the purpose of your travel. United States citizens don't need a U.S. visa for travel, but when planning travel abroad may need a visa issued by the embassy of the country they wish to visit. For more information, review Americans Traveling Abroad on the left. We welcome the millions of foreign visitors and immigrants who come to the U.S. each year. They add greatly to our nation's cultural, educational, and economic life. In addition to open doors, we also believe in secure borders to keep us all safe.

Visitor Visas

The visitor visa is a type of nonimmigrant visa for persons desiring to enter the United States temporarily for business (B-1) or for pleasure, tourism or medical treatment (B-2). International travelers with visitor visas comprise a large portion of temporary visitor travel to the United States every year. For how-to-apply information, documentation requirements and more.

Students, temporary workers, journalists and persons planning to travel to the U.S. for a purpose other than that permitted on a visitor visa, must apply for a different visa in the appropriate category.

Travel Without a Visa - Foreign citizens traveling for visitor visa purposes only, from certain eligible countries may also be able to visit the U.S. without a visa, through the Visa Waiver Program if they meet requirements, including having a valid Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA) approval. Additionally, citizens of Canada and Bermuda traveling for visitor visa purposes don't need a visa, with some exceptions.

For more information regarding travel and tourism in

the United States please visit DiscoverAmerica.org, the official travel and tourism website of the United States.

Tax Information

Review the Internal Revenue Service website information about United States tax requirements for certain foreign citizens engaged in business or trade in the U.S., since many will have an obligation to file a U.S. tax return.

Student and Exchange Visitors

The United States welcomes foreign citizens who come to the U.S. to study or participate in an exchange program. Before applying for a visa, all student and exchange visitor applicants are required to be accepted and approved for their program. When accepted, educational institutions and program sponsors will provide each applicant the necessary approval documentation, to be submitted when applying for a visa. Please select from the choices below for information about student and exchange visitor visas:

Study

- Student Visas - Academic and vocational (F & M Visas)
- Students - in Public Schools - F-1 Students Attending High School (Grades 9-12)

Temporary Workers

If you want to work in the U.S. temporarily as a nonimmigrant, under U.S. immigration law, you need a specific visa based on the type of work you will be doing. Most temporary worker categories require that the applicant's prospective employer or agent to file a petition which must be approved by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) before you can apply for a visa. To learn about petitions and more, see Temporary Workers and Employers-Hiring a Foreign National for Short-Term Employment on the USCIS website.

More information by temporary worker visa type:

- Temporary Workers webpage includes;
- Foreign nationals with extraordinary ability in Sciences, Arts, Education, Business or Athletics (O visas)
- International cultural exchange visitors (Q visas)
- Intra-company transferees (L visas)
- Performing athletes, artists, entertainers (P visas)
- Specialty occupations in fields requiring highly specialized knowledge (H-1B)
- Temporary agricultural workers (H-2A)
- Temporary workers performing other services or labor of a temporary or seasonal nature (H-2B)
- Training in a program not primarily for employment (H-3)
- Crewmembers (D visa)
- Foreign Media, Press, and Radio (I visa)
- Religious Workers (R visa)
- Treaty Traders & Treaty Investors (E visa)

Additional temporary worker visa types:

- Australian in Specialty Occupation (E-3 visa)
- Chile Free Trade Agreement Professional (H-1B1 visa)
- Mexican and Canadian (NAFTA) Workers (TN and TD visas)
- Singapore Free Trade Agreement Professional (H-1B1 visa)

Important temporary worker information: Review the Internal Revenue Service website information about United States tax requirements for certain foreign citizens engaged in business or trade in the U.S., since most will have an obligation to file a U.S. tax return.

-Tips for Traveling Abroad-

For detailed information about steps you can take to ensure a safe trip, see How to Have a Safe Trip. Meanwhile, here are some quick tips to make your travel easier and safer:

- Sign up for the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program so the State Department can better assist you in an emergency: Let us know your travel plans through the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program, a free online service at <https://travelregistration.state.gov>. This will help us contact you if there is a family emergency in the U.S., or if there is a crisis where you are traveling. In accordance with the Privacy Act, information on your welfare and whereabouts will not be released to others without your express authorization.
- Sign passport, and fill in the emergency information: Make sure you have a signed, valid passport, and a visa, if required, and fill in the emergency information page of your passport.
- Leave copies of itinerary and passport data page: Leave copies of your itinerary, passport data page and visas with family or friends, so you can be contacted in case of an emergency.
- Check your overseas medical insurance coverage: Ask your medical insurance company if your policy applies overseas, and if it covers emergency expenses such as medical evacuation. If it does not, consider supplemental insurance.
- Familiarize yourself with local conditions and laws: While in a foreign country, you are subject to its laws. The State Department web site at http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1765.html has useful safety and other information about the countries you will visit.
- Take precautions to avoid being a target of crime: To avoid being a target of crime, do not wear conspicuous clothing or jewelry and do not carry excessive amounts of money. Also, do not leave unattended luggage in public areas and do not accept packages from strangers.
- Contact us in an emergency: Consular personnel at U.S. Embassies and Consulates abroad and in the U.S. are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to provide emergency assistance to U.S. citizens. Contact information for U.S. Embassies and Consulates appears on the Bureau of Consular Affairs website at <http://travel.state.gov>. Also note that the Office of Overseas Citizen Services in the State Department's Bureau of Consular Affairs may be reached for assistance with emergencies at 1-888-407-4747, if calling from the U.S. or Canada, or 202-501-4444, if calling from overseas.

How to have a Safe Trip

Planning Your Trip: Know Before You Go!

- Information Resources
- The Consular Information Program
- How to Obtain Country Specific Information, Travel Warnings and Travel Alerts
- Background Notes
- Other Resources
- Customs and Import Restrictions
- Customs Restrictions of Foreign Destinations – What

You Cannot Take to Other Countries

- U.S. Customs Restrictions – What You Cannot Bring Back With You
- Taking a Pet Overseas
- Places to Receive Mail
- Health: What You Need to Know in Advance of Travel

- Vaccination, Infectious Diseases, Pandemic Influenza, Foot Mouth Disease, Chemical/Biological/Nuclear Incidents
- Insurance, Medicare & Medicaid, Medical Evacuation
- Bringing Medications or Filling Prescriptions Abroad
- Doctors and Hospitals
- Special Planning Considerations
- Student Travelers
- Older Americans
- Traveling With Disabilities

Required Travel Documents and Other Important Documentation

- Passport Requirements & How to Apply for a Passport
- How to Apply for a U.S. Passport
- If You Need to Obtain a New Passport While Abroad
- Adoption Abroad
- Entry Requirements of Foreign Countries
- Work Authorization, Residence Permits
- Additional Fees

What to Take With You on the Trip, and What to Leave Behind

- Valuables
- Leave Copies of Documents and Itinerary with Relatives in the U.S.
- Plan for the Unexpected



Chandigarh Tourist Attractions

Tourism in Chandigarh is on peak. Nature lovers from different parts of the country flock here to view the beautiful theme gardens of the city. The reservoir of places to see in Chandigarh is very large. In this section, we will provide you with Chandigarh tourist attractions guide that will help you explore the various sightseeing places in Chandigarh.

We will brief you on the following popular places to visit in Chandigarh and near by:

- Leisure valley
- Rock garden
- Sukhna lake
- Open hand monument
- Capitol complex
- Kasauli
- Chail
- Solan
- Shimla
- Terraced Garden
- Thunderzone
- Fun & Entertainment
- Fitness Trails
- Bougainvillea Garden
- FunCity
- Forest popular
- Leisure Valley
- Botanical Garden
- Pinjore Gardens
- Children Traffic Park
- Shanti Kunj
- Smriti Upavan
- Punjab Kala Kendra
- Garden of Fragrance
- Hibiscus Garden
- Topiary Park
- Child Art Gallery
- The High Court Complex
- Rajendra Park
- Yadvinder Garden, Pinjore
- National Gallery of Portraits
- Mansa Devi Temple, Panchkula
- Nada Sahib, Panchkula
- Cactus Garden, Panchkula
- Museum of the Evolution of Life
- International Dolls Museum popular
- Government Museum and Art Gallery



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