

# Jorhat Tourism

## NEWSLETTER

#8 | JULY 2024

Dear Reader,

As the monsoon rains lash the pristine region of north east India, Jorhat and its surroundings are getting a fresh coat of colours. By September Jorhat will present a lush green environment. What better time to enjoy the tranquil haven of Shanti Ashram near Kokilamukh. And it doesn't get better than enjoying the majestic tea plantations bustling with a whole world of flora and fauna living out a new season. Join us as we take you through these and other exciting places to see and experience, at Jorhat.

**Pulak Mahanta, ACS**

*District Commissioner - Jorhat & Chairman-Destination Management Committee-Jorhat*

## SHANTI ASHRAM



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Srimat Swami Nigamananda Saraswati founded 'Shanti Ashram' on the auspicious occasion of Akshay Tritiya in 1314 at Kumilla Durgapur. Later, the ashram was relocated from Bangabad to Gendaria in Dhaka. In 1318, Sri Gaurang Orphanage was established there with the aim of assisting the distressed, bereaved, poor, and sick.

A devoted follower of Nigamananda, Saruram Kalita, received funds from him to purchase 80 bighas of land in Kumarbhet Chapari village, Kokilamukh in Jorhat. The monastery was established here by Nigamananda who himself instituted the Jagatguru seat at Kokilamukh, Jorhat, naming it 'Shanthy Aashram', now also recognized as 'Saraswat Math' or 'Assam Bengali Saraswat Math'.

The primary objectives of Shanti Aashram echo Swami Nigamananda's threefold mission - propagation of Sanatan Dharma, dissemination of truth, and teaching and serving all as embodiments of the God.

Adjacent to the ashram lies a garden where vegetables and fruits are grown, alongside facilities for cattle rearing. The monastery is surrounded by a tribal village on one side and farms on the other three sides, providing amenities for family visits and housing orphaned children alongside its residents



## THE BANYAN GROVE

Banyan Grove is a 100 year old heritage hotel in Jorhat, Assam located in the heart of the Gatoonga Tea Estate. Deriving its name from the two-hundred-year old Banyan tree located at the heart of the estate, this is a great place to relax and unwind amidst a sprawling tea plantation.

Take a leisurely stroll in the garden at sunrise. Enjoy specially prepared traditional North-Eastern dishes while basking in the comfort of a large colonial-styled dining room.

The hotel offers tea-plantation tours, providing insights into the art of tea making at the factory, with expert tips on tea tasting. Following this delightful experience, indulge in cycling and fishing along the scenic hills of Jorhat.



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Banyan Grove has 7 spacious and well-appointed bedrooms with design features like high ceilings, sloping roofs and verandahs. Each room is equipped with geysers, fireplaces, sitting room, dining room, kitchenette and 24 hours water supply.

This bungalow is intended for tourists who visit to explore the resort bungalows amidst the tea gardens during their holidays. It offers a heavenly experience of relaxation and pampering by the well-trained resort staff.

This heritage property is owned by the family of the late Padmashree Hemendra Prasad Barooah, who was born in 1926 in Jorhat to a family of tea garden owners. He graduated from Harvard Business School in the class of 1949 and was likely the first Assamese to earn a business degree from Harvard.



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