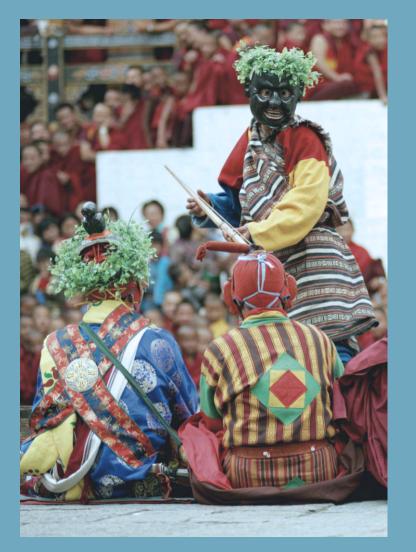


Festivals

Bastille Day, Pondicherry, Tamil Nadu 14th July

Phyang Tsedup Festival, Leh, Ladakh 22nd to 23rd July



July 2025

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Bastille Day

Bastille Day is a significant festival in Pondicherry, a former French colony in India. It commemorates the storming of the Bastille prison in Paris on 14th July 1789, which marked the beginning of the French Revolution and the end of the monarchy. Every year, on this day, Pondicherry celebrates its French heritage and culture with various events and activities. A colourful parade is led by a band playing martial music and ends with a salute to the Indian and French flags. People dress up in traditional French costumes or wear tricolour accessories to show their affinity with France. In the evening, a spectacular display of fireworks takes place on the Promenade Beach.

Highlights:

- This day marks the beginning of the French Revolution and the end of the monarchy
- It is a day of pride, joy, and gratitude for both the French and Indian communities living in Pondicherry

When: July 14, 2024

Where: Pondicherry



Phyang Tsedup Festival

The Monastery of Phyang is home to about 70 monks belonging to the Red Hat Sect of Buddhists where Phyang Tsedup festival is held annually and goes on for 2 days. On the day of the Tsedup, special prayers are performed. The sacred mask dance of monks in rich silk costumes is the prime attraction. Along with this, dramas or 'Chhams' are the main part of the festival. Devotees perform a pilgrimage to the huge Thangka of Skyabje Jigten Gombo (the founder of the Dringungpa monastic order), which is exhibited during this 2-day festival. This is unveiled once in 3 years in the years of the pig, the snake and the monkey of the Tibetan calendar.

Highlights:

- The Buddhist sacred monastery Phyang is a religious haven to 70 Buddhist monks
- Celebrations feature special prayers, chanting of auspicious Buddhist mantras, and sacred mask dances





Where: Leh, Ladakh