

December 2025

Festivals

Horse Polo, Jodhpur, Rajasthan

Dates TBA

**Kumbhalgarh Festival, Kumbhalgarh,
Rajasthan**

01st to 03rd December

Hornbill Festival, Kohima, Nagaland

01st to 10th December

St Francis Xavier feast, Goa

03rd December

**Mahindra Kabira Festival, Varanasi, Uttar
Pradesh**

13th to 15th December

Kochi-Muziris Biennale

13, 2025 to March 31, 2026

Serendipity Arts Festival, Panjim, Goa

15th to 22nd December

**Chennai Dance and Music Festival, Chennai,
Tamil Nadu**

20th December to 21st January (Tentative)

**Indian Dance Festival, Mahabalipuram,
Tamil Nadu**

22nd December to 21 January (Tentative)



December 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



Horse Polo

The Jodhpur Polo Tournament is a prestigious event held annually at the Umaid Bhawan Palace and other venues in Jodhpur, Rajasthan. Known as the "Sport of Kings," polo has a rich history in Jodhpur, with the city being one of the oldest homes of the game in India. The tournament features various matches, including the Umaid Bhawan Palace Cup, H.H. Maharaja of Jodhpur Cup, and the Rajputana & Central India Cup, among others². The event attracts top polo players and teams from across the country and showcases the city's equestrian heritage and sporting spirit.

Highlights:

- The tournament attracts top polo teams from around the world, offering high-level competition
- The event is held under the patronage of HH Maharaja Gajsingh II and Yuvraj Shivraj Singh of Jodhpur-Marwar



When: Dates TBA, 2025



Where: Jodhpur, Rajasthan



Kumbhalgarh Festival

Kumbhalgarh Classical Dance Festival is where India's finest classical musician, artists and renowned dancers assemble and give their best performances. The festival is an ode to Maharaja Kumbha, who was a great patron of arts and contributed much to the culture of Kumbhalgarh. The festival is hosted during the day and night. The day sees exhibitions by locals who display their wares ranging from regional ethnic wear, jewellery, handicrafts, souvenirs, etc. The evening is dedicated to the arts where musicians and dancers perform to the cheering crowds. A few fun competitions among locals and foreigners are also conducted and visitors can also witness the historical and popular puppet show organised here.

Highlights:

- India's finest classical musicians, artists and dancers assemble and give their best performances
- Exhibitions display wide range of wares from artisans including ethnic wear and jewellery



When: December 1 - 3, 2025



Where: Kumbhalgarh, Rajasthan



Hornbill Festival

Since 2000, the Hornbill Festival has been a major annual event in Kohima, Nagaland. It showcases the customs, traditions, heritage, food, costumes, and handicrafts of all major Naga tribes. Named after the revered Hornbill bird, the festival holds a significant place in Naga folklore. It offers a unique glimpse into Nagaland's rich cultural diversity, bringing together various tribes in a vibrant and festive atmosphere. The Hornbill Festival is a celebration of the state's indigenous heritage, fostering unity and cultural exchange among the Naga people and attracting visitors from across the world.

Highlights:

- Cultural performances by the various tribes of Nagaland are a sight to behold
- Ethnic crafts, traditional sports, replicas of traditional Naga houses, food, and age old ceremonies



When: December 1 - 10, 2025



Where: Kohima, Nagaland



The Feast of St. Francis Xavier

The Feast of St. Francis Xavier is celebrated annually on December 3rd in Old Goa, India. This event honors the legacy of St. Francis Xavier, one of the founding members of the Jesuits, who played a significant role in spreading Christianity in Asia¹. The day features religious ceremonies, including masses and processions, at the Basilica of Bom Jesus, where his sacred relics are enshrined. Devotees from around the world gather to pay their respects, making it a major pilgrimage event². The feast is marked by a sense of deep spirituality and reverence, reflecting the profound impact of St. Francis Xavier's missionary work.

Highlights:

- Devotees have the opportunity to venerate the sacred relics of St. Francis Xavier, which are displayed throughout
- Various cultural programs, such as music, dance, and traditional performances, add to the festive atmosphere

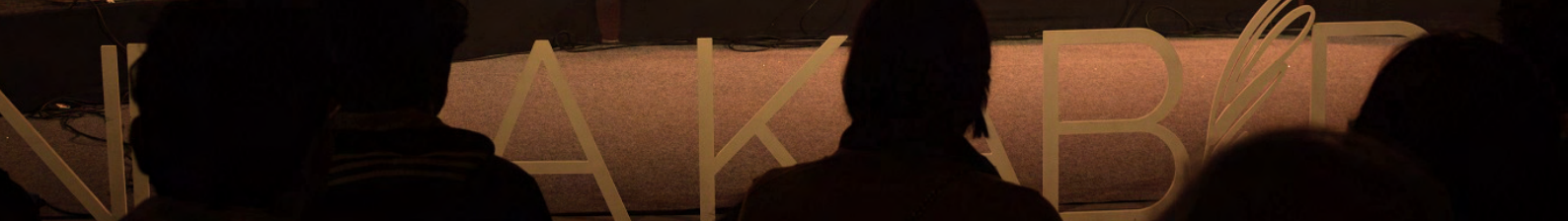


When: December 3, 2025



Where: Goa

MAHINDRA
KABIRA
FESTIVAL



Mahindra Kabira Festival

Every November, Varanasi hosts the Kabira Festival, honoring the 15th-century mystic poet Kabir. This vibrant celebration includes classical and folk music, literature, talks, boat rides, the iconic Ganga aarti, curated cuisine, and guided walks. Known for its commitment to sustainability, the festival strives for 100% green status. The Mahindra Kabira Delegate Package offers options from one-day to comprehensive experiences with accommodation, providing an immersive festival experience and a chance to explore the rich history and cultural heritage of one of the world's oldest cities, Varanasi.

Highlights:

- A tribute to the spirit of the mystic poet Kabir
- One of India's very few 'green festivals'



When: December 13 - 15, 2025



Where: Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh



Kochi-Muziris Biennale

The Kochi-Muziris Biennale, held in Kochi, Kerala, is India's first international biennial of contemporary art. Founded in 2011, it showcases works by Indian and international artists across various mediums, including film, installation, painting, sculpture, new media, and performance art¹. The biennale is set across Kochi, with exhibitions in galleries, heritage buildings, and public spaces. It also features talks, seminars, screenings, music, workshops, and educational activities¹. The event celebrates Kochi's legacy as a modern metropolis and its ancient port, Muziris.

Highlights:

- It connects the modern city of Kochi with its ancient predecessor, the port of Muziris, adding a historical layer
- The Biennale attracts artists from around the world, showcasing a diverse range of contemporary art



When: December 13, 2025 - March 31, 2026



Where: Kochi, Kerala



Serendipity Arts Festival

Serendipity Arts Festival, held on the banks of the Mandovi River in Goa, is one of South Asia's largest multi-disciplinary arts initiatives. It showcases visual, performing, and culinary arts, alongside film, live arts, literature, and fashion. Curated by a distinguished panel, the festival includes educational initiatives, workshops, special projects, and institutional engagements. It aims to transform daily interactions with art by addressing arts education, patronage culture, interdisciplinary discourse, and accessibility. Held in December, the festival features over 40 commissioned projects, offering something for everyone amidst Goa's vibrant activity.

Highlights:

- One of the largest multi-disciplinary arts initiatives in the South Asian region
- An intensive, exciting program of exhibitions and performances spanning music, dance, theatre, visual arts, and culinary arts.



When: December 15 - 22, 2025



Where: Panjim, Goa



Chennai Dance and Music Festival

The Chennai Music and Dance Festival, held from mid-December to mid-January, is a grand celebration of South India's classical music and dance. Hosted by various 'sabhas' across the city, the festival takes place at multiple venues, including auditoriums, temples, and heritage bungalows. It's considered the largest music festival in the world, featuring around 1,500 performances by both renowned and amateur artists. This event showcases the rich cultural heritage of South India and provides a platform for artists to display their talents in a vibrant and festive atmosphere.

Highlights:

- The month long dance and music extravaganza will have performances of eminent artistes from various parts of India.
- This festival is dedicated to South Indian Classical music and dance.



When: December 20, 2025 - January 21, 2026 (Tentative)



Where: Chennai, Tamil Nadu



Indian Dance Festival

This annual dance festival in Mammallapuram is performed on an open-air stage against the stunning backdrop of the Pallavas' monolithic rock sculptures. The town, rich in ancient monuments, sculptures, caves, monolithic temples, and beaches, hosts a four-week dance extravaganza. It draws artists, dancers, troupes, and eminent dance gurus. Prominent exponents of Kathakali, Bharatanatyam, and Kathak actively participate in this cultural show. In addition to classical dances, folk dances are also performed, making it a vibrant celebration of India's diverse dance heritage.

Highlights:

- The event is held at the Pallava Rock Sculptures in Mahabalipuram.
- Dancers present various dance forms including Odissi, Kuchipudi and the traditional dance of Tamilnadu - Bharatanatyam.



When: December 22, 2025 - January 21, 2026 (Tentative)



Where: Mahabalipuram, Tamil Nadu

