

Festivals of Karnataka 2026, Famous Fairs and Festivals List

July 29, 2026 • vajiramandravi.com



Karnataka is one of India's most culturally vibrant states, where festivals reflect centuries old traditions, religious harmony, agriculture, art and regional heritage. From harvest celebrations and temple rituals to royal processions and folk **festivals of Karnataka**, every event showcases the state's rich identity. UNESCO World Heritage Site Hampi, Mysuru, Kodagu, Bengaluru, Shravanabelagola and coastal Karnataka host several famous celebrations that attract devotees, artists and tourists from across India and the world.

Festivals of Karnataka 2026

Festivals of Karnataka 2026 are traditional celebrations linked with religion, history, seasons, agriculture and local customs. The state is famous for sandalwood, Mysore silk, **folk dances**, temple rituals, grand cultural fairs and heritage festivals. Kannada, Kodava, Tulu, **Jain**, Hindu, Muslim and other communities celebrate these occasions with processions, music, dance, traditional food and cultural performances, making Karnataka one of India's richest cultural destinations.

Also Read:- [Harvest Festivals in India](#)

List of Main Festivals of Karnataka 2026

The following festivals represent Karnataka's diverse cultural traditions, religious practices, folk heritage, historical legacy and regional identity celebrated throughout the year.

- **Ugadi:** Kannada New Year celebrated during March-April, marking the beginning of spring. Families prepare Ugadi Pachadi using jaggery, raw mango, neem, tamarind, chilli and salt, decorate homes with mango leaves, wear traditional attire and perform special prayers.
- **Ganesh Chaturthi (Ganesha Chaturthi):** A ten day festival during August-September honouring Lord Ganesha. Idols are installed in homes and public pandals, followed by prayers, cultural programmes and the final Visarjana procession with music and dance.
- **Gowri Habba:** Celebrated before Ganesh Chaturthi in honour of Goddess Gowri. Women perform Gowri Sthapana using turmeric idols, offer traditional ritual plates containing kumkum, turmeric, black beads, mirror, jewellery and prayers for family prosperity.
- **Makara Sankranti:** Karnataka's major harvest festival observed in January with Sun worship, kite flying, Til laddoos, Ellu preparation, decorated cattle processions, bonfires, Bhogi celebrations, Kanu rituals and family gatherings.
- **Karaga:** One of Bengaluru's oldest folk festivals celebrated during March. Dedicated to Draupadi, it features the famous Karaga procession where a decorated floral structure is balanced on a ceremonial pot, accompanied by traditional music and rituals.
- **Tula Sankramana (Kaveri Sankramana):** Celebrated during mid October at Talakaveri in Kodagu, commemorating the sacred appearance of Goddess Kaveri. Devotees gather near the holy tank, perform rituals and take a sacred bath.
- **Mysuru Dasara:** Karnataka's grand ten day cultural festival celebrating Goddess Chamundeshwari's victory over Mahishasura. Major attractions include the illuminated Mysore Palace, Jamboo Savari procession, decorated elephants, cultural performances, music and traditional tableaux.
- **Hampi Utsava (Vijay Utsav):** A three day January festival at **UNESCO World Heritage Site** Hampi celebrating Vijayanagara heritage through classical dance, music, drama, puppet shows, fireworks, handicrafts and the famous Jumbo Savari elephant procession.
- **Kambala Festival:** Traditional buffalo race held across coastal Karnataka from November to March. More than 150 buffalo pairs compete in Negilu, Hagga, Adda Halage and Kene Halage categories, reflecting the region's agricultural traditions.
- **Kannada Rajyotsava:** Celebrated every year on 1 November to mark Karnataka Formation Day. Cultural programmes, parades, traditional performances and the presentation of Rajyotsava Awards highlight Kannada language, heritage and state identity.
- **Other Major Festivals:** Maha Shivaratri, Sri Rama Navami, Deepawali, Eid al Adha, Kadalekai Parishe in Bengaluru, Pattadakallu Dance Festival, Vairamudi Festival at Melukote, Mahamastakabhisheka at Shravanabelagola, Sri Vithappa Fair, Godachi Fair, Chalukya Dance Festival, Udupi Paryaya and regional cultural festivals further enrich Karnataka's year round festive calendar.

Related Post for festivals in states	
Festivals of Kerala	Festivals of Sikkim

Festivals of Chhattisgarh	Festivals of Himachal Pradesh
Festivals of Maharashtra	Festivals of Odisha
Festivals of Karnataka	Festivals of Punjab
Festivals of Andhra Pradesh	Festivals of Tamil Nadu
Festivals of Haryana	Festivals of West Bengal
Festivals of Arunachal Pradesh	Festivals of Ladakh
Festivals of Rajasthan	Festivals of Nagaland
Festivals of Jharkhand	Festivals of Uttarakhand
Festivals of Telangana	Festivals of Manipur
Festivals of Bihar	Festivals of Gujarat
Festivals of Goa	Festivals of Assam
Festivals of Meghalaya	Festivals of Uttar Pradesh
Festivals of Tripura	Festivals of Delhi
Festivals of Madhya Pradesh	Festivals of Jammu and Kashmir
Festivals of Puducherry	Festivals of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu
Festivals of Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Festivals of Lakshadweep
Fairs and Festivals of India	Harvest Festivals in India

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/festivals-of-karnataka/>

© Vajiram & Ravi. For personal use only.