

Raigad Fort

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Raigad Fort Latest News

The Archaeological Survey of India and the Raigad Development Authority's joint excavation recently unearthed a 'yantraraj' (astrolabe) at Raigad, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj's capital fort.

About Raigad Fort

- It is a **hill fort** situated in Raigad district, Maharashtra.
- It is situated in the Sahyadri mountain ranges, or the **western ghats**.
- It stands at an elevation of 2,700 feet (820 meters) above its base and 4,449 feet (1,356 meters) above sea level.
- Raigad, **surrounded by valleys shaped by the Kal and Gandhari rivers**, stands as an **isolated massif** without connections to neighbouring hills.
- The fort also overlooks an artificial lake known as the 'Ganga Sagar Lake'.
- It is **only accessible by a pathway on one side**, through several steps in a stiff climb.
- There is a **famous tower** built on a high valley near Raigad Fort, which is called "**Hirkani Buruj**".

- It is one of the strongest-ever fortresses of the Deccan Plateau and is **known as the 'Gibraltar of the East'** across the world.
- It was **seized by Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj in 1656** from Chandraraoji More, the King of Jawali.
- Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj **renovated** this fort and **declared it the capital of the Maratha Empire in 1674 AD**.
- The fort's layout is strategically designed to maximize its defensive capabilities, with multiple layers of fortification, bastions, and gateways.
- The fort was the location for an **armed campaign executed by the British** East India Company **in 1765**.
- On May 9, **1818**, the **fort was looted and subsequently destroyed by British** forces.

Raigad Fort FAQs

Q1: Raigad Fort is located in which Indian state?

Ans: Maharashtra

Q2: The Raigad Fort was made the capital of the Maratha Empire by Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj in which year?

Ans: 1674

Q3: Which nickname is often used to refer to Raigad Fort?

Ans: Gibraltar of the East

Source: [TOI](#)

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