

SIMHASTHA MAHAPARVA 2026-2027

OFFICIAL INDEPENDENT PILGRIM HANDBOOK

NASHIK KUMBH MELA

2026 - 2027 Master Guide

*Complete Offline Itinerary, Verified Shahi Snan Dates, Ghat Access Routes,
Free Annakshetras, Anti-Scam Protection, and Emergency Directory.*

KEY HIGHLIGHTS INSIDE THIS EDITION:

- Complete 2026-2027 Royal Bathing (Shahi Snan) Schedule & Tithi Calendar
- Ramkund (Nashik) vs Kushavarta (Trimbakeshwar) Zone & Route Maps
- Verified Emergency Helplines, Hospital Directory & 3-Day Pilgrim Blueprint

Published for Free Public Distribution by KumbhGuide Nashik

<https://kumbhguidenashik.in>

Introduction & Significance

Table of Contents & Guide Index

Chapter 1: Introduction & The Samudra Manthan Legend	Page 2
Chapter 2: Official Shahi Snan Dates & Tithi Calendar	Page 3
Chapter 3: Travel, Special Trains & Highway Holding Zones	Page 4
Chapter 4: Where to Stay: Sadhugram, Ashrams & Hotels	Page 5
Chapter 5: Free Langar, Annakshetras & Food Guide	Page 6
Chapter 6: Emergency Directory & 24x7 Helplines	Page 7
Chapter 7: Rituals Guide: Godavari Aarti & Pind Daan	Page 8
Chapter 8: Complete 3-Day Pilgrim Master Itinerary	Page 9
Chapter 9: Anti-Scam Rules & Printable Packing Checklist	Page 10

The Significance of Simhastha Kumbh Mela

The Nashik-Trimbakeshwar Simhastha Kumbh Mela is celebrated once every 12 years when Jupiter (Guru) enters the zodiac constellation Leo (Simha Rashi) and the Sun enters Cancer or Leo. Over 150 million pilgrims, devotees, and sadhus from 13 ancient monastic Akhadas gather on the sacred banks of the Godavari River to perform sacred purification baths (Snan).

The Unique Twin-City Tradition:

Unlike Haridwar or Prayagraj, the Simhastha Kumbh is split between two sacred locations 30 km apart:

- **Ramkund (Nashik City):** Where Lord Rama stayed during exile. Primary site for Vaishnava Akhadas.
- **Kushavarta Kund (Trimbakeshwar):** Origin of River Godavari and 10th Jyotirlinga for Shaiva Akhadas.

Official Shahi Snan Schedule

The Royal Bathing (Shahi Snan) Calendar 2026-2027

Event / Ritual	Gregorian Date	Hindu Tithi	Primary Location
Dhwajaroohan (Flag Hoisting)	31 October 2026	Ashwin Pratipada	Ramkund & Trimbak
First Shahi Snan (Amrit Snan)	02 August 2027	Somvati Amavasya	Ramkund / Kushavarta
Second Shahi Snan (Main Peak)	31 August 2027	Shravan Amavasya	Ramkund / Kushavarta
Third Shahi Snan	12 September 2027	Bhadrapad Ekadashi	Ramkund / Kushavarta
Dhwajavataran (Closing)	July 2028	Guru Transition	Nashik & Trimbak

Crucial Rules for Shahi Snan Days:

- Akhada Exclusivity: Between 3:00 AM and 11:30 AM on Shahi Snan days, Ramkund and Kushavarta are reserved strictly for the holy Akhada sadhus and their processions (Peshwai).
- General Pilgrim Entry: Devotees can bathe freely after 12:00 PM once sadhus complete rituals.
- No-Vehicle Radius: A strict 8 to 12 km pedestrian ring is enforced. Private cars must use outer holding parking zones at Vilholi, Adgaon, and Sinnar.
- Safety Precautions: Avoid carrying heavy baggage or young infants to the core ghats during peak hours.

How to Reach Nashik & Trimbak

1. By Indian Railways (Recommended)

- Primary Junction: Nashik Road Railway Station (Station Code: NK) - 10 km from Ramkund.
- 200+ Special Trains: Central Railways operates dedicated Kumbh special trains connecting Mumbai CSMT, Pune, New Delhi, Varanasi, Gorakhpur, Ahmedabad, and Bangalore.
- Station Amenities: 24x7 pilgrim holding halls, medical booths, luggage cloakrooms, and free MSRTC electric feeder bus bays operating directly from Platform 1 exit.

2. By Flight & Nearest Airports

- Nashik Ozar Airport (ISK): 22 km from city center with domestic flights from Pune, Hyderabad.
- Mumbai Chhatrapati Shivaji Airport (BOM): 170 km away. Take direct AC Shivneri buses or prepaid highway cabs via the Mumbai-Nashik Samruddhi Expressway (3.5 hours travel time).

3. Road Entry & Outer Holding Parking Zones

- Mumbai Entry (NH-3): Park at Vilholi Outer Holding Zone (12 km from Ramkund).
- Dhule / MP Entry (NH-3 North): Park at Adgaon Outer Holding Zone (9 km from Ramkund).
- Pune / Shirdi Entry (NH-50): Park at Sinnar Phata Holding Ground (11 km from Ramkund).
- Free Feeder Shuttles: Shuttle buses run every 3 minutes from all outer lots to the city buffer zone.

Where to Stay: Tents & Ashrams

1. Government Sadhugram Tent Cities (Tapovan)

Massive 350-hectare temporary tent city with dormitories, standard family tents, and premium Swiss cottages. Managed by the NTKMA authority with 24x7 security.

2. Trusted Dharamshalas Near Ramkund (Panchavati)

- Maheshwari Bhawan (Panchavati): Clean family rooms with pure vegetarian meals.
- Gujarati Dharamshala (Near Ramkund): Economical, walking distance to ghats.
- Agrasen Bhawan: Large capacity group dormitories.

3. Trimbakeshwar Ashrams & MTDC Resort

- MTDC Holiday Resort Trimbakeshwar: Government-run, highly secure, walking distance to temple.
- Sant Gajanan Maharaj Sansthan: Highly hygienic, nominal room donations, in-house annachhatra.

4. Hotels & Price Surge Warning

Hotels in Panchavati, CIDCO, and Gangapur Road experience 300% to 500% rate increases during Shahi Snan dates. Ensure all reservations are booked well in advance.

Free Langar & Food Guide

Anna Daan (Free Sacred Food) Distribution Points

Tapovan Sadhugram Mega Bhandaras

All 13 Akhada camps run continuous community kitchens from 7:00 AM to 11:00 PM daily. Nutritious, pure vegetarian sattvic meals open to all pilgrims regardless of caste or religion.

Kalaram Temple Trust Annakshetra (Panchavati)

Traditional Maharashtrian vegetarian meals served daily between 11:30 AM and 3:30 PM near the historic Kalaram temple complex.

ISKCON Nashik Bhandara (Near Godavari)

Continuous distribution of sanctified prasadam and hot khichdi near Ramkund approach roads.

Sant Gajanan Maharaj Sansthan (Trimbakeshwar)

Famous for exceptionally hygienic, subsidized thali meals and tea service for devotees visiting the Jyotirlinga.

Emergency Numbers & Helplines

24x7 Emergency Contact Directory

Service / Department	Helpline Number	Location / Operational Notes
Kumbh Central Control Room	1905 / 112	24x7 Multi-lingual Assistance
Nashik City Police Control	100 / 0253-2305200	Commissioner Office, Gangapur Rd
Medical Emergency / Ambulance	108 (Toll Free)	State Emergency Ambulance Fleet
Khoya-Paya (Lost & Found)	0253-2578900	Booths at Ramkund & Tapovan
District Civil Hospital Nashik	0253-2572038	Near CBS Bus Terminal (500 Beds)
Trimbak Rural Hospital	02594-222033	Trimbakeshwar Town Centre
Railway Pilgrim Helpline	139	Nashik Road Station Help Desk

Rituals, Muhurats & Aarti Guide

1. Godavari Maha Aarti (Ramkund)

Conducted daily at sunset (approx. 6:30 PM - 7:15 PM) at Ramkund. Grand multi-tiered brass lamps, Vedic chanting by purohits, and floating leaf-diya offering.

2. Kalsarp & Narayan Nagbali Pooja (Trimbakeshwar)

Trimbakeshwar is the only scripturally sanctioned holy site for authentic Narayan Nagbali and Kalsarp Yog Shanti. Rituals take 3 full days and must be performed.

3. Pind Daan & Pitru Tarpan (Ramkund)

According to the Ramayana, Lord Rama performed ancestral rites for King Dasharatha at Ramkund. Asthi Visarjan and Pitru Tarpan rituals are performed at the

Complete 3-Day Pilgrim Itinerary

Day 1: Sacred Bath & Panchavati Temples

- 06:00 AM: Holy dip at Ramkund, Surya Arghya, and ancestral Pind Daan rituals.
- 09:30 AM: Visit historic Kalaram Temple, Sita Gufa (caves), and Kapaleshwar Temple.
- 01:00 PM: Traditional sattvic lunch at Kalaram Annakshetra.
- 06:30 PM: Attend the breathtaking Godavari Maha Aarti at Ramkund.

Day 2: Trimbakeshwar Jyotirlinga & Brahmagiri

- 05:30 AM: MSRTC bus from CBS Nashik to Trimbakeshwar (30 km).
- 07:30 AM: Holy dip at Kushavarta Kund followed by Darshan at the 10th Jyotirlinga.
- 01:00 PM: Mahaprasad lunch at Sant Gajanan Maharaj Sansthan.
- 03:00 PM: Trek up Brahmagiri Mountain to Gangadwar (source of River Godavari).

Day 3: Tapovan Sadhugram & Akhada Blessings

- 08:00 AM: Explore Tapovan forest sanctuary and historic caves.
- 10:30 AM: Visit Akhada camps in Sadhugram; receive blessings from Mahamandaleshwars.
- 01:00 PM: Partake in community Langar bhandara with sadhus.

Anti-Scam Guide & Checklist

Top 3 Local Scams to Avoid:

1. Fake VIP Pooja Brokers: Never pay unauthorized touts near ghats claiming to offer VIP entry.
Deal exclusively with registered Temple Trust counters and authorized purohits.
2. Auto Rickshaw Overcharging: Insist on government prepaid booth counters at Nashik Road Station.
3. Unauthorized Hotel Booking Vouchers: Always verify direct property phone numbers before advance payment.

Printable Packing Checklist:

- [] Physical Government Photo ID (Aadhaar / Voter ID) - Mandatory for checkpoints.
- [] 2 Pairs of Quick-Dry Cotton Clothing & Towel for Bathing.
- [] Waterproof Pouch / Ziploc for Mobile Phone, Cash & Train Tickets.
- [] Comfortable, Anti-Slip Walking Footwear (Expect 6-10 km walking).
- [] Personal Prescription Medications & Electrolyte Sachets (ORS).
- [] Reusable 1-Litre Water Bottle & 20,000 mAh Power Bank.

May your yatra to the 2026-2027 Nashik Simhastha Kumbh Mela be safe and blessed!

For real-time traffic updates & live announcements, visit: <https://kumbhguidenashik.in>