



World Heritage Site

CHURCHES OF OLD GOA

1. Church of Saint Francis of Assisi



The Church of St. Francis of Assisi was built in 1661. It was built by the Portuguese during the Portuguese Viceroyalty in this region. Along with the church a convent was also established .The church was initially a small chapel which was rebuilt and the current structure came up in 1661. The building is constructed in a Tuscan style on the outside while the interior design reflects some Baroque features. The interior is decorated with beautiful paintings depicting events in the life of St. Francis. Various statues and frescoes also decorate the church.

The Convent now features as a museum established by the Archaeological Survey of India in 1964.

Visit the Church of Saint Francis
Of Assisi in Goa and
explore the different architectural styles
found in different parts of the church.

2. The Basilica of Bom Jesus



The Basilica of Bom Jesus is also known as Borea Jezuchi Bajilika . The term "Bom Jesus" means "infant Jesus" to whom the church is dedicated to. The 400 year old basilica holds the mortal remains of St. Francis Xavier. Behind the altar, St. Ignatius Loyola is portrayed protecting an infant Jesus. The highlight of the church is the body of St. Xavier located in the mausoleum which is decorated with bronze plaques depicting life events of St. Xavier. Every ten years, public viewing of the body of St Francis Xavier is held which is attended by pilgrims from all over the globe.

Visit the Basilica of Bom Jesus and have a look at the different relics of Saint Xavier. Find out why his body had been brought from China to India and more about the casket in which the body is placed. Also, examine the different statues at the church.

3. Se Cathedral



The Se Cathedral is a 16th century church dedicated to Saint Catherine. It was constructed over a period of 80 years. The church was established to commemorate the victory of the Portuguese over the Muslim rulers of the city.

The cathedral is made in the Portuguese style of architecture. It has five bells, amongst which the largest one, known as the Golden Bell is one of the largest in the continent. There are 14 beautifully decorated altars, out of which the main altar depicts the life of St. Catherine of Alexandria. According to a popular legend, a vision of Jesus appeared in the church and the size of the cross is increasing since.

Visit the Se Cathedral Church of Goa along with your friends. Have a close look at the different altars in the church. Observe the intricate styles displayed, the images that have been carved out and the materials used.

REFERENCES :

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