



INTACH

# Gorges of Deccan Peninsula



## What is a gorge?

Gorge is referred to a narrow valley between hills or mountains usually with steep rocky walls on the sides with a stream running through it. The term gorge is a French word, which means **throat or neck**. Gorge and **canyon** are terms used interchangeably. A gorge is smaller than a canyon, but both words are used to describe deep, narrow valleys with a stream or river running through them. Varies from country to country, in some parts gorge is used for canyon and vice versa. Canyons have been formed through frequent **erosion** from a plateau level and gorges are mainly formed because of the **flow of water or lava**.

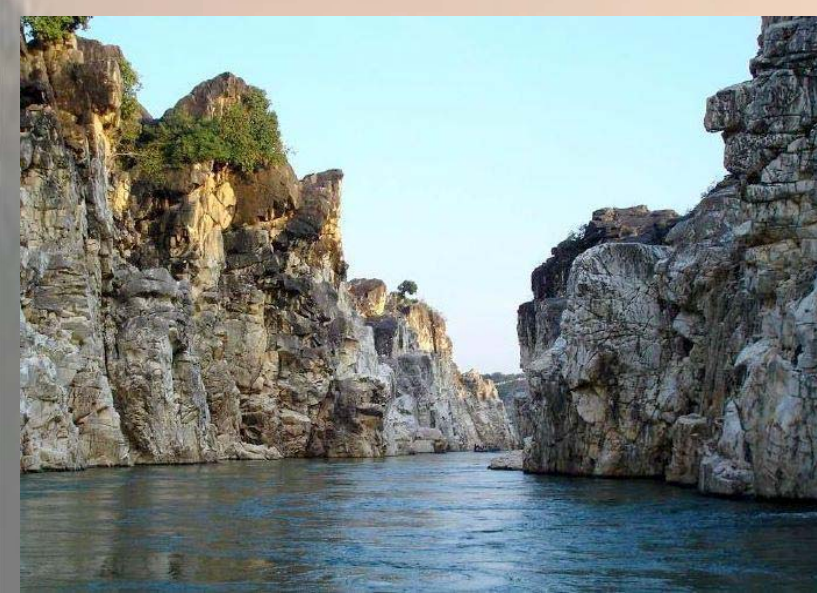
## Rivers of Deccan Peninsula...

The main river systems are **Narmada, Tapi, Godavari, Krishna, Kaveri** and **Mahanadi**. These rivers flow through shallow valleys. The Narmada or **Nerbudda** forms the natural boundary between North India and South India. The river basin of Tapi River lies mostly in some districts of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat. Godavari, the river with second longest course is often referred to as the **Vridhdh** (old) Ganga or the **Dakshin** (South) Ganga flowing through Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Orissa and Andhra Pradesh. River Krishna is one of the longest rivers of India which flows through Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Andhra Pradesh. **Cauvery** or Kaveri is also called Dakshin Ganga flows from Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. Mahanadi River is the third largest river in the peninsular India and the largest river of Orissa.



## Main gorges of Deccan Peninsula...

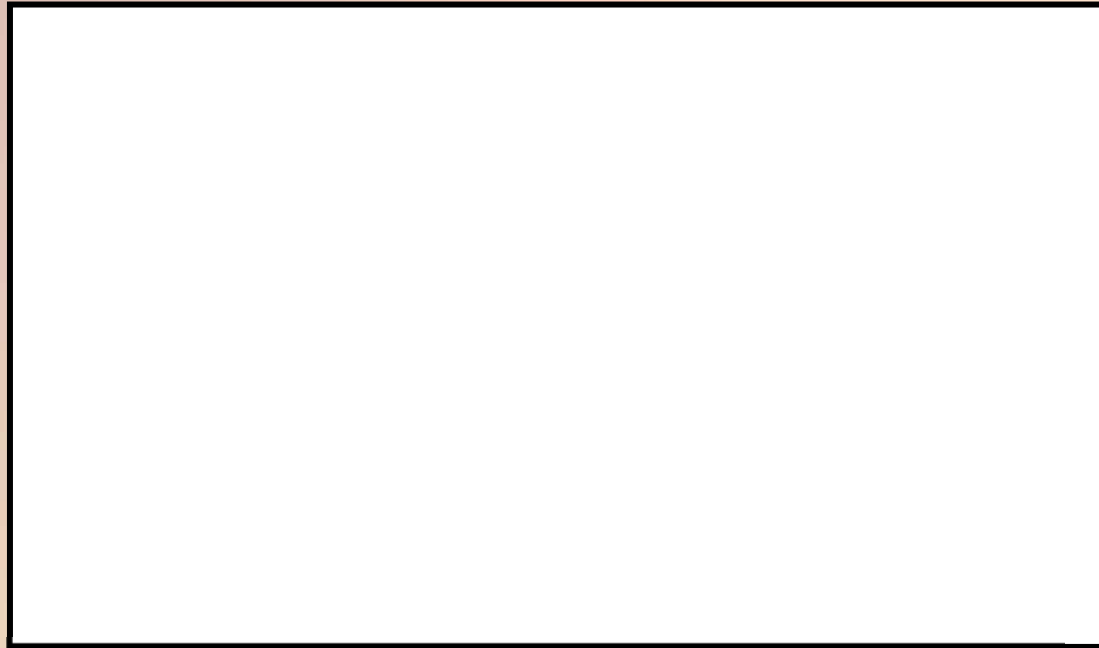
### Marble Rocks



River Narmada rises from [Amarkantak Hill](#) in Madhya Pradesh state and then at Jabalpur passes through the 'Marble Rocks', it enters the [Narmada Valley](#) between the [Vindhya and Satpura ranges](#) and then to the [Gulf of Cambay](#). The Marble Rocks also known as [Bhedaghat](#) formed by the [Dhuandhar](#) waterfalls, is an area along a river near Jabalpur in Madhya Pradesh. The river has carved the soft marble rock and created a beautiful gorge which is about 3 km in length. The Marble Rocks towers nearly [100 feet high](#) above the river. The area is also known for [blue and brown colored marble](#). It is a popular tourist destination where the boat rides on the Narmada through the high cliffs or the marble rocks is quite popular.



**Make a similar logo on 'save the gorges of India'.**



## **Penna Gorge**



Penna Gorge is popularly known as the "Grand Canyon of India" was formed between the **Erramala range of hills**, also known as **Gandikota hills** with river Pennar flowing at its foot surrounded by beautiful landscape and forests. Gandikota is a small village on the bank of the **river Pennar**, in Kadapa Andhra Pradesh. Because of the gorge, Gandikota gets its name as **gandi** in Telugu means gorge. **Papi Hills** is a gorge located on the **Godavari River** in East Godavari of Andhra Pradesh. These hills are the abode of many tribes with their tribal chants and rituals quite common here. According to local legends, **Lord Rama and his wife Sita** lived here during their 12 years of exile.

## **ABOUT GANDIKOTA...**

The town of Gandikota was founded in 1123 by Kapa Raja of Bommanapalle village and a subordinate of Ahavamalla Someswara I, the Chalukyan king. It was an important town during the rule of Kakatiya, Vijayanagara and Qutub Shahi kings. A fort was built during the 12th century near the gorge formed between the Gandikota hills and the river Pennar. It was also under the control of Pemmasani Nayaks for over 300 years. There are two ancient temples, dedicated to Madhava and Raghunatha inside the fort, both are in ruins. The other structures include a large granary, Jamia Masjid built during the by Qutub Shahi kings of the Hyderabad, a magazine, a pigeon tower and an old cannon lying in the fort etc. A heritage festival is held every year in fort area.



**Tell us a story or a legend associated with a river body of your city.**

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THEORY CREDITS- <http://www.wikiwand.com/en/Gandikota>, <http://trekkerpedia.com/>,  
<http://www.excitingindia.in/>, [http://www.nih.ernet.in/rbis/india\\_information/rivers.htm](http://www.nih.ernet.in/rbis/india_information/rivers.htm), [travellenz.wordpress.com](http://travellenz.wordpress.com),  
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