

SITE PLAN OF DEEG PALACES



VISITING HOURS

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Deeg Palaces



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Deeg, ancient Dirghpura in district Bharatpur became a stronghold of the Jat rulers during 16th- 19th cent. AD. Situated at a distance of 153 km from Delhi and 98 km from Agra, it falls within the territorial limits of the ancient holy Brij-Bhumi.

Historically, Deeg is associated with the rise of the Jat peasants under the leadership of Rajaram (1686-88 AD), Bhajja Singh (1688-95 AD) and Chudaman (1695-1721 AD). After the death of Chudaman, Badansingh (1722-56 AD) consolidated his authority over several districts and became the virtual founder of the Jat rule at Bharatpur. He is credited with transforming Deeg into a flourishing town with beautiful buildings, palaces and gardens. Surajmal (1756-63 AD), the son and successor of Badansingh was the greatest ruler and during his rule power of the clan reached its zenith.

Singh Pol : This is main entrance to the palace complex. It is an unfinished structure having a



central projection on north. Architecturally, it appears to be a work of relatively later period. The gate is named after two lions sculptured in front of the arch-way.

Gopal Bhawan : This is the largest and most admirable of all the buildings. Its reflection into surrounding sheet of water imparts a unique charm to ambience. The bhawan has central hall flanked by wings of two low storeyed annexes on either side. On its water front two



oblong basement storeys were constructed as summer resort. The central projection is carved with majestic arches and imposing pillars. A room in the northern wing contains a black marble throne-platform believed to be spoils of war brought by Jawahar Singh from the imperial palaces of Delhi.

The Gopal Bhawan is flanked by two small pavilions known as Sawan and Bhadon Bhawans to its north and south respectively. Each pavilion is a two-storeyed structure of which only the upper one is visible from front and has a fascinating palanquin-shaped roof crowned by a row of elegant spikes.

Suraj Bhawan : This is the most extensive and splendid building of marble in the palace



complex, it was built by Surajmal. This is a single storey flat roofed building. The bhawan consists of a verandah all around with five arched-openings and rooms flanking at the corners. The bhawan was originally built of

buff sandstone to which white marble was encased subsequently. The dados of the central apartment are bordered with excellent pietra-dura work.



Kishan Bhawan : The Kishan Bhawan situated towards the southern fringe of the complex has well-decorated and extensive panelled facade broken by five large central archways. The spandrels of middle and front arches are adorned with intricately carved arabesques. Interiorly, the back wall has an alioved balcony with carved facade and false curved roof representing a foliated hut.

Hardev Bhawan : The Hardev Bhawan is situated behind Suraj Bhawan having a vast garden in front laid out in charbagh pattern. The mansion underwent certain additions and alterations during the time of Surajmal. The



building on south is double storeyed. The ground floor consists of a projecting central hall, faced with arches springing from a row of double pillars. Behind is a arcaded colonnade running along three sides. The rear part is crowned by a chhatri bearing a spiked curved roof. A narrow gallery screened with obliquely-cut jalis runs at the back of the upper floor.

Keshav Bhawan : Commonly known as a baradari, Keshav Bhawan is a square single storeyed open pavilion situated along Rop Sagar. Centrally, the bhawan is diversified by an arcade running on all sides and forming an inner

square. The bhawan originally includes an elaborate device to reproduce the effects of monsoon. There were stone balls in the ceiling which could be agitated by piped running water to create the noise of thunder and the water was released through spouts above the arches to fall as rain in sheets around the open hall. A broad canal runs round the edge of the pavilion.

Nand Bhawan : The Nand Bhawan is situated towards the north of the central garden. It is spacious oblong hall raised on a terrace and enclosed by grand arcade of seven openings. The ceiling of the central portion of the hall is made of wood. Like other buildings it is also having a tank in front and well finished exterior.

Purana Mahal : Built by Badan Singh, the Purana Mahal is planned as a spacious rectangle with an interior consisting of two separate courts. It continues the tradition of a typical palace. It has impressive exterior. The arches are both of engrailed and pointed types.

The royal abodes are planned along the periphery of the central garden and flanked by two reservoirs i.e. the Roop Sagar on the east and the Gopal Sagar on the west.

Museum : This museum has been developed in the Gopal Bhawan and the Kishan Bhawan portions

of the palace with a view to show the lavish life style of the local rulers.

The museum



Wooden Cooler

has ten galleries. Total number of exhibits and collection is about 550. Important exhibits include wheeled sofas, chairs, planquins, tables, paintings, utensils, decorative artefacts, Persian carpets, sculptures, wooden cooler, etc.