

BREAK FAST

GETAWAYS BETWEEN FRIDAY AND MONDAY



DINODIA PHOTO LIBRARY

Alibaug, Maharashtra

A FERRY RIDE FROM Mumbai will take you to the rustic golden sandy beaches of Alibaug where you can be one with nature—away from the maddening crowds of Juhu and Chowpatty, where you can barely walk without bumping into someone or avoid a vendor pestering you to try his ‘special’ tangy bhelपुरi.

There are many beaches to choose from in Alibaug, but don't get bogged when people recommend that some are better than the others. The most popular one is Alibaug beach. The view of Kolaba

Fort on the horizon, and the coconut groves dotting it, make for a wonderful place to just while away your time. It is best to visit Alibaug when you have absolutely no agenda. If you are in luck and the tide is low, a half an hour walk through water will get you to the fort, which is situated in the middle of the sea, but if you aren't feeling too adventurous, just take a boat across.

This area is fairly quiet but if you are in the mood for total seclusion then head to Kihim Beach, 12 km from Alibaug, and don't be surprised if you don't find anyone

there—and we mean nobody at all. People usually don't venture out to this beach because it is fairly rocky, but if you don't mind the absence of a long stretch of sand, then this place will not give you reason to complain. While there are many hotel stay options in Alibaug, you may want to opt for a homestay or, if so inclined, even pitch a tent. And while you are there, don't forget to sample the seafood rustled up by the locals. ●

HOT DEAL
SHORT STAY
 Get 2 nights/3 days at Sun N Sea Beach Resort for Rs. 5,500 per couple (twin share). Includes meals. Valid till Nov 30. Tel: (022) 4030 3008

GOOD TO KNOW
The best time to visit Alibaug is between October and March. If you have some time to spare, visit Nagaon beach, which is famous for its lovely sunsets.

—Pallavi Pasricha