

TOURISM PLACES AND PROSPECTS OF BELAGAVI DISTRICT

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Abstract—The largest district of Karnataka is Belagavi district rich in history and natural beauty, holds immense potential for the development of tourism. The region is home to numerous attractions such as historical monuments, ancient temples, forts, waterfalls, rivers, and scenic mountain ranges all of which create a favorable environment for promoting tourism. A well-developed tourism industry in Belagavi can significantly contribute to growth across various sectors, including transportation, hospitality, local businesses, and self-employment opportunities. However, the present growth of tourism is hindered by limited awareness, insufficient transportation, security concerns, insufficient infrastructure, and a lack of proactive initiatives from local authorities and the government. To unlock this potential, it is essential to leverage the district's existing resources through strategic planning and sustainable tourism development. Encouraging collaborative efforts, attracting meaningful investments, and fostering a skilled, innovative local environment will pave the way for progress. As tourism flourishes will also stimulate the development of other service industries and create substantial employment opportunities, driving overall economic growth in the district. Governments' including local bodies has to create better environment and planning to have very good prospects for development of tourism activities in majorities of tourism places.

Keywords: Economic growth, Employment generation, Entrepreneurs, Agriculture tourism, Public private partnership (PPP).

Introduction

Tourism is a significant source of income for many countries, playing a vital role in boosting their economies. In recent years, numerous nations have been working to create positive environments, improve facilities, and implement supportive policies to promote tourism. However, the growth of tourism and urbanization brings a range of economic, socio-cultural, and environmental impacts to host destinations. Belagavi district, the largest in Karnataka, holds immense potential for tourism development. Rich in historical heritage, ancient monuments, religious heritages, cultural heritages, and natural beauty, the district is well-positioned to become a prominent tourist destination. Strategically located near the borders of Goa and Maharashtra, Belagavi enjoys excellent connectivity by Pune- Bengaluru nation high-way, rail, and air, making it easily accessible to visitors. Despite its potential, tourism in Belagavi has been hampered by a lack of interest, insufficient initiatives, poor planning, inadequate facilities, and concerns about safety. To unlock the region's tourism potential, strong support from the government and local authorities is essential. A well-developed tourism sector in Belagavi could significantly boost and give better prospects for the local economy by strengthening the transportation network, enhancing hotel and accommodation services, supporting local businesses, and creating numerous employment opportunities.

Review of Literature

Belagavi (formerly known as Belgaum) is a historical and strategically located district in the northern part of Karnataka, India. The tourism industry in Belagavi has garnered attention in recent years due to its rich cultural heritage, scenic landscapes, and proximity to important tourist destinations in the Western Ghats and Maharashtra.

Many articles explored the religious, historical, and cultural significance of Belagavi district, highlighting major sites like Belagavi Fort, Kamal Basti, and ancient temples, the district's unique blend of Hindu, Muslim, Christian, and Jain influences, making it a hub for cultural tourism. The economic impact of tourism on local communities is studied, showing positive effects such as job creation and infrastructure growth in few studies. Tourism has particularly boosted local businesses in hospitality, transport, and retail sectors. However, rural areas face challenges due to poor tourism infrastructure and uneven distribution of benefits. Environmental concerns like waste, pollution, and biodiversity loss at popular spots are raised. The authors recommend diversifying tourism into areas like agro-tourism, medical tourism, and rural experiences for long-term growth. The proximity to Goa presents opportunities to promote heritage-based tourism alongside more commercial attractions.

Need of the Study

Tourism is one of the key aspects to generate revenue for the district and overall in the state. It helps to increase employment and business opportunities in the district where 47.8 lakhs of people are living as per 2011 censuses. The tourism industry is one of the contributors towards the growth of GDP in general, with the hotel and transportation sectors making indirect contributions to the economy at large. Development of tourism helps to grow new entrepreneurs in the specified area. The tourism industry can provide a very good number of direct and indirect employment opportunities to the people living in the district.

Tourism is the major service industry in India, which contributed INR 19.13 trillion to the country's GDP in 2023, with the national GDP contribution being over 10%, which was 8% in the year 2019. This industry provided almost 43 million overall employments. India witnessed more than 9.24 million annual overseas tourist arrivals. The World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC) projected that GDP contribution might achieve INR 21.15 trillion in 2024 and INR 43.25 trillion by 2034.¹ This study is undertaken in Belagavi district, which has many opportunities to develop tourism activities. The tourism industry can directly and indirectly contribute to the growth of other segments in the district. Therefore, there is a need for the study that explains the tourism places information in the Belagavi district, and its prospects which tourism can develop in different mode.

Objectives of the Study

1. To understand the importance of Tourism in Belagavi
2. To Know the tourism places in Belagavi District
3. To know the prospects for development of tourism in Belagavi District

Limitation of the Study

1. This study is limited to Belagavi District only.
2. This study is limited to selected tourist places only.
3. The study is limited to secondary data authenticity and personal communication with local people and tourists at tourist places.

Research Methodology

The research methodology followed for the study is descriptive in nature.

Research Area:

The area of this research is limited to selected tourist places in the Belagavi district of Karnataka state.

Sources of Data

The major data has been collected with the help of individual visits, archeology department writings, and evidences. Some data was also collected through communication with local people as well as tourists' in a particular place at the time of the visit. The secondary data has been collected from various sources like websites, Belagavi District at a Glance, local magazines, newspapers, journals, and publications.

¹ Press information Bureau, GOI, 03-10-2024

Importance of Tourism in Belagavi District

Belagavi district has now become one of the important and considered districts in the state of Karnataka. Belagavi is currently marching with a tag of a fast-growing and redeveloping district. Belagavi is exactly at the midpoint between Mumbai and Bangalore.² Belagavi district has 13,433 square kilometers of area with different cultures. India's tourism sector, rich in heritage, culture, and diversity, is emerging as a global favorite and a key driver of economic growth. Recognizing its potential for employment-led development, the Union Budget 2025-26 has allocated 2541.06 crore to enhance infrastructure, skill development, and travel facilitation.³

1. **Growth of GDP:** Tourism in India is experiencing a massive boom, projected to contribute US\$ 523.6 billion to GDP by 2034 and 5.22% to the economy in 2023-24, driven by rising domestic travel and a 43.5% surge in foreign tourist arrivals in 2023.
2. **Generation of Employment:** Tourism serves as a major employer, providing over 84 million jobs (combined direct and indirect) in the sector, as of 2023-24. Growth of tourism in the district helps to generate employment opportunities for skilled and non-skilled workforce in transportation, lodging and boarding, food and allied activities, and tourist guide etc.
3. **Foreign Exchange Earnings (FEEs):** In 2023, India recorded 9.24 million foreign tourist arrivals, generating approximately ₹2.3 lakh crores in foreign exchange earnings, a 65% growth compared to 2022.
4. **Domestic Travel Surge:** Domestic tourism is booming, with visits expected to more than double from 2.5 billion in 2024 to 5.2 billion by 2030, fueling local hospitality businesses.
5. **Development of Entrepreneurs:** Growth of tourism helps to develop Entrepreneurs in various sectors such as transportation, lodging and boarding, food, textile and allied activities.
6. **Increase in Local Business:** Tourism development helps to develop local business such as small transportation, accommodation, hotels, handicrafts, local sweet marts etc.
7. **Growth of Local Area:** Tourism development helps to local area development as their income and infrastructure facilities increases.
8. **Development of Infrastructure:** Tourism development helps growth of infrastructure such as good roads, water facilities, gardens, footpaths, drainages, and other public amenities at rural area. To improve infrastructure, 40 projects across 23 states will receive interest-free loans for 50 years, amounting to Rs.3,295.8 crore under the Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment.
9. **Increase of Creativity:** Tourism helps develop creativity in few places such as fun games, adventures, water boats, site scenes, safari, etc.
10. **Cultural Preservation and Promotion:** Tourism promotes the revival of local arts, crafts, and culture, fostering a sense of pride in Belagavi's heritage.
11. **Increase in life styles:** Tourism helps to increase in life style of the people as growth of business, income, visitors and other amenities etc.

Tourist Places in Belagavi District

Reach culture, historical, monumental, spiritual, natural, and commercial places are the attractions in the Belagavi district. Some of the famous places are below.

1. **Kittur Rani Channamma Joo and Nisargadhama, Bhootaramanahatti, Belagavi:** Mini Zoo was established in the year 1989 at Bhutramanahatti. The zoo is situated 12 km away from Belagavi city on National Highway-4 in an area of 31.68 ha. This zoo falls into the mini category as per the classification of zoos by the Central Zoo Authority. This place is one of the famous picnic spots for kids and families. Various animals, a green environment, and kids playing instruments are the attractions in the garden.
2. **Durgadevi Temple and Fort, Belagavi:** Belagavi Fort is at the entrance of Belagavi city. It is very close to Central and the city bus station. Can see Dugadevi temple and Ramakrishna Ashram inside the fort. The fort

² <https://belagavi.nic.in/en/>

³ Ministry of tourism, 04 FEB 2025 2:19PM by PIB Delhi

itself is located on several acres. The temple buildings are very prehistoric with beautiful carvings and features. This temple and fort are under the control and maintenance of military authorities.

3. **Kamal Basti, Belagavi:** Amazing Jain Basadi with great architecture and very well maintained. The Murty of Tirtgankara is situated in the temple. It was a rock temple, and the pillars are nicely carved. Once upon a time a celebrated seat of Jain philosophy, Belgaum is a gateway of temples that paints a story about ancient dynasties. Kamal Basadi is one such relic old monument that was built in the early 12th century during the Ratta Dynasty. The name, 'Kamal,' takes inspiration from the architecture of its dome, which is shaped like a beautiful lotus. Out of its 72 petals, 24 pay respects to the last 24 Tirthankars, and the remaining 48 are kept untouched for the future Jain prophets. The two pillars on either side of the ceiling have inscriptions in the historic Nagari script.
The Neminath idol was found in the dense thicket jungles of Belgaum and famously speculated to be older than the stone sanctum itself. Tourist can witness Lords Sumatinath, Adinath, and Parsvanath as the masterpieces. Currently, the temple is under the management of the Archaeological Survey of India.
4. **Lakeview and Boating, Belagavi:** Also called Kote Kere, which is one of the picnic spots in the center of the city. It is situated in the heart of the city; it offers greenery & walkways, boating, and kids playing instruments as well.
5. **Shree Ramakrishha Mission Ashram, Belagavi:** Swami Vivekananda visited this place and stayed for a few days in 1892. The place has an elegance and a very peaceful and calm atmosphere. A huge complex having a small demonstration space, a book stall, and a huge meditation hall. It is located close to the famous Kamal Basti within the Belagavi fort boundaries.
6. **Veer Soudha (Mahatma Gandhiji's visited place) and Chatrapathi Shivaji Maharaj Garden, Belagavi:** Veer Soudha was raised in the remembrance of Gandhiji and the historic 39th National Congress Session, which was held in 1924 at Belgaum. This was the only session where Mahatma Gandhiji participated as the session's president. The place today is a historic landmark at Belgaum. Around 70,000 people had attended the session from all over India, including Jawaharlal Nehru, Sarojini Naidu, and Subhash Chandra Bose, along with other prominent leaders and independence fighters. The memorial has a picture gallery that showcases a walk-through of the 39th Congress Session and Gandhiji's life during the freedom movement. The Chatrapathi Shivaji Maharaj statue and garden is another place next to Veer Soudha with a well-maintained green garden, a walkers' way, an open gym, and sitting arrangements, which is easily reachable for surrounding people. In 2024, 100 years of historical session was celebrated with the program of "Gandi Bharat" in Belagavi in a very grand manner.
7. **Military Mahadeva Temple and Chatrapathi Shivaji Maharaj Empire Amusement Park, Belagavi:** Military Mahadeva Temple is in the purview of the Maratha Light Infantry Regiment, Belagavi. Close to the railway station, there is sufficient car parking, a fine-maintained small amusement park, and plentiful space for children to play in this place. Few birds are also kept in enclosures to boost curiosity among children.
8. **The St. Mary's Church:** It is one of the oldest churches in the Belagavi city, which is situated in the Camp area. It is a custom-built Catholic church by the British in the year 1869. It has glass paneling with the windows and murals depicting the living of Christ. The walls have gothic red windows, and it was built using similar materials as those used in building the Victoria Terminus in Mumbai. Other churches, such as Fatima Cathedral and the Jesuit House, are also available in the same area, and many other old churches and monuments are also found in the other areas of the city, which offer a peaceful environment to people.
9. **Suvarna Vidhana Soudha, Belagavi:** This Golden Legislative House was inaugurated in the year 2012. It is constructed in the village of Halaga and is an alternative to Vidhan Souda in Bengaluru. This place is not open to the public all the time except for a few special occasions.
10. **Rakaskop Dam, Rakaskop, Belagavi:** It was built in 1960 and was one of the water sources for Belagavi for many years. The length of the dam is 1175 feet, and the maximum height is 36.16 feet. It is situated across the Markandeya River. The dam is a well-known picnic spot for local people and travelers, which has beautiful scenery and Lord Shiva at the top level.
11. **Rajhansgad Fort and Natural View, Rajhansgad, Belagavi:** The fort is situated at a standpoint and is very well preserved. 22 km away from Belagavi is the Rajhansgad fort near Yellur or close to Desur. Public transport is accessible till Yellur. Rajhansgad is bounded by the greenery of farms and fields with rice as a major crop. Yellurgad (Yellur Fort) is located within the surrounding area of Belgaum Taluka, on a hillock with a breathtaking sight. It is situated nearly 2,500 ft (762 m) above sea level. According to sources, this fort dates

back to history many centuries ago among different kingdoms and their rulers, including the Yadavas, Hoysalas, Bahamani, Adilshahi, and Peshwas-Marathas. The fort on the peak of the hill is observable from almost all areas of Belgaum. It is also believed that there existed an undisclosed passageway from the Belgaum fort up to Rajhunsgrad during the ancient phase. In this fort, a beautiful temple of 'Lord Shiva' is situated. There is a well of sweet water on top of this hill. It is, in fact, an admirable architecture of the past architects and rulers. An awesome view of Belgaum City can be had from this fort.

12. **Jamboti Hills, Khanapur:** Jamboti Hills from Belgaum are absolute beauty. The road is travelled through the flourishing green forests, and the attractiveness of rains in monsoon is an enjoyment. It's green everywhere, and one can drive to the border of Karnataka-Goa with ease, and all along what you find is greenery. Jamboti is just 20 km from Belgaum. It is a very interesting place for nature lovers. Forests are spread wide across and rivers also flow across.
13. **Vajra Falls, Khanapur:** The beauty of mighty water flowing with full strength here reminds us of the power of nature. The surrounding environment is good. The sound of water mixes with the voice of birds and creates a magical effect at this place. Situated about in the mountainous forest near the village of Jamboti. Situated in the reserve forests of the Bhimgad Wildlife Sanctuary, one has to take permission before visiting the falls. Get the feel of a real jungle. The Mandovi River that flows to the beautiful falls falls from 200 m. The place is a popular trekking destination for travelers.
14. **Tilari Falls, Parawad falls, Sural falls. Mangeli falls, chorla view point, chigule nature view point-** These falls and nature viewpoints available in majestic ghats which are adorable for the tourist in the Khanapur taluk. Nature trekking enthusiast people must visit these places between July to December.
15. **Bhimgad Wildlife Sanctuary, Khanapur:** It is situated in Khanapur taluk, Karnataka-Goa border. This place extended over 19,000 hectares; in the wildlife sanctuary, it is home to tigers, leopards, bears, chitals, deer, wild dogs, and other animals. Species like the Velvet-fronted Nuthatch, Malabargrey Hornbill, Imperial Pigeon, Emerald Dove, and the mysterious Malabar Trogon are staying in the beautiful place.
16. **Barapede Caves, Khanapur:** Natural caves known as the only breeding areas for dying out Wroughton's Free-tailed Bats, a vulnerable species on the border of disappearance.
17. **Bhimgad Fort, Khanapur:** Historical ruins of Bhimgad Fort are positioned within the Bhimgad Wildlife Sanctuary. Bhimgad Fort was constructed by Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj during the 17th century and offered protection against the Portuguese military that occupied Goa. Bhimgad Fort has freshwater ponds, canons, and bulky walls that are realistically unbroken.
18. **Belgaum Golf Course:** A popular golf course in the region, located on the way to Bhimgad from Belagavi, opposite the Bhimgad Adventure Camp, a property owned by Jungle Lodges and Resorts.
19. **Bhuvamaha Narasimha Temple, Halashi:** It is a place located in Khanapur taluk and 14 km away from Khanapur and 25 km away from Kittur. The earlier name of the temple is Palasika, and it was a center of the early Kadamba Dynasty. Later it was a minor capital of Goa Kadamba (980-1025). This place is distinguished for a series of medieval temples; the 1.9 km hill station gives peace and a pilgrimage touch to visitors. Many other temples are also available in nearby places, and some are in damaged condition. A series of copper plates evidences discovered in the 1850s in this place.
20. **Kamala Narayana Temple, Degaon:** The village is most famous for this Kadamba-era temple, a unique dwikuta (modified trikuta) temple dedicated to Sri Kamala Narayana Swamy and Goddess Lakshmi. The temple is noted for its intricate carvings, including floral designs on the ceilings and walls, depictions of Krishnaleela, and erotic scenes.
21. **Kittur Rani Channamma Fort, Kittur:** Historic, the ruins of Kittur Fort take you back in time, reminding you of the struggles of Indian rulers of yore against the British. The surroundings are calm and filled with greenery. Kittur Fort is almost 35-40 km from Dharwad as well as Belagavi. Rani Channamma, who was a wife of King Mallasarja Desai, is called one of the initial feminine rulers to have revolted against the British East India Company in 1824. It is a ruined fort monument. It is controlled and maintained by the Archaeological Survey of India. This freedom struggle is the initial representation of the independence movement. Every year, the government of Karnataka celebrates KITTUR UTSAV in the month of October in the memory of Kittur Rani Channamma, and in 2024, the October 200-year celebration was completed very majestically.

22. **Sangolli Rayanna Amusement park and garden, Sangolli:** It is situated in Sangolli of Bailhongle taluk. Sangolli Rayanna, who was a leading freedom fighter and right hand of Kittur Rani Channamma of Kittur territory. Sangolli Rayanna's freedom-fighting activities and struggle are presented in the amusement park. Sangolli Rayanna was hanged by the British in Chandagad of Khanapur taluk for the reason of Kittur freedom fighting.
23. **Kittur Rani Channamma Samadi and Garden, Bailhongal:** Kittur Rani Channamma was reserved in introverted imprisonment in the Bailhongal fort. She was denied access to basic facilities and passes away in 1829. This place offers a unique blend of learning and inspiration for visitors. Pleasant and peaceful atmosphere with well-maintained garden and sitting arrangements.
24. **Veera Rani Belawadi Mallamma, Belawadi:** Known as the brave warrior queen of Belawadi was from Bailhongal, Belgaum District was the first woman to form a women's army to fight against the British in the 17th century. She was the daughter of Sode King Madhulinga Nayaka. Few historical monuments available in this place. It is 15 KMs away from Bailhongal.
25. **Torgal Fort Ramadurg:** this is a rich history and stunning structural design fort which Surrounded by rocky hills on three sides and with the serene Malaprabha River flowing nearby, the fort's design indicates its strategic importance in times of conflict. Historically, Torgal Fort was ruled by nine generations of the Shindhe kings, with the last ruler, Narasojirao Shindhe, governing from 1932 until 1949. Some other old architecture also available in surrounding places. It is situated 86 KMs away from Belagavi.
26. **Mudakavi Fort Ramadurg:** Mudakavi Fort stands uniquely positioned on a hillock slope. The fort includes a lake which shows the complex gateway system connects to the lake through cleverly designed curved passages, demonstrating advanced medieval engineering and defensive architecture.
27. **Yallamma Temple, Savadatti:** This temple was constructed in 1514 by bomappa Nayaka of Raybag. But, as per archaeological department evidence, it shows that this temple may have existed as early as the mid-11th century. This temple is a mixture of Chalukyan, Rashtrakuta, and Dravidian styles. Surrounded by very good hills, which overlook the Malaprabha River. Soudatti was the capital of the Ratta Dynasty. This is one of the famous temples in north Karnataka and on the border of Maharashtra. So many other temples, caves, and natural water savors are also attractions in the surrounding area. The government of Karnataka is managing this temple and providing many facilities for the devotees.
28. **Renuka Sagar, or Malaprabha Dam, Naviluteerth, Savadatti:** this dam was built in 1974 for the Malaprabha River. It is distinguished as the shortest dam in Karnataka, with a height of 155 meters and a length of 41 meters, which is playing a vital function in managing water flow. Attractive environment, rich wildlife, especially peafowls (peacocks), which lends the village name Naviluteerth, a garden, and a peaceful water dam are the major attractions in this place. It is a very pleasant one-day picnic spot for nature lovers and families.
29. **Savadatti Fort, Savadatti:** It is situated in the western part of Savadatti. This fort is a remarkable leftover from the 18th century that shows military arrangement, inventiveness, and unique structure with strategic location of the era. Savadatti is also called the Fragrant City and the Gateway to the History and Culture of Belagavi.⁴ Kadasiddheshwara temple is situated in the fort, which provides a touch of history and holiness. Hilltop location, culture, religion, and nature are the beauty of this place.
30. **Parasgad Fort, Savadatti:** The walls of this fort are simply called enormous because of its size. This fort provides an incomparable experience that was built in the 10th century by the Ratta dynasty. The architecture is grand and attractive. The fort is situated on the south side of Savadatti, alongside a hill that is almost vertical with a deep canyon. Natural spring with a water tank called Ramatheertha, steps to reach Yadravi village, a cave housing statues of idols and mythological legendaries are found in this place. This place is situated about 2-3 km from Savadatti.
31. **Someshwara Temple, Sogal:** This religious, historic, scenic, and waterfall place is located in Savadatti Taluk. This temple is constructed from Rashtrakuta times, and it has a main square hall, cylindrical and octagonal pillars. It is believed that Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvati married in this place. Images of Lord Shiva and Parvati in matrimony are observable in this place. Entrance steps to reach the temple, a few other temples, 18-meter-tall

⁴ belagavitourism.com

Tourism Places and Prospects of Belagavi District

falls, a small zoo for wildlife, caves, beautiful scenery, a marriage hall, and a spacious place for kids to play are the desirability of this place.

32. **Panchalingeshwara Temple, Hooli:** It is located 8-9 km away from the Savadatii bus stop. A very nicely structured temple is to be seen by people. It is under the control of the Archaeological Department of India. This temple was built up of stones that are incredibly cool even in the middle of the summer. This place has many other old temples that are constructed by the sculptures and carvings on the stone. Most of them are wrecked due to negligence and stolen by treasure hunters.
33. **Gokak Falls, Gokak:** A mesmerizing waterfall that is easy to access. Beautiful scenery along the river is the main attraction of the place. Ancient temples and gardens near the falls are other places to spend time for visitors. Ghataprabha river water reaches here after flowing from Hidkal Dam. The hydroelectric power plant was constructed by Forbes Gokak Spinning Mill, which was established in 1887 for the same falls. Hanging bridge of 200 meters that hangs 14 meters above the bedrock and gives a prominent view of the falls. The Mills authorities planted 2 million trees in surrounding areas, which maintains environmental temperature, rainfall, and good air quality. Heavy tourist traffic in the months of August to October every year to view the attractiveness of the waterfall and environment.
34. **Godachinmalaki Waterfalls:** It is only 14 km from Gokak Falls and almost 55-60 km from Belagavi. It is also called Markandeya Falls, as it is placed on the Markandeya River. It is really situated 2.5 km away from Godachinmalaki village which is reachable from walk-able farm and forest road. The large open valley, smog forming thunderous waterfall makes visitors enjoy the spot. From two places, water jumps in this place, and later flow joins the Ghataprabha River. July to September is the best time to visit these falls. Excellent environment; hills and small forests are open doors for trekking as well in this place.
35. **Raja Lakhamagouda Dam (Hidkal Dam):** This reservoir is situated in Hukkeri taluk and nearly 50-55 km from Belagavi. Due to security reasons, dam inside visits are banned. Very good garden, nurseries, outside scenic view of backwater of dam, sunset and sunrise views, and the surrounding environment are the beauty of this place. This dam is across the Ghataprabha River in Hidkal village. A 70-km-long canal was built by the British in 1897 in the first phase and 40 km in the second phase, and it is extending. The dam height is 62.48 meters, and there are 10 vertical crest gates. This dam majorly sources water for irrigation for agriculture, drinking, and industries as well.

Issues of Belagavi District Tourism places

Proper and continuous transportation facilities are not available, negligence of local governing bodies to create attraction and facilities to particular places, security is another major issue in few places for visitors, restaurants and home stays are not available in few areas, shortage of basic infrastructure facilities, improper maintenance are the major issues at many tourist places. Modern tourism activities like agriculture tourism, nature-based tourism, adventure activities, sustainable and rural tourism etc., are also neglected in the Belagavi District.

Prospects

Belagavi District has abundant opportunities to develop tourism activities. With the help of natural beauty, culture, and historical views, this district has bright prospects in tourism development. Following are the few prospects for Belagavi tourism development.

1. Few places in the Belagavi district have good prospects for the development of trekking and adventure activities such as Jomboti hills, Vajra falls, Tilari falls, Parawad falls, Sural falls. Mangeli falls, chorla view point, chigule nature view point, Gokak falls, Godachinmalaki falls, etc., which can boost the tourism sector.
2. Agriculture tourism in the Belagavi district is a very prominent area to develop tourism activities that can offer good employment and income generation sources.
3. Nature stay and jungle stay are having good prospects for tourism development in such areas various waterfalls of Belagavi District, which has wonderful nature.
4. Belagavi District has a rich forest cover, with some beautiful and exotic species of wildlife, some of which are even endangered and rare having more prospects for tourism development.
4. Fun-based creative activities and resorts near tourism places can increase the more prospects to Belagavi tourism.

5. Nature-based tourism activities like bird watching, photography, trekking, and rock climbing are the activities having more prospects for tourism development.
6. Belagavi District has its own identity and different religions. It is famous for its old temples, and pilgrimage places which can increase the more prospects to Belagavi tourism.
6. Farm stay and hospitality is another prominent area for Belagavi tourism development. This initiation may give more prospects tourism which can attract city tourist.
7. Presently, rural tourism is one of the very important prospects for the Belagavi district, which can provide more opportunities and income to the district. This type of tourism activities may involved
8. Public private partnership (PPP) initiations in Belagavi district tourism have more prospects as few of the tourism places government unable to develop facilities such as stay, food, creativity, fun games, adventures, and transportation. If PPP is allowed in few tourist areas can get good prospects for the growth of tourism.
9. Concept of ecotourism and sustainable tourism has more prospects in development of tourism in many areas of the district. Many people are hunting such type of tourism activities which is growing trend in the country.
10. Belagavi tourism development has bright prospects in the expansion of various employment opportunities such as transportation, hotels, home stays, and many other activities.
11. Tourism development can create bright prospects in the development of entrepreneurship and entrepreneurs in many places as many sectors such as hotels, home stays, transportation, creative and adventures activities etc.
12. Few spots and sights can be developed with the help of modern technologies and machineries to attract more tourists which can give better prospects for tourism development.

Conclusions

“Sugar bowl of Karnataka” Belagavi district offers diverse and natural opportunities for tourism development. While some tourist sites are managed by government bodies and agencies that provide basic amenities, several challenges continue to hinder the sector’s growth. Key issues include limited public awareness, inadequate transportation and security, low community participation, and insufficient infrastructure. Despite these challenges, Belagavi holds significant potential to expand its tourism industry due to its unique combination of cultural heritage, natural beauty, seasonal waterfalls, various agricultural tourism, and historical landmarks. To realize this potential, it is essential for the government and local authorities to focus on improving infrastructure, promoting sustainable tourism, encouraging community involvement, attracting strategic investments, and fostering a skilled and innovative local environment. The responsible commercialization of tourist sites can contribute to the local economy by creating employment opportunities and supporting related business activities. Additionally, Belagavi’s proximity to popular tourist destinations in Maharashtra and Goa presents an added advantage, making it a convenient stop for travelers visiting the region. With the right interventions and collaborative efforts, tourism in Belagavi district can be significantly enhanced.

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