

Celebrate The Festival Of Colors - Holi

Festival Dates: Between March and April



Holi is a spring festival, also known as the festival of Colours and Love. It is an important festival to Hindus and celebrated at the end of the winter season on the last full moon day of the lunar month which usually falls in March or sometimes in late February. Mathura is a place where Lord Krishna was born, while Vrindavan was where he spent his childhood. Mathura and Vrindavan are amongst those places where people from all corners of India, rather, the world gather every year to feel the essence of Holi in the land of Krishna.

It is said that young Krishna was jealous of Radha's fair complexion since he himself was very dark. He narrated his woe to mother Yashoda, who teasingly asked him to color Radha's face in whichever color he wanted. In a mischievous mood, Krishna applied color on Radha's face. The tradition of applying color on one's beloved is being religiously followed till date.

The main venue for Holi celebrations in Mathura is in the vicinity of Holi Gate. A long procession with colors and music takes place on Holi from the temples along the river to the gate. People rub 'gulaal' and 'abeer' (both powder colours) on each other's faces.

Holi celebration begins with the lighting up of a bonfire on Holi eve. Numerous legends & stories associated with Holi celebrations make the festival more exuberant and vivid. Every year on the occasion of Holi, children and adults alike, armed with dry colors, colored solution, devices to fill and spray others with colored solution (pichkaris), balloons that can hold colored water, and other creative means to color their targets are out on the streets in a fabulous spectacle of stunning hues. Holi also gives a wonderful chance to send blessings and love to dear ones wrapped in a special Holi gifts. The colorful festival bridges the social gap and renews relationships. On this day, people hug each other while spreading wishes of 'Happy Holi'.

