



The Sun Temple of Konark, was constructed in the mid thirteenth century by Raja Narasingha Deva-I of the Ganga Dynasty. It is ample evidence to the artistic glory of the time. Conceived in the form of a huge chariot drawn by seven spirited horses on 12 pairs of exquisitely decorated wheels--after the mythical seven horse chariot of Sun God-the temple was unique in its architecture and implementation.

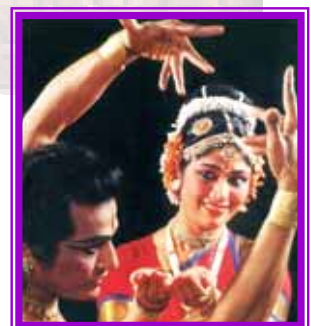
Konark Dance Festival



Konark festival was first organized in 1989 at the Open Air Auditorium, Konark. The main idea to patronize the dance festival was to promote Konark and hence Orissa, as a place of tourist destination. The Konark dance festival is organized by eminent Odissi guru Gangadhar Pradhan's Orissa Dance Academy in association with the Eastern Zonal Cultural

Centre, Kolkata at Konark Natya Mandap in Konark.

This Festival is held from 1 to 5 December, in the backdrop of the mammoth Sun Temple, Konark. The mega event is held in an open Natya Mandir (Dance Hall), on the Chandrabhaga Beach, Konark. The Konark Dance Festival showcases the best of the traditional and classical dance forms of India, besides offering interesting insights into the rich cultural and dance heritage of the country. The leading exponents and dance enthusiasts of almost all main classical dance forms of India including Odissi, Bharatanatyam, Manipuri, Kathakali, and Chaotake part in the five-day classical dance festival. During the Festival, the entire Konark berates with the sounds of the Ghungroo Bells, Flute and Pakhawaj. A



wonderful Crafts Mela is held which much adds to the magic of the festival. At the mela, beautiful sculptures and souvenirs made by the expert craftsmen of the region are displayed and sold. No wonder, the Konark Dance Festival is a big hit with the travellers, from both India and abroad

Programme Schedule

Date: 1st to 5th December 2009

Venue: Open Air Auditorium, Konark

Date	1st Session	2nd Session
01.12.09	Odissi Padmabibhusan Dr. Sonal Mansingh, New Delhi	Kathak Kathak Kendra, New Delhi
02.12.09	Kuchipudi Padmashree Sobha Naidu, Hyderabad	Odissi Kala Vikash Kendra, Cuttack
03.12.09	Odissi Padmashree Ranjana Gauhar, New Delhi	Manipuri Padmashree Guru Th. Babu Singh, Manipur
04.12.09	Bharatnatyam Vasundhara Doraswamy, Mysore	Odissi Orissa Dance Academy, Bhubaneswar
05.12.09	Odissi GKCM Odissi Research Centre, Bhubaneswar	Mohiniattam Sunanda Nair, Mumbai

APPROACH

Konark is connected by excellent all-weather roads with Puri (35kms) and Bhubaneswar (65kms) which are also nearest Railheads. Nearest Airport is Biju Pattanaik Airport, Bhubaneswar.

ACCOMMODATION - KONARK

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**For Special Package Tour For Konark Festival – 2009 provided by Orissa Tourism log
on to : <http://www.orissatourism.gov.in/new/Konark%20Festival%202009.pdf>**

For more details contact :

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