SAFETY TIPS FOR SEA-ENTHUSIASTS

Andaman & Nicobar Islands have many sandy beaches and coral reefs. But only some of these beaches are suitable for supervised safe swimming, snorkeling and diving. Though Andaman water is generally safe for swimming and looks inviting, it also has some potentially dangerous marine animals like Jelly Fish, Sharks, Sea Snakes, Saltwater Crocodiles and Stone Fish with which one may come in conflict. Though such incidences are extremely rare, visitors are advised to observe the following precautions for a safe and enriching swimming experience.

DO’S:
- Find out about safe swimming or diving area from Tourist Information Center, Local Tour Operators and Forest Department Staff. Do not swim in Protected Areas to avoid dangerous animals.
- Look for the safety sign boards. They help you to identify potential dangers.
- Ask a lifeguard on duty for some advice on swimming conditions like local currents, tides, visibility, and the presence of dangerous marine creatures etc. Swimming conditions can change quickly, so seek prior advice from a lifeguard before entering in water in an unpatrolled area.
- Get a friend to swim with you so that you can look out for each other’s safety and get help, if needed. Children should always be supervised by an adult.
- Avoid swimming in the dark.
- Raise your hand up for help if you get into trouble in the water. Stay calm and wave your arm for help.

DON’TS:
- Do not dangle your arms or legs in the water during boat rides.
- Do not swim under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- Shiny jewellery or bright colored clothes resemble fins of small fishes and may attract predatory fishes. Avoid such accessory or clothing while swimming.
- If you have an open wound, please avoid swimming. Many predatory fish are attracted to blood odour.
- Avoid diving or swimming amongst school of fish. This may attract predatory fishes.
- Avoid night swimming or diving.

ACCOMMODATION

One can stay at Hawks Bill Nest, RRO, Betapur (Guest Tourism Department House). This is located at a distance of about 2 km from the entry point of Dhaninallah Walkway.
Mangrove Walkway

It’s a wooden board-walk that meanders through a creek for a distance of 713 mtrs. And it provides you the privilege of enjoying mangrove flora & fauna at close quarters. This place Dhaninallah is named after a Mangrove plant Nypha which is locally known as Dhani patti.

**THIS IS UNIQUE BECAUSE**

It’s the longest walkway of its kind in the country. It provides a unique opportunity to witness almost all species of mangroves found in the Andamans in a single place. It’s a complete eco-friendly structure. And it leads you to the very beautiful Dhaninallah Beach.

The most scenic beach of the Middle Andaman Island Dhaninallah is a very good sandy beach with a gentle gradient.

**HOW TO REACH**

The entry point of Dhaninallah Mangrove Walkway is along the ATR at Betapur and is about 20 km from Rangat towards Mayabunder.

**TOURIST ATTRACTIONS NEAR MAYABUNDER**

**KARMATANG BEACH**

Kratamang beach is a vast expanse of gleaming sand that’s washed by crystal clear water twice a day and provides the ideal habitat for Olive Ridley turtles and Andaman Green turtles who use it for nesting. It’s located at a distance of 20 km from Mayabunder, the headquarters of North & Middle Andaman districts. The coconut plantations adjacent to the beach make it a perfect location for outings and beach picnics.

**AVIS ISLAND**

Avis Island is a tiny but beautiful Island that’s only a 20 minute boat ride from the Mayabunder Jetty. Known for its coconut plantation this island has a small beach with coarse sand in which water is very calm & clear. It is advisable to visit this uninhabited island in the early hours of the day.

**CHENGAPPA BRIDGE (AUSTIN BRIDGE)**

It is the biggest bridge in Andaman & Nicobar Island connecting Middle & North Andaman Islands. And is named after Mr. B.S.Chengappa, a renowned Forest Officer who prepared a working plan for these islands.

**TOURIST ATTRACTIONS NEAR DIGLIPUR**

**SITUATED IN NORTH ANDAMAN ISLAND, DIGLIPUR PROVIDES A RARE EXPERIENCE TO ECO-FRIENDLY TOURISTS. IT IS FAMOUS FOR ORANGES, RICE, FOREST WEALTH AND MARINE-LIFE. SADDLE PEAK (732 METERS), THE HIGHEST POINT IN THE ANDAMANS IS NEARBY. ALSO HAS THE FAMOUS TWIN ROSS AND SMITH ISLAND, CRAGGY ISLAND, MUD VOLCANOES OF SHYAM NAGAR BESIDES KALIPUR, LAMIYA BAY & RAM NAGAR BEACHES - ALL UNIQUE IN THEIR OWN WAY.**

**ROSS & SMITH ISLANDS**

Ross & Smith Islands are known as twin islands of North Andaman. These beautiful islands are just 20 minutes ride by fibre boat from the Aerial Bay Jetty (Aerial Bay Jetty is located at a distance of about 10 km, from Diglipur town)

An exquisite sand bar that connects the Ross & Smith Islands is not only the special attraction but perhaps the best of its kind in India.

This sand bar widens & narrows down twice a day exhibiting nature’s magic. Spotless, fine sand spreads, crystal clear water of different shades and a smooth sloping beach with lush green forests on either side makes this beach an exceptional experience for the visitors.

**RAM NAGAR BEACH**

This is a serenely beautiful beach that’s located at a distance of 70 km from Mayabunder (take a diversion from Kallara Jn. of ATR) and 35 km from Diglipur. This beach is ideal for swimming.

**KALIPUR BEACH**

This beach is well known for turtle nesting. Eco-friendly and visitor-friendly beach facilities like eco-huts, benches and seating arrangements have been provided.