

XXV. TOURISM

1. Number of Tourists visited & Accomodation available

Sl.No	Item	2001	2002	2003
1	2	3	4	5
1	Foreign tourist arraivals	22115	20094	25559
2	Domestic tourist arrivals	476804	480519	500139
3	Accomodations available:			
	I) No. of rooms	2405	2554	2566
	II) Dormitory	52	105	105
	III) No. of beds	4201	4325	4586
	IV) Dormitory beds	1120	1320	517

Source : Directorate of Tourism, Pondicherry

XXV. TOURISM
2. WHERE TO GO AND WHAT TO SEE

Sl. No.	Place of Interest	Location / Importance	Seasons / Festivals	Accessibility	Also Visit
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Aurobindo Ashram	The ashram was founded by Sri Aurobindo in the year 1926. It houses the Samadies of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother. Visitors from all over the world throng to pay homage to the samadies. The Ashram is dedicated to cultural, educational and spritual activities.	All round the year. Timings : 10.30 to		
2	Auroville	It is an International Community Centre rising above all barriers of caste, creed and nationality. It is also known as City of Dawn. It was founded by the Mother in the year 1968. It sprawls over 800 acres of land. The imposing structure of Matri Mandir is the centre of attraction.		Located on the Tindivanam road. By bus from Pondicherry.	Photographic exhibition put up by auroville authorities portraying their various activities.
3	Raj Nivas	It is the official residence of the Lieutenant Governor of Pondicherry. Formerly it was Dupleix's palace.			Government Palace

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4	Botanical Garden	This Garden is located at the junction of West Boulevard and Lal Bahadur Street. It was planned by C.S.Perrotet in 1826. It houses varieties of flora, preserve plants collected all over from Indian and abroad, an aquarium with a large variety of fish.			Bharathi, Bharathidasan and Ananda Rangapillai Memorials.
5	The French Institute	It was founded in 1956 and is financed by the French Government . It highly contributes services in the fields of religion, language, philosophy, history, art and culture. The institute also conducts research in ecological and biological sciences.			
6	Romain Rolland Library	It is one of the oldest public libraries in India. It has a vast collection of French books and manuscripts.			Museum it houses articles of archeological importance
7	Ananda Ashram	This ashram situated at about 5kms west of Pondicherry is said to be the ancient land of sage Agastya. Training in Yoga is imparted here.			