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# Beneshwar

Fair, Dungarpur

# Beneshwar Fair

## Dungarpur



The Beneshwar Fair is a five-day religious tribal fair held at a delta formed by the rivers Som, Mahi and Jakhm in the months of January-February.

People of the Bhil tribe, gather in large numbers at Beneshwar (Dungarpur) from the districts of Dungarpur, Udaipur and Banswara to worship their God, 'Beneshwar Mahadev', another name for Lord Shiva.

The priest, called the Mathadhish, arrives at the Fair site from Sabla, in a huge procession. The river water supposedly becomes holier when the Mathadhish takes a bath. Hence, people bathe along with him in the river.

At night, the Bhils sing traditional folk songs in high pitched voices sitting around a bonfire. The entire place resounds with melodious songs, folk dances, magic shows, animal shows and acrobatic feats. Adding to the excitement are the joy rides on merry-go-rounds and swings.

