

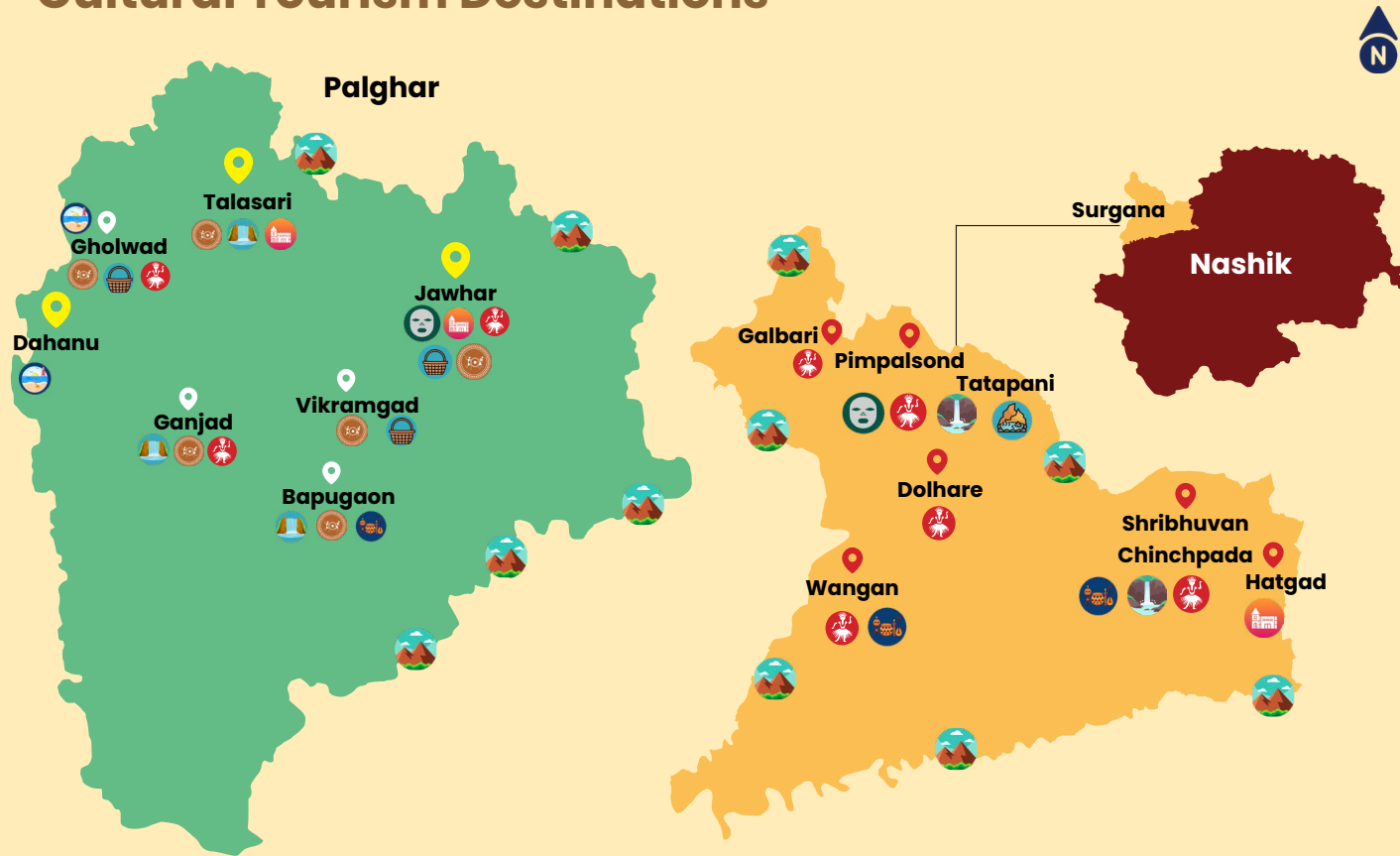


**Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation,  
Department of Tourism, Government of Maharashtra**

# **Bamboo Craft**

**Experience Handcrafted Traditions of Palghar**

# Cultural Tourism Destinations



- Folk Song & Dance
- Warli Painting
- Basketry
- Folk Instruments
- Seaside
- Western Ghats
- Bohada Mask
- Dam
- Fort
- Water Falls
- Hot Spring



## Explore the Living Heritage of Maharashtra

Maharashtra is a vast mosaic of cultural landscapes, where ancient cave carvings coexist with a vibrant, living tribal heritage. Among these, the districts of Palghar and Nashik stand out as cultural sanctuaries, where the forested Sahyadri ranges cradle the ancestral traditions of the Kokna, Mahadev Koli, and Warli communities.

Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation (MTDC) is working in Palghar and Nashik districts to develop Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) based experiential tourism. MTDC, in collaboration with local communities, invites you to experience Palghar and Nashik as living cultural landscapes. From the quiet poetry of Warli painting to the powerful presence of Bohada masks, from the intricate artistry of bamboo craft to the enchanting rhythms of song and dance, each expression carries the memory of the land and its people. Experience the local basketry traditions—where forest-based knowledge and skilled craftsmanship shape forms of everyday utility and beauty. Learn from the makers, and take a piece of tradition home.

Step beyond the familiar to discover the hidden cultural gems of these regions, and engage directly with tradition bearers. Here, culture is not a spectacle, but a shared experience—where people, place, and practice come together to reveal the living soul of Maharashtra.





## The Language of Bamboo Craft

For generations, women artists of Palghar have transformed locally grown bamboo into beautiful and functional objects for daily life. From baskets and storage containers to decorative pieces and home décor, each creation reflects deep knowledge of nature and skilled craftsmanship.

Today, this tradition continues to evolve, blending traditional weaving techniques with contemporary designs, making bamboo craft both sustainable and stylish.

Visitors can see this craft first-hand in village workshops and interact directly with the artists.

# The Heartland of the Tradition

The spirit of bamboo craft is deeply rooted in Palghar's rural landscape, where abundant natural resources converge with generations of ancestral knowledge.

The heart of bamboo craft lies in the villages of:

**Gholwad (Dahanu Taluka)**  
**Ramnagar (Jawhar Taluka)**



# The Alchemy of the Process

The creation of a bamboo product is a meticulous journey of technical precision and artistic vision.



**Selecting Bamboo** – Mature bamboo is carefully chosen and split into fine strips.



**Preparing the Strips** – The strips are cleaned and smoothed to make them flexible.



**Dyeing & soaking** – bamboo strips are soaked in heated dye solution to absorb color, then washed to remove excess.



**Weaving & shaping** – bamboo strips are woven and formed into products.



**Finishing** – The final piece is polished and treated for durability.

# Bamboo Weaving Styles



## Diamond Pattern

A geometric weave forming precise diamond shapes, adding depth and decorative elegance to bamboo surfaces.



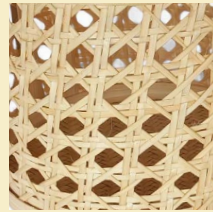
## Checker Weave

A classic over-under technique forming a balanced checkerboard pattern, blending simplicity with visual appeal.



## Square Weave

A basic crisscross pattern of horizontal and vertical strips, offering a clean structure with functional versatility.



## Hexagonal Weave

A three-directional interlacing that creates a strong, open hexagonal pattern inspired by natural honeycomb structures.



## Chevron Pattern

A diagonal weaving style that produces dynamic V-shaped lines, bringing rhythm and movement to the design.



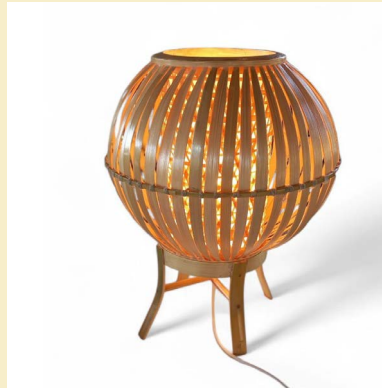
## Traditional Basketry Weave

A time-honored interlacing technique focused on strength and utility, widely used for everyday bamboo products.

# Products



## Lampshades



## Planters



## Accessories





## A Living Museum of Palghar

As you explore this cultural landscape, begin your journey at the MTDC Palghar Lok Itihas Sangrahalaya—a living museum at Gholwad that offers an introduction to the region’s rich heritage. Housed in a historic school building dating back to the 1880s, it brings together the diverse cultural expressions of Palghar through thoughtfully curated displays.

Visitors can explore Warli painting alongside Bohada masks, bamboo craft, traditional Tarpa instruments, and folk music and performance traditions. The museum also features sections on local Parsi heritage and renowned artists of the region, along with everyday objects from rural life—many generously contributed by community members.

More than a repository of objects, the Sangrahalaya is a space of memory and continuity—where stories of the land and its people come alive.



## Celebrating Continuity

Bamboo craftsmanship continues to thrive as a living tradition in the region, sustained through community gatherings and cultural festivals such as the Mateechya Rangacha Sannelan. Exhibitions and demonstrations showcase finely crafted bamboo works by master artists alongside creations by emerging learners trained through workshops and skill-sharing sessions.

### Upcoming ICH festivals

Surgana, Nashik - 2-4 October, 2026

Jawhar, Palghar - 3-4 October, 2026

## Navigate & Connect

Travel time from Mumbai to Dahanu is 3-4 hours by rail or road.

- Gholwad - 15 km from Dahanu, about 20-25 minutes away, known for its bamboo craft villages.
- Jawhar - 70 km from Dahanu, about 2 hours away, set amidst scenic hills and vibrant craft traditions

### Experience Bamboo Craft in a Day

- Visit the Gholwad Museum
- Travel through the craft villages of Gholwad and Jawhar
- Meet local bamboo artists
- Try a hands-on bamboo weaving workshop
- Enjoy a traditional local meal
- Take home handcrafted bamboo souvenirs

Visitors can experience coastal beauty, relax by serene shores, and enjoy immersive stays in charming farmhouses amidst Palghar's tranquil rural landscape.

### Artist Contacts

Yamuna Surti - 9284052432

Kanchan Surti - 9373441080

Nilisha Surti - 8652144968

Kinjal Surti - 8956407970

Aruna Surti - 9765529917

Bhavna Mayavanshi - 9359418069





# Explore Bamboo Craft

Visit bamboo craft villages to engage directly with artists through hands-on making sessions, immersive craft residencies, and collaborative product development initiatives. Discover pathways for sustainable design innovation grounded in material knowledge, ecological responsibility, and lived craft traditions.


For designers, architects, and buyers:


- Co-create bamboo products and spatial installations
- Source handcrafted utility and décor objects
- Curate ethical bamboo-based corporate gifting
- Participate in artist-led bamboo workshops




Scan to know more



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