



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



BOHADA MASK Catalogue

Discover the Living Heritage of Maharashtra

Maharashtra is a rich tapestry of culture, where ancient cave carvings exist alongside a vibrant, living tribal heritage. In the districts of Palghar and Nashik, the forested Sahyadri ranges shelter the enduring 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. In partnership with local communities, MTDC invites you to explore these regions as living cultural landscapes. From the delicate storytelling of Warli paintings and the striking Bohada masks to finely crafted bamboo art and soulful music and dance, every tradition reflects a deep connection to the land and its people. This brochure opens a doorway to the sacred villages of the Bohada mask makers. Step off the usual tourist trail to discover these hidden cultural treasures and meet the tradition bearers themselves. Here, culture is not something to watch—it is something to experience, shared warmly where people, place, and tradition come together to reveal the living soul of Maharashtra.



The Sacred Sohanging: More than a Mask

The Bohada mask is a sacred vessel of transformation for the Kokna and Warli communities. When a performer wears the mask, known as a Songa, it marks a spiritual threshold where the human self recedes and the deity is believed to emerge and walk among the villagers. This ritual theatre, sustained for centuries, revolves around the “Sohang” masks—a set of 52 distinct characters forming a rich mythological universe. Traditionally crafted from heavy wood or cured leather, the masks later evolved into a more practical yet artistic form using papier-mâché. Mask makers create them with a base of clay and recycled paper pulp, bound with natural forest gums, shaping detailed features over half-spherical moulds. The final masks are lightweight, durable, and vividly painted. Often preserved for generations, each mask becomes a revered family heirloom, connecting the present community with its ancestral past.

Traditional Masks Deities



01

Ganapati
Mask

SIZE - 2ft 7 inch X 1ft 9 inch



02

Narsingh
Mask

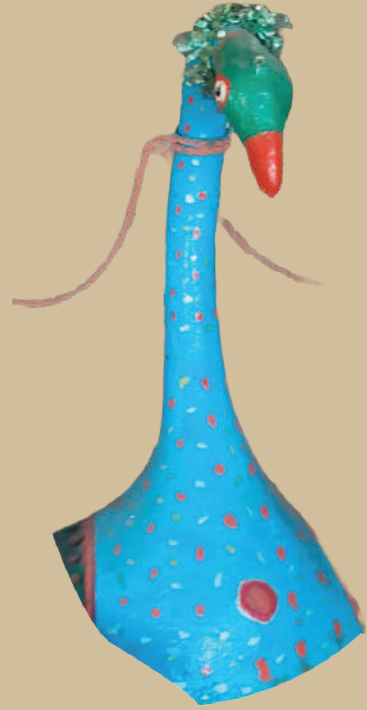
SIZE - 3 ft 2 inch X 3 ft 1 inch



03

Ma Jagdamba
Mask

SIZE - 2 ft 3 inch X 2 ft



04

Saraswati (Peacock)
Mask

SIZE - 3 ft 3 inch X 1 ft 11 inch



05

Ekadashi
Mask

SIZE - 2 ft 2 inch X 2 ft 2 inch



06

Hanuman
Mask

SIZE - 2 ft X 1 ft 8 inch

Traditional Masks Demons



07

Suparnakha
Mask

SIZE - 1 ft 10 inch X 1 ft 10 inch



08

Nar (Rakshasa)
Mask

SIZE - 2 ft 6 inch X 2 ft

Traditional Masks Animals



09

Tota (Parrot)
Mask

SIZE - 1 ft 3 inch X 1 ft 2 inch



10

Sesla (Rabbit)
Mask

SIZE - 1 ft 9 inch X 1 ft 3 inch

Traditional Masks

Mythological Characters



11

Bheem
Mask

SIZE - 1 ft 5 inch X 2 ft



12

Dhingra
Mask

SIZE - 1 ft 8 inch X 1 ft 5 inch



13

Nagina
Mask

SIZE - 1 ft 9 inch X 1 ft 6 inch



14

Pundlik
Mask

SIZE - 3 ft 4 inch X 2 ft 5 inch

Diversified Products



15

Bull Mask

SIZE - 1 ft 5 inch x 10 inch



16

Donkey Mask

SIZE - 1 ft 5 inch x 10 inch



17

Small Turtle
Decorative Piece
SIZE - 8 inch x 5 inch



18

Small Turtle
Decorative Piece
SIZE - 8 inch x 5 inch



19

Small Box
SIZE - 8 inch x 5 inch



20

Small Box
SIZE - 8 inch x 5 inch



21

Pen Stand
SIZE - 6 inch x 3 inch



22

Wall Hanging
SIZE - 6 inch x 6 inch



23

Decorative Boat
SIZE - 8 inch x 10 inch



24

Boat Toy
SIZE - 5 inch x 8 inch



25

Ganapati Mask
SIZE - 10 inch x 6 inch



26

Demon Mask
SIZE - 8 inch x 12 inch



27

Peacock Relief for Wall Hanging
SIZE - 12 inch x 16 inch



28

Motif Design for Wall
SIZE - 12 inch x 12 inch



29

Bird Toy
SIZE - 5 inch x 10 inch



30

Fish Toy
SIZE - 5 inch x 10 inch



31

Soldier Face Mask
SIZE - 8 inch x 6 inch



32

Soldier Mask (Small)
SIZE - 4 inch x 3 inch



33

Narad Face Mask
SIZE - 12 inch x 10 inch



34

Clown Face Mask
SIZE - 10 inch x 10 inch



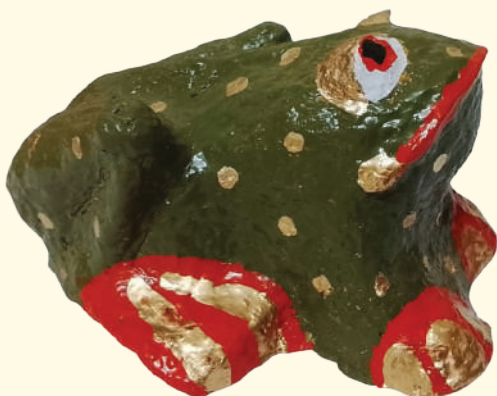
35

Small Turtle Toy
SIZE - 3 inch x 4 inch



36

Small Cow Toy
SIZE - 3 inch x 4 inch



37

Small Frog Toy
SIZE - 3 inch x 4 inch



38

Small Pig Toy
SIZE - 3 inch x 4 inch



39

Peacock Face
SIZE - 12 inch x 10 inch



40

Lion Face
SIZE - 10 inch x 10 inch



41

Deer Face
SIZE - 10 inch x 6 inch



42

Rabbit Face
SIZE - 8 inch x 5 inch



43

Dance Mural For Wall
SIZE - 12 inch x 16 inch



The heartland of the tradition

The Bohada tradition is strongest in these villages:

Pimpalsond is a village in **Nashik district** and a key centre for Bohada mask-making and ritual performances.

Ramkhind (Jawhar Taluka) and **Mokhada (Mokhada Taluka)** are villages in Palghar district and are considered the birthplace of the Bohada tradition, deeply rooted in the region's cultural history.

These villages also offer beautiful landscapes, forest walks, and opportunities to interact with local communities.





Artist Contacts

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Explore Bohada Mask

Visit mask making villages to engage directly with artists through hands-on mask 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 Bohada products and spatial installations
- Source handcrafted souvenirs and décor objects
- Participate in artisan-led Bohada workshops



Scan to know more



 Explore Maharashtra - MTDC

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