

VISITOR INFORMATION

The Mandir is a Hindu place of worship. In the Mandir Complex, all visitors and devotees are required to respect and comply with the code of conduct according to the BAPS Swaminarayan Hindu faith. Complete list of guidelines is available at www.baps.org/toronto.



Conduct
Please refrain from touching or leaning against the delicate carvings. Please respect all security procedures. **Please observe silence in the Mandir.**



Dress Code
All clothing must cover shoulders and knees. Sarongs will be available. Footwear must be removed upon entering the Mandir or the Haveli. Shoe racks are provided in the entrance of the Haveli.



Pets and Animals
Pets and animals are not allowed inside the Complex.



Food & Drink
Food or drinks are not allowed except in the designated areas. Please discard any chewing gum in the bins prior to entering.



Smoking and Alcohol
Smoking, alcohol, drugs and tobacco products are strictly prohibited anywhere in or around the Complex.



Photo-videography
Photography and videography inside any part of the building are strictly prohibited. Commercial use or publication of images or video of the premises is strictly prohibited.



Cell Phones
Cell phones must be switched off while inside the Mandir.



Group Visits
For school or group reservation, please email: tours.toronto@canada.baps.org



Facilities are wheelchair accessible. Please park strollers in the Haveli. Restrooms are located in the entrance area of the Haveli. There is ample parking on site. Do not park in the fire-zones and in front of any of the buildings. The management does not assume any responsibility for vehicles parked on the premises.



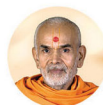
The Management reserves the right to cancel or alter any visit or close the premises, in whole or part, without prior notice. Every effort will be made to avoid any inconvenience. The Management is not responsible or liable for any loss or damage to personal belongings. The Management reserves the right to refuse admission to those who do not wish to follow the code of conduct. All visitors aged 17 or under must be accompanied by an adult at all times, otherwise entry may be refused.

BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir

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Brahmaswarup
Pramukh Swami Maharaj



Guruhari
Mahant Swami Maharaj

BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha | www.baps.org

VISITING HOURS



Entry to the Mandir and Haveli is free. Enter through the Haveli (wooden) front doors. Please take extra care when walking on the marble/granite floor and stairways in and around the Complex.

Visiting Hours (daily): 9:00 am - 6:30 pm

Murti Darshan open daily:
(inner sanctum) 9:00 am - 10:30 am
11:15 am - 12:00 pm
4:00 pm - 5:40 pm

Please allow at least 45 minutes for a full experience.



Donations

Visitors wishing to make donations towards the maintenance of the Complex or to the charity work undertaken by BAPS in fields as diverse as education, environment, social relief, health and preserving heritage are requested to contact the Reception Counter. A tax receipt will be issued for donations over \$20. Registered Charity No. 88573 1018 RR0002.

DAILY RITUALS

Arti

Arti is one of the most important ceremonies of the Hindu faith. It is a form of a prayer offered in greetings and thanksgiving to God where devotees are reminded of God's glorious presence and providence. The tradition dates back thousands of years to the ancient temples of India.

Shangar Arti: 7:30 am
Rajbhog Arti: 11:15 am
Sandhya Arti: 6:30 pm
Shayan Arti: 8:00 pm

Visitors are requested to adhere to separate sitting arrangements for men and women during rituals.

Abhishek

Abhishek is an ancient Vedic ritual where water is ceremoniously poured over the murti of God amidst the chanting of holy mantras to honour God and to seek blessings.

Monday to Friday
9:00 am - 12 noon &
4:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Saturday and Sunday
9:00 am - 7:00 pm



Thal

The Thal ritual is the offering of food items to God and the deities. During this ritual the shrine doors are closed for approximately 45 mins.

6:15am | 10:30am | 3:30pm | 5:40pm



WELCOME



BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir Toronto

Canada's first traditionally hand-carved
Hindu place of worship



Welcome to BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir

Mandir

The Mandir is Canada's first traditional Hindu place of worship. It is built in a Vedic tradition that dates back many millennia. More than 95,000 cu. ft. of hand-carved marble, limestone and sandstone have been assembled without steel reinforcement. Stone structures built in such tradition are known to last for hundreds of years. The divine images and rituals of worship in the Mandir form an important aspect in elevating the soul to the pinnacle of spirituality.



24,000 pieces of stone - assembled in 18 months
1,500 craftsmen - hand carved with devotion
400 volunteers - 1 million hours of service
inaugurated in 2007 - built to last over 1,000 years

Murtis - Divine Images

The Murtis enshrined in the inner sanctums of Mandir are ritually infused with divinity, and are the focus of worship in Vedic tradition.



Haveli

The Haveli, built using intricately hand carved teak wood reflects the traditional courtyard craftsmanship of India.

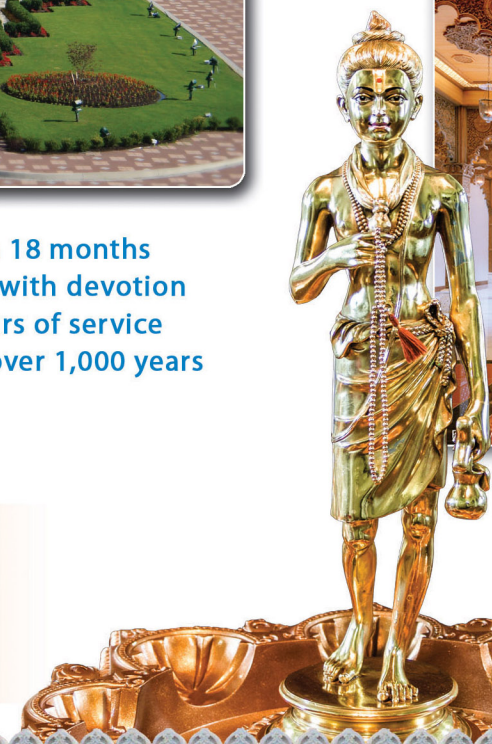
Musicians and dancers carved in wood welcome visitors to a richly ornamented foyer leading into a magnificent courtyard. Dancing peacocks, royal elephants and delicate lotus flowers beckon in warm greetings.

Unique to Canada, the Haveli is vibrant with festivals and activities for children, youth and adults.



Abhishek Mandapam

This part of the Mandir welcomes one to express their devotion by participating in the vedic Abhishek ritual.



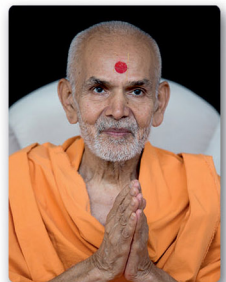
Heritage Museum

A visit to the museum is a journey of discovery into India's over 10,000 year old heritage. Uniquely crafted exhibits and artefacts educate visitors about India's contributions to science and spirituality. See the wonders of the land and understand the Hindu people and their beliefs.



The Inspirer

His Holiness Mahant Swami Maharaj is the sixth and current spiritual successor of Bhagwan Swaminarayan. He travels throughout the world inspiring people through his insightful discourses to progress on the spiritual path. His virtuous lifestyle and profound devotion to Bhagwan Swaminarayan and gurus are ideals toward which devotees strive. He became the guru and President of BAPS upon the passing of Pramukh Swami Maharaj in 2016.



About BAPS

Established in India in 1907, BAPS (Bochasanwasi Shri Akshar Purushottam Swaminarayan Sanstha) is a worldwide spiritual, volunteer-driven organization dedicated to improving individuals and society by fostering the Hindu ideals of faith, unity and selfless service. It is recognized as an NGO in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. Since 1970, BAPS and its humanitarian services wing have been serving in Canada in the areas of spirituality, children and youth development, family unity, promoting heritage and humanitarian activities.



www.baps.org