



FINDING YOUR WAY:

Puttaparthi



“Mother Easwaramma came to Me with tears in her eyes and said, ‘Swami, people want to take You here and there for their selfish purposes. If you leave Puttaparthi, I will give up My life. Please promise me that You will remain in Puttaparthi forever.’ I gave her My word that I would never leave Puttaparthi. It is for this reason that I have constructed many buildings in the ashram for the comfort and convenience of devotees.”

SSS 35.17: October 20, 2002



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

With the blessings of our beloved Bhagawan, we present to you a guidebook comprising of the prominent landmarks in and around Puttaparthi. We hope you find this guidebook useful and informative.



For enquiries on Seva Opportunities, please do write to:

Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisations, India

www.ssssindia.org

email: info@ssssoindia.org

MAIN TEMPLES

SERVICES

CANTEENS

NORTH BLOCK

WEST BLOCK

SOUTH BLOCK

- 1** SAI KULWANT HALL
- 2** POORNA CHANDRA
- 3** ACCOMMODATION OFFICE
- 4** SOUTH INDIAN CANTEEN
- 5** NORTH INDIAN CANTEEN
- 6** WESTERN CANTEEN
- 7** LADIES SEVADAL BLOCK
- 8** GENTS SEVADAL BLOCK
- 9** NORTH BLOCKS
- 10** SHOPPING CENTRE
- 11** BOOK SHOP / LIBRARY
- 12** SATSANG HALL
- 13** PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE (LOST AND FOUND)



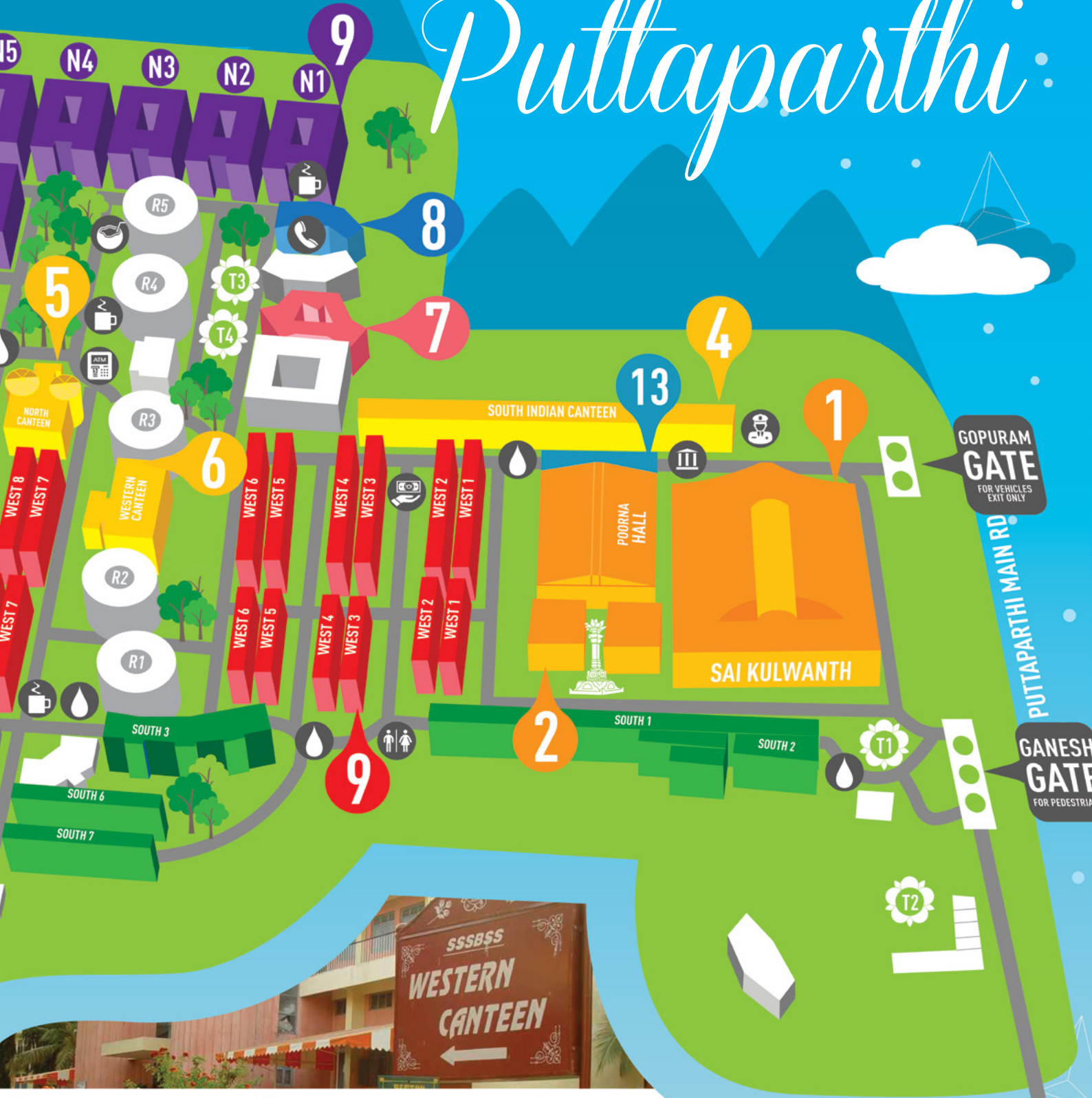
T1 GANESH TEMPLE

T2 SUBRAMANYA TEMPLE

T3 GAYATRI TEMPLE

T4 LAKSHMI TEMPLE

FINDING YOUR WAY: Puttaparthi



-  DRINKING WATER
-  BAKERY
-  ATM
-  TELEPHONE
-  STATE BANK OF INDIA
-  SNACK
-  COFFEE SHOP
-  SECURITY OFFICE
-  TOILETS
-  SOUTH INDIAN CANTEEN
COUPON COUNTER

SANATHANA SAMSKRUTI MUSEUM



Bhagawan inaugurated the first museum in Puttaparthi, the Sanathana Samskruti Museum, on November 19, 1990. Commonly known as the 'Eternal Heritage Museum', this museum is located on the top of a hill on the southern side of the ashram. Here, devotees can find the fundamental key teachings of Bhagawan in the form of exhibits, replicas, and idols. The museum displays focus on the declaration of His Avatarhood, message of unity, and the teachings of great saints and spiritual masters.

Fun Facts

- The museum was inspired by the *shikhara* (mountain peak) architectural style of Architecture, resembling Jain temples in North India
- This museum is the tallest landmark in Puttaparthi
- The architectural style is similar to the University's Administrative building



Operating Hours

Monday-Sunday
10:00 am-12:00 pm
(except Wednesday)
Open on Public Holidays



Entry Pass

Free entrance



Location

The museum is located next to the University's Administrative block. A road opposite the police station leads up the hill on the southern side of the ashram.

From the Ganesh gate:

- 10-minute walk
- 5-minute auto ride



CHAITANYA JYOTI MUSEUM

In conjunction with Bhagawan's 75th birthday, the Chaitanya Jyoti Museum was inaugurated on November 18, 2000. Inspired by Asian architecture, the museum houses exhibits depicting the life story and mission of Bhagawan Baba. Spread over seven phases, the museum showcases scenes from His life, such as the prophecies associated with His birth, and the major milestones in His grand mission.



Fun Facts

- The museum is built on a hilly slope and overlooks the Sri Sathya Sai Hillview stadium.
- The traditional oriental roof is the biggest roof outside Mainland China.
- Extensive *stapathi* (traditional Indian carvings) are done on flat surfaces, majorly enriching the building aesthetics.



Operating Hours

Tuesday-Sunday
10:00 am-12:00 pm,
3:00 pm - 5:00 pm



Entry Pass

Free entrance



Location

The museum is located beside statues of great spiritual masters, overlooking the Sri Sathya Sai Hillview Stadium

From the Ganesh gate:

- 10-minute walk
- 3-minute auto ride

SRI SATHYA SAI SPACE THEATRE (PLANETARIUM)



Inaugurated on November 22, 1985, the Planetarium aims to educate the rural masses on the state-of-the-art progress in Science and technology.

With a seating capacity of 200 people, the planetarium invites visitors to become participants by observing events in order to gain a unidirectional viewing unlike that available in any other theatre.

The educational program covers Night and Day, Solar Systems, Seasons, Constellations, and Zodiacal signs. This programme acts as a stimulus for building interest and understanding in the basic concepts of astronomy, mathematics, physics, etc.



Operating Hours

Daily from 10:00 am
Regular Planetarium shows start at 10:30 am for a duration of 30 minutes. These shows take place every Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday.

They are available in three languages; English, Hindi, and Telugu; and are scheduled as per below:

Tuesday: Hindi Thursday: Hindi
Saturday: English Sunday: Telugu



Entry Pass

Free entrance



Location

The planetarium is located across the Higher Secondary School Boys' Hostel.

From the Ganesh gate:

- 10-minute walk
- 5-minute auto ride

Fun Facts

- The Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning is the first university in the country to utilise a planetarium for educational purposes.
- In 2011, a full-dome projection system was integrated using the mirror-dome technique.
- The *Spitz Space System-512* planetarium provides a star field of 4,054 images including 88 well-known constellations, 57 navigational stars, the milky way, nebulae, etc.
- The 30 computer-controlled projectors can replicate any meteorological observation and project it on an indoor sky.

SRI SATHYA SAI INSTITUTE OF HIGHER MEDICAL SCIENCES, PRASANTHIGRAM (SUPER-SPECIALITY HOSPITAL)



“A World-Class Healthcare, Totally Free Of Charge”

Inaugurated on the eve of Bhagawan’s 66th birthday in 1991 by then Prime Minister of India, Mr. P.V. Narasimha Rao, and Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba; the Super Speciality Hospital houses 300 beds delivering **free-of-charge** high quality medical service regardless of caste, creed, race, religion, and economic status.

Also known as the Temple of Healing—due to the atmosphere of love and peace—the hospital provides free medical services in cardiology/cardio-thoracic vascular surgery, urology, and ophthalmology.

Fun Facts

- A photo exhibition on Bhagawan’s life and mission is available on the ground floor.
- The main altar at the centre of the building has a towering 90ft high dome and is visited by many to find comfort in communion with God.



Visiting Hours

Monday-Saturday,
12:00 pm - 2:00 pm



Entry Pass

Free entrance



Location

The hospital is located near the airport and is 6km from the ashram.

From the Ganesh gate:

- 45-minute walk
- 10-minute auto ride

Note-worthy key information

- Please do not enter the hospital with footwear on.
- Please remain silent while inside the hospital.
- If you require any guidance while inside the hospital, the sevadal (men in blue scarves, women in yellow and orange scarves) will guide you.
- Visitors are requested to only use the Main Gate for entry and exit from the hospital.

SRI SATHYA SAI BABA'S BIRTHPLACE (SHIVALAYAM)



A Shivalayam (Temple of Lord Shiva) now stands in place of the house where Bhagawan was born. Pujas (prayers of worship) are performed daily at dusk and dawn, and the Shiva Abishekam is being conducted every Monday.



Operating Hours

The temple is open everyday at dusk and dawn.



Entry Pass

Free entrance



Location

The temple is located in Puttaparthi village, down the Gopuram Road in the lane adjacent to the Sathyabhama temple.

From the Ganesh gate:

- 7-minute walk
- 3-minute auto ride.



Fun Fact

- Legends of Bhagawan's birth and boy-hood leelas (divine stories) can be visualised here.

SAMADHI MANDIR



The mortal remains (Samadhi) of Bhagawan's birth parents, Sri Pedda Venkappa Raju and Smt. Easwaramma is located in the Samadhi Mandir.

Fun Fact

- Every year, on May 6th, special bhajans and Narayana Sevas are held to celebrate Mother Easwaramma's birthday.



Operating Hours

The temple is open everyday.



Entry Pass

Free entrance



Location

The Samadhi Mandir is located on Samadhi Road, a few yards from the Ganesh Gate.

From the Ganesh gate:

- 2-minute walk

VATAVRIKSHA (MEDITATION TREE)



Operating Hours

Visitors are only allowed to meditate during the day.



Entry Pass

Free entrance



Location

The tree is located about halfway up the road leading from the Sri Sathya Sai General Hospital to the Administrative Block of the Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning.

From the Ganesh gate:

- 7-minute walk
- 4-minute auto ride

Planted by Bhagawan on June 29, 1959, the Banyan Tree has become a landmark among those practicing meditation. Bhagawan had installed it with a *Yantra* (a copper plate with mystic markings) that was materialized out of the sands of the Chitravathi River in April 1959. These *yantras* (mystical diagram) help to develop concentration, control the senses, and aid meditation.

KALPAVRIKSHA (WISH FULFILLING TREE)



The Wish Fulfilling Tree is a tamarind tree that stands at the crest of a hill called 'Obuladevara Gutta'.



Operating Hours

Visitors are only allowed to visit from morning till evening.



Entry Pass

Free entrance



Location

The tree is located on the crest on the left bank of the Chitravathi river.

From the Ganesh gate:

- 7-minute walk
- 3-minute auto ride

Fun Fact

- As a young boy, Bhagawan took devotees atop this hill and would pluck out any fruit they wished for from the tree.

INDOOR STADIUM



The well-equipped Indoor Games Complex (gymnasium) was founded in 2006. The School and Institute students regularly use this gymnasium.



Operating Hours

This is not open to visitors. However, a special visit can be arranged.



Entry Pass

Free entrance



Location

The complex is located across the Higher Secondary School Boys' Hostel.

From the Ganesh gate

- 15-minute walk,
- 5-minute auto ride

THE ABODE OF SAI GEETHA



Sai Geetha, a wonderfully intelligent and sensitive elephant was Bhagawan's pet. She left her mortal coil on January 22, 2013, and is now cremated in Prasanthi Nilayam

Fun Fact

Sai Geetha was given to Bhagawan Baba when she was a baby, and she stayed with him until she passed away in her late thirties.



Operating Hours

10:00am - 12:00pm



Entry Pass

Free entrance



Location

Next to the Sri Sathya Sai Planetarium

From the Ganesh gate

- 10-minute walk,
- 5-minute auto ride

PLACES OF INTEREST IN PUTTAPARTHI

1 SANATHANA SAMSKRUTI MUSEUM

2 CHAITANYA JYOTI MUSEUM

3 SRI SATHYA SAI SPACE THEATRE
(PLANETARIUM)

4 SRI SATHYA SAI INSTITUTE OF
HIGHER MEDICAL SCIENCES
(SUPER-SPECIALITY HOSPITAL)

5 SATHYA SAI BABA'S BIRTHPLACE
(SHIVALAYAM)

6 SAMADHI MANDIR

7 VATAVRIKSHA (MEDITATION TREE)

8 KALPAVRIKSHA (WISH FULFILLING TREE)

9 INDOOR STADIUM

10 THE ABODE OF SAI GEETHA

