

# ASHTAVINAYAK 2-DAY ROAD MAP

A Comprehensive Spiritual Itinerary & Route Guide starting from Pune

<b>Total Distance:</b>	Approx. 650 – 700 km	<b>Starting Point:</b>	Pune (Ideal for sequence)
<b>Duration:</b>	2 Days, 1 Night	<b>Night Halt:</b>	Ozar or Lenyadri
<b>Best Vehicle:</b>	Private Car / SUV or Cab	<b>Primary Route:</b>	Pune-Solapur Hwy & Pune-Nashik Hwy

The **Ashtavinayak pilgrimage** involves visiting eight holy temples of Lord Ganesha scattered around Maharashtra. While traditionally completed in a specific spiritual sequence starting and ending at Morgaon, a practical **2-Day road trip optimized for travel logistics** covers the geographical clusters efficiently to ensure you complete all darshans within 48 hours without excessive back-tracking.

## The Optimal 2-Day Route Sequence

### DAY 1: The Eastern & Southern Cluster (4 Temples)

Time / Sequence	Temple & Location	Distance (From Prev)	Route & Travel Insights
1 06:00 AM	<b>Moreshwar</b> Morgaon	— (Start from Pune)	Drive 65 km via Pune-Solapur Highway & Hadapsar-Saswad Road. Traditional starting point.
2 09:30 AM	<b>Siddhivinayak</b> Siddhatek	65 km	Head towards Choula via Supa and Kedgaon. Temple is situated on the banks of River Bhima.
3 01:30 PM	<b>Chintamani</b> Theur	85 km	Drive back towards Pune via the Solapur highway. Good location for lunch before/after darshan.
4 05:00 PM	<b>Mahaganapati</b> Ranjangaon	50 km	Take the Shikrapur road to join the Pune-Ahmednagar highway. Huge temple compound.
08:30 PM	<b>Night Halt</b> Ozar / Lenyadri	65 km	Drive via Narayangaon to reach Ozar or Lenyadri for an overnight stay. Bhakta Niwas available.

## DAY 2: The Northern & Konkan Cluster (4 Temples)

Time / Sequence	Temple & Location	Distance (From Prev)	Route & Travel Insights
5 06:30 AM	<b>Vighneshwar</b> Ozar	— (Morning Start)	Peaceful morning darshan on the banks of Kukadi river. Famous for its golden dome.
6 08:30 AM	<b>Girijatmaj</b> Lenyadri	15 km	Short drive. Requires climbing <b>307 stone steps</b> up a mountain cave. Complete before it gets too hot.
7 01:30 PM	<b>Varadavinayak</b> Mahad	125 km	Longer drive via Khopoli-Narayangaon road or Mumbai-Pune Expressway bypass. Oil lamp (Nandadeep) burns continuously here.
8 04:30 PM	<b>Ballaleshwar</b> Pali	40 km	Drive via the Khopoli-Pali road. The only Ashtavinayak temple named after a devotee.
07:00 PM	<b>Return Journey</b> To Pune / Mumbai	110 km	Head back to Pune (via Expressway) or Mumbai (via Imagica/Khopoli road) to conclude your yatra.

## Crucial Pilgrimage Planning Tips

### 1. Timing & Crowds

- Start your days as early as 5:30 AM or 6:00 AM to beat peak highway traffic and long temple queues.
- Avoid planning this trip on long weekends, Angarki Sankashti Chaturthi, or Ganesh Chaturthi unless you are prepared for multi-hour queues at each temple.

### 2. Logistics & Stay

- **Pre-book Accommodation:** Ozar has excellent, clean *Bhakta Niwas* facilities managed by the temple trust. Pre-booking ensures a smooth late-evening arrival.
- **Lenyadri Advice:** Doli services (palanquins) are available at Lenyadri for elderly pilgrims who cannot climb the 307 steps.

### 3. Practical Road Advice

- Keep cash handy for toll plazas and small village parking areas.
- Fill up your fuel tank before departing the main highways, as some connecting rural state highways have fewer fuel stations.