



# Kavaledurga Fort

Initially built in the 9th century, the [Kavaledurga Fort](#) is a historical monument that is located about 18 km from Thirthahalli in the Shimoga district of the state of [Karnataka](#).



## History of Kavaledurga Fort

Renovated in the 14th century by Cheluvarangappa, the Kavaledurga Fort was then called Bhuvanagiri, which was a stronghold of the Nayakas of Keladi. They had a feud with the [Vijayanagara](#) rulers but soon gained independence after their fall. Venkatappa Nayaka fortified the place and built a palace. The Kavaledurga Fort has three lines of walls, which are constructed of huge granite blocks following the natural contour of the hillock. Each fortification has a gateway flanked by guard rooms on either side and in between these fortifications, there are temples, a ruined palace site and basement of structures.

## Kavaledurga Fort an abode of Gods

There were around fifteen temples within the fortifications, but only three of the temples still exist – Kashi Vishwanatha temple, Sri Lakshmi Narayana temple and Shikareshwara temple. The Lakshmi Narayana temple is situated on a rock with natural steps leading up to it. The Shikareshwara temple is situated almost at the centre of the fort, on a natural hillock and affords a panoramic view of the area. The Kashi Vishwanatha temple is unique for its Islamic style doorway and the presence of two stone pillars at the entrance.

