



The Golden Temple

The Golden Temple is a very special place for Sikhs. Every year millions of Sikhs visit the Golden Temple on a pilgrimage.





Where is the Golden Temple?



The temple stands in Amritsar, the holy city of the Sikhs. Amritsar is in Northern India.





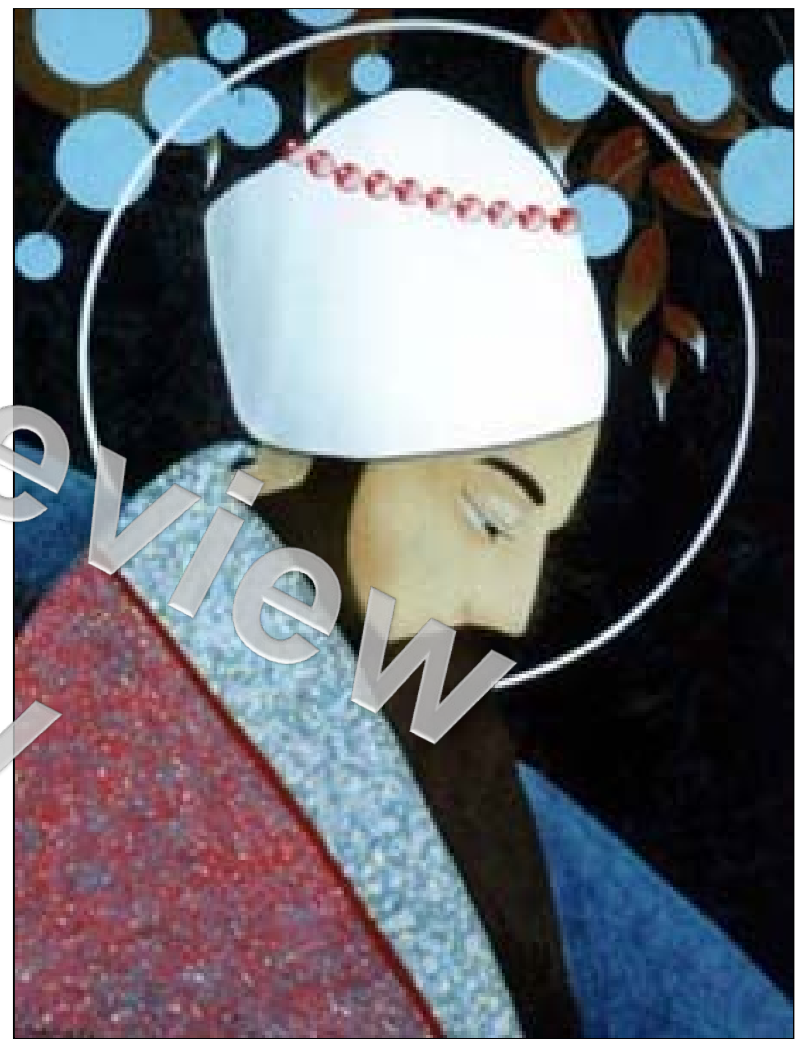
Why do Pilgrims go there?



- The golden temple was completed in 1604.
- It is the most famous Sikh temple in the world. It is a very sacred place.
- It symbolizes the magnificence and strength of Sikhs all over the world.
- Sikhs pay their respect and worship for the Guru Granth Sahib (holy book).
- Pilgrims also bathe in in the Amrit Saras Kund (Pool of Immortality) for spiritual purification.

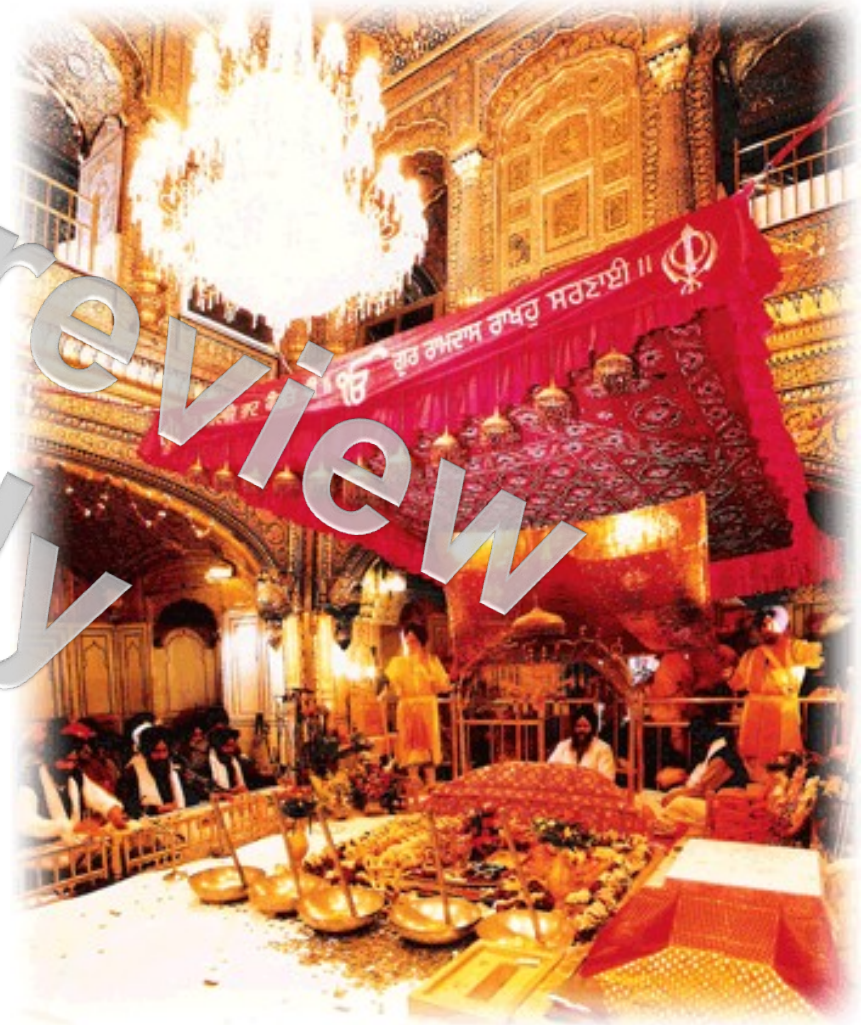
Guru Ram Das

In 1574 Guru Ram Das made his home by the side of the Amrit Saras Kund, which is regarded as blessed with miraculous powers of healing.



What Happens in the Temple?

The canopy is the focal point in the temple. The Guru Granth Sahib, the Holy book, is placed below it and read from.





Inside the Temple

- The temple serves as place for everyone.
- When entering you must take off your shoes and cover your head.
- Everyone sits on the floor, which shows that we are all equal in the eyes of God.
- It offers food and shelter. It has a strong community spirit.
- There are no religious pictures, statues or candles. People imagine God.
- The Langar (a meal) is available inside. Sweets (Parshad) are offered after prayer.
- Any Sikh can hold a service. There are no priests.

Reading from the Granth Sahib

