



INDO ASIA TOURS

## **SOUTH INDIA WALKING TOUR**

**Chennai - Mahabalipuram - Pondicherry - Thanjavur - Tiruchirapalli - Madurai - Munnar - Alleppey -  
Backwaters – Cochin**

**14 Nights / 15 Days**

Travel Proposal

Ref No. 35890





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## About the Program

This is a very special program. In this program, you will be interacting with the locals, indulging in activities such as cycling, walking, visiting a living history museum, enjoy a meal with locals, and many more. The program will take you to Tamil Nadu, often called "The Gods Living City," a state that has some fabulous temples, amazing culture, and lovely people. In the second half of the tour, you will explore majestic Kerala, often called "God's own country." Kerala is a very famous traveler due to its fascinating weather, nature, and most importantly, people.



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## Program Details

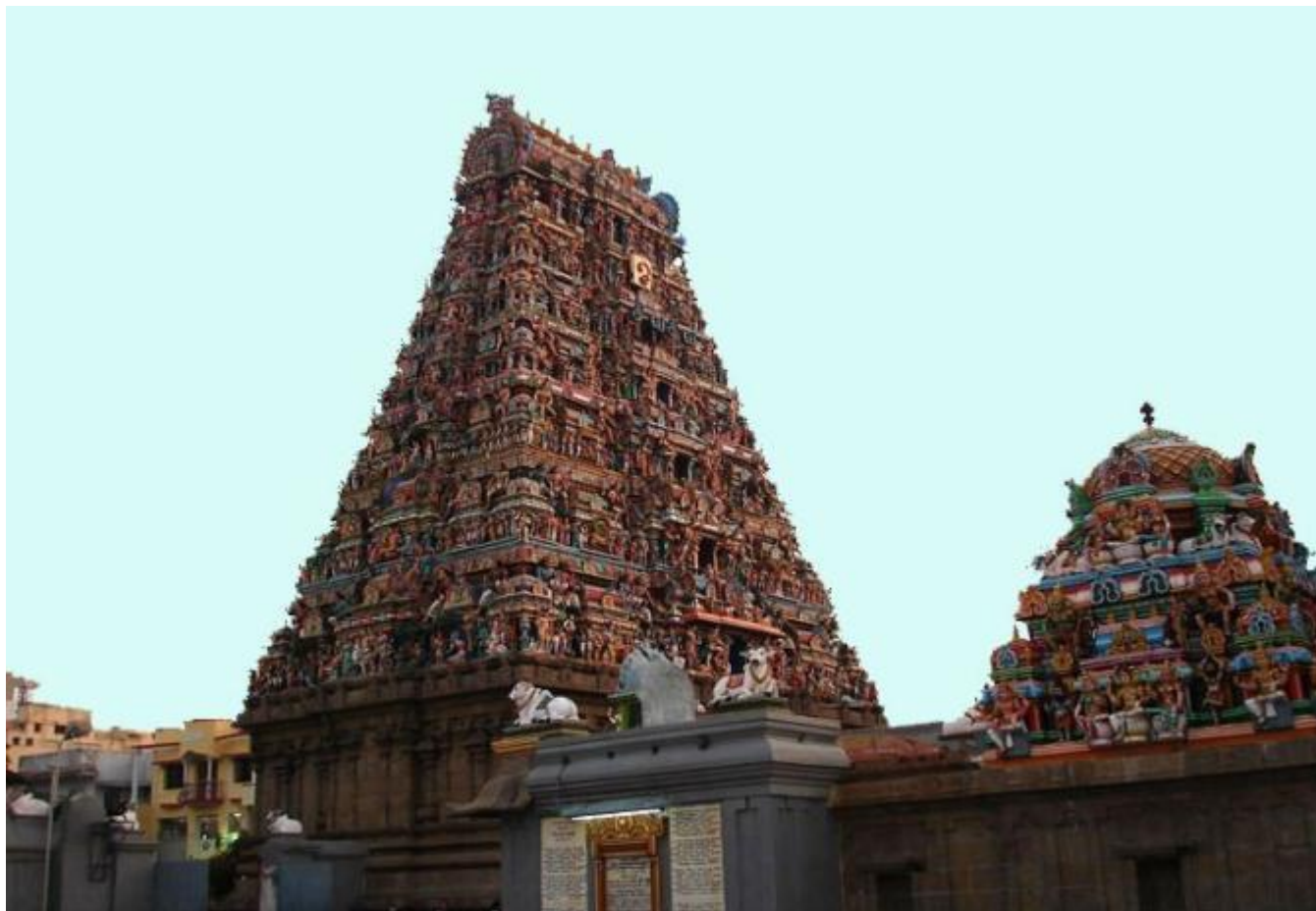
### Day 01

#### Arrive at Chennai

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Arrive at Chennai. On arrival, you will be greeted and assisted by our representative and transferred to the hotel.  
***(Room will be available from 1400 hrs onwards)***

**CHENNAI** - Formerly called Madras, it is the capital city of the Indian state of Tamil Nadu. This metropolis is often called the cultural capital of India for its deep-rooted traditions and long heritage. Spread over 200 square kms



with the Bay of Bengal on the east, the city is the gateway to the rest of South India. Modern Chennai grew out of a small village when in 1639 a fishing hamlet called "Madrassetnam" was selected by early English Merchants of the East India Company as a site for the settlement. The city is popular for its numerous tourist destinations including beaches, temples, forts, palaces along with many colourful festivals that attract tourists from all parts of the country. The city presents a culture that is totally different from North India and represents a lifestyle that is a perfect blend of traditional and modern India.



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Overnight at the hotel.

## Day 02

### Chennai / Mahabalipuram (60 Kms / 01 ½ hrs drive approx)

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After an early breakfast, enjoy visit of Chennai including following:

**Fish Market** - Early in the morning, enjoy walk through the Fish Market located on the famous Marina Beach. During the walk, you can see the boats parked casually along the coast, the fish sellers mostly women seated along the edge of the road. If you are lucky, you can not only see the first catch of the sea but can also get a chance to interact with local fishermen.

**Kapaleeswara Temple** - Kapaleeswarar, an ancient Shiva temple, is the biggest temple in Chennai. A masterpiece of Dravidian style and displays the architectural elements - gopurams, mandapams and a tank. There are some fragmentary inscriptions dating back to 1250 AD, though the architecture and structure of the temple is more related with the culture that prevailed in 16th century, when Vijay Nagar kings refurbished it. As per the tradition, Goddess Karpagambal is offered a garland made of gold coins named kaasu maala on the ritual of Friday worship.

**The Santhome Cathedral Church** - Santhome Cathedral is a historical ancient pilgrim centre built during the period of the 14th to the 15th century A D by the Portuguese. The cathedral, near Chennai beach, got its name from St Thomas, the doubting discipline of Jesus Christ. A museum is located in the grounds nearby. Main attraction of the museum is a 16th century map of South Asia. Santhome Cathedral is one of the prominent attractions in Chennai. People with Christian faith visits this place and attend the Mass.

Later drive to Mahabalipuram.

On the way visit **Dakshinachitra** - It is an exciting cross cultural living museum of art, architecture, lifestyles, crafts and performing arts of South India. Dakshinachitra is located on the East Coast Road at Muttukadu - 21 kms South of Chennai. Dakshinachitra literally means - "a picture of the south". You can explore 17 heritage houses, amble



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along recreated streetscapes, explore contextual exhibitions, interact with typical village artisans and witness folk



performances set in an authentic ambience. *(It remains closed on Tuesdays).*

After sightseeing, continue drive to Mahabalipuram.

**MAHABALIPURAM** - Also known as Mamallapuram, it is a 7th century coastal town located about 60 km from Chennai. Mahabalipuram's name originated from Mamallapuram, where 'mamall' means excellent wrestler and was a name offered to King Narasimha Varman I. Mahabalipuram is a UNESCO world heritage site, which has various historical monuments dating back to period between 7th to 9th centuries. It is home to various rocks cut monuments that stand as an example of the Dravidian architecture. Mahabalipuram is a perfect treat for tourists with its long stretches of sea coast and some of the amazing carved granite structures with Dravidian architecture.

On arrival in Mahabalipuram, transfer to hotel.

Overnight at the hotel.



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### Day 03

#### Mahabalipuram

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Today morning, we will take a bicycle tour to a **Fishermen village - A Village Tour** on Bicycle is the action of the day. Bicycles, the basic ones, which the local folks use for their commuting will be used. This village was destroyed in 2004 Tsunami and has been rebuilt by joint efforts of a Germany based NGO and Indian Govt. We will see the daily routine of a typical Fishermen Village. The main occupation for living is Fishing along with Farming. In our tour, we will come across various points, which are ideal for capturing photos, whether it is artisans making stone sculptures, local scenic view with glimpse of palm trees, local houses with colored art on their door-steps, local temples and one of which is dedicated to Goddess Parvati, believed to be the guardian of the village.

Enjoy walk around the Village, while returning back to the hotel enjoy photo stop at **Five Rathas**. The Five Rathas,



also known as Panch Rathas, is a set of rock temples. They are excellent examples of the evolution of Dravidian style architecture.

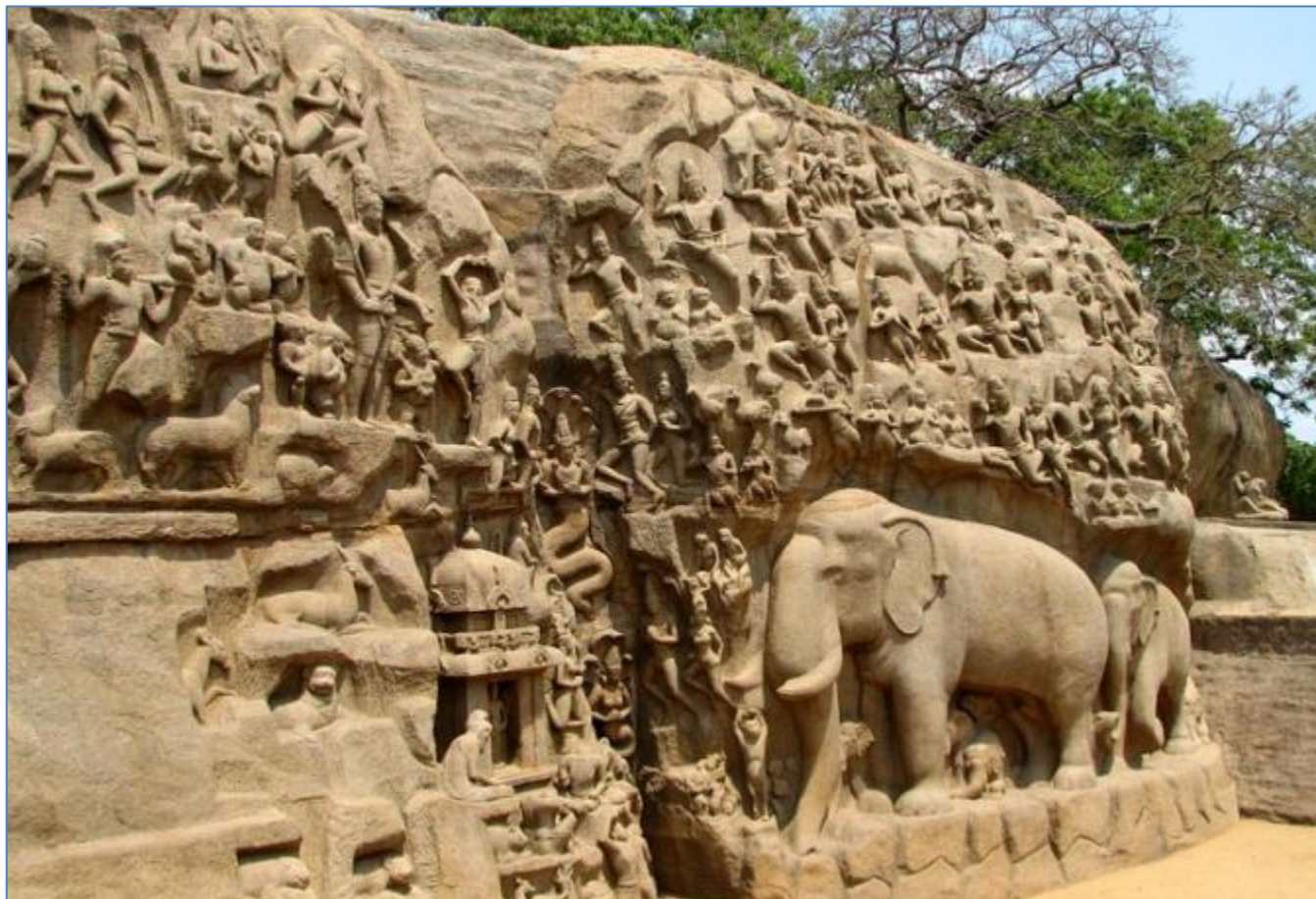
**Note** – Basic Indian cycles (without gears) will be used for this excursion. This excursion will be organized after an early breakfast.



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Later in the afternoon enjoy the sightseeing of Mahabalipuram including:

**Arjuna's Penance** - The Arjuna's penance is one of the most famous stone carvings at Mahabalipuram. It is an



enormous relief made of two massive boulders. One of the biggest open-air rock canvases in the world, the Arjuna's penance is 31m long and 9m high. There are many schools of thoughts over the theme of Arjuna's penance. One believes that the sculpture shows Arjuna undertaking a penance to obtain a rare weapon against his enemies; the other School believes that it portrays the legend of the River Ganges's descent to earth. Whatever the reasons, Arjuna penance remains one of the most beautifully carved structures. Arjuna's Penance has over 100 figures of gods and semi divine creatures, birds and beasts, man and saint.

**Mandapams** - In Mahabalipuram, there are eight mandapams (shallow, rock-cut halls) scattered over the main hill, two of which have been left unfinished. They are mainly of interest for their internal figure sculptures. One of the earliest rock-cut temples is the Krishna Mandapam. It features carvings of a pastoral scene showing Krishna lifting up the Govardhana Mountain to protect his kinsfolk from the wrath of Indra. On the hill rests a dangerously balanced



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boulder named Krishna's Butterball after his legendary affinity for fresh butter.

**Shore Temple** - This beautiful and romantic temple, ravaged by wind and sea, represents the final phase of Pallavas art and it was built in the late 7th century during the reign of Rajasimha. It is believed that at one point in



time there were seven such temples, six of them were victims to the natural elements of erosion. This temple has three shrines; one dedicated to Lord Vishnu and the other two to Lord Shiva. The frothy waves form a striking backdrop to the temple, protected by rows of rock-carved bulls. The most unique feature of the temple is that it houses shrines to both Lord Shiva and Lord Vishnu.

Overnight at the hotel

#### **Day 04**

**Mahabalipuram / Pondicherry** (100 Kms / 02 ½ hrs drive approx)

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After breakfast, drive to Pondicherry.





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On the way, enjoy visit of **Auroville** - Located about 10 kms north of Pondicherry, Auroville is described as "the City of Tomorrow". Auroville was envisioned as a Universal Town, where people from different nationalities, faiths



and beliefs could live in peace and harmony in Auroville attractions. Auroville Region is an ideal township devoted to an experiment in human unity. The purpose of Auroville is to realize human unity in diversity. It is recognized as the first endorsed ongoing experiment in human unity and transformation of consciousness in Auroville attractions. **(It remains closed from 1230 hrs till 1400 hrs).**

After the visit, continue drive to Pondicherry.

**PONDICHERRY** - Pondicherry has been derived from the Tamil word Puducheri signifying 'the new settlement'. Located perfectly on the Coromandel shoreline, Union Territory of Pondicherry was ruled by the French for more than 3 centuries and today it symbolizes a living monument of the French culture in India. There is a strong influence of French culture on Pondicherry town, especially on its architecture; Pondicherry is enriched with its architectural marvel and cultural wealth. The main tourist draw in Pondicherry is Sri Aurobindo Ashram, where Sri



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Aurobindo and the Mother spent their time for the upliftment of society.

On arrival in Pondicherry, transfer to hotel.

Later enjoy visit of Pondicherry including following:

**Sri Aurobindo Ashram** - It was founded by Sri Aurobindo way back in November 1926. Initially the Ashram comprised of only 24 disciples. The Sri Aurobindo Ashram in Pondicherry has come a long way from its initial days



of inception. It now features among the major places of tourist interest in Pondicherry. Sri Aurobindo Ashram in Pondicherry today is a large institution that has its extensions in almost all the major cities all over the world. It offers many charitable benefits to the area, including free medical amenities and a publishing house.

Later enjoy the **Heritage walk in French quarters of Pondicherry**. (*Duration: Approx 02 hrs*)

This walk is through the French quarters and will take approx 02 Hours. The former French colony retains the attributes and beauty of French architecture along the White Town (French Quarter). This area includes French houses, Government buildings, café etc. This walk will cover the various lesser known, interesting buildings & monuments. Walk will include Ganesha Temple (a very beautiful small temple, one of its own kind), Ayi Mandapam (probably the only monument in the world dedicated to a harlot), French War Memorial, Gandhi Statue, Ashram Dining Room, Old Light House and many more.



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Overnight at the hotel

## Day 05

**Pondicherry / Chidambaram / Thanjavur** (184 Kms / 04 ½ hrs drive approx)

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After an early breakfast, drive to Thanjavur.

On the way, enjoy visit of **Nataraj Temple** - The Chidambaram Nataraja Temple is an excellent example of a unique



amalgamation of a number of architectural styles. The innermost sanctum inside the Chidambaram Nataraja Temple has idols of Lord Shiva and goddess Parvati. The Chitsabha inside the temple is an interesting piece of architecture. The other fascinating and important shrine located inside the Chidambaram Nataraja Temple is the Govindaraja Perumaal. There are five halls in the temples including Nritha Sabha, Hall of Immortal Dance. Sivakamiamman temple, the Sivaganga Tank and the thousand pillar hall are also important features of the temple.

***(It remains closed from 1200 hrs till 1600 hrs)***

**Gangaikonda Cholapuram (from outside) (01 ½ hr drive)** - Gangaikonda Cholapuram was famed as the capital



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of the Cholas during 11th century. It was during the reign of Rajendra Chola I; Gangaikonda Cholapuram reached the pinnacle of its fame. The name Gangaikonda Cholapuram means the city of the Chola King who captured the Ganges. The prime attraction at this place is the great temple of Lord Shiva. This temple is similar to the great temple Brihadeshwara temple at Thanjavur. This temple is just behind the Thanjavur temple in its monumental nature and designs. There is a structure of a Vimana which holds the visitor's sight. It resembles the pyramidal tower in Thanjavur temple. ***(It remains closed from 1200 hrs till 1600 hrs).***

Later drive to Thanjavur.

**THANJAVUR** - The name Thanjavur is derived from "Tanjan", a legendary demon in Hindu mythology.

Tanjore as the British called it is extremely fertile, prosperous and scenic; it was the natural choice for capital city of one of the greatest empires of the south. Now a small city in the state of Tamil Nadu, it rose to glory during the Chola period from the 10th century to the 14th, when it came to be the centre of art and education. The Cholas built extensively during this period and 74 of their temples are still standing. As the centre of cultural development, Thanjavur attracted master craftsmen, and it still continues to produce attractive handcrafted ware. Thanjavur is still famous for its bejewelled, gold leaf Tanjore paintings, fine silk carpets, bell metal work, musical instruments, pith work and bronze sculptures.

On arrival in Thanjavur, transfer to the hotel.

Overnight at the hotel

**Day 06**

**Thanjavur**

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After breakfast, enjoy visit of Thanjavur including following:

**Brihadeshwara Temple**



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Built by great Chola king in the 10th century it is an outstanding example of Chola architecture and is listed in world



heritage. On the top of the apex of 63 metres high, a dome is said to be constructed from a single piece of granite, weighing an estimated 81 tones. The dome was hauled into place along a 6 km earthwork ramp in a manner similar to the one used by the Egyptian Pyramids. The temple has been the sense of continuous worship for over thousand years. Only Hindus are allowed in the sanctum sanctorum. ***(It remains closed from 1200 to 1600 hrs).***

### **Thanjavur Palace & Museum**

The palace near Brihadeshwara Temple is a vast building of masonry built by the Nayakas around 1550 and partly by the Maratha. Two of the palace towers, the Armoury and the observation tower are visible from all parts of the city. The palace houses an art gallery, a library and a hall of music. The art gallery occupies the Nayak Durbar Hall. It has a superb collection of Chola bronze statues from the 9th to 12th centuries. The Saraswati Mahal Library is next door to the gallery. Over 30,000 Indian and European manuscripts written on palm leaves and paper are preserved in the Saraswati Mahal Library. ***(It remains closed from 1300 to 1500 hrs).***

Later **visit to the Bronze Factory** & enjoy a short demo on Bronze making which is centuries old tradition from the times of Cholas in 11th Century. They use special technique called lost wax method, wherein homemade wax, clay and metal are used to prepare the statues to be prepared.



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Overnight at the hotel

### **Day 07**

**Thanjavur / Trichy / Madurai** (Approx 195 Kms / 05 hrs drive approx)

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After breakfast, drive to Madurai, on the way enjoy visit of Trichy.

**Sri Rangnathaswamy Temple** - This superb temple complex at Srirangam, about three km from the Rock Fort, is surrounded by seven concentric walls with 21 gopurams and is probably the largest in India. Most of it dates from the 14th to 17th centuries, and many people have had a hand in its construction, including the Cheras, Pandyas, Cholas, Hoysalas and Vijayanagars. The temple complex is very well preserved, with excellent carvings throughout and numerous shrines to various gods, though the main temple is dedicated to Vishnu. ***(It remains closed from 1200 hrs till 1500 hrs).***

**Rock Fort Temple** - Rockfort temple stands tall on a magnificent hill which is believed to be 3500 million years old. This temple dates back to 7th century. This hillock forms the landmark of bustling Trichy town. There are two temples here one for Siva and the other for Vinayagar known here as Ucchi Pillayair, Ucchi means zenith. The deity here sits and watches the whole Trichy town from the summit. The uchipillayar temple is very small; one has to climb about 400 steps to reach the summit. One can have a panoramic view of the whole town from the top of the hill.

After sightseeing, continue drive to Madurai.

**MADURAI** – Legend says that once Lord Shiva appeared in the dream of King Kulasekhara Pandya. The King was amazed to see drops of nectar or madhu falling down on the Earth from Lord Shiva's matted hair. The "madhu" was so sweet that the place where it fell came to be known as Madhurapuri, which in course of time became "Madurai." Madurai is also called the Athens of the East. It is a place of great historical and cultural importance. It is the oldest city in Tamil Nadu and lies on the banks of the River Vaigai.



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Madurai is famous for its temples, monuments and ancient cultural wonders. The city is widely known as the



Temple City, and is often also referred to as The City of Four Junctions (Koodal Maanagar), The Cultural Capital of Tamil Nadu (Kalaachaara Thalainagar), The City of Jasmine (Malligai Maanagar), The City That Never Sleeps (Thoonga Nagaram), and The City of Festivals.

On arrival in Madurai, transfer to hotel.

Overnight at the hotel.

**Day 08**

**Madurai**

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**Early in the morning drive from the hotel to the East Tower of the Meenakshi Temple for a walk around the town** - While the folks are busy exploring tourist sites, we will walk through the Alleys of Madurai very early in the



morning to discover the local life of the oldest city of South India. During our walk, we will see how people start their day with variety of activities. Housewives drawing Koalam in front of their homes to bring prosperity, milking of cows, street vendors selling daily need vegetable, herbs and food is a treat to watch. Wholesale market, where fruits and vegetables from different parts of South India are bought and sold can be seen during the walk. Here one gets to see different varieties of fruits and Vegetables. We will also pass through some sandal wood shops and finally end our walk by climbing up to one of the tallest buildings in the vicinity to get a panoramic view of Madurai.

After the walk drive back to the hotel and enjoy breakfast.

After breakfast, enjoy visit of Madurai including following:

### **Meenakshi Temple**

This temple is nearly 2000 years old placed in the heart of the old town-a splendid example of Dravidian





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architecture. The present temple was designed in 1560 by Vishwanatha Nayak and subsequently built during the reign of Tirumalai Nayak. There are four entrances to the temple with an area of six hectares. Each of its 12 towers has the height of 45 to 50 meters. The Potrama Raikulam or the Golden Lotus Tank is the place where the Tamil literacy society, called Sangam used to meet to decide the merits of the work presented to them. The temple museum has 985 richly carved pillars and each one surpasses the other in beauty. ***(It remains closed from 1200 hrs till 1530 hrs).***

### **Tirumalai Nayak Mahal**

The palace (or Mahal) was built by Thirumalai Naicker, the greatest of Nayakkar kings of Madurai. The Nayaks ruled Madurai from 1545 till 1740, after the Pandya kings. The palace is the place where Thirumalai Naicker lived and held his court. The palace complex area was originally four times bigger than it is now, consisting of two portions – Swarga vilasa and Ranga vilasa. There were also other portions like the palace shrine, harem, theatre, royal band stand, armoury and other structures which were used to accommodate palanquins, royal chariots, relatives, servants, guests and other regal paraphernalia.

### **In the Evening enjoy the ceremony 'Bedtime of the God' at Meenakshi Temple.**

Evening visit the Meenakshi Temple to attend the evening ceremony known as 'Bedtime of the God'. A colourful procession, in which the image of Shiva is carried accompanied by musicians, temple singers and priests from his shrine. Enroute Shiva visits the other deities before entering Parvati's (Meenakshi) temple to sleep with her for the night. This ceremony is worth witnessing.

Overnight at the hotel.

### **Day 09**

**Madurai / Munnar** (154 kms / 04 hrs drive approx)

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After breakfast, drive to Munnar.

**MUNNAR** - the queen of hill stations is located at the confluence of three mountain streams namely, Mudrapuzha, Nallathanni and Kundala. The region in and around Munnar varies in height from 1,450 meters (4,760 ft) to 2,695 meters (8,842 ft) above mean sea level. Munnar has the highest peak in South India - Anamudi - which towers 2695 meters above sea level.



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In the year 1790, the Duke of Wellington became the first European to visit these hills. Later in 1870, the Poonjar Chief leased out 588 sq. kms. to J D Munro, a Scottish tea planter. Munnar became the favoured summer resort of



the erstwhile British rulers in the colonial days. Today's Munnar has unending expanse of tea plantations - pristine valleys and mountains- exotic species of flora and fauna in its wild sanctuaries and forests - aroma of spice scented cool air. Munnar has all these and more. ...

On arrival in Munnar, transfer to hotel.

Rest of the day is for relaxation.

Overnight at the hotel



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## Day 10

### Munnar

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After breakfast, drive for approx. 03 kms, which will be **our starting point of the walk - Munnar**- a hill station of South India is famous for Tea Plantations. We will walk through some of the lush green plantations to experience



the beauty of this place. Through the plantation, we will climb up to the hill to grasslands passing by the rocky surfaces to capture some of the breath taking views in our camera from different points. As we reach the top, we will find the clouds very close to us and the scenery around us will leave us spellbound. This 02 ½ -03 hours hiking will offers us varied experiences.

Also, enjoy visit of **Tea Museum**.

This tea museum is first of its kind in India. It is located at KDHP's Nullatanni estate in Munnar. The aim of this museum according to its founders is to showcase the growth of more-than-a-century-old tea plantations in this region. Anyone visiting this museum will get a clear picture of how laborious this tea processing really is.



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Overnight at the hotel

### Day 11

**Munnar / Kumarakom** (174 kms / 05 ½ to 06 hrs drive approx)

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After breakfast, drive to Kumarakom.

**KUMARAKOM** - This tiny village loaded with infinite natural pulchritude derives its name from two words 'Kumaran' and 'Akam'. Kumaran is the name of the deity worshipped here since ages and Akam means the domicile. Thus, Kumarakom is the resident of the Lord Kumaran. Kumarakom is established on the manmade land that was



reclaimed from the cosmic Vembanad Lake. This exotic backwater hamlet endowed with thick lush greenery, verdant and spanking fresh shrubs and bushes, paddy fields, coconut groves and mangrove forests overwhelmingly covering every vacant inch of land and water lilies and algae embroidering the fringes offer a flabbergasting treat to the thirsty eyes, The morning dew and smoky mist that wraps the surface with ethereal veil adds more than a glint to the milieu.



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On arrival in Kumarakom, transfer to the hotel.

Overnight at the hotel.

## **Day 12** **Kumarakom / Alleppey / Kumarakom**

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Today we will take you for a walk of **Allapuzha (Alleppey) Town**.

Today, we will take you on a short tour in the interiors of Alleppey town with the female volunteers who are as enthusiastic as us to value and preserve our heritages. This exploration trip of less than 02 hours, will start with a small slide show on Alleppey to give you an idea of What Alleppey was and how it changed with the passage of time. The tour which is a mix of driving and walking will take us on streets with abandoned Gujarati (One of the businessmen communities of India) buildings.

These volunteers are not professional guides, so the expertise of guides should not be expected. They are local and know the place like the back of their hand and it's the passion about their heritage which is propelling them to conduct such tours and thereby creating the awareness about the place to preserve it. We will also pass by some churches, Temples and a mosque and will finally end the walk with nice refreshment at one of the Volunteer's home.

Rest of the day is at leisure...

Overnight at the hotel

## **Day 13**

**Kumarakom / Backwaters / Cochin** (66 kms / 02 ½ hrs drive approx)

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After breakfast, enjoy **day cruising on the famous Backwaters of Kerala with Authentic Kerala style Lunch in the houseboat** - Kumarakom, Alappuzha (Alleppey), are the main backwater destination for any tourist looking for a house boat cruise in Kerala India. The Kerala backwaters here are very calm and inviting. The journey through Vembanadu Lake, the biggest of the lakes in Kerala is undoubtedly a majestic experience. The boat houses cruise includes food being served in the houseboat itself. Special Indian Kerala dishes, Kerala recipes and Kerala cuisines

Later disembark the houseboat and drive to Cochin.



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**COCHIN** - Cochin has long been eulogized in tourist literature as the 'Queen of the Arabian Sea'. Its location



between the blue waters of the Arabian Sea and Kerala's emerald backwaters, its rich medley of Indian and foreign architecture, it's truly unusual sights like the Chinese fishing nets and its quaint quiet localities like the Jewish Quarters demand the attention of all who travel to Kerala. Set on a cluster of islands and a peninsula, Cochin (now, Kochi) is a blend of medieval Portugal, Holland and an English country village. Cochin remained incomplete in terms of success till the arrival of the Portuguese. It is believed that the Cochin district came into existence in the year 1102 AD after the breakup of the Khulasekhara Empire.

On arrival in Cochin, transfer to hotel. Overnight at the hotel

#### **Day 14          Cochin**

After breakfast, enjoy visit of Cochin including following:

**Heritage walk around the Fort Cochin area.** (*Duration: Approx 03 hrs*) - Post Independence, Fort Kochi remained in possession of Portuguese, Dutch and British and their traces can well be noticed in every part of it. To absorb the



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colonial feel of the area, we will explore the Fort Kochi on foot. The walk will start with Chinese fishing nets, which are one of the major tourist attractions of Kochi. These are believed to have been brought to Kochi in the 14th century, by Chinese traders. Fort Kochi has approx.15 Ethnic communities in 15 ethnic streets / colonies. We will pass through some of the important streets to see the old houses built by the Portuguese, Dutch and British. Some of these buildings are converted into heritage hotels while others are converted into school, library, museum or administrative offices.

**St. Francis Church** - It is the oldest church built by Europeans in India. On his 3rd visit to Kerala, Vasco da Gama, the Portuguese trader who reached India from Europe by sea, fell ill and died in Kochi. He was buried in the St. Francis Church. Later his remains were taken back to Portugal. In spite of that, his burial spot inside the church has been clearly marked out.

**Jewish Synagogue** - The synagogue, built in 1568, is magnificently decorated by Chinese tiles and Belgian chandeliers. Giant scrolls of the Old Testament can be found here. It is located near the Dutch Palace in Mattancherry. **IMP: It remains closed on Fridays and Saturdays. Timings for the visit: 0900 hrs to 1200 hrs and from 1500 hrs to 1700 hrs.**

**Dutch Palace** - The Dutch Palace was originally built by the Portuguese. Later, in 17th century, the Dutch modified it and presented it to the Raja of Kochi. Coronation of many Rajas of Kochi were held here. The palace has a fine



collection of mural paintings depicting scenes from the Hindu epics Mahabharata and Ramayana. The palace is



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located in Mattancherry. **IMP: It remains closed on Fridays. Timings for the visit: 1000 hrs to 1700 hrs.**

In the evening enjoy **Kathakali Dance performance** - A special treat awaits us this evening as we proceed to witness the strength and vigour of Kathakali dance drama, as it enacts episodes from great Indian epics. The extremely stylized gestures, the elaborate make-up, the masks and the splendid costumes of these all-male dancers, recreates an incomparable sense of pageantry.

Overnight at the hotel

**Day 15**

**Cochin Departure**

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After breakfast, in time transfer to Airport to board Flight back home / onward destination.

**(Room will be available till 1200 hrs)**

**End of Services**

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