

Tour Name: Bangalore to Madurai South India Temple Trail

Tour Duration: 8 Nights/ 9 Days

Tour Map: <https://tinyurl.com/3d6z4r4w>

Tour Overview

Embark on an enriching journey through the heart of South India with our "Bangalore to Madurai South India Temple Trail". Begin in Bangalore, where lush gardens and historic forts set the stage for exploration. Traverse to Vellore and Chennai, delving into centuries-old temples and vibrant cityscapes. Continue to Pondicherry's French quarters and Mahabalipuram's ancient monolithic marvels. Discover Thanjavur's Great Living Chola Temples and Chettinad's opulent mansions before culminating in Madurai, renowned for the majestic Meenakshi Temple. This tour promises a tapestry of spiritual discovery and architectural splendor, woven across nine captivating days.

Tour Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive Bangalore

- Arrival at Bangalore airport. Transfer to the hotel and check-in. Rest and relax after your journey.

Day 2: Bangalore

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Lal Bagh Garden: Botanical garden known for its diverse flora, including the famous Lalbagh Rock. It's a serene retreat in the heart of the city.
- Cubbon Park: Green oasis featuring landscaped gardens, fountains, and walking paths, perfect for a morning stroll.
- Bangalore Fort: Historical fort built by Kempe Gowda I, showcasing remnants of Bangalore's colonial past.
- Tipu Sultan's Summer Palace: Elegant palace with teak interiors and historic artifacts, offering insights into Tipu Sultan's reign.
- Bull Temple (Nandi Temple): Ancient temple dedicated to Nandi, the sacred bull of Lord Shiva, known for its massive Nandi statue.
- Drive past Vidhana Soudha and the Secretariat: Iconic government buildings showcasing architectural grandeur.

Day 3: Bangalore - Vellore (220kms)

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Drive to Vellore.
- Sri Lakshmi Narayani Golden Temple: Intricately designed temple dedicated to Goddess Lakshmi, renowned for its golden facade and spiritual ambiance.
- Vellore Fort: 16th-century fort known for its ramparts, moat, and impressive architecture, reflecting its historical significance.

Day 4: Vellore - Chennai (145kms)

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Drive to Chennai via Kanchipuram.
- Kanchipuram: Ancient city known as the "City of Thousand Temples," famous for its silk sarees and architectural marvels.
- Kailasanathar Temple: Oldest temple in Kanchipuram dedicated to Lord Shiva, showcasing Pallava architecture.
- Ekambareswarar Temple: One of the Pancha Bhoota Stalas, dedicated to Lord Shiva as the element Earth, with a majestic mango tree in its courtyard.
- Varadaraja Perumal Temple: Dedicated to Lord Vishnu, known for its grand architecture and intricate carvings.
- Fort St. George: First English fortress in India housing St. Mary's Church and a museum displaying colonial artifacts.
- St. Mary's Church: Oldest Anglican church in India, featuring stained glass windows and historical plaques.
- Kapaleeshwarar Temple: Dravidian-style temple dedicated to Lord Shiva, renowned for its vibrant gopurams (gateway towers) and annual festivals.
- Vadapalani Murugan Temple: Famous temple dedicated to Lord Murugan, bustling with devotees and adorned with colorful sculptures.
- Government Museum: Houses a diverse collection of art, archaeology, and numismatics, offering insights into Tamil Nadu's cultural heritage.
- Dakshinachitra Museum: Living Museum showcasing South Indian heritage through traditional homes, crafts, and performing arts.

- Santhome Cathedral: Neo-Gothic style cathedral built over the tomb of St. Thomas, offering tranquility amidst bustling Chennai.
- Marina Beach: India's longest urban beach, ideal for an evening stroll or witnessing the vibrant local life.

Day 5: Chennai - Pondicherry (160kms)

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Drive to Pondicherry via Mahabalipuram.
- Mahabalipuram:
 - Shore Temple: UNESCO World Heritage site dedicated to Lord Shiva, offering stunning views of the Bay of Bengal.
 - Arjuna's Penance: Massive rock relief depicting scenes from Hindu mythology and daily life, carved on two monolithic rock boulders.
 - Pancha Rathas (Five Rathas): Monolithic rock-cut temples in various architectural styles, showcasing Pallava craftsmanship.
 - Krishna's Butterball: Natural rock formation resembling a giant butterball, defying gravity for centuries.
- Auroville: Experimental township promoting unity and peace, known for its Matrimandir and tranquil ambiance.
- Pondicherry Museum: Houses artifacts from French colonial era, showcasing Pondicherry's cultural and historical evolution.
- French Quarters: Explore French consulate, Raj Nivas, Government Square, Churches, and French schools, reflecting Pondicherry's colonial charm.

Day 6: Pondicherry - Thanjavur (180kms)

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Drive to Thanjavur via Chidambaram and Gangaikonda Cholapuram.
- Chidambaram Nataraja Temple: Ancient temple dedicated to Lord Shiva as Nataraja, famous for its celestial dance pose.
- Gangaikonda Cholapuram: Temple complex built by Rajendra Chola I, known for its architectural grandeur and historical significance.
- Darasuram: UNESCO World Heritage site renowned for Airavatesvara Temple, showcasing intricate carvings and spiritual significance.

- Arrive in Thanjavur and check-in at the hotel.

Day 7: Thanjavur - Chettinad (140kms)

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Brihadeshwara Temple: UNESCO World Heritage site, dedicated to Lord Shiva, featuring one of the largest lingams and intricate frescoes.
- Thanjavur Palace: Historical palace complex with art galleries, museums, and the famous Saraswati Mahal Library.
- Drive to Chettinad via Trichy.
- Sri Ranganathaswamy Temple: One of the largest functioning temples in the world, dedicated to Lord Vishnu.
- Rock Fort Temple: Ancient fortification with temples dedicated to Lord Ganesha and Lord Shiva, offering panoramic views of Trichy.
- Jambukeshwara Temple: Famous for its underground sanctum and water tank, representing one of the Pancha Bhoota Stalas.
- Check-in at the hotel in Chettinad.

Day 8: Chettinad - Madurai (90kms)

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Chettinad Mansions: Explore the architecture and lifestyle of the Chettiar community through visits to heritage mansions.
- Athangudi Tile Factory: Witness traditional tile-making techniques, known for vibrant colors and intricate patterns.
- Drive to Madurai.
- Meenakshi Amman Temple: Iconic temple complex dedicated to Goddess Meenakshi and Lord Sundareswarar, showcasing Dravidian architecture and vibrant sculptures.
- Thirumalai Nayakar Palace: 17th-century palace known for its Indo-Saracenic architecture, featuring grand halls and intricate carvings.
- Alagar Koil: Temple dedicated to Lord Vishnu, nestled in the picturesque Alagar Hills.
- Tiruparankundram Murugan Temple: One of the six abodes of Lord Murugan, situated on a hilltop offering panoramic views.

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- Palamuthirsolai Murugan Temple: Hill temple known for its serene atmosphere and spiritual significance.
- Overnight at hotel in Madurai.

Day 9: Madurai - Bangalore (flight)

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Gandhi Memorial Museum: Exhibits relating to Mahatma Gandhi's life and teachings, including his personal belongings and photographs.
- Transfer to Madurai airport for flight to Bangalore.

Package Price (USD Per Person Sharing Double/Twin Room)**Valid for Travel: 01 October 2026 - 15 April 2027**

Persons	Solo	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3★ Standard	2,895	1,576	1,329	1,361	1,217	1,204	1,123	1,063
4★ Deluxe	3,249	1,754	1,508	1,540	1,395	1,383	1,302	1,241
5★ Luxury	4,484	2,436	2,091	2,122	1,978	1,965	1,884	1,824

Valid for Travel: 16 April 2027 to 20 September 2027

Persons	Solo	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3★ Standard	2,734	1,480	1,234	1,267	1,123	1,110	1,030	969
4★ Deluxe	3,015	1,632	1,387	1,419	1,275	1,263	1,182	1,122
5★ Luxury	4,022	2,206	1,861	1,894	1,749	1,737	1,656	1,596

Single Room Supplement

3★ Standard: USD 381 | 4★ Deluxe: USD 557 | 5★ Luxury: USD 1,209

Triple Sharing Discount (Per Person)

3★ Standard: USD 66 | 4★ Deluxe: USD 92 | 5★ Luxury: USD 201

Price Includes:

- Assistance on arrival at airport.
- 8 Nights' accommodation in selected price category hotels.
- Daily breakfast at hotels.
- Private AC car/van for airport transfers, sightseeing, and excursions as per the program.
- English speaking tour guide on sightseeing days (local guide in each city), as per program.
- Monument entrances and activities charges mentioned in the itinerary.
- Bottled drinking water in car.
- Government taxes.

Price Does Not Include:

- Madurai - Bangalore flight fare approx INR 5, 500 per person in economy class.
- Camera charges at monuments if any.
- Meals other than mentioned in the inclusions.
- Expenses of personal nature like liquor, laundry, tips, telephone, fax, internet etc.
- Gratuities and optional activities.
- Anything not mentioned in inclusions.

Hotels used or similar for 8 nights' accommodation

3 Star Hotels

- Bangalore x 2 nights: Royal Orchid Central/ Ramada Bangalore
- Vellore x 1 night: Regency Sameera Vellore by GRT Hotel
- Chennai x 1 night: ZONE By the Park/ Raj Park
- Pondicherry x 1 night: Shenbaga Hotel/ Anandha Inn Convention Centre
- Thanjore x 1 night: Sangam Hotels
- Chettinad x 1 night: Chidambara Vilas/ Chettinadu Mansion
- Madurai x 1 night: JC Residency/ Hotel Royal Court

4 Star Hotels

- Bangalore x 2 nights: Lemon Tree Premier/ Gokulam Grand Hotel & Spa
- Vellore x 1 night: Fortune Park Vellore
- Chennai x 1 night: Accord Metropolitan/ The Park Chennai
- Pondicherry x 1 night: Le Pondy/ Accord Puducherry
- Thanjore x 1 night: GReaT Trails Riverview Resort
- Chettinad x 1 night: Chidambara Vilas/ Chettinadu Mansion
- Madurai x 1 night: Fortune Pandiyan Hotel/ Regency Madurai by GRT Hotels

5 Star Hotels

- Bangalore x 2 nights: ITC Gardenia, a Luxury Collection/ Vivanta Bengaluru, Residency Road
- Vellore x 1 night: Fortune Park Vellore
- Chennai x 1 night: Radisson Blu Hotel GRT Chennai/ Hilton Chennai
- Pondicherry x 1 night: Palais De Mahe/ La Villa
- Thanjore x 1 night: Svatma
- Chettinad x 1 night: Visalam Cgh Earth
- Madurai x 1 night: Courtyard by Marriott/ The Gateway Hotel Pasumalai

Payment Policy:

- Deposit of 25% of the package cost at the time of booking.
- Deposit of 50% of the package cost, 30 days prior to arrival date
- Deposit of 100% of the package cost, 10 days prior to arrival date

Cancellation policy:

- Note: Written cancellation will be accepted on all working days, except Sundays. Any cancellation sent on Sundays will be considered on the next working day (Monday).
- X-mas and New Year Period (20 Dec to 05 Jan): The payment is non-refundable during this period.
- After Trip Commencement: If you cancel the trip after it has commenced, the refund will be limited to the amount we are able to recover from hoteliers/contractors. We

are not responsible for refunds on unused hotel accommodations, chartered transportation, or missed meals.

- 61 days or more before the tour: No cancellation charges.
- Between 60 to 30 days before the tour: Cancellation charges equal to 20% of the full tour booking value.
- Between 30 to 15 days before the tour: Cancellation charges equal to 50% of the full tour booking value.
- Within 5 days before the tour or no show: Cancellation charges equal to 90% of the full tour booking value.

Our Liabilities & Limitations:

- Price Changes: After the finalization of the tour/service cost, if there are any hikes in entrance fees, taxes, fuel costs, or guide charges by the Government of India, these will be charged as extra.
- Role as Agent: Agora Voyages acts only as an agent for hotels, airlines, transporters, railways, and contractors providing services. All receipts, contracts, and tickets issued by us are subject to terms and conditions of the service providers.
- Itinerary Changes: All itineraries are sample itineraries intended to provide a general idea. We reserve the right to change the schedule based on factors such as weather, road conditions, or the physical ability of participants to ensure safety, comfort, and well-being.
- Rate Modifications: Our rates are based on negotiated rates with hotels and airlines. If the rates are modified by these service providers, we reserve the right to adjust the quoted rates accordingly. Hotel bookings are based on usual check-in and check-out times, unless otherwise indicated.
- Liability Disclaimer: We are not responsible for delays, alterations, or expenses incurred due to natural hazards, flight cancellations, accidents, weather, sickness, political closures, or any unforeseen incidents.
- Damage, Loss, or Injury: We are not responsible for any loss, injury, or damage to persons, property, or otherwise, caused by acts of God, fire, accidents, machinery breakdowns, political disturbances, theft, epidemics, or other factors beyond our control.
- Insurance: We do not offer insurance for accidents, sickness, theft, or other unforeseen circumstances. We recommend travelers arrange for insurance in their home country. All personal property and baggage are at the client's risk at all times.

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- Unforeseen Circumstances: We are not responsible for costs arising from landslides, roadblocks, bad weather, or similar unforeseen circumstances.

Tipping

- Tipping is not included in our price. It is optional but often expected in the travel industry. There is no limit on the amount you can tip, though the average guideline is around \$10-15 per day for guides, drivers, and other crew members.

Trip Comments

- After your trip, we would love to hear your experience. Any photos, suggestions, or feedback will be greatly appreciated. While we strive to make every trip perfect, we acknowledge that there is always room for improvement. Your comments, whether positive or constructive, are invaluable to us.