

Tour Name: Caves & Temples Architectural Wonder of India

Tour Duration: 12 Nights/ 13 Days

Tour Map: <https://tinyurl.com/33jthbms>

Tour Overview

Embark on an unforgettable journey through Caves & Temples Architectural Wonder of India, where you will explore the architectural marvels and ancient wonders of India. Start your adventure in Mumbai, with visits to iconic landmarks and the UNESCO-listed Elephanta Caves. Delve into the rock-cut splendors of Ellora and Ajanta Caves in Aurangabad, and uncover the Mughal elegance in Hyderabad. Traverse the historical landscapes of Gulbarga, Bijapur, and Badami, each offering unique insights into India's rich heritage. Experience the majestic ruins of Hampi and the cultural vibrancy of local villages. Conclude your tour with a memorable visit to Hubli before returning to Mumbai, enriched by the diverse cultural and historical treasures of India.

Tour Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive Mumbai

- Arrive at Mumbai International Airport and transfer to your hotel in South Mumbai.
- Explore the iconic Gateway of India, a monumental arch overlooking the Arabian Sea, built to commemorate the visit of King George V and Queen Mary in 1911. Learn about its historical significance and enjoy views of bustling Mumbai harbor.

Day 2: Mumbai

- Visit Elephanta Caves, a UNESCO World Heritage Site on Elephanta Island. Explore the ancient rock-cut temples dedicated to Lord Shiva, marveling at the intricate sculptures and cave architecture. Take a ferry ride to the island for a scenic approach.
- Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya (formerly Prince of Wales Museum), housing a diverse collection of artifacts, from ancient sculptures to decorative arts. Gain insights into India's cultural heritage through its extensive exhibits.
- Walk through the vibrant markets of Crawford Market, known for its bustling atmosphere and diverse range of goods, from spices to souvenirs. Experience the local culture and shop for Mumbai specialties.

- Visit the Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Museum, showcasing Mumbai's history and development through interactive displays and historical artifacts. Learn about the city's transformation from its colonial past to modern-day metropolis.

Day 3: Mumbai - Aurangabad (flight)

- Fly to Aurangabad and check-in at your hotel. Aurangabad is known for its historical monuments and rich Mughal heritage.
- Discover the Ellora Caves, a UNESCO World Heritage Site showcasing rock-cut architecture spanning Hindu, Buddhist, and Jain faiths. Marvel at the Kailasa Temple, carved from a single rock, and intricate sculptures depicting mythological tales.
- Visit Daulatabad Fort, a medieval fortress known for its robust defense mechanisms and stunning views from its ramparts. Explore its secret passageways and ancient cannons, experiencing its strategic importance in history.
- Visit the lesser-known Aurangabad Caves, dating back to the 6th and 7th centuries, featuring Buddhist artwork and sculptures.

Day 4: Aurangabad - Ajanta Caves - Aurangabad (220kms round)

- Excursion to visit Ajanta Caves, a UNESCO World Heritage Site known for its magnificent rock-cut caves adorned with exquisite paintings and sculptures depicting the life of Buddha. Explore the intricate frescoes and marvel at the ancient craftsmanship.
- On return, visit Bibi Ka Maqbara, a mausoleum built in 1678 by Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb's son in memory of his mother. Admire its resemblance to the Taj Mahal with its intricate marble work and serene garden setting.
- Visit Panchakki, an ancient watermill with a mosque attached, known for its architectural ingenuity and historical significance in Aurangabad.

Day 5: Aurangabad - Hyderabad (flight)

- Fly to Hyderabad, a city blending historical splendor with modernity. Check-in at your hotel and prepare for a cultural exploration.

Day 6: Hyderabad

- Begin your day at Golconda Fort, a sprawling citadel known for its acoustics and strategic design. Attend the light and sound show narrating its history, from medieval glory to British conquest.

- Visit Qutb Shahi Tombs, a royal necropolis housing the tombs of the Qutb Shahi dynasty. Admire the Persian, Indian, and Pathan architectural styles and serene atmosphere amidst landscaped gardens.
- Visit Charminar, Hyderabad's iconic monument and mosque built in 1591. Climb its minarets for panoramic views of the bustling Old City and shop at nearby Laad Bazaar for traditional bangles and artifacts.
- Explore the Chowmahalla Palace, once the seat of the Nizams of Hyderabad. Admire its opulent architecture, Persian gardens, and collection of vintage cars, offering a glimpse into royal life.
- Explore the Salar Jung Museum, home to a vast collection of art, manuscripts, and artifacts from around the world. Highlights include the Veiled Rebecca statue and Nizam's jewelry collection.

Day 7: Hyderabad - Gulbarga (260kms)

- Drive to Gulbarga (now Kalaburagi), known for its historical monuments and rich heritage.
- Visit Gulbarga Fort, a medieval structure with bastions and gateways. Explore its architecture and historical significance, offering views of the cityscape from its ramparts.
- Explore Jama Masjid, an architectural masterpiece with Indo-Saracenic influences. Admire its intricate artwork, prayer halls, and serene ambiance, reflecting Gulbarga's cultural diversity.

Day 8: Gulbarga - Bijapur (170kms)

- Proceed to Bijapur (Vijayapura), renowned for its architectural marvels from the Adil Shahi dynasty.
- Visit Gol Gumbaz, a mausoleum known for its massive dome and whispering gallery. Experience the acoustics of its interior and climb to the top for panoramic views of Bijapur.
- Explore Ibrahim Rauza, a tomb complex known for its elegant architecture and serene gardens. Admire its Persian-style arches, calligraphy, and detailed carvings.

Day 9: Bijapur - Badami (120kms)

- Drive to Badami, a town known for its rock-cut cave temples and ancient sculptures.

- Visit the UNESCO-listed Badami Cave Temples, carved into the sandstone cliffs. Explore Hindu and Jain temples adorned with intricate carvings and sculptures depicting mythological tales.
- Explore Bhuthanatha Temples and Agastya Lake, offering scenic views and a serene atmosphere amidst ancient architectural wonders.

Day 10: Badami

- Visit Aihole, a historic site known as the "Cradle of Indian Temple Architecture." Explore its complex of temples dating from the 4th to 12th centuries, representing various architectural styles and intricate carvings.
- Explore Pattadakal, another UNESCO World Heritage site known for its group of 8th-century temples. Admire the blend of North Indian Nagara and South Indian Dravidian architectural styles, with detailed sculptures and narrative panels.
- Visit the Hemakuta group of temples, known for their hilltop location offering panoramic views of the Badami region.

Day 11: Badami - Hampi (180kms)

- Drive to Hampi, the UNESCO-listed ancient city of the Vijayanagara Empire. Along the way, enjoy the picturesque landscapes and rural scenes of Karnataka, giving a glimpse into the region's natural beauty.
- Visit Anegundi village, believed to be the maternal home of Lord Hanuman. Explore the village's ancient structures, traditional homes, and historical sites that reflect the rich cultural heritage of the area.
- Enjoy a coracle ride on the Tungabhadra River, experiencing the local way of life and scenic landscapes. The traditional round boats, made of bamboo and tar, offer a unique perspective of the river and its surroundings.
- Explore the Pampa Sarovar, a sacred lake mentioned in the Ramayana, believed to be the place where Lord Rama met Shabari. The serene lake, surrounded by temples and hills, provides a tranquil atmosphere for reflection and relaxation.
- Visit the Anjanadri Hill, considered the birthplace of Lord Hanuman. Climb the steps to the top for a panoramic view of the region and visit the temple dedicated to Hanuman, adding a spiritual touch to your journey.

Day 12: Hampi

- Explore the Royal Center of Hampi, including Vittala Temple known for its iconic stone chariot and musical pillars. Attend cultural performances and rituals that bring the temple's history to life.

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- Visit the Virupaksha Temple, dedicated to Lord Shiva. Marvel at its intricate carvings, towering gopuram (gateway tower), and annual festivals that attract pilgrims and tourists alike.
- Visit Queen's Bath, Lotus Mahal, and Elephant Stables, showcasing the grandeur of Vijayanagara architecture and royal lifestyle. Learn about Hampi's cultural and architectural legacy through guided tours and interactive exhibits.
- Explore the Hemakuta Hill temples, offering panoramic views of Hampi's sprawling ruins and boulder-strewn landscapes. Witness stunning sunrise and sunset vistas amidst historical remnants.
- Visit the Achyutaraya Temple and Sasivekalu Ganesha, adding to your exploration of Hampi's rich architectural and cultural heritage.

Day 13: Hampi - Hubli (180kms) / Mumbai (flight)

- Drive to Hubli, passing through scenic countryside and small towns, offering a final look at the rural beauty of Karnataka. Take in the diverse landscapes and agricultural fields that define the region's charm.
- Fly back to Mumbai for departure, concluding your journey with fond memories of India's historic caves and grand ancient temples.

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	3,950	2,141	1,849	1,871	1,667	1,637	1,524	1,440
4★ Deluxe	4,648	2,494	2,202	2,224	2,020	1,990	1,877	1,793
5★ Luxury	6,302	3,547	3,046	3,068	2,863	2,834	2,721	2,637

Valid for Travel: 16 April 2027 to 15 September 2027

Persons	Solo	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3★ Standard	3,859	2,073	1,781	1,803	1,598	1,569	1,456	1,372
4★ Deluxe	4,245	2,296	2,004	2,027	1,822	1,793	1,680	1,595
5★ Luxury	5,738	3,252	2,751	2,773	2,568	2,539	2,426	2,341

Single Room Supplement

3★ Standard: USD 515 | 4★ Deluxe: USD 860 | 5★ Luxury: USD 1,670

Triple Sharing Discount (Per Person)

3★ Standard: USD 55 | 4★ Deluxe: USD 120 | 5★ Luxury: USD 268

Price Includes:

- Assistance on arrival at airport.
- 12 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:

- Mumbai - Aurangabad - Hyderabad & Hubli - Mumbai flight fare approx INR 15, 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 12 nights' accommodation

3 Star Hotels

- Mumbai x 2 nights: Hotel Godwin, Colaba/ Hotel Suba Palace

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- Aurangabad x 2 nights: The Fern Residency/ Amarpreet Hotel
- Hyderabad x 2 nights: Hotel Abode/ Aditya Park
- Gulbarga x 1 night: Kyriad Hotel Gulbarga by OTHPL/ Mastiff Select
- Bijapur x 1 night: The Fern Residency/ Kyriad Hotel Vijayapura by OTHPL
- Badami x 2 nights: Badami Court/ Clarks Inn
- Hampi x 2 nights: Malligi Hotel/ Clarks Inn

4 Star Hotels

- Mumbai x 2 nights: Fariyas Hotel/ The Gordon House
- Aurangabad x 2 nights: Lemon Tree Hotel
- Hyderabad x 2 nights: The Golkonda Hotel/ Lemon Tree Hotel
- Gulbarga x 1 night: Kyriad Hotel Gulbarga by OTHPL/ Mastiff Select
- Bijapur x 1 night: The Fern Residency/ Kyriad Hotel Vijayapura by OTHPL
- Badami x 2 nights: Morpho Banashree Resort/ WADA1
- Hampi x 2 nights: Heritage Resort/ Royal Orchid Central Keerti

5 Star Hotels

- Mumbai x 2 nights: Trident Hotel/ President, Mumbai - IHCL SeleQtions
- Aurangabad x 2 nights: WelcomHotel Rama International/ Vivanta Aurangabad
- Hyderabad x 2 nights: ITC Kakatiya, a Luxury Collection/ Trident Hotel
- Gulbarga x 1 night: Kyriad Hotel Gulbarga by OTHPL/ Mastiff Select
- Bijapur x 1 night: The Fern Residency/ Kyriad Hotel Vijayapura by OTHPL
- Badami x 2 nights: Morpho Banashree Resort/ WADA1
- Hampi x 2 nights: Evolve Back, Hampi

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

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- 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.

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- **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.
- **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.