

Tour Name: Chennai to Bangalore South India Rich Temples, Tea Estate & Palaces Tour

Tour Duration: 12 Nights/ 13 Days

Tour Map: <https://tinyurl.com/2mxhwsde>

Tour Overview

Explore the essence of Southern India on the "Chennai to Bangalore South India Rich Temples, Tea Estate & Palaces Tour," a captivating journey that blends ancient spirituality with serene natural beauty. Begin in Chennai, delving into the architectural marvels of Mahabalipuram and the tranquil charm of Pondicherry. Discover the sacred grounds of Chidambaram, the grandeur of Gangaikonda Cholapuram, and the intricate carvings of Darasuram. Move on to Thanjavur, a treasure trove of South Indian heritage, before venturing to Madurai, famed for its majestic temples. Immerse yourself in the lush tea plantations of Munnar, the colonial charm of Ooty, and the royal splendor of Mysore. Finally, trace the cultural legacy of Belur and Halebeedu, culminating in Bangalore's vibrant cityscape. This tour promises an unforgettable blend of spirituality, history, and natural beauty across Southern India's most cherished destinations.

Tour Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive Chennai

- Arrive at Chennai airport and transfer to your hotel. Rest and prepare for your journey ahead.

Day 2: Chennai - Mahabalipuram - Pondicherry (150kms)

- Enjoy a hearty breakfast at the hotel.
- Drive to Mahabalipuram, a UNESCO World Heritage site renowned for its ancient rock-cut temples and sculptures.
- Visit the Shore Temple, a 7th-century temple overlooking the Bay of Bengal, famous for its unique architecture and serene coastal views.
- Explore Arjuna's Penance, an enormous rock carving depicting scenes from Hindu mythology, showcasing intricate carvings and sculptures.
- Proceed to Pondicherry, a former French colony known for its vibrant culture and colonial architecture.
- Visit Auroville, an experimental township promoting unity and sustainability, and explore its Matrimandir, a golden spherical temple dedicated to human unity.
- Overnight stay in Pondicherry.

Day 3: Pondicherry - Chidambaram - Gangaikonda Cholapuram - Darasuram - Thanjore (180kms)

- Enjoy breakfast at the hotel.
- Visit the Nataraja Temple in Chidambaram, dedicated to Lord Shiva in his form as the Cosmic Dancer, renowned for its architectural grandeur and spiritual significance.
- Explore Gangaikonda Cholapuram, an ancient town showcasing the legacy of the Chola dynasty, including the Brihadisvara Temple with its imposing vimana (tower).
- Visit Darasuram to see the Airavatesvara Temple, a UNESCO World Heritage site known for its exquisite carvings and unique architectural elements.
- Proceed to Thanjavur.
- Visit the Brihadeeswarar Temple, also known as the Big Temple, an architectural marvel and UNESCO World Heritage site dedicated to Lord Shiva.
- Overnight stay in Thanjore.

Day 4: Thanjavur - Trichy (60kms)

- After breakfast at the hotel, visit the Brihadeeswarar Temple to admire its grand architecture and intricate sculptures depicting Hindu mythology.
- Explore the Thanjavur Maratha Palace, featuring a blend of Maratha and Nayak architectural styles, and houses a museum showcasing royal artifacts and paintings.
- Drive to Trichy.
- Visit Sri Ranganathaswamy Temple, one of the largest functioning temples in the world dedicated to Lord Vishnu, known for its impressive gopurams (gateway towers) and religious significance.
- Overnight stay in Trichy.

Day 5: Trichy - Madurai (140kms)

- Enjoy breakfast at the hotel.
- Visit the Rock Fort Temple, an ancient fort complex atop a rock structure with temples dedicated to Lord Ganesha and Lord Shiva, offering panoramic views of the city.
- Drive to Madurai.
- Visit Meenakshi Amman Temple, a historic Hindu temple known for its towering gopurams adorned with thousands of colorful sculptures depicting mythological tales.
- Explore Thirumalai Nayakkar Palace, a 17th-century palace known for its Indo-Saracenic architecture and grandeur, including a light and sound show in the evening.
- Overnight stay in Madurai.

Day 6: Madurai - Munnar (160km)

- After breakfast, drive to Munnar, a picturesque hill station nestled in the Western Ghats known for its tea plantations and scenic landscapes.
- Visit Mattupetty Dam, a concrete gravity dam surrounded by lush greenery and offering boating facilities amidst serene views of the reservoir.

- Explore Kundala Lake and enjoy a leisurely boat ride surrounded by tea gardens and rolling hills.
- Visit the Tea Museum to learn about the history and process of tea cultivation in the region.
- Overnight stay in Munnar.

Day 7: Munnar

- Enjoy breakfast at the hotel.
- Visit Eravikulam National Park, home to the endangered Nilgiri Tahr, and explore its rolling grasslands and shola forests.
- Proceed to Top Station for breathtaking views of the Western Ghats and the neighboring state of Tamil Nadu.
- Visit Tea Gardens to witness the tea-plucking process and understand the art of tea processing.
- Overnight stay in Munnar.

Day 8: Munnar - Ooty (250kms)

- After breakfast, drive to Ooty, known as the Queen of Hill Stations, nestled in the Nilgiri Hills.
- Visit the Government Botanical Gardens, featuring a vast collection of exotic plants, ferns, and orchids amidst beautifully landscaped lawns.
- Explore Ooty Lake, a scenic artificial lake offering boating facilities amidst serene surroundings.
- Overnight stay in Ooty.

Day 9: Ooty

- Enjoy breakfast at the hotel.
- Visit Doddabetta Peak, the highest point in the Nilgiri Hills, offering panoramic views of the surrounding valleys and plains.
- Explore the Rose Garden, home to thousands of varieties of roses and other floral species, ideal for nature enthusiasts and photography.
- Visit the Thread Garden, showcasing handcrafted artificial plants and flowers made from colorful threads, depicting the biodiversity of the region.
- Overnight stay in Ooty.

Day 10: Ooty - Mysore (150kms)

- After breakfast, drive to Mysore, known for its royal heritage, palaces, and vibrant culture.
- Visit Mysore Palace, a grand royal residence showcasing Indo-Saracenic architecture, and witness the dazzling spectacle of the palace illuminated with thousands of lights on Sundays and public holidays.
- Explore Chamundi Hill and Chamundeshwari Temple, dedicated to Goddess Chamundeshwari, offering panoramic views of Mysore city.
- Visit Devaraja Market, a bustling marketplace offering a variety of local products, spices, and souvenirs.

- Overnight stay in Mysore.

Day 11: Mysore - Somanathapura - Srirangapatna - Shravanbela Gola - Hassan (135kms)

- Enjoy breakfast at the hotel.
- Visit Somanathapura Keshava Temple, an exquisite example of Hoysala architecture renowned for its intricate carvings and sculptures.
- Explore Srirangapatna, the historic capital of Tipu Sultan, known for its fort, palaces, and the Ranganathaswamy Temple.
- Visit Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary, a paradise for bird lovers with diverse avian species amidst scenic riverbanks.
- Overnight stay in Hassan.

Day 12: Hassan - Belur - Halebeedu - Bangalore (250kms)

- After breakfast, visit Belur Chennakeshava Temple, an architectural marvel showcasing Hoysala craftsmanship and intricate sculptures depicting mythological tales.
- Explore Hoysaleswara Temple in Halebeedu, famous for its detailed carvings, friezes, and sculptures depicting Hindu deities and epics.
- Drive to Bangalore.
- Visit Lalbagh Botanical Garden, featuring a stunning collection of exotic plants, a serene lake, and the famous Glass House hosting flower shows.
- Overnight stay in Bangalore.

Day 13: Bangalore - Departure (flight)

- Enjoy breakfast at the hotel.
- Visit Bangalore Palace, a magnificent palace blending Tudor and Scottish Gothic architecture, showcasing royal artifacts and paintings.
- Explore Tipu Sultan's Summer Palace, an elegant Indo-Islamic structure with ornate arches and beautiful frescoes depicting floral motifs.
- Optionally, visit Nandi Hills for panoramic views of the surrounding countryside and indulge in activities like trekking or sightseeing.
- Transfer to Bangalore airport for your onward journey.

Package Price (USD Per Person Sharing Double/Twin Room)**Valid for Travel: Until 20 September 2027**

Persons	Solo	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3★ Standard	3,767	2,083	1,748	1,847	1,660	1,628	1,525	1,448
4★ Deluxe	4,487	2,425	2,091	2,190	2,002	1,970	1,867	1,790
5★ Luxury	6,011	3,260	2,841	2,940	2,752	2,720	2,617	2,540

Single Room Supplement

3★ Standard: USD 511 | 4★ Deluxe: USD 889 | 5★ Luxury: USD 1,663

Triple Sharing Discount (Per Person)

3★ Standard: USD 82 | 4★ Deluxe: USD 122 | 5★ Luxury: USD 252

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:

- Any flight tickets.
- 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

- Chennai x 1 night: ZONE By the Park/ Raj Park
- Pondicherry x 1 night: Shenbaga Hotel/ Anandha Inn Convention Centre
- Thanjavur x 1 night: Sangam Hotels
- Trichy x 1 night: Red Fox Hotel/ Hotel Blossoms
- Madurai x 1 night: JC Residency/ Hotel Royal Court
- Munnar x 2 nights: Abad Copper Castle/ Elysium Garden Hill Resort
- Ooty x 2 nights: Gem Park Ooty/ Monarch Hotel
- Mysore x 1 night: Sandesh the Prince/ Regenta Central Herald by Royal Orchid Hotels
- Hassan x 1 night: The Ashhok/ Pearl Hotel
- Bangalore x 1 night: Royal Orchid Central/ Ramada Bangalore

4 Star Hotels

- Chennai x 1 night: Accord Metropolitan/ The Park Chennai
- Pondicherry x 1 night: Le Pondy/ Accord Puducherry
- Thanjavur x 1 night: GReaT Trails Riverview Resort
- Trichy x 1 night: Courtyard by Marriott
- Madurai x 1 night: Fortune Pandiyan Hotel/ Regency Madurai by GRT Hotels
- Munnar x 2 nights: Elixir Hills Resort/ Tea County Munnar
- Ooty x 2 nights: Fortune Resort Sullivan Court/ Accord Highland Ooty
- Mysore x 1 night: Fortune Park JP Palace/ Royal Orchid Brindavan Garden
- Hassan x 1 night: Hosyala Village Resort/ Rosetta by Ferns – Sakleshpur
- Bangalore x 1 night: Lemon Tree Premier/ Gokulam Grand Hotel & Spa

5 Star Hotels

- Chennai x 1 night: Radisson Blu Hotel GRT Chennai/ Hilton Chennai
- Pondicherry x 1 night: Palais De Mahe/ La Villa
- Thanjavur x 1 night: Svatma
- Trichy x 1 night: Courtyard by Marriott
- Madurai x 1 night: The Gateway Hotel Pasumalai
- Munnar x 2 nights: Chandys Windy Woods/ Blanket Hotel & Spa
- Ooty x 2 nights: Savoy, Ooty - IHCL SeleQtions
- Mysore x 1 night: Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel
- Hassan x 1 night: Hosyala Village Resort/ Rosetta by Ferns – Sakleshpur
- Bangalore x 1 night: ITC Gardenia, a Luxury Collection/ Vivanta Bengaluru, Residency Road

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.
- 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.