

Tour Name: Chennai to Kovalam Temple & Beach Tour

Tour Duration: 10 Nights/ 11 Days

Tour Map: <https://tinyurl.com/87tyxhz>

Tour Overview

Embark on "Chennai to Kovalam Temple & Beach Tour" for an unforgettable exploration of South India's rich cultural tapestry and stunning coastal landscapes. Begin in Chennai, where vibrant heritage and modernity intertwine, then delve into the ancient temples of Kanchipuram and Mahabalipuram, marveling at their exquisite Dravidian architecture. Journey through Pondicherry's charming French Quarter and the spiritual haven of Auroville, before immersing yourself in the historic grandeur of Thanjavur and Trichy. Discover Madurai's majestic Meenakshi Amman Temple, followed by the sacred island of Rameshwaram and the serene beaches of Kanyakumari. Conclude with the tranquil coastal beauty of Kovalam, where you'll enjoy a blend of cultural sites and scenic relaxation.

Tour Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive Chennai

- Arrive at Chennai International Airport, where our team warmly welcomes you and assists with your transfer to your hotel.
- Check into your hotel and freshen up before beginning your exploration of Chennai.
- Visit the Madras High Court, a historic building renowned for its Neo-Gothic architecture and important role in the legal system of Tamil Nadu.
- Drive past the Ripon Building, an example of Indo-Saracenic architecture, which houses the Chennai Corporation and is an iconic landmark of the city.
- Overnight stay in Chennai, preparing for the upcoming journey.

Day 2: Chennai - Kanchipuram - Mahabalipuram (120kms)

- Start the day with a hearty breakfast at the hotel.
- Drive to Kanchipuram, known for its ancient temples and silk weaving.
- Visit the Kailasanathar Temple, an early Chola architectural marvel with intricate carvings depicting Hindu deities and a serene courtyard.
- Explore the Varadaraja Perumal Temple, a grand Vishnu temple with elaborate gopurams and detailed sculptures that highlight the temple's rich history.
- Discover the Ekambareswarar Temple, dedicated to Shiva, renowned for its massive gopuram and sacred mango tree, symbolizing the temple's age and spirituality.
- See the Kamakshi Amman Temple, a significant Shakti shrine featuring vibrant sculptures and a tranquil ambiance ideal for spiritual reflection.
- Continue your drive to Mahabalipuram.
- Visit the Shore Temple, an exquisite example of Dravidian architecture overlooking the Bay of Bengal. The temple's intricate carvings and serene seaside location offer a glimpse into ancient South Indian temple architecture.

- Explore the Pancha Rathas, a group of five monolithic temples dedicated to different deities, each showcasing unique architectural styles and detailed sculptures carved directly into the rock.
- Discover Arjuna's Penance, one of the largest bas-reliefs in the world, depicting scenes from the Mahabharata, including the famous image of Arjuna's penance.
- Return to your hotel for dinner and an overnight stay in Mahabalipuram.

Day 3: Mahabalipuram - Pondicherry (100kms)

- Begin with breakfast at the hotel.
- Drive to Pondicherry, a charming city with a blend of French colonial architecture and Tamil culture.
- Stroll through the French Quarter, admiring its colonial buildings, quaint cafes, and boutique shops. The area's distinctive character reflects its French colonial past.
- Visit the Sri Aurobindo Ashram, a tranquil retreat founded by Sri Aurobindo, dedicated to spiritual practice and philosophical teachings. The ashram's peaceful atmosphere and dedicated followers offer a unique spiritual experience.
- Explore Auroville, an international community founded on the principles of sustainable living and unity. The unique architecture of the Matrimandir **and the** diverse cultural interactions make it a fascinating visit.
- Return to your hotel for dinner and an overnight stay in Pondicherry.

Day 4: Pondicherry - Chidambaram - Gnagaikondacholapuram - Darasuram - Thanjavur (180kms)

- Start with a nourishing breakfast at the hotel.
- Drive to Thanjavur, a city renowned for its rich historical and cultural heritage.
- Visit the Nataraja Temple in Chidambaram, a famous Shiva temple known for its magnificent bronze sculptures and vibrant cultural significance.
- Continue to Gnagaikondacholapuram to see the Brihadeeswarar Temple, renowned for its grand architecture, massive central dome, and intricate carvings representing the zenith of Chola architecture.
- Explore Darasuram, where the Airavatesvara Temple stands as a Chola-era architectural masterpiece with its detailed stone carvings and historical relevance.
- Check into your hotel in Thanjavur for dinner and an overnight stay.

Day 5: Thanjavur - Trichy (60kms)

- Enjoy breakfast at the hotel.
- Visit the Brihadeeswarar Temple, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and an architectural marvel of the Chola dynasty, featuring a grand central dome, massive gopurams, and intricate carvings.
- Explore the Thanjavur Maratha Palace, which houses a museum with historical artifacts, including royal memorabilia and art collections, providing insight into the region's royal history.
- Discover the Saraswathi Mahal Library, an ancient library with a collection of rare manuscripts, books, and historical documents reflecting South India's intellectual heritage.

- Drive to Trichy, known for its historic temples and strategic location on the Kaveri River.
- Visit the Ranganathaswamy Temple in Srirangam, an extensive and ancient temple complex dedicated to Lord Vishnu. The temple features grand architecture, intricate carvings, and vibrant festivals, making it a major pilgrimage site.
- Explore the Rockfort Temple, located atop a rocky outcrop offering panoramic views of Trichy. The temple includes ancient carvings and inscriptions and a fort with historical significance.
- Take a leisurely stroll along the Kaveri River, enjoying the local markets and sampling traditional crafts and souvenirs.
- Return to your hotel in Trichy for dinner and an overnight stay.

Day 6: Trichy - Madurai (135kms)

- Start with a hearty breakfast at the hotel.
- Drive to Madurai, a city renowned for its ancient temples and vibrant culture.
- Visit the Meenakshi Amman Temple, a sprawling temple complex famous for its towering gopurams adorned with colorful sculptures. The temple's intricate carvings and bustling atmosphere make it a central landmark of Madurai.
- Explore the Thirumalai Nayakkar Palace, an impressive palace with grand courtyards and intricate architectural details, reflecting the grandeur of the Nayak dynasty.
- Discover the Gandhi Museum, showcasing artifacts related to Mahatma Gandhi's life, his role in India's independence movement, and the principles of non-violence.
- Check into your hotel in Madurai for dinner and a restful overnight stay.

Day 7: Madurai - Rameshwaram (170kms)

- Enjoy breakfast at the hotel.
- Drive to Rameshwaram, an important pilgrimage destination on Pamban Island.
- Visit the Ramanathaswamy Temple, renowned for its elaborate corridors, sacred water tanks, and significant religious importance. The temple is a major site for devotees and offers insights into Hindu temple rituals and architecture.
- Explore Dhanushkodi, a deserted town known for its scenic beauty and historical ruins. The area's desolate landscape and ocean views offer a stark contrast to the bustling temple town.
- Enjoy the tranquil coastal environment and reflect on the day's experiences.
- Check into your hotel in Rameshwaram for dinner and an overnight stay.

Day 8: Rameshwaram - Kanyakumari (320kms)

- Start with breakfast at the hotel.
- Drive to Kanyakumari, the southernmost tip of India where the three seas meet.
- Check into your hotel in Kanyakumari for dinner and an overnight stay.
- Relax on the beaches of Kanyakumari, enjoying the sunset over the meeting point of the three seas.

Day 9: Kanyakumari - Kovalam (80kms)

- Begin with breakfast at the hotel.
- Visit the Vivekananda Rock Memorial, situated on a small island and dedicated to Swami Vivekananda. The memorial offers spectacular views of the confluence of the Indian Ocean, Bay of Bengal, and Arabian Sea, and is a significant site for meditation and reflection.
- Explore the Thiruvalluvar Statue, a monumental tribute to the Tamil poet and philosopher Thiruvalluvar. The statue's height and location provide breathtaking views and symbolize Tamil literary heritage.
- Visit St. Xavier's Church in Nagercoil, known for its beautiful architecture and historical significance.
- Explore the Padmanabhapuram Palace, a heritage palace showcasing traditional Kerala architecture and royal history.
- Drive to Kovalam, a popular beach destination known for its serene coastal environment.
- Check into your hotel in Kovalam for dinner and an overnight stay, soaking in the relaxing beach atmosphere.

Day 10: Kovalam

- Start with breakfast at the hotel.
- Visit Napier Museum in Thiruvananthapuram, showcasing ancient sculptures, traditional art, and historical artifacts.
- Explore the Kerala State Art Museum, which features regional artworks and crafts.
- Visit Sree Padmanabhaswamy Temple, renowned for its Dravidian architecture and sacred Vishnu idol.
- Discover Attukal Bhagavathy Temple, known for its vibrant festivals and beautiful design.
- Tour Kuthiramalika Palace Museum, displaying royal artifacts and traditional art.
- Explore Shri Chitra Art Gallery, featuring diverse Indian and international artworks.
- Visit Veli Tourist Village, a scenic spot with boating facilities and lush surroundings.
- Discover Kanakakkunnu Palace, a historical palace known for its architectural charm and cultural events.
- Experience the Kerala Folklore Museum, showcasing traditional arts, crafts, and cultural exhibits.
- Return to your hotel for dinner and an overnight stay in Kovalam.

Day 11: Kovalam - Departure

- After breakfast at the hotel, transfer to the nearest airport for your departure.
- Reflect on your journey through South India's magnificent temples, vibrant cities, and beautiful beaches as you head to your next destination.

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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	3,284	1,764	1,491	1,546	1,371	1,347	1,251	1,178
4★ Deluxe	3,834	2,029	1,756	1,811	1,636	1,612	1,515	1,443
5★ Luxury	4,783	2,632	2,223	2,278	2,104	2,079	1,983	1,911

Valid for Travel: 16 April 2027 to 15 September 2027

Persons	Solo	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3★ Standard	3,196	1,705	1,431	1,486	1,311	1,287	1,191	1,119
4★ Deluxe	3,578	1,896	1,623	1,678	1,503	1,479	1,383	1,311
5★ Luxury	4,310	2,400	1,991	2,046	1,871	1,847	1,750	1,678

Single Room Supplement

3★ Standard: USD 428 | 4★ Deluxe: USD 713 | 5★ Luxury: USD 1,195

Triple Sharing Discount (Per Person)

3★ Standard: USD 61 | 4★ Deluxe: USD 111 | 5★ Luxury: USD 184

Price Includes:

- Assistance on arrival at airport.
- 10 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.

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- Gratuities and optional activities.
- Anything not mentioned in inclusions.

Hotels used or similar for 10 nights' accommodation

3 Star Hotels

- Chennai x 1 night: ZONE By the Park/ Raj Park
- Mahabalipuram x 1 night: INDeco Hotels/ Ideal Beach Resort
- Pondicherry x 1 night: Shenbaga Hotel/ Anandha Inn Convention Centre
- Thanjore x 1 night: Sangam Hotels
- Trichy x 1 night: Red Fox Hotel/ Hotel Blossoms
- Madurai x 1 night: JC Residency/ Hotel Royal Court
- Rameshwaram x 1 night: Daiwik Hotel/ Vinayaga by Poppys
- Kanyakumari x 1 night: Sparsa Kanyakumari/ The Seashore Hotel
- Kovalam x 2 nights: Abad Harmonia Beach Resort/ Uday Suites Shanghumugham Beach

4 Star Hotels

- Chennai x 1 night: Accord Metropolitan/ The Park Chennai
- Mahabalipuram x 1 night: Chariot Beach Resort/ Confluence The Banquet & Resort
- Pondicherry x 1 night: Le Pondy/ Accord Puducherry
- Thanjore 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
- Rameshwaram x 1 night: Daiwik Hotel/ Vinayaga by Poppys
- Kanyakumari x 1 night: Sparsa Kanyakumari/ The Seashore Hotel
- Kovalam x 2 nights: Estuary Sarovar Portico / Uday Samudra Leisure Beach Hotel

5 Star Hotels

- Chennai x 1 night: Radisson Blu Hotel GRT Chennai/ Hilton Chennai
- Mahabalipuram x 1 night: Radisson BLU Resort Temple Bay/ WH By ITC Hotels, Kences Palm Beach
- Pondicherry x 1 night: Palais De Mahe/ La Villa
- Thanjore x 1 night: Svatma
- Trichy x 1 night: Courtyard by Marriott
- Madurai x 1 night: Courtyard by Marriott/ The Gateway Hotel Pasumalai
- Rameshwaram x 1 night: The Residency Towers
- Kanyakumari x 1 night: Sparsa Kanyakumari/ The Seashore Hotel
- Kovalam x 2 nights: Raviz Kovalam/ Vivanta by Taj - Green Cove

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.

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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.