

Tour Name: Diamonds & Dynasties of Southern India

Tour Duration: 13 Nights/ 14 Days

Tour Map: <https://tinyurl.com/5frufejp>

Tour Overview

Embark on a captivating journey through the heart of Deccan heritage with our "Diamonds & Dynasties of Southern India." Begin in Hyderabad, where you'll marvel at the iconic Charminar and explore the majestic Golconda Fort. Delve into the rich history of Gulbarga and Bijapur, with their ancient forts and exquisite tombs. Discover the rock-cut temples of Badami amidst its rugged landscapes, and wander through the UNESCO-listed ruins of Hampi. Experience the vibrant culture of Goa, from its pristine beaches to historic churches and bustling markets. This meticulously crafted itinerary promises an immersive exploration of South India's architectural wonders, cultural treasures, and natural beauty.

Tour Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive Hyderabad

- Arrive at Hyderabad airport.
- Enjoy a comfortable transfer from the airport to your hotel.
- Check-in and relax in your accommodation.
- Depending on your arrival time, explore the immediate vicinity of your hotel.
- Hyderabad offers a blend of old-world charm and modern amenities, perfect for a leisurely stroll.
- Get acquainted with the neighborhood, perhaps sampling local cuisine or visiting nearby markets.
- Enjoy the warm hospitality and start your journey with a comfortable stay in this vibrant city.

Day 2: Hyderabad

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Visit the iconic Charminar, which offers panoramic views of Hyderabad and bustling markets at its base. Admire its Indo-Islamic architecture and climb to the top for a bird's-eye view.

- Explore Golconda Fort, known for its acoustic system, majestic ramparts, and ancient cannons. Experience the captivating light & sound show narrating its history in the evening.
- Discover the Qutb Shahi Tombs, showcasing Persian and Indian architectural styles, housing the tombs of the Qutb Shahi dynasty rulers.
- Chowmahalla Palace, renowned for its opulent architecture, exquisite chandeliers, and vintage car collection, offers a glimpse into royal lifestyle.
- Salar Jung Museum, home to one of the largest private collections of antiques, including sculptures, paintings, and manuscripts from various civilizations.

Day 3: Hyderabad - Gulbarga (250km)

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Drive to Gulbarga through scenic Telangana and Karnataka landscapes.
- Explore Gulbarga Fort, an ancient fort known for its massive structure, intricate carvings, and historical significance from the Bahmani Sultanate era. Visit the ornate Jama Masjid within its precincts.
- Visit Sharana Basaveshwara Temple, a significant pilgrimage site known for its ancient Shiva Linga and intricate stone carvings depicting mythological tales.
- Khwaja Bande Nawaz Dargah, a Sufi shrine dedicated to Khwaja Bande Nawaz, attracts devotees seeking blessings from different faiths.
- Gulbarga University Botanical Garden, with lush greenery and a diverse collection of flora, offers ideal settings for leisurely walks and birdwatching.

Day 4: Gulbarga - Bijapur (152km)

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Travel to Bijapur, known for its medieval architectural wonders.
- Explore Ibrahim Rauza, a magnificent tomb complex showcasing Indo-Islamic architecture with stunning domes, minarets, and intricate lattice work.
- Visit Gol Gumbaz, famous for its massive dome and whispering gallery, offering panoramic views of Bijapur.
- Discover Jod Gumbaz, another impressive mausoleum featuring exquisite carvings and serene surroundings.

- Malik-i-Maidan, an enormous cannon known for its historical significance and intricate Persian inscriptions.
- Explore Bara Kaman, an unfinished mausoleum showcasing impressive arches and unique architectural style.

Day 5: Bijapur - Badami (120km)

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Drive to Badami, gateway to Karnataka's rock-cut temples.
- Visit the ancient Badami Cave Temples, dedicated to Hindu deities and adorned with intricate sculptures depicting mythological tales. Enjoy the serene surroundings of Agastya Lake nearby.
- Banashankari Temple, a charming temple dedicated to Goddess Banashankari, known for its architectural beauty and annual temple fair.
- Explore Badami Fort, a hilltop fort offering panoramic views of Badami town and Agastya Lake, with historical structures including granaries, temples, and gateways carved out of sandstone. Witness ancient inscriptions and sculptures.
- Bhutanatha Temples, a picturesque temple complex on the banks of Agastya Lake, ideal for photography against the backdrop of Badami's rugged terrain.
- Archaeological Museum, Badami, housing a collection of sculptures, artifacts, and inscriptions excavated from the Badami cave temples and surrounding areas.
- Badami Archaeological Site, with ancient ruins and rock-cut sculptures offering insights into the region's rich history and cultural heritage.

Day 6: Badami

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Explore Aihole, known as the "Cradle of Indian Architecture," with ancient temples showcasing Chalukyan architecture and intricate carvings.
- Visit Pattadakal, a UNESCO World Heritage site famous for its group of 8th-century Hindu and Jain temples, exhibiting a blend of North Indian Nagara and South Indian Dravidian architectural styles.
- Mahakuta Group of Temples, a cluster dedicated to Lord Shiva, featuring intricate carvings and a natural spring revered for its spiritual significance.

Day 7: Badami - Hampi (130km)

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Travel to Hampi, a UNESCO World Heritage Site known for its ancient temples and ruins amidst surreal boulder-strewn landscapes.
- Explore Anegundi Village, an ancient village with historical temples, caves, and scenic beauty, believed to be the mythological Kishkindha, home of Lord Hanuman.
- Enjoy a Coracle Ride on the Tungabhadra River, a traditional round boat ride offering serene views of Hampi's monuments and river landscapes.

Day 8: Hampi

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Visit Vittala Temple, famous for its stone chariot, musical pillars, and intricate sculptures depicting stories from the Ramayana and Mahabharata. Experience the blend of art and architecture.
- Explore Virupaksha Temple, a sacred temple dedicated to Lord Shiva, with ornate architecture featuring intricate carvings of mythological figures and celestial beings. Participate in daily rituals.
- Hemakuta Hill Temples, a cluster of ancient temples and shrines offering panoramic views of Hampi's monuments and surrounding landscapes.
- Queen's Bath, a royal bathing complex showcasing Indo-Islamic architecture, with ornate arches, lotus-shaped fountains, and a central pool.
- Matanga Hill, a scenic trekking trail leading to a hilltop viewpoint offering breathtaking vistas of Hampi's monuments and the Tungabhadra River.
- Hazara Rama Temple, a royal temple known for its exquisite bas-reliefs depicting the Ramayana epic, with elaborate carvings and friezes illustrating scenes from Lord Rama's life.
- Elephant Stables, a majestic structure showcasing Indo-Islamic architecture, originally used to house royal elephants during the Vijayanagara Empire's reign.
- Lotus Mahal, an architectural marvel featuring a unique blend of Hindu and Islamic styles, known for its delicately carved archways and lotus-shaped domes.

Day 9: Hospet - Goa (300km)

- Breakfast at the hotel.

- Drive to Goa, famous for its beaches, Portuguese heritage, and vibrant culture.
- Visit Anjuna Beach, known for its scenic beauty, water sports activities, and lively beach shacks offering local cuisine and refreshments.
- Basilica of Bom Jesus, a UNESCO World Heritage site famous for housing the mortal remains of St. Francis Xavier, with stunning Baroque architecture and a serene ambiance for prayer.
- Se Cathedral, a magnificent cathedral dedicated to St. Catherine, featuring Portuguese-Manueline architecture, ornate altars, and a peaceful courtyard.
- Fort Aguada, a 17th-century Portuguese fort overlooking the Arabian Sea, offering panoramic views and insights into Goa's colonial history. Explore the lighthouse and old prison cells within its precincts.
- Mapusa Market, a bustling market known for its fresh produce, spices, clothing, and souvenirs, offering a glimpse into Goan culture and lifestyle.

Day 10: Goa

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Dudhsagar Waterfalls, a majestic waterfall nestled in the Western Ghats, offering breathtaking views and opportunities for swimming and photography.
- Spice Plantations, where you can learn about Goa's spice cultivation through guided tours and demonstrations of spice processing techniques.
- Fontainhas, Goa's Latin Quarter with narrow streets, vibrant Portuguese-style houses, art galleries, and quaint cafes offering a glimpse into the region's colonial past.
- Calangute Beach, where you can enjoy water sports such as parasailing and jet skiing, or simply unwind on this bustling and picturesque beach with numerous beach shacks offering seafood delicacies and refreshing beverages.
- Anjuna Flea Market, vibrant stalls selling handicrafts, clothing, jewelry, and souvenirs. Experience the lively atmosphere and bargaining with local vendors.
- Chapora Fort, a hilltop fort offering panoramic views of the Arabian Sea and nearby beaches, known for its historical significance and scenic beauty.

Day 11: Goa

- Breakfast at the hotel.

- Visit Goa State Museum, with exhibits showcasing Goan history, culture, and artifacts ranging from sculptures to coins and paintings.
- Miramar Beach, a sandy beach offering picturesque views of the Arabian Sea and opportunities for leisurely walks and beach activities.
- Salim Ali Bird Sanctuary, a birdwatcher's paradise with mangrove swamps and diverse bird species, ideal for nature walks and bird photography.
- Basilica of Bom Jesus, a return visit to appreciate the Baroque architecture and serene ambiance, perhaps attending a mass service.
- Reis Magos Fort, a well-preserved fort offering insights into Goa's military history and strategic importance during Portuguese rule.

Day 12: Goa - Mumbai

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Fly to Mumbai, India's bustling financial and entertainment capital.
- Visit the iconic Gateway of India, an arch monument overlooking the Arabian Sea, offering boat rides to Elephanta Caves and views of nearby Taj Mahal Palace Hotel. Explore the bustling atmosphere and street vendors selling local snacks.
- Marine Drive, a leisurely stroll along this iconic promenade overlooking the Arabian Sea, known as the Queen's Necklace for its stunning evening lights and cool sea breeze.

Day 13: Mumbai

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Elephanta Caves, a UNESCO World Heritage site known for ancient rock-cut temples dedicated to Lord Shiva, accessible by ferry from Gateway of India. Marvel at the intricate sculptures and panels depicting Hindu mythological themes.
- Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus (CSMT), a historic railway station featuring Victorian Gothic architecture, with intricate carvings, domes, and turrets.
- Crawford Market, a bustling market known for its vibrant atmosphere, selling everything from fresh produce and spices to clothing and electronics.
- Haji Ali Dargah, an iconic Sufi shrine located on an islet off the coast of Worli, accessible via a causeway during low tide.

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Day 14: Depart Mumbai

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Complete check-out procedures from the hotel.
- Depart from Mumbai for your onward journey.
- Depending on your flight or travel schedule, you may have time for last-minute shopping or exploring nearby attractions.
- Bid farewell to Mumbai, reflecting on your memorable journey through Hyderabad, Goa, and other enchanting destinations in between.

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	3,663	1,967	1,747	1,794	1,606	1,544	1,446	1,372
4★ Deluxe	4,482	2,396	2,176	2,222	2,035	1,973	1,875	1,801
5★ Luxury	6,745	3,763	3,317	3,363	3,175	3,114	3,015	2,942

Valid for Travel: 16 April 2027 to 20 September 2027

Persons	Solo	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3★ Standard	3,587	1,933	1,713	1,759	1,572	1,510	1,412	1,338
4★ Deluxe	4,026	2,164	1,944	1,990	1,803	1,741	1,643	1,569
5★ Luxury	5,564	3,159	2,713	2,759	2,572	2,510	2,412	2,338

Single Room Supplement

3★ Standard: USD 583 | 4★ Deluxe: USD 974 | 5★ Luxury: USD 2,096

Triple Sharing Discount (Per Person)

3★ Standard: USD 63 | 4★ Deluxe: USD 134 | 5★ Luxury: USD 368

Price Includes:

- Assistance on arrival at the airport.
- 13 Nights' accommodation (if option selected) in selected price category hotels.

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- 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 the program
- Monument entrances and activity charges mentioned in the itinerary.
- Bottled drinking water in the car.
- Government taxes.

Price Does Not Include:

- Any flight ticket.
- Camera charges at monuments if any.
- Meals other than mentioned in inclusions.
- Expenses of personal nature like liquor, laundry, tips, telephone, fax, internet, etc.
- Gratuities and optional activities.
- Anything not mentioned in the inclusions.

Hotels used or similar for 13 nights' accommodation

3 Star Hotels

- 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
- Goa x 3 nights: The Fern Residency Miramar/ Zone Connect Hotel Parra
- Mumbai x 2 nights: Hotel Godwin, Colaba/ Hotel Suba Palace

4 Star Hotels

- 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
- Goa x 3 nights: Lemon Tree Hotel Candolim/ The Chances Resort & Casino
- Mumbai x 2 nights: Fariyas Hotel/ The Gordon House

5 Star Hotels

- 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
- Goa x 3 nights: Alila Diwa Goa/ Kenilworth Resort & Spa, Utorda Beach
- Mumbai x 2 nights: Trident Hotel/ President, Mumbai - IHCL SeleQtions

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.

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- 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.

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- 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.