

Tour Name: South India Temples & Andaman Island Tour from Chennai

Tour Duration: 15 Nights/ 16 Days

Tour Map: <https://tinyurl.com/38zy282w>

Tour Overview

Embark on an unforgettable journey through the "South India Temples & Andaman Island Tour from Chennai" tour. Begin in Chennai, where ancient temples in Kanchipuram and Trichy reveal the rich cultural tapestry of Tamil Nadu. Explore Madurai's majestic temples before heading to Rameshwaram, famed for its sacred sites. Traverse the cultural heartlands of Chettinad and Thanjavur, then discover the architectural marvels of Darasuram and Gangaikonda Cholapuram. Journey south to Pondicherry, where French colonial charm meets Indian spirituality. Fly to Port Blair for a serene escape in the Andaman Islands, unwinding on Neil and Havelock Islands' pristine beaches amidst turquoise waters.

Tour Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive Chennai

- Arrival in Chennai and transfer to your hotel. Rest and refresh after your journey, preparing for the exploration of Chennai's vibrant culture and historical landmarks.
- Visit Kapaleeshwarar Temple, a Dravidian-style temple dedicated to Lord Shiva, known for its towering gopurams and intricate sculptures depicting various Hindu deities.
- Explore Fort St. George, the first English fortress in India, housing St. Mary's Church and the Fort Museum, which exhibits colonial artifacts, weapons, and uniforms.
- Discover Marina Beach, India's longest urban beach, offering panoramic views of the Bay of Bengal and bustling with local vendors and activities.
- Pay homage at San Thome Basilica, a Roman Catholic Basilica built over the tomb of St. Thomas, one of the twelve apostles of Jesus Christ.
- Conclude the day with a visit to Government Museum, the second oldest museum in India, showcasing a vast collection of archaeological and numismatic artifacts dating back to ancient times.

Day 2: Chennai - Kanchipuram - Trichy (350 kms)

- Breakfast at the hotel.

- Drive to Kanchipuram, renowned for its centuries-old temples and silk sarees.
- Visit Ekambareswarar Temple, dedicated to Lord Shiva, notable for its ancient mango tree and the thousand-pillared hall adorned with intricate carvings.
- Explore Kailasanathar Temple, one of the oldest Hindu temples in South India, showcasing Pallava architecture and exquisite sculptures.
- Continue to Trichy (Tiruchirappalli).
- Check-in at the hotel and relax.

Day 3: Trichy - Madurai (140 kms)

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Visit Sri Ranganathaswamy Temple in Srirangam, one of the largest functioning Hindu temples in the world dedicated to Lord Vishnu, featuring intricate carvings and sprawling courtyards.
- Explore Rock Fort Temple, a historic fort complex perched atop a rock, housing temples dedicated to Lord Ganesha and Lord Shiva, offering panoramic views of Trichy.
- Check-in at the hotel and unwind. Drive to Madurai.

Day 4: Madurai - Rameshwaram (170 kms)

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Visit Meenakshi Amman Temple, a magnificent Dravidian-style temple dedicated to Goddess Parvati and Lord Shiva, known for its towering gopurams adorned with colorful sculptures.
- Explore Thirumalai Nayakkar Palace, a grand palace built in Indo-Saracenic style, featuring stunning arches, pillars, and a spacious courtyard where light and sound shows are held.
- Drive to Rameshwaram.
- Check-in at the hotel and relax.

Day 5: Rameshwaram - Chettinad - Thanjavur (250 kms)

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Visit Ramanathaswamy Temple, a sacred pilgrimage site with 22 holy wells and the longest temple corridor in India, renowned for its architectural splendor.

- Explore Dhanushkodi, a ghost town with remnants of a cyclone-destroyed railway line and church, offering a poignant glimpse into its tragic history.
- Continue to Chettinad.
- Explore Chettinad Palace, an architectural marvel showcasing traditional Chettinad heritage with intricate woodwork, Belgian glass windows, and antique furniture.
- Drive to Thanjavur (Tanjore).
- Check-in at the hotel and unwind.

Day 6: Thanjavur - Darasuram - Cholaapuram - Chidambaram - Pondicherry (180 kms)

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Visit Brihadeeswarar Temple (Big Temple), a UNESCO World Heritage site and a masterpiece of Chola architecture, dedicated to Lord Shiva, featuring a massive lingam and intricate frescoes.
- Explore Airavatesvara Temple in Darasuram, renowned for its exceptional stone carvings and sculptures depicting scenes from Hindu mythology.
- Visit Gangaikonda Cholaapuram, an ancient temple complex built by the Chola dynasty, known for its imposing architecture and historical significance.
- Continue to Chidambaram.
- Explore Nataraja Temple, dedicated to Lord Shiva as the cosmic dancer, showcasing intricate carvings and hosting the annual Natyanjali Dance Festival.
- Drive to Pondicherry (Puducherry).
- Check-in at the hotel and relax.

Day 7: Pondicherry - Mahabalipuram - Chennai (150 kms)

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Visit Aurobindo Ashram, founded by Sri Aurobindo and The Mother, promoting spiritual growth and inner peace through meditation and yoga.
- Explore Auroville, an experimental township emphasizing communal living, sustainable practices, and cultural diversity.
- Drive to Mahabalipuram (Mamallapuram).

- Visit Shore Temple, a UNESCO World Heritage site overlooking the Bay of Bengal, dedicated to Lord Shiva and Vishnu, renowned for its architectural grandeur and scenic location.
- Explore Pancha Rathas (Five Chariots), monolithic rock-cut temples representing the Pandavas and Draupadi from the Mahabharata epic.
- Return to Chennai.
- Check-in at the hotel and relax.

Day 8: Chennai - Port Blair (flight)

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Transfer to Chennai Airport for your flight to Port Blair, the capital of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
- Arrival in Port Blair and transfer to your hotel.
- Rest and refresh after your journey.

Day 9: Port Blair - Neil Island (by scheduled ferry)

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Transfer to the Port Blair Harbour for your ferry to Neil Island, known for its tranquil beaches and clear waters.
- Arrival on Neil Island and check-in at the hotel.
- Visit Bharatpur Beach, famous for its pristine white sands and vibrant coral reefs, ideal for swimming and snorkeling.
- Relax and enjoy the serene ambiance.

Day 10: Neil Island

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Visit Laxmanpur Beach, offering breathtaking sunset views and natural rock formations sculpted by the sea.
- Explore Natural Bridge, a unique geological formation shaped like a bridge, created by years of natural erosion.
- Spend leisure time at Sitapur Beach, perfect for sunbathing and relaxation by the turquoise waters.

Day 11: Neil Island - Havelock (by scheduled ferry)

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Transfer to the Neil Island Harbour for your ferry to Havelock Island, known for its stunning beaches and water sports opportunities.
- Arrival on Havelock Island and check-in at the hotel.
- Visit Radhanagar Beach (Beach No. 7), acclaimed as one of Asia's best beaches for its white sands and azure waters.
- Relax and indulge in optional activities like snorkeling, scuba diving, or simply lounging on the beach.

Day 12: Havelock

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Explore Elephant Beach, a pristine spot known for its vibrant coral reefs and rich marine life, ideal for snorkeling enthusiasts.
- Visit Kalapathar Beach, famous for its black rocks and stunning sunrise views, offering a tranquil atmosphere for relaxation.
- Optional activities include glass-bottom boat rides or sea walking to explore the underwater world.

Day 13: Havelock - Port Blair (by scheduled ferry)

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Transfer to the Havelock Island Harbour for your ferry back to Port Blair.
- Arrival in Port Blair and check-in at the hotel.
- Visit Cellular Jail National Memorial, a historic prison where Indian freedom fighters were incarcerated during British rule, showcasing a poignant history through its museum and exhibits.
- Attend the Sound and Light Show at Cellular Jail, narrating the struggles and sacrifices of India's freedom fighters.

Day 14: Port Blair

- Breakfast at the hotel.

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- Visit Anthropological Museum, offering insights into the indigenous tribes of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands through exhibits of artifacts, photographs, and models.
- Explore Chidiya Tapu (Sunset Point), a picturesque destination known for its rich biodiversity, mangrove forests, and stunning sunset views over the Andaman Sea.
- Enjoy leisure time shopping for souvenirs and handicrafts at Aberdeen Bazaar.

Day 15: Port Blair - Chennai (flight)

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Transfer to Port Blair Airport for your flight back to Chennai.
- Arrival in Chennai and transfer to your departure location, concluding your memorable journey through Tamil Nadu's rich temples and the serene beaches of the Andaman Islands.

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	4,011	2,155	1,845	1,850	1,679	1,638	1,547	1,478
4★ Deluxe	5,182	2,807	2,497	2,502	2,331	2,290	2,198	2,130
5★ Luxury	7,613	4,102	3,677	3,682	3,511	3,470	3,379	3,310

Single Room Supplement

3★ Standard: USD 697 | 4★ Deluxe: USD 1,216 | 5★ Luxury: USD 2,467

Triple Sharing Discount (Per Person)

3★ Standard: USD 60 | 4★ Deluxe: USD 178 | 5★ Luxury: USD 358

Price Includes:

- Assistance on arrival at airport.
- 15 Nights' accommodation in selected price category hotels.
- Daily breakfast at hotels.

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- 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.
- Port Blair - Neil Island - Havelock Island - Port Blair transfer by scheduled ferry.
- Transfer for mentioned Island activities.
- Bottled drinking water in car.
- Government taxes.

Price Does Not Include:

- Chennai - Port Blair - Chennai flight fare approx INR 10500 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 14 nights' accommodation

3 Star Hotels

- Chennai x 2 nights: ZONE By the Park/ Raj Park
- 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
- Thanjavur x 1 night: Sangam Hotels
- Pondicherry x 1 night: Shenbaga Hotel/ Anandha Inn Convention Centre
- Port Blair x 2 nights: Hotel De Pebbles/ Sun City Resort

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- Neil Island x 2 nights: TSG Aura Resort/ Pearl Park Beach Resort
- Havelock Island x 3 nights: Havelock Island Beach Resort/ Silver Sand Village Resort

4 Star Hotels

- Chennai x 2 nights: Accord Metropolitan/ The Park Chennai
- Trichy x 1 night: Courtyard by Marriott
- Madurai x 1 night: Fortune Pandiyan Hotel/ Regency Madurai by GRT Hotels
- Rameshwaram x 1 night: The Residency Towers
- Thanjavur x 1 night: Courtyard by Marriott
- Pondicherry x 1 night: Le Pondy/ Accord Puducherry
- Port Blair x 2 nights: Seashell/ Fortune Resort Bay Island
- Neil Island x 2 nights: Seashell/ Symphony Summer Sands Beach Resort
- Havelock Island x 3 nights: Seashell/ Silver Sand Beach Resort

5 Star Hotels

- Chennai x 2 nights: Radisson Blu Hotel GRT Chennai/ Hilton Chennai
- 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
- Thanjavur x 1 night: Svatma
- Pondicherry x 1 night: Palais De Mahe/ La Villa
- Port Blair x 2 nights: Seashell/ Fortune Resort Bay Island
- Neil Island x 2 nights: Seashell/ Symphony Summer Sands Beach Resort
- Havelock Island x 3 nights: Barefoot at Havelock

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.