

# South India Tour - 1

Duration : (22Nights / 23Days)

Chennai - Mahabalipuram - Tanjore - Trichy - Madurai - Vythiri - Bangalore



## Day 1:-Arrive Chennai

Assistance on arrival in Chennai airport and transfer to your hotel rest of the day free overnight in Chennai

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## Day 2:- Chennai - Kanchipuram – Mahabalipuram

Morning tour of kanchipuram – one of the seven sacred cities in india, tows of thousand temples, visit kailasanatha temple and ekambareshwarar temple and visit silk weaving centre later drive to mahabalipuram check into your hotel rest of the day free on the beach overnight in mahabalipuram.

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## Day 3:- Mahabalipuram

Morning visit dakshinachitra, a museum that preserves actual houses of different communities & village craftsmen from the four southern states of tamil nadu, andhra pradesh, karnataka & kerala later check into your hotel after noon visit shore temple, arjuna's penance - biggest bas relief in the world and leisure walk to five rathas witness the craftsmen making statues in stones overnight in mahabalipuram.

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## Day 4:- Mahabalipuram – Swamimalai

After breakfast, leave for tanjore, enroute visit chidambaram natarajar temple and visit gangaikondacholapuram and darasuram temple which are listed in unesco's world heritage monuments on arrival in tanjore check into your hotel overnight in swamimalai.

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## Day 5:- Tanjore

Early morning witness rangoli (a drawing that is done in front of every house) and after breakfast guided tour of

tanjore visit the brahadeeswara temple which was built by chola king raja raja and is termed as the crowning glory of chola temple architecture, listed in world heritage monuments and also visit the tanjore palace which was constructed in 16th century and has huge corridors, spacious halls, observation and arsenal towers after noon free or enjoy a bullock cart ride to visit the local villages overnight in swamimalai.

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#### **Day 6:- Tanjore – Trichy**

After breakfast, leave for trichy visit amma mandapam – witness the rituals performed by the locals for their ancestors and visit the srirangam temple, superb temple complex is surrounded by seven concentric walls with 21 gopurams and is probably the largest in india, later check into your hotel evening visit rock fort temple - dedicated to lord ganesha and explore the market area around the temple overnight in trichy

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#### **Day 7:- Trichy – Karaikudi**

After breakfast leave for chettinad check into your palace hotel after noon witness the hidden treasures of the chettinad region. Your excursion includes a visit to the chettinad palace, a textile weaving village, a tile making village and an antique's market evening enjoy chettinad cuisine overnight in karaikudi.

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#### **Day 8:- Karaikudi – Madurai**

After breakfast leave for madurai - one of the oldest cities in south india and has been a centre of learning & pilgrimage for centuries check into heritage after noon visit sri meenakshi temple which attracts thousands of pilgrims from all over india and also visit thirumalai nayak palace overnight in madurai.

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#### **Day 9:- Madurai**

Day exploring madurai visiting vandiyur mariamman tank, tiruparamkundram, see the brick making and white peacocks evening attend aarti ceremony at sri meenakshi amman temple overnight in madurai.

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#### **Day 10:- Madurai – Munnar 150kms / 4hrs**

After breakfast leave for munnar, once the summer resort of the erstwhile british government in south india is located at the confluence of 03 rivers as the very name signifies. The sprawling tea plantations and picturesque towns make

munnar a popular hill resort town in south india check into your plantations resort later just walk around the tea plantation accompanied by the resort staff and evening enjoy barbeque, dinner and campfire overnight in munnar.

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#### **Day 11:- Madurai**

Day visiting Eravikulam National Park, Mattupatti dam, Tea Museum, waterfalls, and explore the Tea Plantations that spread as green carpet over the mountains overnight in Munnar.

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#### **Day 12:- Munnar - Kumarakom Houseboat Tour**

After breakfast leave for kumarakom board your houseboat at 12.30pm and cruise into the canals of vembanad lake to witness the traditional kerala village life remind unchanged for many years here your crew will prepare you delicious kerala meal on board overnight in houseboat.

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#### **Day 13:- Alleppey – Cochin 65kms / 1.5hrs**

After breakfast disembark from the houseboat and drive to cochin check into your hotel in fort cochin area evening, witness kathakali dance show – traditional dance of kerala overnight in cochin.

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#### **Day 14:- Cochin**

Morning tour of fort cochin visit the st. Francis church, oldest european church in india built in 1503 by portuguese; chinese fishing nets, traditional way of fishing introduced by the chinese after noon explore the spice markets and jew town overnight in cochin.

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#### **Day 15:- Cochin – Cheruthrothy**

After breakfast leave for cheruthrothy enroute guruvayur visit the elephant camp on arrival in cheruthrothy check into your hotel after noon visit pottery village overnight in cheruthrothy.

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#### **Day 16:- Cheruthrothy – Calicut**

Morning visit the kalamandalam and take the tour of "day with masters" - is a pilgrimage to the most sacred temple of arts, giving a world class experience to the visitors, with a unique menu of presentations that bring out the grandeur of the institution, the programme starts at 9.30am and ends 1.00pm with a traditional lunch at river retreat later drive to calicut enroute visiting beypore - home to asia's biggest wood market and traditional wooden ship making industry. The craftsmen have been making these marakalam (wooden ship in local terms) in beypore since the 18th century and visit tasara weaving centre - centre for creative weaving 'tasara' (weaver's shuttle) translates the lifestyle and flavour of local culture to hand woven fabrics later check into kadavu resort overnight in calicut.



#### **Day 17:- Vythiri 70kms / 2.5hrs**

After breakfast leave for vythiri check into your resort rest of the day free evening enjoy bonfire, music and dinner overnight in vythiri.



#### **Day 18:- Vythiri**

Day visit soochippara waterfalls, soochippara waterfalls is 3 tiered powerful waterfalls situated in the dense equatorial forest of wayanad and visit eddakal caves evening return back to resort overnight in vythiri.



#### **Day 19:- Vythiri – Mysore 200kms / 4.5hrs**

After breakfast leave for mysore check into your hotel after noon visit maharaja palace - built in 1911-12 by wodeyar rulers, the palace is a splendid structure in the indo-saracenic style and chamundi hill where a huge nandi (bull) overlooking the city evening visit the colorful devraja fruit and flower market overnight in mysore.



#### **Day 20:- Mysore**

Day excursion to somnathpur – visit the hoysala temple, the exquisitely carved, star-shaped temple with triple towers is a typical example of hoysala architecture and visit srirangapatnam, island fortress of tipu sultan, the legendary tiger of mysore who put up a valiant fight against british domination evening option to visit silk weaving centre as mysore is known for silk overnight in mysore.

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#### **Day 21:- Mysore – Hassan**

After breakfast drive to hassan enroute visiting shravanbelgola, a prominent jain pilgrimage centre, said to be india's largest monolithic statue on arrival in hassan check into hotel after noon visit belur and halebid. The chennakeshava temple at belur being the finest example of the hoysala architecture it took 103 years to complete, halebid the temples bear mute testimony to the rich, cultural heritage of karnataka, temple, dating back to the 12th century overnight in hassan.

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#### **Day 22:- Hassan - Bangalore 200kms / 4.5hrs**

After breakfast leave for bangalore check into your hotel after noon visit bull temple, vidhan soudha and iskcon temple evening explore mg road, option for shopping overnight in bangalore.

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#### **Day 23:- Depature**

Transfer to Bangalore airport for your flight back home.