



TRAVELLING TO NEW PLACES WITH CONFIDENCE

# Ruins of South India and Goa

## 12-Day, 11-Night Journey

*Bangalore, Mysore, Hassan, Hospet, Badami, Goa*

Step back in time to the ancient Dravidian culture and be mesmerized by beautiful palaces, ancient temples and historic ruins. Then be enchanted by the beaches of Goa and its stunning cathedrals. On this journey you will embrace the kaleidoscopic view of Indian and Portuguese cultures, sweetened with sun, sea, sand, spices and spirituality. This is one unique expedition you won't want to miss!

### ♦ Customizable Private Tour

### Trip Overview (\*UNESCO World Heritage Sites)

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Bangalore City Tour</li> <li>▶ Vidhana Soudha<br/>(Colossal Neo-Dravidian style government building)</li> <li>▶ Cubbon Park</li> <li>▶ Tipu Sultan's Summer Palace</li> <li>▶ Lalbagh Botanical Garden</li> <li>▶ Mysore City Tour</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Mysore Palace</li> <li>▶ Somanathapura Temple</li> <li>▶ Sri Chamundeswari Temple (Nandi Bull)</li> <li>▶ Brindavan Gardens</li> <li>▶ Gomateshwara Statue</li> <li>▶ Channekeshava Temple</li> <li>▶ Hoyasleswara Temple</li> <li>▶ <b>Hampi Monument</b></li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Group*</b></li> <li>▶ <b>Evolution of Temple Architecture*</b></li> <li>▶ <b>Aihole*</b> (stone temples)</li> <li>▶ <b>Badami*</b> (cave temples)</li> <li>▶ <b>Pattadakal*</b> (temples with stone carvings)</li> <li>▶ <b>Goa City Tour*</b></li> <li>▶ Goa Beaches</li> </ul> |
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# Why You'll Love This Tour



## ONE OF INDIA'S GRANDEST ROYAL BUILDINGS

Mysore Palace is the second-most-visited sight in India after the Taj Mahal. This over the top palace for the previous Wodeyar maharajas is full of stained glass, mirrors, mosaic floors and paintings telling the life stories during the time of the Raj.



## FANTASY WORLD OF ANCIENT RUINS AND CARVINGS

Ancient temples from 11<sup>th</sup> century like the grandiose group of monuments at the Hampi UNESCO World Heritage Site and the Evolution of Temple Architecture in Aihole, Badami, & Pattadakal.



## CHARMING GOA

Another UNESCO World Heritage Site is the old colonial quarter and historic churches in the previous capital of Portuguese India. And don't forget Goa's most popular beach named Palolem where white sand and lots of coconut palms make for memorable photos!

## Inclusions

- ▶ Airport Transfers, Meet and Greet
- ▶ Hotel Accommodations
- ▶ Daily Breakfast & Selected Meals  
(See tour plan for details)
- ▶ English-speaking Local Guide
- ▶ Entrance Fees to Monuments and Attractions per Itinerary

## Exclusions

- ▶ Air Fare
- ▶ Travel Insurance
- ▶ Medical Expenses
- ▶ Visa Fee
- ▶ Gratuity
- ▶ Personal Expenses

## Nearby Airports

Bangalore - Kempegowda International (BLR)

Goa - Dabolim Airport (GOI)

# Itinerary

(B)-Breakfast, (L)-Lunch, (D)-Dinner

## DAY 1: MEET UP AT BANGALORE (BLR)

Upon arrival at **Bangalore's** Kempegowda International Airport (BLR), you'll be met and transferred to your hotel. The remainder of the day is free. Bangalore is also known as Bengaluru.



## DAY 2: BANGALORE - MYSORE | CITY TOUR (B)

A half-day sightseeing tour of Bangalore that is also known as the Garden City of India. Visit **Vidhana Soudha** (state government office), **Cubbon Park**, **Tipu Sultan's Summer Palace**, **Lalbagh Botanical Garden**.

Drive to Mysore, en route visit the fort town of **Srirangapatnam**.

## DAY 3: MYSORE | CITY TOUR (B)

**Mysore** is one of South India's most enchanting cities, famed for its glittering royal heritage and magnificent monuments and buildings. It is also famous for its silk and the city is rich in tradition with a deeply atmospheric bazaar district littered with spice stores and incense stalls.

Excursion to **Somanathapura temple**, a star-shaped temple of Hoysala architecture.

In the afternoon, visit **Mysore Palace** (home of the Wodeyar Maharaja who ruled Mysore for more than seven centuries).

**Nandi Bull statue** in **Sri Chamundeswari Temple**, Chamundi Hill that was carved out of solid rock and is the third largest statue of Nandi in India. Inhale the fresh air among the orchards and water fountains in **Brindavan Gardens**.

## DAY 4: MYSORE - HASSAN | CITY TOUR (B)

Visit **Gommateshwara Statue**, a 57 foot (17 m) high monolithic statue located in a Jain temple on Vindhyagiri Hill in Shravanbelagola. We then drive to **Hassan**.

## DAY 5: HASSAN - HOSPET | CITY TOUR (B)

Excursion to **Channekeshava Temple** in Belur and **Hoyasleswara Temple** in Halebid.

Drive to **Hospet**.

## **DAY 6: HOSPET | RUINS OF HAMPI (B)**

**Hampi** was once the beautiful capital city of the Vijaynagar Empire. The magnificent ruins (a UNESCO World Heritage Site) consists of heaps of giant boulders perch precariously over miles of undulating terrain. Their rusty hues offset by jade green palm groves, banana plantations and paddy fields. Today we will explore the ruins and the famous temples.

## **DAY 7: HOSPET - BADAMI | AIHOLE, PATTADAKAL (B)**

After hotel check out, drive to **Badami**. En route we visit Pattadakal and Aihole.

Visit **Pattadakal** (a UNESCO World Heritage Site) to see the delicately chiseled sculptures and impressive carvings on pillars and ceilings. **Aihole** is the cradle of stone temples with the Dravidan style of architecture. The oldest temple Lad Khan goes back to the 5th century AD. There are 100 temples. The interiors of the Durga Temple houses intricate stone carvings that are most inspiring.

## **DAY 8: BADAMI | CITY TOUR (B)**

**Badami** was the capital of the once mighty Chalukya Empire. Now it is famous for its magnificent rock-cut cave temples, and red-sandstone cliffs.

## **DAY 9: BADAMI - GOA (B)**

Let's drive to the fabulous beach town of **Goa**. A kaleidoscopic blend of Indian and Portuguese cultures, sweetened with sun, sea, sand, seafood and spirituality. Nowhere in India is quite like Goa.

After arrival, relax on the virtually uninterrupted string of golden sand beaches.

## **DAY 10: GOA | TOUR OF GOA (B)**

Goa stands out in India for its Portuguese colonial architecture and heritage. The Portuguese arrived in Goa in 1510, lured by the exotic East and the promise of lucrative spice routes. Their indelible mark is still evident in the state's baroque architecture, whitewashed churches, crumbling forts, colorful Catholic ceremonies, mournful fado music and the stunning cathedrals of Old Goa.

Today, we will tour **Old Goa** and the **St Francis Church**.

## **DAY 11: GOA | RELAX (B)**

A free day to be a beach bum. Admire the shimmering sandy beaches along the Arabian Sea. You can explore the many beaches or just relax and unwind in the comfortable resort.

## DAY 12: DEPART GOA (GOI) (B)

The tour comes to an end after breakfast. Hotel check-out and transfer to **Dabolim airport** in Goa for your flight home.

## Hotels

We carefully handpick our hotels to ensure they provide you with the best comfort and experience. For Private Tours, you may request a specific hotel as one of the customizable options.

