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# **Historical South**

## **DAY01 ARRIVE AT MUMBAI**

On arrival at Mumbai Airport, meet and transfer to hotel for 2 nights' stay. A melting pot of cultures, Mumbai is a city where modern skyscrapers stand alongside Victorian Gothic buildings. Afternoon, proceed for a city sightseeing tour including the Prince of Wales Museum(Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vasthu Sangrahalaya), the Jahangir Art Gallery, the Mahalaxmi Temple, Juhu beach, the Hanging Gardens and the Crawford Market. Overnight stay at Mumbai.



## **DAY 02 MUMBAI**

Morning, enjoy a boat cruise to the Elephanta Caves. Rest of the day, free to relax at the hotel. Overnight stay at Mumbai.

# **DAY03 MUMBAI-AURANGABAD**

After early breakfast, transfer to Mumbai Domestic Airport for your flight to Aurangabad. On arrival, meet and transfer to hotel for 03 nights' stay. Rest of the day, free to relax. Overnight stay at Aurangabad.

#### **DAY04 AURANGABAD**



After breakfast, full-day sightseeing trip to Ajantha Caves. Nestling in the inner fold of the Sahyadri Hilts, 100 km from Aurangabad, are the 30 rock-hewn caves of Ajantha dated from the 2nd century.

Ajantha was once the retreat of Buddhist monasteries and the exquisite wall and ceiling paintings, as well as the panels and sculptures of Buddha's life are famous throughout the world as the earliest and finest examples of Buddhist pictorial art. Overnight stay at Aurangabad.

# **DAY05 AURANGABAD**

After breakfast, get ready to enjoy a visit to Ellora Caves. The World Heritage-listed cave temples of Ellora, located 30 km away from Aurangabad, are the pinnacles of Deccan rock cut architecture. In all, there are 34 cave temples. The master piece of Ellora is the astonishing Kailasa Temple, which has the world's largest monolithic sculpture. In the evening return to your hotel. Rest of the day you are at leisure. Over night stay at Aurangabad.



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#### **DAY06 AURANGABAD-BIJAPUR**

After an early breakfast, proceed to Bijapur. Bijapur has the feel of a North Indian Muslim city with its array of mausoleums, mosques and Mughal palaces. On arrival, check into hotel for 02 nights'stay. Evening, explore the nearby places. Overnight stay at Bijapur.

## **DAY07 BIJAPUR**

Bijapur was a part of the kingdom of the erstwhile Chalukyas of Badami till the end of the 12th century and later came under the rule of Bamani Sultans. After breakfast, go for sightseeing including Gol Gumbaz, the second largest dome in the world; Citadel, which contains the ruins of the palaces and durbar halls of the Adil Shah dynasty. Also visit Jama Masjid and Ibrahim Rauza. Overnight stay at Bijapur.

## **DAY 08 BIJAPUR - BADAMI**

After breakfast, drive to Badami, picturesquely situated at the mouth of a ravine between two rocky hills. Badami is famous for its cave temples-all hewn out of sand stone on the rock face of a hill. On arrival at Badami, check into hotel for 02 nights stay. Later, explore the Badami Caves. Over night stay at Badami.

#### **DAY09 BADAMI**

After breakfast, proceed for a day tour to Aihole and Pattadakkal. Aihole was the ancient capital of Chalukyas. Known as the cradle of Indian Architecture, Aihole has over a hundred temples, built between the 6th and 8th centuries. Situated on the left bank of the Malaprabha River, Pattadakkal is a World Heritage Centre. The town has 10 major temples representing early Chalukyan architecture. In the evening return back to hotel for over night stay at Badami.



# **DAY10 BADAMI-HOSPET**

After breakfast, drive to Hospet, the satellite town built during the reign of Krishnadevaraya. This is a typical country town of Karnataka and is frequented by visitors to the Vijayanagar ruins. On arrival, check into hotel for 02 nights' stay. Rest of the day, free to relax. Overnight stay at Hospet.



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#### **DAY11 HOSPET-HAMPI-HOSPET**

Morning proceed for a full day excursion to Hampi to visit the ruins and temples. Once the flourishing capital of the Vijayanagar Empire, Hampi was abundant in wealth, military powers and culture. The Pampati Swami Temple, the Queen's Bath, the Lotus Mahal, the King's Balance and the musical pillars of the Vittala Temple evoke memories of bygone splendour

Other main attractions here are the temple complex of Lord Virupaksha, Ugra Narasimha, Matanga Hill and the Vittala Temple Complex. In the evening return to your Hotel in Hospet for over night stay.

## **DAY 12 HOSPET-HASSAN**

After breakfast, drive to Hassan. On arrival, check into hotel for 02 nights. Hassan is a picturesque town in the heart of this Hill country and has a pleasant climate. Rest of the day you are free to move around the resort for own activities. Over night stay at Hassan.

#### **DAY13 HASSAN**

Morning, proceed for a day visit to Belur and Halebid. Belur, 34 km from Hassan is known as Dakshina Varanasi or Banaras of the South. The serenity of Belur is attributed to the celebrated temple of Chennakeshava belonging to 1117 AD. Halebid has several strikingly beautiful Hoysala temples and Jain shrines. Evening, back to hotel for overnight stay.

#### **DAY 14 HASSAN-MYSORE**

After breakfast, proceed to Mysore. En route, visit Shravanabelagola. This was the legendary pilgrim centre and shrine of the Jains since early times. On arrival at Mysore, check into hotel for 02 nights' stay. Afternoon, visit the Durga Temple and the statue of Nandi bull on Chamundi Hills. Also visit the Mysore Maharaja's Palace, which is one of the biggest in India. Overnight stay at Mysore



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#### **DAY 15 MYSORE**



The capital of a former princely state, Mysore is a city of palaces and gardens and is famous for its silk, sandalwood and jasmine. Morning, visit Summer Palace of Tipu Sultan, Srirangapatnam and Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary. Also enjoy an excursion to Somnathpur to see the HoysalaTemple.Overnight stay at Mysore.

## **DAY 16 MYSORE-BANGALORE**

After breakfast, proceed to Bangalore by road. Check into hotel for 02 nights. The capital of Karnataka, Bangalore, often referred to as the 'Garden City', is known for its numerous parks and avenues. Afternoon, sightseeing tour of Bangalore including Tipu Sultan's Palace, Bull Temple, Lalbaqh Gardens, Cubbon Park & Museum and Vidhana Soudha - which houses both the State Legislature and the Secretariat. Overnight stay at Bangalore

# **DAY 17 BANGALORE**

After breakfast, enjoy a full day excursion to the Kolar Gold Mines. 95 km east of Bangalore, the mines of Kolar are the major gold producers in India. The Champion Reef Gold Mine is said to be the deepest working mine in the world with a depth of 9,950 feet. Later, return backto hotel for overnight stay.

## **DAY 18 BANGALORE-COCHIN-KUMARAKOM**

Morning, transfer to Bangalore Airport to board an early flight to Cochin. On arrival, you will be driven to the old part of Cochin for sightseeing, which will include Jewish Synagogue, Dutch Palace, St Francis Church and Chinese fishing nets. Later, proceed to Kumarakom and board the Houseboat for a 02-night cruise towards Alleppey, along the magical network of backwaters. Overnight stay in Houseboat.

# **DAY 19 KUMARAKOM-ALLEPPEY (BACKWATERS)**

Alleppey has large networks of canals and is the centre for backwater cruises in the



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state. During the cruise, you can stop, for short walks through the nearby villages enjoying local life. Meals will be served on board. Overnight stay in Houseboat.

# **DAY 20 ALLEPPEY-MARARI**

After a relaxing breakfast on board, disembark from the Houseboat at Alleppey. Later proceed to Mararikulam. Check into the Beach Resort for 02 nights. Rest of the day, free to relax at the beach. Overnight stay at Marari.

## **DAY 21 MARARI**

Full day at leisure or for own activities. You can enjoy the beach or can opt for an Ayurvedic Massage at the resort. Overnight stay at Marari.

## **DAY 22 MARARI-COCHIN**

Morning, transfer to Cochin International Airport to board flight back home.