

SOUTH INDIAN EXPLORER - 15 Days / 14 Nights

Tour Code
GITC/IB/004

From USD 1301 onwards

CHENNAI MAHABALIPURAM KANCHEEPURAM PONDICHERRY TANJAVUR TRICHY MADURAI KANYAKUMARI KOVALAM ALLEPPEY COCHIN							
CATEGORY	PERIOD	MEAL PLAN	PRICE PER PERSON			MIN. PAX	FROM - TO
			1/2 DBL	SGL SUPPL	1/3 TPL		
Superior	04/01/06 - 09/30/06	BB	1301	329	997	02	Chennai - Cochin
Superior	10/01/06 - 12/15/06 01/16/07 - 03/31/07	BB	1390	517	1072	02	Chennai - Cochin
Superior	12/16/06 - 01/15/07	BB	1462	533	1122	02	Chennai - Cochin
Deluxe	04/01/06 - 09/30/06	BB	1604	623	1284	02	Chennai - Cochin
Deluxe	10/01/06 - 12/15/06 01/16/07 - 03/31/07	BB	2000	840	1616	02	Chennai - Cochin
Deluxe	12/16/06 - 01/15/07	BB	2535	1208	2125	02	Chennai - Cochin

DAY 01 : CHENNAI

Arrival at Chennai. You will be greeted and assisted at the Airport by GITC representative and transferred to the hotel for 01 night. Rest of the day at leisure.

DAY 02 : CHENNAI - MAHABALIPURAM
[58 kms/ 1 ½ hrs]

Breakfast. Check out and drive to Mahabalipuram. This 7th century town is famous for its rock-hewn temple, sculptures and the world's largest stone bas-relief. Check in at hotel for 02 nights. Sightseeing of Mahabalipuram covering Arjuna's Penance, Krishna Mandapam, Varaha Mandapam, Mahishasurmardini Caves, Five Rathas and Shore temple. Rest of the day at leisure.

DAY 03 : MAHABALIPURAM - KANCHEEPURAM - MAHABALIPURAM

Breakfast. Half-day sightseeing tour of Kancheepuram - the city of 1000 temples and one of the 7 most sacred pilgrim centres of the Hindus. Visit the famous temples of Kancheepuram viz., Kailasnatha temple, Ekambaranatha temple, Varadaraja Perumal temple and have a glimpse of the thriving handloom industry here.

DAY 04 : MAHABALIPURAM - PONDICHERRY [115 kms/ 3 hrs]

Breakfast. Check out and drive to Pondicherry - a former French colony. Check in at hotel for 01 night. Afternoon, sightseeing tour of Pondicherry covering the township of Auroville & Aurobindo Ashram.

DAY 05 : PONDICHERRY - TANJAVUR [160 kms/ 5 hrs]

Breakfast. Check out and drive to Tanjavur - the home of Carnatic music, musical instruments, dance and traditional handicrafts. En route visit Chidambaram which is famous for the temple of the cosmic dancer - Shiva and Darasuram Temple. Check in at hotel for 01 night. Later, visit Brahadeeswarar temple, palace and the world famous Tanjavur paintings.

DAY 06 : TANJAVUR - TRICHY
[55 kms/ 1 ½ hrs]

Breakfast. Check out and drive to Trichy. The famous landmark of this town is the Rockfort Temple. Check in at hotel for 01 night. Afternoon sightseeing of Trichy covering Rockfort & Srirangam.

DAY 07 : TRICHY - MADURAI
[129 kms/ 3 hrs]

Breakfast. Check out and drive to Madurai - one of India's most ancient cities. Main attraction here is the Meenakshi Temple, with its towering gopurams and rare sculptures. Check in at hotel for 02 nights. Rest of the day at leisure.

DAY 08 : MADURAI

Breakfast. Later, sightseeing of the city covering Meenakshi temple, Thirumalai Naicker Palace & Gandhi Museum. Evening, watch the pooja ceremony in Meenakshi Temple.

DAY 09 : MADURAI - KANYAKUMARI [253 kms/ 6 hrs]

Breakfast. Check out and drive to Kanyakumari, the southernmost tip of India which is a confluence of 3 Oceans, the Arabian Ocean, Bay of Bengal & Indian Ocean. Check in at hotel for 01 night. Do the sightseeing of Kanyakumari covering Gandhi Museum, Vivekananda Rock Memorial and Kumari Devi Temple. Evening

watch the marvelous sunset.

DAY 10 : KANYAKUMARI - KOVALAM [100 kms/ 3 hrs]

Breakfast. Check out and drive to Kovalam. En route visit Sucheendram Temple and Padmanabhapuram Palace. Check in at a beach hotel for 03 nights. Rest of the day at leisure. (Padmanabhapuram Palace is closed on Mondays.)

DAY 11 : KOVALAM

Breakfast. Kovalam, the world renowned, calm, blue and sunny beach of Kerala is an ideal place for seaside holiday. The leisure options here are plenty & diverse viz., sunbathing, swimming, ayurvedic herbal body toning massage, catamaran cruising etc. Full day at leisure.

DAY 12 : KOVALAM

Breakfast. Afternoon sightseeing of Trivandrum covering Padmanabhaswamy temple (non Hindus are not permitted inside), Horse Palace - the magnificent wooden Palace & Napier Museum. (This tour is not operated on Mondays since the monuments here are closed.)

DAY 13 : KOVALAM - ALLEPPEY
[176 kms/ 4 hrs]

Breakfast. Check out and drive to Alleppey. Embark on a Houseboat for a 22 hour Alleppey round cruise through the scenic backwaters of Kerala. Cruise is till 6 in the evening and then the houseboat halts in the lake for overnight stay. Evening, candle lit dinner onboard.

DAY 14 : ALLEPPEY - COCHIN
[64 kms/ 2 hrs]

Breakfast. Disembark at Alleppey and drive to Cochin. Cochin, the 'Queen of Arabian Sea' is one of the most interesting cities of India and has one of the finest natural harbours in the world. Check in at hotel for 01 night. Afternoon sightseeing of Fort Cochin covering St. Francis Church, Jewish Synagogue, Dutch Palace & Chinese Fishing Nets. Evening, watch the spectacular Kathakali dance in a local theatre.

DAY 15 : COCHIN

On time transfer to Cochin Airport to connect flight for onward destination.

Tour Concludes!



Approved by Government of India, Department of Tourism



Map not to scale

INCLUSIONS: 13 nights accommodation in double room on twin sharing basis on BB plan. Overnight houseboat cruise on FB plan. All transfers, sightseeing and excursions as per the itinerary in A/C medium car. Service of a local English speaking guide wherever applicable. Kathakali ticket. Entrance tickets. Arrival & departure assistance. All currently applicable taxes (any Govt. or State taxes subsequently introduced will be extra). EXCLUSIONS: Expenses of personal nature such as hard/soft drinks, still/video camera fees at monuments, laundry, phone/fax, tips & gratuities and travel insurance. Flight tickets. Any increase in fuel costs. Any other item not mentioned in the above clause "inclusions". Xmas and New Year eve supplement.