



# Indian *expeditions*

Discover our world, your way.



## **Comprehensive South India**

*21 days / 20 Nights starting from only \$3999 per person*

*Only ten travellers per group.*

*Escorted by Expert Cultural Custodians, not merely guides.*

This tour of India immerses you into all of South India. A comprehensive tour of the region, we will explore ancient monuments, safari in to the fabled jungles of Nilgiris Biosphere reserve to spot mega fauna including Tigers, Leopards, elephants, relax in some on the top leisure destinations in the world in Kerala. A truly immersive and experiential tour, you will interact with locals, walk farms with rural farmers, learn to cook in local houses. This tour, indeed, has it all and will prove to be an experience you will never ever forget!

## What is included

- *Accommodation in 5 star hotels and resorts .*
- *Daily breakfasts, a welcome dinner and farewell lunch.*
- *All meals in Mudumalai and Kabini.*
- *Modern, air-conditioned coaches throughout.*
- *Services of an experienced and expert local Tour Manager throughout.*
- *All entrance fees where applicable.*
- *1 wildlife Safari in Bandipur, 2 wildlife safaris in Kabini*
- *Pick up and drop from airport.*

Day 1 Chennai – Arrive at any time. You'll be picked up from the airport and dropped at your hotel.

[Taj Club House, Chennai](#)

Day 2 Chennai – Chennai, formerly known as Madras, is today the 4<sup>th</sup> largest city in India. It was here that the British, in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, gained a firm footing which enabled them to conquer and rule India and much of South East Asia. We will start tour of South India by visiting Fort St George – the first British fort in India. We will then explore at leisure the rest of Chennai, including the Egmore Museum which houses the finest collection of India artefacts from the 5<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> century.

[Taj Club House, Chennai](#)

Day 3 Mahabalipuram

Mahabalipuram was an ancient port, known to even the ancient Romans. Today, it's an UNESCO designated world heritage site, and houses some of South India's greatest rock cut temples and reliefs. Onwards to Pondicherry.

[Taj Club House, Chennai](#)

Day 4 Pondicherry

The French Riviera of east, Pondicherry is simply fascinating with a old world French charm everywhere. We spend the morning exploring the city and head to Kumbakonnam

[Maison Perumal, Pondicherry](#)

Day 5 & 6

Kumbakonnam and Tanjavur

Idyllic rice plantations, tall coconut trees gently swaying in the breeze – and ancient temples everywhere! The rice belt of the South, Kumbakonnam and Tanjavur are home to some of India's greatest and oldest temples with rituals that are in constant practice since the classical age, from 2500 BC! We will explore some of the regions most mighty and striking temples and dwell into ancient Indian art and architecture.

[Mantra koodam, Kumbakonnam](#)



Day 7

Madurai

Madurai is one of the world's oldest cities and is home to the magnificent Madurai Meekankshi Temple. After visiting the temple, we will stroll through Madurai's bazaars – something you will never forget!

[\*The Heritage, Madurai\*](#)

Day 8

Thekkady

Thekkady is where the Periyar Tiger Reserve is, one of India's most important Tiger and elephant reserves. We will embark on a boat safari on the stunning Periyar Lake, and hope to spot Deers, Elephants, Leopards and Tigers. Afterward, we visit the home of a local family for a cooking demonstration and a delicious, spice-filled lunch. Relax in the afternoon, or opt to take a nature walk before heading to a local theatre for a performance of a kalaripayattu, an ancient Kerala martial art.

[\*Spice Village, Thekkady\*](#)

Day 9

Munnar

Up to the fabled tea estates of South India today! A drive through the mountains will have us in Munnar, an area known for its misty mountains, fabulous tea and trekking trails. Those of you are adventurous can head out on a trek that fits you best – easy to hard! Munnar is also an important birding area in South India. We will visit tea factories and spice gardens.

[\*Elephant Passage, Munnar\*](#)

Day 10

Kumarakom

Kumarakom is where the Vembanad lake – one of India's largest fresh water lake is. Explore the Vembanad lake and its canals on a house boat and go birdwatching in one of India's most important bird sanctuaries. A day of leisurely exploration among a rural, palm lined backwaters.

[\*Coconut Lagoon, Kumarakom\*](#)

Day 11

Allepey

Head over to Allepey, which has been rated as one of the top destinations in the world. Spend a leisurely day at beach, sipping Toddy – a local mildly alcoholic drink made from palm sap.

[\*Coconut Lagoon, Kumarakom\*](#)

Day 12

Cochin

Explore Kochi, an enchanting port city on the Malabar Coast and the site of the earliest European settlement in India. Visit Mattancherry Palace—built in the mid-16th century by Portuguese colonists

and expanded later on by the Dutch—and venture to the colourful streets of the Jewish Quarter, where antique shops and cafés abound. Visit some of India’s oldest churches.

[Eighth Bastion, Kochi](#)

Day 13 and 14

Mudumalai Tiger Reserve

Head out to the wilderness to South India’s most acclaimed tiger reserves – Nagarhole and Mudumalai. Check in Jungle Hut, one of South India’s finest wilderness resorts. Go birdwatching in the morning, and hop on a private safari in to the jungles in the afternoon. Relax by the bon fire or by the swimming pool in the wild.

[Jungle Hut, Masinaqudi](#)



Day 15

Kabini

We now head out to one of the top wilderness resorts in the world – Jungle Lodges, Kabini. Jungle Lodges was the hunting lodge of the Mysore Maharajas and is today one India’s top sought after wildlife resorts. This area has the highest chance of spotting Tigers in South India and we will Safari twice – once in the afternoon and once in the morning into the deep core jungles of the Nagarhole tiger Reserve.

[Jungle Lodges, Kabini](#)

Day 16

Chikmangaluru

We visit the fabled temples of Hasan – some of the finest and most intricate temples in South India and onwards to Chikmangaluru – an important coffee region of the South

[Gateway, Chikmangaluru](#)

Day 17 and 18

Badami and Aihole

The caves Badami and cluster of monuments in Aihole are one of India's oldest and most splendid monuments and also one of India's earliest cities. Early temple art and architecture was perfected in this region and went on to become the template for temples till today.

*Chikmangaluru*

Day 19 and 20

We finally reach and unwind in Goa – India's most laid back and fun loving regions. We will explore ancient churches, the Portuguese heritage and history, and visit some of Goa's most scenic beaches.

[The Lalit Golf And Spa Resort, Cancuna](#)

Day 21

Depart, Drop off Dabolim international Airport, Goa.

## Dates and Prices

Sept 08 - Sept 28, 2024 - \$3999 PP	Jan 12 - Feb 01, 2025 - \$4599 PP
Oct 06 - Oct 26, 2024 - \$4299 PP	Feb 02 - Feb 22, 2025 - \$4799 PP
Nov 03 - Nov 23, 2024 - \$4699 PP	Mar 02 - Mar 22, 2025 - \$4999 PP
Dec 02 - Dec 22, 2024 - \$4899 PP	

Prices are per person, double occupancy for the itinerary as published for 2024 & 2025 travel, and subject to availability.

International air not included.