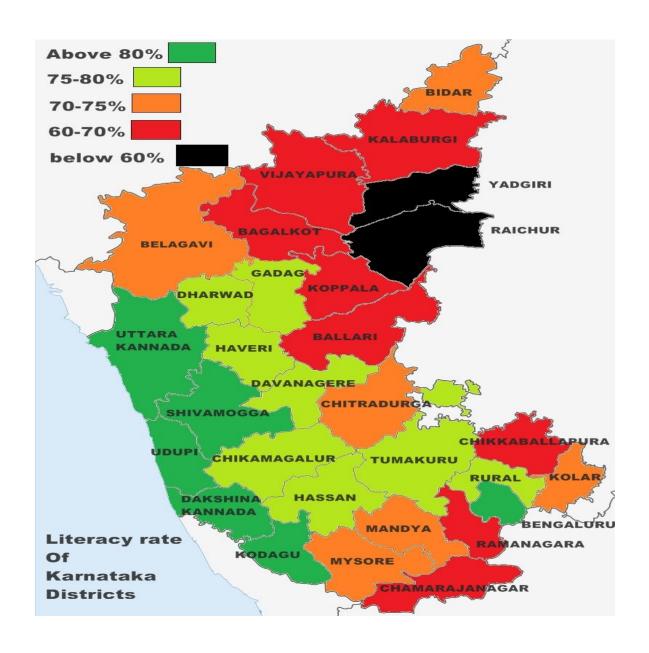


KARNATAKA TEMPLES Make my plan
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Temples to be visited in Karnataka ...



1. Kollur Mookambika



Located in Kollur which is at a distance of 130 km from Managaluru or Mangalore, the Mookambika temple is one of the most famous temples in India. The temple is built among the hills of Kodachadri in the western ghats. It is believed that the temple was built at least 1200 years ago. The legend behind the temple is that goddess Parvati killed a demon named Kamasura who was harassing the people of the region. The goddess first made him dumb or mooka, but as he would not relent even then, the demon was killed. The people started worshiping the goddess at the spot, and eventually a temple was built here. The best time to visit the temple is during the Navar.

2. Udupi Srikrishna Temple



Udupi Srikrishna temple is famous for its unique Krishna idol which has its back to the entrance. Hence, the deity cannot be seen from the front entrance but from the back door and through a window. It is said that Kanakadasa, an ardent devotee of Krishna, was denied entry to the temple owing to his caste. So, he would stand at the back of the temple and pray fervently to the lord Sri Krishna.

3. Dharmasthala Manjunatha Temple



Dharmasthala Manjunatha temple is situated on the banks of Netravati River and is one of the most famous temples in Karnataka. It is also a unique temple as along with the temple deity, lord Shiva, a Jain Theerthankara is also worshiped at the temple. The temple management has people from different walks of life. On a daily basis, more than 10, 000 people visit the temple. Devotees are served free food at the temple complex. The annual festival of the temple, called as the Lakshadeepa festival, is held either in November or December and is visited by devotees from all over the world.

4. Gokarna Mahableshwar Temple



Gokarna is a renowned pilgrimage centre located in North Kannada district and a popular tourist destination with beautiful beaches and other scenic spots. The Mahableshwar temple is dedicated to lord Shiva but there is also a Ganapathy temple. The temple is famous as the Kashi of the South or Dakshina Kashi. The legend behind the temple is that once Ravana, after severe penance got Atmalinga from lord Shiva who told him that he should not keep it anywhere down as it would get fixed there. Lord Ganpathy tricked him into doing so and the spot where the Shivalinga was kept is where the temple came up. The temple is believed to have great powers.

5. Murudeshwara Temple



The main attraction of the Murudeshwara temple is the huge Shiva idol which can be seen even from far away. It is the second tallest statue of lord Shiva in the world. Located on the Kanduka hill, on the beach of Arabian sea, it comprises a huge tower of 20 storeys. Devotees can climb up the tower after buying a ticket of Rs.10 and get an amazing view of the surroundings. The temple offers a serene atmosphere to pray to lord Shiva