****

**#88,3rd main,K.E.B Layout,B.T.M.1st stage**

**Bangalore-560029, Mob-9845073318,Ph.No-080-26684749, E-mail-avtours2009@yahoo.com/avleisure2011@yahoo.com**

**Web-www.avtours.in**

**ANYTIME, ANYWHERE, YOUR WAY…**

**BELUR, HALEBIDU AND SHRAVANABELAGOLA.**

**TENTATIVE ITINERARY:**

* Departure from school @ 6 am.
* En route breakfast.
* Visit Shravanabelagola Gommateshwara statue.
* Visit Hoysaleshwara temple @ Halebidu.
* Lunch.
* Drive to Belur, visit Chennakeshava temple & departure by 4 pm.
* Arrive @ school around 10 pm.
* **Shravanabelagola:** It is one of the most popular Jain pilgrimage center in South India famous for the Bahubali Statue which is supposed to be **the tallest monolithic stone statue in the world** with a height of **58** **feet** carved out of a **single block of granite.** The Gomateswara temple is built on top of a hill at an **altitude of 3347 feet,** called as Vindhyagiri hill (also known as Doddabetta or Indragiri). About **620 steps** provide access to this temple from bottom of the hill. The nude statue of Bahubali is carved carefully with much perfection during the 982 and 983 CE.
* **Halebidu:**  Halebidu used to be called as Dorasamudra or Dwarasamudra. **The city** got the name "Halebidu" because it **was ransacked two times** during the invasion of **Malik Kafur.** The temple complex comprises **two Hindu temples, the Hoysaleswara and Kedareswara temples,** one for the King and one for the queen. It has about **thousand figures on the walls** which depict **scenes of Mahabharata and Ramayana.** It reflects the Hoysala architecture and was built in soapstone. There are more than **240 images** in the temple and no other temple has these many intricate sculptures. **This temple has been listed as a heritage site by the UNESCO.**
* **Belur:**  Belur is located in Hassan district and the **main attraction** is the **Chennakeshava temple**. According to inscriptions discovered here, it was also referred to as Velapuri. It is said that **Shantaladevi, the queen** of king vishnuvardhana herself **danced in front of the main shrine** during its installation and her dance inspired the poses of the figurines on the temple walls.  **Legend has it that it took 103 years to complete to this temple.**