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Tamil Nadu

One of the southernmost states of the Indian peninsula, Tamil Nadu is a treasure house of natural resources, various art forms and magnificent Dravidian temple architecture. It contains numerous hill stations, beaches, temples, of which eight are UNESCO World Heritage sites.

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Famous For : State / Provinc

Tamil Nadu holds the title of being the most urbanised state of India and happens to be the 2nd thrgest contributor to the country's GDP

. Home to the Tamils since 500 BCE, Tamil Nadu has a very rich historical heritage. This state has one of the longest continuous habitations in India, dating back to the Neanderthal period. Majorly a Hindu dominated state, Tamil Nadu also has a significant percent of population following Christianity, Islam and Jainism. One can find the largest Hindu temples in the world here, eg. Srirangam Ranganathanswamy temple and Madurai Meenakshi Amman temple.

As far as the Biodiversity is concerned, around 2000 species of wildlife are indigenous to this region, and 1/3 of the total flora of India can be found here, the Palmyra tree being the official tree of the state. An amazing variety of different biomes (from beaches, eastuaries, scrub forests to coral reefs, marshes, deciduous

forests and rain forests), contribute to the biodiversity. The temperature usually ranges from semi arid to sub humid.

Pongal, a four day harvest festival, is the main festival celebrated here. The Carnatic music, Villuppattu, Bharatnatyam, Karakettam, and many other art forms make up a colourful potpourri of cultural richness to the state. Tamil Nadu is also home to the second largest film industry (Kollywood) in the country, after Bollywood. The popular Indian sport Kabaddi is known to be originated here. The Chettinad cuisine is especially famous for its spicyness and Ambur region in Tamil Nadu is quite popular for Biryani. The Nilgiri Mountain Railway, the Chola temples, Mahabalipuram are some of the UNESCO World Heritage sites, worth visiting.



Triplicane, Chennai, Tamil Nadu
600005, India

World's second largest urban beach and the country's largest, Marina Beach is a popular hangout of humans and sea-animals alike in Chennai. While swimming or taking a dip in the sea is not possible at Marina beach, it is legally prohibited, there are a range of activities to indulge in at the beach if the distant horizon with huge waves crashing around don't have you spellbound for hours on end. An endless sandy expanse stretching from Fort George to Besant Nagar, while Marina beach is possibly one of the cleanest you will come across in India, it has lost much of its glory, beauty and natural heritage over the years to pollution. It has been the focus of much conservation efforts and cleanliness drives in recent years.

There are a number of food stalls and different sorts of shops crowding the beach with the Triumph of Labor and Gandhiji's march to Dandi statue towering in the skyline along with statues of many notable figures of Tamil literature and the MGR Samadhi. While there are a number of joyrides run on the beach, kite flying and pony rides are popular activities out here. Beach cricket was banned out here some years back as it was quite an inconvenience strolling the beach with cricket balls flying at you from all directions. There's a 34 ft artificial waterfall on one part of the beach.

What To
SEE



5 Sights

<http://www.ixigo.com/places-to-visit-see-in-tamil-nadu-lp-1273340>

1 Marina Beach



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Yet another attraction at the beach is the Marina Beach Aquarium, country's first aquarium built in 1909, that houses rare species of tropical and fresh water fishes.

2 Kapaleeshwar Temple



12, North Mada Street, Mylapore, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600004, India

Steeped in mythology and ancient to the core, the Kapaleeshwar Temple is popularly believed to have been built in 7th century CE by the Pallavas. However, architectural markers of the temple point to a more recent origin that dates 300-400 years back. While its date of origin may be a point of debate but the temple's beauty and architectural splendour is indisputable. A glorious example of the Dravidian style of architecture, Kapaleeshwar temple gopuram is a 120 feet towering beauty that leaves you mesmerised. Dedicated to Lord Shiva and Goddess Karpagambal, a form of Goddess Parvati translating to Goddess of the Wish Yielding Tree. Around 1.5 kilometers away

from the coastline, inscriptions inside the temple date back to the 12th century. While the temple is thronged by devotees daily, the crowd reaches a frenzy during the festivals of Panguni Peruvizha (mid March to mid April), Brahmotsavam and Arupathimooar. The temple has been immortalized in the poetry of Tevaram, the twelve volume Tamil Saivite devotional poetry where the sixth volume waxes eloquent about the temple.

3 Fort St. George



Rajaji Salai, Fort St. George, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600009, India.

Fort St. George is functional since 31st January 1948. Built in 1975, this fort is the first building to be made by the British. It is also said that it is around this fort or building that the whole Chennai city evolved. St. Mary's church which is also the former Anglican church of India is housed inside this fort. Apart from

the Church, the fort houses the St. George Fort Museum, a Flag Staff and Wellesley House. The Flag Staff is the tallest in the country with a height of 45.72

The building is home to ten galleries spread across three floors. You'll be amazed to see approximately 3661 registered antiquities in the collection. As you enter, you'll be greeted by an imposing marble statue of Lord Cornwallis. Also, you'll observe sketching of the stages of construction from 1640 onward in the lobby area. The galleries house arms, uniforms of the British army, church silverware, oil paintings and various porcelains used by the East India Company. At present, the building comes under the Archaeological Survey of India and is considered to be one of the oldest surviving masterpieces within the fort. Also, it has previously served as the landmark for Madras Bank.

4 San Thome Basilica



38, Santhome High Road, Mylapore, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, 600004, India

Built in the 16th century by Portuguese and rebuilt by the British in 1893, San Thome Basilica is a Catholic minor basilica. Today what stands is the British form, constructed in the Neo-Gothic style, the favored architectural style in late 19th century of the British architects. Principal church of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Madras and Mylapore, San Thome church was elevated to the status of Basilica by the Pope Pius XII in 1956 and declared a national shrine in February of 2006 by the Catholic Bishop's Conference of India. Resplendent in white and appearing more like a small luminous castle, the church gains its distinction from the fact that it is one of the only three churches in the world built over tomb of one of the twelve apostles of Christ, being that of St. Thomas in case of San Thome. Down a flight of stairs is the underground tomb chapel where the tomb of St. Thomas lies. Encased in glass a marble altar has been built over the tomb with a statue of St. Thomas. A beautiful, serene site, the stained glasses inside telling the story of St. Thomas set it alight with colourful calmness. There is a museum, library and shop selling Christmas cards and prayer material inside the church building.

5 Arignar Anna Zoological Park



📍 Vandalur, Chennai, Tamil Nadu
600048, India

Holding the distinction of being the first public zoo of the country, Arinagar Anna Zoological Park in Vandalur was established in 1885. This place will endow you with 1,500 different species of wild animals, 46 of which are presently endangered. A zoo that began with the Nawab of Carnatic's personal animal collection on the persuasion of Edward Green Balfour, it was thrown open to the public for free in 1861. Over the years as its repository of mammals, birds, reptiles and fish expanded, the zoo changed its location thrice and was finally moved to Vandalur Reserve Forest on the outskirts of the city away from the urban noise.



1 Anjappar Chettinad



📍 211, Mount Poonthamalee Road, Opposite Porur Police Station, Porur, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600116, India

☎ +91-44-24826361

If you are a connoisseur of spicy Chettinad food, Anjappar Chettinad is most probably will top your list of preferred eateries in the city. With over 40 years of experience, they list some unique dishes. Their chicken dishes are indeed teasing treat for the taste buds as is the seafood menu. Most of their dishes have a variety of spices mixed in the right proportions, imparting to the delicacies just the right flavour. Mutton Sukka - the boneless mutton is every bit juicy and succulent. However, if you are someone who does not prefer spicy food, then we suggest that you take a little assistance while choosing your dishes. Apart from great food, the restaurant also has an ambience that transports you to the land of the Chettiars. At last count they had over 20 branches in the city.

2 Ente Keralam



📍 61, 5th Avenue, Shanthi Colony ,Near Axis Bank ,Anna Nagar

☎ +91-44-43500181|+91-44-32216589|+91-7811015888|+91-9367704055

This lovely old world Bungalow is set in the beautiful upscale neighbourhood of Poes Garden and serves as a perfect location for Ente Keralam. The charming décor, with rooms that are set up for quiet evenings is perfect for the wonderful food that is showcased in this restaurant. Food here is simply outstanding and is a perfect example of quality Kerala food, outside of Kerala, served with a lot of style. The Appams are light and crisp and leave you wanting for more. To accompany them they have the stews, both mutton and vegetarian, the Karimeen Pollichathu and the Kappa Vaevichathu are both outstanding. The non vegetarian menu is exciting and the Meen Vathichathu and the Trivandrum Fried Chicken are finger licking delicious. Their biryani's, both vegetarian and Talaseery are light and fluffy. One of the highlights of Ente Keralam is their Puttu with Kadalakarai that is simply made to perfection. The Elanieer Payasam makes for a perfect ending to a sumptuous meal.

Features:

Live Music, Fine Dining Air Conditioned, Home

Delivery Take Away Counter, Private Parties Non Vegetarian

Crowd:

Couples, Families, Students, Working Professionals, Youngsters

3 Dhabba Express



📍 Eldorado Building, 112, 1st Floor, Nungambakkam High Road ,Near ICICI Bank ,Nungambakkam

☎ +91-44-28203636|+91-44-64619704|+91-9282199925

The Arabian Chicken's quite a treat and the Fish Tikka's made just right. Their Tandoori Chicken and Dal Makhni are good options as well. However, unlike the buffet spread, the à la carte portions are miserly. The Jalebis served here are great, though, sadly, they run out of them pretty early in the day. Despair not, for their kulfis are equally good. The long queue for the buffet means that there is quite a wait before you can pile it on. There are eight branches of Dhabba in Chennai to locate the one nearest to you

visit\:www.dhabaexpress.com

Features:

Air Conditioned
Home Delivery
Non Vegetarian

4 Candles and Roses



📍 No. 80-A, South Boag Road, T Nagar, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600017, India

☎ +91-44-42070780|+91-44-42070555

Walk in to Candles and Roses and you'll be hit by the filmi flavour of the place. With gauze and shimmer being the predominant themes, the place looks straight out of a dream sequence. Ideal for couples in love or wanting to be in love. The restaurant is multi-cuisine and has quite a range on offer, right from Chinese and European to Indian. The tandoori and Punjabi dishes are especially delectable. If you are a seafood lover, you must try the popular Fish Steak. Also, give the Crepe Meridien a shot. But if all you want is wholesome South Indian food, you have that option as well!

Specialities:

Crepe Meridien
Tandoori
Fish Steak

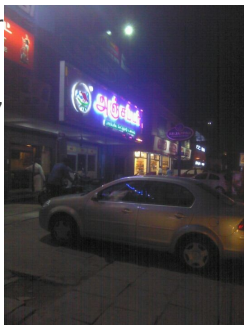
Features:

Kid Friendly
TV / Big Screen
Group Friendly
Fine Dining
Air Conditioned
Parking Available
Take Away Only
Serves Alcohol
Non Vegetarian

Crowd:

Couples
Families
Working Professionals
Young Professionals
Youngsters

5 Anjappar Chettinad



📍 J.P. Tower, 7/2, Nungambakkam High Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600034, India

☎ +91-44-24861222|+91-44-24867999|+91-44-24861777

If you are a connoisseur of spicy Chettinad food, Anjappar Chettinad is most probably will top your list of preferred eateries in the city. With over 40 years of experience, they list some unique dishes. Their chicken dishes are indeed teasing treat for the taste buds as is the seafood menu. Most of their dishes have a variety of spices mixed in the right proportions, imparting to the delicacies just the right flavour. Mutton Sukka - the boneless mutton is every bit juicy and succulent. However, if you are someone who does not prefer spicy food, then we suggest that you take a little assistance while choosing your dishes. Apart from great food, the restaurant also has an ambience that transports you to the land of the Chettians. At last count they had over 20 branches in the city. And to locate the one nearest to you visit\:www.anjappar.com

Specialities:

Nattukoli
Anjappar Chicken
Mutton Varutha
Prawn Masala
Crab Roast
Promfret Fish
Viral Meen Curry
Sururputtu
Chettinad Fish Masala

Emu Biryani
Rabbit Roast
Murg Malai Kebab
Kadahai Paneer
Kheema Parotha
Dosa
Beetroot Halwa
Kuzhi Paniyaram

Features:

Buffet
Business Lunch
Group Friendly
Fine Dining
Air Conditioned
Corporate
Parking Available

Crowd:

Couples
Families



itinerary

Tamilnadu Tour 06 Nights/7Days

17300 per person 7 days tour

Madurai ➔ Kanyakumari ➔ Rameswaram ➔ Trichy ➔
GetAway Tours 4 out of 5 (21 ratings)

Day 01: Madurai

Arrives Madurai met & greet by our representative. Transfer to the Hotel. Madurai is situated on the banks of the river Vaigai. Madurai's history goes back to the 6th century B.C., when it traded with Greece and Rome. According to legend, drops of nectar fell from Lord Shivas locks on this site so it y.

Day 02: Madurai - Kanyakumari

Early morning visit Madurai Meenakshi Temple. Madurai has developed encircling the Meenakashi temple built in the Dravidian style - one for Lord Shiva and the other for his spouse Meenakashi. The temple offers lovely kaleidoscopic.

Day 03: Kanyakumari Rameswaram

Early Morning, witness the Sunrise from the Thriveni Sangamam. Return back to the hotel for breakfast, Checkout from the hotel & drive to Rameswaram (375kms/7hrs). Rameswaram, is located on Pamban Island separated from mainland India by the Pamban channel and is about 50 kilometres from Mannar Island, Sri Lanka. It is situated in the Gulf of Mannar, at the very tip of the Indian peninsula. Pamban Island, also known as Rameswaram Island, is connected to mainland India by the Pamban Bridge

Day 04: Rameswaram Trichy

Early Morning by 05.00 AM visit the Temple. Post darshan, back to the hotel for Breakfast. After Breakfast, visit Dhanuskodi (18kms/30-45mins) - the last few miles will be accessible only by Four wheel drive jeeps. Later visit Ramar Patham (Gandhamdhana Parvatham) - marble foot print of Lord Rama, Agnitheertham - sacred stretch of shallow sea, it is believed that Lord Rama made this to quench the thirst of Sita by dipping the bow in the sea water.

Day 05: Trichy - Mahabalipuram

Post breakfast, Visit Srirangam Sri Renganathaswamy Temple. Later visit Rockfort Temple. Checkout from the hotel & drive to Mahabalipuram (300 kms / 5hrs) On Arrival check in to the hotel. Enjoy the evening in the hotel or spend the time in the beach. Overnight @ Mahabalipuram.

Day 06: Mahabalipuram - Chennai.

After breakfast, explore the tiny Mahabalipuram. Visit Arjuna Pillar, Five Rathas & Sea Shore Temple..

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