





Chennai, the gateway to South India, was earlier known as Madras believed to be originated from Madrasapattinam, a fishing village located north of the St. George Fort. The city is the commercial hub of South India. It is a city of courtesy, charm and rich culture. Temples and Forts, Churches and Beaches, Mosques, Parks and Monuments. It also has the second longest seashore in the world. The Tidel Park of the capital city is the largest IT Park in Asia; it also houses the head offices of leading software companies.



Chennai culture is distinctly different from that of any other city in India. Being a cosmopolitan city, the

culture of the city reflects its diverse population which has resulted in a unique blend. Though a modern city, it continues to be traditional and conventional in certain ways.

Traditional music, dance and all other art forms of Tamil Nadu are very popular in the city. One can find a unique blend of culture from traditional foods to fast foods, from ancient temple architecture to modern high-rises and from classical music and dance to the growing nightlife in the city.



## **Tourist Attractions:**

- Marina Beach
- St. George Fort
- Kapaleeshwar Temple
- Mahabalipuram
- Santhome Cathedral
- National Art Gallery





**DakshinaChitra** — "a picture of the south" is a livinghistory museum in the Indian state of Tamil Nadu, dedicated to South Indian heritage and culture.



## Kapaleeshwarar

Temple is a Hindu temple dedicated to Lord Shiva located in Mylapore, Chennai. It is of typical Dravidian architectural style, with the Gopuram overpowering the street on which the temple sits. There are two entrances to the temple marked by the Gopuram on either side.



Mahabalipuram is a classic example of Dravidian art and architecture, it is a jewel in the crown of Pallava contribution in Tamil Nadu. Located 60 km from Chennai, it consists of wonders in rock signifying ancient temple art.



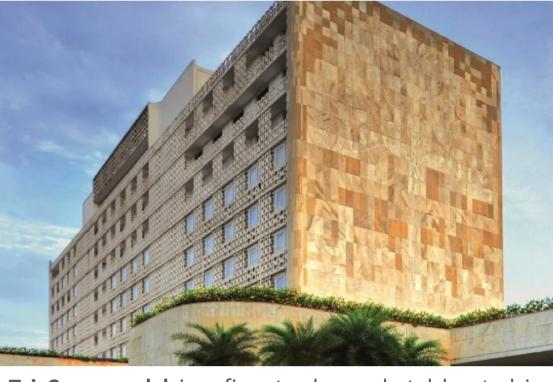
**Shore Temple** is named as it overlooks the shore of the Bay of Bengal. It is a structural temple built with blocks of granite and is one of the group of monuments at Mahabalipuram.



The San Thome Church, also known as St. Thomas Cathedral Basilica and National Shrine of Saint Thomas is a Roman Catholic (Latin Rite) minor basilica in Santhome, in the city of Chennai.



**Spencer Plaza** is a shopping mall located on Anna Salai in Chennai and is one of the modern landmarks of the city. It is the oldest shopping mall & was one of the biggest shopping malls in South Asia when it was built.



**Taj Coromandel** is a five-star luxury hotel located in Chennai named after the Coromandel Coast. The name is also derived from the Coromandel tree (Kalpavriksha - Sanskrit), which means has the power to grant any wish to a person who is under its shade.



**Vivanta by Taj - Fisherman's Cove**, commonly called Fisherman's Cove, is a luxury beach resort near the coast of the Bay of Bengal in Chennai.