The history of Madurai goes back over 4,000 years. There are scores of temples in this city, among which [Madurai Meenakshi Amman Temple](https://www.tourmyindia.com/states/tamilnadu/meenakshi-temple.html) is the most popular one. It was constructed in the seventh century and is well known for its architectural brilliance. Seventeenth-century Gandhi Mandapam is a well-known travel attraction that now boasts numerous books about Gandhi. Samanar Hills is located in proximity to the Meenakshi Temple and has a first century cavern that was used by Jain priests. While on the [trip to Madurai](https://www.tourmyindia.com/states/tamilnadu/madurai.html), one should not miss the scrumptious local cuisine.

**Top Reasons to Visit Madurai**

* To visit sacred Meenakshi Temple and its Thousand Pillar Hall where Lord Shiva is believed to have performed the dance of bliss.
* To visit Koodal Azhagar Temple that is regarded as one of the 108 celestial abodes of Lord Vishnu.
* To visit the Gandhi Museum and get a detailed account of the Independence struggle.
* To shop for bright tie and dyed cotton Sungudi sarees. One can also buy Golu dolls at the temple curio shops as well.
* To taste lip-smacking local food especially Murugan Idli Kadai.