

Highlights of South India **8 Days / 7 Nights**

Day 1: Bangalore

Arrive in Bangalore. Afternoon proceed for a city tour visiting the Vidhan Soudha, a magnificent building housing the State Legislature and Secretariat. It is built entirely of Bangalore granite in the Neo-Dravidian style. Stroll around the avenues to find some good sandalwood carvings and handicrafts to put you in memory of your tour to Deccan.

Day 2: Bangalore-Mysore

After breakfast, drive to Mysore. Afternoon visit the Mysore Palace, built in 1912 in the Indo-Saracenic style. Evening we will drive to Chamundi Hills, towering over the city. These hills are 13 kms away from Mysore, half way up is the Nandi Bull; a 4.8 m monolith. Right on the top is the 2000-year-old Chamundeswari temple.

Day 3: Mysore-Ooty

This morning, drive to Ooty. The verdant hills, the lush green valleys and the pristine natural beauty of the hill resort of Ooty offers the urban tired souls a chance to resume their affair with Nature, to whom they truly belong. The heavenly hill resort like a blushing bride peeks from behind the lofty Nilgiri hills. The unassuming beauty of this heavenly hill resort beckons you to come and embrace the tranquility and solace that tours to Ooty India offer.

Afternoon at leisure to explore this hill station on your own.

Day 4: Ooty-Cochin

This morning leave Ooty and drive to Cochin, 'Queen of the Arabian Sea', Cochin is the commercial capital of Kerala, with its wealth of historical associations and its magnificent setting on a cluster of islands and narrow peninsulas.

Rest of the afternoon at leisure.

Day 5: Cochin

You will be taken this morning for a half day city tour of Cochin, first visiting the older parts of the Fort Cochin area. This part of the city reflects an unusual blend of medieval Portuguese, Dutch and English country life grafted onto the tropical Malabar Coast. The 16th century 'Mattancherry Palace', also known as the Dutch Palace, is a fascinating fort with elegant buildings and interesting collections from the Royal traditions of the region. The unique feature of Cochin is the unexpected and isolated Jewish community, whose origins date back to AD 52. They are self-contained and have their own "Synagogue". The area around the Synagogue, known as 'Jew Town' is one of the main centers of spice trade.

Rest of the afternoon at leisure.

Day 6: Cochin-Kovalam

Drive to Trivandrum and check-in at a Hotel in Kovalam, the scenic coastal town popular worldwide for its rejuvenating Ayurvedic Massage treatments.

Afternoon at leisure.

Day 7: Kovalam

Day at leisure to enjoy the beaches of Kovalam

Day 8: Kovalam

Transfer to Trivandrum airport in time to board the flight for your onward journey.

Recommended : Beach stay extension or further tour of South India – ask us for suggestions.