



## The Southern Panaroma

Day 01

Arrive Bangalore

By: International Flight

On your arrival in Bangalore, after baggage collection, a ACR representative will meet as you EXIT the ARRIVALS TERMINAL building after which you would be transferred to your Hotel.

Bangalore: Bangalore is booming, and a look at some of its nicknames says why: "India's Silicon Valley," "Fashion Capital of India," "The Pub City of India," and on. Home to well over 6 million people, and a base for 10,000 industries, Bangalore is India's fifth largest city and the fastest growing city in Asia.The capital of the state of Karnataka, Bangalore is situated halfway between the coasts in southern India.

Overnight – Hotel

Meal – None

Day 02

Bangalore

After Breakfast, you will introduced with sightseeing of Bangalore, visiting Tipu Sultan's Palace, originally built in mud in 1537 and rebuilt by Haider Ali a couple of centuries later; Bull Temple enshrining a massive bull carved out of a single piece of Grey granite; Lalbagh gardens laid out by Haider Ali in the 18th century; Cubbon Park laid out by the British in the 19th century. Vidhan Soudha built in granite incorporates features of traditional Indian architecture. Visit ISKCON Situated on Chord Road, it is a must visit temple in Bangalore. It stands over a small hill and is a very clean and well-maintained temple. Akshaya Patra program sponsored by the temple is very popular

Overnight – Hotel

Meal – Breakfast

Day 03

Bangalore - Hassan

By: Surface

After breakfast, drive to Hassan (195 Kms / 05 Hrs),

On arrival, check in to your hotel

The town of Hassan is in Karnataka's southern district of the same name, and is 934 m above sea level. It has been named after the town's presiding Goddess "Hasanamba" and is called Karnataka's temple-architecture capital. Hassan dates back to the 11th century, under the rule of the Hoysala Dynasty (11-14th century), who were largely influenced by Jainism.

Later proceed for sightseeing of Hassan. Belur and Halebid had been the capital of the Hoysalas, who ruled over a large kingdom between Krishna and the Kaveri rivers. Besides being great warriors, the Hoysalas were also great patrons of art and culture. As such, one sees the great works of art out here, the works which have survived over the centuries and even today mesmerize all those who come here year after year. Some of the main attractions are the Channekeshava Temple at Belur and Hoysaleswara temple at Halebid. Besides these, there are various other smaller temples and Jain temples that are worth a visit.

Overnight – Hotel

Meal – Breakfast

Day 04

Hassan - Mysore

By: Surface

After breakfast, drive to Mysore (120 Kms / 03 Hrs). On arrival, check-in to your hotel.

Mysore: Once the capital of a princely state, Mysore still carries on its placid shoulders the aura and glamour of palaces, the grandeur of festivals of times gone by, but all of it with a quiet, unhurried dignity. Mysore is often called the Jewel of Karnataka - its arts, culture, buildings, festivals, gardens and parks being the quintessence of the state's heritage

Later proceed sightseeing tour of Mysore. Your infatuation with Mysore begins with the Maharaja's Palace, at the heart of the city. It is a veritable treasure trove of exquisite carvings and works of art from the world over. Later proceed to visit the Chamundi Hills. A well-known 335 meters high landmark, Chamundi Hill can be reached by a 13 km road or by climbing up the 1,000 steps laid out by the Mysore Maharaja in the 17th century. Halfway up along the stone steps is Nandi, Lord Shiva's Bull, a majestic 4.8 meter monolith. At the top is the 12th century temple of Chamundeshwari, the patron goddess of the Wodeyars. Close to the temple is the gigantic statue of the demon Mahishasura. The summit offers a panoramic view of Mysore's lakes, parks and palaces.

In the evening, you will proceed for the Vrindavan Gardens to enjoy the musical fountains in the Gardens.

Return to your hotel.

Overnight – Hotel

Meal – Breakfast

Day 05

Mysore– Coorg

By: Surface

After breakfast, you will be driven to Coorg (118 Kms / 03 Hrs)

On arrival, check in to the hotel.

Coorg: The majority of the early accounts of Coorg (Kodagu) are fundamentally eminent and the genuine record of history in Coorg is available only following the ninth century. On the word of inscriptions, Coorg was under the rule of many dynasties of South India such as Changelvas, Cholas, Gangas, Hoysalas, Kadambas and Pandyas.

Rest of the day is free for leisure.

Overnight – Hotel

Meal – Breakfast

Day 06

Coorg

After breakfast, proceed for half day sightseeing tour including Omkareshwara Temple, was established in 1820 by Lingarajendra II with Mumammadan style architecture, which featured a center dome and four corners with turrets. Then visit MADIKERI FORT, can be found on elevated ground atop Madikeri. The fort was originally made out of mud and rebuilt by Tipu Sultan with stone, only to be wrested back by the Coorg King in 1791. There are two mortar elephants, built life-size to catch the visitors' eyes as they enter the fort.

Rest of the day is free for leisure

Overnight – Hotel

Meal – Breakfast

Day 07

Coorg - Calicut

By: Surface

After breakfast, drive to Calicut (180 Kms / 04 hrs).

On arrival, check in to the hotel.

Calicut: The busy coastal city of Kozhikode, located to the north of Kerala and 225 kms from Kochi holds an important postion in the legend and history of Kerala. The place is historically famous as the Portuguese led by Vasco da Gama first landed in India, at Kappad near Kozhikode in 1498 AD. He was the first European to reach India via the sea route, around the southern cape of Africa. Later the Dutch, French and British came to its shores. Thus, began a period of conflict of foreign powers for domination of trade in Malabar. Kozhikode was the capital of the powerful Zamorins. This age-old town still maintains its commercial traditions.

Overnight – Hotel

Meal – Breakfast

Day 08

Calicut

After breakfast, proceed for half day sightseeing of Calicut. Take a peek at the past by visiting the Kappad Beach & Beypore Fort. The unspoilt and unbelievably uncrowded, the Kappad beach offers a memorable experience. Enjoy one of the best sunsets that you have ever seen or soak up the enviably slow pace of life here. Nothing seems to have changed in Kappad for the last many years and this timeless charm is what makes it a hot tourist attraction.

Rest of the day is free for leisure

Overnight – Hotel

Meal – Breakfast

Day 09

Calicut - Cochin

By: Surface

After breakfast, drive to Cochin (201 Kms / 05 Hrs).

On arrival, check in to the hotel.

Kochi or more familiarly Cochin's history is a bright tapestry - many coloured threads woven through centuries together present the fabric of the present. Its involvement with the Portuguese, the Dutch and the British are evident in the architecture of city buildings, the old durbar hall is the spice in the dish! Modern day Kochi may be a busy port and shipping centre but it has many attractions for ordinary tourists. It is spread across islands and promontories in a stunning location between the Arabian Sea and the Backwaters. Kerala owes its transnational fame to this nearly 300 years old classical dance form, which combines facets of ballet, opera, masque and the pantomime. In the evening, you will visit a local theatre to witness Kathakali Dance Performance

Overnight – Hotel

Meal – Breakfast

Day 10

Cochin

Today, you will take a city tour of Cochin.

Sites to visit include:

Dutch Palace (Closed on Fridays and Jewish Holidays), also known as Mattancherry Palace built by the Portuguese and presented to the Raja of Cochin in 16th Century AD. It acquired the present name in the 17th century when the Dutch carried out extensions and repairs in the palace. At no time did the Portuguese or Dutch stay here, its interiors are decorated with murals from the Ramayana and there are some lively displays of royal costumes and palanquins. Jewish Synagogue (Closed on Fridays & Saturdays and Jewish Holidays), Built in late 16th century, the Great Scrolls of the old Testament, the copper plates in which the grants of privilege made by the Cochin rulers were recorded and the exquisite Chinese hand-painted tiles are of interest

Chinese Fishing Nets line the sea-front and exhibit a mechanical method of catching fish by local fishermen in Fort Kochi. Said to have been brought from China by traders of Kubalai Khan's Court, they are used at high tide. St. Francis Church was originally built by the Portuguese in 15th century and is believed to be the oldest church built by the Europeans in India. It is here the remains of the inveterate traveller, Vasco da Gamma were initially buried and 14 years later, his mortal remains were taken to Portugal.

In the evenings enjoy an hour of the famous Kathakali Dance performance – Kathakali is the classical dance-drama of Kerala, South India, which dates from the 17th century and is rooted in Hindu mythology. Kathakali has a unique combination of literature, music, painting, acting and dance. In the following pages we have placed photographs and videos of Kathakali performances and songs by famous Kathakali singers.

Overnight – Hotel

Meal – Breakfast

Day 11

Departe Cochin

In time you will be transferred to Chennai Airport for your flight to next destination

Meal – Breakfast

\*\*\* End of tour \*\*\*

