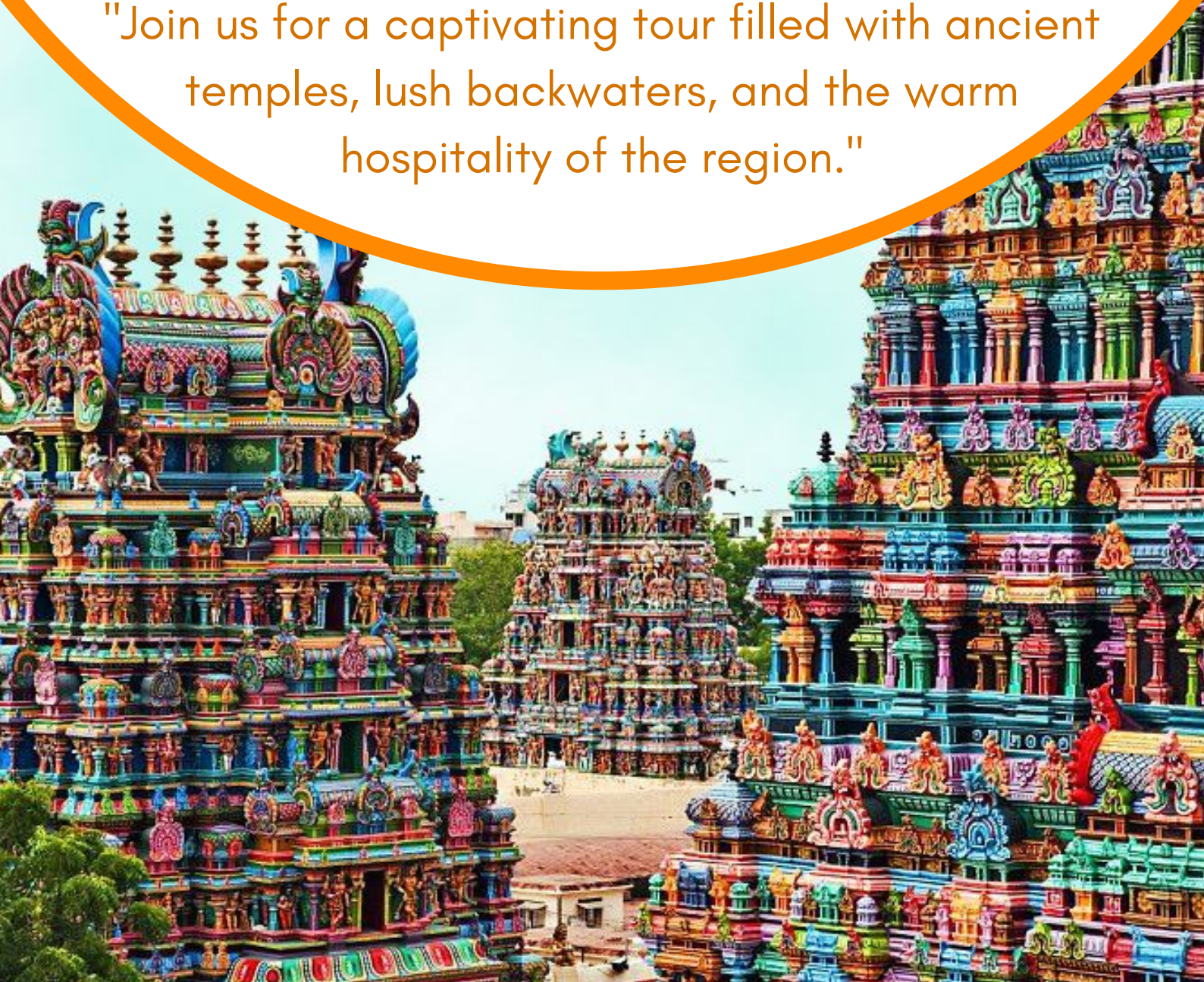


SOUTHERN ODYSSEY

9 DAYS / 8 NIGHTS

Chennai – Mahabalipuram – Pondicherry – Thanjavur –
Tiruchirappalli – Madurai – Rameshwaram – Kanchipuram

"Join us for a captivating tour filled with ancient
temples, lush backwaters, and the warm
hospitality of the region."



ITINERARY

DAY-1 | Arrival at Chennai

Meeting & greeting at the airport and transfer to hotel.

Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY-2 | Chennai - Mahabalipuram

(60 km / 2 hrs)

After a traditional breakfast, check-out & drive to Mahabalipuram. Visit Shore Temple. It is a structural temple, built with blocks of granite, dating from the 8th century AD.

Proceed to visit Five Rathas Caves, to see Krishna's butter ball and chariots. Also, visit Arjuna's Penance. The relief is a canvas of Indian rock cut sculpture.

Overnight stay at the hotel.



DAY-3 | Mahabalipuram - Pondicherry

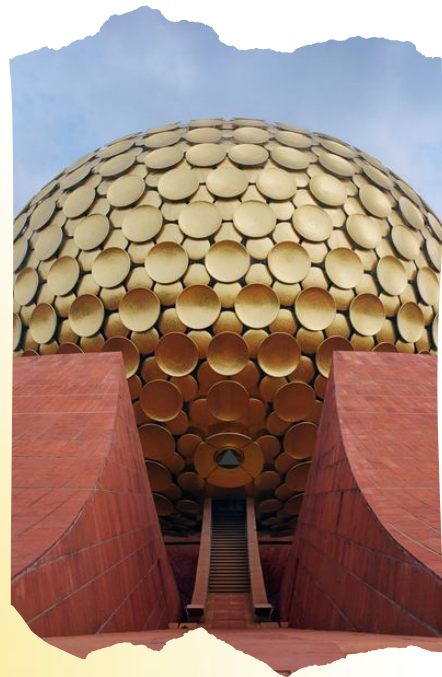
(95 km / 2 hrs)

After a scrumptious breakfast, drive to Pondicherry, a French colonial settlement in India until 1954, bounded by the southeastern Tamil Nadu state. Its French legacy is preserved in its French Quarter, with tree-lined streets, mustard-colored colonial villas and chic boutiques.

Visit Aurobindo Ashram and Auroville.

Evening is free to relax at beaches running along the city & attain peace of mind with yoga.

Overnight stay at the hotel.



DAY-4 | Pondicherry - Chidambaram (60 km / 1.5 hrs)

Chidambaram - Thanjavur (100 km / 2 hrs)

Thanjavur - Tiruchirappalli (65 km / 1.5 hrs)

After a zesty breakfast at hotel, check-out & drive to Chidambaram. Visit Natarajan Temple, a Hindu temple dedicated to Nataraja – Shiva as the lord of dance.

Continue your drive to Thanjavur, the ancient capital of the Chola kings and a veritable haven for artists, musician and craftsmen. Visit Fort palace, Museum & Brahadeeshwara temple, a Shaivite Hindu temple built in a Chola architectural style located on the south bank of the Cauvery river.

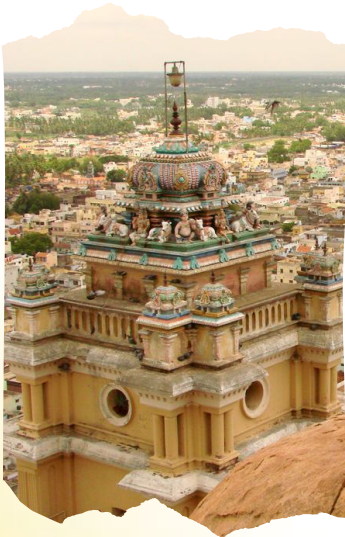
Later, proceed with your drive to Tiruchirappalli.

Check - In, dinner & overnight stay at the hotel.



DAY-5 | Tiruchirappalli - Madurai

(130 km / 2 hrs)



After a healthy breakfast at the hotel, visit the Srirangam temple complex. Located on an island in the Cauvery River, it is among the largest in India, covering an area of over 600 acres. The temple is surrounded by seven concentric walls and has twenty-one gopurams or temple towers, one of which is covered in gold.

Also visit, Sri Jambukeshwara Temple. Located across from Srirangam, is dedicated to Lord Shiva and has five concentric walls and seven gopurams, also visit Rock Fort Temple.

Later, proceed with your drive to Madurai.

Visit Meenakshi temple, a historic Hindu temple located on the southern bank of the Vaigai River, dedicated to goddess Meenakshi, the consort of lord Shiva.

Check - In, dinner & overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY-6 | Madurai - Rameshwaram -

Madurai (130 km / 2 hrs)

After a palatable breakfast, proceed for a full day excursion to Rameshwaram. Rameshwaram is a town on Pamban Island, in the southeast Indian state of Tamil Nadu. It's known for Ramanathaswamy Temple, a Hindu pilgrimage site with ornate corridors, huge sculpted pillars and sacred water tanks. Devotees bathe in the waters of Agni Theertham, off the beach east of the temple. Gandamadana Parvatham is a hill with island views. A chakra (wheel) here is said to bear an imprint of Lord Rama's feet

Later in the evening, drive back to Madurai.

Dinner & overnight stay at the hotel.



DAY-7 | Madurai

After a delicious breakfast at the hotel full day sightseeing of Madurai, a bustling city packed with pilgrims, businessmen, bullock carts and legions of rickshaw walas. It is southern India's oldest center of pilgrimage and learning.

Visit Shree Meenakashi Temple (a riotously baroque example of dravidian architecture); the Tirumalai Nayak Palace, build in 1636 in Indi-Sarcenic style, and the Gandhi Museum, containing memorabilia of the father of the nation.

Continue to Mariamman Teppakkulam Tank. (Built in 1646, the tank is fed by underground channels from the Varigai River.)

Dinner & overnight stay at the hotel.



DAY-8 | Madurai - Chennai

(By Air)

After a salubrious breakfast transfer to Madurai airport to connect flight for Chennai.

Upon arrival, visit Bronze Gallery and Madras Museum.

Continue your drive though Egmore to George Town stopping at Fort St. George, housing the State Parliament. Located within the ramparts of the fort is St. Mary's Church, the oldest Anglican church in Asia, consecrated in 1680 AD. The fort museum features relics.

Drive along Marina Beach, visiting San Thome Cathedral.

Your final stop is Kapaleeswarar Temple. (Devoted to Lord Shiva, where you have an opportunity to mingle with the devotees and observe the various rituals of Hinduism.)

Check-In, dinner & overnight stay at the hotel.



DAY-9 | Chennai- Kanchipuram

Chennai (70 km / 2 hrs)

Chennai - Onward Destination

After a flavorful breakfast at hotel, check-out & drive to Kanchipuram, one of the seven sacred cities of India.

Visit three of the best temples - Kailasanatha & Ekambareshwara, dedicated to Lord Shiva, and Vaikuntaperumal dedicated to lord Vishnu.

Kanchipuram is also renowned for its silk, a traditional cottage industry art that has been handed down over the centuries from one generation to the next.

Drive back to Chennai later in the evening & transfer to the airport to connect flight for onward destination.



TOUR ENDS AS YOU LEAVE FOOTPRINTS AND TAKE MEMORIES