

## Heritage of the Coromandel

**Pre Tour: 22nd June 2015 - 25th June 2015; From and To Chennai**

**Post Tour: 1st July 2015 - 4th July 2015; From and To Chennai**

Places Covered: Chennai, Kanchipuram, Mahabalipuram and Pondicherry

Departure City: Chennai

Mode of Travel: Road

Time: 2.5hrs

Day 1 – Kanchipuram & Mahabalipuram



One of the most important spiritual centres of Hinduism, and a major pilgrim destination; **Kanchipuram** has several medieval temples with spectacular architecture. It used to be the capital of the Pallava kingdom from the 4th to the 10th century, and was a centre of learning for all the major religions of South India. Hindu temples are still present and in use today. The city houses Varadharaja Perumal Temple, Ekambareswarar Temple, Kamakshi Amman Temple, and Kumarakottam Temple.



The city is well known for its hand woven silk sarees and most of the city's workforce is involved in the weaving industry.

After lunch, drive to **Mahabalipuram** (67km). The 7th century port city of South Indian dynasty of the Pallavas. It has a group of sanctuaries, which was carved out of rock along the Coromandel Coast in the 7th and 8th centuries. Arrive in **Mahabalipuram** and Check in into the hotel.

The group of monuments at Mahabalipuram have been classified as a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**.



**Rathas** (temples in the form of chariots), **Mandapas** (cave sanctuaries), giant open-air reliefs such as the famous '**Descent of the Ganges**' and the **Shore Temple**, with thousands of sculptures to the glory of Shiva. After lunch, visit the great **Shore Temple**. Dinner in the hotel and overnight stay in Mahabalipuram



## Day 2 – Mahabalipuram and Pondicherry



Visit **Pancharatha** - the great 5 magnificent monolithic temples and **Arjuna's Penance** (the descent of the Ganges) - the largest Bass relief in the world.



After lunch, drive to **Pondicherry** (100km) and Check in into the hotel. Dinner in the hotel and overnight stay in Pondicherry.

## Day 3 – Pondicherry



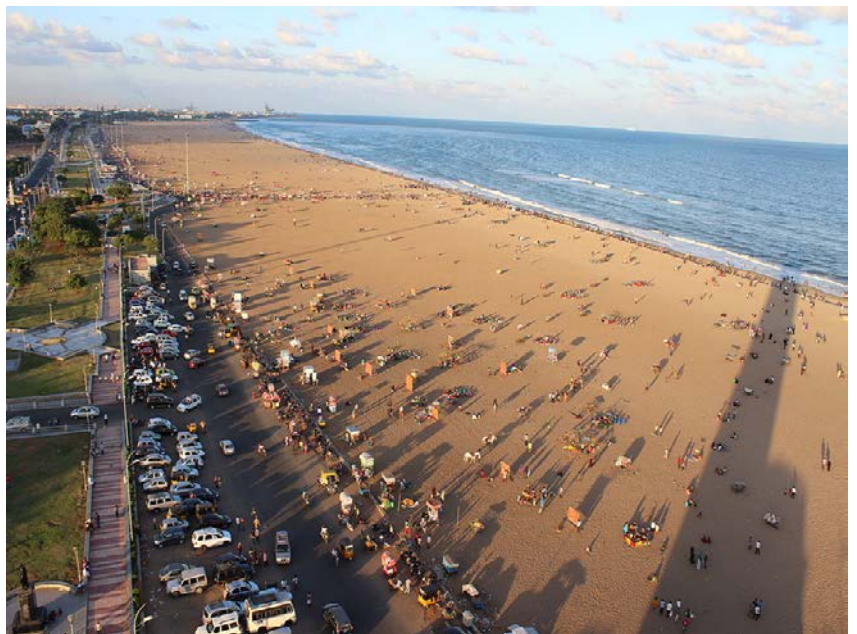
Visit **Auroville** - the 'City of Dawn' - the dream experimental township. Later visit churches and colonial buildings. Free time on the beach.



Drive back to **Chennai** (170km) and check in to Hotel. Dinner in the hotel.

#### **Day 4 – Chennai**

**Chennai** by Day and Shopping.



	<b>Tour Cost in INR</b>
01 Paying Pax Travelling on single occupancy	INR 37,250 Per Person
01 Paying pax travelling on Twin sharing basis	INR 26,650 Per Person

**The tour cost includes:**

- Arrival/Departure transfers, sightseeing, excursion as per programme by an air-conditioned Luxury Car/Coach with services of an English speaking guide for city tour.
- Hotel accommodation in a 5\* category on twin sharing in standard room. Wherever, there is no 5\* property available, accommodation will be provided at the highest category accommodation available there.
- All three meals included in the cost of the tour programme.
- Monument entrance fee wherever applicable.
- The rates/costs quoted above are inclusive of all taxes and Service Tax @ 2.58%. Any increase in the Service Tax is payable by the guest

**The tour cost does NOT include:**

- Any additional accommodation not specified in the itineraries.
- Personal expenses like camera/video/handycam fee, laundry, telephone calls, tips,/gratuities , extra at the hotels etc. The cost also doesn't include room service, mini bar, any personal order of juice, tea, coffee, soft or hard drinks, etc.
- Any other services not specified above.

**AIRFARES** - if applicable will be additional at the time of booking. Airfares from destinations to Bangalore OR Bangalore to destinations are not included in the above mentioned costs/rates.