

**Treasures of Central India**  
**12 days – 11 nights**  
**Bangalore, Mysore, Hassan, Hampi, Badami, Goa, Mumbai**  
**Discovery, History, Culture, Relaxation**

**Day 1: Bangalore**

Our representative will meet you in the arrival area of the Bangalore airport after you clear all immigration and custom formalities. Depart for your hotel where you will check in for your stay. *Welcome to India!*

*Bangalore, also known as Bengaluru is the capital of the Karnataka State. Located on the Deccan Plateau in the southeastern part of Karnataka, Bangalore is India's third most populous city and fifth-most populous urban agglomeration. During the British Raj, it became a center of colonial rule in South India. The establishment of the Bangalore Cantonment brought in large numbers of migrants from other parts of the country. Today, as a large and growing metropolis, Bangalore is home to some of the most well recognized colleges and research institutions in India. Numerous public sector heavy industries, software companies, aerospace, telecommunications, and Defense Organizations are located in the city. Bangalore is known as the Silicon Valley of India because of its position as the nation's leading IT Exporter.*

**Day 2: Bangalore, Mysore**

This morning, we drive to Mysore stopping en-route at Srirangapatnam where the legendary warrior Tipu Sultan built his island fortress and Summer Palace. Continue to Mysore for check-in at your hotel.

*Mysore, once the capital of a princely state, 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.*

In the afternoon tour the Brindavan Gardens, a stunning Mughal-style terrace garden completed in 1932 and modeled after the Shalimar Gardens of Kashmir. Sir Mirza Ismail, Mysore's chief financial officer, conceived the gardens to beautify the adjacent Krishnaraja Sagar dam. Brindavan is comprised of two terrace gardens on opposite sides of the Cauvery River, connected by a footbridge. Each garden contains water chutes and fountains, decorative viewing pavilions, colorful flowerbeds, slopes of bougainvillea and herbaceous ornamental hedges. Return to the hotel for overnight. [B]

**Day 3: Mysore**

This morning explore the main sites in the city including old Mysore City that still retains many of its old Agraharas, community houses of the priest class called Brahmins. The Agraharas give you an idea of the old community lifestyle and its hierarchical structure. The infatuation with Mysore begins with the Maharaja's Palace, at the heart of the city, a veritable treasure-trove of exquisite carvings. The Maharaja's Palace built in Indo-Saracenic style with domes, turrets, arches and colonnades and decorated with exquisite carvings and works of art from all over the world is one of the important sights in Mysore. Intricately carved doors open on to luxuriously furnished rooms. The majestic Durbar Hall has an ornate ceiling and many sculpted pillars. The magnificent jewel studded golden throne of the Wodeyars is displayed here during the Dasera festival. Illuminated on Sundays and public holidays, the palace presents a spectacle of breathtaking beauty. Later proceed to visit Somnathpur home to the popular Keshava temple built during the reign of Hoysala emperors. The temple idols of God and Goddesses speak volumes about the Hoysala kingdom. Return to the hotel for overnight. [B]

**Day 4: Mysore, Hassan**

After a breakfast at leisure drive to Hassan stopping en-route to visit Shravanabelagola, a place of pilgrimage for the followers of the Jain Religion. Of particular note is the larger-than-life size statue of Gommateshwara erected sometime between AD 980 and 983 and rising 492 feet above the plain. The statue represents a nude Digambara, or sky-clad Jains (opposed to the white-clad Jains), and captures the tranquility typical of much of Buddhist and Jain art. The depth of the saint's meditation and withdrawal from the world is suggested by the spiraling creepers shown growing up his legs and the anthills and snakes at his feet. While

the features are finely carved the overall proportions are odd, with greatly enlarged shoulders, elongated arms and shortened legs. On arrival at Hassan check-in at the hotel for overnight. [B]

#### **Day 5: Hassan, Hampi**

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel and prepare yourself for a 7-hour drive to Hampi. Unfortunately there are no flights or trains between the cities, which provides a unique opportunity to view the unspoiled country, maybe catch that special photo and relax. On arrival at Hampi check into your hotel with time to rest at leisure after a long drive. Overnight at the hotel. [B]

#### **Day 6: Hampi**

After breakfast at the hotel enjoy a full-day sightseeing tour visiting the stunning collection of temples, palaces and market places of Hampi. Then, return to the hotel for overnight. [B]

*Spread over a windswept area of rocks and enormous boulders, Hampi was once the seat of the great Vijaynagara Empire and the center of Hindu rule for 200 years from its foundation in 1336. Enormously wealthy, believed to be "greater than Rome", it held a monopoly of trade in spices and cotton. The site was chosen for strategic reasons, but the craftsmen excelled in adopting an ingenious style to blend in architectural masterpieces with the barren and rocky landscapes. Most of the sites are 16th century and built during the 20-year reign of Krishna Deva Raya.*

#### **Day 7: Hampi, Badami**

Breakfast at the hotel and drive to Badami stopping en-route to visit Aihole and Pattadakal. The 120-mile drive will take approximately 4 hours. The first stop will be Aihole known as the "Cradle of Indian Architecture", offering over a hundred temples scattered around the village. The second stop, Pattadakal, is the perfect dream for art historians! It has a set of nine temples, built almost in single file, showing the architects' desire for experimenting in various styles. After the visit continue to Badami (a World Heritage Site) for check-in and overnight at the hotel. [B]

*Badami is picturesquely situated at the mouth of a ravine between two rocky hills. The exquisite sculptures and the rust red sandstone cliffs of Badami tell many a tale of yore. The first sculptural embellishment to dazzle the eye is the 18-armed Nataraja striking 81 dance poses.*

#### **Day 8: Badami, Yellapura, Goa**

Today requires another 6-hour drive to reach Goa with a stop en-route at Yellapura to meet a Siddhi Community. Siddhi families have African roots and live in Karnataka for a long time espousing mostly the Muslim faith with smaller communities adopting Roman Catholicism and Hinduism. The Haliyal Taluk has populations of Muslims and Christians while the Hindu populations are concentrated in the ghat areas of Yellapur and Ankola. Despite their different faiths they marry across religions without any reservations. After the visit we will continue our drive to Goa for check-in and overnight at the hotel. [B]

*Goa is much more than beaches. It has a soul, which goes deep into unique history and rich culture. On the banks of the Mandovi River stands centuries – old complex of magnificent churches, monasteries and convents; the remains of the once mighty colonial capital, which controlled the trade of Portugal's far – flung overseas Empire. Old Goa is considered the spiritual heart of the State.*

#### **Day 9: Goa**

After breakfast at the hotel start your tour of Old Goa, visiting the Basilica of Bom Jesus, which is the most famous and popular church in Goa, where the mortal remains of St. Francis Xavier, kept in a silver casket, are enshrined. Next, visit the Sé Cathedral the most imposing of all churches in Old Goa. Its vaulted interior overwhelms the visitors by its sheer grandeur. This Cathedral has 5 bells of which one is the famous Golden Bell. Then, drive into Goa's capital – Panjim to spend some time shopping. The afternoon at leisure. Overnight at the hotel. [B]

**Day 10: Goa**

Breakfast at the hotel and day at leisure to explore the beach and enjoy the marvelous climate of this resort known the world over. Overnight stay in Goa. [B]

**Day 11: Goa, Mumbai**

Breakfast at the hotel and a couple of hours to relax. Later in the morning you'll be transferred to the airport to board the flight 9W476 departing at 1:00 pm and arriving in Mumbai 2:15 pm.

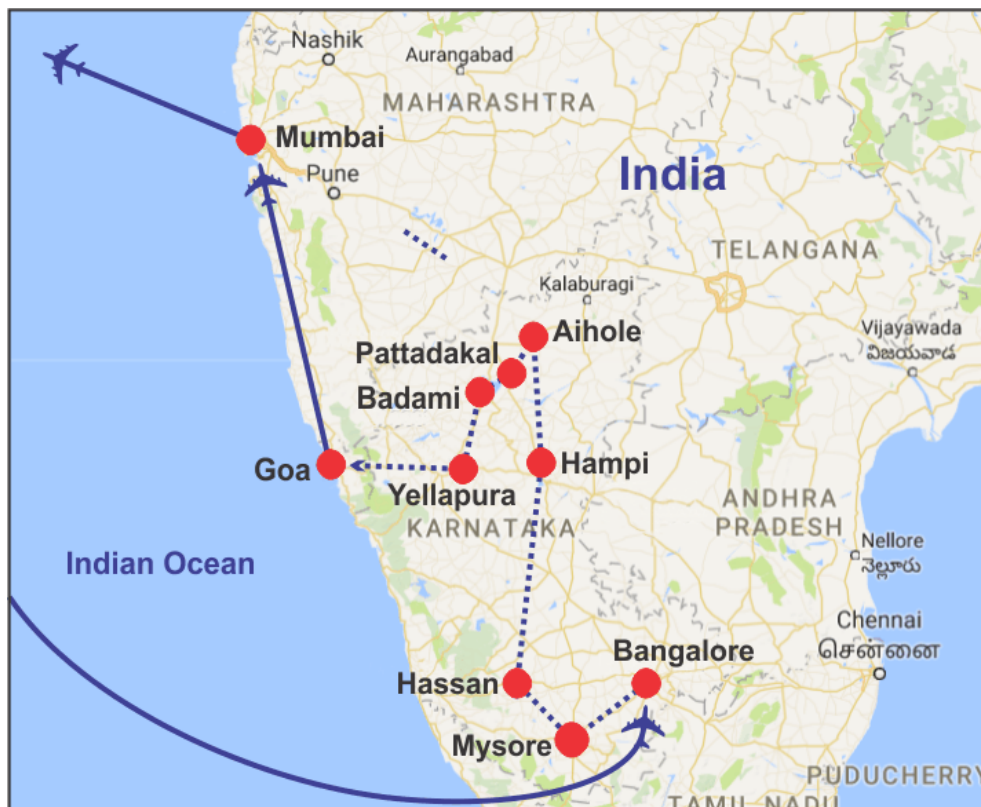
*Mumbai is a city of dreams, the glamor of the movie world, the razors edge of the skyscrapers to the mainland of the harbor. People here come from diverse ethnic backgrounds yet nurture the dream of success. Their undying spirit adds color and flavor to this multicultural city. A throbbing, cosmopolitan metropolis, it still retains the glory of the past, the colonial legacy that coexists with the Maratha influence. Still considered as the heart of business India, Mumbai houses the country's vibrant Stock Exchange. The Gateway of India is almost literally a symbol of entry into the country by sea or air.*

Upon arrival in Mumbai, you will be met at the airport and taken for an orientation tour of the city driving past Marine Drive, Mumbai's, most popular seaside promenade, see the Kamla Nehru Park and Hanging Gardens on the slopes of the Malabar hills that offer a very nice view of the marine lines and the Chowpatty beach. Visit the Jain temple and drive past the Flora Fountain, the colorful Crawford Market and Victoria Terminus train station. Later continue to your hotel for check-in and overnight. [B]

**Day 12: Mumbai, USA**

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel and, at the appointed time depending on your flight you'll be met and transferred to Mumbai's International airport to board your flight back home. A word of caution: Traffic in Mumbai can be unbelievably slow so make sure you give yourself plenty of time to reach the airport. [B]

[B] = Breakfast



**Your Tour includes:**

- All airport transfers including luggage portorage
- Meet and greet services in major cities
- 11 nights hotel accommodation:
  - Bangalore – 1 night
  - Mysore - 2 nights
  - Hassan – 1 night
  - Hampi - 2 nights
  - Badami – 1 night
  - Goa - 3 nights
  - Mumbai – 1 night
- Breakfast daily
- Excursions and sightseeing as per itinerary
- Transportation by A/C vehicle
- English speaking guides
- Entrance fees at all monuments listed
- Road taxes, parking fees and fuel charges
- Bottled water during sightseeing tours and long drives.
- All taxes

**Your Tour does not include:**

- International or Domestic airfares
- Any taxes and surcharges relating to airfares
- Travel insurance
- Wi-Fi at hotels
- Visa fees for India
- Camera fees at the monuments (if applicable)
- All alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks
- Other meals not mentioned in the itinerary
- Extras and gratuities
- Early check-in, late check out

**Hotels in your Tour:**

City	Hotel Name	Room Type	Tripadvisor
<b>First Class</b>			
Bangalore	Chancery Pavillion	Superior	4
Mysore	The Windflower Resort And Spa	Deluxe	4
Hassan	Hoysala Village Resort	Standard	4.5
Hampi	Royal Orchid Central Kireeti	Deluxe	4
Badami	Krishna Heritage	Executive	4
Goa	Citrus Hotel	Superior	4
Mumbai	The Fariyas	Standard	4
<b>Deluxe</b>			
Bangalore	JW Marriott	Deluxe	4.5
Mysore	Radisson Blu Plaza	Superior	4.5
Hassan	Hoysala Village Resort	Superior Cottage	4.5
Hampi	Heritage Resort	Deluxe	4.5
Badami	Krishna Heritage	Executive	4
Goa	The Zuri White Sands Goa Resort & Casino	Zuri Superior	4
Mumbai	Trident Nariman Point	Superior	4.5

Hotels will be confirmed at time of booking

**Tour Prices:**

Departure Dates	2-3 Pax		4-6 Pax		7-9 Pax		10-14 Pax *		15-19 Pax *		20-24 Pax *	
	Double	Single	Double	Single	Double	Single	Double	Single	Double	Single	Double	Single
<b>First Class</b>												
<b>2018 Departures</b>												
Oct 1- Dec 19	\$1,745	\$2,395	\$1,425	\$2,075	\$1,355	\$1,999	\$1,339	\$1,985	\$1,179	\$1,825	\$1,095	\$1,739
<b>2019 Departures</b>												
Jan 6 - Mar 31	\$1,745	\$2,395	\$1,425	\$2,075	\$1,355	\$1,999	\$1,339	\$1,985	\$1,179	\$1,825	\$1,095	\$1,739
Apr 1 - Sep 30	\$1,679	\$2,239	\$1,359	\$1,919	\$1,279	\$1,839	\$1,265	\$1,825	\$1,099	\$1,659	\$1,015	\$1,575
<b>Deluxe</b>												
<b>2018 Departures</b>												
Oct 1- Dec 18	\$2,145	\$3,135	\$1,825	\$2,815	\$1,755	\$2,739	\$1,759	\$2,745	\$1,579	\$2,565	\$1,495	\$2,479
<b>2019 Departures</b>												
Jan 6 - Mar 31	\$2,145	\$3,135	\$1,825	\$2,815	\$1,755	\$2,739	\$1,759	\$2,745	\$1,579	\$2,565	\$1,495	\$2,479
Apr 1 - Sep 30	\$1,945	\$2,795	\$1,625	\$2,475	\$1,545	\$2,395	\$1,549	\$2,395	\$1,375	\$2,219	\$1,279	\$2,125

Prices are per person and may change without notice

**Supplement:**

Description	Price
Economy class airfare Goa/Mumbai	\$145

Airfare may be cheaper if included in the international itinerary. Consult your Travel Agent or HWDT

**Tour Code:** IN12BLR18IT