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SOUTH INDIA 2 DAYS PACKAGES

MAHABALIPURAM or MAMALLAPURAM



- Active port of the Pallava dynasty of kings of Kanchipuram, 7th 8th centuries, is the location of the rock-cut caves and temples, anteniors of the great stone temples of South India, and is the first manifestation of Hindu architecture and art in Tamil Nadu.
- Arjuna'penance sculpted relief, the Shore Temple and the Five Rathas, are among the worldwide most famous sites of India, while the 3 kms long sand beach and its numerous resorts make it a place for leisure and culture.

KANCHIPURAM

- One of the Eight Sacred cities of Hinduism, a vibrant religious center of Tamil Nadu, Kanchipuram served as the capital of the Pallavas in the 7th-9th centuries. Buddhism and Jainism were also important in earlier times.
- The town is rich for its famous temples, the Kailasanatha Temple 8th century, the Ekambareshvar temple dedicated to Siva, the Sri Vaikuntha Perumal Temple 8th century, the Varadaraja Temple, among many others and also a Jain temple on the outskirt.
- Kanchipuram is well renowned for the high quality of its flourishing silk production and weaving.



EKAMBARANATHAR TEMPLE



SRI VAIKUNTA PERUMAL TEMPLE



SRI VARADARAJA PERUMAL TEMPLE

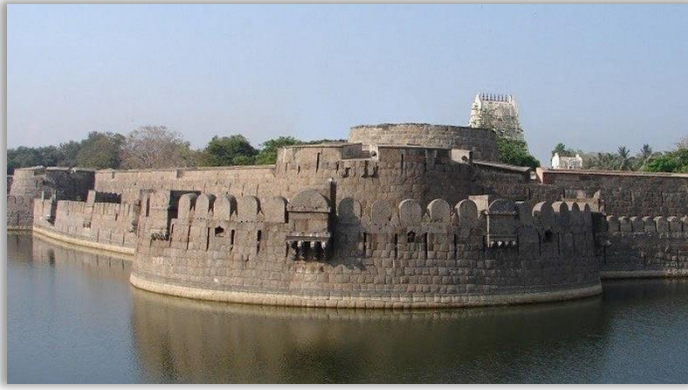


THIRUPARUTHIKUNDRAM ANCIENT DIGAMBAR JAIN TEMPLE



KANCHI KAILASANATHAR TEMPLE

VELLORE FORT & JALAKANTESHWARA TEMPLE

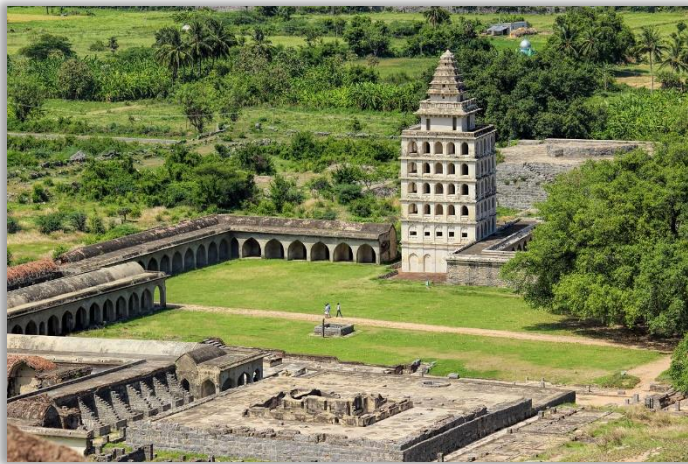


- Important military place during the Vijayanagar empire in 16th century, the fort is a well-preserved outstanding example of military architecture in Tamil Nadu.



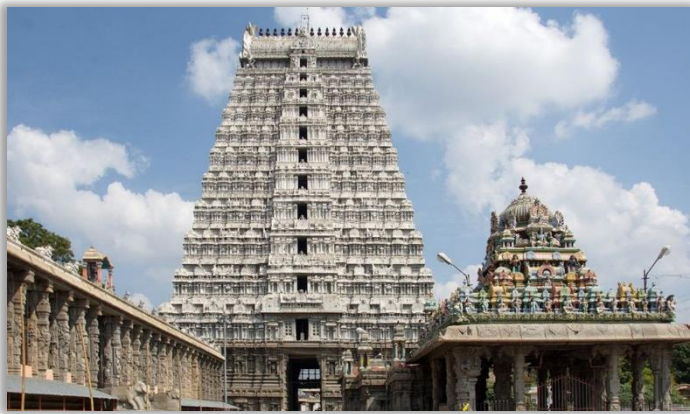
- In its compound stand the Jalakanteshwara Temple dedicated to Siva with the famous and most beautiful Kalyana Mandapa, one of the best works of the Vijayanagar Art, unsurpassed in

GINJEE FORT



- **Gingee Fort** or **Senji Fort** (also known as Chenji, Chanchi, Jinji or Senchi) (Marathi: जिंजी किल्ला) in Tamil Nadu, India is one of the surviving forts in Tamil Nadu, India.
- The site is so fortified that Chhatrapati Shivaji, the Maratha king, ranked it as the "most impregnable fortress in India", and it was called the "Troy of the East" by the British.

ARUNACHALESVARA TEMPLE - THIRUVANNAMALAI



- Arunachalesvara Temple 11th-17th centuries, one of the largest in Tamil Nadu (25 acres), is the place where Siva is believed to have appeared as a column of fire - one of the five elements - to assert his supremacy over Brahma and Vishnu - in the Lingodbhavamoorthy.
- Pilgrims perform a 14 km long circumambulation around Arunachala hill in the back of the temple.
- Sri Ramana Maharishi's Ashram has been built in the neighborhood.

CHIDAMBARAM



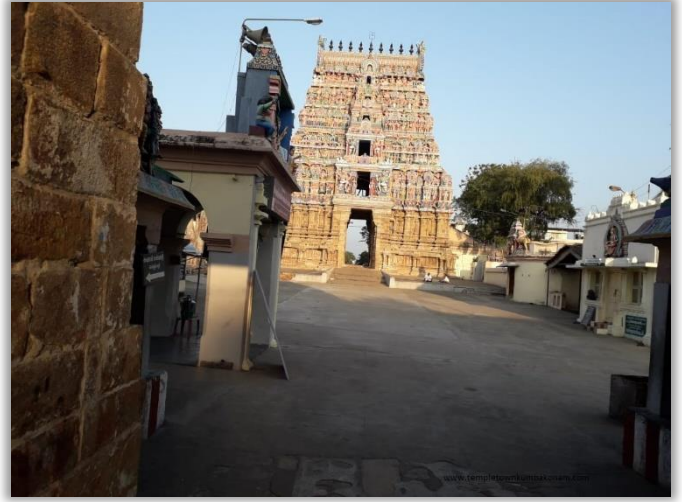
- Located 67 km south of Puducherry, the town is famous for the great Nataraja Temple IXth century, where Lord Siva is believed to have performed his cosmic dance, the Tandava Nritya.
- The temple covers an area of 54 acres - 22 ha - and has a double rectangular enclosure walls with four monumental Gopuras from the Chola period, 12th century.
- On the west side of the tank, the Sivakamasundari Temple houses the goddess associated with Nataraja.

KUMBAKONAM

- Second cultural center after Thanjavur in the Cauvery delta, the town is rich of a large number of Temples built from the early chola kingdom in 9th to the Nayaka rulers in 17th and 18th centuries. Every 12 years a great festival is held in the Mahamakam Tank where all the rivers of India are believed to unite there.
- One of the notable climaxes of chola sculpture is the **Nageshvara Temple** where the shrine is adorned with unsurpassed carvings in the niches of the outside wall.
- Next to Kumbakonam is the town of Swamimalai where the art of bronze is still alive from the chola period with the lost wax technique tradition.
- One of the best monuments of the Chola 12th century, the **Airavateshvara Temple** is famous for its two mandapas and the porch extension facing south.



ADI KUMBESWARAR TEMPLE



NAGESWARAR TEMPLE KUMBAKONAM



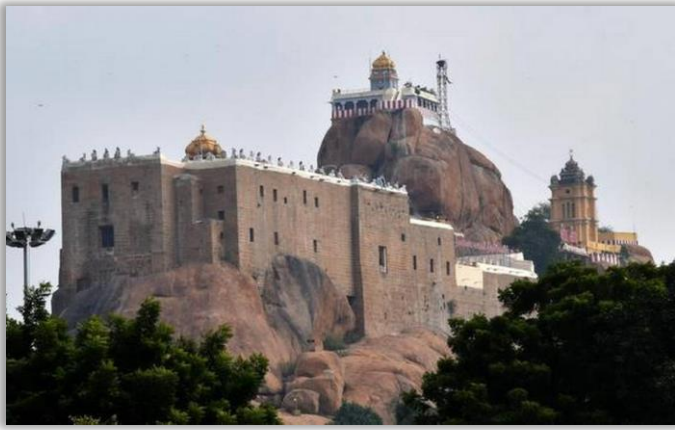
AIRAVATESHVARA TEMPLE

THANJAVUR BRIHADESHWARA TEMPLE



- Capital city of the **Cholas** in the 10th and 12th century, the greatest Chola ruler **Rajaraja 1st** built in 1010 the great **Brihadishvara Temple**, dedicated to Shiva, in the fortification walls.
- The sanctuary is crowned by a pyramidal tower - Vimana - rising about 66 m. A monolithic Nandi - 16th century - lying in a monumental pavillon faces the shrine.
- The **Subrahmanya Temple** 17th century is of great quality of carving.
- The colonnades which surround the huge compound of the temple complex, houses the lingas and paintings of the Maratha period.

TIRUCHIRAPALLI ROCK FORT



- Second largest city in Tamil Nadu the town is related to the political struggles of the Kings and dynasties.
- The Rock Fort gives the town its unique silhouette, crowned by a small Ganesha Temple with a surrounding view of the Kaveri River and the sacred island of Srirangam.
- Half way up is the Shiva - as Thayumanavar - The God who became a mother — Temple and two caves from the Pallava period 7th and 8th century.

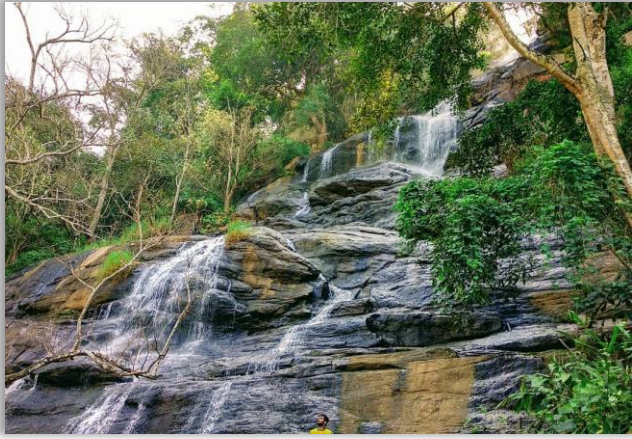
HOGENAKKAL FALLS



- **Hogenakkal Falls** is a waterfall in South India on the Kaveri River on the border between Dharmapuri district of Tamil Nadu and Chamrajnagar district of Karnataka.
- It is located 256 km from Pondicherry, 165 km (103 mi) from Kollegal, 147 km (91 mi) from Kolar, 152 km (94 mi) from Kolar Gold Fields, 181 km (112.46 mi) from Mysore, and 46 km (29 mi) from Dharmapuri.
- Carbonatite rocks in this site are considered to be the oldest of its kind in South Asia and one of the oldest in the world.

YERCAUD

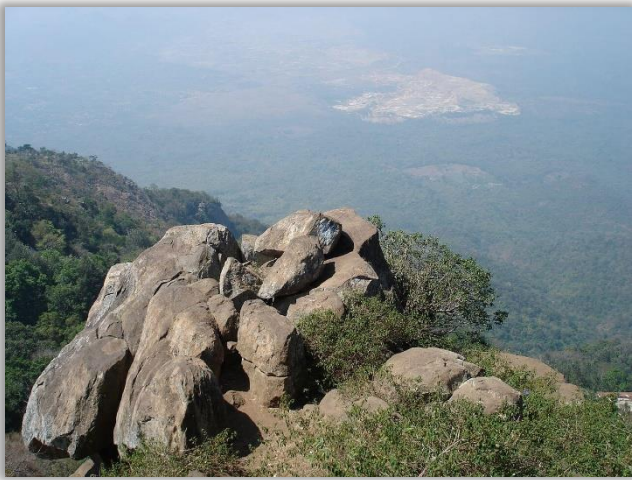
- **Kiliyur Falls** is a waterfall in the Shervaroyan hill range in the Eastern Ghats, Tamil Nadu, India. The waters overflowing the Yercaud Lake fall 91 m (300 ft) into the Kiliyur Valley.
- Big Lake or Yercaud Lake is a natural lake situated in the town of Yercaud in Tamil Nadu state. Popularly known as **Emerald Lake**, this lake is the only natural lake among all the hill station lakes in South India
- **Lady's Seat** is a viewpoint that overlooks the winding ghat road and offers a spectacular view of Mettur Dam and Salem town.
- **Gents Seat** is a Scenic hilltop overlook, a popular place to watch the sunset, offering views of a verdant valley.
- The Pyramid Point or **Pagoda Point** is located on the eastern part of Yercaud Hills. · It is sometimes referred to as the Gent's Sea as well.



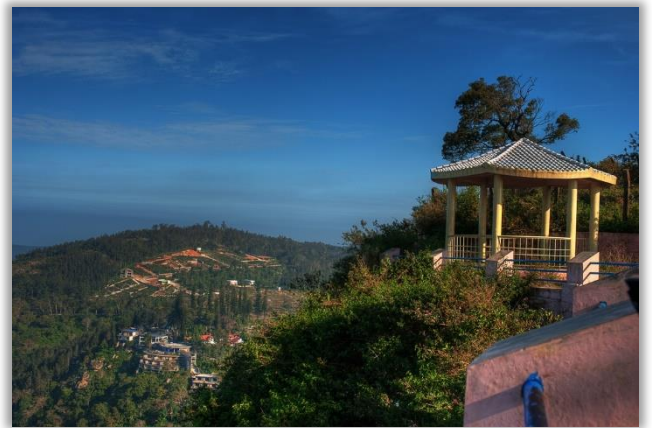
KILIYUR FALLS



EMERALD LAKE



LADY'S SEAT



GENT'S SEAT



PAGODA POINT

NAVAGRAHA TEMPLES

Navagraha temples are temples devoted to Navagraha—the nine (nava) major celestial bodies (Grahas) of Hindu astronomy. These temples are made of stones. These celestial bodies are named **Surya** (Sun), **Chandra** (Moon), **Mangala** (Mars), **Budha** (Mercury), **Brihaspati** (Jupiter), **Shukra** (Venus), **Shani** (Saturn), **Rahu** (North Lunar Node) and **Ketu** (South Lunar Node).



SURYA (SUN)



CHANDRA (MOON)



MANGALA (MARS)



BUDHA (MERCURY)



BRIHASPATI (JUPITER)



SHUKRA (VENUS)



SHANI (SATURN)



RAHU (NORTH)



KETU (SOUTH)