



Tamil Nadu

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Tamil Nadu, the southernmost state of India, the home of the Tamil People. Tamil is one of the longest surviving classical language in the world, is widely spoken in the state and serves as its official language. The capital and largest city is Chennai. "Tamil Nadu" - means The Land of Tamil.

The tourism industry of Tamil Nadu is the largest in India, with an annual growth rate of 16 per cent. Tamil Nadu has all segments of Tourist attractions which invite tourists. It has cerulean mountains, silver waterfalls, verdant vegetation, sandy beaches, mammoth monuments, timeless temples, fabulous wildlife, scintillating sculptures and reverberating rural life. It has picturesque spots, continuing heritage, cultural confluence and aesthetic magnificence.

The State offers multiple attractions for various segments of tourists. It has more than 40,000 temples, 1,076 km coastal line (13% of India's total coastline), 15 Wildlife Sanctuaries, 5 National Parks, 15 Bird Sanctuaries and 5 Tiger Reserves, 5 UNESCO World Heritage sites, 411 Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) monuments.





According to Ministry of Tourism statistics, 4.68 million foreign (20.1% share of the country) and 333.5 million domestic tourists (23.3% share of the country) visited the state in 2015 making it the most visited state in India both domestic and foreign tourists.

Tamil Nadu attracts a large number of international and domestic tourists every year. In 2019, Tamil Nadu attained the first position in International Tourist Visits and the second position in Domestic Tourist Visits.

In 2020, Tamil Nadu emerged the top State for Domestic Tourist Visits, accounting for 23% of the total domestic tourist visits. The total domestic tourist footfall increased from 333 million in 2015 to 495 million in 2019, a Compound Annual Growth Rate of 10%.

Tamil Nadu is one of the leading States in India for international tourism occupying the second spot for Foreign Tourist Visits for 2020, accounting for 17.1% of the total foreign tourist visits to India. Total international tourist footfall increased from 5 million in 2015 to 7 million in 2019 at a Compound Annual Growth Rate of 10%.

Welcome to Land of Culture, Heritage and Temples!





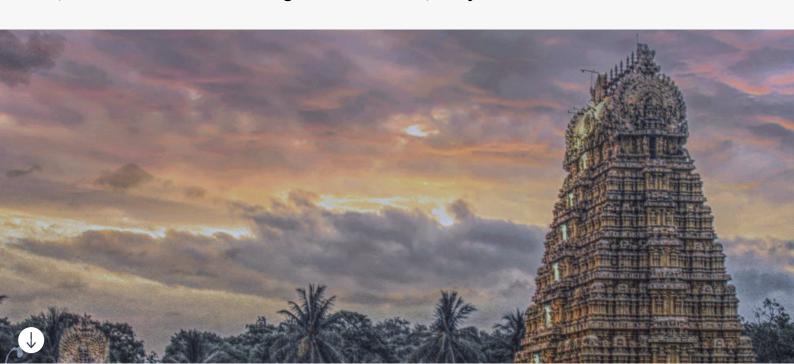






Spiritual and Heritage Tours of Tamil Nadu

Tamil Nadu has more temples than any other states of India. Tamil Nadu is home to more than 40,000 temples and is aptly called "The Land of Temples". Many are at least 800 years old and are found scattered all over the state. The rulers of various dynasties constructed these temples over centuries. As per Tamil Nadu government, there are 38,615 temples. Most of the largest Hindu temples reside here, Studded with complex architecture, variety of sculptures, and rich inscriptions, the temples remain the very essence of the culture and heritage of Tamil land, with historical records dating back to at least 3,000 years.

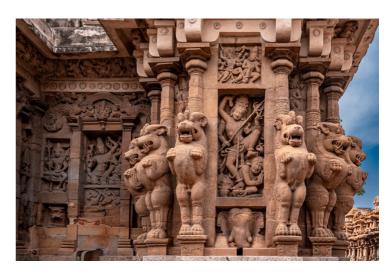


Chennai with land of Pallavas (Kanchipuram & Mamallapuram)

Chennai, Called the 'Health Capital of India', has grown into a charming city within a span of just over 350 years. This buoyant metropolis is a blend of the old and the new, the traditional and the modern, the city is the gateway to the rest of South India.

Kanchipuram was once the capital of the Pallava dynasty. It is considered one of the seven sacred cities of India; between the 6th and 7th centuries, some of the best temples were built here during the reign of the Pallavas. Of the 108 holy temples of the Hindu god Vishnu (DivyaDesams), 14 are located in Kanchipuram.

Mamallapuram, also known as Mahabalipuram is a small laid back town, once an important city of the ancient Pallava kingdom. The town houses many world heritage listed temples which narrate the tales of the Mahabharta. It is recognized as the site of some of the greatest architectural and sculptural achievements in India. Mamallapuram is a UNESCO world heritage site, and a testimonial to the early Tamil architecture.







Chola Nadu (Chola Mandalam)





Chola Nadu encompasses the lower reaches of the Kaveri River and its delta, and formed the cultural homeland and political base of the Chola Dynasty which ruled large parts of South India and parts of Sri Lanka between the 9th and 13th centuries CE. Uraiyur (now part of Tiruchirapalli city) served as the early Chola capital, then medieval Cholas shifted to Thanjavur and later cholas king Rajendra Chola I moved the capital to Gangaikonda Cholapuram in Ariyalur in the 11th century CE.







Kodaikanal - Theni - Megamalai



Kodaikanal is a charming hill town, is referred to as the 'Princess of Hills' and is located 2,133 metres above sea level (Ooty & Kodaikanal are the only Towns located above 2000 MSL in South India & Whole of Non - Himalayan Regions of India). Kodaikanal is also well known for the Kurinji flowers, which blooms once in 12 years.



The meadows, long stretch of forests, Woods slopes, mighty rocks, bowers, creeks and slopes charms the tourists. Dams, Waterfalls, countless Pilgrim Centers with resoundig Cascades, Silver-Lined clouds resting atop green hilltops, sheer like rock faces and temples of antiquity with special tourist attraction are special features.



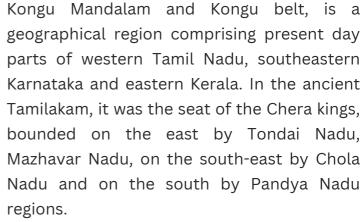
Theni district is surrounded by the majestic Western Ghats, including its large green stretches of cultivated farm lands and tea gardens. Theni is known for its great coffee seeds and cardamaom. Both these items should be on your must-try list before visiting Theni.

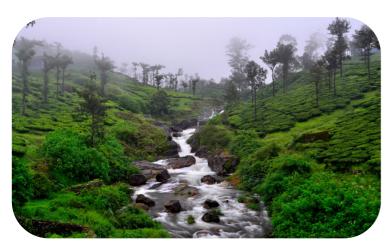
Kolukkumalai Tea Estate (Highest Tea Plantation in the World) is located in Theni Dist of Tamil Nadu.



Kongu Nadu (Kongu Mandalam)







The Western Ghats mountain range passes through the region with major rivers Kaveri, Bhavani, Amaravati and Noyyal flowing through the region.









Mazhanadu (Mazhavar Mandalam)





Mazhanadu is a region between Tondai Nadu Karnataka which was called Mazhavarnadu. This region falls under the great ancient dynasty called Chera Dynasty (Present day Districts of Salem, Namakkal, Dharmapuri and Krishnagiri). In ancient sangam age this region was ruled by Mazhavar King Kolli Mazhavan. Famous Sangam poetess Avvaiyar had cordial relation with the Mazhavar chieftains like Athiyamān Nedumān Añci of Thagadoor and Valvil Ori of Kollimalai. The Keezhby Kolli Mazhanadu was once ruled Mazhavan and his successors. The Keezh-Mazhanadu was well known by its water resources. It was mentioned in a Tamil poem.









The Mighty Nilgiris - Ooty







Nilgiris, one of the oldest mountain ranges, is a part of the Western Ghats, located in Tamil Nadu. Ooty the "Queen of Hill Stations", Coonoor, Kotagiri are the three hill stations of this district. Rolling grasslands, dense sholas, waterfalls, streams, lakes, vast expanse of tea plantations, interspersed with vegetable gardens, spectacular view points, an amazing variety of flora and fauna, fabulous trekking trails, innumerable heritage sites, spell binding sunrises and sunsets, magical light, pollution free atmosphere, mist, clouds, fog, star studded skies, serenity etc. Nilgiris presents a truly breathtaking kaleidoscope of visual treats and soul stirring experiences.

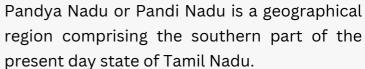
Ooty is one of the largest cities that sit above 2000 meters above MSL and Ooty is the highest located town in Non- Himalayan Region (Ooty & Kodaikanal are the only Towns located above 2000 MSL in South India & Whole of Non- Himalayan Regions of India). The wind chill may fall to as low as 5 °C during the day time. The lowest temperature recorded was -2.1 °C.





Pandya Nadu (Pandya Mandalam)

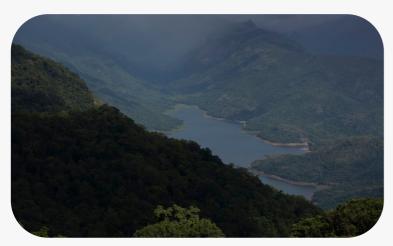






The region was the principal historic seat of the Pandya dynasty who ruled it intermittently and with differing capacities at least from the 4th century BCE to 1759 CE. The political capital of the region is the city of Madurai with Korkai serving as a secondary capital and the principal port city during the early historic period.









Tondai Nadu (Tondaimandalam)





Tondaimandalam, also known as Tondai Nadu, is a historical region located in the southern part of Andhra Pradesh and northernmost part of Tamil Nadu. The region comprises the districts which formed a part of the legendary kingdom of Athondai Chakravarti. During the reign of Rajaraja I, this region was called as Jayankonda Cholamandalam.

The region includes the Nellore, Chittoor, North and South Arcot and Chingleput districts of the Andhra and Madras states. Chennai was part of the region.

















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