

Classical South India

Duration: 11 Nights / 12 Days

Key Sights: Chennai – Kanchipuram – Mahabalipuram – Pondicherry – Thanjavur –
Madurai – Thekkady – Munnar – Cochin – Alleppey

| Day | Program | Mode |
|--------|-------------------------------------|------------|
| Day 01 | Arrive Chennai | By Flight |
| Day 02 | Chennai- Kanchipuram -Mahabalipuram | By Surface |
| Day 03 | Mahabalipuram – Pondicherry | By Surface |
| Day 04 | Pondicherry | By Surface |
| Day 05 | Pondicherry – Thanjavur | By Surface |
| Day 06 | Thanjavur-Madurai | By Surface |
| Day 07 | Madurai – Thekkady | By Surface |
| Day 08 | Thekkady | By Surface |
| Day 09 | Thekkady-Munnar | By Surface |
| Day 10 | Munnar – Cochin | By Surface |
| Day 11 | Cochin-Alleppey | By Surface |
| Day 12 | Departure Trivandrum | By Flight |

Upon arrival at International airport Chennai, you meet with our office representative with your name Card in arrival hall after customs, warm welcome with fresh flower Garlands and transfer to your pre booked Hotel, after short rest proceed for Chennai Sightseeing:

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| Fort St. George | St. George Fort, located on the banks of Bay of Bengal, was built by the British East India Company in 1640 AD. The fort is believed to be the first establishment of the British in India. The military architecture marvel, it was erected as a trading post. |
| Government Museum | Incepted during colonial rule, the Government Museum of Chennai is one of the one of the oldest museums of India. The main attractions of the museum include the Hindu Sculpture Gallery, Bronze Gallery, Amravathi Gallery and the National Art Gallery. |
| Birla Planetarium | Birla Planetarium is fully computerized; located in the Kotturpuram, near Anna `University. The planetarium is an integral part of Periyar Science and Technology Centre, a premier institute in the southern state of India, Tamil Nadu. Birla Planetarium is an Indoor Universe. It's almost like the universe is brought in; with Astronomical phenomena recreated on the specially perforated aluminum inner dome. |
| Marina Beach | Marina Beach is situated at Kamaraj Road, just 3 km away from the city Chennai. Extending to a length of 13 km, it is considered to be second largest beach of the world covering the region from St. George Fort to Mahabalipuram |
| Kapaleeswarar Temple | The Kapaleeswarar Temple situated at Mylapore in Chennai is a prime shrine of Lord Shiva. The temple receives utmost reverence from the residents of Chennai. The temple depicts Goddess Parvati worshipping Lord Shiva in the form of a peacock. |
| St Mary Church | Asia's oldest Protestant Church is a solid example of 17th century craftsmanship. Located within Fort St George, the church was built in 1680 and has a fascinating cemetery on the grounds containing some of Chennai's oldest dignitaries. |

Overnight stay at hotel.

After breakfast ,drive to Mahablipuram en-route visit Kanchipuram and Dakshinachitra,

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| Kanchipuram | <i>80km southwest of Chennai, was capital of the Pallava dynasty during the 6th to 8th centuries, when the Pallavas created the great stone monuments of Mamallapuram. Today a typically hectic modern Indian town, it's famed for its numerous important and vibrant temples, some dating from Pallava, Chola or Vijayanagar times, and also for its high-quality silk saris, woven on hand looms</i> |
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| | <i>by thousands of families in the city and nearby villages. Silk and sari shops are strung along Gandhi Rd, southeast of the centre, though their wares are generally no cheaper than at Chennai silk shops. Kanchi is easily visited in a day trip from Mamallapuram or Chennai.</i> |
| Dakshinachitra | <i>Dakshinachitra is a heritage village situated on the mahabalipuram beach and is 25 km from chennai. Tourists visit this place to see the heritage homes from andhra pradesh, karnataka, tamil nadu and kerala. This village is developed as a model village representing the 19th century era. The artistic south indian craft industry is featured here in its traditional form.</i> |

On arrival **Mahabalipuram** check in at hotel ,Overnight

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| Day 03 | Mahabalipuram-Pondicherry | By Surface |
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After breakfast proceed for Mahabalipuram sightseeing as below,

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| Shore temple | Shore Temple, which dates back to 8th century AD, is a combination of three shrines. This temple also includes Vishnu temple, which is constructed in between two Shiva temples. Built using blocks of granite, the structure features Dravidian style, which is a beautiful creation by Pallavas and is situated on the seashore of Mahabalipuram in Tamil Nadu. The temple is built in pyramid style standing 60 ft high and resting on a 50 ft square platform. Apart from the shrines of deities, the temple also incorporates beautiful artistic depiction. |
| Pancha Rathas | Five Rathas is a rock-cut temple built in late 7th century by the Pallavas. These Five Rathas are named after the Pandavas and other characters of Mahabharata. Draupadi Ratha, Dharmaraja Ratha and others comprises the five rathas. UNESCO has classified this architectural work as a World Heritage Site. Dharmaraja Ratha is the largest multi-storeyed temple and Draupadi Ratha is the smallest among all these cave temples. Based on the Buddhist viharas and chaityas, these temples are carved out from one piece of huge rock. |
| Mahishamardini Cave | Mahishamardini Cave is a monolithic sculpture located in the Chingleput District of Mahabalipuram. The cave dates back to mid 7th century and is one of the major sites in Mahabalipuram. Dedicated to mother goddess, there are carvings of Shiva, Parvati and Murugan in the centre of the cave. The two sculptures on the walls of the cave depict the Pallava form of arts. |

Thereafter drive to Pondicherry

Upon arrival check-in at hotel,Overnight.

Day 04 Pondicherry

After breakfast, proceed for sightseeing:

Puducherry: (formerly called Pondicherry and generally referred to as 'Pondy') was under French rule until 1954 and some people here still speak French (and English with French accents). Hotels, restaurants and 'lifestyle' shops sell a seductive vision of the French-subcontinental aesthetic, enhanced by Gallic creative types whose presence has in turn attracted Indian artists and designers. Thus Pondy's vibe: less faded colonial-era ville, more a bohemian-chic, New Age-cum-Old World hangout on the international travel trail. Part of the vibe stems from the presence of the internationally famous Sri Aurobindo Ashram and its offshoot just out of town, Auroville, which draw large numbers of spiritually minded visitors.

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| Raj Niwas | The neoclassical governor's residence faces Bharathi Park from the north. |
| Notre Dame des Anges | The twin towers and dome of the mellow pink-and-cream Notre Dame des Anges, built in the 1850s, look sublime in the late-afternoon light. The smooth limestone interior was made using eggshells in the plaster. |
| Puducherry Museum | God knows how this cute little museum keeps its artefacts from disintegrating, considering there's a whole floor of French-era furniture sitting in the South Indian humidity. On the ground floor look especially for the Chola, Vijayanagar and Nayak bronzes, and the pieces of ancient Greek and Spanish pottery and amphorae (storage vessels) excavated from Arikamedu, a once-major trading port just south of Puducherry. Upstairs is Governor Dupleix's bed. |
| Sri Manakula Vinayagar Temple | Pondy may have more churches than most towns, but this is still India, and the Hindu faith still reigns supreme. Don't miss the chance to watch tourists, pilgrims and the curious get a head pat from the temple elephant at this temple dedicated to Ganesh, which also contains over 40 skilfully painted friezes. |
| Auroville | 'the City of Dawn', is one of those ideas that anyone with idealistic leanings will love: an international community dedicated to peace, harmony, sustainable living, and 'divine consciousness', where people from across the globe, ignoring creed, colour and nationality, work together to build a universal, cash-free, non-religious township and realise good old human unity. |

Return to hotel. Overnight

Day 5 Pondicherry – Thanjavur**By Surface**

After breakfast, checkout from the hotel and drive to Thanjavur on arrival proceed for sightseeing:

Thanjavur: Here are the ochre foundation blocks of perhaps the most remarkable civilisation of Dravidian history, one of the few kingdoms to expand Hinduism beyond India, a bedrock for aesthetic styles that spread from Madurai to the Mekong. A dizzying historical legacy was forged from Thanjavur, capital of the great Chola Empire during its heyday. Today, this is a crowded, hectic, modern Indian town but the past is still very much present. Every day thousands of people worship at the Cholas' grand Brihadishwara Temple, and Thanjavur's labyrinthine royal palace preserves memories of other powerful dynasties from later centuries.

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| Brihadishwara Temple | The World Heritage-listed Brihadishwara Temple was built between 1003 and 1010 by Rajaraja I ('king of kings'). The outer fortifications were put up by Thanjavur's later Nayak and British regimes. You enter through a Nayak gate, followed by two original gopurams with elaborate stucco sculptures. You might find the temple elephant under one of the gopurams, dispensing good luck with a dab of his trunk to anyone who puts a rupee in it. Several shrines are dotted around the extensive grassy areas of the walled temple compound, including one of India's largest statues of Nandi (Shiva's sacred bull) facing the main temple building. Cut from a single rock, this 16th-century Nayak creation is 6m long. |
| Royal Palace | Thanjavur's royal palace is a mixed bag of ruin and renovation, superb art and random royal paraphernalia. The maze-like complex was constructed partly by the Nayaks who took over Thanjavur in 1535, and partly by a local Maratha dynasty that ruled from 1676 to 1855. The two don't-miss sections are the Saraswati Mahal Library Museum and the Art Gallery. |

Check in at hotel. Overnight

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| Day 6 | Thanjavur-Madurai | By Surface |
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After breakfast, checkout from the hotel and drive to Madurai on arrival proceed for sightseeing:

Madurai: Chennai may be the capital of Tamil Nadu, but Madurai claims its soul. Madurai is Tamil-born and Tamil-rooted, one of the oldest cities in India, a metropolis that traded with ancient Rome and was a great capital long before Chennai was even dreamt of.

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| Tirumalai Nayak's Palace | What the Meenakshi Amman Temple is to Nayak religious architecture, Tirumalai Nayak's crumbling palace is to the secular. Although it's said to be only a quarter of its original size, its massive scale and hybrid Dravidian-Islamic style still testify to the lofty aspirations of its creator. You enter from the east – a large courtyard surrounded by tall columns topped with fancy stucco work leads through to the grand throne chamber with its 25m-high dome; two stone-carved horses frame the steps up. |
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| Gandhi Memorial Museum | Housed in a 17th-century Nayak queen's palace, this excellent museum contains an impressively moving and comprehensive account of India's struggle for independence from 1757 to 1947, and the English-language text spares no detail about British rule. Included in the exhibition is the blood-stained dhoti that Gandhi was wearing when he was assassinated in Delhi in 1948; it was here in Madurai, in 1921, that he first took up wearing the dhoti as a sign of native pride. |
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Check in at hotel. Overnight

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| Day 7 | Madurai – Thekkady | By Surface |
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After breakfast, checkout from the hotel and drive to Thekkady

Upon arrival check-in at hotel, Overnight.

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| Day 8 | Thekkady | |
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After breakfast, proceed for sightseeing:

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| Periyar National Park | Tiger Reserve, Thekkady, is an example of nature's bounty, with great scenic charm, rich bio diversity and providing veritable visitor satisfaction. Sprawled over an area of 777 Sq km. Periyar is one of the 27 tiger reserves in India. |
| Spice Plantation | This plantation town, closely associated with Thekkady, is situated on the outskirts of the Periyar Sanctuary. Visit spice plantation having deferent kind of spices and herbs drawing Authentic Keralite environment. |
| Elephant Ride | Elephant ride of 30 minutes. |

Return to hotel. Overnight

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| Day 9 | Thekkady – Munnar | By Surface |
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After breakfast, checkout from the hotel and drive to Munnar on arrival proceed for sightseeing:

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| Tea Museum | This tea museum is first of its kind in India. It is located at KDHP's Nullatanni estate in Munnar. The aim of this museum according to its founders is to showcase the growth of more-than-a-century-old tea plantations in this region. Anyone visiting this museum will get a clear picture of how laborious this tea processing really is. |
| Tea Plantations | How can one resist a tea garden tour when you are in Munnar? Rolling hillsides covered with tea plantations is a sight to behold. The lush |

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| | greenery and the soothing cold wind with a mild aroma of tea leave totally rejuvenate you. |
| Echo Point | This scenic place gets its name from the natural echo phenomenon here. Echo Point, situated on the way to Top Station from Munnar is a stopover for tourists visiting Top Station - the highest point in Munnar and the rare Neelakurinji (Strobilanthus) blooms here |

Check in at hotel. Overnight

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| Day 10 | Munnar – Cochin | By Surface |
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After breakfast, checkout from the hotel and drive to Cochin on arrival proceed for sightseeing:

***Kochi:** Serene Kochi has been drawing traders and explorers to its shores for over 600 years. Nowhere else in India could you find such an intriguing mix: giant fishing nets from China, a 400-year-old synagogue, ancient mosques, Portuguese houses and the crumbling remains of the British Raj.*

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| Pardesi Synagogue | Originally built in 1568, this synagogue was partially destroyed by the Portuguese in 1662, and rebuilt two years later when the Dutch took Kochi. It features an ornate gold pulpit and elaborate hand-painted, willow-pattern floor tiles from Canton, China, which were added in 1762. It's magnificently illuminated by Belgian chandeliers and coloured-glass lamps. The graceful clock tower was built in 1760. There is an upstairs balcony for women, who worshipped separately according to Orthodox rites. |
| Mattancherry Palace | Even though it is austere in its appearance, the Mattancherry Palace of Cochin has a quaint charm of its own. The credit for building this landmark monument partly goes to the Dutch, who captured Cochin city of Kerala during the pre-British period. |
| Santa Cruz Basilica | The imposing Catholic basilica was originally built on this site in 1506, though the current building dates to 1902. Inside you'll find artefacts from the different eras in Kochi and a striking pastel-coloured interior. |
| St Francis Church | Constructed in 1503 by Portuguese Franciscan friars, this is believed to be India's oldest European-built church. The edifice that stands here today was built in the mid-16th century to replace the original wooden structure. Explorer Vasco da Gama, who died in Cochin in 1524, was buried in this spot for 14 years before his remains were taken to Lisbon – you can still visit his tombstone in the church. |
| Chinese Fishing Nets | The Chinese fishing nets at Fort Kochi, located in the Kochi city of Kerala, make up a very popular tourist attraction. They are fixed land installations, which are used for a very unique and unusual method of fishing |

Check in at hotel. Overnight

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| Day 11 | Cochin-Alleppey | By Surface |
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After breakfast, checkout from the hotel and drive to Alleppey

Alleppey: Alappuzha (or Alleppey) is a city on the Laccadive Sea in the southern Indian state of Kerala. It's best known for houseboat cruises along the rustic Kerala backwaters, a network of tranquil canals and lagoons. Alappuzha Beach is the site of the 19th-century Alappuzha Lighthouse. The city's Mullakkal Temple features a traditional design. Punnamada Lake's snake boat races are a well-known annual event.

Board your houseboat for backwater cruise .

Lunch, Dinner & Overnight stay at House boat.

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| Day 12 | Alleppey Departure | By Surface |
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After breakfast disembark from houseboat and transfer to Trivandrum airport for flight back to home.

| Particulars | Standard | Superior | Deluxe |
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| Package Costs | | | |
| 02 pax travelling together | USD 1133 | USD 1203 | USD 1370 |
| 03-04 pax travelling together | USD 1054 | USD 1124 | USD 1291 |
| 05-06 pax travelling together | USD 976 | USD 1046 | USD 1213 |
| 07-09 pax travelling together | USD 879 | USD 949 | USD 1116 |
| Single Supplement | USD 473 | USD 543 | USD 911 |
| Half Board Supplement | USD 100 | USD 153 | USD 189 |
| Entrances to monuments & Activities | USD 97 | USD 97 | USD 97 |

Valid: 15th September 2019 to 14th April 2020

Compliments from Truly India Tours:

- Warm welcome with fresh flower garlands
- 01 water bottle on arrival per pax
- 01 water bottle on intercity transfer per pax

Package costs includes:

- 11 nights' accommodation sharing DBL/Twin room basis.
- Daily breakfast starting Day 2
- All transports, excursions, sightseeing's etc as per program in private A/C vehicle

- Local English Speaking guide during sightseeings.
- Kathakali dance show in Cochin
- 01 Lunch and 01 Dinner on house boat in Alleppey
- Presently Applicable taxes (subject to change)

Package costs excludes:

- Airfare, insurance or visa fees
- Meals except specified
- Any personal expense like minibar, telephone charges, spa etc
- Entrances to monuments
- Porterage etc
- Tips or gratitude amount
- Anything not mentioned in ‘Package costs includes’

Standard Hotels Envisaged

Note: This list of hotels are envisaged. Same or similar hotels are offered. In case of non-availability, same category/rate bracket hotels are offered.

| City | Names |
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| Delhi | Regent Villa/Ajanta Hotel |
| Agra | Siris18/Amar Hotel |
| Jaipur | Park Ocean/ Mahal Khandela |
| Jodhpur | Mapple Abhay/ Trully Rudransh Inn |
| Udaipur | Amar Kothi/ Hotel Landmark |
| Jaisalmer | Golden Haveli/ Hotel Jaisalmer |
| Desert | Desert Safari Camp |
| Bikaner | Bhanwar Singh Palace or similar |
| Pushkar | Pushkar Bagh/ Pushkar Fort |
| Ranthambore | Shergarh Resort/ Tiger Roar |
| Mandawa | Sara Villas/ Desert & Dunes |
| Khajuraho | Syna Heritage/ Greenwoods |
| Varanasi | Costa River/ Silk City Varanasi |
| Sambhar | Sambhar Heritage Resort |
| Cochin | Abad Atrium/ Abad Plaza |
| Munnar | Abad Copper Castle/Eastend Munnar/Cuckmere Resort |
| Thekkady | Abad Green Forest or similar |
| Alleppey | Deshadan Backwater Resort |
| Houseboat | Deluxe Houseboats (A/C night time only) |
| Chennai | The Chariot or similar |

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| Mahabalipuram | Mamalla Heritage or similar |
| Pondicherry | Shenbagha Hotel/ The Atithi |
| Thanjavur | Poppy's Kumbakonam or similar |
| Madurai | Poppy's Madurai or similar |
| Bangalore | Pai Vista Banglore or similar |
| Mysore | Pai Vista Hotel or similar |
| Hassan | Southern Star or similar |
| Coorg | Woodstock Villa or similar |
| Wayanad | Meenmutty Wayanad or similar |
| Guruvayur | Guruvayur Gateway or similar |

Superior Hotels Envisaged

Note: This list of hotels are envisaged. Same or similar hotels are offered. In case of non-availability, same category/rate bracket hotels are offered.

| City | Names |
|---------------|--|
| Delhi | Taurus Sarovar Portico /Golden Tulip Suites Gurugram |
| Agra | The Maningh/Howard Plaza The Fern |
| Jaipur | Regenta Jal Mahal/Sarovar Portico |
| Jodhpur | Fern Residency/ Park Plaza |
| Udaipur | Aaram Mahal Udaipur or similar |
| Jaisalmer | Desert Palace Trully or similar |
| Desert | Royal Desert Camp/Hariyali Dhani Camp or similar |
| Bikaner | Gaj Kesari/Vesta Bikaner or similar |
| Pushkar | Aaram Bagh/Bhanwar Singh Palace or similar |
| Ranthambore | Tiger Roar/Shergarh or similar |
| Mandawa | Sara Villas / Desert & Dunes or similar |
| Khajuraho | Golden Tulip Khajuraho or similar |
| Varanasi | Hotel Amaaya or similar |
| Sambhar | Sambhar Heritage Resort |
| Cochin | Nihara resort & Spa or similar |
| Munnar | Mountain Trail Resort or similar |
| Thekkady | Mountain Courtyard or similar |
| Alleppey | Uday Backwater Resort & Spa or similar |
| Houseboat | Deluxe Houseboat (Night time A/C Only) |
| Chennai | Quality Inn Sabri or similar |
| Mahabalipuram | Ideal Beach resort or similar |

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| Pondicherry | Hotel Shenbagha/The Atithi or similar |
| Thanjavur | Quality Inn Viha Kumbakonam or similar |
| Madurai | Poppy's Madurai or similar |
| Bangalore | Royal Orchid Bangalore/Windflower or similar |
| Mysore | The Sandesh/Southern Star or similar |
| Hassan | Hoysala Heritage Resort or similar |
| Coorg | Woodstock villa or similar |
| Wayanad | Abad Brookside Lakkidi/ The Woods or similar |
| Guruvayur | Guruvayur Gateway or similar |

Deluxe Hotels Envisaged

Note: This list of hotels are envisaged. Same or similar hotels are offered. In case of non-availability, same category/rate bracket hotels are offered.

| City | Names |
|---------------|--|
| Delhi | Radisson Blu Dwarka/ WelcomHotel Dwarka/ Piccadily |
| Agra | Radisson Blu/ Clarks Shiraz/ Ramada Plaza |
| Jaipur | Radisson Blu/ Crowne Plaza/ Holiday Inn Centre |
| Jodhpur | The Umeed or similar |
| Udaipur | Fateh Garh or similar |
| Jaisalmer | Sairafort Jaisalmer or similar |
| Desert | Dhora Tent Lux Camps/Samsara Desert Camp |
| Bikaner | Gaj Kesari/Vesta or similar |
| Pushkar | Orchard Luxury Tents or similar |
| Ranthambore | Treehouse Anuraga Palace or similar |
| Mandawa | Vivaana Culture Mandawa or similar |
| Khajuraho | Ramada Khajuraho or similar |
| Varanasi | The Madin or similar |
| Sambhar | Sambhar Heritage Resort |
| Cochin | Holiday Inn Cochin or similar |
| Munnar | Mountain Club or similar |
| Thekkady | Cardammom County or similar |
| Alleppey | Uday Backwater Resort & Spa or similar |
| Houseboat | Deluxe Houseboat (Night time A/C Only) |
| Chennai | Clarion Chennai or similar |
| Mahabalipuram | Ideal Beach resort or similar |
| Pondicherry | Windflower Pondicherry or similar |

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| Thanjavur | Ideal River View or similar |
| Madurai | Heritage Madurai or similar |
| Bangalore | Fortune Bangalore/Sarovar Portico or similar |
| Mysore | Radisson Blu Mysore/Windflower Resort or similar |
| Hassan | Hoysala Heritage Resort or similar |
| Coorg | Windflower Coorg or similar |
| Wayanad | Windflower Resort/ Vythiri Resort or similar |
| Guruvayur | Guruvayur Gateway or similar |

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(TI-24/09/2019)