

TAMIL NADU · CLASSIC ITINERARY

Classic Temple Trail

The core Tamil Nadu pilgrimage circuit: Meenakshi, Ramanathaswamy, Kanyakumari's tip-of-India setting, Srirangam and Brihadeeswarar in six nights, ending near Trichy for an easy flight home.

6 nights / 7 days Route: **Madurai – Rameswaram – Kanyakumari – Trichy – Thanjavur**

From **₹34,000** per person, indicative

Day by day

Day

1**MADURAI****Arrive and Meenakshi Temple**

Fly into Madurai (usually one-stop via Chennai or Bengaluru, landing by early afternoon) and check in. Rest, then head to Meenakshi Amman Temple by 4 pm — the complex is best seen slowly, and evening light on the gopurams is worth the timing. Stay for the palanquin ceremony at 9:30 pm if energy allows; it is the temple's daily highlight.

Stay: **Madurai** · Meals: **Dinner**

Day

2**MADURAI****Temple in depth and the old city**

Early second visit to Meenakshi Temple (6 am) to see the morning rituals with smaller crowds, then the thousand-pillar hall and Pudhu Mandapam. Late morning at Thirumalai Nayakkar Palace, a 17th-century Indo-Saracenic hall. Afternoon free or a walk through the flower and spice market around the temple; Gujarati thali available in town for dinner.

Stay: **Madurai** · Meals: **Breakfast, Dinner**

Day

3**MADURAI → RAMESWARAM****Pamban Bridge and Ramanathaswamy**

Drive to Rameswaram (170 km, 3½ hours), crossing the Pamban Bridge over the sea — stop for photos. Check in, then Ramanathaswamy Temple in the afternoon: the 22 sacred theerthams ritual bath (temple staff assist, allow 45 minutes), and the 1,200 m pillared corridor. Sunset at the temple-adjacent beach.

Stay: **Rameswaram** · Meals: **Breakfast, Dinner**

Day

4

RAMESWARAM → KANYAKUMARI

Dhanushkodi and on to the tip of India

Early visit to Dhanushkodi (the abandoned ghost town at India's southeastern tip, 18 km by jeep/shared van from Rameswaram — the last stretch is sand track). Return, then drive to Kanyakumari (240 km, 5–6 hours via Tirunelveli) arriving by evening. Sunset over the sea from the promenade.

Stay: Kanyakumari · Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Day

5

KANYAKUMARI → TRICHY

Sunrise, Vivekananda Rock and drive north

Sunrise on the beach (get there by 6 am) — the meeting point of three seas. Ferry to the Vivekananda Rock Memorial and Thiruvalluvar Statue (ferries run roughly 8 am–4 pm, weather-dependent, ₹100–150 return). Late morning, long drive to Trichy (330 km, 6–7 hours) — this is the longest driving day of the trip; consider splitting with a Madurai overnight if travelling with elders.

Stay: Trichy · Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Day

6

TRICHY / SRIRANGAM / THANJAVUR

Srirangam and Brihadeeswarar

Morning at Srirangam Temple, the largest functioning temple complex in the world — allow 2 hours to walk through its seven concentric enclosures. Then drive to Thanjavur (55 km, 1½ hours) for the Brihadeeswarar Temple, a 1,000-year-old Chola masterpiece; the single-stone 80-tonne cupola atop the 66 m vimana is the thing to see. Return to Trichy for the night.

Stay: Trichy · Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Day

7

TRICHY → AHMEDABAD

Fly home

Trichy airport is 8 km from the city centre. Flights to Ahmedabad are usually one-stop via Chennai or Bengaluru; leave 3 hours before departure.

Stay: — · Meals: Breakfast

Inclusions

Included

- + Domestic flight into Madurai and out of Trichy (Ahmedabad legs quoted separately)
- + 6 nights in inspected 3★/4★ hotels
- + Private AC vehicle for the whole trip
- + Daily breakfast and veg dinner
- + Kanyakumari ferry to Vivekananda Rock
- + Airport pickup and drop

Not included

- Ahmedabad–Madurai and Trichy–Ahmedabad flights
- Lunches
- Temple special/express darshan tickets
- Travel insurance
- GST 5%

Indicative cost

STANDARD

₹34,000–40,000

Per person, twin sharing

PREMIUM

₹52,000–65,000

Per person, twin sharing

Per person on twin sharing, indicative for 2026, including domestic connecting flights but not the Ahmedabad sector. December and the Tamil month of Margazhi (mid-Dec–mid-Jan) run 15–20% higher and need earlier temple queue starts. All prices on this document are indicative for 2026 and confirmed in writing at the time of booking.

Good to know

Getting there. Fly: IndiGo and Air India fly Ahmedabad–Chennai non-stop daily, about 2 h 15 m. Chennai (MAA) is right for Mahabalipuram and Pondicherry. Ahmedabad–Madurai, Ahmedabad–Coimbatore and Ahmedabad–Trichy are usually one-stop (via Chennai, Bengaluru or Mumbai), typically 4–6 hours door to door.

Food. South Indian vegetarian food is naturally vegetarian by default — idli, dosa, pongal, sambar and rice-based meals need no special request, which makes Tamil Nadu one of the easiest states for a strict-veg Gujarati group. Madurai and Chennai both have Gujarati thali restaurants and North Indian options; smaller towns like Rameswaram, Thanjavur and Kanyakumari rely on good South Indian vegetarian hotels, which we pre-select for cleanliness and consistency.

Permits and rules. No permits needed anywhere in Tamil Nadu for Indian nationals. Dress codes are enforced at every major temple: no shorts, no sleeveless tops, and men are often asked to remove shirts or wear a dhoti at inner sanctums (available on hire at the entrance, ₹20–50). Some temples, including parts of Meenakshi and Ramanathaswamy, restrict non-Hindus from the innermost sanctum — signage marks the boundary clearly, and our guides brief mixed-faith groups in advance. Auroville's Matrimandir interior needs an advance online booking, not a permit, but slots fill up so arrange it before travel.

Pack

- Light cotton clothing for the plains — it stays warm November to February too
- A light jacket or shawl for Ooty/Kodaikanal evenings (12–15°C) if the hills are on the itinerary
- Comfortable slip-on footwear — temples require bare feet and you will remove shoes often, sometimes at the outer gate
- A shawl or stole for women, and a spare dhoti-ready outfit for men, for stricter temple sections
- Umbrella or light raincoat if travelling October–December, especially on the coast
- Sunscreen and a hat — temple courtyards are open stone and can be scorching by mid-morning
- Motion-sickness tablets for the Ooty ghat road and the Kanyakumari–Trichy long drive

Want this booked properly?

Send this PDF to us on WhatsApp with your dates and the number of travellers. Hotel names and a firm price within 24 hours.

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