

KUKKE SUBRAMANYA & COASTAL KARNATAKA TEMPLES · FOCUSED ITINERARY

Sarpa Samskara Focused

A tight, pooja-first trip for families whose main purpose is the Sarpa Samskara / Ashlesha Bali seva at Kukke, with Dharmasthala added on the way back. Two nights at Kukke because the seva itself runs across two days.

3 nights / 4 days Route: Mangaluru – Kukke Subramanya (2 nights) – Dharmasthala – Mangaluru

From ₹16,000 per person, indicative

Day by day

Day

1

MANGALURU → KUKKE SUBRAMANYA

Arrive and check in

Fly into Mangaluru (one-stop from Ahmedabad) and drive straight to Kukke Subramanya, 105 km, about 2½–3 hours on a winding ghat road via Bantwal and Uppinangady. Check in at your pre-booked lodge — Kukke's own accommodation and private lodges fill up fast around pooja dates, so this is booked before you fly. Evening: register at the temple office and confirm your Sarpa Samskara slot and timing for the next morning; a simple darshan at the main sanctum in the evening.

Stay: Kukke Subramanya · Meals: Dinner

Day

2

KUKKE SUBRAMANYA

Sarpa Samskara / Ashlesha Bali – day one

The seva begins early, usually with a ritual bath in the Kumaradhara river before sunrise, followed by a Ganapati Homa and the main Sarpa Samskara or Ashlesha Bali ritual conducted by temple priests, which typically runs through the morning into early afternoon. Men are required to remove their shirts inside the sanctum area — carry a plain white cloth or angavastram, available at temple shops if you don't bring one. Afternoon is free; most families rest, as the ritual is physically and emotionally involved for elders. Annadanam (free temple meal) is available for lunch and dinner in the temple dining hall.

Stay: Kukke Subramanya · Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner (annadanam)

Day
3

KUKKE SUBRAMANYA → DHARMASTHALA

Nagaprathishta and onward to Dharmasthala

A short closing ritual (Nagaprathishta, if part of your package) or a final darshan in the morning before checking out. Drive to Dharmasthala, 75 km, about 2 hours, arriving by early afternoon. Darshan at the Manjunatha Temple — queues move fast on non-festival days — followed by a walk through the temple town and a look at the Manjusha Museum if time allows. Dinner is the temple's Ratri Bhojana, a large communal free meal served on the floor; dress modestly and be ready to sit and eat in a shared hall.

Stay: Dharmasthala · Meals: Breakfast, Dinner (Ratri Bhojana)

Day
4

DHARMASTHALA → MANGALURU → AHMEDABAD

Fly home

Morning darshan for those who missed it the previous evening, then drive to Mangaluru airport, 75 km, about 2 hours — leave with a comfortable buffer for a midday or afternoon flight. Kadri Manjunatha Temple in Mangaluru city is a possible last stop if your flight is late in the day.

Stay: — · Meals: Breakfast

Inclusions

Included

- + Private AC vehicle Mangaluru–Kukke–Dharmasthala–Mangaluru
- + 3 nights: lodge at Kukke Subramanya, hotel at Dharmasthala
- + Assistance booking the Sarpa Samskara/Ashlesha Bali slot online in advance
- + Angavastram/dhoti arrangement for the sanctum dress code
- + Airport pickup and drop at Mangaluru
- + Daily breakfast; annadanam and Ratri Bhojana are free at the temples

Not included

- Ahmedabad–Mangaluru flights
- The Sarpa Samskara/Ashlesha Bali seva fee itself, paid directly to the temple
- Lunches outside temple annadanam
- Travel insurance and GST 5%

Indicative cost

STANDARD

₹16,000–20,000

Per person, twin sharing

PREMIUM

₹26,000–32,000

Per person, twin sharing

Per person on twin sharing, indicative, excluding flights and the seva fee, which is paid separately at the temple counter. Lodge rooms at Kukke are simple even at the premium band — there is no luxury hotel category on-site. All prices on this document are indicative for 2026 and confirmed in writing at the time of booking.

Good to know

Getting there. Fly: no non-stop Ahmedabad–Mangaluru service exists; IndiGo and Air India run one-stop flights via Bengaluru or Mumbai, about 4–5 hours door to door. Bengaluru (BLR) is an alternative arrival point if flight timings work better, but adds a 5–6 hour drive to Kukke, so Mangaluru is almost always the better choice.

Food. Every temple town runs a free annadanam or bhojana hall — Dharmasthala's Ratri Bhojana and Kukke's annadanam are both excellent and available to all visitors regardless of caste or religion. Udupi is the birthplace of udupi cuisine — the Sri Krishna Matha's own canteens and countless restaurants in town serve reliably good pure-veg thalis and dosas.

Permits and rules. No permits are needed anywhere on this circuit. Kukke Subramanya's Sarpa Samskara, Ashlesha Bali and Nagaprathishta poojas must be booked in advance through the temple's official website (Kukke Sri Subrahmanya Temple online seva booking) — walk-in slots are rarely available on the day, and the seva typically spans a ritual bath and homa on one day and a closing rite the next, which is why 1–2 nights on site are needed. Dress code: men must remove shirts before entering the sanctum at Kukke and Dharmasthala (a plain cloth or angavastram is fine, sold at temple shops); women are expected to wear traditional Indian dress, not shorts or sleeveless tops, at every temple on this list. Photography is generally not allowed inside sanctum areas at any of these temples — phones must usually be deposited or kept switched off; check current rules with the counter on arrival as they do change.

Pack

- Plain cotton dhoti/angavastram for men for sanctum entry at Kukke and Dharmasthala (extras available for purchase on-site)
- Traditional Indian wear for women — sarees or salwar kameez travel best across this circuit
- Comfortable slip-on footwear — shoes come off at every temple entrance, often well before the main gate
- A light shawl or stole for early-morning ritual baths and cool Ghats mornings in winter
- Umbrella or raincoat if travelling outside December–March
- A small cash pouch — seva fees, temple donations and annadanam-hall contributions are usually cash
- Copies of Aadhaar and any pooja booking confirmation printouts for lodge check-in and temple counters

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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