

SIT9

10 NIGHTS / 11 DAYS

HERITAGE KARNATAKA
BANGALORE / MYSORE / HASSAN / HOSPET - HAMPI / BADAMI / GOA

**DAY 01: Bangalore:**

Meet on arrival and transfer to a Hotel, depending on the arrival time, afternoon half-day tour to **ISKCON temple** - the Krishna Temple is a blend of Modern technology and spiritual harmony, **Lalbagh** - 240 acres of beautifully sculpted gardens, flowers abound, rare collection of tropical and sub-tropical plants, **Vidhana Soudha** - this massive building houses the state Legislature and the Secretariat, later on return to hotel and overnight.

DAY 02: Bangalore:

Morning breakfast and proceed for full day sight seeing, visit to **Cubbon Park**, **Bull Temple - Dravidian-style temple**, has a huge monolithic Bull is the vahana of Lord Shiva, Government Museum - Acclaimed as one of the oldest museums in the country, **Tippu's Palace** - Tippu Sultan's summer retreat, **Indira Gandhi Musical Fountain** - View the colorful swirling fountains dancing in tune to music, later on return to hotel and overnight.

DAY 03: Bangalore/Mysore (140kms / 3Hrs):

Morning breakfast, checkout and proceed to **Mysore**- Known for its magnificent palaces and majestic buildings, sprawling gardens and treelined boulevards, shimmering silks and sandalwood, the 'City Royale' always figures in the tourist's itinerary, enroute visit **Srirangapatna** - Island fortress of Tippu Sultan. Visit Tippu's summer Palace, Mosque, and Sriranganatha Temple. On arrival in Mysore check into a hotel and evening visit Chamundi Hill - perched a top a hill-the 4.8m tall monolith of Nandi and the gigantic Mahishasura statue are added attractions. Return to hotel and overnight.

DAY 04: Mysore:

Morning breakfast and proceed for full day sight seeing, visit **Maharaja Palace** - the palace is a splendid structure in the Indo-Saracenic Style, among its many attractions are a magnificent gold throne displayed during the Dasara celebrations, **Art Gallery** - the art gallery in the Jaganmohan Palace houses an excellent collection of ceramics, sandalwood, ivory, stone, antique furniture and ancient musical instruments, St. **Philomena's Church** - this imposing Gothic structure with beautiful stained glass windows and lofty towers is a must see. Later on in the evening visit **Brindavan Garden** - the Krishna Raja Sagar Dam after sundown,

when musical fountains and colored lights transform this place into a magical fairyland and return to hotel and overnight.

DAY 05: Mysore / Hassan (120kms/3hrs):

Morning breakfast, check out and proceed to Hassan, enroute visit **Shravanabelagola** - The monolithic statue of Lord Gomateshwara, a Jain saint and an object of worship for centuries, standing atop one of the hills. On arrival check into a hotel. After lunch visit **Belur** - The most photographed and perhaps the best and they are a must on every tourist's temple itinerary, **Halebid** - the temple, perched on a star-shaped base amidst lawns, is a sculptural extravaganza temple. Overnight at the hotel.

DAY 06: Hassan /Hospet (Hampi)(360kms/7hrs):

Early morning breakfast, checkout and proceed to **Hampi**- the World Heritage Center, is the most beautiful and evocative of all the ruins of Karnataka. Capital of Vijaya Nagar kingdom is full of delightful surprises. On arrival check into a hotel. Relax for the rest of the day. Overnight.

DAY 07: Hospet - Hampi:

Morning breakfast, proceed for a full day sightseeing, visit to King's **Palace** - This is the largest enclosure, including two major platform structures, an underground chamber which must have served as a treasury or private audience hall, **Mahanavami Dibba** - Equally impressive is the massive Mahanavami Dibba, where the kings once sat on gem-studded golden thrones and watched processions pass by. **Queen's Bath** - This structure has a very plain exterior but the interior is stunningly ornate, with graceful arched corridors, projecting balconies and lotus-shaped fountains that used to spout perfumed water for the ladies of the court. Return to hotel and overnight.

DAY 08: Hospet – Hampi:

Morning breakfast and full day sight seeing, visit to **Lotus Mahal** - This visually appealing structure has two levels, with open pavilions at the bottom and balconies above. An elegant example of the fusion of the Hindu and Muslim styles of architecture, **Elephant Stables** - An imposing edifice with arched entrances and many domes that once housed the magnificent state elephants. **Pushkarni** - This stepped water tank, excavated in the mid-1980s, was originally a part of the palace complex, **Hazara Rama Temple** - This was a royal temple reserved for ceremonial use. The entire temple is embellished with bas-relief's depicting scenes from the epic 'Ramayana'. Return to hotel and Overnight.>

DAY 09: Hospet / Badami (126kms/4hrs):

Morning breakfast and check out and proceed to Badami. On arrival check in to the Hotel, Lunch and half day sight seeing visiting to **Badami Caves** – Picturesquely situated at the mouth of a ravine between two rocky hills, the exquisite sculptures and the rust red sandstone cliffs of Badami tell many a tale of yore, **North Fort** - This is the largest enclosure, including two major platform structures, an underground chamber which must have served as a treasury or private audience hall, several other platforms, **Banashankari** - is a quaint hamlet taking its name from the goddess Banashankari. Built in the Dravidian style, the temple is dedicated to Banashankari, a form of Parvati. Return to hotel and overnight.

DAY 10: Badami:

Morning breakfast and proceed for a day excursion to Aihole and Pattadakal, Aihole - is famous as the Cradle of Indian Temple Architecture has over 125temples all intricately carved and rich in detail famous ones are Lad Khan Temple, Drug (fort) Temple, Ravalphadi Cave Temple, Konti Temple Complex, Jain Meguthi Temple are few not to be missed. **Pattadakal**- A World Heritage center has 10 major temples representing early Chalukyan architecture. Temples to visited area Virupaksha, Mallikarjuna and Panatha. Return to Badami in the evening. Overnight.

DAY 11: Badami/ Panjim (GOA):

Morning breakfast, check out and proceed to Panjim, Goa's Capital to board your flight or train. Tour ends.