

TAMIL NADU DISCOVERY



9 NIGHTS
FROM £1,795

*Discover the best of Tamil Nadu
on a 9 night journey through one
of India's most colourful states.*

Discover the best of Tamil Nadu on a 9 night cultural journey through one of India's most colourful regions.

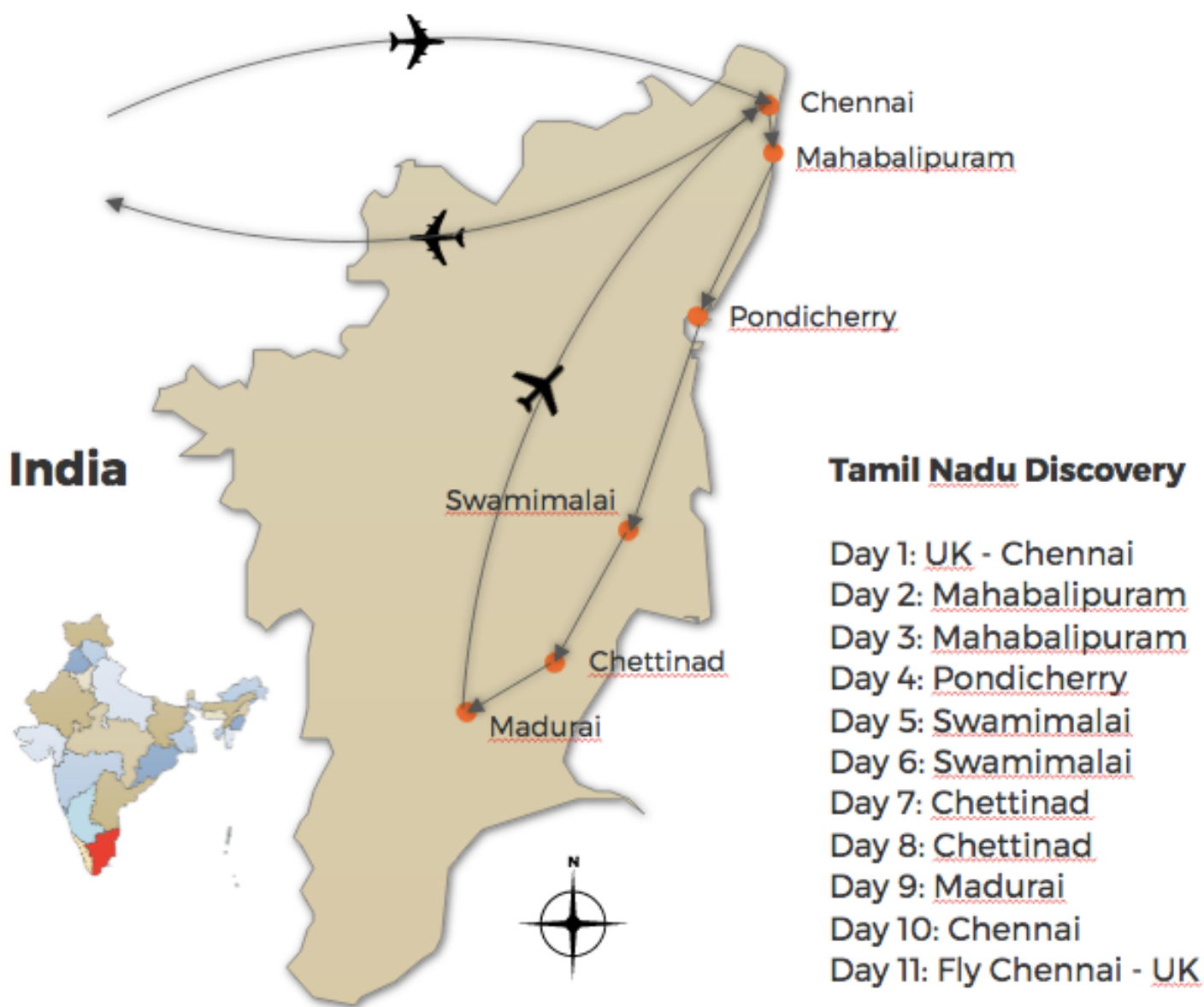
Fly to Chennai and transfer for 2 nights by the sea front shore temple at Mahabalipuram.

Discover the French influence in Pondicherry and make a fascinating visit to the experimental city of Auroville.

Visit the important art and religious centre of Tanjore and take an excursion to Trichy, visiting the Rock Fort and the Ganesh Temple.

Experience a taste of Tamil Nadu cuisine in Chettinad before heading to Madurai to explore the Sri Meenakshi Temple.

Finish your Tamil Nadu discovery in Chennai with it's colonial heritage.



TAMIL NADU DISCOVERY

Day 1: UK - Chennai

Overnight flight from the UK to Chennai.

Day 2: Mahabalipuram

On arrival you will be met and transferred to your chosen hotel in Mahabalipuram.

Enjoy the rest of the day free to relax.

Overnight: Mahabalipuram

Meals: Breakfast included

Day 3: Mahabalipuram

Enjoy a morning tour of Mahabalipuram including the Shore Temple, Arjuna's Penance, and Artisans Village etc.

In the afternoon depart to Kancheepuram, the 'City of Thousand Temples', which is also famous for hand-woven silk fabrics.

Return to your hotel in the evening.

Overnight: Mahabalipuram

Meals: Breakfast included





Mahabalipuram was the main seaport of the ancient Pallava Kingdom (7th C AD). The spectacularly carved temples on the shore are one of the highlights of a journey through Tamil Nadu...

TAMIL NADU DISCOVERY



Day 4: Pondicherry

After breakfast, drive to Pondicherry, a charming coastal town with a few enduring pockets of French culture and an ashram.

Check in to your hotel and in the afternoon, explore nearby Auroville, Pondicherry Museum and the Botanical Gardens. The evening is free.

Overnight: Pondicherry

Meals: Breakfast included

Day 5: Swamimalai

Depart for Swamimalai and visit Gangaikondacholapuram and Darasuram en-route.

On arrival, check into the resort and in the afternoon enjoy a tour of Tanjore.

Visit the most spectacular Brihadeeswara Temple, Saraswathi Mahal Library and Art Gallery with a large collection of Chola bronzes - a unique example of Hindu architecture.

Overnight: Swamimalai

Meals: Breakfast included



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Day 6: Swamimalai

Enjoy a day excursion to Trichy, visiting the Rock Fort and the Ganesh Temple built at its highest point.

Also visit the Tayumanaswamy and Srirangam temples.

Overnight: Swamimalai

Meals: Breakfast included

Day 7: Chettinad

Depart for Chettinad and check in to your private bungalow for a 2 night stay.

Overnight: Chettinad

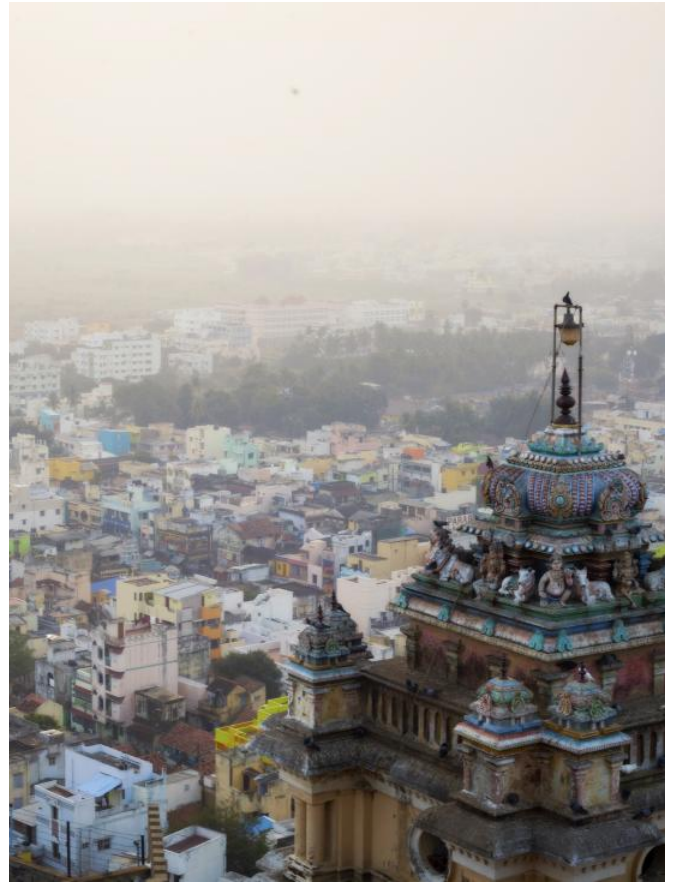
Meals: All Meals included

Day 8: Chettinad

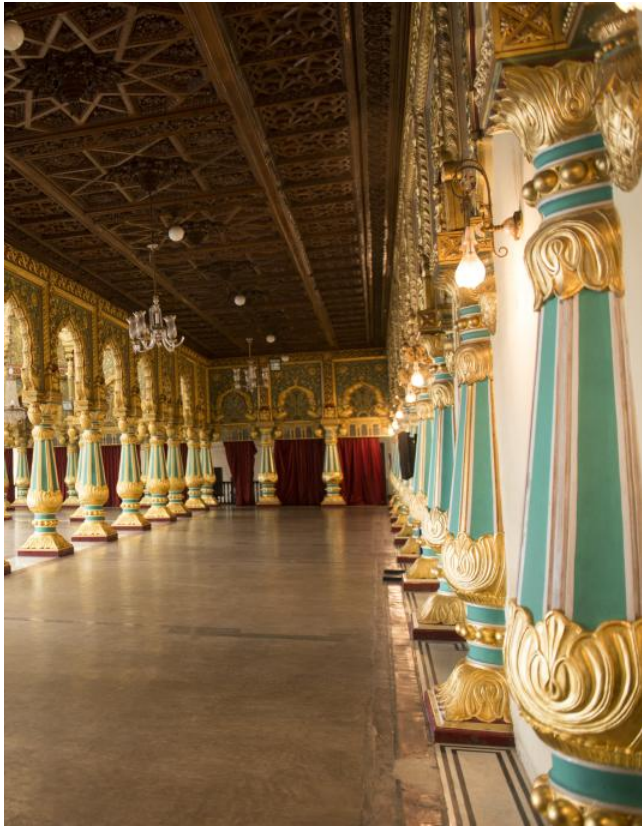
Your host will introduce you to the local Chettinad cuisine and, given the slightest encouragement, will regale you with stories of local folklore.

Overnight: Chettinad

Meals: All Meals included



TAMIL NADU DISCOVERY



Day 9: Madurai

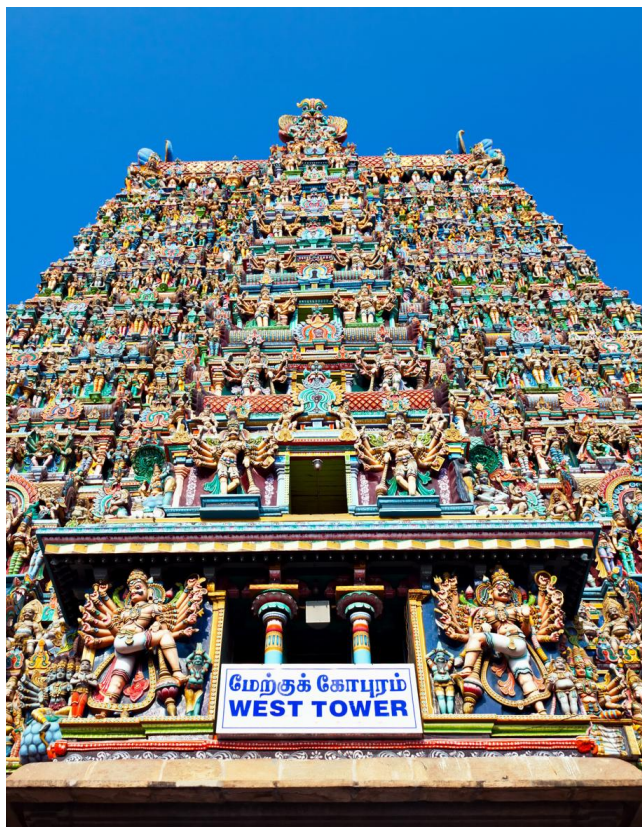
Drive to Madurai in the morning and check in to your hotel.

In the afternoon enjoy a tour of Madurai, visiting the Meenakshi Temple, Thirumalai Naicker Palace, Koodal Azhagar Temple and the Gandhi Museum.

In the evening, visit the Meenakshi Temple to attend the Pooja ceremony.

Overnight: Madurai

Meals: Breakfast included



Day 10: Chennai

In the morning, transfer to Madurai Airport to catch your flight to Chennai.

On arrival you will be met and transferred to your chosen hotel with the rest of the day free. You can add on an excursion in Chennai if you wish.

Overnight: Chennai

Meals: Breakfast included



Meenakshi Temple is a historic Hindu temple located on the southern bank of the Vaigai River in the temple city of Madurai and dedicated to Parvati, known as Meenakshi, and her consort, Shiva...

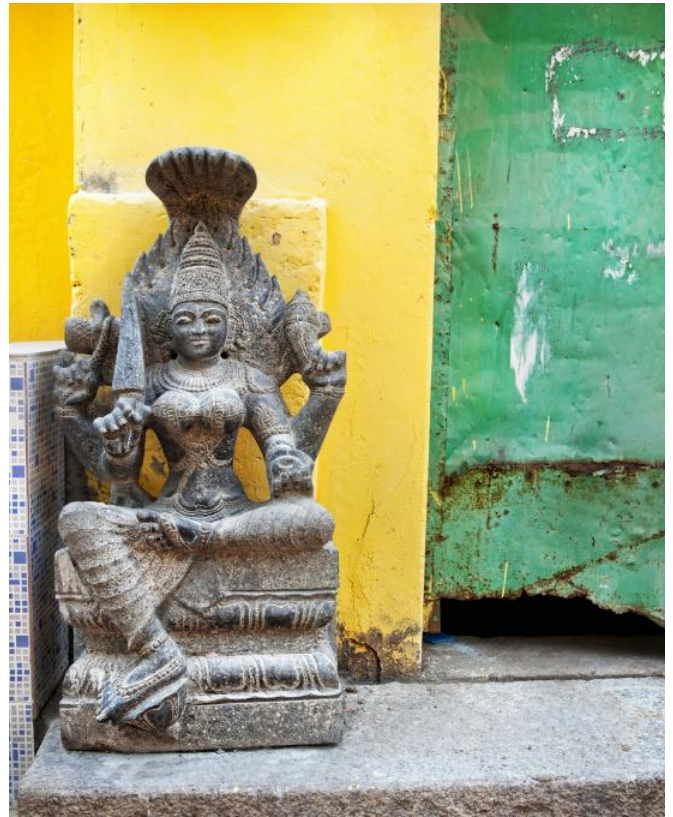
TAMIL NADU DISCOVERY

Day 11: Chennai - UK

Transfer to the airport for your flight back to the UK.

Day 12: UK

Arrive back in the UK (or on day 11 depending on flight schedule).



Discover Tamil Nadu

Tamil Nadu Discovery

Tamil Nadu (or 'Tamil Country') is the 6th most populous Indian State, famous for its Chola and Dravidian-style Hindu Temples, for historic and lively Chennai and for the Meenakshi Temple in Madurai.

Tamil Nadu's cultural legacy dates back two millenia and the vibrancy of Tamil culture can still be felt today. Art, literature and dance are one of the great living legacies of the Tamil civilisations.

The Dravidian-style Hindu Temples are perhaps the most famous feature of Tamil Nadu. Meenakshi Temple in Madurai is a wonderful place to people watch, whilst the shore temples of Mahabalipuram evoke a deep spirituality, especially at sunset.

The great Chola Empire temples at Tanjore are a highlight as are the sculptures and bronzes produced under the same empire.

Tamil cuisine is typically south Indian and there is a good opportunity during this trip to learn a bit more about it, as well as Tamil culture during a 2 night stay in Chettinad.

The tiny Union State of Pondicherry is included on this itinerary. Surrounded by Tamil Nadu it was founded as the HQ of the French East India Company.

This journey through Tamil Nadu is entirely tailor made, with your own private car, driver and guide. Things can be adjusted as you wish to suit your budget and interests so just let us know your preferences.

October to February is generally considered the best time of year to visit the South Of India, with lower temperatures and generally settled weather. March to May sees higher temperatures and humidity. June to September is the main 'monsoon' season with higher rainfall, with the lighter North West monsoon continuing until December.

A visa is required for all UK passport holders travelling to India. These can be obtained easily via an online application. We can assist by providing details.

A holiday to the South of India can easily be combined with a stop in Dubai or an onward trip to Sri Lanka, the Maldives or other destinations in India.

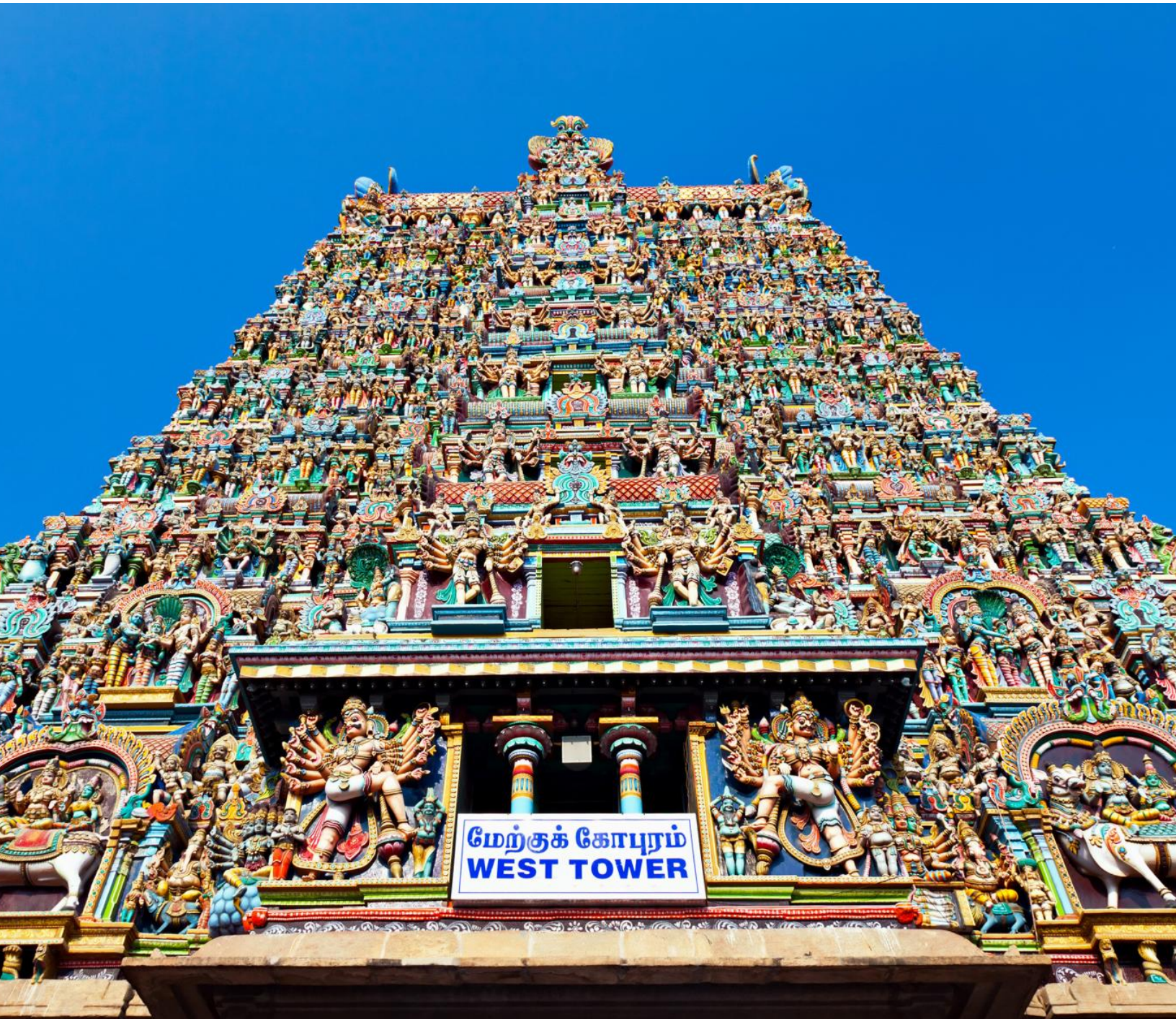


Tamil Nadu has some of the most incredible temple architecture in the whole of India, and a vibrant music, dance and art culture.

Tamil Nadu's temple towns and heritage sites, hill stations, waterfalls, national parks, local cuisine and wildlife and scenic beauty make this southern state

one of the most attractive destinations in India.

Hill Stations in Tamil Nadu such as Ooty or Kodaikanal are popular destinations for their colonial-era ambience and cooler climates, whilst wildlife and birdlife in the nature sanctuaries offer plentiful attractions for nature lovers.



EXTEND YOUR TRIP



DELHI, AGRA, JAIPUR

ADD ON THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE

5 nights from
£745 pp

Discover the best of northern India on this short tour including Delhi, Jaipur and Agra - India's so called 'Golden Triangle'.

Begin in the bustling market area of Old Delhi before exploring the great monuments of India's capital city.

From Delhi board the train to Agra and see the Taj Mahal, the great Moghul monument to love.

Complete your 'Golden Triangle' Tour of India with 2 nights in the Pink City of Jaipur.

This tour or iconic northern India makes a great combination with a tour of Kerala.

EXTEND YOUR TRIP



INDIAN OCEAN EXTENSION

ADD ON THE MALDIVES

3 nights from
£445 pp

With its coral fringed lagoons and palm fringed white sand beaches, like so many specks of turquoise, green and white in the vast expanse of the Indian Ocean, The Maldives offers the blue print for a romantic beach holiday.

A Maldives extension to this Kerala trip can offer the ultimate in barefoot luxury, a romantic boutique hideaway or a luxury over-water villa, with the turquoise lagoon as your own private pool.

The Maldives makes a simple and very attractive add-on to this Kerala holiday - just ask us how.

DATES & PRICES

Travel Dates Guide Price

Oct - Mar:	from £2,050 pp
Apr - Jun:	from £1,950 pp
Jul - Sep:	from £1,795 pp

Call us Today

0333 7000 747

9 until 6 daily

Please contact us for confirmed prices as prices are all subject to change, dates and availability. Remember that all of our India Holidays can be tailored to suit your interests and dates.

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