





South India Off the Beaten Path Tour

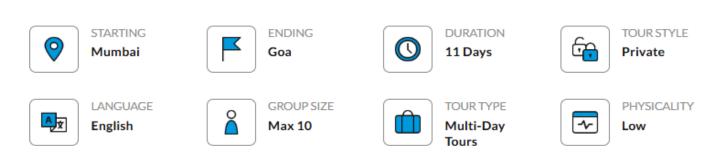
Mumbai-Badami-Pattadakal-Aihole-Hampi-Yellapur-Heranjalu-Goa



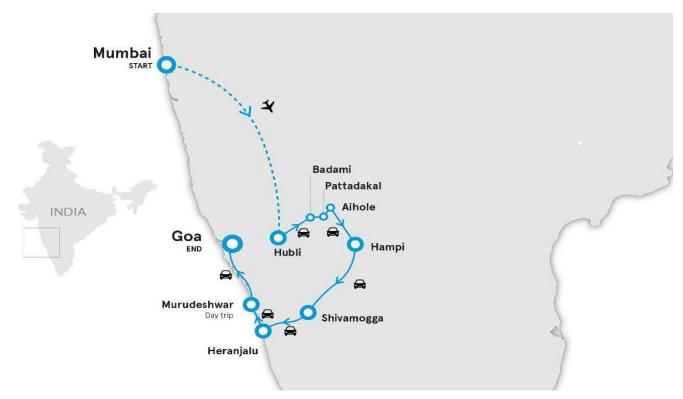
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TOUR INFO



MAP OF TOUR



ITINERARY

Day 1: Mumbai

Welcome to the cosmopolitan metropolis of Mumbai! Your tour guide will pick you up from the airport and transfer you to your hotel in Colaba. Depending on your arrival time and how tired you are, you might want to explore the surrounding area on foot on your own or with your guide, seeing places like the Gateway of India, the Prince of Wales Museum, and Marine Drive.

Over a welcome dinner at a traditional Indian rooftop restaurant, your guide will go over the itinerary for the next 10 action-packed days!





Day 2: Mumbai

In the morning, we will travel together to Dharavi, one of Asia's biggest slums and the heart of small-scale industry in Mumbai, and experience our company's signature tour. In the afternoon, we'll visit Mumbai's sights of your choice, such as Haji Ali Mosque, Mani Bhavan, Dhobi Ghat, Malabar Hill and Banganga Drive. In the evening, you have the option to join our food tour if you have the energy!

Day 3: Mumbai/Badami

We will take a morning flight to Hubli (there is an overnight train option if you wish), where we will then transfer to Badami (2-hour drive). Badami, in North-central Karnataka, is home to some of India's most spectacular Hindu Cave temples. After checking into the hotel, we'll take you to explore the wonders of the Badami Cave complex, a UNESCO World Heritage monument with a local guide.

Day 4: Badami/Pattadakal-Aihole-Hampi

Today we will travel by car to Hampi, departing Badami in the morning after breakfast. On the way, we will see Aihole and Pattadakal Temple complexes, two more UNESCO World Heritage sites. During the journey to Hampi, we'll make several stops where your guide will show you many aspects of domestic and agricultural village life in Karnataka. Upon arrival in Hampi in the late afternoon, you will have free time to relax.

Day 5: Hampi

Today, you will have the chance to visit the astounding ancient city and historical marvel of Hampi. You'll learn about what makes the city of ruins and temples a UNESCO World Heritage site, taking in the fascinating history of an ancient civilisation in Karnataka. Get ready for a full day of walking and exploring! You also have an option to take a traditional boat (coracle) ride on the river.

Day 6: Yellapur

We'll continue south from Hampi to Yellapur (3 to 4 hrs.), home to waterfalls, rolling hills, and mystical temples. Upon arrival, we will check into the hotel and we will visit a Sidhi Community School and a village.



Day 7: Yellapur/ Heranjalu

Today we will drive to Heranjalu (4-5 hrs), the village where Reality Tours' Founder, Krishna, is from. On the way, we will stop at Murudeshwar Shiva Temple, where you will see the 3rd-largest Shiva Idol in the world! When you get to the village, and after meeting the family, your guide will orient you with an introductory walk through the village where you will meet the people and learn about their lives, and you'll participate in whatever village activities are happening at the time.

Tonight, after dinner, we will visit a live Yakshagana performance (November-May), one of the most popular folk theatre forms of Karnataka, and learn about the history and beliefs of this cultural and religious art.

Day 8: Heranjalu

Today, spend the day visiting local schools, markets, and a cashew processing factory. In the evening, we will make sure to have Gadbad, a local special Ice cream. Would you like to learn some cooking? Today is the chance for you to check out a South Indian kitchen and some recipes!! We'll arrive in the afternoon, settle into our guesthouse, and your guide can recommend several restaurants for dinner in the evening after the long journey.

Day 9: Heranjalu/Goa

After a morning relaxing in the family home and village, after lunch, we'll say goodbye to the family and take an afternoon train to Goa and arrive in Madgaon.

From there, we will transfer you to Palolem, known as "Paradise Beach", in South Goa, arriving in the early evening. The following day is your last day to enjoy the beach in true Goan fashion! Feel free to laze about, go for a dip in the Arabian Sea, and sip on fresh coconuts.

Day 10: Goa

This is a day where you decide to either sit on the beach, enjoying the laid-back atmosphere of Palolem, or your guide can take you by car to discover the world of Old Goa in Panjim (4 to 5 hours in total). With the assistance of a local guide, you will learn about the history and the Portuguese influence in Goa, wandering through the old Latin quarters and taking in the architecture and churches that characterize the area.







Day 11: Goa (Departure)

This is the end of the tour, but you may decide to spend more time relaxing either in Palolem or on one of the many other beaches that Goa has to offer.

Please Note

Please note that the above itinerary is tentative and can be customized as per your preferences. You can get in touch with us for the pricing.

Enquiry

Excited to experience this journey? <u>Click here</u> to learn more and fill out your enquiry.



INCLUSIONS:

Meals

All breakfasts are included when staying in hotels/ homestays unless you leave very early in the morning. Lunches and dinners are not included apart from welcome dinners (if applicable) and meals with local families that we arrange.

Transportation

All transport mentioned in the itinerary is included. This includes internal flights, trains, buses, and transfers.

Accommodation

All accommodation mentioned in the itinerary is included.

Activities

Any activities (e.g., camel ride, food tour, city tours, cultural shows) mentioned in your itinerary are included unless we explicitly say that they are optional.

Entry fees for the monuments are not included; this allows you to opt in or out.



Our Model

We believe that tourism can and should be a force for local development. Reality Tours and Travel is a social business that uses a profit-sharing model to fund our sister charity (NGO), <u>Reality Gives</u>.

80% of our post-tax profits go directly to Reality Gives, which runs high-quality education programs in underprivileged areas where Reality Tours also runs tours.



We started over a decade ago in Dharavi (Mumbai), and Reality Gives is now also running classes in New Delhi in the Sanjay Colony slum as well as in Naujheel, a village in rural Uttar Pradesh.







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Thank You!

