# <u>ITINERARY</u>

**Destinations Covered:-**Chennai - Tirupati - Kanchipuram - Mahabalipuram - Tiruvannamalai - Pondicherry - Chidambaram - Tanjore - Trichy - Madurai - Trivandrum - Rameshwaram - Kanyakumari

**Duration:**-11 Nights / 12 Days

#### Day 01: Chennai

Your India pilgrimage holiday begins when you arrive in Chennai, the capital of Tamil Nadu established in 1639. The executive from India Holiday Packages will receive you at the airport and help you transfer to your hotel. Have lunch at the hotel. After spending half day in the sightseeing tour, visit Gandhi Memorial, Kala Kshetra, Mylapore temple and Marina beach. Overnight stay at hotel.

#### Day 02: Chennai - Tirupati

After breakfast, proceed towards Tirupati. The pilgrimage holiday temple town is famous for the ancient temple of Lord Venkateswara (Lord of seven hills or Balaji) located atop the Tirumala hills. The temple of Lord Venkateswara is one of the oldest temples in the country, Return to Chennai in the evening for an overnight stay.

#### Day 03: Kanchipuram - Mahabalipuram

The full day tour of Mahabalipuram & Kanchipuram. The ancient capital of Pallavas, Kanchipuram is the famous temple city of Tamil Nadu. Temples of Ekambaswara, Kailasanatha, Sri Kamakshi and Varadarajaswamy are the other famous temples. Kanchipuram is also famous for its silks. Mahabalipuram famous for the seven pagodas and the rock cut monolithic temples, is the World Heritage Site in India. The only shore temple, which remains here houses both Lord Shiva and the Lord Vishnu in its sanctum sanctorum. Mahabalipuram is also a popular seaside vacation destination. Overnight stay at the hotel.

## Day 04: Tiruvannamalai -Pondicherry

After breakfast drive to Tiruvannamalai - a pilgrimage destination with an ancient Shiva temple. Proceed to Pondicherry after lunch to witness the French influence in India. The legends say that St. Agsatya settled in Pondicherry. Overnight stay at hotel.

### Day 05: Pondicherry

After breakfast visit Aurobindo Ashram near Pondicherry. After lunch, visit Auroville - a unique haven for all; irrespective of caste, creed, color and nationality. Overnight at hotel.



#### Day 06: Chidambaram/Tanjore

In the morning drive to Chidambaram (Thillai) full of temples, the most famous being the Nataraja temple that covers an area of 40 acres. After lunch, drive towards Thanjavur visiting the Brass factory at Kumbakonam enroute. The Brahadeswara temple at Tanjore is another tourist attraction. Overnight at hotel in Tanjore.

#### Day 07: Trichy/Tiruchirapalli

Morning leave for Trichy/Tiruchirapalli situated on the banks of Cauvery River. A blend of history and tradition make it an important pilgrimage holiday destination. Visit Ranganath temple at Srirangam. Check into the hotel. Afternoon city tour of Trichy takes you to Rock fort and its temple, Srirangam and Jambukeshwar Temple. Overnight stay at the hotel.

#### Day 08: Trichy/Madurai

Proceed to Madurai, Check-in at the hotel. The 2600 year old city, Madurai on the banks of river Vaigai is famous for the Meenakshi temple dedicated to the consort of Shiva. Visit Meenakshi temple, King Tirumala's Palace, Great tank and Gandhi museum during your afternoon tour. Overnight at the hotel.

#### Day 09: Rameshwaram

Move towards Rameshwaram after breakfast - one of the 12 Jyotirlingas in India. Legend says that Ramanatha Swamy Temple stands where Lord Rama performed worship of a Sand Lingam made by Sita. Lunch at Rameshwaram. Return to Madurai in the evening and stay overnight at the hotel.

# Day 10: Trivandrum/Thiruvananthapur am

Drive to Trivandrum/Thiruvananthapuram after having breakfast and check in at the hotel. Afternoon is free for leisure.

## Day 11: Kanyakumari

Reach Kanyakumari - the destination famous for the confluence of the waters of the Arabian Sea, the Bay of Bengal and the Indian Ocean. A principal pilgrimage destination Kanyakumari is famous for the Amman Temples dedicated to the Goddess Kanya Kumari. Other important tourist place in Kanyakumari is Vivekananda Rock Memorial. Enjoy the beautiful dusk in the evening and return to Trivandrum. Overnight at the hotel.

#### **Day 12: Departure**

After breakfast reach Trivandrum airport where the executive from India Holiday Packages will help you to board a flight for your onward journey.

Challhary Folirs and Frayels