



Kathakali is a dance drama

**14
DAYS**

SANDALWOOD AND SPICES WITH THE BACKWATERS

**Chennai • Trichy • Tanjore • Karaikudi • Madurai • Periyar
• Kumarakom • Cochin • Bangalore • Mysore**
Extend your tour to Sri Lanka and/or Maldives

"I met with a Sadhu in a cave near Mysore, had an Ayurvedic massage at the Spice Village, shopped for gifts, rode a temple elephant and left India feeling I had fully experienced the southern part of this amazing country."

- Audrey Stein



Sample the rich heritage of South India and see the arts of Chennai (Madras) and Mahabalipuram, visit a dance school and see the enormous stone temples in Madurai, Tanjore and Trichy. Drive through the lush tea/spice hills on to the peaceful backwaters of Kerala. Experience the Jewish Heritage in Cochin. Visit the palace of Mysore and the modern city of Bangalore. The resplendent isle, Sri Lanka, is a land of happy discoveries. A tropical paradise with a rich history and natural beauty. See the ancient Anuradhapura, Pollonaruwa, Sigiriya and the amazing Dambulla cave paintings and also the hills of Kandy. Tour Extensions are available to the Maldives.



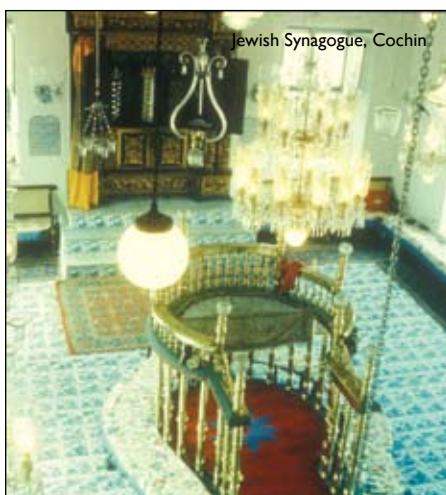


Chettinad mansion, Karaikudi

THE INDIAN- JEWISH EXPERIENCE

One legend holds that Jews first settled in India during the time of King Solomon, but most contemporary scholars fix the date at some time during the early 4th century. Perhaps the most remarkable aspect of the Indian Jewish experience is the complete absence of discrimination by a host majority. The secret of India's tolerance is the Hindu belief which confers legitimacy on a wide diversity of cultural and religious groups even as it forbids movement from one group to another.

Entering Jew Town Road is like entering another world. The Paradesi, the oldest synagogue, is white-walled and tile-roofed, with an inner courtyard lined with ancient Hebrew inscriptions. It was embellished in the mid 18th century. The floor is paved with hand painted porcelain tiles, brought from Canton, China. A forest of lights hangs from the ceiling – silver, brass and glass lamps and Belgian crystal chandeliers. There are many Jewish synagogues in Mumbai, Delhi and Kolkata and in some other cities in India.



Jewish Synagogue, Cochin

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore the world heritage Mahabalipuram temples • Visit Kalashetra, a school of music and traditional dance of South India
- Visit the enormous temple complexes of Tanjore and Trichy • Explore the Chettinad villages and the mansions around Karaikudi • Witness evening prayer ceremonies at Meenakshi Temple
- Visit a spice garden and learn about the spices of India • Cruise the pristine backwaters of Kerala
- Visit Jewish town and synagogue in Cochin • Witness a demonstration of 'KalariPayathu,' the local martial arts
- Visit the 'Silicon Valley' of India, the city of Bangalore • Witness colorful Kathakali and Bharatnatyam dance performances



Bharatanatyam Dancers

BHARATANATYAM

Bharatanatyam is one of the oldest dance forms of India. It has been nurtured in the temples and courts of southern India since ancient times. The art was handed down as a living tradition from generation to generation under the Devadasi system under which women were dedicated to temples to serve the deity as dancers and musicians forming part of the elaborate rituals. Today it is one of the most popular and widely performed dance styles and is practiced by male and female dancers all over India.

14 DAYS- SANDALWOOD AND SPICES

with Worldview Tours
unique and distinctive features

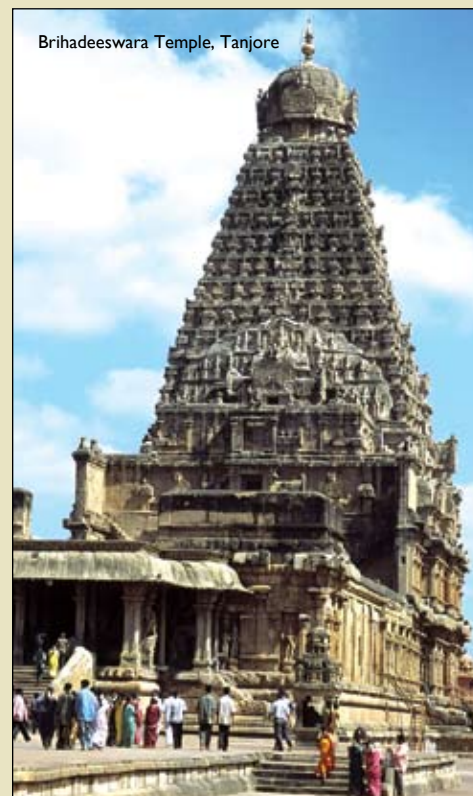
Day 1-2, CHENNAI - Tour of Chennai includes visits to St. Thomas Cathedral, Mylapore Temple and the Bronze Museum. Visit the world heritage Mahabalipuram Temples. **TAJ COROMANDEL**

Day 3-4, TANJORE - Fly to Trichy and tour Srirangam Temple. Later, drive to Tanjore (Thanjavur). Visit Brihadeswara Temple, Thanjavur Palace and its museum. **PARADISE RESORT**

Day 5-6, MADURAI - Drive to Madurai visit en route Chettinad mansions near Karaikudi. Tour of Meenakshi Temple, Thirumalai Nayak Palace. Attend the special evening temple ceremony at the Meenakshi Temple. **HERITAGE MADURAI**

Day 7, PERIYAR - An interesting drive through the scenic countryside to Periyar Reserve. Visit a spice plantation. **PARADISA PLANTATION RETREAT/ SPICE VILLAGE**

continued...



Brihadeswara Temple, Tanjore

For detailed itinerary and more information
www.worldviewtours.com