

**Karnataka**  
*One state. Many worlds.*  
Department of Tourism



# SCRIPT YOUR ADVENTURE

COSMOPOLITAN KARNATAKA  
BENGALURU





## BE BENGALURED

LOCATED 949 M ABOVE SEA LEVEL IN SOUTH INDIA, BENGALURU IS A FAST PACED AMALGAM OF THE OLD AND NEW. IT IS AN EXCITING DESTINATION WITH TANTALISING SIGHTS TO TAKE IN, MIXED WITH THE SENSATIONS OF A HAPPENING COSMOPOLITAN CITY. THE GARDEN CITY AWES AND BINDS THE DISCERNING TRAVELLER TO ITS ALLURE.

THE ONCE SEDATE CANTONMENT SETTLEMENT OF THE BRITISH, BENGALURU HAS SPREAD WAY BEYOND THE MUD FORT AND FOUR TOWERS CONSTRUCTED BY KEMPEGOWDA. A BOOMING ECONOMY, RACY LIFESTYLES AND THE LARGEST EXPATRIATE POPULATION HAS CONVERTED THE CAPITAL CITY OF KARNATAKA INTO ONE OF INDIA'S FASTEST GROWING CITIES.

### HOW TO GET THERE

#### BY ROAD

Frequent bus services connect Bengaluru to Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Maharashtra, Puducherry and Goa. Bengaluru's central bus stand run by the Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation is the central hub for all bus routes in South India. Three national highways, NH 4, NH 7, and NH 209 connect Bengaluru to the rest of the country. For general enquiries, contact 080-4959 6666 [www.kstc.in](http://www.kstc.in)

#### BY RAIL

Rail travel is a crucial pathway into Bengaluru through which it is connected to the entire country. Helpline: 139, 080-2296 0014 [www.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.indianrailways.gov.in)

#### BY AIR

Kempegowda International Airport is Bengaluru's doorway to more than 18 international cities, and 30 domestic cities. For enquiries contact: 1800 425 4425 or 080-6678 2425 [www.bengaluruairport.com](http://www.bengaluruairport.com)

# DISCOVERING THE CITY



Bengaluru is interconnected with a network of rail and road inside the city with air travel linking it to other destinations. KSTDC or Karnataka State Tourism Development Corporation offers customised tour packages for destinations inside the city as well as other locations inside the state. For more information log on to [www.kstdc.co](http://www.kstdc.co) or contact 080-4334 4334.

'Namma Metro' or Bengaluru's own metro rail network provides a comfortable and traffic free service inside Bengaluru connecting its various destinations. Visit [www.bmrc.co.in](http://www.bmrc.co.in) or call 1800-425-12345/080-2296 9300/2296 9301 for more details.

A network of Volvo AC buses run by BMTC or Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation connects all major parts inside the city. Visit [www.mybmtc.com](http://www.mybmtc.com) or call 1-800-425-1663 to know more.



**REASONS TO FALL  
IN LOVE WITH  
BENGALURU**  
A WALK IN THE PARK

# LALBAGH BOTANICAL GARDEN



Lalbagh is one of Bengaluru's major attractions. A sprawling garden situated in a 240 acres piece of land in the heart of the city, Lalbagh houses India's largest collection of tropical plants and sub-tropical plants, including trees that are several centuries old. Exhibits like the Snow White and the seven dwarfs, and a topiary park, an expansive lake, a beautiful glasshouse modelled around the Crystal Palace in London adorn the park giving it a surrealistic atmosphere. A watchtower perched on top of a 3000 million years old rocky outcrop, built by Kempegowda, the founder of Bengaluru also adorns the picturesque garden.

# CUBBÓN PARK



A green haven spread across 300 acres, Cubbon Park provides Bengalureans with a refuge from the hustle and bustle of city life smack in the middle of the cityscapes. The park is home to the State Library and is peppered with fountains, statues, flowering trees and lush greenery.



**BLASTS  
FROM  
THE PAST**



### HAL HERITAGE CENTRE AND AEROSPACE MUSEUM

HAL Heritage Centre and Aerospace Museum was established by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited. The museum displays a varied collection of aircraft models, fighter planes and helicopters. The museum also houses a reference library, aircraft simulators, a mock air traffic control tower and an aeromodelling club.



### JAWAHARLAL NEHRU PLANETARIUM

A dream come true for those few who live with their head above the clouds, Jawaharlal Nehru Planetarium brings the mysteries of the universe into stark focus.

### GOVERNMENT MUSEUM

Housing exhibits like stone carvings, pottery, paintings, coins, sculptures and inscriptions, the Government Museum is one of the oldest museums in the country. It is a treasure trove of exquisite archaeological finds.

### VENKATAPPA ART GALLERY

Venkatappa Art Gallery brings the paintings of the Indian painter K Venkatappa to art lovers. K Venkatappa is one of the pioneers of modernist painting in India.



### VISVESVARAYA INDUSTRIAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL MUSEUM

Built in honour of the late Sri. M Visvesvaraya who was a recipient of Bharat Ratna, the Visvesvaraya Industrial & Technological Museum gives a glimpse into the history of India's technological development. It houses many scientific memorabilia like a life size replica of the Wright flyer, a giant animatronic dinosaur and various 3D experiences.







### SESHADRIYER MEMORIAL HALL

Built in 1915 in honour of Shri. K Sheshadiri Iyer, erstwhile Dewan of Mysuru state, the memorial hall houses the State Central Library which boasts an extensive collection of reference books.



### NIMHANS HERITAGE MUSEUM

The NIMHANS heritage museum tells us the story of the rise of National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS) from a 19th century mental asylum to a leading nationwide establishment, in a 7-zone interactive centre.



### KARNATAKA CHITRAKALA PARISHATH

Home to paintings by artists such as Nicholas Roerich, Svetoslav Roerich, Srikanta Shastry Kukke, H K Kerjriwal and Krishna Reddy among others, Chithrakala Parishath is a must visit for every art lover. Chithrakala Parishath also hosts regular art exhibitions, and music, dance and puppet performances.



### NATIONAL GALLERY OF MODERN ART

A raj era mansion situated on a 3.5 acre piece of land, the National Gallery of Modern Art exhibits many precious paintings, sculptures, prints and drawings from as early as the 18th century on display. It also houses a vast library and a heritage shop.



### NIMHANS HUMAN BRAIN MUSEUM

The Neuropathology Brain Museum or the Human Brain Museum gives you a hands-on approach to unravelling the biological marvel that is the human brain. Be prepared for in-depth lessons on the subject of neuroscience.





# LESSONS IN SPIRITUALITY



### BULL TEMPLE

This temple brings to mind the 16th century dravidian style architecture. Built by Kempegowda, former ruler of Bengaluru, it has a prominent monolith of Nandi, Lord Shiva's vehicle, measuring 4.5m in height and 6.5m in length.



### RAGIGUDDA SRI PRASANNA ANJANEYA SWAMI TEMPLE

This Hanuman temple is located on a hillock named Ragigudda (literally translated as maize mountain). The special attractions here are three rocks representing Brahma, Vishnu, and Shiva. Over and beyond its purpose as a place of worship, it also serves as a cultural, educational and social service project.

### ISKCON TEMPLE

(International Society for Krishna Consciousness)

The ISKCON temple in Bengaluru is one of the largest of its kind in the world. Inaugurated in 1997 by former President of India, Sri. Shankar Dayal Sharma, the Krishna temple is a mixture of the contemporary and the spiritual.



### DODDA GANESHA TEMPLE

Situated just below the Bull Temple, the name literally translates to huge Ganesha Temple. It features a monolith of Lord Ganesha that is 18 ft high and 16 ft long.

### GAVI GANGADHARESHWARA TEMPLE

Adorned with a granite moon, sun-disc monoliths, a stone umbrella, a Shivalinga and three cave passages, this unique temple was built during the reign of Kempegowda. During Makara Sankranti, every year, a ray of light passes between the horns of a stone bull and illuminates the deity placed inside the cave.



### SHIVA TEMPLE

A 65 ft Shiva statue adorns this temple along with an artificial pond resembling the Manasa Sarovar Lake, several caves and replicas of Jyothirlingas.



### INFANT JESUS CHURCH

This church was established by Rev. Dr Lourduswamy, who was the Archbishop of Bengaluru, in the year 1979. Massive crowds are drawn to the church on Thursdays, the day dedicated to Infant Jesus.



### ST MARY'S BASILICA

It was built originally as a chapel in the year 1818 by Jean-Antoine Dubois but was transformed into a beautiful gothic style church in 1874. St. Mary, also known as Our Lady of Health is said to possess miraculous powers and draws thousands of devotees for the feast in September. In 1974 the Pope elevated the church to the status of a Basilica.

### SRI GURU SINGH SABHA GURDWARA

Located on the banks of the picturesque Ulsoor lake, the Sri Guru Singh Sabha Gurdwara was built in 1943. It is the largest Sikh shrine in Bengaluru.

### SRI SOMESHWARA SWAMY TEMPLE

This temple dedicated to the worship of Lord Shiva is considered to be about 1250 years old. Located at Ulsoor it is believed to be built during the Chola dynasty era and revamped during the age of the Vijayanagara Kings and Kempegowda.

### JAMIA MASJID

It is the largest mosque in the city and can accommodate a whopping ten thousand followers at a time. The structure is a 5 storey architectural masterpiece built out of pure white marble from Rajasthan. It is located in the heart of the City Market Area.



### RETAIL THERAPY

Also known as the shoppers' paradise, Bengaluru is home to over ten shopping malls. A true shoppers' delight, Bengaluru offers the best and most popular brands from around the world. If swanky brands are not your thing, then Bengaluru gives you the best of street shopping at the small shops lining the streets of Commercial Street, Brigade Road etc. Cauvery Emporium brings to you the best of handicrafts and traditional Karnataka crafts.



### LOVE IN THE TUMMY

Bengaluru is a foodie's joy turned into a land of culinary delights. Satisfy your every craving irrespective of the cuisine in prime foodie locations of Koramangala, Indiranagar or MG Road. Every in-house restaurant at the many 5-star properties is also a foodie's ideal haunt.



### FINE TUNE YOUR TASTE IN ART

Bengaluru contains a host of venues for plays, cultural shows and musical performances like Ranga Shankara, Alliance Francaise de Bangalore, Chowdiah Memorial Hall, Sri Puttana Chetty Town Hall and Max Mueller Bhavan.



**TONS OF  
FUN**



## WONDERLA

Wonder La is one of India's largest amusement and water theme parks. Located 30 km from Bengaluru on the Mysuru highway, Wonderla appeals to both the young and the old alike.

## WELLNESS FOR EVERYONE

Bengaluru offers a variety of healing and wellness choices to take care of your body and mind at the same time. Options include Ayurveda, Naturopathy, Holistic Healing, Allopathy, Yoga, Spa and even more. Bengaluru is perhaps the only city in the world that practises all systems of medicine within a 30 km radius. Offering some of the best specialist doctors and state-of-the-art technology in the field of medicine, the cost incurred for treatments are, on an average, just one-third of that in other countries.



## PUTTING YOUR TIME AWAY

Bengaluru, with some of the finest courses in India, attracts golfers from all over the world. The Karnataka Golf Association – a 18-hole golf course, is ranked among the best golf courses in the country. Bengaluru Golf Club, the second oldest course in India was founded in 1876. This 18-hole golf course is spread over 60 acres in the heart of Bengaluru. A golfing village of international standards, Eagle-ton, is located on the outskirts of Bengaluru. Located at the foot of the Nandi Hills is Prestige Golfshire, another 18-Hole Golf Course which provides one of the finest golfing environments in the country for both domestic as well as international guests.



## INDIRA GANDHI MUSICAL FOUNTAIN

The spectacle of streams of water getting into the groove, and swaying, spinning and dancing to music is truly a sight to behold.

## INNOVATIVE FILM CITY

This entertainment zone contains a global film production centre, a world class technological hub, India's first comprehensive film school, an amphitheatre with a capacity of 15,000, a 100,000 sq ft food court. It is located at the Bengaluru-Mysuru highway.



**CALL OF  
THE WILD**



# BANNERGHATTA NATIONAL PARK



This national park has a snake park, a butterfly park, a zoo, and nature camp for children. This park is spread over an area of 104 sq km and has a lion and tiger safari where you can observe these majestic cats in their natural habitat. Situated nearby the National Park is Bannerghatta Nature Camp which is a property of Jungle Lodges & Resorts that has tented cottages, log-huts and dormitory facilities. For more information, log on to [www.junglelodges.com](http://www.junglelodges.com).



**WONDERS  
OF YORE**

# BANGALÓRE PALACE



Turreted parapets, battlements, fortified towers and arches adorn this regal architectural masterpiece modelled on the Windsor Castle in England. An open courtyard is set on the ground floor where concerts, exhibitions and cultural programs are organised. Exquisite carvings, paintings and photographs of viceroys, maharajas and other famous personalities form special attractions inside the palace building.

# TIPU SULTÁN'S SUMMER PALACE



It houses a museum dedicated to the memorabilia from the Hyder-Tipu regime, and is an exquisite structure flaunting fluted pillars, cusped arches and balconies.

# VIDHĀNA SODHA



Conceived by the then Chief Minister of Mysuru State, Sri Kengal Hanumanthaiah, this magnificent structure was completed in 1956. Imposing in its size and grandeur, this granite monument is considered a landmark of Bengaluru and is one of the most impressive legislative buildings in the country. Located adjacent is the Vikasa Soudha, housing many important government offices.

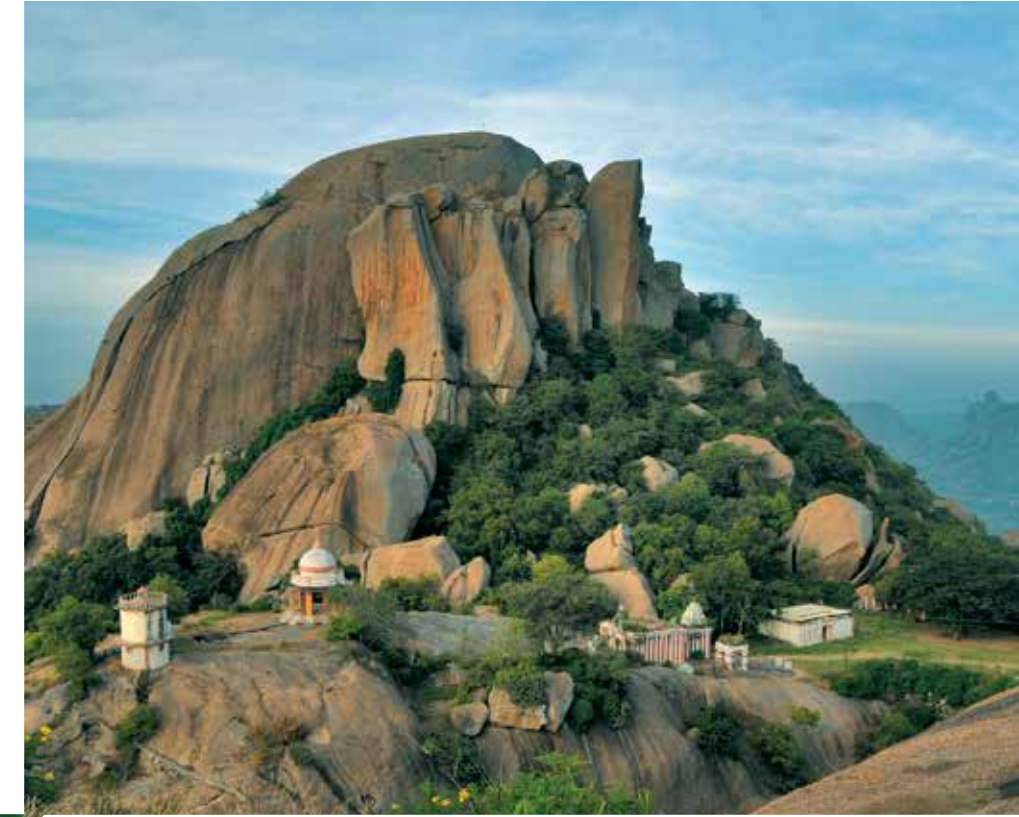


**GETAWAYS FROM  
BENGALURU**



### NRITYAGRAM DANCE VILLAGE (30km)

Founded by the late Odissi dancer, Protima Gauri, the dance village at Hessarghatta offers studies in classical dance and allied subjects such as Bharatanatyam, Kathak, Odissi, choreography, philosophy, music, mythology and painting. Guided tours are organized for tourists.



### JANAPADA LOKA (53 km)

Janapada Loka is a treasure trove of Karnataka's folk heritage. The 15-acre complex houses museums, an open-air theatre, a studio and other structures. The museum provides insights into the life and arts of a large number of tribal and rural folk across Karnataka.



### SANGAMA AND MEKEDATU

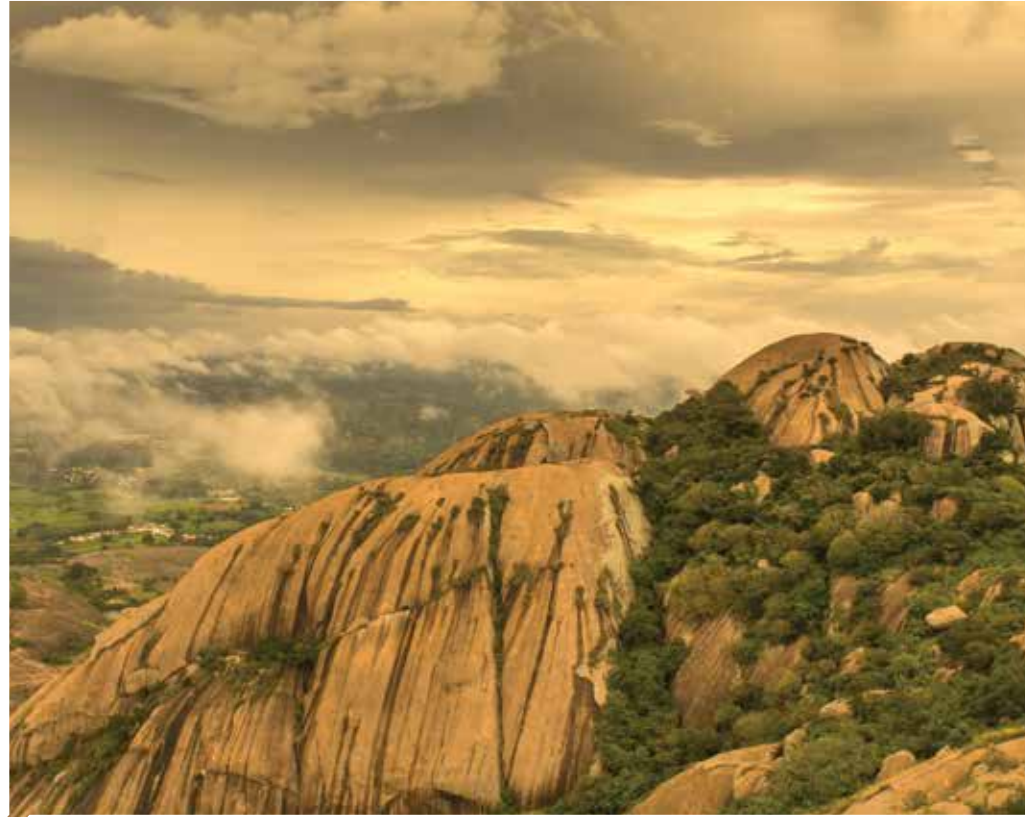
Situated in Kanakapura Taluk, it is a perfect spot for one-day outings. Sangama (100 km from Bengaluru) is a point where three rivers meet. From here, Mekedatu is just a 5 km trek, amidst lush green forest and breathtaking hills. Be captivated by the distant roar of the Cauvery River, as well as the chirping of birds. Do not miss the awesome Cauvery drop, which is sure to leave you enchanted.



### RAMANAGARA (50km)

Called the Mecca of Rock Climbers, the wilderness around Ramanagara, 50km from Bengaluru on the Bangalore-Mysore Highway, is a climber's delight. This amazing place has plenty of opportunities for rock climbing enthusiasts. You will find a few temples at the top of these hillocks. The classic Hindi movie, Sholay, was shot on these picturesque rocks.





### NANDI HILLS (60 km)

The bracing air and serene environs of Nandi Hills, perched at a height of 1,445 m above sea level, makes it an ideal weekend getaway. Nandi Hills shot into prominence during the visits of Queen Elizabeth II in the 1960s, and the leaders of the SAARC countries in the 1980s.



### SRI GURU SINGH SABHA GURDWARA

Located on the banks of the picturesque Ulsoor lake, the Sri Guru Singh Sabha Gurdwara was built in 1943. It is the largest Sikh shrine in Bengaluru.

### BIG BANYAN TREE (28km)

The huge banyan tree, sprawling over a few acres in Ramohalli Village, is a botanical wonder. It is also a great spot for picnics.

### SAVANDURGA (60 km)

Trek amidst nature's splendour, or hit a biking-hiking trail in one of the highest places around Bengaluru. Situated near the town of Magadi, Savandurga welcomes you with its gigantic hills, dense vegetation and beautiful landscapes. In some places, the rock slants upwards at an angle of 70 degrees, and the ascent is difficult to climb.



### KOLAR (70 km)

Visit the famous Kolaramma Temple, originally built by the Gangas and later renovated by the Cholas. Some of the other must-visit spots here are the Koti Lingeshwara Temple which has a collection of over 60 lakh Shiva Lingas, Antargange, Someshwara Temple built by the Cholas and expanded during the Vijayanagara period, and the Makbara with the graves of Haider Ali's relatives. Apart from the temples, the beautiful hillocks overlooking the town of Kolar provide ideal trekking tracks for adventure enthusiasts. Don't miss the chance to grab Kolar's reputed country blanket (Kambli) along the way.

### GHATI SUBRAMANYA (45km)

This is the starting point for the night trek to Nandi Hills. You can see shimmering lights, as you trek through these charming hills. The temple of Lord Subramanya is located here. It is also one of the ancient pilgrim centres in Karnataka.





### Bengaluru: International Connectivity

City	Airlines	Duration
Abu Dhabi	Etihad Airways	2 hr 15 min
Bangkok	Thai Airways	3 hr 55 min
Colombo	Sri Lankan Airways	1 hr 25 min
Doha	Qatar Airways	4 hr 05 min
Dubai	Emirates	3 hr 40 min
Frankfurt	Lufthansa	8 hr 30 min
Hong Kong	Dragon Air	5 hr 50 min
Jeddah	Saudi Arabian Airlines	7 hr 40 min
Kuala Lumpur	Malaysia Airlines/ Air Asia	4 hr 00 min
London	British Airways	9 hr 30 min
Maldives	Air India	2 hr 10 min
Mauritius	Air Mauritius	5 hr 50 min
Muscat	Oman Air	3 hr 40 min
Paris	Air France	9 hr 20 min
Riyadh	Saudi Arabian Airlines	5 hr 05 min
Sharjah	Air Arabia	3 hr 35 min
Singapore	Singapore Airlines/ Tiger Airways/Silk Air	4 hr 15 min

### Karnataka Fact File

Capital	: Bengaluru
Districts	: 30
Languages	: Kannada, Tulu, Konkani, Kodava and Hindi. English is also widely spoken
Religion	: Hinduism, Islam, Christianity, Jainism and Buddhism
Currency	: Indian Rupee
Area	: 1,91,791 sq. km.
Population	: 61.09 Million (2011 census)
Time	: GMT + 5.30
Latitude and Longitude	: 11° to 18° North, 74° to 78° East
Temperature	: 10° - 40°C (dependent on location and season)
Rainy season	: June - September
Airports	: Bengaluru, Mangaluru, Hubballi, Belagavi, Mysuru and Ballari



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**One state. Many worlds.**

**Department of Tourism**

For more information contact:

Department of Tourism

# 49, Khaniya Bhavan, Second Floor, Race Course Road, Bengaluru - 560 001

Tel: +91 80 2235 2828, [www.karnatakaturism.org](http://www.karnatakaturism.org)

————— For hotels and package tours, contact: —————

Karnataka State Tourism  
Development Corporation  
Tel: 080-4334 4334 [www.kstddc.co](http://www.kstddc.co)



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