

6. Juwelen im Hochland von Dekkan - Tempel, Tee und Palmen : 14 Tage

Diese Reise bietet Ihnen die exzellente Mischung aus Naturschönheiten, herrlicher historischer Architektur, Vielfalt von Religionen mit Pilgerorten von Hindus und Jains. Auf dieser Reise werden auch Kaffeeplantagen, Produktionsstätten von Betelnüssen und Gewürzen besucht und natürlich Bangalore, das bedeutendste indische Zentrum von Wissenschaft und Technologie.



Reiseroute: Zürich – Mumbai – Goa – Badami – Pattadakal – Aihole - Hospet - Hassan – Shravanbelagola – Mysore – Nagarhole – Bangalore – Frankfurt/Mumbai – Zürich

Verlängerung/Verkürzungsmöglichkeit: Es bestehen verschiedene Möglichkeiten. Bitte nehmen Sie Kontakt mit uns auf!

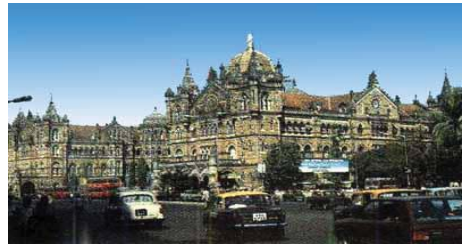
Day 01 Zurich-Mumbai

Meeting assistance and transfer to hotel.
(Check in time at the hotel is at 1200 Hrs)

Day 02 Mumbai-Goa (flight)

After breakfast visit Mumbai City.

Mumbai City: includes a visit to the **Prince of Wales Museum (remains closed on Mondays)**, built to commemorate King George's V visit to India was opened in 1923. It is modeled on the Indo - Saracenic design, and has sections for art and paintings, archaeology, and natural history.



Also visit the **Victoria Terminus**, which was designed in Italian Gothic style by F. W. Stevens. The first train to steam out of Mumbai was from here to Thane in 1853. the **Gateway of India**, the principal landmark of Mumbai, was the principal port when the visitors came to India by ship. The gateway was conceived, following the visit of King George V to India in 1911, and was officially opened in 1924. Its architecture is akin to the conventional Arch of Triumph, with elements derived from Muslim styles of 16th century Gujarat

Drive up to Malabar Hill to the lovely **Hanging Gardens** and the Kamla Nehru Park from where you will get a wonderful view of Mumbai and the Arabian Sea spread out before you. Stop at Mani Bhawan, a small museum dedicated to the life and works of Mahatma Gandhi and the bustling Crawford Market. **Marine Drive**, Marine Driven is the most popular sea front in Mumbai. Marine Drive, a popular Mumbai tourism spot, is a long stretch of road with buildings on one side and sea on the other. It is also called the Queen's Necklace because of its curved shape and lights that sparkles in the night. Juhu **Chowpatty Beach**, The Juhu Chowpatty Beach is one of the most famous beaches in Mumbai that offers beach activities such as camel and pony rides, acrobats etc. together with a wonderful view of the coast. Don't miss this place during your Mumbai tour.

Afternoon in time transfer to airport to board flight to Goa.

Meeting assistance and transfer to hotel.

Day 03 Goa

Breakfast at the **Hotel**

Rest of the day free for beach / independent activities.



Day 04 Goa

Breakfast at the **Hotel**

Rest of the day free for beach / independent activities.

Day 05 Goa-Badami (240 km/6 h)

After breakfast, drive to Badami, on arrival check in at hotel

Rest of the day free for independent activities.

Day 06 Badami

After breakfast, visit of **Badami City**: The capital of the Early Chalukyas, Badami, earlier known as Vatapi, is ideally located at the mouth of a ravine between two rocky hills. Badami is famous for its rock cut cave temples as well as the Chalukyan style structural temples. Badami is famous for its four cave temples - all hewn out of sand stone on the face of a hill. The largest and most ornate is the third cave temple dedicated to Vishnu.



Cave Temple : Overlooking the cave temples is a reservoir crowded with temples dedicated to Vishnu and Shiva. Also a must are the Bhutanatha temples that lend their name to the lake just beneath the cave temples. **Bhootnath Temple**, Bhootnath, a distinct form of Lord Shiva, is the God of souls, ghosts, and spirits. In dark sanctuary of the temple, an image of Shiva in an irate mood is situated. The temple is near the Agastyatirtha Tank. **Badami Fort**, Once the pride of the Chalukyan Empire, the Badami fort is mostly in ruins today. The fort offers a bird-eye view of Badami. One can see the ruins of a watchtower, a, treasury and

large granaries. The fort also houses the ruins of Shivalaya (the temple of Shiva). The temple depicts the legends of Krishna in its numerous friezes and sculptures. **Bhootnath Temple**, Bhootnath, a distinct form of Lord Shiva, is the God of souls, ghosts, and spirits. In dark sanctuary of the temple, an image of Shiva in an irate mood is situated. The temple is near the Agastyatirtha Tank.

Day 07 Badami-Pattadakal-Aihole-Hospet (160 km/4-5 h)

After breakfast, drive to Hospet, enroute visiting **Pattadakal and Aihole:**

Pattadakal: Delicately chiselled, rich in detail, the Papanatha, **Virupaksha and Mallikarjuna temples** are examples of the Chalukyan sculptural art. The brick pillared mandapa (3-4 century) in front of the **Sangameswara Temple**. The latest (9 century AD) is a Jain Temple from the Rashtrakuta period. A 2.6 m high Nandi in



deep green stone, covered in a red floral cape, sits in front of the Virupaksha. This temple is still used for worship. **Kashivisvanatha temple-** was built by the Rashtrakutas in the 8th century. **Galganatha Temple-**contains a sculpture of Lord Shiva killing the demon Andhakasura, Kadasiddeshvara temple which has a sculpture of Shiva



holding a Trident or Trishul in his hands and its twin temple, the Jambulinga Temple are all built in Nagara style and resemble the Hucchimali' Guddi at Aihole. **Jain Temple-** located on the Pattadakal-Badami Road, is built in the Dravidian style by the Rashtrakutas of Manyakheta. It has some very beautiful sculptures & probably dates back to the 9th

century and was built by either King Amoghavarsha I or his son Krishna II. **Papanatha temple-** is built in 680 A.D. The temple was started in Nagara (Indo-Aryan) style but later changed to Dravidian style. Sculptures here are from the great Hindu epics, Ramayana and Mahabharatha. This temple has many similarities with the Navabrahma temples in Alampur, Andhra Pradesh, which were also built by the same dynasty.

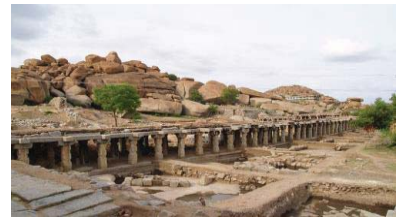
Aihole: The temple of durga and close to this is the semi circular apse, Chamnundi Devi trampling the buffalo demon Narasimha and aspects of Shiva abound here. There are 50 temples within the fort walls **Lad Khan Temple** which is an ancient one belonging to 5 th century AD , **Durga Fort Temple** here a gallery is there encircling the sanctum , **Uma Maheshwari Temple** where an intricately carved statue of Brahma the creator of the universe is seen seated on the lotus and 50 outside-instances of Hoysala, Buddhist, Jain, Dravida, Nagara and Rekhanagara

styles. There is the Lad Khan temple to see where previously was the assembly hall and marriage hall and was chosen as the abode of a Muslim prince, Lad Khan. **The Revalphadi Cave Temple**, The Revalphadi Cave is another attraction of the town. The cave temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva, which is renowned for its elegant and intricate carvings and details. Dating back to the 6th Century, Ravalphadi Cave -temple showcases Shiva in diverse forms. **Konthi Temple Complex** (Kwanthi Gudi), the Uma Maheswari Temple with a ravishing carved sculpture of Brahma nestling on a lotus, the forbidding Jain Meguti Temple and the two storied Buddhist Temple are worth a visit site. **Meguti Jain Temple**, Perched atop a hillock, the Meguti Jain temple sits on a raised platform, and a flight of steps leads one to the mukhamandapa. The roof of the mukhamandapa is an ideal vantage point to have a panoramic view of the plain with a hundred or more temples. From a historic standpoint, the Meguti temple has an inscription on its foundation stating that it was built in the year 634 CE. This inscription also contains a reference to the poet Kalidasa.

Upon arrival check in at **Hotel**

Day 08 Hospet (excursion to Hampi)

After breakfast, full day excursion to **Hampi** First sight Hampi looks like a giant play pen. It is said that, here goddess Hampi (Parvati) attained shiva. the market place with its ancient, roofless stalls as a riot of colour on festive nights, when the



towering **Virpaksha Temple** is aglow with lamps. The **Vittala Temple**, slender columns echo with music when struck and stone flows in lyrical lines. One is overwhelmed by its delicately chiselled beauty. **King's Balance**, Situated near the Vithala Temple, the King's Balance has a golden

past. According to legend, this balance was used to weigh the rulers against gold, jewels, and food that were later distributed to the Brahmins. The **Lotus Mahal** is the Women's enclosure was inspired by the beauty of woman. Yonder lies



the crumbling watch tower, guarded once by the eunuchs from where royal maidens watched the festivity of the land. From the flat platform of the embellished **Raghunath Temple**, Located on a hilltop, the Raghunath Temple is known for its Dravidian style, excellent views from the rock above at sunset, and tranquil environment. **Elephant Stable** is a major tourist attraction. This long building with a row of domed chambers was used to 'park' the royal elephants. There are 11 domed tall chambers; some of them are inter- connected. The center one is specially decorated

and big. Probably the musicians and the associated band troupes had been using this during ceremonies involving elephant processions.

Day 09 Hospet-Hassan (340 km/6 h)

After breakfast, drive to Hassan, on arrival check in at **Hotel**

Rest of the day free for independent activities.

Day 10 Hassan-Shravanbelagola-Mysore (130 km/3 h)

After breakfast excursion to visit **Belur** and **Halebid (70 Kms. around)**

Belur: Belur was once the capital of a powerful empire on the banks of River Yagachi, now called the Banaras of the South, aka Dakshina Varanasi. Belur's main temple, Chennakeshava (dedicated to Lord Krishna and set in a compound with several smaller temples and a pond), was commissioned by King Vishnuvardhana in 1117



AD to celebrate Hoysala military victories. It took over a hundred years to complete and its architecture is foreign to the prevailing Hoysala style of the 12th century – it is exceptionally large (about 100-ft high) and its decoration very lavish (with a magnificent gateway tower – gopuram) in Dravidian style. Located on the banks of river Yagachi, the **Chennakeswara Temple** is one of the finest examples of Hoysala architecture. It took 103 years to complete and you can see why when you see it. The facade of the temple is filled with intricate sculptures and friezes with no portion kept blank. The interior of the temple is even better and contains many exquisite panels and richly carved pillars. The **Veeranarayana Temple** and other smaller shrines are also worth visiting.

Halebid (Hale'beedu) literally means 'the ruined city'. During the 12th and 13th centuries AD, it flourished as the capital of the Hoysala Dynasty for about 150 years. 14km from Belur and 39km from Hassan, It was then



known as Dwarasamudra (gateway to the seas). However, it was twice attacked by invaders who robbed it of its treasures, leaving behind the ruins of the once-magnificent Shiva temple. The **Hoysaleswara Temple** of Halebidu is a wealth of sculptural details. The walls of the temple are

covered with an endless variety of gods, goddesses, animals, birds and dancing girls giving importance to the minutest details. Yet no two facets of the temple are the same. Two massive monolithic bulls guard the temple. Despite 86 years of hard work, the temple is not completed



Afternoon, drive to Mysore, enroute visiting **Shravanabelagola**, in Karnataka, is the oldest and most important pilgrimage centre for Jains. Here is the site of the huge 17m high naked statue of Bahubali (Gomateswara), said to be the world's tallest monolithic statue. It overlooks the small town of Shravanabelagola from the top of the rocky hill known as *Indragiri*. Its simplicity and serenity is in complete contrast to the complexity and energy of the sculptural work at the temples of *Belur* and *Halebid*. The word **Shravanabelagola** means the Monk of the White Pond. one of the tallest and most graceful statues in the world, is situated in this small town atop the Indragiri hills. The colossal monolithic statue is 58 ft high, naked, with 26 ft wide shoulders, 10-ft of its feet. Starkingly simple, the beautifully chiseled features of this statue embody serenity. Nearly 1,800 years old, the statue which is reached by climbing 700 steps carved in the steep granite slope, is symbolic of the renunciation of worldly possessions. It was sculpted by Aristanemi in 981 AD and Chamundaraya, a general and minister of the Ganga King Rachamatta installed it in 983 AD.

Upon arrival check in at Hotel

Day 11 Mysore-Nagarhole (80 km/2 h)

After breakfast, visit **Mysore**: This salubrious and charming city lies 770-m above sea level is an easy-going city famous for its silk and is also a thriving sandalwood and incense centre. The city is steeped in history. The **Mysore Palace**, built in Indo - Saracenic style is one of the largest and most brilliant palaces in India. It's a kaleidoscope of stained glass, mirrors, gilt and colours. There are beautiful carved wooden doors, mosaic floors, as well as exquisite paintings. Halfway up the Chamundi Hill is the Nandi Bull, a 4.8 m monolith. It was carved out of solid rock and is one of the largest in India.



Hordes of pilgrims come here throughout the year. Right on top, is the 2000-year-old **Chamundeswari** Temple. The temple provides atypical festive atmosphere without overwhelming religious overtures. **St. Philomena's church**: Built as a miniature reproduction of the Cologne Cathedral in 1930s, this is the largest church in Southern India. The church has white washed walls, high vaulted Gothic ceilings and color stained glass representations of different aspects from the life of Jesus.

Afternoon, drive to Mysore, on arrival check in at hotel

Day 12 Nagarhole

Morning and afternoon jungle excursion to Nagarhole National Park (Rajiv Gandhi National Park) with



Naturalist:

Nagarhole is situated in the picturesque districts of Kodagu and Mysore in southern Karnataka. The



Nagarhole National Park was first set up in

1955. In 1975 its area was increased to include a greater expanse of forest reserve. **The Wild Population of Nagarhole National Park:** The forest is home to animals like the four-horned antelope, sloth bear, jungle cat, civet, spotted deer, elephant, wild dog, flying fox, tiger, panther, gaur (Indian bison), sambar, wild boar, black-naped hare, bonnet macaque, and pangolin. Cobras, crocodiles, kraits, pythons, vipers, and several species of lizards are also found here. Among the 250 bird species found here, the prominent ones are the common babbler, bee-eater, bulbul, dove, crested serpent, hornbill, Malabar pied, alexandrine, peacock, woodpecker, warbler, great Indian reed, eagle, crested hawk, golden-back parakeet, and the southern tree pie. Nagarhole is worth visiting at the height of the dry season, when wild animals can be spotted in large numbers near sources of water. **Viewing The Wild:** At Nagarhole, there are excellent facilities for viewing wildlife and large groups of gaur, elephant, sambar, chital and even the occasional tiger or leopard are seen. Vehicles and guides are available to take you around the Nagarhole National Park. If this natural heaven awakens the 'spirit of adventure' in you then consider heading for the Brahmagiri Mountains-an inviting destination for those who wish to go trekking. Prior permission is required from the authorities before embarking on a trekking trail.

Day 13 Nagarhole-Bangalore (220 km/6 h)

After breakfast drive to Bangalore, check in on arrival.

Afternoon, visit **Bangalore City:** city has a number of tourist places. Apart from the numerous gardens, it also has some historical sites and other places of interest. The **Vidhan Soudha** or the State Secretariat, built in 1954, is the main attraction of this city. It is a marvel of modern architecture and is a fine amalgamation of traditional Dravidian and modern styles. The **Government Museum** of Bangalore (one of India's oldest museums **Closed on Monday**) and the Visvesvaraya Technological and Industrial



Museum are important museums within the city. The 18th-century **Tipu Sultan's Fort and Bangalore Palace** is other important places of interest to the traveler. The 16th-century, Dravidian-styled temple dedicated to Nandi the Bull is an important place of worship.

Transfer to international airport for flight to Zurich.

Day 14 Bangalore-Zurich