

BANGALORE Local City Tours

Half day City Tour	Per Person Cost US\$ 55 (Single)
Duration 4 hours	Per Person Cost US\$ 35 (2 Pax onwards)

Proceed for a half-day sightseeing tour of Bangalore City. Your tour of the garden city begins with a visit to **Lalbagh**, the botanical garden spread over 240 acres and having a wide variety of exotic trees and plants; **Tipu Sultan's Palace** constructed between 1781 - 1791 was once the summer residence of Tipu Sultan. Finally visit the **Bull Temple** believed to have been constructed in the 16th century has been carved out of a single granite block. You will also drive past the Government Secretariat, Vidhan Soudha (Legislature building) and Cubbon Park.



Half day visit to Nrityagram Dance School	Per Person Cost US\$ 60 (Single)
Duration 8 hourss	Per Person Cost US\$ 40 (2 Pax onwards)

Today, you will enjoy a half day excursion to **Nrityagram** which is a dance village located 30km northwest of Bangalore, at Hesaraghatta. It was established in the early 1990's to revive Indian Classical Dance. A winner of the rural architecture award, this unique experimental village is dedicated to the gurukula tradition of dance, music, choreography and painting. Under the auspices of well-known Odissi dancer, Protima Gauri, it offers the long-term study of classical dance and its allied subjects, such as choreography, philosophy, music, mythology and painting. The village is rustic in design, and blends with the bucolic surroundings. Near the village is the Hesaraghatta Lake, a manmade lake, which is a popular tourist spot. [Dance school closed on Mondays](#) and during students away for performance abroad.



Full day excursion to Lepakshi	Per Person Cost US\$ 200 (Single)
Duration 10 hours	Per Person Cost US\$ 130 (2 Pax onwards)



Full day excursion to Lepakshi, an important place of worship. The place has an irresistible attraction to the tourist because of its fine architecture and paintings found in the temples here. Unlike most of the South Indian temples, the temple does not have a prominent Vimana on the Sanctum but it has many Vimana-like structures on top of the temple, indicating several cells of gods housed in the temple.

Full day excursion to Mysore	Per Person Cost US\$ 215 (Single)
Duration 12 hours	Per Person Cost US\$ 145 (2 Pax onwards)

❖ **Full day excursion to Mysore via Srirangapatnam**

This morning, proceed on a day excursion **Mysore** to en route visiting **Srirangapatnam** - located 16km on the Bangalore-Mysore highway, it is built on a long island in the Cauvery River. The fortress was once the capital of Hyder Ali and Tipu Sultan. Inside the fortress walls there is a mosque and the Sri Ranganathaswamy Temple dedicated to Lord Vishnu. A kilometer east of the fort is the Daria Daulat Bagh, the **summer palace of Tipu Sultan** built in 1784. It's adorned with ornate and beautiful frescoes and now houses a museum with a collection of family memorabilia and paintings depicting Tipu Sultan's campaigns against the British. Nearby is the Gumbaz, the onion-domed mausoleum of Hyder Ali and Tipu Sultan.

Continue on drive to Mysore where on arrival you will enjoy a **guided tour of the city**, which includes a panoramic drive past the beautiful colonial buildings and a visit to the magnificent **Mysore Palace**, the former residence of the Wodeyar rulers. The palace is a splendid structure in Indo-Saracenic style with beautiful halls of public and private audience and private chambers of the royal family. Carry onwards to **Chamundi Hill** - 10km from Mysore and towering over the city, these hills are named after the royal family's deity. Halfway up is the **Nandi Bull**, a 4.8m monolith. Right on top, is the 2000year old **Chamundeswari Temple** dedicated to Goddess Durga, (a form of the consort of Lord Shiva) celebrating her victory over the demon Mahishasura. Following your visit to Chamundi, you will return to Mysore.



Full day excursion to Puttarpathy	Per Person Cost US\$ 210 (Single)
Duration 12 hours	Per Person Cost US\$ 135 (2 Pax onwards)



❖ **Full Day Excursion To Puttarpathi**

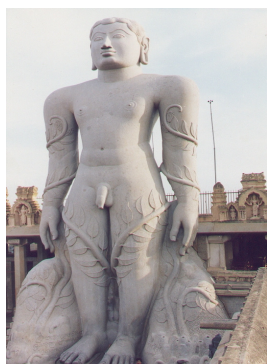
Full day excursion to **Puttarpathi** located in the south-western parts of the southern state of Andhra Pradesh, Puttarpathi is surrounded by the arid and rocky hills bordering Karnataka. Puttarpathi once a sparsely populated village has shot into national and international fame as the abode of Bhagwan Shri Satya Sai Baba. Domestic and foreign visitors seeking spiritual solace come to Prashanthi Nilayam at Puttarpathi throughout the year.

Sathya Sai Baba was born in Puttarpathi, a small village in South India, on November 23, 1926. The small temple dedicated in 1950 has grown into a spiritual oasis of unprecedented magnitude. It is the seat of Prashanthi Nilayam, the ashram of Sai Baba. Sai Baba resides here from July to March.

Full day excursion to Hoysala Temples	Per Person Cost US\$ 260 (Single)
Duration 13-14 hours	Per Person Cost US\$ 155 (2 Pax onwards)

❖ **Full Day Excursion To Sravanbelagola, Belur and Halebid**

Full day excursion to **Sravanabelagola, Belur & Halebid**. The district town of Hassan (194 km) is a convenient base for visits to Sravanabelagola, the oldest Jain shrine in South India and the beautiful Hoysala temples at Belur and Halebid



❖ **Sravanabelagola (150 km):** is one of the oldest and most important Jain pilgrimage centre and has a long history dating back to the 3rd century BC. The town is famous for the Gommateshwara statue, sacred to Jains. Erected at sometime between AD 980 and 983, just over 17m high, the statue represents the saintly prince Bahubali, son of the first Tirthankar, after he had gained enlightenment. Nearly 700 steps carved in the steep granite slopes start near the village tank and the path up gives excellent views. There are several small shrines on the way to the statue on top.

❖ **Halebid (216 km):** located 17km east of Belur, was the ancient capital of the Hoysala Empire. Founded in the early 11th century as Dwarasamudram (Gateway to the seas), it was destroyed by the armies of the Delhi Sultanate in 1311 and 1327 AD, after which it was deserted and later renamed Halebid (Old Capital).

The Hoysaleswara temple at Halebid, the largest of the Hoysala temples, was started in 1121 AD, about 10 years



after the temple at Belur, but despite 86 years of labour, it was never completed. Nevertheless it is easily the most outstanding example of Hoysala art. Every centimeter of the outside walls and much of the insides are covered with an endless variety of Hindu deities, stylised birds and animals and friezes depicting the life and times of the Hoysala rulers.

Halebid also has a few other temples - the Kedareshwara, though a dilapidated shrine, has is a classic example of Indian temple architecture. There is also an enclosure containing three Jain bastis (temples), the main being the Parsvanath Temple, with its 32-pillared pavilion. The 14 feet high image of Parsvanath has a seven-hooded cobra over its head. The two other shrines are those of Adinath and Shantinatha, though smaller, are elegant structures.

- ❖ **Belur (222 km):** The serenity of Belur is attributed to the celebrated temple of Channakeshava, built by the Hoysala King Vishnuvardhana in 1117 A.D. to commemorate his conversion from Jainism to Vaishnavism. The main structure of the temple, which is star shaped, is a homogenous architectural unit on a raised platform. Everything is carved in black stone, looking like metal. Facing the temple, at the entrance, stands the winged figure of Garuda, Lord Vishnu's carrier. The 650 charging elephants on frieze around the walls outside are all different from each other.

