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## Chennai

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Chennai is a journey into timeless India, a kaleidoscope of moods. From the glitzy make-believe world of Tamil films to the rare world of treasures of temples, shrines, forts and palaces. This is India's fourth largest city where the past lives easily with the present.

One of the most convenient bases to explore South India, Chennai is the capital of the southern Indian state of Tamil Nadu. It's also a fast-growing software and retail center. Retaining much of its traditional charm, this 350 year old city is the gateway to the south, providing many a fascinating vignette of southern heritage.





- **Exploring Chennai**

Marina Beach, St. George Fort, Harbour, Kapaleswarar Temple, San Thome Cathedral, Parthasarathy Temple, Government Museum and Art Gallery, Theosophical Society, Kalakshetra, institution for Indian classical dance and music, National Deer Park, Snake Park are just a few of the vast array of places to see.

- **Kanchipuram**

The temple town of Kanchipuram, 64 km from Chennai, was the ancient capital of the Pallavas. Famous as a city of 1000 temples, it still has 124 shrines. The first temple, dedicated to Shiva, was built in the 7th and 8th century and has rare paintings on the walls.

- **Mahabalipuram**

Mahabalipuram is famous for its seven pagodas- a group of ancient rock hewn temples on the seashore. They are an excellent example of the Dravidian style of architecture.

- **Currency**

Indian Rupee (INR)

- **Language**

English is widely spoken and understood in all cities and Tourist areas. Hindi is the official language.

- **Climate**

The best time to visit India is in the winter. 3 major seasons. Winter summer and monsoon.

- **Flying Time**

Flying time from Muscat : 2 Hours 30 Minutes

- **Time Difference**

GMT + 5.30 Hours