

Somanathapur- Keshava Temple

Situated in the unobtrusive village of Somanathpur, 35km from Mysore, the exquisitely carved, star-shaped temple with triple towers is a perfect example of Hoysala architecture. The friezes on its outer walls with their intricately carved rows of caparisoned elephants, charging horsemen, and mythological birds and beasts will leave you spellbound. Beautifully sculpted images of gods, goddesses and scenes from the epics, as well as the remarkable ornate ceilings in the pillared hall will take your breath away.

Timings : 9.00 am to 5.00 pm. Entrance : Indians Rs. 5, Foreigners Rs. 100.

Distance : Mysore - 35km, T. Narasipura - 10km, Maddur - 60 km, Bangalore - 120 km.



Talkad

Situated on the banks of the river Cauvery, the Kirti Narayana Temple, also known as Vaideshwara temple is completely buried beneath sand dunes. The temple comes to life when it is excavated once every 12 years during the Panchalinga Darshana.

Temple Timings : 6.00 am to 8.00 pm, Distance : Somanathpur - 15km, T. Narasipur - 25km, Mysore - 50 km, Bangalore - 130km.

Where to stay

Jaladhama Resort is the central place to stay for tourist visiting, T. Narasipura, Mudukuthore betta, Talkad, Shivanasamudra.

Jaladhama Resort, Mudukuthore, Talkad - 571112, T. Narasipura Tq. Mysore District

For reservation contact : 99001 84815, Bangalore : 080-25587869



Mudukuthore Betta

Four km from Talakad, this town is a celebrated pilgrimage centre, being the seat of one of the five Pancha Lingas of Talakad. The hilltop has the ancient temple of Malikarjuna, dating to the Ganga period. A jatra and a cattle fair are held during the Magha Poomima season (February - March)

Temple timings : 6.00 am to 8.00 pm Distance : T. Narasipur - 25km, Mysore - 41 km



Tirumakudlu Narasipura (T. Narasipur)

Located 32km from Mysore at the confluence of three rivers, the Kaveri, the Kabini and the mythical Sphatika Sarovara, this place is an important pilgrimage centre. It was sanctified by the sage Agsthya, who is said to have found the Agasthyeshwara Temple complex, contains many monuments belonging to the Ganga, Chola, Hoysala and Vijayanagar periods.

Temple Timings : 7.30 am to 1.00 pm and 4.30pm to 7.30 pm

Distance : Mysore - 32 km



Nanjangud

An important pilgrimage centre on the banks of the Kapila river, Nanjangud is famous for the massive Nanjundeshwara temple. Built in the Dravidian style, this temple is one of the biggest of its kind in Karnataka. The town takes its name from the temple.

Temple timings : 6.00 am to 1.30 pm and 4.00 pm to 9.00 pm, Sunday -6.00 am to 9.00 pm

Distance : Mysore - 25 km, Bangalore - 163 km.

Suttur

Fourteen kms from Nanjangud, Suttur is well known for the Shivarathreeswara Mutt which runs many educational institutions and hostels in the area. Inside the Mutt premises, is the triple shrined Mahadeshwara Temple in the Hoysala style. An annual jatra (fair) including a cattle fair is held in honour of its pioneer saint, Sri Shivarathreeswara.

Distance : Nanjangud - 25 km,

Mysore - 39 km.



Gommatagiri

The granite statue of Gomateshwara in early Vijayanagar style, dominates the summit of the 50 metre hill. This Jaina centre attracts many pilgrims during the annual abhisekha (anointing ceremony) in September.

Distance : Mysore - 25 km.



Bylakuppe

One of the largest Tibetan settlements in South India, it is known for its monasteries, handicrafts, carpet factories and incense factory. The landscape is dotted with several monasteries; the main ones are the Great Gumpa of Sera Je and Sera Mey. The Mahayana Buddhist University is located at Sera. It also has an enormous prayer hall. The other important monastery in the neighbouring settlement of Bylakuppe is Tashi Lhumpo monastery, renowned as the seat of Panchen Lama. The Golden temple located at the monastery is one of the popular attractions for tourists.

Siddhartha Guest House which is located opposite Sera Je school at Sera Je monastery offers accommodation to tourists. Tourists can also stay at Kushalnagar, the town nearest to Bylakuppe. Mount Kailash Tours & Travels is associated with Sera Je monastery and Sera Je school assists tourists visiting Bylakuppe and surrounding areas.

Distance : Mysore - 90km, Madikeri - 30 km.



Virajpet

A small town, reputed to be the largest producer of honey in Asia. Iruppu falls is 48 kms from here on the Nagarahole road. Close to the Lakshmana Theertha river, the Sri Rameshwara Temple, believed to have been dedicated to Lord Shiva by Lord Rama himself, is a place of pilgrimage. It is favourite haunt of picnickers and pilgrims especially during the Shivaratri festival.

Distance : Mysore 105 km, Madikeri - 35 km.



Harangi Dam

Situated near Kushalnagar, Somwarpet Taluk.

This dam is a beautiful reservoir, ideal for a weekend holidays.

Distance : Mysore 102 km, Madikeri - 27 km.



Tadiyanendamol

For those who have a head for heights, Tadiyendamol, the tallest peak in Kodagu, is a paradise. On a clear day you can view the distance Arabian sea and enchanting beauty of the whole of Kodagu from here. Situated in the heart of the Tadiyendamol range, in the village of Yavakapadi, Naalkunadu Palace was constructed by Chikka Raja Veerendra, the king of Kodagu, in 1792. The palace, with its magnificent pillars and walls adorned with beautiful carvings, tell many a tale of yore. It is now being used as a camping site for trekkers. Kakkabe, a small town 35km from Madikeri, gives access to the highest peak in Kodagu. Nearby Padi Iggutappa is the most important temple in Kodagu.

Distance : Mysore - 138 km, Madikeri - 40 km.



Golf Courses

Two of the best golf courses in Kodagu can be found at Polibetta and Madikeri has a smooth 9 hole golf course spread amidst quiet and pastoral surroundings. Polibetta in South Kodagu also has a 9 hole golf course.

Valnur Fishing Camp

Located near Kushalnagar on the banks of the river Cauvery is the Valnur Fishing Camp, where avid fishing enthusiasts can indulge in the luxury of angling for mahseer. Fishing permits can be obtained from the Coorg Wildlife Society. Valnur is also a haven for birdwatchers, with innumerable avian species to be spotted and identified.

Irppu Falls

Nestling beside the Rajiv Gandhi National Park (Nagarahole), Irppu Falls presents a stunning sight during the monsoon. From their humble origins in the Brahmagiri Range, the falls plunge 170ft in two distinct stages. They come down to earth to flow as Lakshmana Theertha (Sacred River of Lakshmana) The ceaseless music of the falls and the hush of the densely wooded forest surrounding them makes this a great picnic spot. A forest trail leads from these falls to the Brahmagiri peak in Southern Kodagu. Enroute to the falls, the Rameshwara temple attracts a large number of pilgrims during the festival of Shivaratri.

Distance : Virajpet - 48 km, Mysore - 120 km, Bangalore - 260 km.



Dubare Forest

This reserve forest is famed for its amazing variety of avian fauna, an elephant training camp and angling possibilities on the Cauvery. The Dubare elephant camp is managed by Jungle Lodges and Resorts Ltd., a joint venture of department of forest and tourism, Government of Karnataka. The camp for elephant interaction. Elephant ride to Nagarahole National Park are part of the activity. River rafting conducted from June to November depending on the Cauvery river water level, is an added attraction.

Distance : Mysore - 105km, Kushalanagar - 15km.

Entrance : Boating, interaction with Elephants, Elephant ride

Paying guest accommodation are also available.

Further Details contact :

Jungle Lodges & Resorts Ltd.,

II Floor, Shrungar Shopping Complex, MG Road, Bangalroe - 560 001.

Tel : 080-25597025, Fax : 25586163, Skyway International Travels, 370/4, JLB Road, Mysore - 570 005.

Tel : 0821-2444444, Fax : 2426000 Email : skyway@vsnl.com

Where to stay

Club Mahindra Kodagu Valley Resort, Coorg, Galibeedu Road, Madikeri - 571 201, Tel: 08272-221114

Orange County Resort, Siddapur, Kodagu - 571 253. Tel : 08274-2458481.

Hotel Coorg Internatioal, Convent Road, Madikeri, Kodagu - 571 201. Tel : 08272-229390.

Brahmagiri Comforts, Near Kodava Samaja, Madikeri, Kodagu. Ph. : 08272-224867

Hotel Hill View, (Boarding & Lodging), Tel : 08272-223808, 221067

Misty Woods, Kakkabe, Tel: 08272 (O) 238561, 9448448629

Hotel Rajadarshan, No.8/13, MG Road, Madikeri, Kodagu - 571201. Tel: 08272-229142.

Capital Village, 5th Cross, Chettahalli - Siddapur Road, Madikeri, Kodagu. Tel : 08272-225492.

KSTDC Mayura Valley View, Raja's Seat, Madikeri, Kodagu. Tel : 08272-228387.

Hill Town Hotel, Daswal Road, Behind Vivas Hospital, Madikeri, Kodagu - 571 201. Tel: 08272-223801.

