

GOMARVEL

with us

**TIMELESS
TRAILS**



**GRAND
ANAICUT**

150 AD



**BRIHADESHWARA
TEMPLE**

1010 AD



AIRAVATESVARA

1167 AD



**GANGAIKONDA
CHOLAPURAM**

1023 AD



“Living Chola Marvels Tour”

“Living Chola Marvels Tour”

- Mystic Marvels

Places covered in the Tour

Day 1

1. Gangaikonda Cholapuram

Gangaikonda Cholapuram, a magnificent temple complex located in Tamil Nadu, India, is a testament to the grandeur and architectural prowess of the Chola dynasty. Spanning a sprawling area and adorned with intricate sculptures and towering structures, this historic site holds a special place in the annals of Indian history and art.



The temple complex was built by Rajendra Chola I, the son of the famous Chola king Rajaraja Chola, around the 11th century. The name "Gangaikonda Cholapuram" translates to "the town of the Chola who conquered the Ganges," commemorating Rajendra Chola's victorious expedition to the northern parts of India, where he brought the waters of the Ganges River to the south as a symbolic triumph. This architectural marvel was chosen as the new capital of the Chola dynasty, a reflection of the empire's prosperity and power during that era.

2. Airavatesvara Temple, Dharasuram

The Airavatesvara Temple, located in Darasuram near Kumbakonam in the Indian state of Tamil Nadu, stands as a masterpiece of Chola architecture, reflecting the grandeur and artistic prowess of the Chola dynasty. Erected during the 12th century under the patronage of Rajaraja II, this Temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva, specifically in the form of Airavatesvara, the divine elephant of Lord Indra.



Historical Context: Built during the reign of Rajaraja II (1146– 1173 CE), the Airavatesvara Temple is a testament to the Chola dynasty's flourishing cultural and artistic contributions. The Cholas were known for their extensive patronage of art, literature, and architecture, and this Temple exemplifies their commitment to promoting its cultural heritage.

Architectural Marvel: The Temple showcases the architectural brilliance characteristic of Chola temples, with intricate carvings, exquisite sculptures, and a layout that reflects both spiritual and aesthetic considerations. The vimana (tower) of the main sanctum stands tall, adorned with detailed carvings depicting scenes from Hindu mythology, celestial beings, and daily life during the Chola period.

Unique Features: One of the distinctive features of the Airavatesvara Temple is its chariot-shaped sanctum. The main shrine is sculpted as a chariot drawn by horses, elephants, and mythical creatures. This unique design is symbolic of the celestial journey of the deities.

3. Brihadeshwara temple

The Brihadeshwara Temple, also known as the Big Temple, is a remarkable Hindu temple dedicated to Lord Shiva. Its construction dates back to the Chola dynasty, one of the most influential and powerful dynasties in the history of South

India. Here's a brief history of the origins of the Brihadeshwara Temple



Chola Dynasty: The Chola dynasty, which ruled over a significant part of South India from the 9th to the 13th century, played a crucial role in developing the region's art, culture, and architecture. The founder of the dynasty, Vijayalaya Chola, laid the foundation for the Chola Empire, and subsequent rulers expanded its territories

Rajaraja I and the Vision for the Temple: Rajaraja I, also known as Arulmozhiarman, ascended to the Chola throne in 985 AD. During his reign, the Chola Empire reached its political and cultural zenith. Rajaraja, I had a vision to create a grand temple dedicated to Lord Shiva that would serve as a place of worship and stand as a testament to the Cholas' power and devotion.

Day 2

1. Kallanai Dam, aka Grand Anicut of 2nd Century AD

Historical Significance: Kallanai is one of the oldest waterregulation structures in the world, dating back to the 2nd century during the Chola dynasty. It stands as atestament to ancient engineering and irrigation practices.

Location: The dam is on the Kaveri River near Tiruchirapalli (Trichy) in Tamil Nadu,India. It plays a crucial role in the region's agriculture by facilitating irrigation.



Architectural Marvel: Kallanai is renowned for its sturdy construction using unhewn stone. The Chola king Karikalan built the dam and later renovated and expanded it during the British colonial period.

Purpose: The primary purpose of Kallanai is to divert the waters of the Kaveri River for irrigation. It enables the controlled release of water for farming in the delta region.

Anicut Design: Kallanai is an anicut, a type of dam specifically designed to divert water into canals for irrigation. It has a massive stone wall with sluice gates to control water flow.

Stone Structure: The dam is constructed using unhewn stone and is a remarkable example of ancient stone masonry. The rocks are interlocked without mortar, showcasing the engineering skills of the Chola dynasty.

1N 2D LIVING CHOLA MARVEL TOUR

Days	Day 1	Day 2
 Pick Up/ Drop	Koyembedu (Opposite to Election Commission) 6.00 AM Alandur Metro Station 6.15 AM Tambaram Railway Station Opposite 6.30 AM	Tambaram Railway Station Opposite 9.15 PM Alandur Metro Station 9.40. PM Koyembedu (Opposite to Election Commission) 10.00 PM
 Sites Covered	* Gangaikonda Cholapuram Brihadisvara Temple (1023AD) * Darasuram Airavateshwata Temple (1167AD)	*Thanjavur Brihadisvara Temple aka BiG Temple (1010 AD) *Thanjavur Martha Palace / Saraswathi Mahal (1550 AD) *Kallanai / Grand Anaicut Dam (150 AD)
 Pit Stops	We do not provide Food. However we Stop every 3 hours for Vegeterian Food / Washroom.	We do not provide Food. However we Stop every 3 hours for Vegeterian Food / Washroom.
 Transport	AC Luxury Coaches.	AC Luxury Coaches.
 Distance	350 KMS	350 KMS

**Concrete jungles
and glass buildings
are boring you
down?**

Come explore majestic structures
and stunning stone sculpture



City high end restaurants
and bars eating away your
wallet without due value

...

Hop on to our weekend
getaway

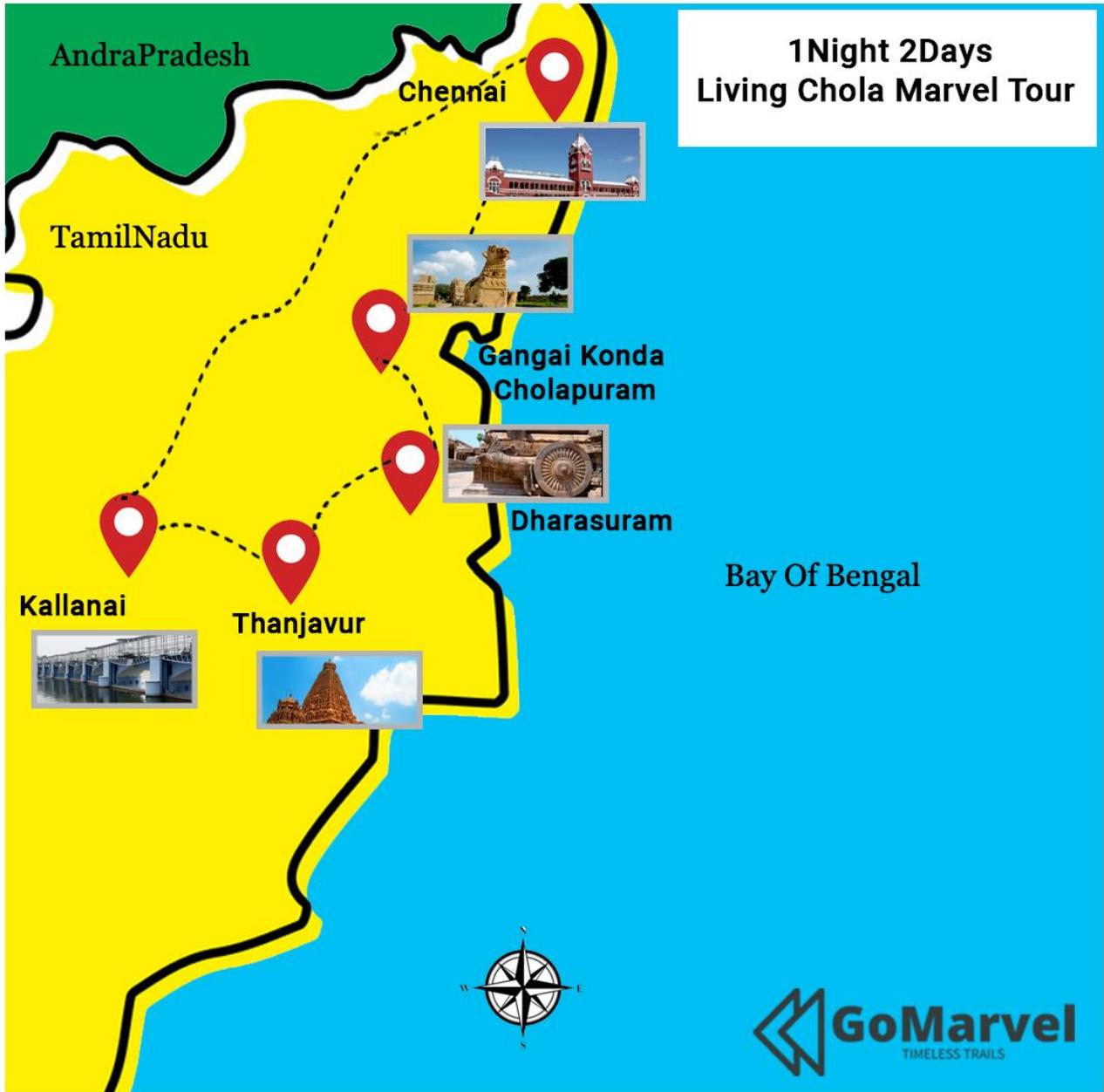


TIMELINE**Day 1**

-  **6:00 am - Depart Koyembedu (Opp : Election Commission)**
-  **6:20 am - Depart Alandur Metro**
-  **6:30 am - Depart Tambaram Station**
-  **9:00 am - Breakfast at Tindivanam Highway Restaurant**
-  **12.30 pm - Lunch stop at Jayamkondam**
-  **1:30 pm - Enter Gangaikonda Cholapuram Temple**
-  **4:15 pm - Depart Gangaikonda Cholapuram**
-  **5:15 pm - Enter Airavateshwara (Darasuram) Temple**
-  **8:30pm - Arrive at Thanjavur Hotel**

Day 2

-  **7:00 am - Hotel to Brihadeeswara temple**
-  **10:00 am - Arrive at Hotel**
-  **11:00 am - Vacate hotel and depart for Maratha Palace**
-  **12:30 pm - Depart for lunch**
-  **1:30 pm - Depart for Kallanai**
-  **9:30 pm - Arrive at Chennai**



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**LACK OF FAMILY VACATION
KEEPING YOU LOW ?**



**COME JOIN WEEKEND GETAWAY
WITH THANJAVUR TEMPLES**