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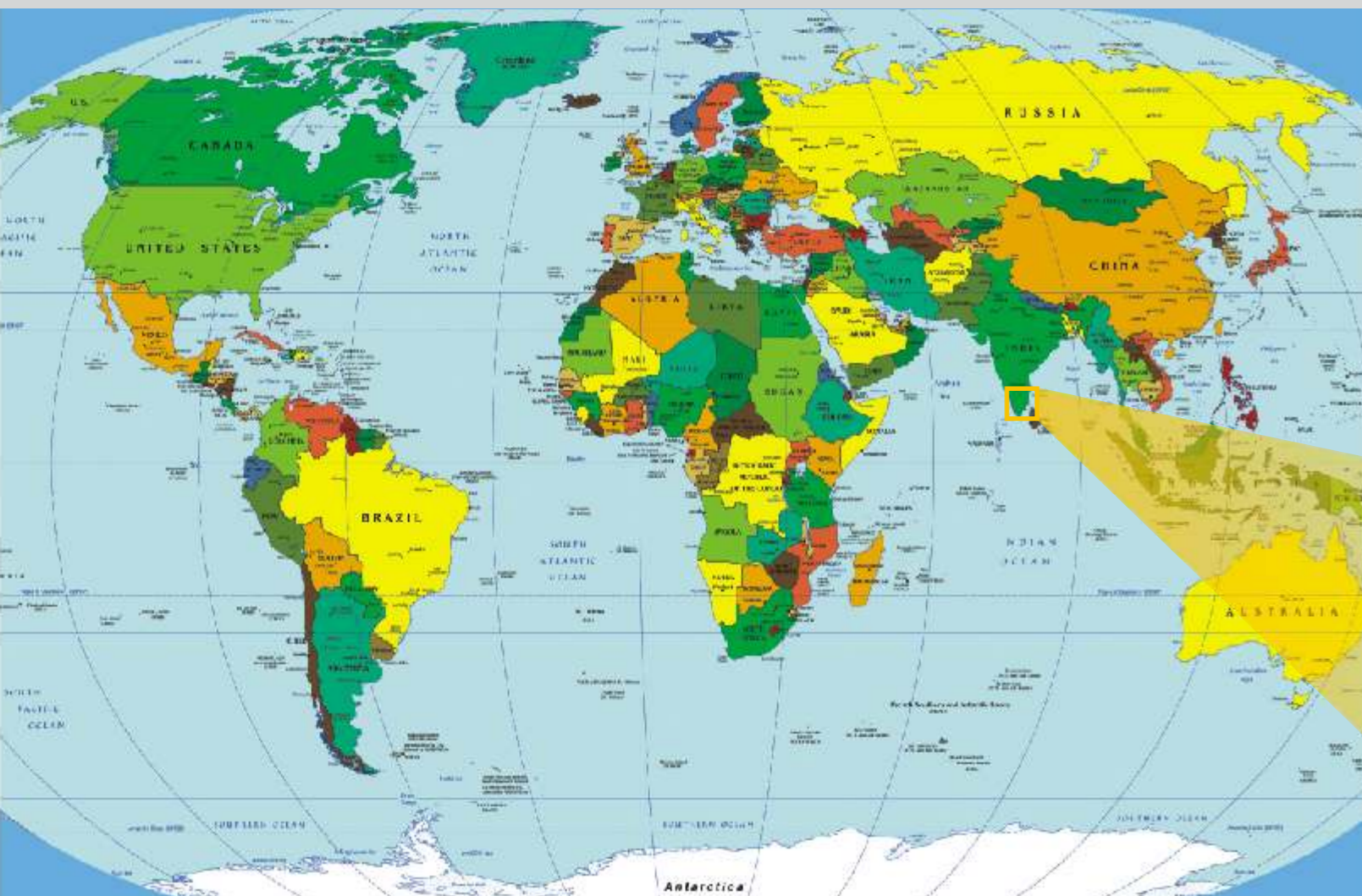
INTERNATIONAL **STUDENT GUIDE**





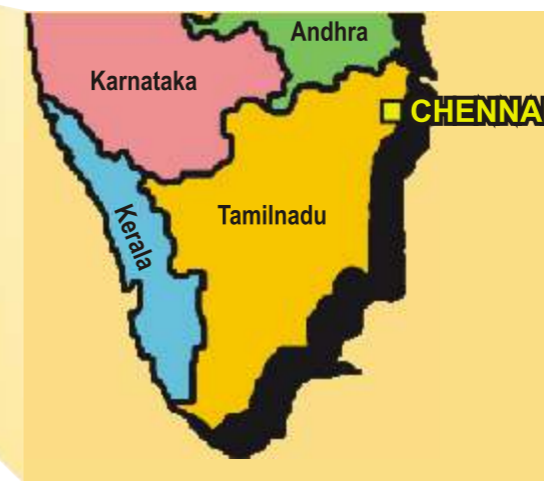
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Political Details of Chennai

Area : 181.06 sq. Km
Population : 8,00,22,699 (2015)
Local language : Tamil
Currency : Indian Rupees (₹)



INTERNATIONAL STUDENT GUIDE



About IITM

Right in the heart of this metropolis is the sylvan campus of the Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IITM). The campus spread over 632 acres (250 hectares) of lush green forest, home to many endangered plants and animals, and a beautiful lake, is a welcome respite from the bustling city environment.

The Indian Institute of Technology Madras is among the premier institutes in the country for higher technological education, basic and applied research. In 1956, the German government offered technical assistance for establishing an institute of higher education in engineering in India and the Institute was formally inaugurated in 1959. It is an autonomous body under the administrative control of a Board of Governors appointed by the Government of India.

IIT Madras is a residential Institute with nearly 550 faculty members, 9000 students and 750 administrative & supporting staff and has a self-contained campus. It has established itself as a leading centre for teaching, research and industrial consultancy in the country.

The Institute has sixteen academic departments and a few advanced research centers in various disciplines of engineering and pure sciences, with nearly 100 laboratories organized in a unique pattern of functioning. A faculty of international repute, a brilliant student community, excellent technical & supporting staff and an effective administration have all contributed to the pre-eminent status of IIT Madras.

IIT Madras is situated on Sardar Patel Road and is flanked by the suburbs of Adyar, Taramani and Velachery. The campus is opposite the Central Leather Research Institute and the Anna University. It is located midway between the Chennai Airport and Central Railway station and is well connected by buses and local trains.



Reaching IITM

After your arrival at the Anna International Airport, Chennai, you will make your way to the Institute by Aviation Express or Prepaid Taxi or Call Taxi.

The IIT campus is located on Sardar Patel Road, midway between the Raj Bhavan and Adyar and is about 12 kms. from Chennai Airport. Other landmarks include the Guindy Snake Park near the IITM main gate and the Central Leather Research Institute (CLRI) campus opposite the IITM campus.

At the 'IN' gate of the campus, there is a Security Check post, from where the road leads to Gajendra Circle (near the Administration Block and Central Library), via two parallel roads, Delhi Avenue and Bonn Avenue. The academic zone and the hostels are 3.8 km from the main gate of the Institute.

If you have luggage, Aviation Express or Prepaid Taxi or Call Taxi would be the most convenient option. The fare will be about Rs.500/- for an Aviation Express and Rs.350/- for a Pre-paid Taxi or a Call Taxi.



Gajendra Circle



Central Library





Bhadra Hostel



New Hostels (Dormitories)



A typical IITian Room



Mega (Himalaya) Mess - Central Dining Facility

Life @ IITM

The campus is divided into 3 zones Academic, Hostel and Residential. All the academic departments, the library, the computer centre and the administration building, are close together so that students can just walk across. Commuting within the campus on bicycles is not only preferred by the Institute, but also popular with many. There is also the option for people to use the Institute's bus service within the campus. These buses are run at frequent intervals from 6.15 am till 10 pm.

Housing

The IIT Madras being a residential institute provides accommodation to all its students in 20 independent hostels (including 4 ladies hostels). Each room in a hostel is provided with a cot, a table, a chair, a bookshelf and a ceiling fan. A washing machine is available in every hostel for use by the residents. Every hostel is provided with telephones and internet connectivity. During the winter and summer vacations, special messes are run for students who are required to stay in the hostels for pursuing academic, sports or cultural activities. There are two large, modern, mega messes (Himalaya for male students & Vindhya for female students). Laundry service is also available in the Hostel zone.



STUDENT



Sports Complex & Fitness Centre



Swimming Pool



Basket Ball Court



Manohar Watsa Stadium

Cultural Event

A number of literary and social activities take place on the campus throughout the year. SAARANG is one of the biggest events on the campus every year. In addition, music festivals and other cultural festivals are organized regularly. (www.saarang.org)

Technical Event

SHAASTRA is the annual technical festival of IIT Madras when students at IITM celebrate the spirit of engineering. Shaastra is rated amongst the most exciting tech festival in the country and is the only student-organized event in the world to be ISO 9001:2000 certified. Participants and sponsors can be assured of impeccable organization and meticulousness in events and in hospitality. (www.shaastra.org)

International Day

The Office of International Relations and the Ipals (student volunteer group) organise "International Day" every year on a grand scale with several games for the campus community and exchange students. The International Students at our campus normally have food stalls and cook their native cuisines. Typically on this day we also have musical and dance performances followed with a fashion show which is quite popular. The exchange students dress up in different Indian costumes to showcase the diverse festivals in the country.





Cafeteria



Coffee Day



Quark Canteen



Food Joint / Gift Shop / Departmental Store

Sports and Recreation

To ensure the overall development of every student, the Institute provides all the required facilities for sports and recreation. There is a large gymnasium, a swimming pool, a football field, a tennis court, a hockey field and a cricket stadium. Each year students participate in the Inter-IIT sports meet. Students can join various clubs existing on the campus, viz... The Music Club, Astronomy Club, Photography Club, Literary Club, Hiking Club, Wild-life Club, etc.

Shopping

The Students' Facilities Centre (SFC) makes available a variety of consumer goods and day-to-day requirements of the students such as stationery, toiletry, etc. In addition, there is a tailoring shop, a hair salon, a Xerox centre and a gift centre selling IITM branded items.

Other Facilities

The campus has a post office, a telecom centre, two nationalized banks with ATM facilities and three restaurants. The campus has a large open air theatre (OAT) where the film club screens movies every Saturday. IIT Madras, as a residential institute, provides accommodation to its students, faculty, administrative and supporting staff and their families. Catering also to the needs of the burgeoning student population and other on-campus residents are the banks, shopping centres, food joints, schools, etc., which virtually make the campus self-contained.



Medical Facilities

The Institute hospital on the campus is well equipped with a dispensary, a clinical laboratory and an operation theatre to provide round-the-clock medical care to residents. There are two ambulances to attend to emergencies. All the students must register their names at the hospital for entitlement to group medical insurance. The hospital has 12 doctors and a team of supporting staff of 36 and is equipped with facilities to take care of all general health problems on the campus amongst a resident population of over 13,000 students, employees and their families. Out-patient service is available on all weekdays between 8:30 A.M. and 12 Noon, / 4.00 PM and 6.30 PM.



Apart from medical officers for general medicine, pediatrics and gynaecology, visiting specialists are available for general surgery, E.N.T, ophthalmology and psychiatry. The in-patient service can cater to 35 patients at a given time. Duty doctors and supporting staff are available on call as part of the 24-hour emergency service.

Hospital Office	8300
Duty Room	8331
Apollo Pharmacy	8336

How To Register?

Every registered student of IIT Madras is eligible for registration at the Institute hospital. The should submit a medical fitness form at OIR before registration. Students can register at the hospital with personal details and a passport size photo along with an authorized proof of his/her identity. After registration a hospital case record file will be maintained for each student. This case record file will be in the custody of the hospital reception counter.

List of major Hospitals in Chennai

Apollo Speciality Hospital
320 Mount Road (Padma Complex)
Nandanam, Chennai -600035
Tel: 044-24331741, 24336119

Apollo Hospitals
21/22 Greams Lane, Off Greams Road
Thousand Lights, Chennai -600006
Tel: 044 - 2829 0200, 2829 6633

St Isabel Hospital
18 Oliver Road, Chennai -600004
Tel: 044-24991081

Sankara Nethralaya
18 College Road, Nungambakkam
Chennai -600006
044 - 2827 1616, 2823 3556

MIOT Hospitals Ltd.
4/112 Mount, Poonamallee Road
Manapakkam, Chennai -600089
Tel: 044- 2249 2288, 4200 2288

Hindu Mission Hospital
Hindu Colony, Nanganallur
Chennai - 600 061
Ph:22340909

Sri Ramachandra Hospital
1 Ramachandra Nagar, Porur
Chennai -600041
Tel: 044-24768027

The Madras Medical Mission
4-A Dr. J.J. Nagar, Mugappair,
Chennai -600037
Tel: 044-26561801, 2656 5961

V.H.S Hospital
Taramani Road, Chennai -600113
Tel: 044-22542971, 22542973

**Vijaya Heart Foundation
Vijaya Hospital**
Vadapalani, Chennai
Tel: 044 - 2488 1394, 2480 2165

Malar Hospitals Ltd.
52 1st Main Road, Gandhi Nagar
Adyar, Chennai -600020
Tel: 044- 2491 4023, 24914769

Stanley Medical College and Hospital
Chennai -600001
Tel: 044-25248660

Foreign Consulates and Embassies

Austria 114-117 Kothari Building, MG Salai, Chennai. Tel: 28334502	Germany 48 Ethiraj Salai, Egmore, Chennai Tel: 28271747	Korea 19 3rd Floor,12 Chaithanya Bldg, KN Khan & Greams Rd, Chennai Tel:28331224	Russia 33 (Old No: 14) Santhome High Road, Mylapore, Chennai Tel: 24982320	Turkmenistan 3 Magesh Street T. Nagar, Chennai Tel: 24343777/ 3627
Belgium Spic House, 88 Mount Road, Guindy, Chennai Tel: 22352336	Greece H3 Alsa Manor, 72 Harrington Road, Chetpet, Chennai Tel: 28269194	Malaysia 252 A TTK Road, Teynampet, Chennai Tel :24982306	Serbia & Montenegro 324 Anna Salai,SPP Complex, Nandanam, Chennai Tel: 24342079	Turkey 202 Lingi Chetty Street, Parry's, Chennai Tel:2510214
Chile 7 Adyar Club Gate Road, R A Puram, Chennai. Tel: 24340610	Hungary Time House, 28 (New No: 72) Rajaji Salai,Parry's, Chennai Ph: 28210810	Mauritius 94 / 95 Blk VI, RR Chambers, Nungambakkam, Chennai Tel: 22346693	Singapore 17 A North Boag Road, T.Nagar, Chennai Tel: 28158208	United Kingdom 737 Anna Salai, Chennai Tel: 28525002
Czech Republic 64 Thirumalaipillai Road, T. Nagar, Chennai Tel: 28158886/87/88	Iceland 2nd Floor, No: 3 N H Road, Nungambakkam; Tel: 28333631	Netherlands Catholic Centre, 64 Armenian Street, Parry's, Chennai Tel: 22510214	Spain 6 Nimmo Road, Santhome, Chennai Tel: 24616978	USA 220 Anna Salai, Chennai Tel: 28112000
Denmark 9 Cathedral Road, Gopalapuram, Chennai Tel:28118141	Indonesia Eagle Flasks, Thiru Vi Ka Ind. Estate, Guindy, Chennai Tel: 22341095	New Zealand Maithri, 32 Cathedral Road, Gopalapuram, Chennai Tel: 28112472	Sri Lanka 196 T T K Road, Teynampet, Chennai Tel: 24987896	
Finland New No: 202 (Old No: 742) Anna Salai, Chennai Tel: 28524141	Italy 19 Rajaji Salai, Parry's, Chennai Tel: 24337224	Norway 44 / 45 Rajaji Salai, Parry's, Chennai Tel: 25232982	Sweden 6 Cathedral Road, Gopalapuram, Chennai Tel: 28112232	
France Marine Street, Pondicherry Tel: 0413-2334174	Japan 12 / 1 Cenotaph Road, 1st Street, Teynampet, Chennai Tel:24323862	Philippines Spic House, 4th Floor, 88 Mount Road, Guindy Ind. Estate, Chennai Ph: 22352062	Switzerland 224 T T K Road, Alwarpet; Tel: 24353886	

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT GUIDE



Immigration | <http://www.immigrationindia.nic.in/>

All foreigners (including foreigners of Indian origin) visiting India on long term (more than 180 days) Student visa, Medical Visa, Research Visa and Employment Visa are required to get themselves registered with the Foreigners Regional Registration Officer (FRRO)/Foreigners Registration Officer (FRO) concerned having jurisdiction over the place where the foreigner intends to stay, within 14 days of arrival.

However, Pakistan nationals are required to register within 24 hours of their arrival. All Afghan nationals are required to register with the FRRO/FRO concerned within 14 days of arrival except those Afghan nationals who enter India on a visa valid for 30 days or less provided the Afghan national concerned gives his/her local address in India to the Indian Mission/FRRO/FRO. The Afghan nationals who are issued visas with 'Exemption from police reporting' are exempt from Police reporting as well as Exit permission provided they leave within the visa validity period.

Requirements at the time of Registration

- 1. 4 recent passport size photographs
- 2. Photocopy of photo page and valid Indian Visa page of the passport
- 3. Proof of residential address in India
- 4. Documents of identification
- 5. In case of Student Visa, bonafide certificate from School/College
- 6. In case of Research Visa, bonafide certificate & letter from the nodal agency / ministry
- 7. Form 'C' & Form 'S'

Foreigner 's Regional Registration Officer, Chennai

Shastri Bhawan
26, Haddows Road
Chennai-600006. India

Phone: 044-23454970(O)
Fax: 044-23454971
E-mail: frrochn@nic.in

Assistant Director:
Direct Line: 2823 2642
Helpdesk: 2825 1721

All the above documents should be arranged in the same order as given in the list with a request letter and online registration copy.

FAQ's

Can a registered student, who has completed his graduation, get extension for Post Graduate courses by FRRO/FRO?

Yes. A registered student, who has completed graduation, can apply for extension to carry out a post graduate course from concerned FRRO/FRO cum Superintendent of Police provided he produces a bonafide certificate from his institution.

If a foreign student who has come on a Student Visa joins a new course will fresh visa fee be charged from him?

Yes, on permission of undertaking a new course, a fresh course fee of Rs. 3500/- is charged.

Whether visa fee can be charged from foreign students every year?

Visa fee is charged once at the time of issuance of Student Visa for completion of the course or for 5 years whichever is less.



Some usual queries and answers

What is the typical voltage rating in India?

230 V AC, 50 Hz.

Where can I book railway tickets and flight tickets?

For booking railways and air tickets, you can use the services of All India Travels located at SFC (Student Facility Center). A Railway booking counter is functioning at IITM Post Office apart from Chennai Railway Station. Bookings can also be done through online at www.irctc.ci.in.

How to reach IITM from central railway station or Bus station (CMBT)?

IITM is about 12 kms from Central Railway station. If you have luggage you can hire a prepaid auto rickshaw at a cost of about Rs. 150/- to Rs. 200/- to reach the hostel zone inside IITM, or you can hire a call taxi or prepaid taxi which costs about Rs. 300/-.

From Chennai Bus station (CMBT), IITM is around 16 kms. Prepaid auto rickshaw will cost about Rs. 200/- and call taxi will cost about Rs. 400/-.

How to open a Bank Account?

There are two banks located on the Campus, State Bank of India near Gajendra Circle and Canara Bank in the Residential zone. Consult bank officials for your queries.

Do you have an International Driving Permit?

You need to have an International Driving Permit (Four wheeler & two wheeler) from your respective country to drive within India. Driving license will not be issued in India without permanent address.

Where to get safe drinking water?

For the first few days you may use bottled mineral water, available at SFC. Also all the hostels use purification systems like Aqua-guard or Reverse Osmosis plant.

Whom to contact for hostel related problems?

In case of any problem you can contact the warden of your hostel or Chairman Council of Wardens (CCW).

Whom to meet if some major difficulty arises?

You can meet the Head of your Department, the Dean - Academic Courses, the Dean - International & Alumni Relations, Staff at I&AR Office and IPAL buddies in case of any major problem.

What things you need to buy once you are in the Campus?

You need to buy a good padlock, a bucket, mug, a mattress and a pillow. All these are available at SFC in the hostel zone. You may also want to own a bicycle, which can be bought at shops in Adyar or Velachery outside the campus. There is also a cycle sale in the campus at discounted prices once in a year. Use of powered vehicles by students is not permitted inside the campus.

What things do you need to bring?

Documents, medicines and books which you would like to bring, bed spreads & covers, and cotton wears.

How to make a call from outside India?

International code + Country code + City code + local number.

00 + 91 + 44 + _____. For the numbers starting with 9, the city code is not necessary.

Important websites

IITM Website	http://www.iitm.ac.in
Office of International Relations	http://www.oir.iitm.ac.in
MITR	http://www.mitr.iitm.ac.in
Academic Section	http://www.academic.iitm.ac.in
Hostel Office (CCW)	http://www.ccw.iitm.ac.in
Students Portal	http://www.students.iitm.ac.in
Hostels	<a href="http://www.hostels.iitm.ac.in/<hostelname>">http://www.hostels.iitm.ac.in/<hostelname>
Central Library	http://www.cenlib.iitm.ac.in
National Service Scheme	http://www.nss.iitm.ac.in
Alumni Association	http://www.iitmaa.org
Office of Alumni Affairs	http://www.alumni.iitm.ac.in
Shaastra	http://www.shaastra.org
Saarang	http://www.saarang.org
IITM Sports Website	http://www.sports.iitm.ac.in
Extra mural lecture	http://www.eml.iitm.ac.in
Centre for Innovation	http://www.cfi.iitm.ac.in/cfi
Hospital	http://www.hospital.iitm.ac.in

Semesters	Even Semester(Sprint): January - May
	Odd Semester(Fall) : July - November



The city of Chennai

Welcome to Chennai, the capital city of Tamil Nadu, and a charming host. 'Chennapatnam', the original name for 'Chennai', as it is now called, was until recent years known as Madras. This fascinating city is unique for its blend of the old and the modern, for its aroma of coffee and the sounds of carnatic and film music. The streets and halls of Chennai proclaim its rich cultural heritage, which makes it the hub for south Indian classical music and dance. While it still retains its old-world charm, it has also made great strides into the twenty-first century, becoming the third largest commercial and industrial centre in India today.

The city of Chennai stands on the coasts of the Indian Ocean, skirted by the Marina Beach, which is the largest natural beach in the world. As a coastal city, Chennai is generally hot and humid with the temperature rising up to 42°C (107°F) in summer (May - July) while in winter (Dec.-Feb.) it is fairly good weather, with a temperature of about 18°C (64°F). The Monsoon season starts in September and lasts until November.



Explore the city of Chennai

Sri Kapaleeswarar Temple

Kapaleeswarar, an ancient Shiva temple, is the biggest temple in Chennai. A masterpiece of Dravidian architecture, it displays the essential elements - gopurams, mandapams and a tank. The temple bears some fragmentary inscriptions dating back to 1250 AD.

Sri Parthasarathy Temple

Sri Parthasarathy Temple, dedicated to Lord Krishna, was originally built by the Pallavas in the 8th century AD and renovated in the 16th century by the Vijayanagar rulers. It houses the five 'avatars' of Lord Vishnu and has a small temple shrine dedicated to Vishnu's consort, Vedavalli Ammai. It is one of the oldest surviving temples in Chennai.



Santhome Cathedral Church

Santhome Cathedral Church was built in 1504, then rebuilt in the neo-Gothic style in 1893. This Roman Catholic Church near Kapaleeshwarar temple is said to house the remains of St. Thomas the Apostle.

St. Thomas Mount

St. Thomas is believed to have lived in Little Mount Shrine (a tiny cave) when he came to India around 58 A.D. Known locally as Chinnamalai, the cave is entered through the Portuguese Church that was built in 1551.

Government Museum

Well worth a visit, the Government Museum is on Pantheon Road, between Egmore and Anna Salai. The buildings originally belonged to a group of eminent



British citizens, known as the Pantheon Committee, who were charged with improving the social life of the British in Chennai. The main building has a fine archaeological section representing all the major south Indian periods including the Chola, Vijayanagar, Hoysala and Chalukya. It also houses a good ethnology collection. The bronze gallery has a superb collection of Chola art. One of the most impressive is the bronze statue of Ardhanariswara, the androgynous incarnation of Shiva.

National Art Gallery

The National Art Gallery situated in Egmore was established in 1857. There are sections on geology, archaeology, anthropology, numismatics, botany, zoology and sculpture, besides a collection of armoury.



Marina Beach

The famous Marina Beach, the pride of Chennai, is the second longest beach in the world with a stretch of 4.5 kms (2.5 miles) and has a wide sandy foreshore. An aquarium is also located on the Marina Beach. Watching sunset and sunrise from the beach is a fascinating experience. It later became the venue from which Vivekananda preached his ascetic philosophy.

Valluvar Kottam

The Valluvar Kottam, honours the celebrated Tamil Poet, Thiruvalluvar, whose classic work Thirukkural, is said to be about 2000 years old. Established in 1976, Valluvar Kottam replicates ancient Tamil architecture, with the 1330 verse couplets inscribed on panels. The



outer structure in stone is a replica of the temple car of Thiruvavarur in Tamilnadu.

Kalakshetra

Kalakshetra dedicated to the revival of classical arts, was founded by Rukmini Devi Arundale in 1936. Classical dance, music, traditional textile designs and weaving are taught here in natural surroundings.

The Snake Park/Guindy National Park

Situated adjacent to the IITM, the Snake Park with its lizards, crocodiles and turtles is of special interest to visitors. A well-maintained park, it has expansive enclosures for a wide variety of reptiles. Next door to it is the Children's Park, which has a small collection of animals and birds and a large play area for children.





BM Birla Planetarium

Situated in Kotturpuram in Chennai, the B.M Birla Planetarium houses a modern, fully computerized projector, which depicts the heavens on a hemispherical dome.

Ashtalakshmi Temple

Ashtalakshmi Temple is situated in Besant Nagar, on the shores of the Bay of Bengal. That stretch of beach is known as the Elliot's beach. Ashtalakshmi Temple is considered as the only temple featuring the eight manifestations of the Goddess Mahalakshmi. The temple was built in the year 1976 and features various characteristics of Dravidian temple architecture.

**Tamil Nadu Tourism
Development Corporation**

No.2, Wallajah Road
Chennai - 600 002.
E-Mail: ttdc@vsnl.com
Tel: 044-25368358



Shopping Malls & Multiplexes

Phoenix Market City situated in Velachery, is one of the best and biggest shopping malls. Started in 2013, the mall boasts and features Chennai's first IMAX theatre that is a 11 screen multiplex known as Luxe Cinemas. Express Avenue is located at Whites Road, Royapettah and has easy accessibility from local transport. This mall is spread over an area of 900,000 sq ft and has more than 200+ stores. Besides shopping, the mall has amazing eight screen multiplex called Escape. Spencer Plaza is located on Anna Salai. It was started in 1985 and is the oldest & biggest shopping mall of Chennai. Chennai Citi Centre is one of the famous shopping malls in the city that has outlets of all the international brands and is located in Mylapore.



Public utility

Chennai Airport Enquiry:

Air Deccan: 91-9840377008
Air India: 28554477, 22347400
Reservation & Enquiries: 28554477
Arrival & Departure: 22561751-53
Indian Airlines: 28555200, 28555201
Jet Airways: 28414141
General Enquiry: 140
Arrival & Departure: 142
Reservation: 141
Reservation after office hrs: 28555200

International Flight Enquiry:

Air France: 28554894, 28554916
Air Sahara: 5211 0202, 2498 0688
British Airways: 28554680, 28554767
Gulf Air: 28553091, 28553101
Lufthansa: 28525095, 28525197
Malaysian Airlines: 24349291, 24349291
Saudia: 24349666
Singapore Airlines: 285228712, 22343860
SriLankan: 28261535, 28261538
Swiss Air: 28262692

Chennai Bus Enquiry

Chennai Mofussil Bus Terminus : 24794705
CMBT Enquiry Number : 2479 5547

Chennai Railway Enquiry

General Enquiry : 131
Reservation Enquiry : 132
Train Arr. & Dep. (Central) : 133
Train Arr. & Dep. (Egmore) : 134
Reservation Enquiry (Egmore) : 135
Central Railway Station : 25353816
Egmore Railway Station : 28194579

Travel Cabs

Adyar Cabs : 24913737, 24419090, 24414654
Kathir Travels : 24939268, 24951212, 52100087
K.C Cabs : 24419025, 24411207
Raja Travels : 24900854, 24465110, 52159545, 9840050596
Sevenhills Cabs : 65496899, 25014167, 9444134250, 9840362325
Sri Balaji Tours & Travels : 24421350, 52054527
Swathy Travels : 24359033, 24320850, 24322722
Fast Track : 24732020

Call Taxis - Mobile Apps:

OLA, UBER, Fastrack, UTOO are available in Android Playstore and iOS

Explore places around Chennai

Thousands of temples with lofty towers dot the skyline of the southernmost state of Tamilnadu in India. These temples are torchbearers of the glorious heritage of the Tamil-speaking region, and are repositories of the magnificent art forms that evolved over several centuries. And then there are the most recently developed attractions such as Crocodile Bank, Muttukadu Dakshin -Chitra and Vandalur Zoo.

Mahabalipuram with its picturesque location on a rocky outcrop between the beach and a lagoon is a happy combination of history, good beaches, hassle-free tourism and fabulous fish and lobster!



Shore Temple: The windswept and surf-beaten Shore Temple is the ultimate expression of Mahabalipuram. The three-in-one abode of God Vishnu temple sandwiched between two Shiva temples is a visual delight, its precincts abounding in architectural masterpieces. On either side of it the sea spreads, illimitable and infinite.

Rathas: A group of structures lying at the southern end of Mahabalipuram, amidst casuarina trees, are the famous Rathas (chariots). The Pancha Pandava Rathas, as they are called, are five in number. Out of these, four are carved out of a single rock, while the fifth on the west is scooped out from a small rock. The square Draupadi and Arjuna Rathas, the linear Bhima Ratha, the taller Dharmaraja Ratha and the apsidal Nakula-Sahadeva Ratha, constitute the complex.



Kanchipuram: It is situated 76 km southwest of Madras. This old city is known as 'The Golden City of 1,000 Temples'. The Ekambaranathar temple, the Kailasanatha temple, Sri Varadaraja temple, Sri Vaikuntaperumal temple, the names stretch endlessly. The city itself is dedicated to the presiding deity, Sri Kamakshi (one with eyes of love), at the Kamakshi temple. In Sanskrit, the word 'Kanchi' denotes a girdle and poets have allegorically characterized the city as a girdle to the earth. It is one of the seven sacred cities of India and is famous equally for hand-woven silk fabrics.

Vedanthaangal: Located at 53 km from Mahabalipuram, Vedanthaangal is one of the oldest bird sanctuaries in India. The sheer number of birds that visit this sanctuary is amazing. It is said that almost



1,00,000 avian species of varied shapes, sizes and hues - including storks, egrets, cormorants, darters, and flamingos - visit this sanctuary between October and March.

Covelong: Just 19 km from Mahabalipuram is situated the picturesque beach resort of Covelong, a quiet fishing village, around the remains of a fort. Facilities for windsurfing, swimming and water sports are available here. If you are in Mahabalipuram, not to miss out on a visit to this place.



Crocodile Bank: The Crocodile bank is situated on the Chennai-Mahabalipuram road. Set up by an American named Romulus Whitaker in 1976, the bank saw a rapid growth in the number of crocodiles in its first 15 years, from just 15 to over 5,000.

Dakshina Chitra is a unique Heritage Centre located on the east coast road in Muttukadu on the way to Mahabalipuram which offers the visitor an unforgettable & authentic insight into the lifestyles of the diverse peoples of South India. Traditional craftspersons & folk artists work & perform in the reconstructed period settings of 19th century streets, homes & workshop-spaces.





Muttukadu Boat House is an unusual spot in backwaters for tourists and holidaying families. Also, Muttukadu is a paradise for anglers since prawns and jelly fish are in abundance here. For those who relish seafood being here could prove to be a memorable experience. Located 36 kilometers off Chennai.

Amusement Parks are important means of entertainment for the residents of Chennai city as well as the tourists. These parks are equipped with all the modern day facilities and gadgets. This has significantly contributed to the tourism industry of the state. Amusements Parks



provide adventurous and fun filled entertainment for all, by the means of crazy activities and rides.

Some of the best are located around Chennai are Maayaajal, Dash-N-Splash, Dolphin City, Kishkintha, Little Folks, MGM "Dizzee World" Beach Resort, VGP Universal Kingdom etc.

Pondicherry - a union territory, was designed based on the French grid pattern and features neat sectors and perpendicular streets. The town is divided into two sections: the French Quarter and the Indian quarter. It is also known as "The French Riviera of the East".

Auroville was founded as a project of the Sri Aurobindo Society by Mirra Alfassa, "The Mother". "Auroville is meant to be a universal town where men and women of all countries are able to live in peace and



progressive harmony, above all creeds. The purpose of Auroville is to realize human unity."

Tirupati-Tirumala Venkateswara Temple is a Hindu temple in the hill town of Tirumala, near Tirupati in the Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh. The temple is the richest pilgrimage center, after the Sree Padmanabhaswamy Temple in Kerala, and the most-visited place of worship in the world.



Words of common use in Tamil

Hello	Vanakkam
Morning	Kalai
Afternoon	Madhiyam
Evening	Sayandram
Night	Rathiri
Day	Pagal
Today	Innikki
Tomorrow	Nalai
Week	Vaaram
Month	Maasam
Year	Varsham
Fruits	Palam
Vegetables	Kaigari
Egg	Muttai
Spinach	Keerai
Vegetarian	Saivam
Non-vegetarian	Asaivam
Give	Kodunga
Take	Edunga
Milk	Paal
Curd/yoghurt	Thayir
Buttermilk	More
Butter	Vennai
Rice	Arisi
Cooked rice	Saadham
Water	Thanni
Sugar	Chakkarai
Big	Perisu
Small	Chinnadu
(I)Want	Venum
(I)do not want	Vendaam
Later	Apram
Near	Pakkathil
Far	Dhooram

Familiarizing oneself with spoken Tamil

How are you?	Eppadi irikkaing?
I am fine	Na nalla irukkein
Do you speak English?	Ungalakku English pesa theriyuma?
How much is this?	Ithu Yevalavu?
Where is it?	Yenge irukku?
How is it?	Eppadi irukku?
Please sit	Ukkaarungo
I don't know	Enakku theriyaadu
I know	Enakku theriyum
What is your name?	Ungal peyar enna?
My name is ____	Enn peyar ____
What is the time?	Mani enna?
Where is it available?	Adu enge kidaikkum?
Please come / welcome	Vaango

