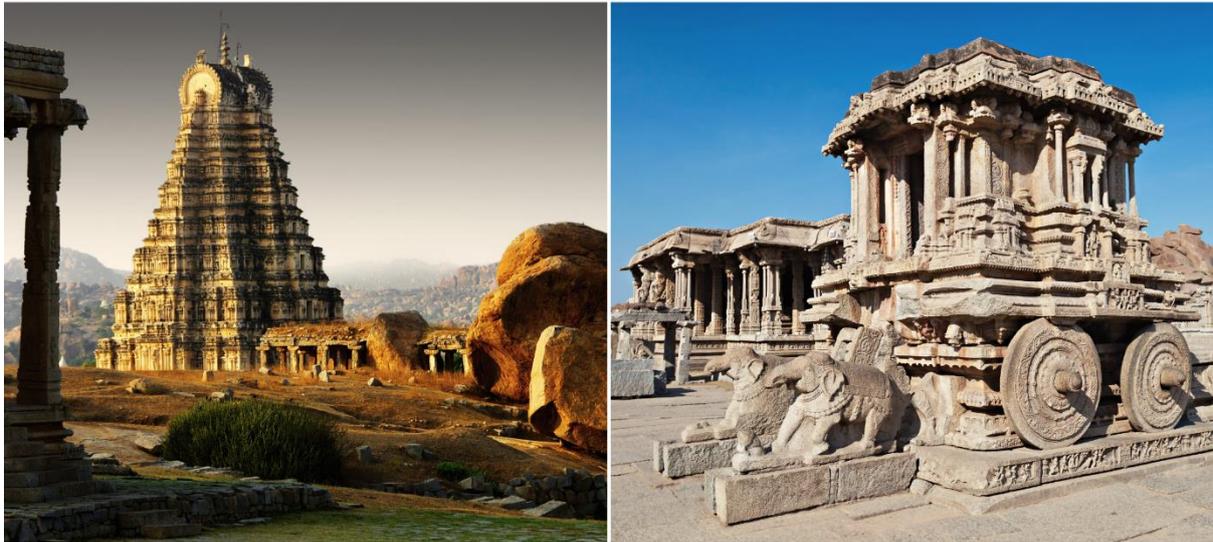


THE GRANDEUR OF HAMPI



Hampi, once the capital of the historical Vijayanagara Dynasty, was a major trading center. Anything from horses to gems was traded in Hampi. Art and architecture found its special place in Hampi. The rulers were great patrons of art and religion. The magnificence of the ruins of temples and other structures of Vijayanagar date back to 1500 AD. The setting itself is stunning with heaps of giant boulders perched precariously over miles of undulating terrain. Hampi was Conquered by the Deccan Muslim confederacy in 1565 and the city was pillaged over a period of six months before being abandoned. Among the attractions of Hampi are beautiful temples, ruins of palaces, remains of aquatic structures, ancient market streets, royal pavilions, bastions, royal platforms and treasury buildings.

Accompanying us on this journey is **Siddharth Raja**. An alumnus of NLS Bangalore and founder of Saakshya Law, Siddharth is a serial entrepreneur with a passion for History. He started Nandi Valley Walks in 2015 offering informative historical walking tours at the base of Nandi Hills. His recent visits to Hampi have left him in awe and he will share with us the history, his perspective and experiences on this magical and grand town, a UNESCO world heritage site.

ITINERARY

Day 1 – 17 November - Arrival Bangalore

Today, you will arrive into Bangalore airport. You can arrive at any time today.

The hotel is a comfortable 5 minute walk from the airport and there is adequate signage once you exit from the arrival terminal. Airport trollies can be used to comfortably carry baggage to the airport. Should you will require transport, it can be organised at an additional charge of INR 500+Taxes per way to receive you at the airport.

You will be booked for a stay of 1 night at **Taj Devanahalli** or similar.

Dinner tonight will be at the hotel.

Day 2 –18 November - Bangalore to Hampi

Early this morning, you will depart for Hampi (approx. 6 hours).

Enroute we will stop at Bagali and have lunch. Experience the Kalleshwara Temple in Bagali, off the beaten track and often forgotten! Built in the 10th Century, this exquisite gem of a temple bears the influence of two empires -- incorporating both Rashtrakuta and Chalukya temple building designs and styles.

Post Bagali, we will head to Hampi.

On arrival, we will be booked the **Hotel Heritage** or similar for a stay of 3 nights.

Early dinner and overnight.

Day 3 – 19 November – Hampi



Early this morning, we head out for a first glimpse of the grandeur of Hampi. Soak in the stupendous beauty, and the magnificence, of the historic Royal Centre and quarters in Vijayanagara -- the awe-inspiring capital of one of the largest empires in the sub-continent, of the same name.

We will return to the hotel for to rest for the morning.

Lunch will be at the hotel or a restaurant.

Once again in the early evening, we will head out to complete the first part of our exploration of Hampi. Silently meditate as you visit the renowned Virupaksha Temple in Hampi -- the focal point of most visitors. Then, contemplate the world and life at the nearby Hemakuta Hill as you watch the settling sun; and, cast your eyes around the scenic Sacred Centre of Vijayanagara.

We will then head back to the hotel to freshen up before we step out to see **Hampi by night**. *(Optional; subject to operation & availability; minimum numbers may be required)*

Hampi by Night is a wonderful way to explore the beauty of the city. Being illuminated with bright lights, the monuments can transport you to a different era altogether. The tour will enable us to walk through the artistically illuminated city and get a taste of its rich heritage. During the tour, we will learn about the legends, history and myths of the monuments.

Dinner & Overnight at the hotel.

Day 4 – 20 November - Hampi

Once again, early morning, we experience the highlight of the Tour: meander through the jaw-dropping Vijaya Vittala Temple Complex; stroll past the sylvan banks of the Tungabhadra River; gaze at the Tiruvengalanatha Temple Complex; and, onwards through to the Bazaar Street in front of the Virupaksha Temple (about 2 kms in total). Walk in the footsteps of the historic route taken by Domingo Paes and Fernao Nunes, two Portuguese horse merchants who visited the Vijayanagara capital during its heyday, in the early 16th Century.

Return to the hotel post the tour.

Lunch will be at the hotel or a restaurant.

Post lunch the rest of the afternoon will be at leisure. For those who want to (at no additional cost), we can arrange for a visit to Kaladham (an hour away). Kaladham is an International Arts and Cultural Centre, part of the JSW Foundation's initiative for bringing awareness about India's living heritage. It is a hub that inspires traditional as well as contemporary artists and performers across boundaries in India to collaborate, learn and try out new narratives from within their existing domains of creativity. (1 hour each way; no guide)

Tonight, pre-dinner we will have an informal and relaxed "fireside" chat curated and moderated by Siddharth Raja to talk about Hampi, the Vijayanagara dynasty and more.

Dinner & overnight.

Day 5 – 21 November – Hampi to Anegundi

This morning, after breakfast, we will depart for Anegundi.

Anegundi was used for bathing the elephants of Vijayanagara Empire and also became the first capital of the empire. The historical monuments are well-preserved here and they are the live evidence of our rich culture and heritage. The art form in these temples depicts are of great importance when we talk in terms of archaeology.



We will be crossing the river in a coracle, the basket boat and walk a little, the views are stunning all the way on this walk. Once we disembark, the villagers will be waiting for us with cycles to take us on a farm tour of the village. (approx. 2 hours)

Post our cycle tour, we will have lunch at Urama Heritage Homes.

After lunch, we will visit the **TKT Craft Haat** which displays a variety of products made by local women's groups and artisans. Interact with them, shop and then enjoy a **workshop** of making jewellery with banana fibre and/or water hyacinth.

And just when it gets cooler, we will head off with a local guide for sightseeing of the fort and temples of **Anegundi** with a local guide.

Return to our accommodation.

Tonight we will be staying at a local guest house run by the Kishkinda Trust, which is the UNESCO-appointed organisation in charge of ensuring the region's sustainable development. (*The accommodation is clean but basic. We will also not be staying in one guest house*)

Dinner will be by the villagers by a campfire tonight.

Overnight at the guest houses

Day 6 – 22 November –Departure for Bangalore.

We will leave Anegundi early this morning, post breakfast, to head back to Bangalore airport. (*We request you to please book your flight back to Bangalore after 4pm*)

***** Return home with wonderful memories *****

Price per person on a twin sharing/single basis: Rs 69,800
Single room supplement: Rs 19,500

Please let us know if you want to start the trip ex-Bangalore from Day 2 onwards.

Inclusions

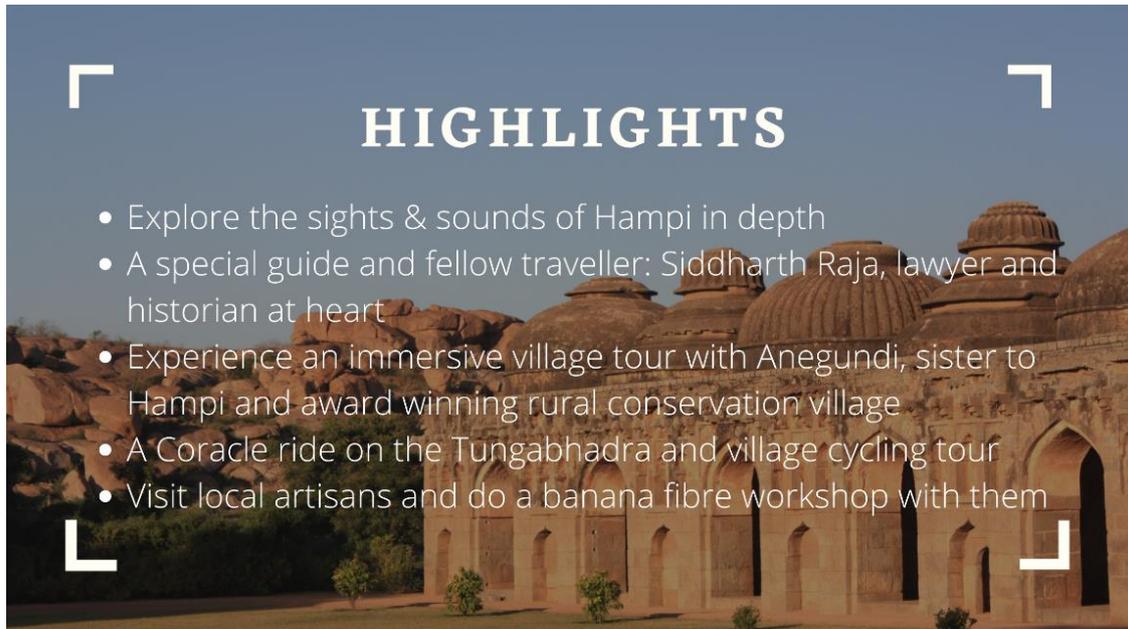
- Accommodation in the hotels mentioned in this itinerary for 5 nights
- All meals from Dinner on Day 1 to Breakfast on Day 6
- Transport in an-AC vehicle
- Special guide: Mr Siddharth Raja
- Services of a tour escort
- All Entrance fees
- Sightseeing as mentioned in the itinerary
- Overnight visit to Anegundi and including experiences: Coracle Ride, Cycling, Artisan interaction, Banana fibre workshop, sightseeing with a local guide, dinner by campfire.

Exclusions

- Airfare to Bangalore & back
- Tips to the driver / guide
- Any alcoholic / non alcoholic drinks
- Personal expenses
- Expenses arising from unexpected costs
- Medical or Travel Insurance
- 5% GST

Please note

- All guests will be required to submit a Covid Negative test report 72 hours prior to the start of the tour
- We need a minimum of 8 guests to operate the tour
- Accommodation in Anegundi will be simple and clean and will not all be together in the same guest house.



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For bookings, please contact us on E: aparna@uniglobeodysseytravel.com | T: 020 66442929