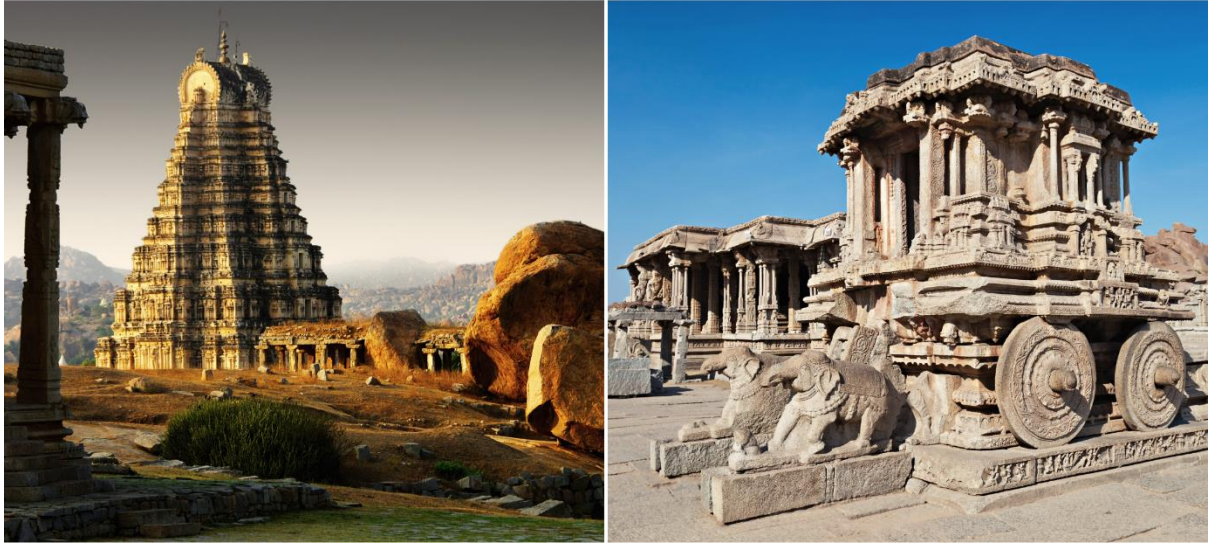


# THE GRANDEUR OF HAMPI



**Hampi / Vijayanagar**, once the glorious capital of the historic Vijayanagar Empire (also known to history as the 'Karnataka Samrajya'), was a major trading, cultural, and religious center. Anything from horses to gems was traded in Hampi / Vijayanagar. Art and architecture found its special place in Hampi / Vijayanagar. The rulers were great patrons of art and religion. The magnificence of the ruins of temples and other structures of Hampi / Vijayanagar date back to 1400 AD. The setting itself is stunning with heaps of giant boulders perched precariously over miles of undulating terrain. The eponymous Vijayanagar Empire was finally vanquished by the Deccan Muslim confederacy in 1565, and the city and its surroundings were pillaged over a period of six months, before being abandoned. Among the attractions of Hampi / Vijayanagar 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 / Vijayanagar 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.

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## ITINERARY

### Day 1-11 November - Bangalore to Hampi

We meet this morning at the lobby of Taj Yeshwantpur at 7.30AM

We set out at 8.00 AM latest and depart for Hampi via Bagali (approx. 5 hours).

Enroute stop at Davengere for a south Indian lunch.

Enroute we will stop at Bagali. 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. (2 hours)

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

Early dinner and overnight.

### **Day 2 – 12 November – Hampi**



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

We will return to the hotel to rest for the latter part of the morning, and over lunchtime.

Lunch will be at the hotel or a restaurant.

Once again in the late afternoon / early evening, we will head out to complete the first part of our exploration of Hampi / Vijayanagar. 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 Hampi.

We will then head back to the hotel to freshen up before we step out to see **Hampi by night**.

*(Cost not included 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 3 – 13 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 Vijayanagar capital during its heyday, in the early to mid 16th Century.

Return to the hotel post the tour.

Lunch will be at the hotel or a restaurant.

Later this evening, we will head out to visit the **Malyavantha Raghunathaswamy Temple**, perched on a hill and see a spectacular sunset from there – here you will get a different perspective as compared with the previous experience on the Hemkuta Hill.

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 4 – 14 November – Day trip 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.*



Anegundi is a historical settlement which dates back to the 8th century. It is located on the north shore of the Tungabhadra river with easy and picturesque access to the Hampi World Heritage Site.

We will start our visit with a walk through the village to observe the lives of the villagers and interact with them, understanding their way of life and what they have to offer. The villagers will set up a local haat for us so we can learn and understand (and if you wish, purchase) their local food and handicrafts. Time permitting, we will visit some local caves and monuments.

We will then head out to Tara farm just outside Anegundi village to enjoy a farm to table lunch.

Post a leisurely lunch, we will head out on a unique coracle ride on the Tungabhadra. On this one hour journey, we will step on and off the coracle to see hidden gems of the area. We will end the trip with a fantastic view of a sunset.

Return to the hotel for dinner.

Overnight in Hampi.

*This entire experience is with the involvement of the villagers and their creative inputs, and our visit here benefits them directly.*

#### **Day 5 – 15 November –Departure for Bangalore.**

We will leave Hampi early this morning, post breakfast, to head back to Bangalore airport. We will have lunch enroute at a local highway restaurant. *(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. 58,900**  
**Single room supplement: Rs. 16,800**

#### **Inclusions**

- Accommodation in the hotels mentioned in this itinerary for 5 nights
- All meals from Lunch on Day 1 to Lunch on Day 5
- Transport in an-AC vehicle
- Special guide: Mr Siddharth Raja
- Services of a tour escort
- All Entrance fees
- Sightseeing as mentioned in the itinerary
- Day trip to Anegundi and including experiences: Coracle Ride, Artisan interaction, Farm to table lunch and village walk.

#### **Exclusions**

- Airfare to Bangalore & back
- Accommodation in Bangalore
- 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 MAY 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



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### BOOKINGS AND PAYMENTS

1. A deposit of Rs 15,000 per person is payable at the time of booking to block your seat on the tour.
2. Balance payment has to be made 40 days prior to the start of the tour
3. At the time of making the balance / full payment, please send us a copy of your ID proof (Aadhar Card / Driving Licence)

### CANCELLATION & REFUNDS

1. **Payment of the booking deposit constitutes acceptance of our terms and conditions**
2. We require a minimum **of 8 guests** to operate the tour. In case we do not get the minimum number of guests, the deposit paid will be refunded in full
3. The Balance / Full payment will be collected 40 days prior only when we get the minimum number of guests to operate the tour
4. Cancellation of any reservations are subject to the following conditions:
  - Cancellation effected after paying the booking deposit & within 30 days of start of the tour: Full refund
  - Cancellation effected between 30 and 10 days of start of the tour: An administrative service charge equivalent to the initial booking deposit of Rs 15,000 will be levied\*
  - Cancellation effected within 10 days of start of the tour: 100% of the tour cost will be levied as cancellation charges\*
  - **\*Cancellation charges will be waived if the guest can find a replacement person to join the tour**
  - No refund will be due after commencement of travel
5. Cancellation due to Covid (during the tour): In the unfortunate event that the guest tests positive during the tour, there will be no refund due for the remainder of the tour. Any additional costs of hotel quarantine / isolation will be applicable as required and has to be paid directly by the guest to the service providers
6. Refunds due can take upto 5 weeks to process.