

#### RESERVATION FORM: (Please Print)

NAME (as it appears on passport). The Three The

NAME (as it appears on passport): □Mr. □Mrs. □Ms.

(form sent separately)

Enclosed is my deposit of \$	(\$750 per person for the main trip and \$250 for the
extension) to hold place(s) o	n a Journey to South India, departing on March 6, 2015.

Cost is \$5,995 per person, double occupancy, land only. Estimated air from Houston is an additional \$2,380 per person, including departure taxes & fuel surcharges (Currently, subject to change).

Final payment is due Dec. 1, 2014. All final payments are required to be made by check or money

\*Credit Card Authorization form must be requested, filled out and submitted with reservation form to make a deposit.

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4)	2)	

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	TREET ADDRESS:	
	IRFFI ADDRESS:	

CITY·	STATF.	71P•
CITI:		

PHONE NUMBERS: HOME: (	)	OFFICE: (	)

MOBILE: (	)	FAX: (	)

E-MAIL ADDRESS:

☐ The two of us above are sharing a room and, where possible, would like a room with: □One Bed

I am sharing a room with		

- □ I need assistance in securing a roommate. I understand if one cannot be located for me by the final payment date, I agree to pay the additional single supplement. I prefer to share with:
  - □Non-smoker □Smoker
- □ I/we desire single accommodations, if available, and will pay the single supplement additional cost of:  $\Box$ \$2,995 for the main trip  $\Box$ \$1,295 for the extension
- $\square$  I/We wish to participate in the optional extension(s) at an additional per person cost of: □\$2,995 for the Sri Lanka post-extension
- ☐ Please make my/our round trip air reservations on the group flights from Houston (Other departure cities available upon request; prices quoted at time of request.)
- ☐ I/We will make our own air arrangements and will provide you with an itinerary before the trip departure. I/we understand that we will be billed for the internal flight within India at \$580 per person.

No funds donated to The Association of Former Students or to Texas A&M University have been used in the production or mailing of this travel brochure; all such costs are covered by the tour supplier.

WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU OBTAIN TRAVEL INSURANCE. RESERVATIONS ARE ACCEPTED, SUBJECT TO TOUR CONDITIONS, AND WILL BE CONFIRMED ONLY IF ACCOMPANIED BY COMPLETED FORM SIGNED BY THE TOUR PARTICIPANT(S).

I/WE HAVE READ THE CONDITIONS OF TRAVEL ON THIS BROCHURE AND UNDERSTAND AND AGREE TO THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS STATED HEREIN:

CICNIATUDE.	DATE:	

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO AND SEND TO: CLASSIC ESCAPES 58-25 QUEENS BOULEVARD WOODSIDE, NY 11377W

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TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY®

Traveling Aggies

# **SOUTH INDIA**

The Lush Grandeur - Spices & the Tiger's Eye

March 6-20, 2015

Howdy, Ags!

India's rich culture and heritage comes to life on this journey through exotic South Asia. Experience the history of India as you explore beautiful towns and cities in Kerala, a predominantly Christian state, that still shows evidence of European influence. Search for the rare tiger in Nagarahole National Park — also known for its abundance of wild elephants. Discover the bird sanctuary at Kumarakom, and enjoy the serenity of a houseboat ride down a network of canals on the backwaters of Kerala. Be enchanted by the tranquility of Coorg, with its coffee and spice plantations. Be enthralled with the delights of India!

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Jennifer Bohac '87, Ph.D. Director, Travel Programs

The Association of Former Students

## YOUR ITINERARY

DAYS 1/2/3 ~ HOUSTON/CHENNAI/MAHABALIPURAM THE LEELA PALACE CHENNAI. (Meals Aloft; B,D) Board your overnight flight and arrive at Chennai, a major center for culture in Tamil Nadu. Continue to Mahabalipuram, a UNESCO World Heritage site and home to the Shore Temple and the DakshinaChitra, a center for living traditions of art and architecture. Explore the area on day three and in the evening, feast on delicacies during a welcome dinner. Your stunning palace is Chennai's most luxurious hotel. With spectacular sea views, the inspiration of its design is drawn from the Chettinad Dynasty, exuding a regal and opulent style.

#### DAY 4 ~ MAHABALIPURAM/KANCHIPURAM

### THE LEELA PALACE CHENNAL (B,L)

A scenic drive takes you to Kanchipuram, one of India's seven holy cities. Visit the Ekambareswar Temple, best known for its gopuram (tower) that rises to almost 200 feet in height and the Kailasanatha Temple, the oldest temple in town. Well-known for their expertise at producing some of the finest silk and cotton saris in India, enjoy a demonstration by local weavers at their homes and handloom center.

#### DAYS 5/6 ~ CHENNAI/MYSORE/CHIKMAGLUR/BELUR/HALEBID

SERAI. (B,L,D; B,L)

A morning flight takes you to Mysore in Karnataka. Drive toward Chikmaglur, the birth place of the Hoysala dynasty and Indian coffee, and home to hundreds of temples. Next day, visit two beautiful temple clusters in Karnataka – Belur and Halebid. The temple sites house some of the richest collections of Hindu art and sculpture in India. See the temple of Channakeshava, built by the Hoysala King Vishnuvardhana to commemorate his conversion from Jainism to Vasihnavism and the Hoysaleshwara temple, richly decorated with the most finely detailed scrollwork in stone. Your luxury resort hotel situated on a coffee estate, offers unequaled service coupled with breathtaking scenic beauty.

#### DAYS 7/8 ~ CHIKMAGLUR/COORG

#### ORANGE COUNTY RESORT COORG. (B,L,D Daily)

Coorg is filled with coffee estates, pepper and cardamom plantations and a landscape of misty hills and lush forests. Located on an elevated area with stunning views of the valley, your resort sits amidst 300 acres of coffee and spice plantation and is flanked by the River Cauvery on one side, and the Dubare Reserve Forest on the other. The next day, enjoy a visit to a traditional Kadava home and learn about local culture and history as you enjoy lunch with the family.

DAYS 9/10~ COORG/NAGARAHOLE NATIONAL PARK ORANGE COUNTY RESORT NAGARAHOLE. (B, L, D Daily) Visit Mysore, the capital city of the Wodeyars, to see the magnificent Mysore Palace. Continue to Nagarahole National Park with its rich wildlife – elephant, tiger, ndole, four-horned antelope, sloth bear, civet, wild boar, spotted deer, flying fox and over 250 species of birds. Activities include boat rides on the Kabini Lake, where you may see elephants congregate on the banks. Enjoy a drive on a canter to view the majestic wildlife in the park, see a wildlife movie in the audio-visual hall followed by cultural dances and a campfire and barbecue at the Ghol Ghar. Your resort is situated in the heartland of the Kadukuruba tribe and surrounded by the Kabini River. The architecture has a tribal 'kadu kuruba' leitmotif, where each of the guest huts bespeaks a happy marriage of traditional craft and modern luxury.

#### DAYS 11/12 ~ NAGARAHOLE/BANGALORE/COCHIN

#### VIVANTA TAJ MALABAR. (B,L,D; B,D)

Drive to Bangalore Airport for your flight to Cochin, the oldest European settlement in India, and one of the finest natural harbors in the world. Enjoy an exquisite meal prepared at your historic hotel situated on Willingdon Island and take in the breathtaking view of Cochin harbor. The next morning, stroll through St. Francis Church – the original burial place of Vasco de Gama. Also visit the Dutch Palace, the Jewish Synagogue, and Fort Kochi to see historic Dutch and Portuguese buildings. In the evening, enjoy a sunset harbor cruise, then dinner at a local restaurant.

#### DAY 13 ~ COCHIN/ALLEPPEY/KUMARAKOM

#### KUMARAKOM LAKE RESORT. (B,L)

Drive to Alleppev to board your Kettuvalam (rice boat) for a cruise down the backwaters of Kerala, a scenic landscape dotted with lush forests of mangroves, coconut palms and paddy fields. Witness the daily life of the locals from the comforts of your Kettuvalam and enjoy lunch at Phillipkutty's Farm, a family-owned organic spice plantation. Your luxurious home is situated on the picturesque banks of Vembanad Lake with an enchanting infinity pool, an Ayurveda center and original works of art in many of the rooms.

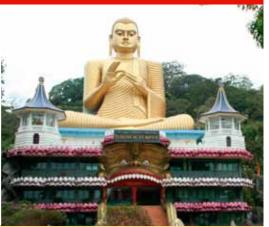
#### DAYS 14/15 ~ KUMARAKOM/COCHIN/HOUSTON

(B,D; Meals Aloft)

Spend your last day at leisure - perhaps preparing for your return trip with an Ayurveda treatment - before your farewell dinner in the evening. Afterwards, transfer to Cochin for your return flights home.







Extend your journey and discover the beautiful island of Sri Lanka, once an important port for the spice trade in Southeast Asia, now a country of historic, cultural and natural beauty with a number of UNESCO World Heritage sites and an amazing blend of religions - Buddhism, Islam, Hinduism, Christianity. Explore Sigiriya, Polonnaruwa, Dambulla, Kandy and other places of historic and cultural significance. Learn how to pick tea leaves in Nuwara Eliya, take a two-hour elephant-back safari through the forests and villages of Habarana and seek out the European influence with a tour through its capital city, Colombo. Enjoy world-class accommodations, from an innovative nature resort in Sigiriya, to a converted tea factory in Nuwara Eliya, to a historic hotel in Colombo and bask in the friendliness of the locals.

## **YOUR JOURNEY COSTS:**

#### MARCH 6-20, 2015 **PRICES PER PERSON**

- \$5,995 land only, double occupancy.
- \$2,995 single supplement.
- \$2,380 estimated international airfare from Houston, including airline taxes and fuel
- \$580 air within India, additional, if arranging own international air.

#### **YOUR EXTENSION COSTS:**

MARCH 19-27, 2015 PRICES PER PERSON

- \$2,995 land only, double occupancy.
- \$1,295 single supplement.



- Superior accommodations throughout as indicated or similar.
- Flight between Cochin/Colombo on the extension.
- Breakfast daily and other meals as specified in itinerary.
- Services of a professional guide.
- Sightseeing in National Parks and points of interest as indicated, escorted by specialist guide in private
- All applicable hotel and lodge taxes and gratuities for baggage handling.



## **YOUR JOURNEY INCLUDES:**

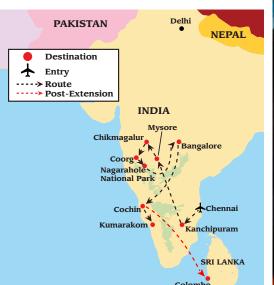
- Enrichment lecturer will accompany the group with 15 travelers on the main program and 10 travelers on

- Complimentary baggage tags and passport wallet.



So far as I am able to judge, nothing has been eft undone, either by man or nature, to make ndia the most extraordinary country that the sun visits on his rounds. Nothing seems to have been forgotten, nothing overlooked."

- Mark Twain





#### FOR MORE INFORMATION OR RESERVATIONS, PLEASE CONTACT:

The Association of Former Students **Attn: Traveling Aggies** 505 George Bush Drive College Station, TX 77840-2918 Phone: 979-845-7514 Fax: 979-845-9263 Toll Free: 800-633-7514

## **CONDITIONS OF TRAVEL**

HOW TO BOOK: Fill out and sign the enclosed reservation form and send it, along with the deposit of \$750 for the main trip and \$250 for the extension, to Classic Escapes Inc. 58-25 Queens Blvd., Woodside NY, 11377. Upon receipt of your signed reservation form and deposit, we will, subject to availability, reserve your spot on the tour. You may consider your booking confirmed when you receive a confirmation notice and invoice from us.

RATES: Rates are based on the minimum number of guests outlined in this document, plus airfare costs, currency exchange rates and other factors and are subject to change. Though it is rare for Classic Escapes to make a price adjustment after promotion of an itinerary, we do reserve the right to assess a surcharge if the minimum is not met, or if increases are forced upon us by airlines or other partners or because of changes in

INSURANCE: It is a condition of booking that the sole responsibility lies with the guest to ensure that they carry the correct comprehensive travel and medical insurance to cover themselves, as well as any dependents/ traveling companions for the duration of their trip. This insurance should include cover in respect of, but not limited to, the following eventualities: cancellation or curtailment of the program, emergency evacuation expenses, medical expenses, repatriation expenses, damage/theft/loss of personal baggage, money and goods. Classic Escapes, including their representatives, employees and agents will take no responsibility for any costs, losses incurred or suffered by the guest, or guest's dependents or traveling companions, with regards to, but not limited to, any of the above mentioned eventualities. Guests will be charged directly by the relevant service providers for any emergency services they may require, and may find themselves in a position unable to access such services should they not be carrying the relevant insurance cover. Information will be sent to you from the Association of Former Students Texas A&M Travel office upon receipt of reservation form.

CANCELLATIONS: Cancellations are only effective on receipt of written notification. The following per person fees are applicable on this tour:

- Up to 95 days prior to departure, \$250 handling fee, plus \$250 non-refundable deposit given to overseas suppliers.
- 94-75 days prior to departure, deposit is forfeited.
- 74-60 days prior to departure, less 75% of tour cost.
- Less than 60 days prior to departure, 100% penalty, unless any refund is recoverable from overseas suppliers. These cancellation fees are also in addition to any imposed by airlines.







