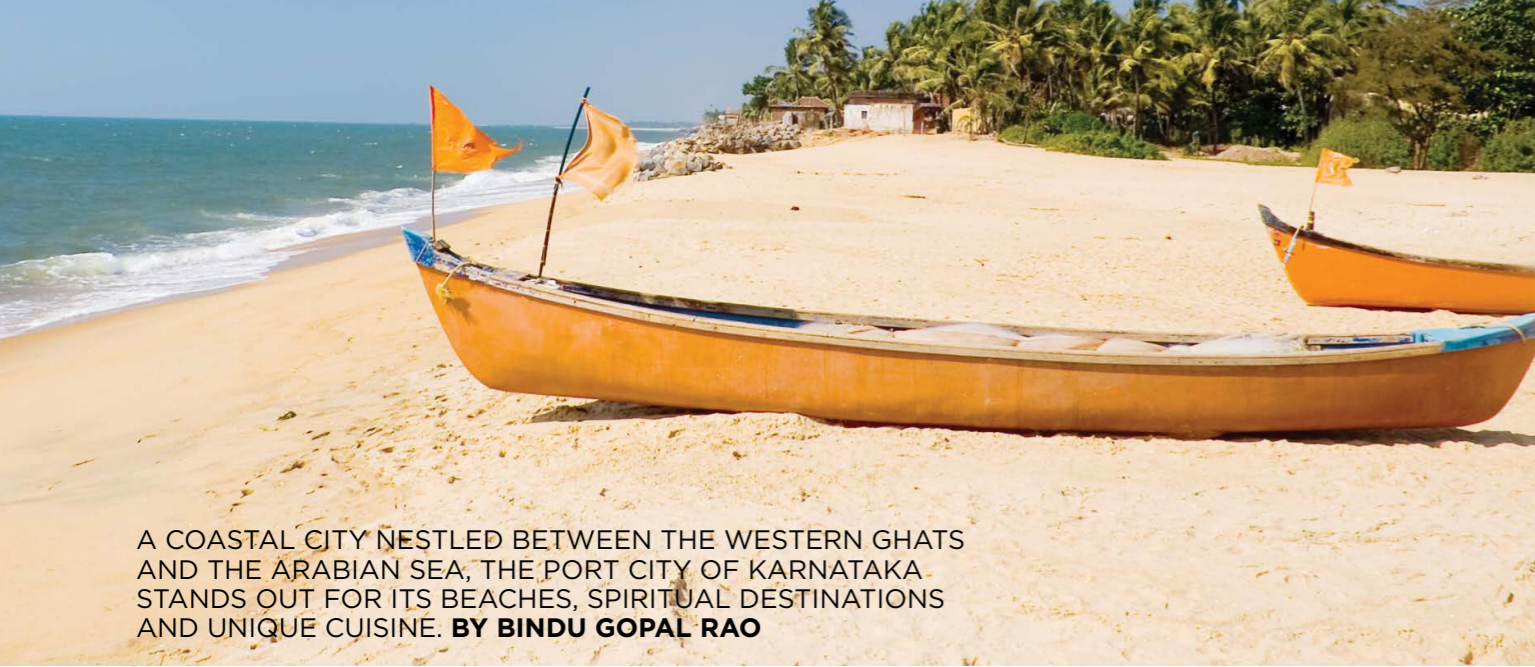


MYRIAD ATTRACTIONS



A COASTAL CITY NESTLED BETWEEN THE WESTERN GHATS AND THE ARABIAN SEA, THE PORT CITY OF KARNATAKA STANDS OUT FOR ITS BEACHES, SPIRITUAL DESTINATIONS AND UNIQUE CUISINE. **BY BINDU GOPAL RAO**

BEACHES IN AND AROUND THE CITY

The coast line of Mangalore is home to several beaches within the city limits as well as around it. The Tannirbhavi beach is a relatively quieter beach and is the place to head to for a fabulous sunrise especially if you are an early morning person. This beach is accessible by road and also by ferry from the Gurupura River at Sultan Battery. The calm and secluded waters of this beach make for a quiet getaway. Located within the city, two kilometers away from New Mangalore Port is the Panambur Beach, a favourite with tourists and usually bustling with water

sport activities. It has some street food options as well. The annual International Kite Festival that takes place here every January sees the beach transform into a hub of activity.

Close by at Ulal is the Someshwara Beach that has a stunning light house, a large rock formation called Rudra Shilas and the ancient Someshwara temple that is visited by several devotees every day. This temple is said to have been built during the reign of Queen Abbakka Devi who was a warrior queen who fought against the Portuguese. The Ullal Beach next to the Someshwara Beach is a water sports hotspot and offers some stunning sunset views

from its shores lined with casuarina groves.

About 25 km from Mangalore is the lesser known Sasihithlu Beach that is a less crowded yet lovely beach that you can see too. The Kaup Beach in Udupi near Mangalore has an old lighthouse and a ruined fort that offers stunning views of the surroundings.

Further ahead is the Malpe Beach hugged by green palm trees and well known for its three rocky islands and a hub of activity for boating, fishing and sea surfing. When you are here, a visit to St. Mary's Islands is a must - an interconnected set of four small islands (Coconut Island, North Island, Darya Bahadurgarh Island and South Island).

SPIRITUAL SOJOURN

Mangalore is ideally located from several important places of religious significance and hence becomes a place that is an automatic point to connect to various locations courtesy its top notch hospitality services. One of the most revered of these temples is at Dharmasthala on the banks of the River Netravati that is home to the temple of Manjunatha a form of Shiva. If you are here during the November-December time period you can be part of the annual Lakshadeepa when the town is lit up.

Located 60 km from here is Kukke Subramanya nestled in the greenery of the Western Ghats, known for its temple dedicated to Lord Subramanya worshipped as the Lord of Serpents here. The Ashlesha Bali puja and Sarpa Samskara puja conducted here are all related to warding off any problems from serpents. About 60 km from Mangalore is the temple town of Udupi well known for its Krishna temple. Dating back to the 13th century, this temple was founded by Saint Sri Madhavacharya.

At Karkala, a small town in Udupi district you will see a huge statue of Gomateshwara that towers at a height of 42 feet and is an important site of Jainism. Karkala also has 18 Jain basadis including the Hiriyangaddi Neminatha Basadi, Chaturmukha Tirthankara Basadi and Anekere Padmavathi Basadi. This apart there are several temples, mosques and churches like the Ananthapadmanabha Temple. The Mahamastakabhisheka, a festival celebrated once every 12 years, is when the statue of Gomateshwara is anointed with milk, water, saffron paste, sandalwood powder, turmeric and vermilion. When you are in Karkala see the local folk dance Hulivesha or Tiger Dance, experience the Bhuta Kola and also witness the Kambala or buffalo racing, Korikatta or Cockfighting and Nagaradhane or snake worship.

SHUTTERSTOCK



The well-known Dharmasthala Temple in Dharmasthala



Udupi Krishna temple

SPOTLIGHT MANGALORE

GASTRONOMY BECKONS

If you thought that Mangalore was all about beaches and spirituality, think again. One of the most loved aspects of the city is its cuisine and the best part is that there are unique dishes that are native to the city and its surroundings for both vegetarians and non-vegetarians. A mélange of influences including the Bunts, Billavas, Goud Saraswat Brahmins, Mogaveeras, Mangalorean Catholics



Broasted Mangalore Chicken

and the Muslim Bearys makes Mangalorean cuisine a gastronomic delight like no other.

Distinctly spicy, the cuisine is coconut based and makes extensive use of curry leaves, ginger, garlic and chili. Being on the coast, it is well known for its sea food and the Mangalorean Fish Curry is a popular dish here. Fish Pulimunchi is another traditional Mangalorean dish where the fish is cooked in authentic local spices with coconut and tamarind. Also the Bangude Pulimunchi made from spicy sour silver-grey mackerels and Neer dosa or wafer thin rice-crêpes are popular here. The Chicken Ghee Roast made with clarified butter and spices and Chicken Sukka made with a dense paste and coconut are other must tries. Kori (meaning



Mangalore Fish Curry

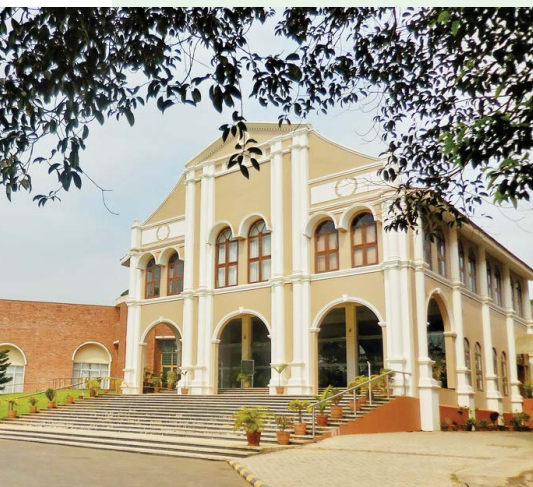
chicken) rotti a combination of red-chili based chicken curry and crisp dry wafers made from boiled rice is a Mangalorean Bunt specialty.

If you like snacking the Mangalore Buns - a sweet, soft, fluffy puris made with ripe banana and plain flour served with spicy coconut chutney and sambar - are a must try.

Also sample the Goli Baje, a popular snack. Made with flour, curd, chopped onion, coriander leaves, coconut, jeera, green chillies and salt, this is deep fried and delectable. Kadubu is a steamed idli cooked in a jackfruit leaf mould that gives it a distinct taste and flavour.

AIMT IS A COLLEGE WITH A DIFFERENCE

AIMIT, the new campus of St Aloysius College (Autonomous), Mangalore, is located at Beeri, Kotekar on NH 66 about 11 km away from the main campus in Mangalore. The sprawling and green campus with state-of-the-art infrastructure is the centre for Management and Information Technology, offering post graduate degree programs under the Autonomous scheme and affiliated to Mangalore University.



Master of Business Administration (MBA): Dual specialization in Marketing, Finance, Strategy, Human Resources and Business Analytics.

MSc (Software Technology): This course was introduced in 2007 and curriculum is of high standard with high-end modules like Cloud Computing, Business Intelligence, Social Media Data Science & Big Data Analytics, Mobile App Development, Augmented Reality, Internet of Things and Data Mining.

MSc (Big Data Analytics): This programme is designed to provide students with a comprehensive foundation for applying statistical methods to solve real-world problems. They will have a broad knowledge of the application of statistical tools, techniques, and methods, as well as the ability to conduct in-depth analysis,

synthesis, and evaluation.

MSc (Bioinformatics): This course was introduced in 2004 considering the demand for IT professionals in Biotech industry. St Aloysius College is the only college which offers this program which leads to research, jobs in Biotech industry or even software industry. With a revised syllabus this course aims to prepare biological science students for quick analysis and interpretation of biological data using information technology resources.

MCA (Master of Computer Application): The MCA program was the first PG program which was started in 1999. This course is of three years duration, offering the best of new information technology with revised syllabus in keeping with the needs of the software industry.