

MANGALORE

The coastal city of Mangalore will take you on a unique journey of discovery thanks to its varied mix of sights. Start at Sulthan Battery a black stone watchtower built by Tipu Sultan in 1784 that is now largely in ruins. Being on the banks of the sea this is where you can see large fishing boats that are docked and also catch a magnificent sunset if you time your visit well. Also check the Light House Hill Garden that has a light house and surrounding landscape that were built by Hyder Ali, Tipu's father.

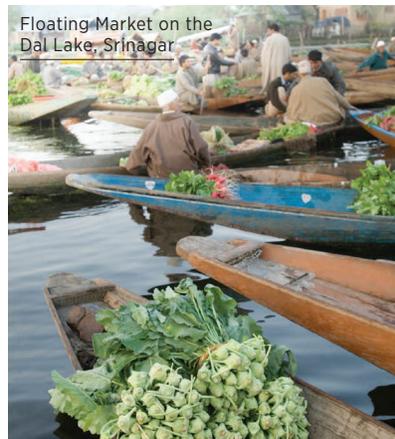
The well-panned space has a small water body as well as a library. However Mangalore is best known for its beaches and paying a visit to the Ullal beach, Panambur beach, Taneerbhavi beach, Kaupu beach and Someshwara beach are a must and each beach is different from the other. The Kadri Hill Park here is the highest and largest park in Mangalore and is maintained by the Department of Horticulture of the Government of Karnataka. The Pilikula Nisargadhama which is another park is also situated near the Kadri Hill Park and this is more like a destination by itself and needs a few hours to explore.

One of the most revered sites in this Karnataka town is at the Kudroli Sri Gokarnatheswara Kshetra which is dedicated to Gokarnath, a form of Lord Shiva.



SRINAGAR

Located in the heart of the Kashmir valley at an altitude of 1,730 m, Srinagar spans both sides of the Jhelum river. A changing play of seasons and the salubrious climate ensure that the city is attractive to visitors



GUWAHATI

One of the best cities to start your exploration of the North East, Guwahati has several unique sites that will leave you asking for more. Among one of the most popular sites the Kamakhya Temple — said to be one of the 51 Shakti Peethas — is a must for the devout. Likewise the Umananda Temple dedicated to Lord Shiva dates back to 1694 AD and has some interesting sculptures and carvings. A must see is the Assam State Museum that showcases the local history and culture through its numerous galleries that have sculptures, tribal artwork and fabric used several hundred years ago. For some rest and relaxation hop on to the Alfresco Grand for a two-hour dinner cruise on Brahmaputra River that includes a lovely local meal, folk dance and music that will ensure that your entertainment is spot on. If you are travelling with family pay a visit to the Nehru Park that is surrounded with lush greenery and has several activities for children. This is where you can see local artists as well who perform at the open-air

all round the year. In the past, the beauty of Srinagar has attracted many outsiders, including the Chinese, the Mughals and the British. Present day tourists are drawn to its quaint lifestyle, unique houseboats, blossoming gardens, water sports activities and shops with lovely hand-crafted souvenirs. The city has something for everyone including holy places, lakes, gardens and palaces. Among Srinagar's not-to-be-missed popular attractions, and almost synonymous with the city is the Dal Lake. Spread over 26 sq km, it is a favourite with tourists keen to rise on or stay in its colourful houseboats. After the houseboats, it are the many colourful Mughal Gardens in Srinagar that Kashmir is most famous for. Built in 1402, the Jamia Masjid is the biggest mosque in the Kashmir Valley.



theatre during the season. The Guwahati Planetarium is where you and your family can enjoy an interactive learning experience that is as fun as it is educative. The Assam State Zoo cum Botanical Garden extends 432 acres and is home the one horned Indian rhinoceros.