



A Memorable Tour To **SHRINE BASILICA OF LADY OF HEALTH** **Vailankanni** **with Chennai** **(05 DAYS & 04 NIGHTS)**

Day 01: Arrive Trichy / Vailankani

(L, D)

Arrive in Trichy. Meet and assist at the airport, drive to Vailankani (160 km / 04 hrs). On arrival there transfer to the hotel. Lunch at Hotel. Afternoon visit the Church Complex. Dinner and overnight stay at hotel.

Vailankani is very famous for its Marian church known as "**Shrine Basilica of Lady of Health**". Thousands of people from all around India and World visit this place and hence is known as "**Mecca of Christians**" and "**Lourdes of the East**". There are a number of churches and other buildings in the Basilica complex and on one side it is flanked by Bay of Bengal sea.

Day 02: Vailankani

(B, L, D)

Day at leisure to visit the Church. Overnight at Hotel – All Meals will be at Hotel.

Brief History of Vailankani Basilica Church

The history of Vailankani goes back as far as 16th century. According to legends, Mother Mary appeared twice to milk boys during this period. There are churches on both these places (inside Basilica complex).

In the first appearance, Mother Mary asked for milk from a boy. Boy gave milk to mother and later it was found that the milk pot is still full. This place is known as "Our Lady's Tank".



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In the second appearance, Mother Mary cured a crippled boy. There is a small church at this place now.

The third miracle happened sometime during seventeenth century and probably it was this miracle which caused rapid expansion of Vailankanni church. A Portuguese ship going from Macao in China to Colombo was caught in a violent storm. The sailors prayed to Mother Mary for protection. It is said that the ship landed in Vailankanni and as an offering sailors built a church at the seaside. In subsequent visits, Portuguese continued to build and expand the church complex.

In 1962, Pope John XXIII granted Minor Basilica status to Vailankanni church. The first bishop of Thanjavur, R.A. Sundaram was behind this decision. A new church extension modeled after the Lady of Lourdes was soon built.

Day 03: Vailankanni / Chennai

(B, L, D)

After early breakfast transfer to Chennai (320 km / 8 hrs). Lunch will be en route at a hotel in Pondicherry. On arrival at Chennai, transfer to hotel for dinner and overnight stay.

Day 04: Chennai

(B)

Breakfast at hotel. Morning proceed for the half day city sight seeing visiting Fort St George, Marina Beach, St Thomas Cathedral and St Thomas Mount Church. Afternoon free for your shopping, own activities. Over night at hotel.

Day 05: Depart Chennai

(B)

Breakfast at hotel. Timely transfer to the airport to onward flight to Colombo.

TOUR ENDS



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