

CAPTIVATING COONNOOR



Come to this small, yet enchanting, hill town of Tamil Nadu. Look beyond what is visible, and the spectacular unexpectedly unfurls. Coonoor is one of the most popular Hill Stations in Tamil Nadu and works its way into the tourists' hearts like magic. Known for its green slopes of tea plantations, where the leaves are laden with morning dew, Coonoor is the perfect weekend getaway for those seeking a retreat from the hustle and bustle of the draining city life.

This enchanting destination is situated 1,850 m above sea level, amongst the hills of the Nilgiris, and is home to some of the most beautiful places in the Southern part of India. It is also well-connected to the major cities, making it conveniently accessible. It is, however the natural abundance which makes it an ideal getaway for anyone. With its clear skies adorned with twinkling stars, and a pleasant climate with temperatures ranging from 15 to 25 °C, the serene and peaceful atmosphere disturbed by but the chirping of birds makes it the perfect place to relax, unwind, and escape. Nestled amongst the lush giris of Nilgiris, it is a world full of tranquillity and bliss.

Read on to find out more about the bounty of experiences Coonoor has to offer...

ACRES WILD CHEESE FARM: Acres Wild is a 22-acre, family-run organic cheesemaking farm in Coonoor near The Tiger Rock Tea Estate situated at an altitude of 6,000 ft. The goal of Acres Wild Cheese Farm is to shape an eco-friendly, holistic and self-sustaining lifestyle to grow their own food organically and share this experience with visitors at their cheese factory. They use no chemicals, strive to increase bio-diversity and keep tillage to a minimum.



AVALANCHE OOTY TOUR: The Avalanche Tour promises you bundles of beautiful sceneries with a spectacular view of the Nilgiris Mountain Range. Visit the Deer Park, the Tree Garden, the Chocolate Factory, the Tea-processing Unit, the Lake, the Wax Museum, and the Isolated Malls for a memorable experience and prepare to be fascinated with the stunning beauty of Magnolias, Orchids, and Rhododendrons spread across this beautiful city.



Image credit: [Thrillophilia](#)

BEHIND BARS: Behind Bars is a new venture that takes Ooty tourists away from the hustle and bustle of the crowd and provides a quick & pleasant escape facility on their cycles. Sign up with the local ladies and cycle through tunnels and woods, go up the green mounds, and down the beautiful valleys, which open up to rewarding sights. The largest tour group consists of six people, and the costs include the cycle, all necessary safety gear, and refreshments for the course of the excursion.



Image credit: [Cleartrip](#)

CATHERINE FALLS: Catherine Falls is a major tourist spot, with a breathtaking view of a double-cascaded waterfall located in Kotagiri. The native name of the Falls is Geddhehaada Halla, meaning "Foothills Dale River". The falls are situated at a 17 km drive from Fairy Glen.



Image credit: [Tamil Nadu Favtourism](#)

HIGHFIELD TEA FACTORY TOUR: Coonoor, as we know, is famous for its tea plantations. The plantations are drenched with the smell of freshly brewed tea, and at the same time, you can witness the entire process of tea making. At the end of your tour, don't forget to collect samples of your favourite tea from the in-house store.



Image credit: [Alokmu.Blogspot](#)

JRR FLOWRAA: Located in Kotagiri, and a scenic drive from Fairy Glen, is a Lily Farm. The lily bulbs are imported from The Netherlands and are stored at a temperature of -1.5°C . There are two types of lilies: Asiatic Lilies, and Oriental Lilies. The fragrance of these lilies is what makes this a pleasing olfactory experience. The beautiful vibrant colours are a treat to the eye, and if you are a nature lover, this Lily Farm is a must visit.



MUKRUTHI NATIONAL PARK (MNP): The Mukruthi National Park is spread across a 78.46 km^2 protected area, located in the Western corner of the Nilgiris Plateau, towards the West of Coonoor. The park was created to protect its keystone species, the Nilgiri Tahr. Characterized by montane grasslands and scrublands, the Park is home to many endangered wildlife animals, including the Royal Bengal Tiger and the Asian Elephant, but its main mammal attraction remains the Nilgiri Tahr.

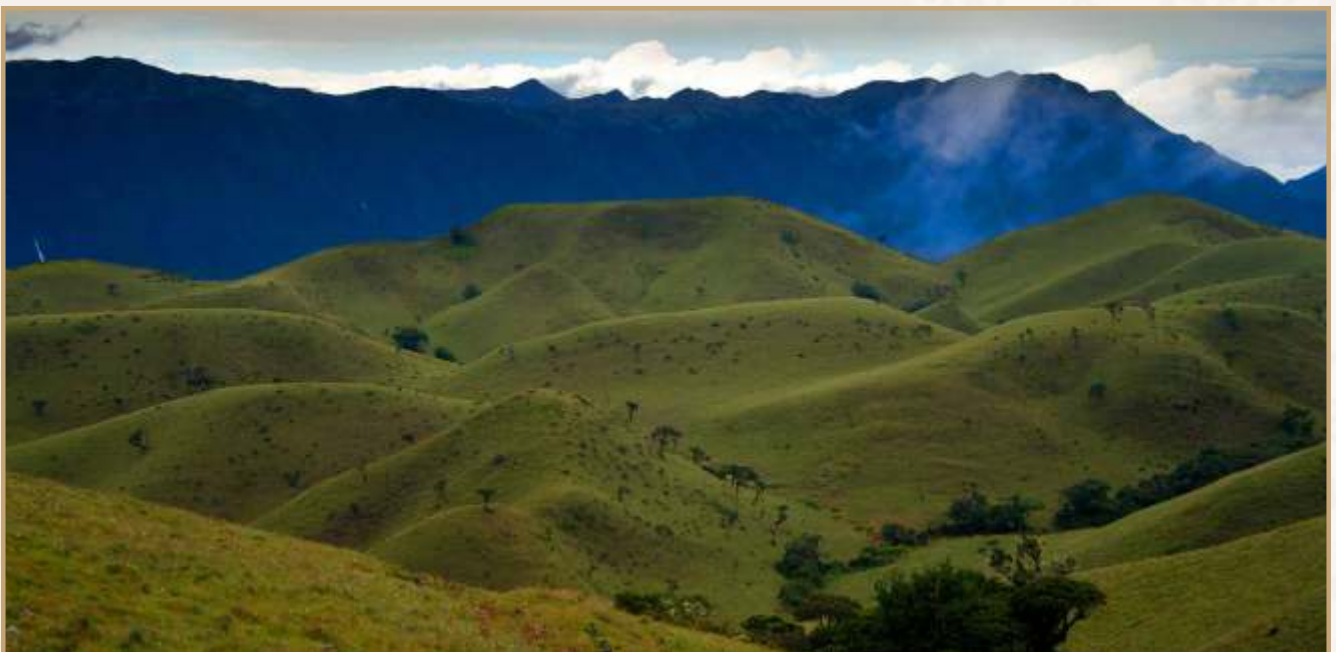


Image credit: [Ananth Clicks](#)

OOTY BOAT HOUSE: Ooty Boat House is also called the Ooty Lake and was opened by the Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation. Surrounded by lofty eucalyptus trees and shrubs, the lake is a scenic delight to anyone from concrete jungles. The Boat House offers a variety of boats for hire and in recent years has become the hub of entertainment for the visitors. During the month of May, boat races and boat pageanties are organized for two days at the lake, drawing large crowds. The Boat House offers a children's park along with a toy train, a deer park located in the adjacent area, and a host of local ponies that can be hired for a lovely ride around the premises.



Image credit: [Meru Holidays](#)

PINE FOREST: Pine Forest, a famous tourist spot, is situated 30 km from Fairy Glen, and has been featured in a number of popular Hindi movies. The tall pine trees are arranged in a small downhill area, with delightful scenic views that offer a peaceful and tranquil atmosphere, making it a great picnic spot.



Image credit: [Le Mona Travel](#)

TIGER HILL CEMETERY: The Tiger Hill Cemetery is located in Coonoor and is a graveyard dating back to the 19th Century, mainly used by the British for their war burials. Majority of the tombs in this cemetery belong to the Officers of the British East India Company and their family members. Some of the memorials have beautifully written epitaphs and sculptures, while some others are adorned by ornate designs. The entrance to the cemetery is a stone gate with an arched gateway and a steeple. It is the key attraction for history enthusiasts, as it holds a record book that carries all the details of the burials at the site. Along with its historic charm, the Tiger Hill Cemetery is also known for its huge fir trees and its serene and peaceful environment.



Image credit: [TripAdvisor](https://www.tripadvisor.com)

TOY TRAIN: One thing that promises to be the highlight of your visit to Ooty is the experience of the Nilgiri Mountain Railway. The Railway is the only Mountain Railway that operates on a daily basis in South India. The train runs a single trip daily from Mettupalayam to Ooty via Coonoor, with its frequency increasing during peak summer to accommodate the heavy inflow of tourists.



UPPER BHAVANI LAKE: The Upper Bhavani Lake is one of the most scenic spots that Coonoor has to offer, located around 50 km from Fairy Glen. It is a beautiful blue-green lake nestled inside the deep forest of the Nilgiris. There is a wildlife sanctuary at this place, which covers an area of 70 km² that is home to the Nilgiri Tahr.



Image credit: [Tripoto](#)

