

Bangalore Relocation Guide



\\ Bangalore Palace



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Moving to Bangalore



Bangalore, officially Bengaluru, pulsates with a unique energy that sets it apart from other Indian cities.

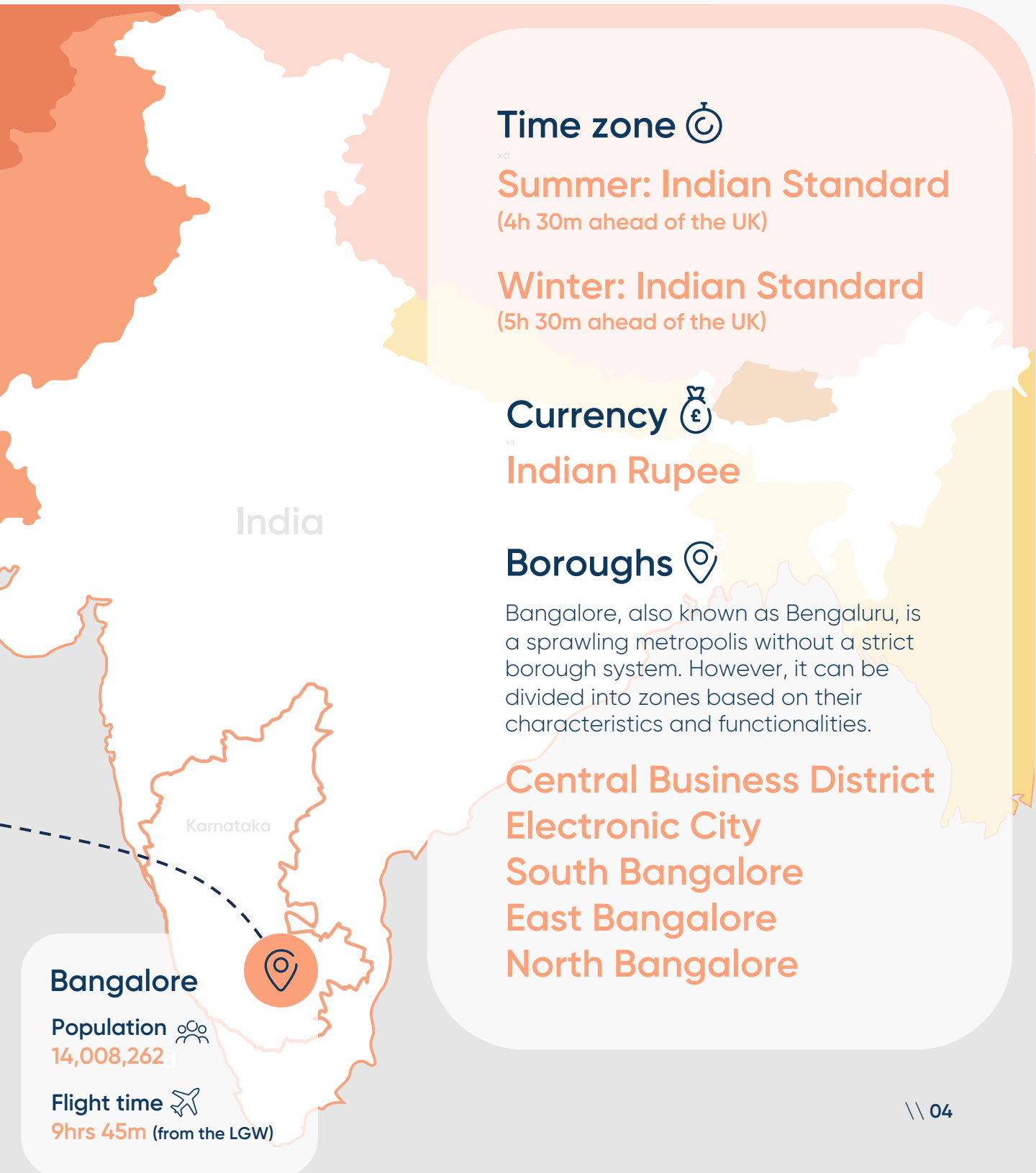
While its historical significance is undeniable, it's also earned the title of 'Silicon Valley of India' due to its booming tech industry. This isn't just a city of one side, though. Bangalore is an expat's dream, with lush parks and a pleasant climate complemented by innovative startups and a cosmopolitan atmosphere.

Affectionately nicknamed the 'Garden City of India,' Bangalore provides a vibrant mix of nature and culture. From the famous tree-lined Cubbon Park, to the majestic Bangalore Palace, this city is a thriving metropolis of activity. And for the foodies? A global culinary scene awaits, from fine dining restaurants to bustling street food stalls.

Treading the line between tradition and innovation, Bangalore towers with skyscrapers and breathtaking developments, making it a hotbed for construction and interior design expats looking for career growth within its world-renowned tech scene. The city is a hub for multinational corporations and high-end residential spaces, so professionals can expect to have the opportunity to work with cutting-edge design principles and materials.

➔ **So, get ready to be surprised by Bangalore.** It's a city that promises a captivating blend of historical charm, modern marvels, and a touch of that famous Indian hospitality.

Things to know about Bangalore



Time zone

xd

Summer: Indian Standard

(4h 30m ahead of the UK)

Winter: Indian Standard

(5h 30m ahead of the UK)

Currency

xa

Indian Rupee

Boroughs

Bangalore, also known as Bengaluru, is a sprawling metropolis without a strict borough system. However, it can be divided into zones based on their characteristics and functionalities.

Central Business District
Electronic City
South Bangalore
East Bangalore
North Bangalore

Bangalore

Population 
14,008,262

Flight time 
9hrs 45m (from the LGW)

Why Bangalore?



Bangalore's allure extends beyond its vibrant culture, stunning gardens, and rich history. For construction and interior designers seeking a dynamic and rewarding career, it offers a compelling proposition.

The city boasts booming construction and design industries, fuelled by a burgeoning tech and IT sector with giants like Google, Infosys and Wipro. This translates into exciting design projects and a surge in high-earning tech professionals, creating a thriving market for luxury residential projects and renovations.

Salaries are competitive with other major Indian cities, but the real perk lies in Bangalore's low cost of living.

In fact, data from Expatistan estimates London to be 352%  more expensive.

This translates to a potentially higher quality of life for expats. Increased purchasing power, greater savings potential, and reduced financial stress allow for a more flexible lifestyle focused on experiences, not just necessities.

All in all, Bangalore's dynamic environment fosters professional growth. Expats can learn new skills, collaborate with industry leaders, and build strong networks, propelling them towards career advancement and a fulfilling professional journey.

Work culture in Bangalore



\\ Art of Living International Centre, Bangalore

Bangalore's work culture offers a unique blend of innovation and tradition. \\

Startups dominate the scene, fostering a dynamic environment that thrives on fresh ideas, collaboration, and a willingness to take risks. This often translates to the potential for rapid career growth as professionals gain the opportunity to wear multiple hats.

Larger companies offer competitive salaries and a more mixed work environment, ranging from traditional hierarchies to collaborative models. The relatively low cost of living in Bangalore makes it an attractive option for those seeking a comfortable lifestyle alongside a potentially exciting and rewarding career.

→ If you're interested in what potential job opportunities are currently available in Bangalore, you can get in touch with a member of our team. They will be able to help you kickstart your job search and find you a role that is specifically tailored to your skills, experience and career goals.

Visas and Permits



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If the idea of relocating to Bangalore sounds intriguing so far, visas and permits should be the next thing to consider. There are several visa options, but it's important to remember that many organisations will sponsor your visa when they offer you a job.

Once you've found a licensed company to work for, your visa will allow you to stay up to one year, which can be extended fairly easily every year. As part of this process, you will need proof of employment, qualifications, and a minimum annual salary of around \$25,000 (£19,417.37).



Here are the visas your employer will provide if they are sponsoring you, or your family to move to Bangalore as a relocation option:



**Employment Visa Type: E **
Visas for Employment



**Dependents of Employment Visa Type (Entry Visa) **
X for family members

Further considerations:



When arriving in India it's important that you and your family register with the local police to maintain your residential permit. This permit is required to open Indian bank accounts.

Upon arrival in India, you and your family must register with the local police force (Foreigners Regional Registration Officer (FRRO)/ Foreigners Registration Officer (FRO) to acquire a residential permit within the first 14 days of your arrival. This permit is valid for the period of your stay and will be needed to confirm your identity when opening a bank account.

To find out more information on employment-based immigrant and non-immigrant visa process, you can visit the [Ministry of Home Affairs website](#).

Cost of Living



\\ Gandhinagar, Bangalore

Moving to Bangalore from the UK will no doubt be a breath of fresh air for your wallet. The city boasts a significantly lower cost of living compared to both the UK and especially London. Estimates suggest Bangalore is 74-78% cheaper than London, with rent being a staggering 90% less expensive.



Utilities

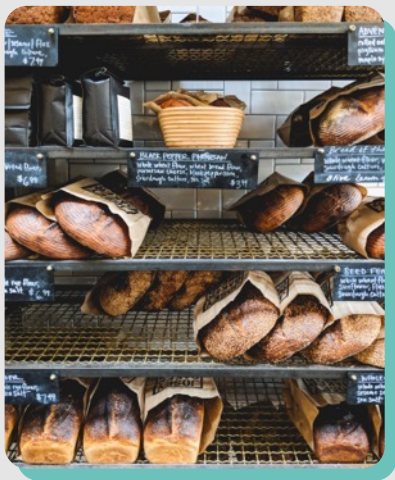


For a 915-square-foot-apartment, you can expect to pay around **₹3,093.29 (£28.81)** per month for heating, cooling, water and garbage disposal. In addition to this, you'll also be looking to pay roughly **₹943.51 (£8.79)** for a basic internet package.

Groceries



Bangalore residents pay, on average, around **₹1,200-₹1,500 (£13.90-£18.30)** per month on groceries, but this will vary depending on your household size, how much you eat and where you choose to shop. Generally, a two pints of milk is around **₹51.33 (£0.48)**, a loaf of bread is around **₹50.69 (£0.47)**, and a dozen eggs is around **₹87.51 (£0.82)**.





Eating out

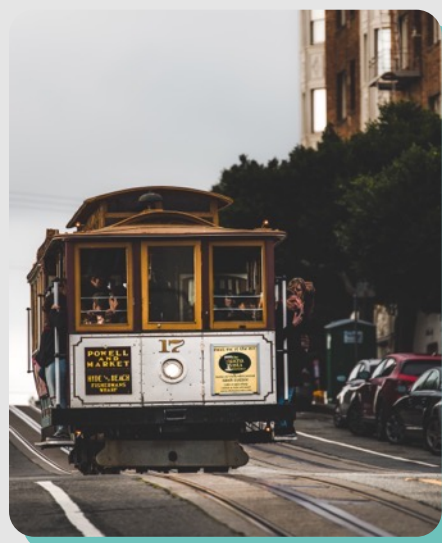


With so many options serving a wide range of cuisines, you're spoilt for choice when it comes to eating out in Bangalore. The city's prices vary greatly and can range from **₹300.00 (£2.79)** for an inexpensive meal to **₹2,000.00 (£18.63)** for a three-course meal for one. But again, it all depends on your appetite and where you choose to visit.

Transport



In the city of Bangalore, the most favourable mode of transportation is public. With a substantial bus system, a one-way ticket will only set you back a small fee of **₹50.00 (£0.46)**. If public transport isn't your scene, then your standard taxi will work out around roughly **₹30.00 (£0.28)** per kilometre, that's 85.4% less than London fares. Fancy venturing outside of the city? Hiring a car may be your best bet. Petrol per litre works out to around **₹102.22 (£0.94)**, a healthy 37.6% less than you'll find back in the UK.



Finding a home



\\ Bilal Mosque, Bangalore

Once you've secured a job in Bangalore, you now have the exciting task of deciding where you're going to live.

With so many diverse and charming neighbourhoods to choose from, it can be challenging to know exactly where to start looking, particularly if you've never been to Bangalore before.

To help you get started on your search for a new home, we've compiled this list of great places in Bangalore for either families or single professionals to give you some much-needed inspiration.

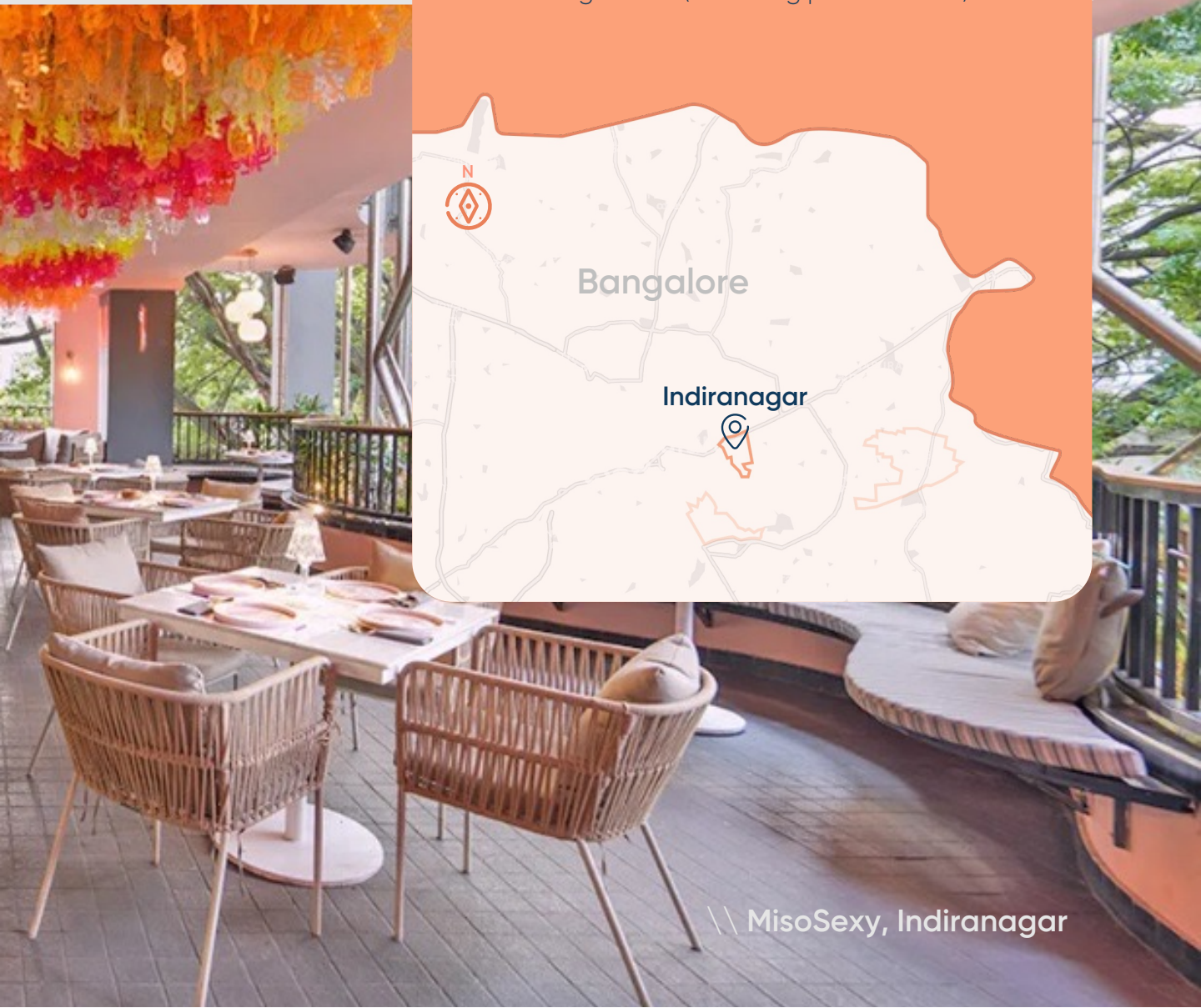
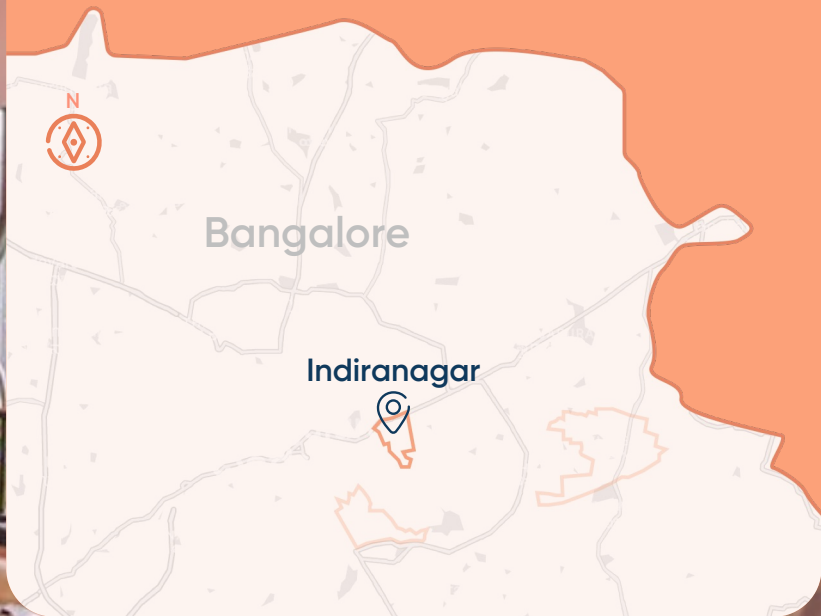
Indiranagar



For Families



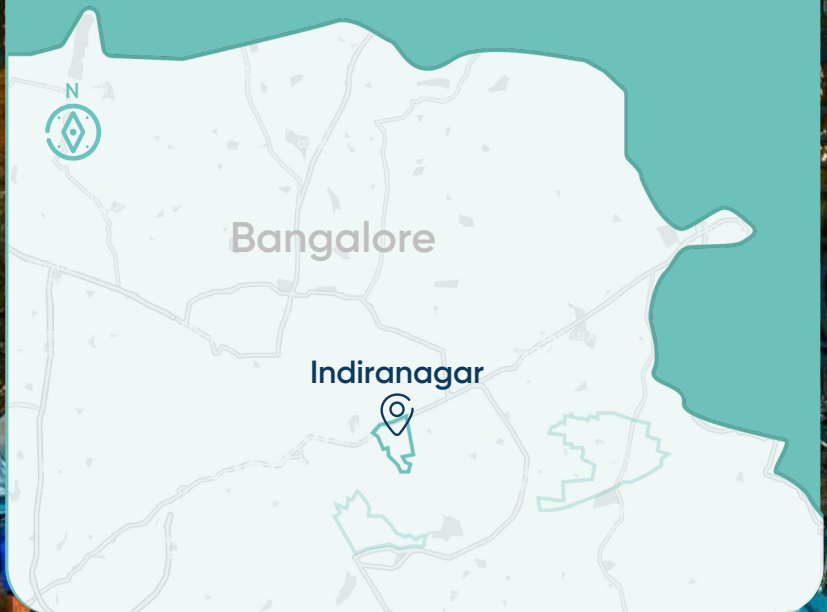
This affluent neighbourhood in East Bangalore is known for its trendy restaurants, cafes, and upscale boutiques. It also has a good selection of schools, restaurants, shopping malls, numerous parks and playgrounds, including Indiranagar Club (swimming pool included).



Indiranagar

For Singles

This trendy neighbourhood in East Bangalore is a great choice for singles who enjoy going out. It has a wide variety of pubs, bars, and restaurants serving everything from Indian cuisine to international fare. There are many high-end gyms and fitness centres here as well, including Gold's Gym and Snap Fitness.

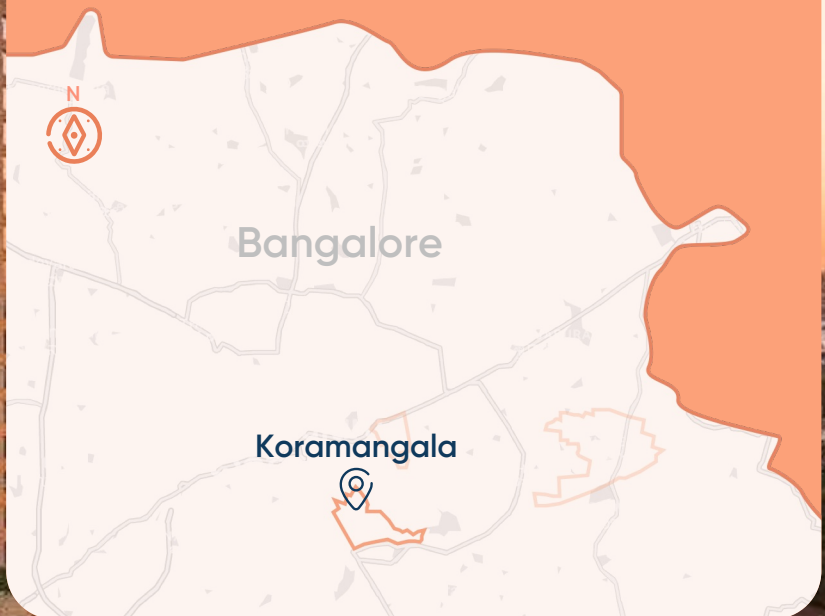


\\ Bhola & Blonde, Indiranagar

Koramangala

For Families

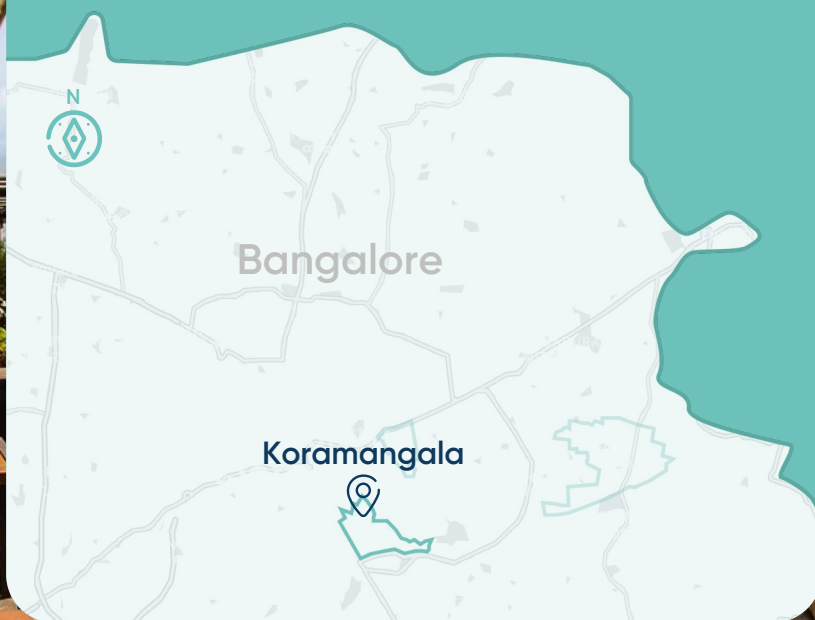
Another great option in East Bangalore, Koramangala is a popular expat hub with a vibrant nightlife scene. However, it also has a quieter side with plenty of family-friendly options. Koramangala is home to some of the best restaurants in Bangalore, many of which are family-friendly. There are also numerous parks and playgrounds here, including Agara Lake.



Koramangala

For Singles

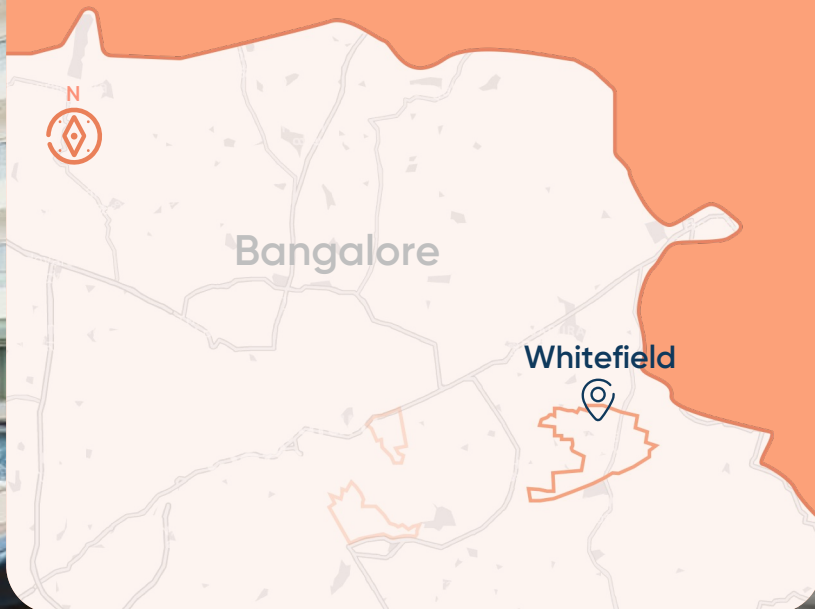
Another great option for singles is Koramangala. This neighbourhood has a reputation for its lively nightlife, with numerous pubs, bars, and microbreweries, like TOIT Koramangala, The Chalkboard, and Arbor Brewing Company. Koramangala offers a wide variety of restaurants, from casual cafes to fine-dining establishments.



Whitefield

For Families

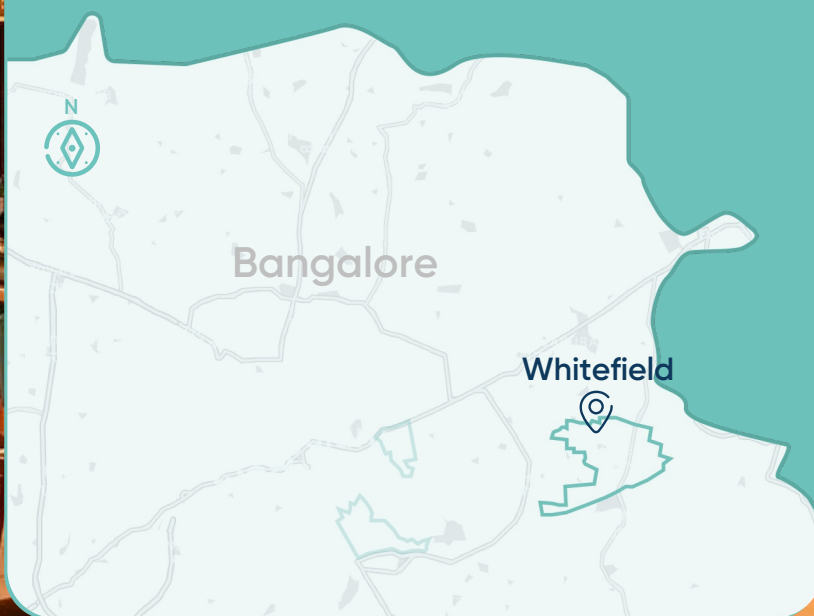
Located on the eastern outskirts of Bangalore, Whitefield is a major IT hub and home to many multinational companies. This has led to the development of a number of expat communities in the area. Whitefield offers a good selection of family-friendly restaurants and has numerous parks and playgrounds.



Whitefield

For Singles

While Whitefield might not be the top contender for nightlife, it offers a certain appeal to affluent singles. The area boasts a growing selection of trendy restaurants and upscale pubs, perfect for enjoying a night out with a sophisticated crowd. This caters to a young, affluent demographic who appreciate a more relaxed vibe.



\\ Hard Rock Cafe, Whitefield

Healthcare



\\ Central Business District, Bangalore

Bangalore is emerging as a medical tourism hub, offering a two-tiered healthcare system.



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Public hospitals can be a budget-friendly option, but their quality can vary. This is why many expats opt for private healthcare, which, surprisingly compared to Western countries, provides high-quality treatment at relatively affordable costs.

To give you an idea, an individual health insurance policy for a 30-year-old can range from ₹20,000 to ₹60,000 (around £184 to £553) per year. Family plans, where the oldest member is around 30, typically cost between ₹40,000 and ₹50,000 (roughly £369 to £461).

Employer-Provided Insurance: Read the Fine Print

If your employer offers health insurance, it's crucial to carefully review the plan details. This type of insurance might have limitations, such as restricting coverage to specific hospitals within their network. Ensure you fully understand the inclusions and exclusions before accepting the employment package.

Schools



\\ Malleswaram, Bangalore

If you're relocating to Bangalore with your children, getting them enrolled into school will naturally be a top priority.

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→ Public Schools:

Pros: Very affordable option, allowing immersion in Indian culture and language.

Cons: Generally larger class sizes and potentially limited resources compared to private or international schools. Many lack basic facilities like computers or sports equipment. Their main focus is India's national curriculum, which may not be beneficial for children who will ultimately head back to the West in their later years.

→ Private Schools:

Pros: Offer a good balance between affordability and quality education. The medium of instruction might be English or a combination of English and Kannada.

Cons: Generally larger class sizes and potentially limited resources compared to private or international schools. Many lack basic facilities like computers or sports equipment. Their main focus is India's national curriculum, which may not be beneficial for children who will ultimately head back to the West in their later years.

→ International Schools:

Pros: Provide a curriculum familiar to expat families, often following International Baccalaureate (IB) or Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) programs. These schools typically have smaller class sizes, well-equipped facilities, and a strong focus on English language instruction. They also offer a more international and diverse student body.

Cons: The most expensive option. Waiting lists can be long, so applying early is crucial.

Top attractions



\\ Bangalore Palace

If you've never been to Bangalore before, here is a list of our favourite attractions that you absolutely must visit to fully immerse yourself into this incredible city:



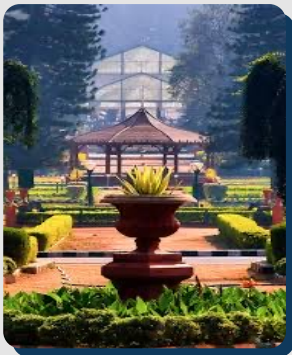
ISKCON Temple \\\

A must-see for any visitor interested in Hinduism, Bangalore's ISKCON Temple is a vibrant landmark and one of the world's largest Krishna temples. Built in 1997, it showcases stunning Dravidian architecture and houses deities like Radha Krishnachandra, symbolic of divine love. Visitors can experience daily worship ceremonies, attend cultural programs, and enjoy delicious vegetarian meals at the temple's Govinda's Restaurant.



Wonderla Bengaluru \\\

Wonderla Bengaluru is an amusement park on the city's outskirts, offering a splash-tastic time. From heart-pounding coasters like Recoil to relaxing floats on the lazy river, Wonderla has something for everyone. Enjoy wave pools, rain dance areas, and dedicated play zones for little ones. Plan your visit with online tickets and various food options to fuel your day of fun.



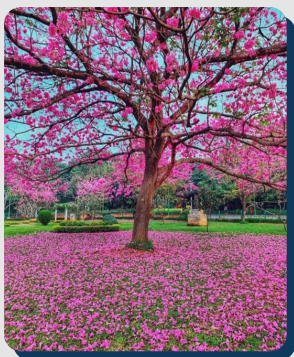
Lalbagh Botanical Garden \\\

Founded in 1760, Lalbagh Botanical Garden invites you on a journey through time. This verdant haven in Bangalore boasts over 1,000 plant species, from the iconic glasshouse to the ancient Lalbagh Rock. Explore its extensive collection of exotic and indigenous plants, trees, and flowers, or simply find peace by the serene lake. Whether you're a nature lover, a history buff, or just seeking a breath of fresh air, Lalbagh has something for everyone.



UB City \\\

Experience Bangalore's luxurious side at UB City, a sprawling complex offering more than just shopping. Indulge in designer boutiques, world-class restaurants, and upscale nightlife venues. Catch live music or unwind at chic bars, all within this architecturally striking complex. Whether you're a business traveller or a local seeking a touch of luxury, UB City caters to your every desire.



Cubbon Park \\\

Carve out a tranquil interlude in the heart of Bangalore's bustling metropolis at Cubbon Park. Established in 1870, this haven offers a welcome respite from the urban energy. Immerse yourself in the park's serene atmosphere with a leisurely stroll beneath the canopy of mature trees, or rent a bicycle for a refreshing day of exploration. A dedicated children's playground ensures entertainment for younger visitors, making Cubbon Park a versatile green sanctuary that caters to a variety of interests.



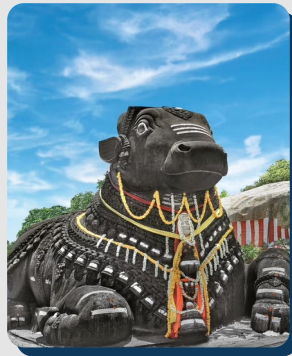
Bannerghatta Biological Park \\\

Bannerghatta Biological Park, also known as Bannerghatta Zoo, is a vast national reserve encompassing a zoo, safari park, butterfly conservatory, and animal rescue center, all rolled into one. It's located around 25 kilometers from Bangalore city center and is a popular spot for families, nature enthusiasts, and animal lovers.



Vidhana Soudha \\\

Witness the heart of Karnataka's democracy at Vidhana Soudha, Bangalore's majestic legislative building. Built in 1956, this neo-Dravidian marvel features a grand facade, adorned domes, and intricate artwork within. Though public access to legislative sessions is restricted, guided tours unveil opulent assembly halls and historical narratives. Don't miss the illuminated night spectacle – a breathtaking sight against the city skyline.



Bull Temple \\\

Steeped in history, Bangalore's Bull Temple is a must-see. Built in the 16th century, it features one of the world's largest monolithic Nandi sculptures, the sacred bull revered by Hindus. Witness daily worship rituals and explore the adjacent Ganesha temple, known for its unique butter idol recreated every four years. This architectural gem offers a window into Bangalore's cultural heritage.

Cultural differences \ \

Personal space & privacy



With India's vast population density, personal space in public areas like public transport and lifts can feel more cramped than you might be accustomed to. This is simply the norm, and bumping into others is a common occurrence. There's usually no need to apologise for unintentional closeness. Be prepared for Bangalore's friendly residents. People here tend to be quite open and curious and don't shy away from asking personal questions when getting to know someone. This might feel surprising at first, but it's a reflection of their genuine interest and welcoming nature.

Religion



Like much of India, Bangalore pulsates with the rhythm of diverse religious practices. Hinduism holds a dominant position, followed by Islam and Christianity. This rich tapestry of faith permeates the city's daily life, with many residents starting their day with prayer and places of worship bustling with devotees. Yet, Bangalore embraces a spirit of inclusivity, welcoming expats to practice their own religions freely. This harmonious coexistence of faiths adds another layer to the city's vibrant cultural landscape.

Clothing



Bangalore offers a refreshingly relaxed approach to clothing. Expats often find themselves drawn to the comfort and vibrancy of traditional Indian attire. But the city embraces a mix of styles, with locals frequently sporting jeans, t-shirts, and Western wear alongside traditional kurtas and sarees. While Bangalore is generally casual, it's important to be mindful of religious sensibilities. Opt for clothing that covers knees and shoulders for visits to temples and other religious sites. Revealing clothing like plunging necklines are best saved for specific occasions like private parties or exclusive nightclubs.

Begging



Despite Bangalore's cosmopolitan reputation, poverty remains a reality for a portion of the population. This can lead to encounters with beggars, who might seem particularly persistent towards expats who are perceived as more generous. While empathy is natural, it's important to be aware that begging can sometimes be linked to organised groups. Consider donating to reputable local charities that address poverty's root causes if you wish to make a more sustainable impact.

Holidays \ \



India boasts a multitude of holidays throughout the year, exceeding those found in most Western countries. While some bank holidays remain fixed, others, particularly those tied to vibrant Indian festivals, dance to the rhythm of the lunar calendar, shifting dates each year.

Id-E-Milad (Birthday of Muhammed)	January 25	January 13
Republic Day	January 26	January 26
Maha Shivratri (Celebration in reverence of Lord Shiva)	March 10	February 28
Holi (Festival of Colors)	March 27	March 17
Good Friday	March 29	April 18
Mahavir Jayanthi (Birthday of Mahavir)	April 24	April 23
May Day	May 1	May 1
Buddha Purnima (Celebration of Buddha's birth, enlightenment and death)	May 25	May 14
Id-UI-Fitr (End of Ramadan fast; Muslim holiday)	August 9	July 28
Independence Day (India attained freedom from the British Rule on this day in 1947)	August 15	August 15
Krishna Janmashtami (commemoration of the birth of the Hindu deity Krishna)	August 28	August 17
Ganesh Chaturthi (10-day Hindu festival celebrating the birthday of Lord Ganesh, the elephant headed god)	September 9	August 29
Mahatma Gandhi Jayanthi (Birthday of Mahatma Gandhi – the Father of the Nation)	October 2	October 2
Vijaya Dashami (A popular Hindu festival that marks the end of Devon Rama by Lord Rama; an auspicious day)	October 13	October 4
Bakri Id (Feast of sacrifice; Muslim holiday)	October 16	October 4
Karnataka State Formation Day (Karnataka attained statehood)	November 1	November 1
Diwali (Festival of lights; Hindu celebration of Lord Rama and his return after 14 years in exile)	November 3	October 23
Muharram (Islamic New Year)	November 14	October 15
Guru Nanak Jayanthi (Birthday of the founder of Sikhism)	November 17	November 6
Christmas (Christian celebration of the birth of Jesus)	December 25	December 25

Ready to embark on your **Bangalore** adventure?

Speak to Sarah Davenport about
relocation opportunities in this
diverse city.

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