GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF TOURIST PLACES IN BANGALORE METROPOLITAN REGION

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Abstract
Bangalore city is an emerging international hub as one of the world’s fastest growing cities. Bangalore is experiencing a steady increase in population tourists activities. The growth of tourist’s activities spurred by the advantages conferred on the city by entrepreneurial and intellectual capacity incubated through a series of private and government actions. Besides, Bangalore enjoys a favourable climate, a high quality of life, a cosmopolitan ambience and social diversity. The City has earned the titles of “IT Hub of Asia” and “Silicon Valley of India.” However, while the IT based formal sector accounts for 15% of its economy, the informal sector contributes 60-70%. Bangalore’s advantages places it on the threshold of the status of an International City for tourist attraction. A concerted effort towards developing new functions, especially high value service sectors, upgrading the City’s infrastructure including transport, public amenities and logistics, and provision of tourists interest within the larger natural environment will contribute to the City’s economic dynamism.

Introduction
There are many tourist places around Bangalore with a maximum distance of 60 Kms. Excellent transport facilities and very good packages are also available at very nominal rates either through private operators or through KSTDC (Karnataka State Tourism Development Corporation). Tourists can select their packages convenient to them related to number of days and place of stay. Below are the places of interest along with the distances between Bangalore and various places. Bangalore is one of the most visited destinations – primarily due to its economic growth, but also as a cultural and heritage spot and as a transit hub for other tourist destinations in South India. The City also has heritage buildings and sites that reflect its culture and heritage. The emergence of Bangalore on the global technology map coupled with the increasing number of visitors would need translation into enhanced tourism potential for the city, while conserving its heritage. Due to these reasons preservation and conservation of historical monuments becomes imperative. The monuments and destinations of cultural and heritage significance are discussed here in this research article.

Significance of the Research
The innovations of this proposed research is that it will deal with tourists matter in a substantial and considered manner, thus providing a stage for action plans. In addition, this may also provide a ‘demonstration effect’ for other cities to boost tourism activities, and thus promote the use of GIS as tool for tourism assessment to update. It would be an appreciable contribution from the results and findings of this research that would intend to solve practical issues faced for tourism in Bangalore Metropolitan Region.

Aims and Objectives
The main objectives of the study are to create database and information and to know the geographical distribution of the tourists place in and around Bangalore city.

Data Sources
For any research, discussion and usage of data is crucial prerequisite. The research is based on both the primary as well as secondary data sources. Primary data has been gathered through personal field investigation in Bangalore Metropolitan Region. For this, an extensive fieldwork has been conducted by the researcher. Secondary data has been extracted from various public and non-public departments, such as Karnataka State Tourism Department, Various organization of tourism spread across India. A little data has also been extracted from news papers, websites, and relevant research articles.
Methodology Applied
To accomplish set goals GIS techniques have been used. Remote sensing and Survey of India Toposheets have been merged to get Bangalore Metropolitan Region map. The database has been created using ArcGIS software and linked with spatial data so as to arrive at meaningful findings.

Figure 1. Location map.
Geographical Distribution of Tourists Places

Bangalore, which is known as the “Garden City” due to its gardens and parks, is one of the fastest growing cities in Asia. Bangalore has now transformed into a bustling metropolis providing numerous options for visitors, and in addition to its parks and gardens, now provides a multitude of modern attractions for the visitors - including global cuisine and a contemporary shopping experience. Over the years, Bangalore has transformed into a cosmopolitan city with the influx of people from across the world in search of better career opportunities. Bangalore is endowed with numerous heritage landmarks given its rich history including Vidhana Soudha, Tipu’s Palace, Bangalore Palace, High Court Building and others as shown below.

**Bangalore Palace:** The palace is considered an architectural splendor in Tudor architecture. It was built by Chamaraja Wodeyar, Maharaja of Mysore in 1887. Bangalore Palace (1862) is located near Mekhri Circle and Cantonment Railway-station and is built to look like a smaller replica of the Windsor Castle in England. This palace is under the private custody of Sreekantadatha Narasimha Raja Wodeyar of Mysore.

**Tipu’s Fort Palace:** The Fort was built by Chikkadeva Raya and was later extended, dismantled and rebuilt by Haider Ali and Tipu Sultan. Tipu Sultan’s Summer Palace Built all in wood, this elegant palace is situated to the west of Kote Venkataramana temple in the present Albert Victor Road. The construction of the palace was started by Hyder Ali Khan, but was completed by his son in 1791. This is a Historical mud fort and was originally constructed by Kempegowda, rebuilt by Hyder later and further improved by Tipu Sultan. The Tipu Sultan palace was started by Hyder Ali during 1781 AD and completed by Tippu Sultan during 1791 A.D, and is a two-storied ornate wooden structure with exquisitely carved pillars, arches and balconies. The palace is constructed with wood and stones. Tipu Sultan’s Summer Palace was built in 1791 and it houses a museum that contains artifacts relating to the Hyder-Tipu regime.

**Vidhana Soudha:** The Vidhana Soudha houses the State Legislature, and is the largest Secretariat in India. Kengal Hanumanthalah, Chief Minister of the then Mysore State was responsible for the concept, the structure and the setting of this building. Built entirely from angalore granite in the Dravidian style, it has floral motifs on stone carvings drawn from the celebrated temple craft of South India.

**Cubbon Park:** In 1864, Lord Cubbon, the then viceroy of India, laid out 300 acres of verdant tranquility (1.2 km2) with museum, aquarium and light decorated fountain. Complementing the natural beauty of the park are the red Gothic structures of the State Central Library and the High Court. The park is home to numerous trees and plants that span over 68 general and 96 species. The main building has been converted as central library. Statues of Chamaraja Wodeyar, Sir Mark Cubbon, and Queen Victoria can be seen in the park. **Atthara Katcheri** is also situated at Cubbon Park. The park is also known for its kids train.

**Attara Kacheri (High Court):** Attara Kacheri literally means “eighteen offices” or departments. In 1864, Commissioner Bowring conceived and prepared the plans for setting up a full-fledged courthouse building. It is an impressive two-storied building of stone and brick, red in color and has been built in the Greco-Roman style.

**Seshadri Iyer Memorial Hall:** The red building with gables, in Cubbon Park, was built to commemorate Sir K.Seshadri Iyer, who was the Dewan of Mysore State from 1883 to 1901. The building with the statue in front forms a focal point of a long avenue coming from Hudson Circle.

**Lalbagh Gardens:** Lal Bagh is a botanical garden, commissioned by Hyder Ali and Tipu Sultan laid out the 240-acre gardens during the 18th century. They contain a large collection of rare tropical and sub-tropical plants, century-old trees, fountains, terraces, lotus pools, rose gardens, and a deer park. Lalbagh has a magnificent glass house built in 1840, on the lines of London’s Crystal Palace. The 240-acre (0.97 km²) park is home to over 1000 species of flora and a Glass House and amous for old trees, rare flowers and plants. Annually there will be a show on vegetables, flowers and fruits. The garden surrounds one of the towers erected by the founder of Bangalore. Lalbagh is a famous for Bangalore residents for walking. The Glass house is the additional attraction in Lalbagh.
Jawaharlal Nehru Planetarium: Founded in the year 1989, to commemorate the birth centenary of Jawaharlal Nehru, the Planetarium aims to introduce an awareness of astronomy. The sky theater with a dome of fifteen meters in diameter has a seating capacity of 225. It also has an observatory with a professional six-inch code refractor telescope.

Museums
The State Archeological Museum is a red Greco-Roman building which designed and built by Colonel Sankey, in 1876. Several wings have been added in the later years, all of which conform to the parent style. The original collection in the museum belonged to B. L. Rice of the Mysore Gazetteer. Government Museum is inaugurated in 1886, this museum is one of the oldest in the city. It houses a unique collection of sculptures, paintings, inscriptions, icons and relics from the ancient city of Mohenjo-Daro in the Indus valley. The museum is also home to the Halmidi inscription, the earliest Kannada inscription ever found (450 AD). Kempegowda Museum is dedicated to Yelahanka Chieftain Kempegowda (1513-1569) who is the founder of Bangalore city. The museum is located on the first floor of Mayo Hall. The museum has Kempegowda's statue as well as posters and pictures of forts, temples, reservoirs and inscriptions from his time. Karnataka Folk Museum is located in a 15 acre campus at Kumara Park West has an excellent collection of Folk puppets, costumes, utensils, instruments, weapons and masks. Gandhi Bhavan is established in 1965 at Kumarapark is showcase of Mahatma Gandhi's life. It houses a photo gallery, his letters, a library and audio visuals. HAL Aerospace Museum is showcases the growth of the Indian aviation industry and HAL for six decades. The Museum is maintained by HAL (one of Asia's largest Aerospace companies). The museum houses displays of various aircraft and helicopters, Aircraft engine models, Flight simulators, a mock Air Traffic Control Tower and exhibit of Indian aviation history. Madras Sappers Museum & Archives was inaugurated in 1979, showcases the history of the Madras Engineer Group (called the Sappers, established in 1803). The Madras Sappers are the oldest regiment of the Corps of Engineers of the Indian Army. The museum chronicles their history and achievements and houses armoury used by the regiment, medals, their attire and a sports gallery. Visvesvaraya Industrial and Technological Museum was instituted as part of the centenary celebrations of the engineer-statesman Sir M. Visvesvaraya (1861–1962). Inside the museum there are models which demonstrates the principles of basic science and technology. There are four floors and each floor houses a different kind of exhibition. In ground floor, there are engines which existed during olden days. In one room, there is a Dinosaur model with a little action. In first floor, there is fun science with Electronic technique. In the second floor, space emerging and Bio Technological related models are shown. There is a 3D theatre in the museum. NIMHANS Brain Museum showcases the human brain and its functions. It is located at National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS) and is run by its department of neuropathology. The Museum seeks to help visitors see the brain, understand how it works and get an insight into the kind of diseases that can affect it. The museum has a diverse collection of over 600 brain samples and is the result of over 30 years of research. The Museum is open to the public on Saturdays 10 am to 3 pm. Philatelic Museum is located at the first floor of the Bangalore General Post Office near VidyhanaSoudha. Law Museum is a museum (established in 2006) dedicated to the legal profession. It was the brainchild of Karnataka High Court Chief Justice Cyriac Joseph. The museum houses an original print of the Constitution of India, articles and documents related to the legal profession, seals, insignia and books. It also showcases the history of the High Court and the development of courts over the ages. Legends Motorcycle Museum is a collection of 20 plus vintage motorcycles in working condition whose vintage dates back to 1924. The Museum is the lifelong collection of motorcycle enthusiast SK Prabhu. The museum walls are covered with biker memorabilia and photographs. The Venkatappa Art Gallery is situated in the Kasturba Road, Bangalore. It exhibits some of the rich art of Bangalore. The Government Museum, housed in a beautiful 1877 stricture with Cornithiam columns, is one of the oldest in the country. The museum displays an interesting collection of sculptures, paintings, coins and artifacts, Old Stone Age implements and tools. Several antiques dating to the Mohenjo-Daro and Harappa Civilization are also on display. The paintings gallery has some rare original Mysore and Tanjore style paintings. National Gallery of Modern Art is an art gallery in Bangalore and was inaugurated in the year 2009. It showcases modern Indian art and houses paintings by Raja Ravi Verma, Jamini Roy, Amrita Sher-Gil, Rabindranath Tagore and a large number of Modern and Contemporary artists.

Natural Places
Dodda Alada Mara is a big banyan tree located in Ramohalli 28 km away from Bangalore. This tree covers 3 acres of land and is one of the largest of its kind. It is at least 400 years old. Bugle Rock bugle is called Kahale is a massive rock situated in Basavanagudi which is an abrupt rise above the
ground of peninsular gneiss as the main rock formation and with an assessed age of about 3000 million years. **Thottikkal** is a place 25 km from Bangalore off the Kanakapura road which is famous for a water falls called Thottikkal falls more popularly known as TK falls. **Nandi Hills** or Nandidurg is a hill fortress of southern India, in the Chikaballapur district of Karnataka state. It is located just 3 to 5 km from Chickballapur Taluk, 60 km from Bangalore. It is 4851 ft (1478 m) above sea level. It was one of the summer military station place for Tipu Sultan. It was also a popular for British who build Bungalows and gardens in Nandi hills. Nandi hills is the point of many rivers such as the Penner, Ponneyyar and Palar originating with 1478m high. Places to See in Nandi Hills are the architectural Bhoga Nandishwara Temple built in Dravidian style. Tipu Drop was a place where condemned prisoners were pushed to their death. **Revana Siddeshwara Betta** a popular place for trekking and rock climbing. The hill station is about 3066 feet above sea level and has pleasant on the western side part. The Sri rama temple is located at the top beside a small pond. The place is rich in history right from the Gangas to Kempegowda and Tipu sultan. Revana Siddeshwara betta is part of the seven hills. **Kaiwara**, cave temples are 60 km away from Bangalore and located near Chikaballapur. **Tippagondanahalli Reservoir**, also known as T G Halli or Chamarajcisagar, is located at the confluence of the Arkavathy River and Kumudavathi River, 35 km west of Bangalore. **Mekedatu** is a location along Kaveri in Kanakapura Taluk. **Sangama** is the place where Arkavati merges with Kaveri. From this point, about 3.5 kilometers downstream, the river Kaveri flows through a deep gorge so narrow that one would think that the river could leap across it (‘Mekedatu’ means ‘goat’s leap’ in Kannada). Mekedatu, the Kaveri runs through a deep, narrow ravine of hard granite rock. The river, which is more than 150 meters wide at the confluence (at Sangama) flows through the hardly 10-meter-wide gorge at Mekedatu. One can see the ferocious flow of all that water, displaying Bernoulli’s theorem. It is said that a goat could leap over it, giving the falls the name Goat’s Leap.

### Lakes as Tourist Interest

Of the several freshwater lakes and water tanks, the notable one’s are Madiwala Lake, the Hebbal Lake, the Ulsoor Lake and the Sankey Tank. The prominent lakes are mentioned here below: **Ulsoor Lake** is one of the biggest lakes in Bangalore, is located on the north eastern side of the city. It derives its name from the name of the locality it is situated, namely, Ulsoor which is, close to Mahatma Gandhi Road. It is spread over 50 ha (123.6 acres)) and has several islands. Even though the lake is dated to Kempegowdas’ time, the present lake was created by Sir Lewin Bentham Bowring, the then Commissioner of Bangalore. This is a picnic spot with boating facility. **Hesaraghatta Lake** is a manmade reservoir located 18 km to the north-west of Bangalore in Karnataka state, India. It is a fresh water lake created in the year 1894 across the Arkavathy River to meet the drinking water needs of the city. Sir K. Seshadri Iyer, the then Dewan of erstwhile Mysore state and the then Chief Engineer of Mysore, M. C. Hutchins, planned to build the scheme called the “Chamarajendra Water Works” to store a three-years’ water supply to the city. **Sankey Tank** is an artificial tank or lake situated in the western part (Gayathri Nagar) of Bangalore city. The Sankey tank is located in the middle of the suburbs Vyalikaval, Malleshwaram and Sadashivanagar. The Sankey Tank covers an area of about 37.5 acres of land. Sankey Tank in Bangalore was built in the year 1882 by Col. Richard Hieram Sankey of the Madras Sappers Regiment, to satisfy the water supply demands of Bangalore. The Sankey Tank was also known as Gandhadhakotikere, for the reason that Sandalwood Depot used to be located close to the lake. The Mayura Sankey Boat Club, managed by KSTDC, offers rides in different boats - row boats, pedal boats and motor boats. The Sankey Tank includes a park as well as a swimming pool toward its south along with a Forest Department nursery in direction of the north. The Sankey Tank, which was until recently neglected, have been changed from its main purpose as being a reservoir to a park by Bangalore Water supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) and Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP). Covered Walkways, landscaped parks and also an exclusive tank for idol immersion during Ganesh Chaturthi festival has been built. **Yediyur Lake** located at Basavangudi along kanakpura road of Bangalore is amongst the prime and most visited tourist attraction and picnic spots in Bangalore. Centre of attraction at the lake are small beautiful garden in lake vicinity and a beautiful statue of girl by John Irving, that stood amidst the centre of the lake. The place is famous for the joy of water sports including boating, scooter boat rides, water skiing, etc. Haunted by morning walkers and joggers, the place is also an ideal destination for local residents looking forward to a weekend picnic. **Nagavara Lake (also called Lumbini Lake)** in Hebbal is famous for its boating and leisure providing facilities. The lake is well-developed and it is the city’s top most spot that provides boating and refreshing park with lots of entertaining water sports. The major attractions of the Nagavara lake includes wave pool, various types of boat rides, and children park. The boat ride includes Family bumper boat rides, speed boating, bumper boating, boating on jet skies, leisure boating and boat
restaurants. It also includes floating coffee shop and floating restaurants, wave pool, musical fountains, water-skiing devices for jet skiing. The lumbini gardens have an amusement park for children that have children's pool, different kinds of swings, vortex, rotating carousel, and simulated games. All these make the Nagavara lake one among the most visited Bangalore tourist places. **Hebbal Lake** is located in the north of Bangalore at the mouth of National Highway 7, along the junction of Bellary Road and the Outer Ring Road (ORR). It was one of the three lakes created in 1537 by Kempe Gowda. Like most lakes or "tanks" in the Bangalore region it was formed by the damming natural valley systems by the construction of bunds. The spread of the lake in a study in 2000 was found to be 75 ha with plans for extending it to make up 143 ha. **Birds at Hebbal lake** – The habitat at Hebbal lake is favored by many species of water birds including large water birds such as the Spot-billed Pelican, Eurasian Spoonbill, Shoveller, Pintail, Garganey, Little Grebe, Coot and the Spot-billed Duck. The shallow zone supports sandpipers and other waders as well as Purple Moorhens, Purple Herons and Grey Herons. Nearly 350 species of birds have been recorded from the Bangalore region of which around 60 species may be seen with ease. Bangalore has an active bird watching club that meets every Sunday. **Madiwala lake** is situated in the BTM Layout in Bangalore. Its area is 114.3 ha. It is a home to many migratory birds. Madiwala Lake comes under the administration of Karnataka State Forest Department which carries out the routine maintenance of this lake. Its park areas include a children's park and a parking lot. Madiwala lake is one of the biggest lakes, is situated in BTM layout and spread over 276.8 acres with an island sporting bamboo bushes at the center attracts rare birds during the post monsoon season. There is also a beautiful park with a nice childrens play area. **Varthur lake** is the second largest lake in Bangalore city located towards north-west of Varthur, towards south-east of Bangalore, which has an area of 180.40 hectares (445.8 acres). **Begur Lake** is located towards east of Begur and towards west of Hosur Road. Begur lake is one of the oldest lakes in Bangalore spread across 138 hectare area. **Lalbagh Lake** is situated in Lalbagh park. The Lalbagh lake is by far the most beautiful water body in the city. It does not have any boating facility.

**Distribution of Wild Life**

**Bannergatta National Park** is situated 22 km south of Bangalore. This hilly place is the home for one of the richest natural, zoological reserves. The 25,000 acre zoological park makes this a major tourist attraction of Bangalore. **Butterfly Park** is spread across 7.5 acres of land. It comprises a butterfly conservatory, museum and an audio-visual room. The butterfly conservatory has a polycarbonate roof and is a 10,000 sq ft (1,000 m²). circular enclosure, inside which the living environment has been carefully designed to support over 20 species of butterflies. The environment has a tropical setting — complete with the humid climate, an artificial waterfall, a narrow walking bridge and host plants and shrubs that attract butterflies. **Bangalore Aquarium** is the second largest aquarium in India. It is located at the entrance of Cubbon Park in Bangalore, India, and was established in 1983. It has a variety of exotic cultivable as well as ornamental fish on display.

**Places of Worship**

**Bull temple** is located at Basavangudi and is built using Dravidian style of architecture. The bull is 6mts long and 4.5mtrs height. River Virshabhavati originates at the pedestal of Nandi (Bull) and flows towards West to meet Arakavati River at Kanakapura. Once in a year During November (karthika maasam, last Monday and Tuesday) there will be a Groundnut Fair in this temple called Kadalekayi Parishe). Beside the Bull temple, there is Lord Ganesha temple. The temple is locally called as Dodda Ganapathi temple. **Cave temple** is dedicated to Lord Shiva and situated at Gavipuram. Cave means Gavi in Kannada. This temple is also known as **Gavi Gangadhreshwara temple**. There are parks nearer to Cave temple. These include Kempambudhi tank, Virshabhavathi valley and Harihara rayana gudda park. Inside the cave, there are two paths which are believed that one goes towards Kash and other towards Shiva Ganga. **ISKCON** Krishna temple, constructed by International Society of Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON). ISKON was started by Sri Srimad A.C.Bhakti Vedanta Swami Prabhupada. This is on a rocky hill near Chord road (Rajajinagar). Path way with roof arrangement is made inside for secured and safe visit to the temple. Visitors should get the receipt for each item they submit at the counter. Photography is not allowed inside the temple premises. If anybody is carrying any costly electronics gadgets, show the items to the person at the counter and get it mentioned in the receipt without forgetting. There are temples of Prahlada Narasimha and Srinivasa Govinda located on the way. There are GulelOliz counter for puja material and prasadam. In the main temple, there are three sections, Sri Nitai Gauranga, Sri Radha Krishna Chandra, Sri Krishna Balarama. Special darshan available from 9:00am to 11.00pm during Vaikunta Ekadashi. There are Lecture halls and multivision cinema showing image
animations for a duration of 20 minutes at the cost of INR 20 per head. Dharmaraya Swamy Temple is located in OTC Road, Tegalarpet is famous for the annual Karaga festival that is 800 years old. Kote Jalakantheshwara temple is the oldest temple in Bengaluru dating back to the Chola era and is situated in Kalasipalya. Kote Venkataramana Temple a 17th-century temple located the old fort area next to tipu’s palace in Chamarajpet. The temple has beautiful granite sculptures. Kadu Malleshwara Temple built by Shahji Bhonsle the father of Shivaji located in the locality of Malleshwaram off Sampige Road. The temple kalyani is said to be the source of the Vrishabhavati River. Huge Shiva in old Airport Road is a huge idol of Lord Shiva & Ganesha completely made of plaster of paris. The Champakada damreswara temple is situated at Bannerghatta area. Shivaganga is a Varanasi of South, Hindu pilgrim centre, temples of Gangadvara and Honna devi, Patala Ganga fresh water spring. 60 Kms from Bengaluru. Ghati Subramanya is 55 Kms from Bengaluru, Lord Subramanya temple is situated here. Ranganatha Swamy Temple situated in Chikkaballapura around 60kms from Bengaluru. Chikka Tirupathi Lord Venkateshwara Temple, known as Chikka Tirupathi Temple is also very close to Bengaluru. Rajarajeshwari Temple is situated at Rajarajeshwari Nagar this temple houses Goddess Durga. The temple is famous for several festivals and drawlot of tourists. Someshwar temple at Ulsoor, Mallikarjuna Swamy temple in Malleshwaram, Banashankari temple at Kanakapura road, Subramanya and Kannika parameshwari temples at Visveshwarapuram and Ragi Gudda Anjaneya temple.

Other Worship Places
St. Mary's Basilica: The Church situated opposite the Russel Market Square was built as a small chapel in 1818 by Abbe Dubois, but was later converted into an ornate Gothic style Church by Rev. L.E.Kleiner. By 1882 a large number of stained glass windows from Paris adorned the Basilica, but these were removed during World War II. These were restored in 1947. Mayo Hall was designed in memory of the Lord Mayo and is regarded as one of the finest designs of British architecture. Buddhist temple at Gandhinagar constructed by Maha Bodhi Society founded by Acharaya Buddha Rakhita during 1956. A famous Jain temple is situated at Jayanagar which has excellent marble work. Some more Jain temples are situated at Chickpet, Gandhinagar and Sajjanarao Circle. All Saints Church, Infant Jesus Church, St.Marys Cathedral church, East Parade church (called as the mother of Churches in Karnataka) and Sacred Heart Church. Mosques and others Jumma Masjid (Old Poor House street), Jami Masjid (city market), Military Masjid (St.Johns road), The Parsi Fire temple (Queen's road), Sikh Gurudwara (Kensington road) and shrine in Jayanagar.

Amusement Parks
Wonderla is an amusement park located near Bidadi, 28 kilometers from (17 mi) Bengaluru. Innovative Film City A theme park built in Bidadi in 2008. 50 kms from Bengaluru. In it are a waxwork museum, dinosaur museum, a 'cartoon city' for kids, a glass labyrinth, 4D cinemas and much more can be seen. Natural ice rink is an ice-skating rink at the phoenix market city. It is the only natural ice rink in Karnataka. Neeladri Amusement and Water Park is among the first theme parks to be built in the city. Constructed on 30 acres of sprawling landscape, this is the only combination of amusement park and Water Park in the city. There are over 45 different impressive fun rides. The eight popular water rides in the Neeladri Amusement Park, Bangalore consist of water slides, water pools and boating. Various other rides are also available in the amusement park. Some of the popular rides are Formula 2, Family Slide, Zyclone, Guided Cars, Bouncing Castles, Bumping Cars, and Water Chute. There are also video games arcade where one can enjoy simulation games. Restaurants, ice cream parlors, fast food stalls are all designed in colorful and different ways to delight the kids. The Neeladri Amusement Park, Bangalore is located 19 km from the town near the Electronic city on Hosur road. Hippocampus Children's Company centre started in Koramangala, Bangalore. Hippocampus runs a book council to help children, parents, schools and libraries choose books. They have an annual story telling event called HOO's Tales. They also conduct a summer reading challenge every year and in 2010, they launched Get Shot Reading, an event that combined the best of books and photography for children. Fun-world & Resorts India Pvt Ltd is a World of Wonders & created specially for everyone in the family especially the kids. Fun World is a 12 acre Disney Land Like Amusement Park, tucked into Palace Grounds, Bangalore. Star City Star City is in Palace Grounds, J.C. Nagar, Bangalore and is about 4 Km from Shivajinagar and about 5kms from Vidhana Soudha. Lumbini Gardens is a wave pool with an artificial beach, situated on the Outer Ring Road on the banks of the Nagawara Lake. It is also an exclusive boating and leisure complex with a variety of entertainment activities introduced for the first time in Bangalore. The leisure park is set up at a cost of over Rs 10 crore. Visitors without any age restrictions are allowed inside the gardens. The pool provides the best and safest form of entertainment. It also has a children's pool. The pool is
situated in an area of 12,500 square feet. **Crazy Water** is located on Bannerghatta Main road, near Meenakshi temple and famous for its giant water slide with more than half a dozen slides. Being located amidst a hillock, it will provide great amount of thrill, splash and excitement. Tunneling down from fiber tunnels will be so exciting.

**Others**

**Agara:** Situated on the Sarjapur road (13 km from Bangalore). Agara is a place as old as of the Ganga times. According to a Kannada inscription slab found in a field dated about 870 A.D. of the Ganga ruler Satyavakya and Nagattara (an officer under him at Begur), one Siriyamayya, fixed sluices to two tanks and built a third tank and secured land for their maintenance. Even today, two of the old tanks taken the name Agara as mentioned in a Vijayanagara record dated 1515 from the same place. The place has temples dedicated to Venkatramana, Rama, Someshwara (on the tank bund), Ganesha, Karagadamma and a Mosque.

**Aigandapura:** It is also known as Aivarukandapura near Hesaraghatta (30 kms from Bangalore) was a celebrated agrahara during the Chola times. The main attraction of the place are the two temples Dharmeshwara temple on the bank of the local tank is a complex structure of great architectural interest and the Gopalakrishna temple inside the village is of great antiquity. It is said that the temple formerly had an image of Chennigaraya and that Kempe Gowda was a devotee of the God. Annually, karaga festival is held here on the ninth day of Chaitra.

**Jawaharalal Nehru Planetarium** Situated near Kasturba road. There will be a 45 minutes show about Astro physics. This is a very interesting place for children. **Whitefield Satya Sai Baba’s Brindavan** is located here, 15kms from Bangalore city. **Muthyala Maduva** 45kms from Bangalore, known for Pearl Valley, waterfall and temple. **Channapatna** Famous for handicrafts, 60kms towards west of Bangalore on Mysore road. **Seshadri Iyer Memorial Hall** Made in gothic architectural design and red in color, this building was constructed to commemorate Sir K.Seshadri Iyer, the Dewan of Mysore State from 1883 to 1901. A public library has been opened in the memorial hall. **Manchina Bele Dam** This is 36Kms. From Bengaluru by road and about 8kms from the Big Banyan Tree. Route: Proceed from the Big Banyan Tree via Chikkappa Circle Excellent getaway tourist destination.

**Pyramid Meditation Centre** It is Asia’s largest Pyramid meditation centre, situated around 40kms away from Bengaluru on Kanakapura Road. This is located at Pyramid Valley in Keppeddodi village near Harohalli. **Janapada Loka** About 30kms from Bengaluru on Mysore road is a big complex of folk arts and folk crafts. Exhibition of folk lifestyle, folk dance, folk music, folk drama are presented by folk artists.

**Culture & Heritage Conservation at Bangalore**

The urban cultural heritage of the city includes both the tangible and the intangible elements. It is closely linked to the natural environment and must be looked at with its strong connection in mind. The urban cultural heritage comprises not only the archaeological sites, remains, ruins and monuments protected by the Archaeological Society of India and the State Archaeology, but also the natural and man-made water systems, the ghats, ponds, tanks, water harvesting systems, the street patterns, pathways, bazaars and chowks, the private and public buildings, gates and walls, birdfeeders and statues, the parks and gardens, the temples, mosques and churches, the cared geography underlying its physical fabric and the related yatras, pilgrimages ways and congregation places, the trees, the views to and from the city. Urban conservation deals with the living environment, multiple ownership, variety of legal and planning provisions, different layers of governance, administration and management. It must be focused on socio-economic development, regeneration of the historic city, on housing and mobility, the linkages to the other areas of the town, etc, while keeping alive the natural, social and historic resources. Urban conservation is closely intertwined with urban regeneration. It must balance the needs of
modernization and investment in historic cities and city centres without compromising the historic character and identity.

Conclusions
Like many tourist cities over the world, Bangalore city has uniform distribution of the tourist’s places all around its hinterland. However, to promote tourism in its catchment area to enhance the economical activities provision of information centres, budget hotels, civic amenities and alternate modes of transportation, protection of natural areas and supply of adequate infrastructure facilities are some of the concerns. Strategic planning with a focus on urban management, and a clear definition and coordination of institutional roles is essential. The plan can be best managed by state-of-the-art technology consisting of an innovative and robust spatial data infrastructure at the metropolitan level. It comprises of a Geographical Information System (GIS), a Management Information System (MIS) and comprehensive data models enabling a plan that is up-to-date.

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