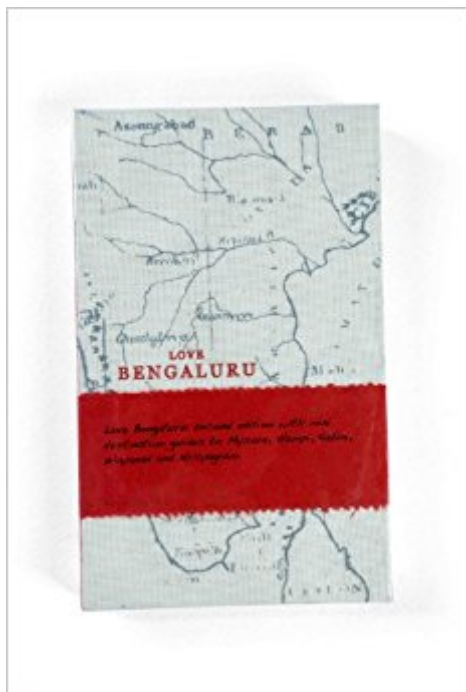


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# Love Bengaluru



## Synopsis

Love Travel Guides are a complete departure from the traditional mass-market books. Love Travel guides present a curated selection of Indian experiences that have been chosen to help the traveller fall in love with India. These discerning guides celebrate the unique style and beauty of India. Love Bengaluru is the updated 2nd edition of Love Bangalore. Love Bengaluru details the most authentic experiences in Bengaluru (formerly Bangalore) and the surrounding region including Mysore and Hampi. The guide is designed for the discerning traveller who wants authenticity in style. The 132-page book, handmade in India, comprises seven sections including an overview of the city with 'must knows and must dos' and presents the best places to eat, drink, shop, and visit. It is based on the 'love stories' shared by locals; including chefs, artists, designers, architects, flower sellers and auto drivers. Love Bengaluru is printed on handmade paper and crafted with care by local designers and crafts people. The hand-woven khadi covers were developed in partnership with Sonam Dubal the Delhi based fashion designer. Fiona Caulfield, founder of Love Travel Guides, believes that falling in love with a city is just as exciting as falling in love with a person. Your senses become more engaged and you simply feel more alive, she says. The simplest criteria for inclusion in the guide was 'does this place help you fall in love with this city?' If yes, then it was in; if no then it was out. Simple. Bengaluru, along with New York, is one of the most popular business destinations in the world with one Bangalore IT Company playing host to more international visitors in a year than the Taj Mahal. However, most visitors travel to Bengaluru with fear and trepidation about the experience, aware of the infrastructure woes of the city, and find few resources to encourage them to explore, discover and get to know the real Bengaluru;

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

It looks, and feels, like a book of secrets. And so it is: all the savvy insider knowledge a traveller craves is here. There's a focus on cafes, restaurants, shopping especially for lifestyle purchases at emporiums with names as inviting as Cinnamon and Sanctuary and detailed descriptions of where to stay (Caulfield recommends room four at the heritage property Villa Pottipati or room seven at the Jayamaharal Palace, Indira Gandhi's favourite bed chamber). --Weekend Australian For the discerning traveller who wants authenticity in style --The Times of India For the discerning traveller who wants authenticity in style --The Times of India

Caulfield's passion for travel and authentic experiences led Caulfield to an opportunity to create the Love Travel brand. Her Indian company, Hardy's Bay Publishing published the first in the series, Love Bangalore, in February 2007. The Indian series now comprises Love Mumbai (3rd ed), Love Delhi (3rd ed), Love Bengaluru (2nd ed) and Love Jaipur Rajasthan (2nd ed) and Love Goa (1st ed). Fiona is also a highly regarded speaker and most recently presented The Future of Travel Writing for the Asia Society in Hong Kong. Love Jaipur, Rajasthan was the best selling book at the Jaipur Literature Festival, Asia's leading literature event. Fiona is the founder and CEO, Love Travel Guides and contributing writer for leading international titles including: International Magazines: Black Ink Conde Nast Traveller, (UK) & Conde Nast Traveler, (USA) Club 21 Departures DestinAsia Endless Vacations Journal International's Asia and Australia Centurion and Platinum Stamford Life International Newspapers: Weekend Australian Straits Times Inflight Magazines: Gulf Airways -Gulf Life Singapore Airlines - Silver Kris Tiger Airways - Tiger Tales Qantas - The Australian Way International Web Sites: indargare qantas/travelinsider Indian Media: Jet Wings Luxury Newsletter Travel & Leisure Vogue India Coffee Table Taj Hotels Magazine Producer: Australian Gourmet Traveller

I have stopped buying traditional guide books for two reasons: 1. Their efforts to condense a whole country into one publication leave you with two or three pages, at best, about your specific destination; and 2. They are the LAST thing you want to carry around with you when travelling, it would be easier to haul around three house-bricks. But the arrival of Love Bangalore has changed my mind: a beautifully written, concise, informative, educated guide book that caters to my taste, my city, and my budget. It is one book that I'd be HAPPY to carry around with me; in fact, if you're visiting Bangalore, you MUST carry it around with you! The restaurant reviews are top notch and get business visitors out of the 5-star hotel restaurant rut; the shopping is spot-on, a perfect blend of

splurge and bargain hunting; and the sightseeing tips will open up your eyes to a whole new Bangalore that you never knew existed. It may now be the high-tec capital of India, but Fiona's book ensures that you see beyond that, to the real Bangalore. Be sure to visit the city before the new takes over the old, and be sure to get this book for your trip.

If you just want to know there's a Bull Temple in Bangalore, get any travel guide to India. If you want to know how to find the Bull Temple, hop into an auto-rickshaw once you've arrived and just say "Bull Temple, please, sir." But if you'd like to visit Bangalore the way you visit New York or Paris or Hong Kong, then this is the book you will want. Instead of a list of all the sights from which you must choose, Ms. Caulfield has screened the city and made choices for you. She describes and recommends hotels, restaurants, shops, and weekend getaways. Many I would never have found on my own. In some, I was the only foreigner. I believe she loves Bangalore. Now so do I.

You will not be disappointed with this book. While Ms. Caulfield may be a luxury traveler, this book reviews and recommends a wide variety of establishment - from expensive silk emporiums to charming shops of handcrafted goodies; from local eating huts to fancy hotel restaurants. It was such fun just to hold and read through the book and find places that sounded worthwhile...but that was nothing compared to the hidden treasures I got to experience in person because of her recommendations. I recommend this to anyone travelling in Bangalore!

I am beside myself with excitement. I'm off to Bangalore shortly and was given a copy of Love Bangalore to help me explore. I have read it cover to cover and - with some feelings of guilt - have actually written on favourite pages (in pencil). This is everything I want and need; it has given me such a sense of the city - I feel as if Ms Caulfield is coming along in my luggage with me to show me the parts of the city I would never find on my own. I can't wait for Love Mumbai and Love Delhi - even Love Everywhere to be published.

She's not kidding when she says "A Handbook for the Luxury Vagabond." Although it *is* beautifully crafted, the writing is pretentious and contains little actual information (and seems to be focus on giving a plug to Jackfruit about every 15 pages). Most of the recommendations are in the standard travel guides, and the map is all but useless. The organization is by topic, with a wee number taking you back to the one useless map. Also, she's not kidding when she says "luxury." Plan to spend a few hundred USD, plus your hotel, and, of course, your private car. I did find some of the

information locally accurate, but it's buried in sidebars, so if you find it used for \$5 or something, then it's worth picking up. DEFINITELY NOT WORTH \$40. If you are into gushy prose (think \*Seventeen\* magazine on the latest lipgloss, or maybe that self-published book of poetry your Aunt Claire wrote) and don't want to leave MG Road or your air-conditioned Tata, buy this book. If you need information on what to do and see without spending \$600 a day, find another travel guide.

Having lived in Bangalore for six months armed with Lonely Planet, Rough Guide, Fodor's, Frommer's, and Footprint guides, I can confirm that Fiona's recommendations are spot on - she genuinely has located the city's creme de la creme, something no other guidebook does. Why waste your time tracking down the handful of places in your fat guidebook only to eat with a crowd of tourists? Or visit the same emporiums your hotel sends every foreigner to? With Love Bangalore, you can instead go straight for the jugular -- the most unique places the city has to offer. In response to the gentleman who complains this is a guide for how to spend \$600 a day: Bangalore is not a cheap city by any stretch. For any western comforts, it easily rivals European prices. There are plenty of India guidebooks that tell you how to travel on a shoestring. This guide tells you how to have a fabulous time. That is priceless. \$40 well spent for sure. An essential for any traveler to Bangalore.

I recently purchased this guide for a trip to quick Bangalore and it was super-helpful. It is concise, well-edited and feels as though it was written by someone who really knows the city well. It doesn't look or feel like typical travel guides. I used it for both restaurant recommendations and a bit of shopping - and it was dead on every time. Many believe that Bangalore is just a business and tech center, but this book showed me there is a lot more going on there besides the obvious. Love Bangalore also has some great ideas for nearby "weekend escapes" like Mysore and Hampi. And some good tips on local customs and etiquette. All around I found it really useful and enlightening.

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