GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT
Indian Institute of Technology Madras

International Student Handbook

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CHENNAI FACTS

Area
181.06 sq. Km

Population
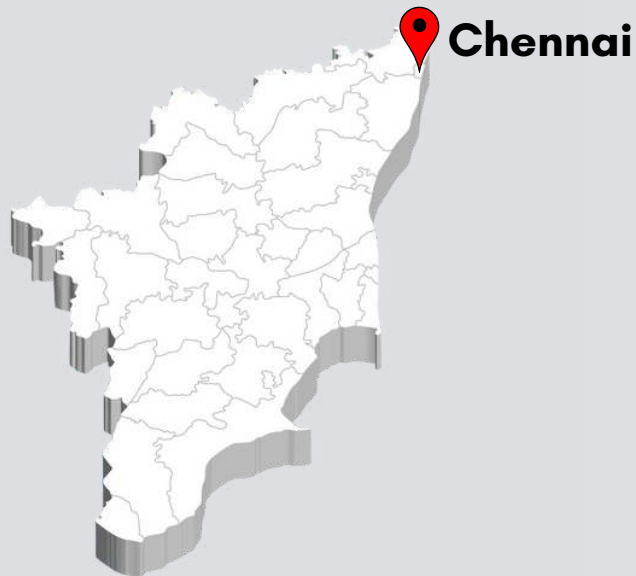12,290,000 (2024)

Local Language
Tamil

தமிழ்

Currency
Indian Rupees (₹)

Chennai

Tamil Nadu, India

I. INTRODUCTION

ABOUT IITM

The Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IITM) is a distinguished technical institution in Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India. Established in 1959 with support from the former government of West Germany, IITM is the third IIT established by the Government of India (GoI). With its commitment to excellence in education and research, IITM is a beacon of innovation and academic leadership in engineering and technology — both nationally and internationally. Over the years, IIT Madras has been recognised as one of the eight Institutes of Eminence in India. Since 2016, IITM has retained the top honours in Indian Higher Education as per the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF).

1
Overall best university in India NIRF

1
Engineering Institute in India NIRF

227
QS World University Ranking

56
QS Asian University Rankings

Right in the heart of this metropolis is the sylvan campus of the Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IITM). The campus spread over **632 acres** (**250 hectares**) of lush green forest, home to many endangered plants and animals, and a beautiful lake, is a welcome respite from the bustling city environment.

The Indian Institute of Technology Madras is among the premier institutes in the country for higher technological education, basic and applied research. In **1956**, the German government offered technical assistance for establishing an institute of higher education in engineering in India and the Institute was formally inaugurated in **1959**. It is an autonomous body under the administrative control of a Board of Governors appointed by the Government of India.

IIT Madras is a residential Institute with nearly **638** faculty members, **10,000+** students and **750** administrative & supporting staff and has a self-contained campus. It has established itself as a leading centre for teaching, research and industrial consultancy in the country.

The Institute has eighteen academic departments and a few advanced research centers in various disciplines of engineering and pure sciences, with nearly **100** laboratories organized in a unique pattern of functioning. A faculty of international repute, a brilliant student community, excellent technical & supporting staff and an effective administration have all contributed to the pre-eminent status of IIT Madras.

How to reach IITM?

After your arrival at the Anna International Airport, Chennai, you will make your way to the Institute by Prepaid Taxi or Call Taxi. The IIT campus is located on Sardar Patel Road, midway between the Raj Bhavan and Adyar and is about 12 kms from Chennai Airport. Other landmarks include the Guindy National Park near the IITM main gate and the Central Leather Research Institute (CLRI) campus opposite the IITM campus. At the 'IN' gate of the campus, there is a Security Check post, from where the road leads to Gajendra Circle (near the Administration Block and Central Library), via two alternate roads, Delhi Avenue and Bonn Avenue. The academic zone and the hostels are 3.8 km from the main gate of the Institute. If you have luggage, Prepaid Taxi or Call Taxi would be the most convenient option. The fare will be about INR 600.

Chennai International Airport

12Km

IIT Madras

From Chennai International Airport to IIT Madras

International students arriving at Chennai Airport can use Ola, Uber, and Namma Yatri cab services to reach IIT Madras. Download these apps from the iOS App Store or Google Play Store.

Uber ₹600/-

OLA ₹550/-

namma yatri ₹400/-

- Plan your travel to coincide with our working days (Monday to Friday) and within our office hours (10:00 am – 6:00 pm).

- After reaching the campus, please report to the Office of Global Engagement to meet the Admissions team. Subsequently, meet the International Student Advisor during the specified office hours.

Days: Monday to Friday (The office shall remain closed during weekends and institute holidays.)

Office Hours: 10:00 am – 6:00 pm

- In case of arrival outside office hours, report to the Hostel Management Office CCW or your assigned hostel

TRAVEL TO AND FROM CAMPUS

Bus: Cancer Institute, CLRI and Madhya Kailash are the bus stops near the Main Gate. Gandhi Road and Guru Nanak College are the bus stops near the Velachery Gate. Outstation buses are available from the Chennai Mofussil Bus Terminus (CMBT) in Koyambedu. For bus route information, visit the MTC website.

🌐 mtcbus.tn.gov.in

MRTS: Kasturba Nagar station (near Madhya Kailash) is located at 1.2km from the Main Gate.

🌐 cmdachennai.gov.inl

Metro: Little Mount (around 3 km) and Guindy (3.3km) metro stations are about 5-10 minutes by road.

🌐 chennaimetrorail.org

Autos and Taxis: The city is well-serviced by autos and taxis, and common ride-hailing apps, such as OLA, Uber, and Namma Yatri, are available for your convenience.
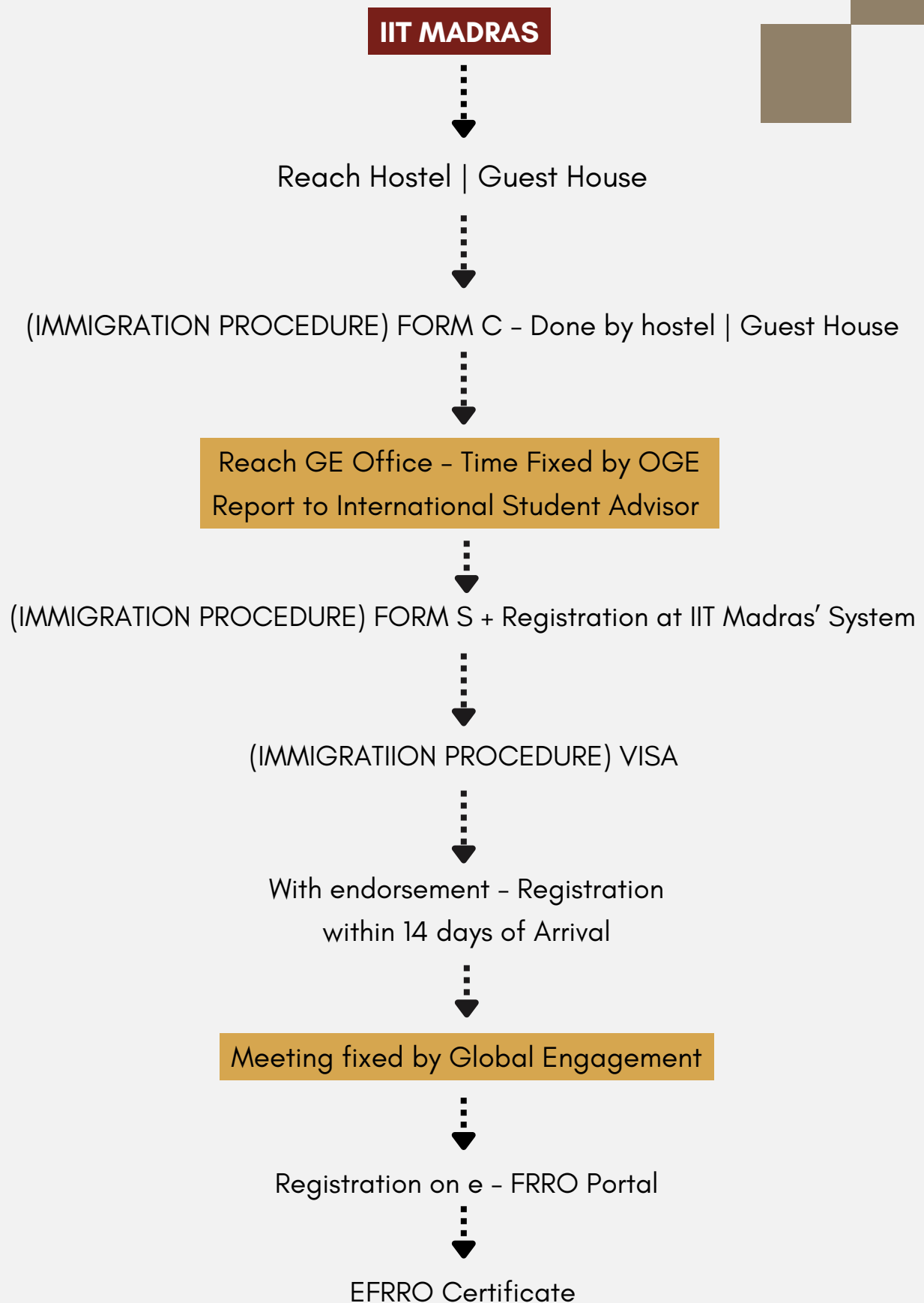
On-Campus Bus Transport:

On-campus bus service is available for all on all days from 6.15 am to 9.30 pm at an interval of 15 minutes. The buses start at 6.15 am from the Main Gate to the Hostel zone and from the hostel zone to the Main Gate. The last starts from the main gate at 10.00 pm to the Bus Depot via Gajendra Circle (GC).

II. ONBOARDING AND ADMINISTRATION

Onboarding Procedure

IIT MADRAS

⬇

Reach Hostel | Guest House

⬇

(IMMIGRATION PROCEDURE) FORM C – Done by hostel | Guest House

⬇

Reach GE Office – Time Fixed by OGE
Report to International Student Advisor

⬇

(IMMIGRATION PROCEDURE) FORM S + Registration at IIT Madras' System

⬇

(IMMIGRATIION PROCEDURE) VISA

⬇

With endorsement – Registration
within 14 days of Arrival

⬇

Meeting fixed by Global Engagement

⬇

Registration on e – FRRO Portal

⬇

EFRRO Certificate

Immigration Procedure – Visa

Steps to Complete the FRRO Procedure

1 Coordinate with the Admissions Team (OGE)

- Reach out to the OGE Admissions team for guidance and assistance with the FRRO procedure.
- Upon settling at the hostel, it is mandatory to complete Form C with your respective Hostel Managers and Form S with the Office of Global Engagement (OGE).

2 Required Documents For FRRO Registration

UG & PG Students

- Photograph
- Passport
- VISA
- Offer letter / Admission letter by IIT Madras
- Sponsorship letter (in PDF) (ICCR/IIT Madras Scholarship/SII etc.)
- Bonafide Certificate (issued by OGE)
- Letter of Undertaking (issued by OGE)
- Form C (issued by Hostel/Guest House)

Ph.D Students

- Photograph
- Passport
- VISA
- Offer letter / Admission letter by IIT Madras
- Sponsorship letter (in PDF) (ICCR/IIT Madras Scholarship/SII etc.)
- Synopsis of project
- Bonafide Certificate (issued by OGE)
- Letter of Undertaking (issued by OGE)
- Form G (issued by OGE)
- Form C (issued by Hostel/Guest House)

3 Important Notice

- Ensure the procedure is completed within 14 days of arrival in India to avoid penalty charges.
- If there is a delay, penalty charges will be imposed, and you must provide a letter explaining the reason for the delay.

Visit: indianfrro.gov.in/eservices/home.jsp

OGE (Office of Global Engagement)

The Office of Global Engagement (OGE) at the Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras) is dedicated to expanding the institution's global footprint and fostering collaborative partnerships worldwide through faculty and student exchange programs, joint research initiatives, and international conferences.

Inbound

The Inbound Team at IIT Madras manages all aspects of academic programs for international students, including admissions, graduation, study tours, and cultural trips. They oversee short-term mobility, full-time programs, research scholars, and semester exchange students, acting as the main contact point for all international students at the institute.

International Student Advisor

At the Office of Global Engagement at IITM, our primary responsibility is to support and assist our diverse community of international students. We oversee their academic activities, ensure they have a smooth transition into the campus environment, and address any academic or non-academic queries they may have. Our dedication lies in creating a supportive and inclusive environment where every student can thrive both academically and personally.

Dean of Students (DoST)

This office serves as a central point of contact for students seeking assistance, guidance, or participation in campus activities. DoST office can be approached for requirements relating to the following areas:

1. Hostel Management
2. Placements / Internships / Entrepreneurship
3. Institute Gymkhana
4. Student Legislative Council and Executive Council
5. Student Clubs & Co-curricular Activities
6. Student Wellness
7. Student Recognition Awards
8. Students Activities Trust
9. Leisure Time Activities Program (L-TAP)
10. Committee for Monitoring General Facilities for Students

⦿ Office of the Dean (Students)

Complaint Committee IITM

At IIT Madras, the Internal Complaint Committee (ICC) or the Complaint Committee Against Sexual Harassment (CCASH) is tasked with investigating sexual harassment complaints, adhering to the guidelines set by the Supreme Court of India. When sexual harassment is confirmed, disciplinary actions are taken against the individual, irrespective of their role within the Institute (whether staff, faculty, or student). Serious offenses are escalated to legal authorities for prosecution under the Indian Penal Code or other relevant laws. CCASH is committed to maintaining a safe environment for both study and work, free from harassment. To contact the Chairperson, email ccash@iitm.ac.in. Grievances can also be reported to the Head of the Department.

Anti-Ragging Policy:

Ragging is strictly prohibited at our institute. If you encounter any concerns, please contact your Saathi UG student mentor or hostel warden immediately. Senior students may initiate a friendly chat to break the ice, often sharing useful insights and books. Your comfort is our priority; feel free to voice any discomfort or inform your mentor about any issues.

Gender Sensitisation:

At IIT Madras, we uphold a commitment to gender equality and safety. While progress is ongoing, we prioritize creating an environment of freedom, autonomy, and privacy with the support of our students, faculty, and staff. Everyone on campus enjoys legal and fundamental rights in a dignified and safe environment, fostering professional growth and personal development. We maintain a zero-tolerance policy towards sexual harassment, defined under law as physical contact, sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, sexually colored remarks, showing pornography, or any unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature. We encourage open dialogue and awareness of rights and responsibilities to ensure a respectful and inclusive community.
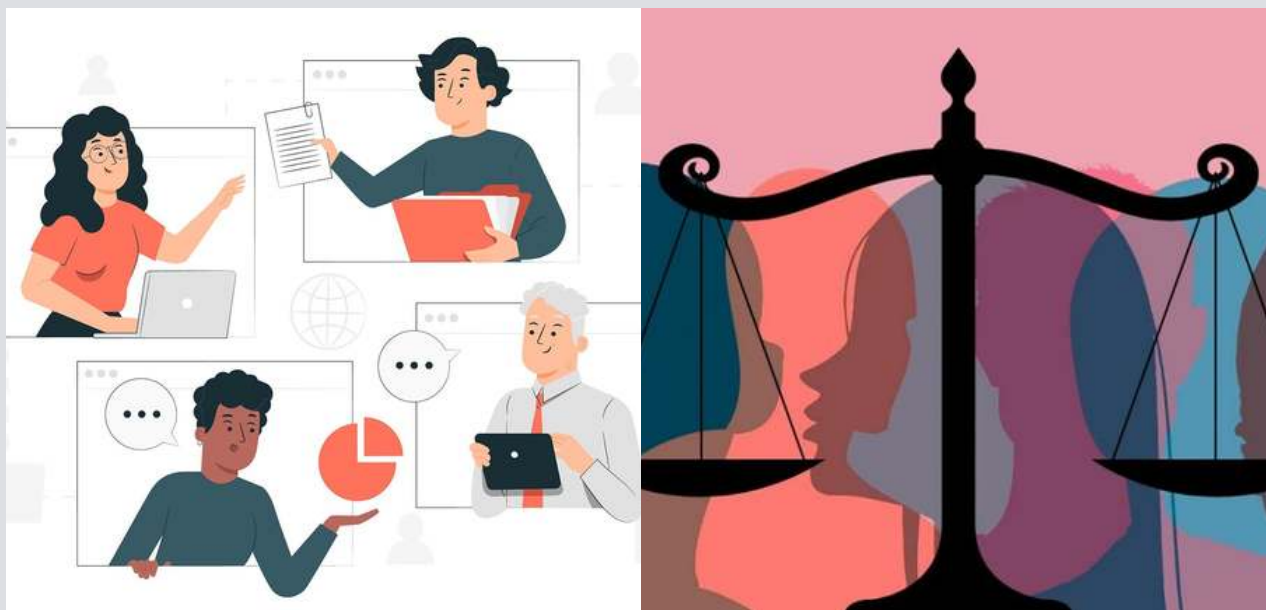
III. ACCOMMODATION AND WELL-BEING

CCW - Hostels

IIT Madras is a residential institute and provides accommodation to students in the hostels. There are 22 hostels, all named after the mighty rivers of India. Of the hostels, 6 are for female students and 16 are for male students. For detailed information regarding the list of hostels, please refer to the official website of IIT Madras https://ccw.iitm.ac.in/

Hostel Facilities and Community Life

Our hostel facilities feature gardens and libraries for book borrowing. Each hostel provides washing machines, sports facilities, and rooms for music, tech, and television. Common rooms host regular hostel-level meetings. Students celebrate various festivals including Holi, Pongal, Onam, Diwali, and New Year's Eve. Annually, each hostel organizes a vibrant hostel night with food and music, celebrating graduating seniors and fostering community spirit.

Accommodation Type

First-year undergraduate students share rooms, while subsequent years may have single, double, or triple occupancy rooms depending on the hostel. Postgraduate students are allocated sharing or single rooms. Every room includes Internet and LAN access, with additional computer rooms available in the hostels. It is expected that the residents of the hostels shall follow the rules and regulations, violation of which will lead to appropriate disciplinary action. A copy of the rules and regulations document is available at https://ccw.iitm.ac.in/

Hostel Life

Experience vibrant hostel life at IIT Madras, where students from diverse backgrounds come together in a lively and supportive community. Our hostels provide more than just accommodation; they foster camaraderie, personal growth, and lifelong friendships.

The Wellness Community Centre

The Wellness Community Centre, IIT Madras vouches for the holistic wellbeing of the student community. Proactive, retroactive, professional, and career guidance facilities are available on the campus in different forms to ensure student empowerment. The Wellness Centre works for nourishment of positive mental health in the campus. The team provides counseling and psychotherapy to the students. They also provide training and coordinate among different stakeholders when the situation demands. There are two visiting psychiatrists in the Institute hospital. Students can consult them through hospital appointment.

Helpline : 04422578521 (Wellness Centre 9-5PM) | 04448136222 (YourDOST 24/7)
Website: https://www.wellnessiitm.com/

Amenities and Food Joints

Name of the Shop	Shop Location
Rotorman's (Food Truck)	Behind TGH
Isthara Food court	HFC
Thouway Technologies (Cookincloud)	ICICI Bank Hangout (A)
7 Star Beauty Salon	Narmada Basement
Srivari Browsing Centre	Narmada Basement
Prime Mart (Multipurpose Shop)	Near CCW Office
CCD (Café Coffee Day)	Near DoMS
Speed Buy Cycle (Cycle repair shop)	Near Sangam Ground
Zaitoon Restaurant & Grill	Quark
Usha Café (Snacks)	Shop No 01 NSFC
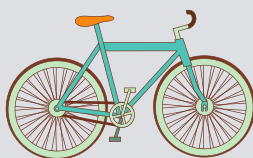
Bank and ATM centres

The Campus has two banks and a few ATM outlets

- Opposite to the KV School and Post Office (around 200m from Gajendra Circle on Bonn Avenue)
- ATM 1: SBI Opposite to Kendriya Vidyalaya
- ATM2 : Tarmani Guest House (towards Hostel zone)

- Campus Shopping Centre on Delhi Avenue
- ATM 1: Canara Bank, Campus Shopping Centre
- ATM 2: Student Facilities Centre

- Near Office of Hostel Management
- Near Nilgiri

Post Office

- Campus Post Office is located opposite to the SBI Bank, Near KV School on Bonn Avenue.
- The Railway Ticket Booking Counter (limited Schedule) is also co-located.

IV. ACADEMICS AND CAREER

Training & Placements

The Indian Institute of Technology Madras is one of the most reputed institutes for technological education and research in India. Known for its strong relations with the industry, the Institute has always been a favorite destination of recruitment for many firms.

The Placement and Internship Office is the nodal point of contact for companies seeking to establish a fruitful relationship with IIT Madras. As our logo says, "Siddhirbhavati Karmaja" - Success comes through hard work. The office interacts with over 800 industries in the country, of which nearly 300 companies visit the campus for holding campus interviews. The institute provides internship placements for students - who wish to intern in an Indian Industrial core company for a minimum of 6 weeks, over the summer following third year - to give students an exposure to the application of technology in the industry and hands-on work experience. This internship is included in the curriculum and carries credits. Many well known companies visit our campus.

Faculty Advisor

The faculty advisor, contrary to popular belief, plays more than just a nominal role. As suggested by the name itself, the position of the faculty advisor has been established in order for students to be guided in planning their course of study and receiving general advice on the academic programme. Moreover, the extent to which the faculty advisor carries out his/her duties is dependent on the students he/she has been assigned to, for if students do not approach him/her with queries, clarifications and problems, his/her ability to advise the students on such matters is reduced.

For more information you may go through
https://dost.iitm.ac.in/iitmdost/pages/advisors

V.CAMPUS LIFE

Major Landmarks

IIT Madras (IITM) campus is known for several prominent landmarks that reflect its rich history, architectural significance, and academic prowess. Here are some notable landmarks of IIT Madras:

Administration Block: It is close to the Gajendra Circle (GC). Academic Section, Academic Research Section, Administration Section, Accounts Section, Engineering Unit offices, Security Section, Heritage Section are located in this block.

Ajanta: A 24/7 Reading Hall is located at Central Library

Bose-Einstein Guest House (BEGH): It provides lodging facilities for VIPs and Institute Guest.

Career Pathway Centre: It empowers students to navigate and decide their career paths independently. It has been designed to provide students with knowledge, essential skills, and exposure to an entrepreneurial environment, all located in one facility. The key functions of the newly established Career pathway Centre include:

- Career Development Cell – Research: Professionally equip students with skill development
- Entrepreneurship Cell: Hone the entrepreneurship efforts of potential students' fraternity
- Placement and Internship (P&I) Office: Facilitating hiring of students by recruiters for placement and internships.

Central Electronic Centre (CEC): Electronic laboratories are situated at CEC. CEC is located at Electrical Sciences Block.

Central Lecture Theatre (CLT): This air-conditioned Lecture Theatre is located a little ahead of the Central Library, in the Humanities and Social Sciences block. It is often used as the venue for quizzes, special lectures, cultural activities and more.

Central Library: This five storeyed building is home to a large number of books and journals and it's located close to the Gajendra circle. It also has a book bank where one can borrow text-books for a semester.

Central Skill Training and Fabrication Facility (CSTF): Workshop practice laboratories are conducted at CSTF. CSTF is located on Alumni Avenue, opposite to the Mechanical Sciences Block.

Class Room complex (CRC): On Alumni Avenue, it is situated hall-way between the administrative building and the Velachery Gate. The majority of first-year classes are held here.

Discovery Campus: Discovery campus at Thaiyur (163 acre) is located at 36km from the main Campus. It will host state-of-the-art research centres with large dedicated facilities.

Ellora: Hangout place located next to the building of the Department of Management Studies (DoMS).

Engineering Unit: Engineering Unit provides Civil/Electrical maintenance services in Academic, Hostel and Residence zones. For any Civil/Electrical issues, contact the Engineering Unit via your hostel office.

Food for Thoughts (FFT): This is the Food court facility on the first floor of Campus Cafe.

Gajendra Circle (GC): This is the primary intersection and the key reference point for moving around campus.

Heritage Centre: It is located on the front side of the Administration Block-Ground Floor.

Himalaya, Nilgiri, Vindhya Dining Facility: This is a dining hall adjacent to Gurunath, containing majority of the messes.

IC&SR Building: This is located apposite to the Humanities and Social Sciences building on Alumni Avenue. The auditorium here has hosted distinguished lectures by eminent personalities including Dr. Kiran Bedi and Mr. Kamal Hasaan, to mention a few.

IIT Madras Research Park (IITMRP): IITMRP provides an ecosystem for Academic-Industry collaborations with particulars focus on R&D and start-up facilities. IITMRP is connected to the IITM campus via bridge.

Institute Hospital: Hospital which provides primary health care services. Hospital is located on first cross road.

New Academic Complex-I (NAC–I): New Academic Complex-I is located next to campus cafe.

New Academic Complex-II (NAC –II): New Academic Complex-II is located adjacent to the building of the Department of Ocean Engineering and opposite to the building of Biotechnology-II.

Office of the Dean of Students (DoST): It is situated adjacent to the west end of the Administration Building.

Office of Hostel Management (OHM): Takes care of various Hostel accommodation/dining related activities.

Open Air Theatre (OAT): It is an amphitheatre where the Film Club shows movies every Saturday. It is situated between the GC and the hostel area. It hosts professional shows at the time of Saarang.

Quark: Student activities space near Saraswathi hostel. A restaurant is located in the ground floor. 81 lounge for student's activities is located on the 1st floor.

Raman and Ramanujan Blocks: This place located These are the places where most of your common classes will take place. These are the places you would want to memorise in and out as this is where you would be headed to, most mornings, half- awake. The ground floor of the Class Room Complex is air-conditioned and is open for the use of students during the quiz weeks to serve as hangout spots for the muggu junta apart from the library.

Security Section: The main office of Security section is located on the back side of the Administration Block-Ground Floor.

Stadium (Manohar C Watsa Stadium): This large open air stadium is situated on Delhi Avenue and is used for various sports activities, air shows during Shaastra, and more.

Students' Activity Centre (SAC): The registration will be conducted in this building. It has a music room, a large auditorium, and more. Important events like Institute Day and Convocation are held here.

Taramani Guest House (TGH): Provides lodging and boarding facilities for guest & Faculty/staff/students.

Up-Top Interaction Lounge (UTIL): UTIL is located on the roof-top of the DoST Building. The space is well utilized for the interaction meetings.

Wellness Centre: Institute has Wellness Centre where students can consult mental health professionals. It is situated in the premises if the DoST building (1st floor).

Student Activities

At IIT Madras, student activities are diverse and vibrant, catering to a wide range of interests and fostering a holistic development environment. Here are some key student activities at IIT Madras:

Extra Mural Lectures

As children, we admire; as adolescents, we aspire; as adults, we perspire; and as responsible, successful citizens, we inspire. It is this inspiration that one gets in these Extra Mural Lectures (EML). One cannot achieve big without listening to people who have done it before. It is as they say: "We shall not live long enough to learn from our own mistakes. We have to learn from others' too".

The EMLs cover diverse topics and bring in recognised pioneers and industry experts from across the globe. The EML student team strives to bring the likes of bureaucrats, ground-level heroes, celebrities, political leaders and sports personnel for engaging sessions with the IIT Madras community.

Club & Literary Activities

The cultural sphere in IITM is vibrant with a multitude of student clubs, regional groups, Inter-hostel competitions and other events, as well as the Institute's cultural grand fest Saarang.

Leisure Time Activity Program

The Leisure Time Activity Program (L-TAP) aims to enrich students personalities by giving opportunities to learn various skills in their leisure time. L-TAP courses are designed for beginners and require no prior knowledge in the corresponding subject. It is also an opportunity for students and scholars to discover new interests and hobbies.

Classes take place outside the academic hours. Courses, ranging from film making, terracotta crafts, self-defense techniques like Krav Maga, meditation, western and classical music, Bharatanatyam, spoken Tamil, web programming, swimming, and instruments, are meant to provide a detailed introduction so students can choose what interests them and pursue it further.

Sports

Excellent facilities, including an Olympic-standard swimming pool, a well-equipped gymnasium, the impressive IIT-Chemplast cricket ground, a vast stadium, and a high-tech wood-floored multipurpose indoor stadium, are available in the Students Activity Center.

The Institute has excellent sporting facilities in the campus which include:

- K.S Narayanan Centre for Cricketing Excellence
- An athletics stadium
- Four tennis courts (synthetic-floored) and badminton courts (wood-floored)
- An Olympic-standard swimming pool
- Hockey & football fields with floodlights
- Two basketball courts and two volleyball courts
- A well-equipped gymnasium with professional instructors
- Two world-class squash courts
- Weightlifting Arena
- Table tennis facility
- A skating rink around Sangam ground

Sporting Clubs

The resolute commitment and enthusiasm of the student community combined with the unfailing encouragement and guidance from the faculty has created tremendous opportunities for students to hone their talents. There are several Sporting Clubs:

- Aquatics Club
- Athletics Club
- Badminton Club
- Bridge Club
- Cricket Club
- Football Club
- Hockey Club
- Squash Club
- Table Tennis Club
- Tennis Club
- Volleyball Club
- Weightlifting Club

Sport Events

In September, IIT Madras hosts the Sports Fest, an intercollegiate meet for local colleges featuring tennis, volleyball, basketball, hockey, football, table tennis, weightlifting, and badminton. The Institute also hosts two major All India Inter Collegiate Tournaments: the GF&KR All India Invitational Basketball Tournament and the Jimmy George Tournament for Volleyball. The Sanmar Tournament for Cricket is another prestigious event.

Student activities at IIT Madras are diverse and vibrant, fostering holistic development. Key events include the Dean's Trophy in the even semester, featuring six-a-side football, bridge, chess, and cycling, among others. Departments also host their own sporting events at Sangam under floodlights. The Gymkhana Day marks the culmination of all sports activities for the academic year, with winning hostels celebrating their victories.

Inter IIT Sports

The Inter IIT Sports Meet is the annual sports tournament of the IITs. With over 3000 athletes participating from all 23 IITs, the event is the biggest and the oldest pan-IIT event. The Meet encompasses two colossal events:
- Aquatics Meet in October
- Main Meet in December

The General Championship (GC) is awarded for the best performance across events, rotating among the seven old IITs. This fierce competition fosters sportsmanship and cherished memories. IIT Madras has excelled, winning the GC 11 times in a row and securing over 19 wins in 51 Inter-IIT Sports Meets, showcasing the brilliance of its students.

Institute Festivals

Shaastra

Shaastra, the annual technical festival of IIT Madras, celebrates science and engineering since 2000. Organized entirely by students, it spans four days and nights in January, drawing participants from students to professionals. Shaastra was the first student-managed event to implement a Quality Management System, earning ISO certifications for excellence.

The festival features a variety of events, from intense competitions like RoboWars and Hackathons to engaging shows like drone wars and laser displays. Envisage, a techno-entertainment show, highlights unique acts by IIT Madras students.

Shaastra also offers workshops, lectures, and the Research Expo, showcasing groundbreaking research. The Summit addresses societal challenges with innovative solutions, while Shaastra Solutions connects academia with industry to solve real-world problems. This blend of competitions, exhibitions, and educational sessions makes Shaastra a highlight on the global technical festival calendar.

Saarang

Saarang, formerly known as Mardi Gras, has been a cultural cornerstone of IIT Madras for over 45 years. Held annually in January, it is one of India's largest cultural festivals, attracting over 50,000 attendees nationwide.

This five-day event offers a variety of activities, including theater arts, musical performances like Decibels, and contests like extempore and Just-A-Minute. Saarang also features professional shows with renowned artists and bands, such as Balamurli Krishna, Ustad Bismillah Khan, Opeth, and Skidrow, along with popular Indian performers like Shaan, S.P. Balasubramanian, and Sonu Nigam.

Saarang is known for its high production quality, providing a memorable experience for all. Supported by a dedicated student community and longstanding sponsors, the festival hosts quizzes, creative writing, and artistic competitions, celebrating creativity and talent comprehensively.

Department Fests

Apart from the Institute fests, some departments also conduct special fests throughout the year. Here are some of the prominent ones:

- AMALGAM: Department of Metallurgical and Materials Engineering
- BHOUTICS: Department of Physics
- BIOFEST: Department of Biotechnology
- ELEC FEST: Department of Electrical Engineering
- CHEMCLAVE: Department of Chemical Engineering
- CEA FEST: Department of Civil Engineering
- EXEBIT: Department of Computer Science & Engineering
- FORAYS: Department of Mathematics
- HSS DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE: Department of Humanities and Social Sciences
- MECHANICA: Department of Mechanical Engineering
- SAMANVAY: Department of Management Studies
- WAVEZ: Department of Ocean Engineering

Research Scholar Day (RSD)

Research Scholars Day (RSD) at IIT Madras is a prestigious event showcasing the talents and achievements of M.S and PhD students, with participation from undergraduates and postgraduates across disciplines. Initially a half-day event in 2013, RSD has evolved into a week-long celebration featuring technical workshops, seminars, panel discussions, and cultural events.

RSD aims to foster technical skill development through workshops and lectures by renowned researchers and industry experts, including figures like Dr. K. Radhakrishnan and Dr. G. Madhavan Nair from ISRO, and innovators like Mr. Aravind Gupta. The Research Expo is a key feature, allowing scholars to present their research and receive feedback from peers and faculty, with outstanding contributions recognized with awards.

Panel discussions cover crucial topics such as career advancements, bridging research and industry, and the future of scientific research in India, featuring experts from academia, industry, and entrepreneurship. RSD also hosts workshops on presentation techniques and work-life balance, emphasizing soft skills alongside technical knowledge.

The cultural night during RSD is a vibrant celebration with music, dance, and fashion performances by the Insti band and guest artists. An oratory challenge invites scholars to explain their research in under two minutes, and occasional film screenings, like the PhD movie, provide humor and insight into academic life.

Overall, RSD celebrates academic excellence and camaraderie, offering participants an enriching experience beyond their laboratories.

VI. Additional Information

Checklist

Here's the to-do list for newcomers to IIT Madras, capturing the essence of exploring campus life:

1 **Set Up Your Room:** Give your room a thorough clean-up to start fresh, because it might be the last time you'll feel motivated to do so during the semester.

2 **Explore the Campus:** Take walks around campus to familiarize yourself with key locations like SAC, CRC, department buildings, and the sports center. Share your discoveries with fellow newcomers.

3 **Discover Dining Spots:** Check out different eateries on campus like Zaitoon, Campus Cafe, and Suprabha to diversify your food options beyond the mess hall.

4 **Connect with Your Saathi Mentor:** Reach out to your Saathi mentor early on to get guidance and insight into navigating campus life effectively.

5 **Learn the IITM Lingo:** Familiarise yourself with campus slang like 'put', 'pack', and 'cup' to better understand conversations with seniors.

6 **Attend Campus Events:** Embrace your enthusiasm by participating in various campus events and workshops. It's a great way to explore new interests and meet people.

7 **Experience Your First Night Out:** Stay out till dawn with friends once your initial curfew period ends, immersing yourself in the campus nightlife.

8 **Visit Secret Spots:** Explore well-known hidden gems around campus like the railway track and Aero well with guidance from seniors.

9 **Prioritise Studies:** Balance social activities with academic responsibilities to ensure a successful journey at IIT Madras.

Tip-Offs from the experienced

The seniors heartfelt advice and tips for newcomers at IIT Madras:

- Define Your Goals: Being at IIT is just the beginning; focus on discovering what you truly want to achieve during your time here.

- Consider PhD Early: If you're in M.S/M.Tech, decide early whether you want to pursue a PhD, as it can significantly impact your academic path.

- Communicate with Your Faculty/Guide: Treat your faculty/research guide with respect and honesty; they are there to support you through challenges.

- Accept Challenges: Challenges in your life are normal; embrace them as part of your journey.

- Broaden Your Knowledge: Even as a student at IITM, continue taking courses to expand your horizons.

- Network Across Departments: Make new friends by interacting with students from other labs and departments.

- Attend Talks and Seminars: Regularly attend academic talks to stay updated with the latest research and connect with experts in your field.

- Balance Academics and Campus Life: Join clubs and participate in campus events to enrich your experience.

- Engage in Campus Fests: Take part in events like Shaastra and Saarang to learn, grow, and discover your interests in a fun and supportive environment.

- Get Involved in Clubs: Active participation in IITM clubs provides valuable exposure and networking opportunities.

- Life Advice: Keep things simple, pursue what you love, maintain perspective, and keep your enthusiasm alive. Explore and meet new people.

- Focus on Studies: Prioritize academics and stay motivated for end-semester exams which carry significant weight.

- Get Involved in Student Bodies: Volunteer for student bodies, lectures and conferences for The Office of Global Engagement to understand campus dynamics and contribute to the institute community.

IITM Wifi Setup

Mobile devices (Android 12 & IOS):

Select SSID "iitmwifi" and in the pop-up select the following:

- EAP type – PEAP
- Phase-2 authentication – MSCHAPV2
- CA certificate – (unspecified) / No CA certificate is required / Do not validate
- Identity – [Enter your LDAP username] (ex. username1)
- Anonymous identity – [Enter your LDAP username]
- Password – [Enter your password]

Linux:

MacOS:

- Connect to the iitmwifi network.
- 2. Enter your LDAP username and password.

Windows:

DELETE the existing SSID "iitmwifi"

To delete a wireless network profile in Windows::

- Click the Network icon on the lower right corner of your screen.
- Click Network settings.
- Click Manage Wi-Fi settings.
- Under Manage known networks, click the network you want to delete.
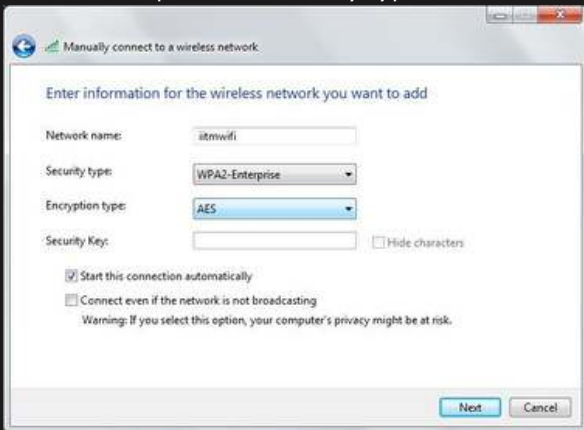- Click Forget. The wireless network profile is deleted.

1. Go to Control Panel >> Network and Sharing Center >> Set up a new connection or network.
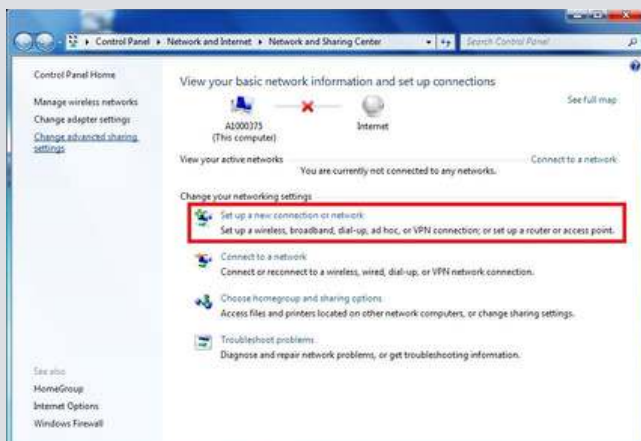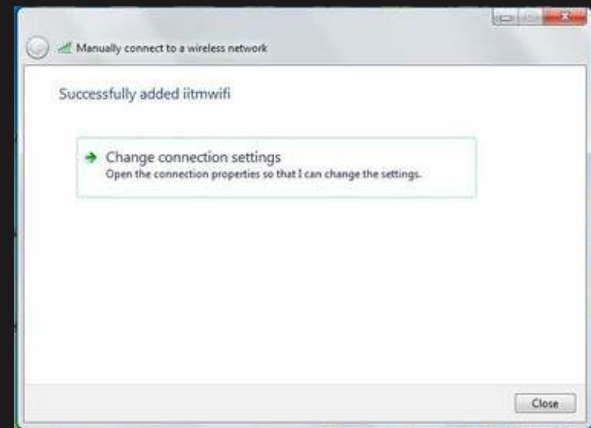

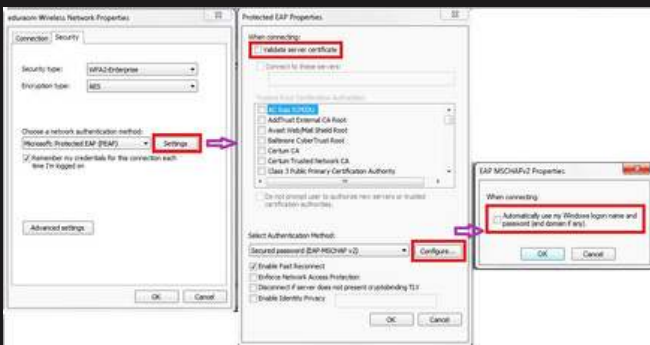2. Select Manually connect to a wireless network, then click Next
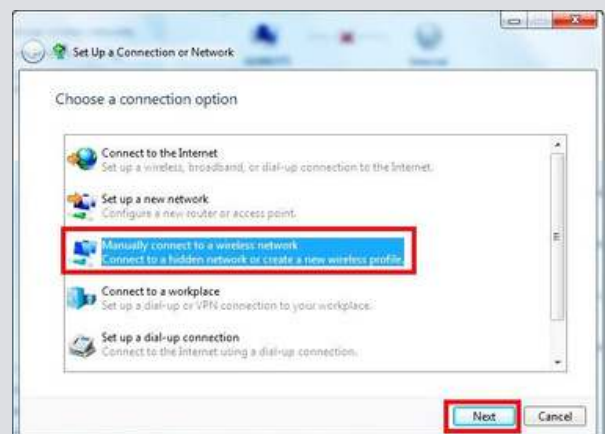
3. Enter the SSID name "iitmwifi" in Network name, select WPA2-Enterprise as Security type, and then click Next
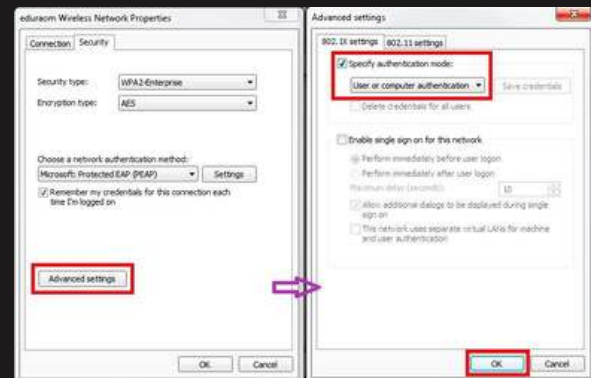

5. In Security tab, click Settings, un-check Validating server certificate. Click Configure... and un-check Automatically use my Windows logon name and password (and domain if any) then click OK.

7. Connect to the wireless network "iitmwifi".

4. Click Change connection settings

6. Click Advanced settings, enable Specify authentication mode, and choose User or computer authentication, then click OK


8. When prompted for user credentials, type the LDAP username (ex. username1) and password.

Explore Chennai

Chennai, formerly known as Madras, is the capital city of the Indian state of Tamil Nadu. It is located on the Coromandel Coast of the Bay of Bengal and is one of the largest cultural, economic, and educational centers in South India. Here are some key aspects and attractions of Chennai:
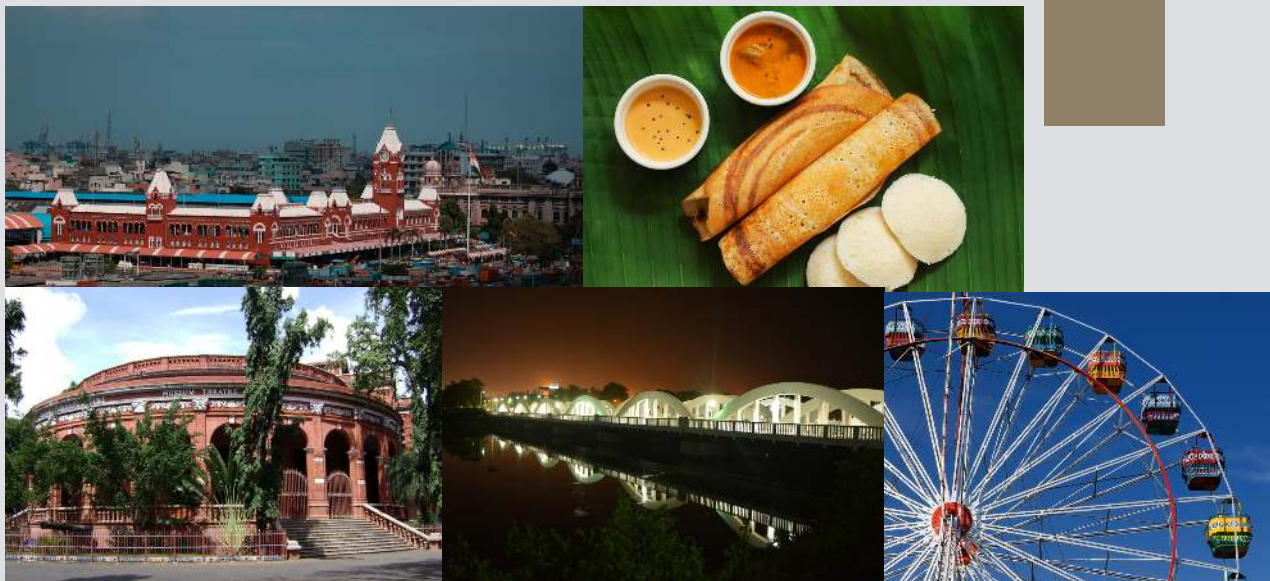
The Marina Beach

Marina Beach, or simply the Marina, is a natural urban beach in Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India, along the Bay of Bengal. The beach runs from near Fort St. George in the north to Foreshore Estate in the south, a distance of 6.0 km (3.7 mi), making it the second longest urban beach in the world, after Cox's Bazar Beach. It is a prominent landmark in Chennai.The Marina is a primarily sandy beach, with an average width of 300 m (980 ft) and the width at the widest stretch is 437 m (1,434 ft).

Bathing and swimming at the Marina are legally prohibited because of the dangers, as the undercurrent is very turbulent. It is one of the most crowded beaches in the country and attracts about 30,000 visitors a day during weekdays and 50,000 visitors a day during the weekends and on holidays. During summer months, about 15,000 to 20,000 people visit the beach daily.

Mahabalipuram

Mahabalipuram was one of two major port cities during the Pallava kingdom. The town was named after Pallava king Narasimhavarman I, also known as Mamalla. Along with economic prosperity, it became the site of a group of royal monuments, many carved out of the living rock. These are dated to the 7th and 8th centuries: rathas (temples in the form of chariots), mandapas (cave sanctuaries), the giant open-air rock relief, the Descent of the Ganges, and the Shore Temple dedicated to Shiva.

The Madras Crocodile

The Croc Bank currently consists of a large reptile park near Chennai, Southern India, and several field projects located throughout the subcontinent. The zoo sees close to half a million visitors per year making it one of the most popular tourist attractions along Chennai's famous East Coast Road. The zoo sees close to half a million visitors per year making it one of the most popular tourist attractions along the famous East Coast Road. To promote the conservation of reptiles and amphibians and their habitats through education, scientific research and captive breeding. Efforts are focused on, but are not limited to, Indian species and ecosystems and include both in-situ and ex-situ components.

Pondy Bazaar & T Nagar

Whether it's clothes, shoes, bags, jewellery, makeup, handicrafts, home essentials and quick decor fixes, Pondy Bazaar and T Nagar have it all. This bustling street is lined with shops and hawkers offering a wide variety of items. For a quick street shopping spree, visit the Corporation Shopping Complex at Pondy Bazaar. Just remember, the key to shopping here is bargaining—lots and lots of bargaining.

Important Contact Details

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8500	8333/8888
Hostel Allotment	**Ambulance (Institute Hospital)**
8513	8888/8333
Security Section	**24*7 Electrical Emergency**
9999	8181/8185

Hostel and Mess Biometric & I-kollege queries

8509

Please Visit For More Information - https://www.iitm.ac.in/directory

Institute related website links

- **Office of Global Engagement:** ge.iitm.ac.in
- **Course Registration- Workflow portal:** https://workflow.iitm.ac.in/student/
- **Course Materials- Modal Portal:** https://courses.iitm.ac.in/
- **Hostel Portal- ikollege:** https://ikollege.iitm.ac.in/iitmhostel/
- **Student Service Portal:** https://ssp.iitm.ac.in/
- **Academic Calendar:** https://www.iitm.ac.in/academics/academic-calendar
- **Academic Timetable:** https://www.iitm.ac.in/academics/academic-services/timetable
- **Global Engagement IITM:** https://ge.iitm.ac.in/
- **IITM Students Academic Portal:** http://academic.iitm.ac.in
- **IIT Workflow Portal:** http://workflow.iitm.ac.in
- **Office of Hostel Management:** http://cww.iitm.ac.in
- **Hostel Related Workflow Portal:** ikollege.iitm.ac.in
- **Office of Alumni Affairs:** http://alumni.iitm.ac.in
- **IIT Madras Alumni Association:** http://iitmaa.org
- **Dostoffice Website:** http://dost.iitm.ac.in
- **Behappy:** https://behappy.iitm.ac.in
- **Wellness Centre:** https://www.wellnessiitm.com/
- **Mitr:** www.mitr.iitm.ac.in
- **Saathi:** www.saathi.iitm.ac.in
- **Scholarship:** https://www.iitm.ac.in/academic/academis/academic-services/scholarships-and-financial-assistance
- **CCASH:** https://www.iitm.ac.in/the-institute/administration/complaint-committee

Notes
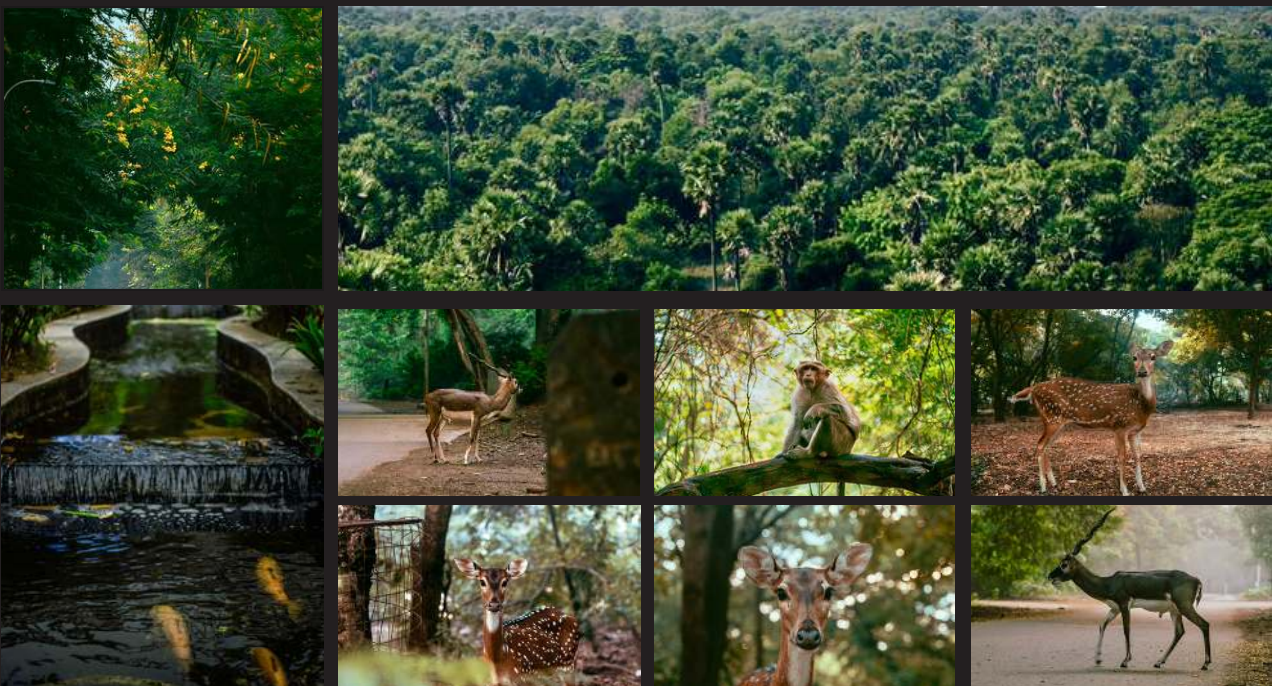
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