



## Highlights of Kerala



### DAY 01 - KOCHI

Morning arrive Cochin International Airport, meet and assist by our representative and drive to Kochi and check into your hotel.

Afternoon Visit Fort Kochi & Mattancherry.

In Fort Kochi you will do a heritage walking tour visiting St. Francis church, Chinese fishing nets, Beach, Heritage Zone etc. After that you will drive to Mattancherry (15 min drive). Visit Dutch palace, Jewish synagogue and Jews street.

**Fort Kochi**-Fort Kochi takes its name from Fort Manuel of Cochin. Set foot into Fort Kochi and you will be instantly transported to a different time period. This place is steeped in the history and culture of all who have occupied it through the ages. Its roots and essence are unique in its diversity. A charming seaside area, Fort Kochi is known for its Dutch, Portuguese, and British colonial architecture, and elaborate bamboo fishing nets at Fort Kochi Beach. St. Francis Church was the original burial site of explorer Vasco da Gama.

**Mattancherry**- the western part of the corporation of Cochin, was once a bustling centre of trade, particularly in spices. Invasions from across the sea was frequent and the invaders left indelible marks on the landscape, culture, art and social history of the place.

Overnight stay at Kochi.



CHINESE FISHING NETS



ST.FRANCIS CHURCH



JEW STREET

## DAY 02 KOCHI / MUNNAR

Morning drive to Munnar (around 4 hour's drive). En-route you will stop at Cheeyapara Waterfalls for a short break. On arrival check into your Resort and Proceed for a sightseeing tour of Munnar. Visit the Tea Museum in town.

**Munnar** - One of the most beautiful destinations in Kerala, Sprawling tea plantations, picturesque towns, winding lanes and holiday facilities make this a popular resort town. Among the exotic flora found in the forests and grasslands here is the Neelakurinji. This flower which bathes the hills in blue once in every twelve years, will bloom next in 2030. Munnar also has the highest peak in South India, which towers over 2,695 m.

Overnight stay at your resort in Munnar.



MUNNAR



CHEEYAPARA WATERFALLS



TEA MUSEUM

## DAY 03 MUNNAR / ERAVIKULAM NATIONAL PARK / MATTUPETTY DAM

Morning after breakfast visit to Eravikulam National Park to see the Nilgiri's Thar, Also visit the Mattupetty Dam and Echo point. In the evening free for independent activities, you can do some shopping in the town, buy some spices, variety of tea/coffee etc.

**Eravikulam National Park** - This sacred haven for this exotic animal is a relief in a time when different species are disappearing off the face of the planet. People also flock to this park to view the special Neelakurinji flowers that bloom once every 12 years. The rare flora and fauna present in the park also attract visitors. Official vehicles take people on trips where one can experience the biodiversity of a high elevation shola-grassland system. One can view rare terrestrial and epiphytic orchids and beautiful wild balsams along with the Nilgiri Langur, leopards and the Indian Bison as well.

Overnight at your Resort in Munnar.



Eravikulam National Park



Echo point



Mattupetty Dam

## DAY 04 MUNNAR / THEKKADY / PERIYAR WILD LIFE SANCTUARY

Morning after breakfast check out and drive to Thekkady (03 hour's drive). On arrival check into your Resort. Afternoon visit to Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary and do boating in the lake to see the wildlife in close range. Optional activities Elephant ride, Spice plantation visit, Kalaripayattu show etc.

**Periyar Wild Life Sanctuary**- is located in Thekkady is the perfect example of nature's bounty with great scenic beauty and rich biodiversity. In this astounding location of Kerala, the Periyar National Park is considered as the most protected area for the elephants and the tigers. One of the most renowned national parks in South India, the Periyar National Park is set high at the Western Ghats ranges.

The park is being adorned with a picturesque lake at the heart of the sanctuary which is an artificial 100 years old lake at Thekkady and is basically known for its wild elephants and thickly established Western Ghats forests. Many of the intense valleys of Periyar contain tropical evergreen forest with extremely thick tree cover with hardly any sun-rays to get penetrated. Some of the areas in the park contain marshy grasslands near the edges of the lake and other water bodies. Spread out across the park are also patches of semi-evergreen forest used as important cover by many of the animal species.

Overnight stay at Thekkady.



#### DAY 05 THEKKADY / ALLEPPEY

Morning after Breakfast check out the hotel going to Alleppey Pallathuruthy jetty (around 4 hour's drive). Around noon arrive Pallathuruthy Jetty in Alleppey to board your traditional Kerala houseboat and cruise along the backwaters to see the village life. Paddy fields, canoes, temples, flora and fauna. Your personal chef on the boat will prepare delicious Kerala cuisine on board for lunch. Enjoy the cruise and relax.

**Alleppey** - Referred to as the Venice of the East, Alappuzha has always enjoyed an important place in the maritime history of Kerala. Today, it is famous for its boat races, backwater holidays, beaches, marine products and coir industry. Another delightful experience while in Alappuzha is the houseboat cruise. The houseboats you find in the backwaters of Alappuzha are in fact a reworked version of the *Kettuvallams* of olden times.

Overnight stay at your Houseboat.



#### DAY 06 : ALLEPPEY / MARARI BEACH

After breakfast and a short morning cruise, disembark houseboat in Alleppey and drive to Marari Beach (45 min drive). On arrival check into your resort and relax. Enjoy stay near the beach. You can avail an Ayurvedic massage at the Ayurvedic centre here.

**Marari Beach** - is a beach at Mararikulam village in Alappuzha District of Kerala, India.

The name 'Marari' is short for Mararikulam, which is a small and sleepy village fishing village nestled on this coast. Located in the Alappuzha district of Kerala, the beautiful Marari Beach is still far from commercialization and is thus still enveloped in peace, serenity, and untouched natural beauty. The softly swaying coconut palms and empty golden sands of this beach are perfect companions for your time far away from the hustle and bustle of city life.

Overnight at your Resort



#### DAY 07 MARRARI / KOCHI

Morning after breakfast check out the hotel and drive back to Kochi.

#### End of the tour

**For package rates and booking contact the official travel partner**

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