

Backwaters and Beaches Tour – Cochin / Kumarakom / Kovalam

Day - 01 **Bangalore / Cochin** **By air**

Morning breakfast at hotel and transfer to airport to catch flight for Cochin. (9W 2452 – 0915 / 1145 hrs).

Arrive Cochin. Transfer and check-in at hotel.

Kochi (colonial name **Cochin**) is a vibrant city situated on the south-west coast of the Indian peninsula in the breathtakingly scenic and prosperous state of Kerala, hailed as '*God's Own Country*'. Its strategic importance over the centuries is underlined by the sobriquet **Queen of the Arabian Sea**. Informally, Cochin is also referred to as the **Gateway to Kerala**.



Afternoon proceed for half day sightseeing tour of Cochin.

You will first proceed to **Mattancherry** and visit the oldest **Jewish Synagogue (Closed on Fridays, Saturdays & All the Jewish holidays)** in India, built in 1568; it was destroyed by the Portuguese and rebuilt by the Dutch a century later. Later visit **David Hall** - It is a gallery for contemporary art and Cultural centre. Paintings and sculptures are available for sale. **The Dutch Palace (Closed on Fridays)** - which was built in 1555 and its coronation hall and murals at Ramayana are noteworthy features. Continue your drive to Fort Cochin to see the **Chinese fishing nets**.

OVERNIGHT AT HOTEL.

Day - 02 **Cochin / Kumarakom** **By Surface**

Buffet breakfast at hotel

Check out of hotel

Drive from Cochin to Kumarakom . The travel time is about 1 Hr. 30 Mins .

Upon arrival check-in at hotel.

In the lush backwaters of Kottayam in Kerala, lies a veritable paradise, which is called Kumarakom, or the 'Venice of the East'. Palm fringed narrow canals winding through the vast expanse of paddy fields, and the neat tiny hamlets lined up along either side of the canals are panoramic sights one can never forget. Kumarakom is Keralas heartland of lagoons; palm fringed lakes, and paddy fields, inter-linked with hundreds of winding canals, with the typical low slung country boats that carry everything from people to fish, rice and coconuts to the milkman and newspaper boy, local politicians and priests to wedding parties.



Evening proceed for the sunset cruise on the backwaters.

After a relaxing cruise, return back to your hotel

OVERNIGHT AT HOTEL.

Day - 03 **Kumarakom / Alleppey** **By Houseboat**

Buffet breakfast at hotel. Later check out from hotel and board a houseboat for and over night cruise to view the village life around the backwaters of Kerala.

Lunch at Houseboat.



HOUSEBOATS, popularly known as “Kettuvalam” is converted from a traditional rice barge. While cruising to Alleppey you will see the glimpses of village life of the people living around the backwater area. You may watch palm-lined bank and narrow strips of land that separate the waterways and the constant quiet traffic of valam (small boats) are typical.

Dinner and overnight on board.

OVERNIGHT AT HOUSEBOAT

Day - 04	Alleppey / Periyar	By Surface
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Buffet breakfast on house boat. Later checkout from house boat at Alleppey.

Drive to Periyar. **Thekkady** Periyar is South India’s most popular wildlife sanctuary, encompassing an area of 777 sq km. Set on the attractive man-made Periyar Lake; it attracts over 300,000 visitors a year. Though the sanctuary was made a part of Project Tiger in 1973, it is better known for its elephants.



Afternoon boat ride on Lake Periyar, and see the wildlife around the lake as you cruise along its banks. Apart from elephants, bison, sambar, wild boar, langur, otter and flying squirrel are common. There are also 246 species of birds and 112 species of butterfly.

Evening visit the spice plantations. Your naturalist will explain the various spices like pepper, cardamom, cinnamon, nut meg.

Overnight at Periyar.

Day - 05	Periyar / Cochin	By Surface
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Breakfast at hotel. Later Check out from the hotel and drive to Cochin airport to board flight for onward journey.

*****END OF SERVICES*****

Tour Cost in INR (Indian Rupee)

Number of Persons travelling together	Twin Sharing (Per person)	Single Room (Supplement)
Minimum 22 Pax	22100	18350

Airfare Supplement

Sector	Class	Airfare (per person)
Bengaluru / Cochin	Economy	4500

Hotels envisaged :

City	Hotel	Room Type	Meal Plan
Cochin	Le Meridien	Standard	Breakfast
Kumarakom	The Zuri	Superior Lagoon view	Breakfast
Houseboat	AC house boat		All meals
Periyar			

Tour cost includes

- Accommodation Cochin (01 night) and Kovalam (02 nights) total 03 nights on bed, breakfast and taxes basis

- All transportation, sightseeing and excursions as per itinerary using exclusive Air-conditioned deluxe coach.
- Services of a Government approved local English speaking guide
- Assistance at airports and hotels from local representatives
- Entrance tickets to monuments as per itinerary

Tour cost does not includes

- Any items of personal nature like tips, laundry, telephone, room service, portage etc.
- Meals, other than breakfast
- Airfare (wherever required) is specified extra. Current fares have been listed that are subject to change / revision at the time of booking.
- Movie camera ticket etc., wherever applicable is extra and payable directly

Note:

- Shopping opportunity for local handicrafts will be provided during sight seeing tours.

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Hotels envisaged :

City	Hotel	Room Type	Meal Plan
Cochin	Le Meridien	Standard	Breakfast
Kumarakom	Leela Kampinski	Sea view pavillion	Breakfast

Tour cost includes

- Accommodation Cochin (01 night) and Kumarakom (01 night) ,, Alleppey (01 night) , Kovalam (02 nights) total 05 nights on bed, breakfast and taxes basis
- All transportation, sightseeing and excursions as per itinerary using exclusive Air-conditioned deluxe coach.
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