

# BACKWATER OF KERALA TOUR

Day 1

MUMBAI-Cochin (By Air)

(Breakfast)

Morning Pickup from the hotel and transfer to the airport to connect flight to Cochin. On arrival you will be met with our representative and escorted till you check in at Hotel.

Overnight stay in Hotel.

Day 02

Cochin-Munnar (135 km/4.5hrs)

(Breakfast)



Breakfast. Tour of Old Cochin visiting **The Dutch Palace** at Mattancherry. The **Mattancherry Palace** is a Portuguese palace popularly known as the **Dutch Palace**, in Mattancherry, Kochi, in the Indian state of Kerala features Kerala murals depicting Hindu temple art, portraits and exhibits of the Rajas of Kochi. The Palace was built and gifted by the Portuguese as a present to the Raja of Cochin around 1555. The Dutch carried out some extensions and renovations in the palace in 1663,

and thereafter it was popularly called Dutch Palace. The rajas also made more improvements to it. Today, it is a portrait gallery of the Cochin Rajas and notable for some of the best mythological murals in India, which are in the best traditions of Hindu temple art.

The **Jewish Synagogue** at the heart of what is called the Jew Town. The **Paradesi Synagogue** is the oldest active synagogue in the Commonwealth of Nations, located in Kochi, Kerala, in South India. Constructed in 1567, it is one of seven synagogues of the Malabar Yehudan or Yehudan Mappila people or *Cochin Jewish* community in the Kingdom of Cochin. *Paradesi* is a word used in several Indian languages, and the literal meaning of the term is "foreigners", applied to the synagogue because it was built by Sephardic or Spanish-speaking Jews, some of them from families exiled in Aleppo, Safed and other West Asian localities. It is also referred to as the **Cochin Jewish Synagogue** or the **Mattancherry Synagogue**.



The synagogue is located in the quarter of Old Cochin known as Jew Town and is the only one of the seven synagogues in the area still in use. The complex has four buildings. It was built

adjacent to the Mattancherry Palace temple on the land given to the Malabar Yehuden or "Yehuden Mappila" community by the Raja of Kochi, Rama Varma. The Mattancherry Palace temple and the Mattancherry synagogue share a common wall.

**St. Francis CSI Church**, in Fort Kochi originally built in 1503, is the oldest European church in India and has great historical significance as a mute witness to the European colonial struggle in the subcontinent. The Portuguese explorer Vasco da Gama died in Kochi in 1524 when he was on his third visit to India. His body was originally buried in this church, but after fourteen years his remains were removed to Lisbon.



The **Santa Cruz Cathedral Basilica** at Fort Kochi is one of the eight Basilicas in India.

Counted as one of the heritage edifices of Kerala, this church is one of the finest and most impressive churches in India and visited by tourists the whole year round. It is a place of devotion as well as a center of historic significance, endowed with architectural and artistic grandeur and colors of the gothic style.

The basilica serves as the Cathedral church of the Diocese of Cochin.

It was built originally by the Portuguese and elevated to a Cathedral by Pope Paul IV in 1558, was spared by the Dutch conquerors who destroyed many Catholic buildings. Later the British demolished the structure and Bishop D. Jiao Gomes Ferreira commissioned a new building in 1887. Consecrated in 1905, Santa Cruz was proclaimed a Basilica by Pope John Paul II in 1984.

The Chinese fishing nets, believed to have brought to Kochi by Chinese traders. Also visit the Willingdon Island named after Lord Willingdon, is the headquarters of the Southern Naval Command of India.

Later drive to Munnar (approx 5hrs).

Arrive and check-in to hotel. Overnight in hotel.

**Day 03 Munnar (Full day use on disposal basis)**

**(Breakfast)**

Breakfast. Tour of **Munnar**- takes you around tea gardens where picturesque colonial towns and meandering mountain streams present photo opportunities galore. You will be taken for a visit to Rajamalai where you can watch Nigerian Tahrs in their natural habitat.



You will also be visiting the nearby Mattupetty Dam.

the Tea gardens.

Later Visit to spices market. Evening walk around

Overnight in hotel.

**Day 04 Munnar-Thekkady (110km/3 hrs)**

**(Breakfast)**

Breakfast. Drive to Thekkady (approx 5-6 Hrs.). Arrive & check in hotel. Take a boat ride. Visit the earliest sanctuary to be set up in 1934; it extends to 777 square kms. & forms part of the high mountain ranges, the Western Ghats. Wild life can be seen while cruising on Periyar Lake in a motor boat. Periyar Tiger Reserve, Thekkady, is an example of nature's bounty, with great scenic charm, rich bio diversity and providing veritable visitor satisfaction. Sprawled over an area of 925 Sq .km. Periyar is one of the 27 tiger reserves in India. Zealously guarded and efficiently managed reserve is a repository of rare, endemic and endangered flora and fauna and forms the major watershed of two important rivers of Kerala, the Periyar and Pamba. Amongst the animal which can be seen are mostly wild elephants.



Over night in hotel.

**Day 05**

**Thekkady- Allepey (142kms/4 hrs)**

**(Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner)**



Breakfast. Free to explore the area-vehicle at disposal OR evening is free to walk around the local spice bazaars. (6PM to 6AM gates are closed so cannot go outside the park).

Later, Drive downhill (approx 5hrs) to Allepey backwaters via Tea/coffee/rubber plantation. Arrive Allepey and board houseboat. A private boat cruise along the serene backwaters of Kerela is a highlight of any visit to the South. These converted rice barges or “Kettuvallams” sail along the shallow, palm-

fringed lakes and narrow canals. You will pass Villages built on narrow spits of land, stopping to visit local markets by bullock-cart, or to marvel at the craftsmen engaged in centuries-old boat-making tradition. The boat offers one or two cabins with a small sitting room and a crew of 2 staff and a chef. The food is authentic Kerela cuisine. For most of the journey, the boat is poled, sailing only between dawn and dusk. A fascinating experience and a unique way to see the traditional way of life in the Kerala backwaters.

Dinner and overnight in houseboat.

**Day 06**

**House Boat-Cochin-Further Destination (60kms/1.3hrs)**

**(Breakfast)**

Breakfast. On time transfer to Cochin airport for flight to further destination.

**End of our Service**

## Hotel details

SNO.	HOTELNAME	CATEGORY	DESTINATION
1.	DREAM / SIMILAR	4*	COCHIN
2.	MOUNTAIN CLUB / SIMILAR	4*	MUNNAR
3.	PEPPERVINE/ SIMILAR	4*	THEKKADY
4.	HOUSEBOAT	4*	ALLEPEY

Details	Price (in USD)	Price (in USD)
01 paying pax by Indigo	USD 1450 Per Person	INR 84500
Each of 02 Paying by Indigo	USD 750 Per Person	INR 48000
Each of 03 Paying by Innova	USD 600 Per Person	INR 45000
Each of 04 Paying by Innova	USD 610 Per Person	INR 32500

**Airfare will be Extra:** MUM/COK/MUM- Rate will be applicable at the time of booking.

**Please Note:** If any revision in the tax structure of any hotel by the Government/Tax authorities or any component of any entrance ticket, the same shall be applicable at the time of final booking.

### **Our prices include the following:**

- 05 nights' accommodation at above mentioned hotels on above said sharing with breakfast.
- All transfers & sightseeing tour by using A/c Indigo car for 1-2 Pax and A/c Innova for 3-4 Pax.
- Entrance fee at all monuments as per the above program.
- Elephant ride/Boat ride at Periyar national park.
- 02 water bottle in the car.
- All currently prevailing taxes on the Hotels, transport & government service tax.
- For 01 Pax travelling they accommodate in 01 sgl room only.
- For 02 Pax travelling they accommodate 01 dbl room with twin sharing basis.
- For 03 Pax travelling they accommodate 01 dbl room & 01 sgl room respectively.
- For 04 Pax travelling they accommodate 02 dbl rooms with twin sharing basis.
- One Bedded Houseboat accommodating 2 persons and 2 Bedded Houseboat accommodating 4 persons.

### **Our prices DO NOT include the following:**

- Any personal expenses - telephone calls, laundry, shopping, and table drinks etc.
- Any additional expenses caused by or liability for disturbance in the trip due to circumstances beyond our control such as airline & railway delays, roadblocks, vehicle malfunctions (mechanical breakdown) and other conditions like sickness, natural disasters, wars etc.
- Liability for insurance against injury, loss of life, accidents, damage or loss of goods.

- Gratuities for guides and drivers.
- Any services /meals other than specified above.