



## MERRYGO TRAVELS PVT. LTD. (Units - India Tour Plan, Turismo India)

Travel Pioneers since 1991

### Kerala Tour

**Starts: Kochi/ Trivandrum**

**Ends: Trivandrum/ Kochi**

**Tour Duration: 9 Days / 8 Nights**

**Destinations covered: Kochi - Munnar – Thekkady – Kumarakom - Alleppy – Kovalam – Trivandrum.**

**About Kochi:** Kochi (Cochin) is palm-green commercial town of Kerala and the city consists of the mainland Emakulam, Willingdon Island, Mattancherry, Fort Cochin, Vypeen Island and Bolghatty Island. Ernakulam is the modern city where shopping market etc. are located. From older times, Arab, Chinese, Dutch and British and Portuguese seafarers followed the sea route to Kochi and left their impression on the town. The Chinese fishing nets swaying in the breeze over backwaters, the Jewish Synagogue, Dutch Palace, Portuguese architecture, Bolghatty Palace in Kochi enrich the heritage of Kerala.

**Day 01: Cochin:** Arrival at Cochin, our representative will be at the Airport to receive you. On arrival transfer to the reserved hotel. Afternoon sightseeing of Cochin, Includes Jew Synagogue, Dutch Palace, St. Francis Church, Chinese fishing net etc. Overnight at Hotel.

**About Munnar:** Munnar with its impeccable beauty is the most famous holiday destination in South India. In the green and serene Kamman Devan Hills lies the quiet and restful resort of Munnar. Munnar is located about 6,500 feet above the sea level along the western coasts on the eastern border of Kerala. Sprawling tea plantations, picture-book towns, winding lanes and holiday facilities make this a popular resort town."

**Day 02: Cochin – Munnar (140 Kms Approx.)-** Morning after breakfast you will be proceeding to Munnar. Enroute visit Cheeyappara Waterfalls. Munnar is known as "Nature Lover's Paradise" and is at 1800mts above the sea level. Afternoon arrival at Munnar. On arrival check in to the reserved hotel. Rest of the day explore the city of Munnar. Overnight at Hotel.

**Day 03: Munnar:** - Morning after breakfast you will be taken for a sightseeing of Munnar, which Includes Rajamalai, Matupetty, Kundala Dam for boating, Eco point & Pothanmendu View Point. Evening at leisure. Overnight at Hotel.

**About Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary / Thekkady:** Set high in the ranges of the Western Ghats, in God's Own Country, Kerala, is the Periyar National Park and Tiger Reserve. Periyar wildlife sanctuary has a picturesque lake at the heart of the sanctuary. Formed with the building of a dam in 1895, this reservoir meanders around the contours of the wooded hills, providing a permanent source of water for the local wildlife. Though it's a Tiger Reserve, tourists come here to see the Indian elephants in the act of ablution and playfulness by the Periyar lake. Apart from Elephants, the other animals to be seen in the Periyar sanctuary are Gaur, Wild Pigs, Sambar, Barking Deer, Mouse Deer, Dole or Indian Wild Dog and very rarely, a Tiger. There are, now, an estimated 40 tigers here. Four species of primates are found at Periyar - the rare lion-tailed macaque, the Nilgiri Langur, Common Langur And Bonnet Macaque. Periyar also happens to be the habitat of the elusive Nilgiri Tahr, which is rarely to be seen.

**Day 04: Munnar- Periyar/ Thekkady (110 Kms Approx.)-** This morning after breakfast you will be driven 3 to 4 hours through the most picturesque route covered with flora and fauna typical to Kerala to reach Thekkady, a quaint hamlet next to the Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary. On arrival you will check-in to the reserved hotel. Afternoon game viewing boat ride in Lake Periyar (Periar Wild Life Sanctuary Tour is through this boat ride). Evening free at Spice Markets or Spice plantation visit (optional). Overnight at hotel.

**About Kumarakom:** In 1878, the marshy mangrove on the bank of the Vembanad Lake was cleared and replaced by coconut plantations. The person in the wake of this maneuver was one George Alfred Baker of Essex who had arrived in India sixty years earlier to take up missionary work in Kottayam. The Englishman was so awestruck by the splendor of Kumarakom that he settled here and made Kumarakom his abode. Just 12 km from Kottayam, this exclusive backwater destination sited on the banks of the Vembanad lake is considered the gateway to the backwaters of Kuttanad. The flourishing pastures and the countryside life are interspersed with the beautiful Kumarakom Bird Sanctuary. Stretched across 14 acres, the bird sanctuary is a desired haven of

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migratory birds and a bird lover's paradise. Teals, egrets, darters, herons, waterfowl, cuckoo, wild duck and migratory birds like the Siberian stork that live there in teams and are an enthrallment for guests.

**Day 05: Thekkady - Kumarakom (125 Kms Approx.)**- Morning after breakfast you will be transferred to Kumarakom. Rest of the day at leisure at Kumarakom visit The Kumarakom Bird Sanctuary and Pathira Manal Island. Overnight at the reserved hotel.

**Day 06: Kumarakom - Alleppey (45 Kms Approx.)**: After breakfast transfer to the reserved house boat. (On all Meal Basis) that is waiting to take you on a tour through the backwaters, a splendid area full of canals, lakes and coves. You can sunbathe on the deck or observe the landscape from the, protection of the cabin. The population's whole life takes place here on the water. The people, sail, fish, swim and bath here. They are so adapted to the water that you can see people talking for an hour, while they are up to their necks in water. Peddlers take care of the supplies and the public transport goes on the water. Countless water birds wait for their chance to catch a fish. The trip goes through a wonderful area full of palm trees, rice fields and floating water plants that surround the boat like Emerald Green Island. Overnight onboard the Houseboat.

**About Kovalam** is a sheltered bay endowed with unusual beauty, located on the magnificent Arabian Sea coast. This natural bay is a safe sea-pool, free from high waves and surges. Kovalam is a beach town by the Arabian Sea in Trivandrum city, Kovalam is an internationally renowned beach with three adjacent crescent beaches. It has been a favorite haunt of tourists, especially Europeans, since the 1930s. A massive rocky promontory on the beach has created a beautiful bay of calm waters ideal for sea bathing.

**Day 07: Alleppey - Kovalam (160 Kms Approx.)**: After Breakfast check out from House Boat and drive to Kovalam. Rest of the day Free at Leisure at Kovalam Beach. Overnight stay at the reserved hotel.

**Day 08: Kovalam –Trivandrum- Kovalam-** After Breakfast sightseeing of Trivandrum. Thiruvananthapuram literally means Ananthapuri, "the city of Ananthan", the Thiru (Great/Lord) Ananthan's Puram (City). Ananthan is the serpent Sesha on whom Padmanabhan or Vishnu reclines. The temple of Anantha, the Sri Padmanabhaswamy temple is the most religious icon of the city. Other sightseeing places are Kuthiramalika Palace Museum, the name Kuthiramalika means 'palace of horses' derived from the frieze of 122 wooden horses on the exterior walls. Veli Tourist Village, which has an excellent waterfront park with a wide range of aqua entertainment facilities like fishponds, wading pools and landscaped garden. Shangumugham Beach where one can watch the amazing sunset. Overnight at the reserved hotel.

**Day 09:** Departure transfer to Trivandrum Airport for your onward Journey. **\*\*\* THE TOUR ENDS\*\*\***

### **INCLUDES:-**

- A/c car with Driver as mentioned in the itinerary.
- All fuel costs, state taxes, toll taxes, parking fee, permits.
- All **sightseeing** at the visiting places as per the itinerary.
- Driver's **allowances** (like food, accommodations etc.)
- Kochi & Trivandrum **airport transfers** as per the itinerary.
- **Hotels** as per the planned places with breakfast & taxes.
- **All meals in the houseboat** in Alleppey (Breakfast, Lunch, Tea, Snacks & Dinner).
- **Welcome drink** on arrival in hotels.

### **EXCLUDES:-**

- Anything not mentioned in the "Includes" column.
- Any personal nature expenses like tips, food (lunch & dinners etc), shopping, laundry, camera charges, Payments for personal charges like liquors, wine, mineral water, telephone charges, Porterage at hotels and airports, insurance etc.
- Entrance fee in monuments/ places of visit, cost of local guides if hired at the monuments.

• **G.S.T. (Indian Government Tax) and the money transfer fee (if any).**

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- Time wasted/ PERSONAL cost incurred in extreme situations like mishaps, strikes, political unrest, vehicle breakdowns etc.
- The prices are subject to change without any prior notice depending on the availability of the hotels/ flights etc unless booked and paid for. We have made no reservations yet.
- Any early check in or late checkout (In any hotel) is not guaranteed and subject to the sole discretion of the hotel. We are not responsible to secure early check in or late checkout unless you pay an extra night for that respective hotel.
- We shall not be responsible for any closure of monuments/ museums/ places of visit due to regular practice or special features (As governed by the governing authorities or the Government).
- Christmas/ New Year Eve or any other seasonal supplement charges (If applicable).
- Any Airfare/ Train tickets etc. (Unless mentioned in the inclusion column).

**Note:- House Boat:-** The cruise commences at 1230 hrs with lunch served on board and continues till dusk. At dusk the boat will anchor in a wide waterway or lake for the night (The backwaters close to boat traffic at dusk as the fisherman lay their nets in the backwaters. Other boats are not allowed to ply in the backwaters after dusk. On the following day the cruise commences again after breakfast and the guest will be dropped at Alleppey by 0900Hrs. Overnight stay at the House Boat.\*\*Since houseboats are stationed in the bank of the backwater during the night the problem of mosquito and water borne insects do come up hence you are kindly requested to carry mosquito and insect repellent along with you. The choice of food in the houseboat is very limited and mostly basic south Indian meal is served. The quality of the houseboat cannot be compared with the quality of the rooms in the hotel where the guest is staying. The rooms are basic and small. The main concept of the houseboat is to explore the backwater beauty of the region at the closet to the nature.

**Note:- Special Numerology/ Astrology/ Hypnotherapy/ Past Life Regression Therapy Sessions Arranged in Delhi. Cycling/Bike Tours & Personal Yoga Sessions in Delhi:- If you are interested, please feel free to ask for further details.**

### **PRICE:-**

This tour will cost **US\$ / EUROS/ GBP XXX (Indian Rs. XXX)** per person on Twin/ Double/ Triple share basis. The prices depends on various factors like number of people travelling, hotel and car categories used, any specific fixed/ rough/ estimated budget to follow, dates of travel, how many people are travelling, etc. SO PLEASE **CONTACT US** for personalizing this tour. The prices can change depending on the fluctuations in the rate of exchange between US\$/ Euros/ GBP and Indian Rupee, the government taxes, gas prices, flight/ train fares etc. (If any). No bookings are done yet and the prices/ availability can change without prior notice depending on the governing factors like availability, room category etc. All prices when quoted, will be tentative price unless booked and paid. A change in date/ hotel/ vehicle type etc will change the prices.

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