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# KERALA KOCHI - MUNNAR - THEKKADY — ALLEPPEY - KOVALAM 8 Nights 9 Days

#### "God's Own Country"

Kerala - home to the languid backwaters, long coastlines, sprawling tea gardens, and colourful dance forms, is also famously known as 'God's Own Country'. Located on the Malabar coast of Southern India, it is a tiny sliver of paradise that is also one of the best tropical tourist destinations one can look for. Whether you want to bask in the sun and sand of the palm tree-lined Kovalam beach or want to take a hike to Munnar hill station, or even if you're going to walk down the bustling streets of Kochi, Kerala has everything on offer to take your pick from

# **TOUR SUMMARY**

DAY	OVERNIGHT	PARTICULAR
DAY 1	MUNNAR	KOCHI ARRIVAL AND TRANSFER TO MUNNAR ( 130KM / 4HRS )
DAY 2	MUNNAR	MUNNAR LOCAL SIGHTSEEING
		SIGHTSEEING : TEA GARDENS, RAJAMALAI, MATTUPETTY DAM, KUNDALE LAKE
DAY 3	THEKKADY	TRANSFER MUNNAR TO THEKKADY ( 100KM / 3HRS)
		SIGHTSEEING : BOAT RIDE, ELEPHANT SAFARI, KATHAKALI & KALARIPPAYATTU
DAY 4	THEKKADY	THEKKADY SIGHTSEEING
		SIGHTSEEING : GAVI DAY VISIT
DAY 5	KOVALAM	TRANSFER THEKKADY TO KOVALAM ( 225KM / 6HRS )
		SIGHTSEEING : KOVALAM BEACH

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/ 1HRS 30MNT )
HURCH,
IG NETS

# **DETAIL ITINERARY**

#### DAY 1

KOCHI ARRIVAL AND TRANSFER TO MUNNAR (130KM / 4HRS)

OVERNIGHT : MUNNAR

On Arrival at Cochin Airport - You will be greeted by our representative and transfer to your resort Munnar. Munnar a hill station located 1600 meters above sea level. Once the summer resort of the erstwhile British administration in South India it still retains its colonial charm and is famous for its tea plantations, rolling hills, picture postcard hamlets and undulating valleys. Check into your Resort and unwind.

#### DAY 2

MUNNAR LOCAL SIGHTSEEING

OVERNIGHT: MUNNAR

ACTIVITY: SIGHTSEEING: TEA GARDENS, RAJAMALAI, MATTUPETTY DAM, KUNDALE

LAKE





After the Breakfast, today start your day with walk through the aromatic **Tea gardens**, scenic hills covered with green foliage and a camera in hand; there cannot be a better way to start your morning. Cuddled amidst the rolling green hills covered in veils of mist and blessed with a soothing cold breeze which carries a mild aroma of tea leaves, a stroll here is sure to leave you completely rejuvenated. And when you are here, do not forget to sip some flavorful assortment of teas produced in its hundred years old factory that still uses traditional methods of tea production; needless to say, what makes your tea savouring experience here all the more enjoyable is the mesmerizing vistas of the nature's splendor all around. Then proceed for **Rajamalai**, Located just about 15 km. from Munnar, Eravikulam National Park is one of the must visit places when you are holidaying in this beautiful hill town of Kerala. Spread over a sprawling area of 97 square

kilometres and dotted with lush forests and shola grasslands unique to the region, the park makes for an excellent home to a number of wild species including gaurs, sambar deer, Indian muntjacs, small clawed otters, golden jackals, Indian bisons and a variety of mongoose. Amongst all these wild residents, the one which is most celebrated and grabs all the attention is the rare and endangered Nilgiri Tahr. Next in the list Mattupetty Dam Mattupetty Dam needs no special introduction. Built on the serene Mattupetty Lake, the concrete gravity dam is the pride of Kerala and makes as an excellent recreational spot for both natives and tourists. On a weekend, one can see swarms of people flocking to the dam and the adjoining lake area to enjoy picnics and indulge in myriad of activities ranging from boating and nature strolls to wildlife spotting and birding. The place is a photographer's delight too; with excellent views of the lake cradling amidst rolling mountains and rambling tea plantations, no wonder, it makes for a great place to capture some candid shots of nature and its excellent craftsmanship in its unpretentious form. While there are endless activities near the dam that can keep you engaged, if you are of the sorts who holds some keen interest in agri and dairy farming, an Indo-Swiss Dairy Farm located near the dam. Located close to the Top Station is yet another interesting sightseeing spot of Munnar and which is known for its natural phenomenon of resonance, the **Echo Point**; just stand here and scream, and you would hear back your voice reverberating in the air. Needless to say, the destination is filled with tweets and coos of the birds and one can listen to them clearly owing to this very resonating phenomenon. Well! that's not all that makes Echo Point so popular. Its scenic gorgeousness strewn with a beautiful river flowing by, the grassy hill slopes, verdant tea & coffee plantations and fragrant spice gardens makes it an idyllic locale for trekkers. Next in the list Kundale Lake in Munnar is one of the best nature sightseeing places where one can completely unwind himself from the stress and monotony of a hectic work life. Located around 20 km. from the sprawling hill town, enroute to Top Station, one can stop by here for few hours and soak himself in breath-taking scenery of the place which seems to have directly made its way out from a picture postcard; rolling hills, luxuriant tea gardens, lovely cherry blossoms and vibrant Neela Kurinii flowers that blossom in the region every 12 years, add to the unmatched picturesque charm of the lake and needless to say, treat your visual senses with a magical spectacle that gets etched in your memories forever. Evening back to hotel

Overnight stay at Re<mark>so</mark>rt.

# DAY 3

TRANSFER MUNNAR TO THEKKADY ( 100KM / 3HRS)

OVERNIGHT: THEKKADY // SIGHTSEEING: BOAT RIDE, ELEPHANT SAFARI, KATHAKALI & KALARIPPAYATTU







After breakfast check out from the resort, Drive to Thekkady an area known for its undulating hills, spice plantations. Check into your hotel.

**Thekkady** is heaven for wildlife as well as for nature lovers and is usually combined with Munnar for a Munnar Thekkady is the most popular among guests visiting Kerala. Its cool climate, scenic vistas, lush greenery and the exotic wildlife sanctuary attracts tourists from the nook and corner of the world. More of all the wonderful destinations and the blissful ambiance of Thekkady have truly made it the most favored holidaying destination in Kerala

Thekkady is India's largest wildlife sanctuary is a dream destination for any tourist visiting Kerala. It is also known as the spice bag of the state. The country's sole Tiger reserve, Thekkady, with its bountiful treasures of tropical flora and fauna is the ultimate reservoir of many an endangered

species and a rich tribal culture. Thekkady is a pleasant heaven on earth for those who love nature in its wild manifestations. Spice plantation tour covering tea, coffee, pepper and cardamom plantations. Have an amazing **boat ride in Periyar Lake** which flows through the Periyar Tiger Reserve. You will have chance to watch the wild animals like Elephant, Bison, Sambar, Deer etc. are roaming both shore. Evening optical shows **Kathakali and Kalarippayattu**. Overnight at Thekkady.

## DAY 4

THEKKADY SIGHTSEEING OVERNIGHT : THEKKADY

**ACTIVITY // SIGHTSEEING: GAVI DAY VISIT** 



After breakfast proceed to Gavi. **Gavi** is an eco-tourist spot in Kerala which has widely become popular after 'Alistair International' the world acclaimed tourism major listed it among the leading eco-tourism centres and one of the must-see places in India. A must visit place for all nature lovers as Gavi is preserved in its natural scenic beauty untainted by the mighty hands of modernity. Gavi is mainly known for its wildlife. Endangered species including the Nilgiri Tahr and Lion-tailed macaque are often sighted at the outskirts of Gavi. Kerala's very own treasure elephants can be sighted abundantly. If you are the bird watcher, Gavi is the place for you. With more than 260 species of birds including the great pied hornbill, woodpecker, and kingfishers, Gavi is a heaven for birdwatchers. A splendid spot to be visited at least once for all those who love nature.. You can enjoy boating in Pampa reservoir. Sabarimala view point is an another attraction. Evening back to Gavi. Overnight at Thekkady.

#### DAY 5

TRANSFER THEKKADY TO KOVALAM ( 225KM / 6HRS )

OVERNIGHT: KOVALAM

ACTIVITY KOVALAM ARRIVAL // SIGHTSEEING: KOVALAM BEACH



After Breakfast, check out from Resort, drive to Kovalam - One of the most popular beach destinations in Kerala and check into your hotel. Kovalam is an internationally renowned beach with three adjacent crescent beaches. It has been a favourite haunt of tourists since the 1930s. A

massive rocky promontory on the beach has created a beautiful bay of calm waters ideal for sea bathing.. Day at leisure on the beach.

Overnight at the resort.

## DAY 6

KANYAKUMARI DAY TRIP (KOVALAM TO KANYAKUMARI 85KM / 2HRS 30MNT)

**OVERNIGHT: KOVALAM** 

ACTIVITY: KANYAKUMARI // SIGHTSEEING: WOODEN PALACE, SUCHEENDRAM TEMPLE, VATTAKKOTAI, KUTRALAM WATERFALL, GANDHI SMRITHI, MANDAPAM,

**VIVEKANANDA ROCK** 







Today after early morning breakfast, drive to Kanyakumari. On the way to Kanyakumari from Kovalam halt at Vattakottai and visit Wooden Palace and Sucheendram Temple. Wooden Palace An ancient palace with mesmerizing architecture, Padmanabhapuram Palace is a fine example of excellence of art and craftsmanship. This wooden palace, built in 16th century is sure to allure every visitor with its unparalleled beauty. Located at the foothills of Veli Hills, a part of Western Ghats in Thuckalay, this palace was built by Ravipillai Ravivarma Kulasekhara Perumal of Travancore Kingdom.

Named after the lotus that comes out of the navel of Lord Vishnu, (Padma means lotus, nabhanavel, puram- town), Padmanabhapuram Palace used to be seat of power of erstwhile kingdom of Travancore from the 16th to the late 18th Century, which later shifted to Thiruvananthapuram. Suchindram Than<mark>um</mark>alayan Temple Located almost midway between Nagercoil and Kanyakumari, Suchindram is a very famous pilgrim centre. At just 7 kms from Kanyakumari district of Tamil Nadu, Suchindram known as Gnanaranya, is famous for the Thanumalayan Temple. The Thanumalayan Temple built in the 17th century is famous for its sculptural wealth and we'll known for its quality of workmanship. Then we proceed for Kutralam. Kutralam Nestled in the scenic Western Ghats, Kutralam (குற்றாலம்) is a popular tourist destination of South Tamil Nadu. Courtallam or Kutralam is a town situated at a height of 160 m (520 ft) above sea level in the foothills of the Western Ghats in Tirunelveli district of Tamil Nadu, India. The very name of the place has become synonymous with the thundering waterfalls that flow here. It is also home to centuries old ancient temples and other famous places of interest. The title "Spa of South India" fits perfectly for Kutralam due to the numerous magnificent waterfalls and the healing and medicinal properties of the water that flows here. This has led to the rise of numerous health resorts in and around this quaint town. Finally reach Kanyakumari The town of Kanyakumari is geographically a Cape, and it was known earlier as Cape Comorin. Since ancient times, Kanyakumari District has consisted of two geographical areas, known locally as Nanjilnadu and Idainadu. The etymologists interpret the word Nanjilnadu as the country ('nadu') where there were (and still has) several agriculture plantations and fields. Nanjilnadu is mentioned in old Tamil literature as a rich agrarian area, where the town of Kottar, (today, a locality in Nagercoil) as a major commercial centre. At the Southern most tip of India, where the Arabian Sea, the Indian Ocean and the Bay of Bengal meet, lies Kanyakumari, an important pilgrim centre. The beach itself is a beautiful sight with multicoloured sand. There is a lighthouse from where one can get a panoramic view. Kanyakumari as it is known is one of the best places to visit. Surrounded by Majestic Hills and the plains bordered by colourful sea-shores, fringed with coconut trees and paddy fields, here and there are few elevated patches of red cliffs with undulating valleys and plains between the mountainous terrain and the sea – coast, so closely interwoven with Temples and Churches and other edifices lies the district.

#### 'Kanyakumari'

First in the list Gandhi Smrthi, A bright pink lotus-like Gandhi Mandapam structure enshrines the urn containing Mahatma Gandhi's ashes before it was immersed in water. The height of the central dome of this Gandhi memorial marks the Mahatma's age when he was assassinated – 79. The rays of the sun fall directly on the urn on Gandhi Jayanthi every year at noon. Then visit Vivekananda Rock Revered Indian poet and philosopher Swami Vivekananda visited Kanyakumari in 1892, towards the end of an extensive trip across India. His transformation into an influential leader and reformer is attributed to the three days he spent meditating on a large offshore rock, where Goddess Kanya Kumari is said to have carried out part of her penance by standing on one foot. (According to ancient Hindu texts, the Puranas, the rock was blessed by the touch of her foot). A memorial was built on the rock in 1970 to honor Swami Vivekananda. It consists of a pavilion with a life-size bronze statue of the Swami, a hall with information about his life, and a meditation area. There's also a carving of the Goddess's foot on the rock. To get there, take a 15-minute ferry ride from Kanyakumari beach.

Before leaving spend some time in Kanyakumari beach. Evening drive back to Kovalam. Overnight stay at Kovalam.

#### DAY 7

TRANSFER KOVALAM TO ALLEPPEY ( 160KM / 4HRS )

**OVERNIGHT: ALLEPPEY HOUSE BOAT** 

ACTIVITY: SIGHTSEEING: ALLEPPEY BACK WATER IN HOUSE BOAT



After Breakfast, check out from Resort, drive to Alleppey and embark on your private houseboat and cruise on the Backwaters, a splendid area full of canals, lakes and coves.

Explore the fascinating complex of calm rivers, delightful canals, and shaded backwaters of Alleppey aboard a comfortable houseboat. Cruise past ancient fishing towns, pass by lush green landscapes, and immerse yourself into the peacefulness of the "Venice of the East."

Drive along a scenic route into the verdant heart of Southern India and board your luxury houseboat at Alleppey Jetty. Make yourself at home and enjoy the comforts of a fully equipped house as you set sail along the region's backwaters.

Cruise by centuries-old fishing villages and glide alongside chugging ferries and paddled dugouts carrying goods to market, as you hear stories from your private guide about ancient trading customs. Learn about the culture and customs of local life as you observe native villagers fish, swim, and wash their clothes.

Soak up the Indian sunshine atop the open sun deck before indulging in authentic Indian cuisine, freshly prepared by your private crew. Absorb the rich surroundings of rice paddies and coconut groves, and make sure to capture many images of this evergreen paradise..

Overnight on house boat

#### DAY 8

TRANSFER ALLEPPEY TO KOCHI (150KM / 4HRS)

OVERNIGHT: KOCHI

ACTIVITY: KOCHI ARRIVAL // SIGHTSEEING: JEW TOWN, ST. FRANCIS CHURCH,

MATTANCHERRY PALACE, CHINESE FISHING NETS







Early morning breakfast, check out from the hotel. Proceed for Kochi.

**Kochi**: Also called "Queen of Arabian Sea". Kochi is a bustling commercial port city with a trading history that dates back to at least 600 years. Called as the Queen of the Arabian Sea, the city is the financial, commercial and industrial capital of Kerala. The city is marked by influences of Arabs, Dutch, Phoenicians, Portuguese, Chinese and the British city as well as that of the Indian rule of Chera Dynasty followed by rule of the Feudal Lords. A gaggle of islands inter-connected by ferries, this cosmopolitan town has upmarket stores, art galleries and some of the finest heritage accommodations. In a true vintage-meets-future fashion, pubs, restaurants, shopping hubs and futuristic stores crowd Ernakulum, Jew Town and Fort Kochi while palaces, beaches, temples and heritage sites marking their presence too.

Check in to Kochi h<mark>ot</mark>el. After resting for some time proceed for local sightseeing. It's a great sightseeing tour to explore the many fascinating highlights of Cochin which include - The Jewish Synagogue in what is locally called the Jew Town, St. Francis Church which is the oldest European Church in India, the Dutch Palace and the 15th century Chinese fishing nets.

Jewish Synagogue: Also known as Cochin Jewish Synagogue or Mattancherry Synagogue, Paradesi Synagogue is the oldest active synagogue, not just in Kochi but in the Commonwealth of Nations. Located in the Jew Town area of Kochi, the synagogue was constructed in 1567 and is one of the seven synagogues of the Malabar Yehudan or Yehudan Mappila. The synagogue shares its walls with the Mattancherry Palace and was built by Spanish- speaking Jews; therefore, it is also known as 'Paradesi' meaning 'foreigners'. Boasting of rare antiques including beautiful chandeliers, clock tower, brass railed pulpit, Chinese hand painted tiles etc. and striking architecture, the synagogue has four buildings of its own. In 1662, the synagogue was ruined by the Portuguese but was later renovated by the Dutch after 2 years.

**Mattancherry Palace**: Popularly known as the Dutch Palace, the Mattancherry Palace is a Portuguese palace in Mattancherry, Kochi, in the state of Kerala. Mattancherry Palace is now a museum displaying paraphernalia belonging to the rajas of Kochi. Visit this destination to learn about the fascinating history of Kerala through the medium of irreplaceable artefacts and embellishments.

**St. Francis Church**: Distinguished for its beautiful architecture and ambience, St. Francis Church is believed to be one of the oldest churches in India, which was made by the Europeans. It's a landmark where the body of late legendry explorer Vasco da Gama was buried. According to the legend, Vasco da Gama who was the first European to discover a route in India last breathed at this place in the year 1524. It was his third visit to this church and his body was buried here itself. It is said that his remains were shipped to Lisbon after 14 years, but the gravestone is still seen in this church. Tourists from different parts of the world visit here to see the gravestone of Vasco da Gama.

Chinese Fishing Nets: Popularly known as Cheenavala, the Chinese Fishing Nets are the most iconic and popular attractions of Kerala peculiar to Kochi located next to Fort Kochi. One of the significant cultural symbols of Kerala, the spot is also one of the most photographed places in all of town, attracting hordes of tourists and photographers on an everyday basis. The image of the beautifully silhouetted fishing nets against the backdrop of clear waters at sunset is really

appeasing and makes up for a breathtakingly beautiful sight. Evening back to hotel. Overnight at Kochi

# DAY 9 DEPARTURE

After breakfast checkout from the resort and drive to Cochin Intl. Air Port/Railway station



#### **ABOUT US**



We are a bunch of skilled tour operators with backgrounds in tourism, advertising and events.. With a zeal to do something different we plunged into the idea of "Private Travel Designers"

#### What we do & How we do it?

We offer customized private and experiential holidays constructed around your plan, comforts and we like to keep it sustainable. The expeditions are henceforth memorable, unforgettable and often life changing. Our customized vacations can be designed for various audiences ranging from an individual, corporates, only females, single parents, students etc. Our Indology tours—led by art curators, archaeologists and mythologists cater to a niche audience of culture vultures.

Unlike a voice or virtual page, we exist in flesh and blood. Our tailored services include a personalized expert dedicated to understanding your requirements and provide a counseling methodology in your zest to exploration. We then get to design your "Private Journey" including expert guides, private transfers, cohesive sightseeing and distinctive accommodation to rest your head at the end of the day.

All this comes to you at a great value. We do not claim to be the cheapest, but you will not pay over the odds. Our quality of service, attention to detail, commitment and expertise makes our propositions of great value for your money, which is hard to beat.

#### What we offer?

Our holidays come in all shapes and sizes, all tailor-made offering both emerging and established destinations and also a varied collection of travel inspirations to suit a wide spectrum of interests amongst travelers. We are not like an average holiday company selling packages or standardized per-designed products, we have the ability and connections to design and execute almost anything you can imagine in the World of Bespoke, Exclusive & Experiential Travel and Private Journeys.

#### Our plethora of Experiential Traveling services include

- Real Time Ticketing and Hotel Booking
- Domestic and International customised holiday package for FIT (Flexible Independent Travel) & GIT (Group Inclusive Tour)
- Destination Wedding & Honeymoon
- School & Educational Tours
- Corporate Outbound and MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conferencing, Exhibitions)
  - Meetings: Well-planned meetings. Organized in great locations.
  - o Incentives: Immerse yourself in an experience that is wholly rewarding.
  - o Group Travel: Renew the team spirit through refreshing group experiences.
  - Conferences: Extensively planned conferences, for optimal outcomes.
  - Exhibitions: Memorable exhibitions, organized down to the last detail.

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