

ESSENCE OF KERALA - 7 Days / 6 Nights

Tour Code
GITC/IB/001

From USD 429 onwards

COCHIN PERIYAR KUMARAKOM MARARI COCHIN							
CATEGORY	PERIOD	MEAL PLAN	PRICE PER PERSON			MIN. PAX	FROM - TO
			1/2 DBL	SGL SUPPL	1/3 TPL		
Superior	04/01/06 -09/30/06	BB	429	114	355	02	Cochin - Cochin
Superior	10/01/06 -12/15/06 01/16/07 - 03/31/07	BB	701	309	547	02	Cochin - Cochin
Superior	12/16/06 - 01/15/07	BB	830	459	648	02	Cochin - Cochin
Deluxe	04/01/06 -09/30/06	BB	478	123	410	02	Cochin - Cochin
Deluxe	10/01/06 -12/15/06 01/16/07 - 03/31/07	BB	925	488	740	02	Cochin - Cochin
Deluxe	12/16/06 - 01/15/07	BB	1030	540	811	02	Cochin - Cochin

DAY 01 : COCHIN

Arrival at Cochin. You will be greeted and assisted at the Airport by GITC representative and transferred to the hotel.

Cochin (Kochi), the palm green commercial capital of Kerala is located on the cluster of islands and narrow peninsulas. Here you can see one of the oldest churches in India, a winding street crammed with 500 year old Portuguese houses, cantilevered Chinese Fishing nets and a 16th century Jewish Synagogue.

Cochin was a trading port since Roman times and was one of the main trade routes between Europe and China. Check in at hotel for 01 night. Afternoon, proceed for a city tour covering the historic sights & monuments. Evening, watch the spectacular 'Kathakali' performance in a local theatre.

DAY 02 : COCHIN - PERIYAR

[192 kms/ 5 hrs]

Breakfast. Check out and take a scenic drive to Thekkady through the valley of the Cardamom Hills.

Periyar (Thekkady) Wildlife Sanctuary is one of the well maintained wildlife sanctuaries of South India and is spread out over an area of 777 sq kms. The splendid artificial lake formed by the Mullaperiyar dam across the Periyar river adds to the charm of the park.

Check in at hotel for 02 nights. Day, free at the sanctuary. A nice little trekking trip through the forest at your choice. Evening, go for Spice Plantation visit where you can touch, smell and taste almost all the spices seen worldwide. In these private spice plantations you will see how the spices actually grow in their plant form.

DAY 03 : PERIYAR

The National Park and the Tiger Reserve at Periyar is rated as one of the best wildlife sanctuaries in India. Wooded hills and the forest here provide shelter to the resident animals whereas the Periyar Lake is a vast water resource, which quenches their thirst every time. In the morning take a lovely boat ride through the Periyar Lake. This gives you an opportunity to spot wild animals.

Breakfast. Rest of the day at leisure.

DAY 04 : PERIYAR - KUMARAKOM

[132 kms/ 4 hrs]

Breakfast. Check out and drive down the valley to reach the small backwater village of Kumarakom.

Kumarakom slumbers on the banks of the famous Vembanad Lake, which is a part of Kuttanad ('granary' of Kerala). The Vembanad Lake with its majestic canals, streams and distributaries along its banks, weave an intricate and enchantingly beautiful web. The bird sanctuary here is an ornithologist's paradise and a favourite haunt of migratory birds. Check in at a backwater resort for 02 nights. Enjoy your afternoon leisurely.

DAY 05 : KUMARAKOM

Breakfast. The day is free to relax by the backwaters and you can also try out an Ayurveda massage (optional).

Ayurveda, it originated in Kerala, and is more than 5,000 years old. 'Ayur' means life and 'Ved' means knowledge. This holistic science is the knowledge of complete balance of the Body, Mind and Spirit, including the emotions and psychology, on all levels. It includes in its consideration, longevity, rejuvenation and self-realization therapies through herbs, diet, exercise, yoga, massage, aromas, tantras, mantras and meditation.

DAY 06 : KUMARAKOM - MARARI

Breakfast. Check out and drive down to Marari, a small fishing village in Alleppey district where life still goes on much as it did a hundred years ago, with the men going out to sea each day to earn a living.

Completely new to the holidaymaker, Marari offers endless miles of superb sand beaches backed by swaying palms, virgin territory where you can experience the local charm and traditional Kerala hospitality at its best. Check in at a beach resort for 01 night. Enjoy your afternoon leisurely.

DAY 07 : MARARI - COCHIN

On time transfer to Cochin Airport to connect departure flight for onward destination.

Tour Concludes!



Map not to scale



Approved by Government of India,
Department of Tourism

INCLUSIONS : 06 nights accommodation in double room on twin sharing basis on BB plan. All transfers and sightseeing as per the itinerary in A/c medium car. One time normal boating at Periyar Lake, Kathakali ticket, Half day guided tour of Cochin. Entrance charges, Arrival & departure assistance. All currently applicable taxes (any Govt. or State taxes subsequently introduced will be extra.)
EXCLUSIONS : Expenses of personal nature such as hard/soft drinks, still/video camera fees at monuments, laundry, phone/fax, tips & gratuities and travel insurance. Flight tickets. Any increase in fuel costs. Any other item not mentioned in the above clause "inclusions". Xmas and New Year eve supplement.