

HIGHLIGHTS OF KERALA - 8 Days / 7 Nights

From USD 638 onwards

Tour Code
GITC/IB/002

KOVALAM ALLEPPEY PERIYAR MUNNAR 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	638	235	503	02	Kovalam - Cochin
Superior	10/01/06 - 12/15/06 01/16/06 - 03/31/07	BB	762	308	601	02	Kovalam - Cochin
Superior	12/16/06 - 01/15/07	BB	847	371	663	02	Kovalam - Cochin
Deluxe	04/01/06 - 09/30/06	BB	864	389	719	02	Kovalam - Cochin
Deluxe	10/01/06 - 12/15/06 01/16/07 - 03/31/07	BB	1182	606	979	02	Kovalam - Cochin
Deluxe	12/16/06 - 01/15/07	BB	1637	907	1389	02	Kovalam - Cochin

DAY 01 : KOVALAM

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

The palm-fringed beach of Kovalam is one of the most famous beaches in India. The boundless blue waters of the Arabian Sea and miles of white sands washed away by the surf, make this beach a paradise come true. The leisure options at this beach are plenty and diverse - sunbathing, swimming, herbal body toning massages, special cultural programmes, catamaran cruising etc. Check in at a beach resort for 02 nights. Rest of the day at leisure or you can explore the hand-crafts, jewel & cloth in the shops spread along the waterfront; visit the delightful sea-food shacks serving lobsters and tiger-shrimps.

DAY 02 : KOVALAM

Breakfast. Sightseeing tour of Trivandrum in the afternoon.

Thiruvananthapuram (Trivandrum), the capital city of Kerala is a city, which still preserves the ancient roots of Kerala life. You can still see the relics of ancient architecture, prominent in most of its buildings. View Padmanabhaswamy temple (Non Hindus are not permitted inside). With an imposing seven storied tower, this temple is an excellent example of the Dravidian style of architecture and is one among the 108 sacred Vishnu temples in India. Visit Horse Palace - the magnificent wooden palace constructed by Travancore king in 18th century & Napier Museum. (This tour is not operated on Mondays as the monuments here are closed).

DAY 03 : KOVALAM - ALLEPPEY ~ KUMARAKOM [176 kms/ 4 hrs]

Breakfast. Check out and drive to Alleppey. On arrival, embark on a Houseboat for an overnight cruise upto Kumarakom. Cruise through the palm fringed canals; watch the Paddy fields, village folk, relax on board hearing lullaby of the wind and waves. Unwind yourself watching the endless strips of greenery passing by you while the boat moves in a relaxing pace. This mysterious strip of emerald green land is stuffed with

endless miles of placid backwaters that adds to its charm. Cruise is till 6 in the evening and then the houseboat halts in the lake for overnight stay. Evening, candle lit dinner onboard.

DAY 04 : KUMARAKOM - PERIYAR [132 kms/ 4 hrs]

Breakfast. Disembark at Kumarakom and drive to Periyar. A scenic journey past mist capped Western Ghats, spice plantations and open grasslands lined with spectacular water falls & delightful trekking trails form the access to your hide-away here.

Periyar (Thekkady) Wildlife Sanctuary is one of the well maintained wildlife sanctuaries of South India and it spreads 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. This is the only sanctuary in India where you can have the unique experience of viewing wildlife at close quarters from the safety of a boat on the lake. Check in at hotel for 01 night. Afternoon, you can enjoy a boat ride through the Periyar Lake. If interested you can opt for a short trek in the fragrant spice plantations.

DAY 05 : PERIYAR - MUNNAR [110 kms/ 4 hrs]

Breakfast. Check out and drive to Munnar, the most beautiful hill station in the Western Ghats. Munnar is famous for tea estates and is the biggest tea producer in South India. Located 1600 m above the sea level, this hill station was once the summer resort of the erstwhile British Govt. in South India. Sprawling tea plantations, picturesque towns, winding lanes and holiday facilities make this a popular resort town. Check in at hotel for 01 night. Later we will go for the sightseeing of Munnar.

Visit Eravikulam National Park, the natural habitat of the Ibex called Nilgiri Tahar, Mattupetty Dam and the Munnar town. You can enjoy a boat ride in Mattupetty lake (optional). Walk through the hills kissing the clouds, breathing the sweet smell of tea. The endless greenery will make you a poet or dip you in your favourite book in the lap of mother nature.

DAY 06 : MUNNAR - COCHIN [130 kms/ 4 hrs]

Breakfast. Check out and drive to Cochin. Cochin (Kochi), the palm green commercial capital of Kerala is located on the cluster of islands and narrow peninsulas. The older parts of the city have an unlikely blend of medieval Portugal, Holland and an English country village grafted on to the tropical Malabar Coast. Here you can see one of the oldest churches in India, winding street crammed with 500 year old Portuguese houses, cantilevered Chinese Fishing nets, a Jewish community whose roots go back to the Diaspora, 16th century Synagogue and a palace containing some of India's most beautiful murals. Check in at hotel for 02 nights. Rest of the day at leisure.

DAY 07 : COCHIN

Breakfast. Later, you will be whisked off for a half-day city tour covering St. Francis church - the oldest church of India, Mattancherry Palace, Jewish Synagogue and the Chinese Fishing Nets. Evening, watch spectacular 'Kathakali dance' in a local theatre.

DAY 08 : COCHIN

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

Tour Concludes!

