

Colours of Kerala 09 Days / 08 Nights



* Ex - Kochi

Kochi, Munnar, Thekkady, Alleppey, Kumarakom & Kovalam

Tour Itinerary

Day 1: ARRIVE KOCHI

Welcome to your '**Colours of Kerala**' tour! On arrival at the airport in Kochi or railway station in Ernakulam, you will be met and transferred to your hotel. Later, proceed on a city tour of Kochi visiting places like the St. Francis Church, Mattancherry Palace, The Jewish Synagogue and view the Chinese fishing nets in Fort Kochi area. St Francis Church is one of the oldest churches in India, built by Europeans. Originally built in 1503, the church has witnessed many skirmishes between Indians and the Britishers. St Francis Church was declared a protected monument in 1923. This church is built in the Indo gothic style of architecture.

The Mattanchery palace is a Dutch Palace in the state of Kerala and was built in 1555. It served as a gift to the local Raja of Kochi. The palace stands as a testament of the Dutch rule over Cochin and neighboring areas. The palace now exhibits Temple art, portraits and exhibits of the Rajas of Kochi.

The Jewish synagogue is also called the Pardesi Synagogue. It is located in the corner of the Jew town in the city of Kochi. The Jewish synagogue is a prayer house or shrine for people from the Jewish faith . Built in 1568, the synagogue has a 500 year old history attached to it.

Chinese fishing nets also called Cheena vala are the fishing installations made in Kochi. Each net has a limited area and depth of operation. The fishing nets make for a beautiful backdrop for photography. Overnight in Kochi None (Meals on your own)

Day 2: ON TO MUNNAR (130 KMS / APPROX. 4 HOUR DRIVE)

After breakfast, proceed to Munnar. Drive through the picturesque countryside of Munnar which is surrounded by lush green tea estates. On arrival, check in to your hotel in Munnar. The rest of the day is at leisure to explore this quaint hill station. Overnight in Munnar (B).

Day 3: IN MUNNAR

Today, proceed on sightseeing tour of Munnar including visit to the Rose Garden and the Tata Tea Museum (Closed on Mondays. Timing 1000hrs to 1700hrs). Post lunch, visit Echo Point and Mattupetty Lake. Near Top station is the echo point. On this point, the valley is acoustically inclined to reverberate the sounds that enter it. The legend goes that if your voice echoes thrice, you will get what you wish for. Mattupetty Lake is flanked by steep hills and woods and has been created by the small hydro-electricity dam. The entire area around it is covered with forests and sightings of wild animals are common. This territory is famous for its elephant sightings. The rest of the evening is at leisure for independent activities. Overnight in Munnar (B).

Day 4: ON TO THEKKADY (95 KMS / APPROX. 3 HOURS DRIVE)

Today, proceed to Thekkady, en-route enjoy a Spice Plantation tour. On arrival, check in to your hotel. Proceed to enjoy a boat ride on Periyar Lake in Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary.

Note: Please carry a photo-id proof for Periyar boat ride. The rest of the day is at leisure to walk through the bustling spice market in the Kumily Village. Overnight in Thekkady (B)

Day 5: ON TO ALLEPPEY (129 KMS / APPROX. 3 1/2 HOURS DRIVE)

After breakfast, proceed to the idyllic backwaters of Alleppey. Alleppey is Kerala's Venice of the East, a heartland of lagoons and mangrove fields, inter-linked with hundreds of narrow winding canals.

On arrival, check in to your hotel. The rest of the day is at leisure to explore the scenic surroundings of Alleppey. Overnight in Alleppey (B)

Day 6: ON TO KUMARAKOM (51 KMS / APPROX. 1 1/2 HOUR DRIVE)

After breakfast, proceed on a picturesque drive to Kumarakom located on the idyllic backwaters.

On arrival, check in to your hotel in Kumarakom. The rest of the day is at leisure Or one can enjoy a backwater cruise (boats can be hired on direct payment basis). Overnight in Kumarakom (B)

Day 7: ON TO KOVALAM (190 KMS / APPROX. 5 HOUR DRIVE)

Post breakfast, drive to the beach town of Kerala - Kovalam. The meaning of Kovalam is 'a groove of coconut trees'. The Samudra Beach, Kovalam Beach and Hawa Beach gives Kovalam its serenity and scenic beauty. On arrival, check in to the hotel in Kovalam. The rest of the day is at leisure for independent activities. Overnight in Kovalam (B).

Day 8 : IN KOVALAM * EXCURSION TO KANYAKUMARI (90 KMS / APPROX.2 HOUR ONE WAY)

After breakfast, proceed on an excursion to Kanyakumari. Kanyakumari lies in southernmost tip of India where the Arabian Sea, the Indian Ocean and the Bay of Bengal meet. Visit Vivekananda Rock Memorial, a popular tourist monument in Vavathurai, Kanyakumari. The memorial stands on one of two rocks located about 500 meters east off mainland of Vavathurai, India's southernmost tip. Later, en route visit the Suchindram temple - one of the best place to understand the rich religious and cultural heritage of

India , which is dedicated to a deity representing the combined forces of Siva, Vishnu and Brahma. The rest of the evening is at leisure. Overnight in Kovalam (B).

Day 9: DEPART KOVALAM

Today, bid farewell to your '**Colours of Kerala**' tour, as you are transferred to the airport / railway station in Trivandrum for your onward journey. (B)