

Tour Name: Cochin to Bangalore Backwater, Tea Estate, Temple & Palaces

Tour Duration: 11 Nights/ 12 Days

Tour Map: <https://tinyurl.com/5855w3xm>

Tour Overview

Embark on a captivating journey with our "Cochin to Bangalore Backwater, Tea Estate, Temple & Palaces" tour. Begin in Cochin, where you'll delve into its rich colonial past with visits to the iconic Chinese Fishing Nets, St. Francis Church, and the vibrant Jew Town. Cruise through the serene backwaters of Alleppey aboard a private houseboat, experiencing Kerala's traditional lifestyle and cuisine. Explore Thekkady's Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary, encountering diverse wildlife and enjoying cultural performances. Traverse the picturesque tea plantations of Munnar, visiting Eravikulam National Park and capturing panoramic views from Pothamedu. Conclude in Bangalore, discovering its botanical gardens, palaces, and vibrant markets, a perfect blend of nature and heritage awaits on this unforgettable journey.

Tour Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive Cochin

- Upon arrival at Cochin airport, our representative will greet you and assist with your transfer to the hotel.
- After check-in, freshen up and prepare for an afternoon city tour of Cochin.
- Begin with the iconic Chinese Fishing Nets at Fort Kochi, famous for their ancient fishing techniques and panoramic views of the harbor.
- Visit St. Francis Church, the oldest European church in India, known for its historical significance and colonial architecture.
- Explore the Mattancherry Palace (Dutch Palace), a former royal residence with a fascinating blend of Portuguese and Dutch influences, showcasing royal artifacts and murals.
- Discover the Jewish Synagogue in Jew Town, celebrated for its historical value and beautiful hand-painted blue tiles.
- In the evening, enjoy a captivating Kathakali dance performance, a traditional Kerala art form featuring elaborate costumes, expressive storytelling, and vibrant music.

Day 2: Cochin - Alleppey (Houseboat Experience)

- Start the day with a hearty breakfast at the hotel before embarking on a scenic drive to Alleppey, known for its enchanting backwaters.
- Arrive at Alleppey boat jetty and board your private houseboat for a leisurely cruise through the serene backwaters of Kerala.
- Glide past lush green paddy fields, coconut groves, and picturesque villages while enjoying the tranquil beauty of the water.
- Indulge in a delicious Kerala lunch prepared on board by the houseboat crew, featuring local specialties.
- Spend the night on the houseboat, drifting through the peaceful waters, and immerse yourself in the tranquil backwater landscape.

Day 3: Alleppey - Thekkady (Wildlife and Cultural Delights)

- After breakfast on the houseboat, disembark and drive to Thekkady, home to the renowned Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary.
- Check in at your hotel in Thekkady and take some time to relax.
- In the evening, attend a thrilling Kalaripayattu martial arts performance, showcasing ancient combat techniques and acrobatic moves.
- Follow this with a captivating Kathakali dance show, where skilled performers depict mythological stories through intricate facial expressions and graceful movements.

Day 4: Thekkady (Wildlife Safari and Spice Plantation Tour)

- Begin your day with a boat safari on Periyar Lake, offering opportunities to spot a variety of wildlife, including elephants, bison, and deer, amidst the lush greenery of the sanctuary.
- After the safari, visit a local spice plantation to explore the cultivation and processing of spices like cardamom, pepper, cinnamon, and cloves.
- Walk through the spice gardens and enjoy the fragrant experience while learning about the region's spice trade.
- Explore the local market to purchase authentic spices and souvenirs to remember your visit.

Day 5: Thekkady - Munnar (Scenic Drive and Tea Museum)

- Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before embarking on a scenic drive to Munnar, a picturesque hill station nestled in the Western Ghats.
- Stop at Ramakkalmedu, a viewpoint offering breathtaking panoramic vistas of rolling hills and verdant valleys.
- Arrive in Munnar and check in at your hotel.
- Visit the Tea Museum to discover the history and process of tea cultivation. See the machinery used in tea production and enjoy a tea tasting session to savor the flavors of Munnar's renowned tea estates.

Day 6: Munnar (Nature's Beauty and Cultural Delights)

- Start the day with breakfast at the hotel before exploring Munnar's natural beauty.
- Visit Eravikulam National Park, home to the endangered Nilgiri Tahr. Enjoy a guided trek through the park's lush green hills and spot various flora and fauna in their natural habitat.
- Explore Pothamedu, known for its panoramic views of tea, coffee, and cardamom plantations, and enjoy scenic walks or light trekking in the area.
- Head to Mattupetty Dam, a popular spot for boating and surrounded by lush greenery and tea gardens. Enjoy the serene environment and picturesque views.
- Visit Anamudi Peak, the highest peak in South India, located within Eravikulam National Park. Enjoy the breathtaking views and capture stunning photographs.
- Stop at the scenic Photo Point, an ideal location for capturing memorable photographs of Munnar's lush tea gardens and rolling hills.
- In the evening, visit Devikulam, renowned for its picturesque landscapes and Sita Devi Lake, ideal for trout fishing and adventure sports.
- Return to the hotel for a restful overnight stay, reflecting on the day's experiences amidst Munnar's natural beauty.

Day 7: Munnar - Madurai (Cultural Exploration)

- After a hearty breakfast, drive to Madurai, a city famous for its rich cultural heritage and impressive temples.
- Check in at your hotel and relax before starting your city tour.

- Visit the Meenakshi Amman Temple, renowned for its towering gopurams (gateway towers) and exquisite Dravidian architecture. Explore the temple complex, including various shrines, halls, and the sacred pond.
- Witness the vibrant evening prayer ceremony at the temple, a spiritually enriching experience.
- Explore the bustling streets of Madurai.

Day 8: Madurai - Coimbatore (Cultural and Spiritual Exploration)

- Enjoy breakfast at your hotel before driving to Coimbatore, known for its textile industry and cultural significance.
- Check in at your hotel and relax before visiting the Gass Forest Museum, showcasing a diverse collection of flora and fauna specimens.
- Embark on an excursion to the Adiyogi Shiva Statue, a grand sculpture representing Lord Shiva in his meditative form.
- Visit the renowned Isha Yoga Ashram and yoga center, known for its spiritual ambiance and meditation programs. Immerse yourself in the serene surroundings and participate in yoga sessions if desired.

Day 9: Coimbatore - Ooty (Hill Station Bliss)

- Start with breakfast at the hotel before driving to Ooty, often referred to as the "Queen of Hill Stations."
- Check in at your hotel and explore the charming surroundings of Ooty.
- Visit Ooty Lake, an artificial lake offering boat rides and scenic views of the surrounding hills.
- Explore the Botanical Gardens, home to a wide variety of exotic plants and flowers.
- Take a ride on the Nilgiri Mountain Railway, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and enjoy stunning views of the valleys and tea plantations.

Day 10: Ooty - Mysore (Historical Exploration)

- After breakfast, drive to Mysore, renowned for its royal heritage and grand architecture.
- Check in at your hotel and relax before embarking on a city tour.

- Visit the Mysore Palace, an Indo-Saracenic architectural marvel with its majestic Durbar Hall, royal courtyards, and art displays.
- Explore the Chamundeshwari Temple atop Chamundi Hill for panoramic views of the city.
- In the evening, visit Devaraja Market, known for its vibrant atmosphere and a wide range of local produce, spices, and handicrafts.

Day 11: Mysore - Bangalore (Garden City Exploration)

- Start your day with breakfast before driving to Bangalore, the "Garden City" of India.
- Check in at your hotel and relax before exploring the city.
- Visit Lalbagh Botanical Garden, renowned for its lush greenery, exotic plant species, and the majestic Glass House.
- Explore Cubbon Park, a sprawling green oasis housing government buildings and historical monuments.
- Visit Vidhana Soudha, the seat of the state legislature, and admire its impressive architecture.
- Discover the Bangalore Palace, a grand structure reminiscent of Tudor architecture, and explore MG Road's vibrant markets and shops.

Day 12: Bangalore - Departure

- Enjoy breakfast at the hotel and check out. Depending on your flight schedule, you may have some free time for last-minute shopping or exploring.
- Our representative will transfer you to Bangalore airport for your onward journey, marking the end of your memorable backwater, tea estate, and cultural tour.

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Package Price (USD Per Person Sharing Double/Twin Room)**Valid for Travel: 01 October 2026 – 15 April 2027**

Persons	Solo	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3★ Standard	3,430	1,891	1,640	1,741	1,566	1,494	1,405	1,337
4★ Deluxe	4,047	2,170	1,919	2,020	1,845	1,773	1,684	1,616
5★ Luxury	5,569	3,054	2,668	2,768	2,594	2,522	2,432	2,365

Valid for Travel: 16 April 2027 to 20 September 2027

Persons	Solo	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3★ Standard	3,324	1,800	1,549	1,650	1,475	1,403	1,314	1,246
4★ Deluxe	3,824	2,050	1,799	1,900	1,725	1,653	1,564	1,496
5★ Luxury	4,966	2,753	2,366	2,467	2,292	2,221	2,131	2,064

Single Room Supplement

3★ Standard: USD 515 | 4★ Deluxe: USD 853 | 5★ Luxury: USD 1,626

Triple Sharing Discount (Per Person)

3★ Standard: USD 72 | 4★ Deluxe: USD 123 | 5★ Luxury: USD 250

Price Includes:

- Assistance on arrival at airport.
- 11 Nights' accommodation in selected price category hotels.
- Daily breakfast at hotels.
- Private AC car/van for airport transfers, sightseeing, and excursions as per the program.
- English speaking tour guide on sightseeing days (local guide in each city), as per program.
- Monument entrances and activities charges mentioned in the itinerary.
- 1-Time Shared boat safari in Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary with naturalist.
- Bottled drinking water in car.
- Government taxes.

Price Does Not Include:

- Any flight tickets.
- Camera charges at monuments if any.
- Meals other than mentioned in the inclusions.
- Expenses of personal nature like liquor, laundry, tips, telephone, fax, internet etc.
- Gratuities and optional activities.
- Anything not mentioned in inclusions.

Hotels used or similar for 11 nights' accommodation

3 Star Hotels

- Cochin x 1 night: The Tower House/ The Killians
- Alleppey x 1 night: Deluxe Houseboat (AC During Night Only)
- Thekkady x 2 nights: Abad Green Forest/ Hotel Treetop
- Munnar x 2 nights: Abad Copper Castle/ Elysium Garden Hill Resort
- Madurai x 1 night: JC Residency/ Hotel Royal Court
- Coimbatore x 1 night: ZONE By the Park/ ZIBE Coimbatore by GRT Hotels
- Ooty x 1 night: Gem Park Ooty/ Monarch Hotel
- Mysore x 1 night: Sandesh the Prince/ Regenta Central Herald by Royal Orchid Hotels
- Bangalore x 1 night: Royal Orchid Central/ Ramada Bangalore

4 Star Hotels

- Cochin x 1 night: Casino Hotel/ Le Maritime
- Alleppey x 1 night: Premium Houseboat (Full Time AC)
- Thekkady x 2 nights: Amritara Shalimar Spice Garden/ The Elephant Court
- Munnar x 2 nights: Elixir Hills Resort/ Tea County Munnar
- Madurai x 1 night: Fortune Pandiyan Hotel/ Regency Madurai by GRT Hotels

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- Coimbatore x 1 night: Lemon Tree Hotel/ The Residency Towers
- Ooty x 1 night: Fortune Resort Sullivan Court/ Accord Highland Ooty
- Mysore x 1 night: Fortune Park JP Palace/ Royal Orchid Brindavan Garden
- Bangalore x 1 night: Lemon Tree Premier/ Gokulam Grand Hotel & Spa

5 Star Hotels

- Cochin x 1 night: Kochi Marriott Hotel/ Xandari Harbour
- Alleppey x 1 night: Luxury Houseboat (Full Time AC)
- Thekkady x 2 nights: Spice Village/ Hills & Hues
- Munnar x 2 nights: Chandys Windy Woods/ Blanket Hotel & Spa
- Madurai x 1 night: Courtyard by Marriott/ The Gateway Hotel Pasumalai
- Coimbatore x 1 night: WelcomHotel Coimbatore/ Vivanta Coimbatore
- Ooty x 1 night: Savoy, Ooty - IHCL SeleQtions
- Mysore x 1 night: Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel
- Bangalore x 1 night: ITC Gardenia, a Luxury Collection/ Vivanta Bengaluru, Residency Road

Payment Policy:

- Deposit of 25% of the package cost at the time of booking.
- Deposit of 50% of the package cost, 30 days prior to arrival date
- Deposit of 100% of the package cost, 10 days prior to arrival date

Cancellation policy:

- Note: Written cancellation will be accepted on all working days, except Sundays. Any cancellation sent on Sundays will be considered on the next working day (Monday).
- X-mas and New Year Period (20 Dec to 05 Jan): The payment is non-refundable during this period.
- After Trip Commencement: If you cancel the trip after it has commenced, the refund will be limited to the amount we are able to recover from hoteliers/contractors. We are not responsible for refunds on unused hotel accommodations, chartered transportation, or missed meals.

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- 61 days or more before the tour: No cancellation charges.
- Between 60 to 30 days before the tour: Cancellation charges equal to 20% of the full tour booking value.
- Between 30 to 15 days before the tour: Cancellation charges equal to 50% of the full tour booking value.
- Within 5 days before the tour or no show: Cancellation charges equal to 90% of the

Our Liabilities & Limitations:

- Price Changes: After the finalization of the tour/service cost, if there are any hikes in entrance fees, taxes, fuel costs, or guide charges by the Government of India, these will be charged as extra.
- Role as Agent: Agora Voyages acts only as an agent for hotels, airlines, transporters, railways, and contractors providing services. All receipts, contracts, and tickets issued by us are subject to terms and conditions of the service providers.
- Itinerary Changes: All itineraries are sample itineraries intended to provide a general idea. We reserve the right to change the schedule based on factors such as weather, road conditions, or the physical ability of participants to ensure safety, comfort, and well-being.
- Rate Modifications: Our rates are based on negotiated rates with hotels and airlines. If the rates are modified by these service providers, we reserve the right to adjust the quoted rates accordingly. Hotel bookings are based on usual check-in and check-out times, unless otherwise indicated.
- Liability Disclaimer: We are not responsible for delays, alterations, or expenses incurred due to natural hazards, flight cancellations, accidents, weather, sickness, political closures, or any unforeseen incidents.
- Damage, Loss, or Injury: We are not responsible for any loss, injury, or damage to persons, property, or otherwise, caused by acts of God, fire, accidents, machinery breakdowns, political disturbances, theft, epidemics, or other factors beyond our control.
- Insurance: We do not offer insurance for accidents, sickness, theft, or other unforeseen circumstances. We recommend travelers arrange for insurance in their home country. All personal property and baggage are at the client's risk at all times.
- Unforeseen Circumstances: We are not responsible for costs arising from landslides, roadblocks, bad weather, or similar unforeseen circumstances.

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Tipping

- Tipping is not included in our price. It is optional but often expected in the travel industry. There is no limit on the amount you can tip, though the average guideline is around \$10-15 per day for guides, drivers, and other crew members.

Trip Comments

- After your trip, we would love to hear your experience. Any photos, suggestions, or feedback will be greatly appreciated. While we strive to make every trip perfect, we acknowledge that there is always room for improvement. Your comments, whether positive or constructive, are invaluable to us.