

Tour Name: Golden Triangle & Kerala Backwater

Tour Duration: 15 Nights/ 16 Days

Tour Map: <https://tinyurl.com/44z9643a>

Tour Overview

Embark on a captivating journey through India's rich tapestry with our "Golden Triangle & Kerala Backwater" tour. Begin in Delhi, where ancient monuments like Qutub Minar and Humayun's Tomb unfold tales of Mughal grandeur. Witness the eternal beauty of the Taj Mahal in Agra and explore the regal forts of Jaipur, known as the Pink City. Transitioning south, Kerala beckons with its tranquil backwaters and lush tea plantations in Munnar. Experience the vibrant culture of Cochin, from historic synagogues to Kathakali performances. Conclude with serene beach days in Kovalam, unwinding amidst the Arabian Sea's calming waves. This itinerary promises a harmonious blend of North and South India's cultural wonders and natural splendors.

Tour Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive Delhi

- Arrive at Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi, where you'll be greeted by a representative who will assist with your transfer to the hotel.
- Take some time to rest and relax after your journey, allowing yourself to recover from any travel fatigue.
- Spend the evening at leisure, perhaps planning your itinerary for the upcoming days or simply unwinding in the comfort of your room.
- Enjoy a comfortable overnight stay in Delhi.

Day 2: Delhi

- After breakfast at the hotel, begin your day exploring Delhi. Start with a visit to Qutub Minar, the tallest brick minaret in the world, marveling at its intricate carvings and historical significance.
- Next, explore Humayun's Tomb, a UNESCO World Heritage site and an early example of Mughal architecture blending Persian influences with local craftsmanship.
- Drive past India Gate, a war memorial arch that stands as a tribute to Indian soldiers who died in World War I.

- Visit Lotus Temple, notable for its lotus-shaped architecture and serene surroundings, offering visitors a place for meditation and reflection.
- Continue to Gurudwara Bangla Sahib, the largest Sikh temple in Delhi, where you can witness the community kitchen (langar) in action and experience the spiritual atmosphere.
- Conclude your day with a rickshaw ride through Chandni Chowk, immersing yourself in Delhi's bustling markets, colorful bazaars, and historic landmarks.
- Overnight stay in Delhi.

Day 3: Delhi - Agra (210km)

- After an early breakfast, depart for Agra.
- Arrive in Agra and head straight to the magnificent Taj Mahal, a UNESCO World Heritage site and an architectural marvel symbolizing eternal love. Witness the white marble monument bathed in the soft light of sunrise, reflecting its changing hues.
- Visit Agra Fort, a UNESCO site that served as the main residence of the Mughal emperors, offering panoramic views of the Taj Mahal from its strategic vantage points.
- Explore Itmad-ud-Daulah's Tomb, known as the "Baby Taj" for its intricate marble inlay work and serene gardens along the Yamuna River.
- Overnight stay in Agra.

Day 4: Agra - Fatehpur Sikri - Jaipur (245km)

- After breakfast, depart for Jaipur with a stop at Fatehpur Sikri, an abandoned Mughal city and UNESCO World Heritage site known for its well-preserved red sandstone architecture, including the Buland Darwaza and Jama Masjid.
- Continue your journey to Jaipur, also known as the Pink City, and check-in at the hotel upon arrival.
- In the evening, visit Nahargarh Fort, perched on the Aravalli hills, offering panoramic views of Jaipur city at sunset.
- Overnight stay in Jaipur.

Day 5: Jaipur

- After breakfast, embark on a full day of exploration starting with Amber Fort, an impressive hilltop fortress known for its artistic Hindu-style elements, magnificent palaces, and stunning views of Maota Lake.

- Visit City Palace, a blend of Rajput and Mughal architecture, housing museums with an extensive collection of royal costumes and armory.
- Explore Jantar Mantar, an astronomical observatory and UNESCO World Heritage site, featuring the world's largest stone sundial and a collection of astronomical instruments.
- Drive past Hawa Mahal, the "Palace of Winds," an iconic pink sandstone structure with intricately carved windows designed for royal women to observe street festivals.
- Conclude your day with a visit to Albert Hall Museum, Rajasthan's oldest museum showcasing artifacts, paintings, and sculptures from various periods.
- Overnight stay in Jaipur.

Day 6: Jaipur - Delhi/Cochin (flight)

- Fly from Jaipur to Delhi and then catch a connecting flight to Cochin, Kerala.
- Check-in at your hotel in Cochin upon arrival.
- Spend the evening at leisure, exploring the local markets or enjoying a stroll along the waterfront.
- Overnight stay in Cochin.

Day 7: Cochin

- After breakfast, start your exploration of Cochin with a visit to Mattancherry Palace, also known as the Dutch Palace, featuring Kerala murals depicting Hindu temple art and portraits of the Kochi royal family.
- Explore the Jewish Synagogue, adorned with Belgian chandeliers, hand-painted floor tiles, and historical artifacts documenting the Jewish community's history in Kochi.
- Wander through Jew Town, known for its antique shops, spice markets, and traditional Kerala handicrafts, offering a glimpse into the multicultural heritage of the region.
- Attend a Kathakali dance performance, a traditional Kerala art form characterized by elaborate costumes, facial makeup, and expressive gestures that narrate stories from Hindu epics.
- Visit Santa Cruz Basilica, a historic Roman Catholic church with Portuguese architecture, renowned for its stunning interiors and religious significance.
- Overnight stay in Cochin.

Day 8: Cochin - Munnar (140km)

- After breakfast, drive to Munnar, a picturesque hill station known for its tea plantations and lush greenery.
- En route, visit Cheeyappara and Valara Waterfalls, where cascading water amidst dense forests offers a refreshing stop and scenic views.
- Stop at Pothamedu View Point to enjoy panoramic vistas of the rolling hills covered with tea, coffee, and cardamom plantations.
- Check-in at your hotel in Munnar and relax amidst the tranquil surroundings.
- Overnight stay in Munnar.

Day 9: Munnar

- After breakfast, explore the natural and cultural attractions of Munnar.
- Visit Eravikulam National Park, home to the endangered Nilgiri Tahr and blooming Neelakurinji flowers that carpet the hillsides once every twelve years.
- Discover the history and art of tea-making at the Tea Museum, housed in a colonial-era tea factory, showcasing exhibits on tea processing and the evolution of Munnar's tea industry.
- Stroll through Rose Garden, a beautifully landscaped garden with a variety of roses and other exotic flowers, offering a serene environment for relaxation.
- Visit Echo Point, where the hills echo the natural sounds, creating a surreal atmosphere amidst misty mornings and green valleys.
- Overnight stay in Munnar.

Day 10: Munnar - Thekkady (110km)

- After breakfast, drive to Thekkady, renowned for its wildlife and spice plantations.
- Explore Periyar National Park on a boat cruise along Periyar Lake, spotting elephants, bison, and rare bird species in their natural habitat amidst dense forests and grasslands.
- Visit a Spice Plantation to learn about the cultivation and processing of spices like cardamom, pepper, cinnamon, and cloves, experiencing the fragrant aromas and flavors of Kerala.
- Attend a cultural performance at Mudra Cultural Centre, featuring traditional Kerala art forms such as Kathakali and Kalaripayattu, showcasing the region's rich cultural heritage.

- Overnight stay in Thekkady.

Day 11: Thekkady

- After breakfast, delve deeper into Thekkady's cultural and natural treasures.
- Visit Kalari Kshethra, a training center for Kalaripayattu, the ancient martial art form of Kerala, witnessing demonstrations of its graceful movements and self-defense techniques.
- Drive to Chellarkovil Viewpoint for breathtaking views of the Western Ghats and the cascading waterfalls amidst pristine landscapes and tea plantations.
- Learn about wildlife conservation efforts at the Periyar Tiger Reserve Interpretation Centre, gaining insights into the region's biodiversity and ecological importance.
- Enjoy optional activities such as bamboo rafting, nature walks, or Ayurvedic treatments, immersing yourself in the tranquility of Thekkady's natural surroundings.
- Overnight stay in Thekkady.

Day 12: Thekkady - Alleppey (140km)

- After breakfast, proceed to Alleppey, known as the Venice of the East.
- Board a traditional houseboat for an overnight cruise through the tranquil backwaters of Alleppey, navigating through palm-fringed canals, lakes, and village settlements.
- Indulge in traditional Kerala cuisine served onboard, prepared with freshly caught seafood and local ingredients.
- Experience the serene beauty of Kerala's rural life, watching the sunset over the waterways from your houseboat.
- Overnight stay on the houseboat.

Day 13: Alleppey - Kovalam (200km)

- After breakfast on the houseboat, drive to Kovalam, a renowned beach destination.
- Visit Varkala Beach, known for its cliffside views, golden sands, and natural mineral springs, offering a tranquil setting for relaxation and rejuvenation.
- Check-in at your beach resort in Kovalam and unwind amidst the serene surroundings.
- Enjoy leisure time by the beach, indulging in water sports or Ayurvedic treatments.

- Overnight stay in Kovalam.

Day 14: Kovalam

- After breakfast, explore the cultural and architectural gems of Kovalam.
- Visit Padmanabhaswamy Temple, an ancient Dravidian-style temple dedicated to Lord Vishnu, known for its majestic gopuram and intricate stone carvings.
- Explore Napier Museum and Art Gallery, housing a rich collection of historical artifacts, bronze idols, and ancient artworks from Kerala's royal history.
- Discover contemporary and traditional artworks at Kovalam Art Gallery, showcasing the vibrant cultural expressions of local and regional artists.
- Relax and unwind at Lighthouse Beach, enjoying panoramic views of the Arabian Sea and engaging in beach activities.
- Overnight stay in Kovalam.

Day 15: Kovalam

- After breakfast, enjoy a leisurely day to relax and engage in personal activities.
- Optional activities include exploring local markets, indulging in Ayurvedic treatments, or simply unwinding on the beach.
- Overnight stay in Kovalam.

Day 16: Departure from Delhi

- Transfer to Trivandrum International Airport for your flight to Delhi.
- Departure from Indira Gandhi International Airport, concluding your enriching journey through North and South India.

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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	4,047	2,415	1,993	2,039	1,860	1,825	1,729	1,656
4★ Deluxe	4,956	2,670	2,428	2,474	2,296	2,261	2,164	2,092
5★ Luxury	6,656	3,538	3,297	3,342	3,164	3,129	3,032	2,960

Valid for Travel: 16 April 2027 to 15 September 2027

Persons	Solo	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3★ Standard	3,807	2,065	1,824	1,869	1,691	1,656	1,559	1,487
4★ Deluxe	4,338	2,350	2,108	2,154	1,976	1,941	1,844	1,771
5★ Luxury	5,521	3,122	2,700	2,745	2,567	2,532	2,435	2,363

Single Room Supplement

3★ Standard: USD 727 | 4★ Deluxe: USD 1,199 | 5★ Luxury: USD 2,032

Triple Sharing Discount (Per Person)

3★ Standard: USD 84 | 4★ Deluxe: USD 155 | 5★ Luxury: USD 295

Price Includes:

- Assistance on arrival at airport.
- 15 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.
- Bottled drinking water in car.
- Government taxes.

Price Does Not Include:

- Jaipur - Cochin flight fare approx INR 9,500 per person in economy class.
- 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 15 nights' accommodation

3 Star Hotels

- Delhi x 2 nights: Dee Marks Hotel & Resorts/ Emerald Hotel
- Agra x 1 night: Howard Plaza the Fern/ Hotel Atulyaa Taj
- Jaipur x 2 nights: ZONE By THE Park/ The Fern Residency
- Cochin x 2 nights: The Tower House/ The Killians
- Munnar x 2 nights: Abad Copper Castle/ Elysium Garden Hill Resort
- Pariyar (Thekkady) x 2 nights: Abad Green Forest/ Hotel Treetop
- Alleppey x 1 night: Deluxe Houseboat (AC During Night Only)
- Kovalam x 3 nights: Abad Harmonia Beach Resort/ Uday Suites Shanghumugham Beach

4 Star Hotels

- Delhi x 2 nights: The Hans/ The Royal Plaza
- Agra x 1 night: Radisson Hotel/ Holiday Inn
- Jaipur x 2 nights: Lemon Tree Premier/ The Fern An Ecotel Hotel
- Cochin x 2 nights: Casino Hotel/ Le Maritime
- Munnar x 2 nights: Elixir Hills Resort/ Tea County Munnar
- Pariyar (Thekkady) x 2 nights: Amritara Shalimar Spice Garden/ The Elephant Court
- Alleppey x 1 night: Premium Houseboat (Full Time AC)

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- Kovalam x 3 nights: Estuary Sarovar Portico/ Uday Samudra Leisure Beach Hotel

5 Star Hotels

- Delhi x 2 nights: Le Meridien/ The Grand New Delhi
- Agra x 1 night: Courtyard by Marriott/ Trident Hotel
- Jaipur x 2 nights: Hilton Jaipur/ Radisson City Center
- Cochin x 2 nights: Kochi Marriott Hotel/ Xandari Harbour
- Munnar x 2 nights: Chandys Windy Woods/ Blanket Hotel & Spa
- Pariyar (Thekkady) x 2 nights: Spice Village/ Hills & Hues
- Alleppey x 1 night: Luxury Houseboat (Full Time AC)
- Kovalam x 3 nights: Raviz Kovalam/ Vivanta by Taj - Green Cove

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.
- 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.

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- 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 full tour booking value.

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.