

Tour Name: Kerala Backwater and Beach

Tour Duration: 9 Nights/ 10 Days

Tour Map: <https://tinyurl.com/yhxucz48>

Tour Overview

Embark on "Kerala Backwater and Beach," a captivating tour that reveals the multifaceted beauty of Kerala. Begin in the historic city of Cochin, where you'll experience the vibrant Kathakali dance and explore colonial landmarks. Ascend to the verdant hills of Munnar, renowned for its tea estates, lush plantations, and panoramic views, including a visit to the Tea Museum and Mattupetty Dam. Continue to Thekkady for a thrilling wildlife boat safari in Periyar Sanctuary and a glimpse into spice cultivation. Drift through the enchanting backwaters of Alleppey on a traditional houseboat, soaking in the serene landscape. Finally, unwind on the golden beaches of Kovalam, where cultural heritage meets coastal relaxation. This journey encapsulates Kerala's diverse landscapes and rich traditions, offering a truly immersive experience.

Tour Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive Cochin

- Upon arrival at Cochin airport, you will be greeted by your guide who will transfer you to your hotel for check-in.
- In the evening, enjoy a Kathakali performance, a traditional dance form of Kerala featuring lavish costumes, exotic makeup, and intricate masks.
- The performance showcases classical dance and dramatic storytelling based on ancient Indian epics.
- Overnight at the hotel.

Day 2: Cochin - Munnar (140kms)

- After breakfast at the hotel, visit Fort Cochin, a charming seaside area with Dutch, Portuguese, and British colonial architecture.
- Observe the elaborate bamboo fishing nets at Fort Kochi Beach, an iconic symbol of the area's maritime history.
- Explore St. Francis Church, the original burial site of explorer Vasco da Gama, noted for its historical significance and colonial-era architecture.

- Visit the Jewish Synagogue in Mattancherry, renowned for its antique copper plates and exquisite Belgian chandeliers.
- Continue to the Mattancherry Dutch Palace, also known as the Pardesi Palace, to view its murals depicting Hindu temple art.
- Drive to Munnar and check in at your hotel.
- In the afternoon, visit a tea estate to see the tea processing and sample some of the region's finest teas.
- Overnight at the hotel.

Day 3: Munnar

- After breakfast, head to Pothamedu for panoramic views of the lush tea, coffee, and cardamom plantations in Munnar.
- Visit a local tea estate, where you can explore the tea processing facilities, learn about tea cultivation, and sample some of the region's finest teas.
- Proceed to the Mattupetty Dam and its reservoir, a concrete gravity dam surrounded by scenic hills, ideal for boat rides.
- Continue to Rajamala in Eravikulam National Park, where you might spot the Nilgiri tahr, an endangered mountain goat.
- Visit Mattupedi Dairy Farm, renowned for its Indo-Swiss dairy farming techniques and high-quality milk products.
- Explore Echo Point, a natural wonder where sounds echo off the surrounding hills.
- Visit the Tea Museum to learn about the history and process of tea production in South India, featuring antique machinery and exhibits.
- Stop at a designated photo point for capturing stunning views of the picturesque landscapes and tea gardens.
- Overnight at the hotel.

Day 4: Munnar - Thekkady (110kms)

- After breakfast at the hotel, drive to Thekkady via Ramakkalmedu, known for its strong winds and a wind farm generating renewable energy.
- Visit Frog Rock and Turtle Rock, natural rock formations with unique shapes resembling their namesakes.

- See the Kuravan & Kurathi statues, the highest twin statues in Kerala, symbolizing a local tribal legend.
- Arrive in Thekkady, check in at your hotel, and relax.
- Overnight at the hotel.

Day 5: Periyar

- After breakfast at the hotel, explore Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary by boat, cruising on Periyar Lake amidst the sanctuary's rich biodiversity.
- Spot elephants, bison, sambar deer, wild dogs, and various bird species including grey jungle fowl and Malabar grey hornbill.
- Discover the sanctuary's diverse flora, including tropical evergreen and deciduous forests.
- Visit a spice plantation to see and learn about crops like cardamom, cinnamon, pepper, and coffee.
- Stop at the local market to purchase aromatic spices and souvenirs.
- Overnight at the hotel.

Day 6: Thekkady - Alleppey (135kms)

- After breakfast at the hotel, transfer to Alleppey boat jetty and board a traditional houseboat for a scenic cruise through the backwaters.
- Sail through narrow canals and vast paddy fields, witnessing the daily life of local villagers and the unique backwater ecosystem.
- Observe the lush greenery and tranquil waters of Alleppey, known as the "Venice of the East" for its extensive network of canals and lagoons.
- Enjoy a delicious lunch, dinner, and evening sunset from the houseboat's sun-deck.
- The houseboat is equipped with a kitchen, a chef, and a driver for your convenience.
- Overnight stay on the houseboat.

Day 7: Alleppey - Kovalam (200kms)

- After breakfast on the houseboat, disembark and drive to Kovalam, a renowned beach destination.
- Upon arrival, check in at your hotel and relax.

- Spend the rest of the day at leisure, enjoying the sun and sand on Kovalam's picturesque beaches.
- Overnight at the hotel.

Day 8: Kovalam

- After breakfast at the hotel, visit Sree Padmanabhaswamy Temple, famous for its gold-plated covering and architectural grandeur (sanctum is open only to Hindus).
- Explore Attukal Temple, known for its rich Tamil architectural style and cultural significance.
- Visit Napier Museum, which boasts a fine collection of sculptures, paintings, and traditional musical instruments.
- Explore Kuthira Malika Museum, built in 1840, housing artifacts like ethnic jewelry, wooden carvings, and armory.
- Visit Sri Chitra Art Gallery, featuring works by Raja Ravi Verma and art from the Mughal, Rajput, and Tanjore schools.
- In the evening, drive through famous beaches including Shankumugham Beach, Kovalam Beach, Vizhinjam Beach, and Light House Beach Road.
- Overnight at the hotel.

Day 9: Kovalam

- After breakfast at the hotel, enjoy a free day for personal activities or further relaxation on the beach.
- Take advantage of the day to explore local markets, enjoy water sports, or simply unwind by the sea.
- Overnight at the hotel. (Transport not included this day)

Day 10: Kovalam - Departure

- After breakfast at the hotel, transfer to the airport according to your flight schedule.
- Board a flight for your onward destination, concluding your memorable journey through Kerala's enchanting backwaters and beaches.

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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	2,442	1,341	1,180	1,232	1,122	1,092	1,033	989
4★ Deluxe	2,978	1,571	1,409	1,462	1,351	1,322	1,263	1,219
5★ Luxury	4,100	2,229	1,978	2,031	1,920	1,891	1,832	1,788

Valid for Travel: 16 April 2027 to 20 September 2027

Persons	Solo	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3★ Standard	2,314	1,239	1,078	1,130	1,019	990	931	887
4★ Deluxe	2,708	1,432	1,271	1,323	1,213	1,184	1,125	1,080
5★ Luxury	3,361	1,859	1,609	1,661	1,551	1,521	1,462	1,418

Single Room Supplement

3★ Standard: USD 439 | 4★ Deluxe: USD 745 | 5★ Luxury: USD 1,299

Triple Sharing Discount (Per Person)

3★ Standard: USD 55 | 4★ Deluxe: USD 102 | 5★ Luxury: USD 189

Price Includes:

- Assistance on arrival at airport.
- 9 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.
- Boat safari in Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary with naturalist.
- Bottled drinking water in car.

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- 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 9 nights' accommodation

3 Star Hotels

- Cochin x 1 night: 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

- Cochin x 1 night: 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)
- Kovalam x 3 nights: Estuary Sarovar Portico / Uday Samudra Leisure Beach Hotel

5 Star Hotels

- Cochin x 1 night: Kochi Marriott Hotel/ Xandari Harbour
- Munnar x 2 nights: Chandys Windy Woods/ Blanket Hotel & Spa

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- 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.
- 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.

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- **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.

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.