

Tour Name: Mughal Monuments, Temples & Kerala Backwater

Tour Duration: 24 Nights/ 25 Days

Tour Map: <https://tinyurl.com/2eptta52>

Tour Overview

Embark on a mesmerizing journey through "Mughal Monuments, Temples & Kerala Backwater", where you'll traverse the cultural tapestry and natural wonders of India. Begin in Delhi, exploring Mughal monuments before venturing to Agra's iconic Taj Mahal. Journey through Gwalior's historic fortresses and Orchha's medieval charm. Discover the intricately carved temples of Khajuraho before flying to Varanasi, the spiritual heart of India. Continue to Bodhgaya's serene monasteries and the cultural hubs of Kolkata and Bhubaneswar. Unwind amidst the serene backwaters of Kerala and explore the lush tea estates of Munnar, culminating in Cochin's coastal allure before departing enriched by India's vast diversity.

Tour Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive Delhi

- Arrive in Delhi and transfer to your hotel. Rest and prepare for your journey.

Day 2: Delhi

- Breakfast at the hotel before starting your day. Visit Jama Masjid, India's largest mosque, and admire its stunning architecture.
- Explore Raj Ghat, a serene memorial to Mahatma Gandhi, set amidst beautiful gardens.
- Drive past the iconic Red Fort, a UNESCO World Heritage site, known for its red sandstone architecture.
- Visit Humayun's Tomb, a masterpiece of Mughal architecture and a UNESCO site.
- Conclude with a visit to Qutub Minar, an imposing minaret built in the 12th century.

Day 3: Delhi - Agra (210km)

- Depart for Agra after breakfast.
- Visit the Taj Mahal, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and architectural marvel, experiencing its beauty at sunrise or sunset.

- Explore Agra Fort, a UNESCO site showcasing the blend of Islamic and Hindu architecture, including Diwan-i-Am and Diwan-i-Khas.

Day 4: Agra - Gwalior - Orchha (220kms)

- Drive to Gwalior and visit the majestic Gwalior Fort, known for its impressive architecture and historical significance.
- Explore Sas Bahu Temples and Teli Ka Mandir within the fort complex, showcasing exquisite craftsmanship.
- Proceed to Orchha and visit Jahangir Mahal, Raj Mahal, and Chaturbhuj Temple, offering insights into Bundela architecture.

Day 5: Orchha - Khajuraho (180kms)

- Journey to Khajuraho, known for its UNESCO-listed group of Hindu and Jain temples renowned for intricate erotic sculptures.
- Visit the Western Group of Temples, including Kandariya Mahadeva Temple and Lakshmana Temple, showcasing exquisite carvings and architecture.

Day 6: Khajuraho - Varanasi (Flight)

- Fly to Varanasi, the spiritual heart of India.
- Witness the evening Aarti ceremony on the ghats of River Ganges, a mesmerizing ritual of lamps and chants.

Day 7: Varanasi

- Begin with breakfast at the hotel. Enjoy a serene boat ride at sunrise on the Ganges, witnessing ancient rituals and life along the riverbanks.
- Visit Kashi Vishwanath Temple, dedicated to Lord Shiva, and explore the bustling lanes of Varanasi's old city.

Day 8: Varanasi - Bodhgaya (255kms)

- Travel to Bodhgaya, where Buddha attained enlightenment under the Bodhi Tree.
- Visit Mahabodhi Temple Complex, a UNESCO site, and meditate under the sacred Bodhi Tree, experiencing profound spiritual tranquility.

Day 9: Bodhgaya - Patna (170kms)/ Kolkata (flight)

- Drive to Patna or fly to Kolkata for further exploration.

Day 10: Kolkata

- Explore Victoria Memorial, an iconic symbol of Kolkata's colonial past, housing a museum of Indian history and art.
- Visit Howrah Bridge, one of the busiest bridges in the world, offering panoramic views of the Hooghly River.

Day 11: Kolkata - Bhubaneshwar (Flight)

- Fly to Bhubaneshwar, known as the Temple City of India.
- Visit Lingaraj Temple, dedicated to Lord Shiva, and marvel at its architectural splendor and sacred pond.

Day 12: Bhubaneshwar - Puri (60kms)

- Drive to Puri, a significant pilgrimage destination.
- Visit Jagannath Temple, dedicated to Lord Jagannath, and experience the vibrant rituals and traditions.

Day 13: Puri - Chilika Lake (55kms one way)

- Explore Chilika Lake, Asia's largest brackish water lagoon, renowned for its biodiversity and migratory birds.
- Take a boat ride to see the Irrawaddy dolphins and visit Nalaban Bird Sanctuary for birdwatching.

Day 14: Puri - Bhubaneshwar/ Chennai (flight)

- Return to Bhubaneshwar or fly to Chennai.

Day 15: Chennai - Pondicherry (160kms)

- Drive to Pondicherry, known for its French colonial heritage and tranquil atmosphere.
- Explore Auroville, an experimental township promoting unity and peace.
- Visit Aurobindo Ashram, founded by Sri Aurobindo, and immerse in its spiritual teachings.

Day 16: Pondicherry

- Enjoy breakfast at the hotel. Explore the French Quarter (White Town) with its charming streets, colonial architecture, and boutique shops.

- Visit Basilica of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, a stunning church showcasing Gothic architecture.

Day 17: Pondicherry - Thanjore (220kms)

- Journey to Thanjavur (Tanjore), known for its rich cultural heritage and classical arts.
- Visit Brihadeeswarar Temple, a UNESCO World Heritage site, renowned for its grandeur and Chola architecture.

Day 18: Thanjavur - Trichy - Madurai (190kms)

- En-route to Madurai, stop at Trichy (Tiruchirappalli) to visit Rock Fort Temple, offering panoramic views of the city.
- Continue to Madurai and visit Meenakshi Amman Temple, a significant Hindu pilgrimage site with intricately carved gopurams.

Day 19: Madurai - Munnar (160kms)

- Drive to Munnar, a picturesque hill station famous for its sprawling tea estates and panoramic views.
- Visit Eravikulam National Park, home to Nilgiri Tahr and blooming Neelakurinji flowers (seasonal).

Day 20: Munnar

- Start with breakfast at the hotel. Explore Echo Point, where your voice echoes across the lush hills.
- Visit Top Station for breathtaking views of Western Ghats and tea plantations.
- Enjoy a guided tour of tea estates, learning about tea cultivation and processing.

Day 21: Munnar - Thekkady (100kms)

- Drive to Thekkady, known for Periyar National Park and its diverse wildlife.
- Embark on a boat cruise on Periyar Lake, spotting elephants, deer, and birds in their natural habitat.

Day 22: Thekkady

- Begin with breakfast at the hotel. Explore spice plantations, learning about spices like cardamom, pepper, and cloves.

- Take a nature walk through Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary, observing flora and fauna.

Day 23: Thekkady - Alleppey (160kms)

- Drive to Alleppey (Alappuzha), known for its scenic backwaters and houseboat cruises.
- Board a traditional houseboat for an overnight cruise, enjoying serene views of coconut palms and rural life.

Day 24: Alleppey - Cochin (60kms)

- Disembark from the houseboat and drive to Cochin (Kochi).
- Visit Fort Kochi, exploring St. Francis Church and Dutch Palace, with its exquisite Kerala murals.

Day 25: Cochin - Departure

- Transfer to Cochin airport for your departure flight, concluding your enriching journey through India's diverse cultural, historical, and natural wonders.

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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	7,903	4,326	3,755	3,888	3,482	3,408	3,186	3,019
4★ Deluxe	9,337	5,010	4,439	4,573	4,166	4,092	3,870	3,704
5★ Luxury	12,294	6,897	5,946	6,080	5,673	5,599	5,377	5,211

Valid for Travel: 16 April 2027 to 20 September 2027

Persons	Solo	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3★ Standard	7,822	4,274	3,703	3,837	3,430	3,356	3,134	2,968
4★ Deluxe	9,057	4,874	4,303	4,436	4,029	3,956	3,734	3,567
5★ Luxury	11,977	6,725	5,774	5,907	5,501	5,427	5,205	5,038

Single Room Supplement

3★ Standard: USD 1,105 | 4★ Deluxe: USD 1,855 | 5★ Luxury: USD 3,304

Triple Sharing Discount (Per Person)

3★ Standard: USD 144 | 4★ Deluxe: USD 234 | 5★ Luxury: USD 496

Price Includes:

- Assistance on arrival at airport.
- 24 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.

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- Government taxes.

Price Does Not Include:

- Khajuraho - Varanasi, Patna - Kolkata - Bhubaneswar - Chennai flight fare approx 20500 per person in economy class.
- Camera charges at monuments if any.
- Meals other than mentioned in 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 24 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
- Orchha x 1 night: Orchha Resort/ Amar Mahal
- Khajuraho x 1 night: Ramada/SYNA Heritage Hotel
- Varanasi x 2 nights: Meraden Grand/ Hotel Tridev
- Bodhgaya x 1 night: The Imperial/ Hotel Taj Darbar
- Kolkata x 2 nights: Golden Tulip/ Polo Floatel
- Bhubaneshwar x 1 night: Hotel Hindusthan International/ Swosti Grand
- Puri x 2 nights: Toshali Sands/ The Hans Coco Palms
- Chennai x 1 night: ZONE By The Park/ Raj Park
- Pondicherry x 2 nights: Shenbaga Hotel/ Anandha Inn Convention Centre
- Thanjavur x 1 night: Sangam Hotels
- Madurai x 1 night: JC Residency/ Hotel Royal Court
- Munnar x 2 nights: Abad Copper Castle/ Elysium Garden Hill Resort

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- Thekkady x 2 nights: Abad Green Forest/ Hotel Treetop
- Alleppey x 1 night: Deluxe Houseboat (AC During Night Only)
- Cochin x 1 night: The Tower House/ The Killians

4 Star Hotels

- Delhi x 2 nights: The Hans/ The Royal Plaza
- Agra x 1 night: Radisson Hotel/ Holiday Inn
- Orchha x 1 night: Orchha Resort/ Amar Mahal
- Khajuraho x 1 night: Radisson Hotel/ Hotel Chandela
- Varanasi x 2 nights: Rivatas by Ideal/ The Amayaa
- Bodhgaya x 1 night: Marasa Sarovar Premiere/ The Royal Residency
- Kolkata x 2 nights: The Elgin Fairlawn/ ZONE By The Park
- Bhubaneswar x 1 night: Fortune Park Sishmo/ Lemon Tree Premier
- Puri x 2 nights: MAYFAIR Heritage/ Mayfair Waves
- Chennai x 1 night: Accord Metropolitan/ The Park Chennai
- Pondicherry x 2 nights: Le Pondy/ Accord Puducherry
- Thanjavur x 1 night: GReaT Trails Riverview Resort
- Madurai x 1 night: Fortune Pandiyan Hotel/ Regency Madurai by GRT Hotels
- Munnar x 2 nights: Elixir Hills Resort/ Tea County Munnar
- Thekkady x 2 nights: Amritara Shalimar Spice Garden/ The Elephant Court
- Alleppey x 1 night: Premium Houseboat (Full Time AC)
- Cochin x 1 night: The Tower House/ The Killians

5 Star Hotels

- Delhi x 2 nights: Le Meridien/ The Grand New Delhi
- Agra x 1 night: Courtyard by Marriott/ Trident Hotel
- Orchha x 1 night: Orchha Palace and Convention Centre

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- Khajuraho x 1 night: The Lalit Temple View
- Varanasi x 2 nights: Ramada JHV/ Radisson Hotel
- Bodhgaya x 1 night: Hyatt Place Bodh Gaya
- Kolkata x 2 nights: ITC Sonar, a Luxury Collection/ The Lalit Great Eastern
- Bhubaneswar x 1 night: Mayfair Lagoon/ Trident Hotel
- Puri x 2 nights: MAYFAIR Heritage/ Mayfair Waves
- Chennai x 1 night: Radisson Blu Hotel GRT Chennai/ Hilton Chennai
- Pondicherry x 2 nights: Palais De Mahe/ La Villa
- Thanjavur x 1 night: Svatma
- Madurai x 1 night: Courtyard by Marriott/ The Gateway Hotel Pasumalai
- Munnar x 2 nights: Chandys Windy Woods/ Blanket Hotel & Spa
- Thekkady x 2 nights: Spice Village/ Hills & Hues
- Alleppey x 1 night: Luxury Houseboat (Full Time AC)
- Cochin x 1 night: Kochi Marriott Hotel/ Xandari Harbour

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 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.