

# 6 Days Kerala Backwaters

Cochin – Munnar – Alleppey

## Trip Highlights:

### **Cochin**

*Spice Capital of the World*

### **Munnar**

*Tea plantations in spectacular hills*

### **Alleppey**

*Sailing Houseboat stay in Backwaters*

## ITINERARY

### Day 01: ARRIVE COCHIN

Fly to Cochin. On arrival met by our Guide and transfer to the hotel for overnight stay.

**No Meal**

### Day 02: COCHIN – MUNNAR (128 KM, 4 hours drive)

Morning city tour of Cochin visiting the Dutch Palace, the Jewish Synagogue (which is closed on Saturdays), St. Francis Church and the Santa Cruz Basilica. The tour ends in the Fort Kochi area where you can walk through the historical Dutch and Portuguese buildings. Some parts of this nearly 500-year-old Fort are still amazingly well preserved. Post lunch drive around 4 hours to reach Munnar - breathtakingly beautiful - a haven of peace and tranquility - the idyllic tourist destination in God's own country. Set at an altitude of 6000 ft in Idukki district, Munnar was the favored summer resort of the erstwhile British rulers in the colonial days. Unending expanse of tea plantations - pristine valleys and mountains- exotic species of flora and fauna in its wild sanctuaries and forests - aroma of spice scented cool air.

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### Day 03: MUNNAR EXCRSION

A day to explore Munnar and places of interests in its vicinity. Munnar is at the confluence of three rivers. In Tamil, the word 'munnu' means "three" and 'aar' means "river". Hence "Munnar" is a shortened version of 'Munnu Aar'. The 3 mountain streams joining together here are Madurapuzha, Nallathanni and Kundala. Munnar is a commercial centre with one of the world's best tea estates. There are about 30 tea plantations in and around Munnar. Among these, majority of the plantations are owned by Tata Group's Kannan Devan Tea Estate. A visit to Munnar can witness the nurturing of tea in plantation to the process of manufacturing and packing. The tea estates, hills, lakes and forests inside Munnar area expose its beauty. The tea plants covered Munnar hills makes the feeling of seeing a wide green carpet. Overnight at Munnar.

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### Day 04: MUNNAR – ALLEPEY

161 KM, 3-4 hours drive

After breakfast drive 161 Km around 4 hours to Alleppey – the “Venice of the East”. Alleppey is a fascinating part of Kerala. On arrival board on deluxe houseboat for lunch and overnight stay after traveling for few hours in the backwaters. The classic Kerala Houseboat or “Kettuvallam”, (as it would be locally known), is the giant traditional craft of the waterways. Measuring up to 80 feet in length, they were used to carry tones of rice & spices. A standard Kettuvallam can hold up to 30 tones. Today these Houseboats have been transformed into an innovative holiday idea, including all the creature comforts of a well-furnished Bedroom, an en-suite Bathroom, cozy Living Room, Kitchen and even a Balcony for Angling. The Houseboat will cruise at a leisurely pace along palm-fringed waterways, giving a panoramic view of Kerala Village Life. On-board catering will provide the best of Kerala Cuisine to suit your tastes. At night the Boat will be anchored on Lake Vembanad.

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### Day 05: ALLEPEY – COCHIN

65 KM, 1.5 hours drive

After breakfast at houseboat leave sail to the shores of the lake and drive 65 one hours to Cochin - 'Queen of the Arabian' Sea is the commercial capital of Kerala. Cochin has one of the finest natural harbors in the world. Afternoon city tour of Cochin, a gentle stroll along the small alleys and streets of fort Kochi by visiting the ancient Chinese fishing nets along the beach, admire the setting Sun in the back drop of Arabian Sea. Evening for the Kathakali Dance show in the nearby performance centre . This is India's most spectacular dance

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**Tour Code:** E5N-KER

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forms, based on stories from Ramayana and Mahabharata. The dancers are elaborately made up with paint and masks, accompanied with

**Day 06: FLY HOME**

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Enjoy your breakfast & have a relaxed morning at your hotel. Check your hotel out at 12:00 noon and you can opt to revisit few of the interesting places in and around Cochin till lunch. Shop around Cochin till transfer to the airport to board on your scheduled flight.

**Hotels Envisaged**

Hotels	Cochin	Munnar	Alleppey
Economy Hotels	Travacore Court	Las Palmas	Deluxe Houseboat
Standard Hotels	Beaunonde The Fern – An Ecotel	Silver Tips/Sienna Village	Deluxe Houseboat
Superior Hotels	Crown Plaza	The Panaromic Gateway	24 hours AC Houseboat*

*\*24 Hours AC Houseboat In Superior we provide houseboat where even the sitting area is air conditioned.*

**Quoted in USD Valid from 1<sup>st</sup> Sep, 2019 – 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2020**

Hotels	30 Pax	22-29 Pax	15-21 Pax	10-14 Pax	6-9 Pax	3-5 Pax	2 Pax	CWB	CNB	SRS
Economy	446	456	466	490	515	588	683	337	307	205
Standard	503	513	523	547	573	646	741	361	318	256
Superior	670	680	690	713	738	811	906	405	355	400

**Not included:** Airfare, fuel surcharge and taxes. (Based on time of booking)

**SRS:** Single Room Supplement, **CWB:** Child With Bed, **CNB:** Child No Bed

**Land Tour Cost Includes**

**Cost Excludes**

1. Airport transfers and all transport costs in chartered transport as per the itinerary from Cochin airport to Cochin Airport.
2. Hotels as indicated in the itinerary with all meals as shown in the itinerary.
3. One night stay in Deluxe houseboat with 9 pm to 6 am air conditioned room provided in Economy and Standard Hotel tour cost and 24 hours air conditioned houseboat in Superior Hotel Package.
4. 1000 ml of bottled water per person per day.
5. Entrance charges to the places of interest as mentioned in the itineraries in Kerala including Kathakali Dance performance.
6. One local phone with local SIM with Rs.100/- value added in the mobile with all important numbers feed in phone for emergency use.

1. International airfare, fuel surcharge and airport taxes.
2. Indian visa, travel, medical & evacuation insurance, medical and evacuation expenses if any.
3. All expenses of personal nature like drinks, telephone calls etc.
4. And any other expenses paid due to any change in dates and itinerary.

**Note:** In case of non-availability of rooms in the selected envisaged hotels, similar category hotels are provided and if same category hotels are not available, any reduction or increase in cost is conveyed and refunded or charged from the guest as per the final availability of hotels. Final itinerary may be changed due to any operational reasons arise before your travel.

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(10-24/07/2019)