



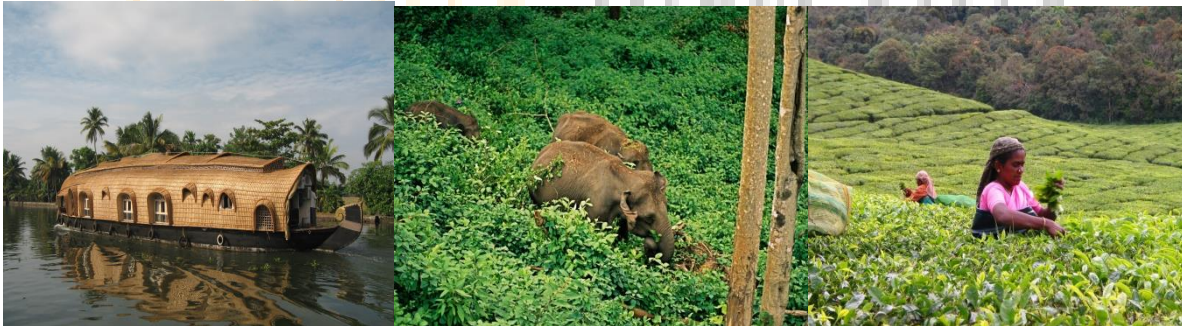
## Kerala-10N/11D With Houseboat

# WELCOME TO GOD'S OWN COUNTRY

Kerala is India's only tropical paradise. It is the ideal honeymoon travel destination. It is the greenest state of South India. It is also known as 'God's Own Country' because there is no better way to discover the soul of this rustic, enchanting, green valleys, friendly people, history-laden, relaxed atmosphere, nature's beauty, scenic beauty, sun kissed sea beaches, backwaters, tradition-rich state that without exaggeration seems God's favorite territory.



Travelling here is an unforgettable experience. The warm red tiles on the roofs of traditional houses, add color to the countryside, makes Kerala a dream location. It also offers some of the best and most picturesque beaches in India. Golden glowing sands, swaying palm trees, catamaran cruising and sumptuous seafood, offers you an unforgettable Kerala travel experience.



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## **Kochi – Munnar- Thekkady – Alleppey – Kumarakom - Kovalam - Kochi**

An ideal holiday gateway, Kerala provides diverse options for the travelers from the undulating hills, serene backwaters, palm fringed beaches to the eclectic art forms it is a visual treat all the way. The place will definitely leave you mesmerized

### **Day1: Kochi – Munnar (127 kms / 4 hrs)**

Arrival at Kochi. Meet and assist and proceed to Munnar - a hill situated at an altitude of 5000 to 8000 Ft above sea level and is situated at the confluence of three mountain streams - Mudrapuzha, Nallathani & Kundala. Never ending expanse of tea plantations amidst the serene mountain & valleys give Munnar a distinct edge

Travel: Sightseeing in vehicle to the likes of Verito

Stay: Overnight stay at Munnar

### **Day 2: Munnar**

This beautiful hill station was once the summer resort of the erstwhile British Govt in South India. Sprawling Tea plantations, picture book towns, winding lanes and holiday facilities make this a popular resort town. Picturesque valleys, exotic species of flora and fauna in its forests will never make you leave Munnar.

Experience: Visit **Eravikulam national park**, **Mattupetty Lake** and dam which is surrounded by tall hills and forest. **Echo Point** - This scenic place gets its name from the natural echo phenomenon here. Echo point is on the way to Top Station from Munnar. **Devikulam** - This idyllic hill station with its velvet lawns, exotic flora and fauna and the cool mountain air is a rare experience. Munnar is known for its extensive **tea estates**.

Travel: Sightseeing in vehicle to the likes of Verito

Stay: Overnight stay at Munnar

Food: Breakfast at the hotel.

### **Day 3: Munnar – Periyar (Thekkady) - 124 kms / 4 hrs**

Today drive to Thekkady - 777 [sq.km](#) of lush green tropical forests is the natural habitat of elephant, bison, spotted deer, sambar, bear and many colorful birds etc. Periyar (Thekkady) is known for its great scenic charm and rich biodiversity.

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Experience: Sightseeing of Periyar. Herds of wild elephant's drinking water from the gorgeous Periyar Lake will be etched in your mind. Visit the spice plantation & the local market. Enjoy Elephant ride.

Travel: Sightseeing in vehicle to the likes of Verito

Stay: Overnight stay at Periyar

Food: Breakfast at the hotel.

#### **Day 4: Periyar (Thekkady)**

Experience: Visit the local Market and enjoy the Famous Kerala Chocolates, Evening go for Kerala Ayurvedic Massage and relax into the aroma of Forest.

Travel: Sightseeing in vehicle to the likes of Verito

Stay: Overnight stay at Periyar

Food: Breakfast

#### **Day 5: Periyar (Thekkady) / Alleppey (127 kms / 4 hrs 30 mins)**

Today drive to Alleppey. Known as the Venice of the East, Alleppey offers unparalleled natural beauty. Experience the breathtaking backwaters in Alleppey.

Experience: Embark the houseboat at the jetty. The traditional 'Kettuvallam', a boat now re-incarnated as your floating home, away from home. A bamboo - thatched canopy sets the ambience for a river cruise that is bound to make you want time to stand still. Nestled within this canopy lies a complete home-unit, giving the comforts of modern living in a truly ethnic setting. Wake up to the smell of fresh-brewed tea emanating from a well-equipped kitchenette; stop by and watch your personal chef work up your breakfast - he'll also share his smile and his insights you'll never want the magic to end.

Travel: Sightseeing in vehicle to the likes of Verito

Stay: Overnight stay at house boat

Food: Breakfast, Lunch& Dinner at the house boat.

#### **Day 6: Alleppey - Kumarakom (50 kms approx / 1 hrs)**

Today drive to Kumarakom, spend some euphoric time with your travel companion at the resort.

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Travel: Sightseeing in vehicle to the likes of Verito

Stay: Overnight stay at Kumarakom Hotel

Food: Breakfast at the Houseboat.

Day 7: Kumarakom to Marari (40 Kms/ 45Mins)

Today travel to Marari White Sand Beach. Enjoy the Private Beach of the hotel and relax at the hotel. In the evening take the view of the beautiful sun setting at the beach.

Travel: Sightseeing in vehicle to the likes of Verito

Stay: Overnight stay at Marari

Food: Breakfast at the hotel.

Day 8: Kumarakom- Kovalam (170 kms / 5 hrs 30 mins)

Today drive to Kovalam – India's most spectacular beach resort, just 16 kms from Trivandrum. A haven of peace and tranquility.

Experience: The clear water in Kovalam is ideal for swimming, surfing and water-skiing. Facilities like Ayurvedic massage, yoga, water sports etc are available here (**at your own expenses**).

Travel: Sightseeing in vehicle to the likes of Verito

Stay: Overnight stay at Kovalam

Food: Breakfast at the hotel.

Day 9: Kovalam- Trivandrum

Proceed for half day tour of Trivandrum city, capital of Kerala.

Experience: Visit to the ancient temple of Sri Padmanabhaswamy (**entry restricted for foreigners**). It is one of the major attractions in the city of Thiruvananthapuram. Move around the city and you get to see various picturesque spots besides the glimpses of the city's past. Some of the attractions that are not to be missed are the Napier Museum, Sri Chitra Art Gallery, Zoo, Observatory Hill, Science and Technology Museum, and Chacha Nehru Children's Museum.

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Travel: Sightseeing in vehicle to the likes of Verito

Stay: Overnight stay at Kovalam

Food: Breakfast at the hotel.

#### Day 10: Kovalam – Kanyakumari – Kovalam

Today after an early breakfast, proceed for a day excursion to Kanyakumari – the west is covered by the Arabian Sea. The East is covered by the Bay of Bengal. The southern side is very unique as both these seas mingle with the Indian Ocean. The Land that is located in the tip of the country, where the three seas get united is none other than cape comerin.

Experience: Visit Vivekananda Rock Fort, Wax Museum, Government museum and temples of Kanyakumari.

Travel: Sightseeing in vehicle to the likes of Verito

Stay: Overnight stay at Kovalam

Food: Breakfast at the hotel.

#### Day 11: Kovalam – Onwards

Trip comes to an end with many lasting memories. Today transfer to Trivandrum/ Kochi airport / railway station to board a flight / train to your onward destination.

Travel: Sightseeing in vehicle to the likes of Verito

Food: Breakfast at the hotel.



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## HOTELS

Destination	Hotels / Resorts	NO. OF NTS
Munnar	Copper Castle	2
Periyar	Abad Green Forest	2
Alleppey	Dlx Houseboat	1
Kumarakom	Whispering palms	1
Marari	Turtle Beach Resort	1
Kovalam	Abad Harmonia	3

## NETT COST

Dates	Per Couple	Extra Adult	Extra Child (5yrs to 12yrs)	Child Below 5yrs
Between:- 1st Oct 2016 to 19th Dec 2016	79000	25000	20500	Free
Between:- 20th Dec 2016 to 10th Jan 2017	97000	31000	27000	Free
Between:- 11th Jan 2017 to 15th March 2017	79000	25000	20500	Free

## INCLUSIONS

- Accommodation in well appointed rooms.
- Breakfast Included
- Breakfast, Lunch Dinner included in Houseboat.
- Transfers and Sightseeing by an **Air-Conditioned Vehicle**.
- Porter age / Parking / Assistance at all places as per Itinerary.

## EXCLUSIONS

- International / domestic airfares / train fare / travel insurance.
- Items of personal nature viz. telephone calls, drinks, laundry bills, etc.

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- All those which are not mentioned under “INCLUDES” header.

## NOTES

- Check in / Checkout – as per hotel’s policy.
- Munnar & Periyar being destinations with natural beauty, guides are not required. The drivers are well versed with these places & act as a guide.
- Alleppey being a water body, vehicle is not required out here and hence our package doesn’t include vehicle at disposal in Alleppey.
- Check in time on the houseboat is 1230 hrs & check out is 0930 hrs.
- Houseboat will remain stationary from 1730 hrs till next morning.

## FACTFILE

1. The weather conditions in Kerala are tropical.
2. Travel light. Most of your requirements are available at the local markets.
3. A variety of cuisine is available in Kerala. Do pamper your gastronomic juices by indulging in the scrumptious Kerala delicacies but take care not to eat from the unhygienic roadside stalls. It is advisable to drink only the packaged drinking water or mineral water.
4. It helps to remember that most temples do not allow foreign tourists and non-Hindus to enter. Even Hindu men are allowed into the sanctum of many only if they go bare-chested and don a dhoti and not trousers. Women are expected to wear a saree and surprisingly while a trouser or even the ethnic Indian Salwar Kameez clad women may be restricted, a skirt donned lady will be allowed to pass.
5. Do remember to remove your footwear as you enter the temples or a Malayali household.
6. Photography is restricted in many temples & museum. Do obtain permissions or special tickets for using the camera where necessary.
7. It is advisable to carry a list of emergency numbers such as printouts of the list provided in Maps Of India, Kerala Telephone Directory. However if such a listing is not available

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on hand, the police are contactable by dialing 100 and the fire & rescue team and ambulance services respond to 101.

8. Most high class hotels and resorts provide a 24 hour doctor on call service and house pharmacies. However tourists are advised to carry a kit of emergency and essential medications.
9. Kerala's allure is wide spread and the number of tourists visiting this natural paradise is ever increasing. Hence it is advisable to book your tickets and make reservations well in advance.
10. Do go in for Ayurvedic treatment only at authorized resorts and holistic treatment centers.
11. The banks of Kerala, like the rest of India operate between 10 am and 2 pm, Monday to Friday except on public holidays.
12. To get the best deals from curio shopping by bargaining. Take a local guide along as he is capable of getting you coveted souvenirs at throwaway prices.
13. The best season to visit this sylvan state is from November to March. Not only is the climate pleasant and windy, this is also the festival season and brings out the best performing and ritual arts performances. However most Ayurvedic resorts hold their rejuvenating programs from March to September.
14. Do remember to save the bills, vouchers tickets and vouchers amassed on your Kerala tour. These may be made into a scrapbook or a travelogue to remind you of the heady days spent in God's own Country.

The above are general consideration to be taken into account on your tour to Kerala. However it is important to develop a humane relation with the inhabitants of the region because those will be the best treasured reward of your trip to this tourist friendly state. Do put forth your suggestions for improvement without criticism in the suggestion books available at most tourist attractions and above all do show appreciation where it is due. A kind word or a pat on the back of a helpful guide goes a long way to make your trip rosy.

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