# **07 DAYS 06 NIGHTS FASCINATING KERALA**

#### **DAY 01 ARRIVE KOCHI**

Met upon arrival and after assistance at the airport transfer to your Hotel. Arrive in Cochin and check-in at your Hotel.

KOCHI: (pop. 686,000), once visited by King Solomon and the intended destination of Columbus, is called the Queen of the Arabian Sea. Its beautiful lagoons, lakes and greenery offer a lovely setting for a stay of three nights. Long famed in the history books, Kochi (formerly known as Cochin) is also home to Jews who settled here more than 2,500 years ago. The first European colony in Kochi was founded by the Portuguese in the 16th century, and their influence can still be detected. The Dutch and, eventually, the British followed them-the cosmopolitan mix of cultures makes the city fascinating. Try to find the tombstone marking the original burial place of Vasco da Gama (his remains were later sent to Portugal) at St. Francis Church, and visit some of the city's other churches, temples and mosques.

Overnight at Hotel.

### DAY 02: KOCHI

After breakfast, proceed with sightseeing tour of the satellite towns of Kochi (Cochin) and Ernakulam. Visit the Dutch Palace (Closed on Saturday), the Jewish Synagogue - (which remains closed on Friday & Saturdays) St. Francis Church and the Santa Cruz Basilica. While driving along the coastline, at the Harbor's mouth, one can also view the unique and still-in-use "Chinese Fishing Nets" which were introduced by the Chinese traders in the 14th Century. 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. Lunch at hotel. Enjoy the Kathakali Show in the evening.

Dinner and overnight at hotel

#### DAY 03: COCHIN – PERIYAR (185 KMS/ 05 HRS) (BLD)

Morning after breakfast proceed to Periyar. Drive along the tranquil countryside to Periyar – one of the largest wildlife sanctuaries in India. The sanctuary is centered on a large artificial lake, formed by the dam across the Periyar River. Periyar Tiger Reserve—in the southwestern state of Kerala, this is the best elephant sanctuary in India, despite its name, although it does have tigers, as well as monkeys, wild boar and sambals. The park should be visited October-May. Afternoon enjoy boat cruise around the lake, you can see herds of wild animals on the banks taking their bath or quenching their thirst. A stroll through the spice plantations, filled with the fragrance of cardamom, clove, cinnamon etc., will be truly exhilarating

Dinner and overnight at hotel

## (BLD)

(MOB)

#### DAY 04: PERIYAR – MUNNAR (100 KMS / 03 HRS)

After breakfast proceed for Munnar sightseeing, on arrival visit Mattupetty Lake and dam, which is a very beautiful picnic spot. Enjoy the tranquil atmosphere and fill up your soul with peace. Relax and feel the difference this cool atmosphere is going to bring to you. You can enjoy boating in the lake (optional) and view the mountain and landscapes from afar. Also visit Eravikulam National Park, a natural habitat for a rare mountain goat - Nilgiri Tahr and home of Anaimundi (2695m) the highest peak of South India. Also visit Tea Museum, one can satiate their curiosity on different stages of tea processing, and also learn a thing or two about the production of black tea

Dinner and overnight at hotel

#### DAY 05: **MUNNAR – ALLEPPEY**

After breakfast at hotel, depart by surface for Alleppey. Upon arrival in board Houseboat, located on the shores of the enchanting Vembanad Lake. The boat cruises and you have a close look into an engaging rustic life. Large flotillas of ducks waddling down to the water from thatched houses on the banks. As we travel through the backwaters we pass through rural settlements sited on narrow strips of land between waterways. The backwaters are a hive of activity with village life all along the banks, boat men taking goods and materials from one village to the next, children swimming, women washing clothes, and fishermen in traditional wooden boats.

Meals and overnight at House Boat.

### DAY 06: **ALLEPPEY – KOVALAM**

After breakfast cruise disembark and transfer by surface to Kovalam. Upon arrival in Kovalam, check-in at he beach resort.

(BLD)

(BLD)

Kovalam: You can also take a tour through the backwater country with a local fisherman. The best beach in the area-and by far the most popular with tourists-is Kovalam, which lies a few miles southeast of Thiruvananthapuram. The sand, lined with palm trees, seems to stretch forever. Almost all the hotels here offer excellent Ayurvedic Spa Treatments & massages. Kerala's beaches are excellent for watching the local fishing technique: low-slung dugout canoes are controlled by tug-o-war teams holding ropes on the beach.

Dinner and overnight at Hotel.

#### DAY 07: **KOVALAM DEPARTURE**

After breakfast at Hotel, morning at leisure. Afternoon, check-out of hotel and proceed with Trivandrum city sightseeing. From Kovalam, proceed for a fall day city sightseeing tour visiting Sri Padmanabhaswamy Temple, Napier Museum, Chitralayan Arts Gallery (both closed on Monday / Wednesday mornings), Zoological Gardens, Reptile House, Observatory, Kanakakunnu Palace and Sree Moolamthirunal Shastri Purthi Memorial (State Handicraft Institute). After dinner transfer to airport to board flight for onward destination

### **END OF TOUR**

### CHECK-IN & CHECK OUT AT 12 NOON.

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## PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- Accommodation on TWIN SHARING BASIS for 6 nights as per above inclusive of all applicable taxes. Starting with Breakfast on day 02 and ending with Dinner on Day 07
- Set menu buffet meals as per above.
- Transportation using an aircon vehicle as per above.
- Service of a local English-speaking guide in each city as per above programme for sightseeing's.
- Boat Cruise and Spice Plantation Visit in Periyar
- Visit to Eravikulam National Park in Munnar
- Cochin City's Monument entrance fee included in above quote (for Single visit only)
- Kathakali Dance show in Cochin
- Quote inclusive of Government Sales Taxes.

### PACKAGE EXCLUDES:

- Any airfare
- Any item of personal nature such as table drinks, laundry, telephone calls, mineral water etc.
- Any details not mentioned in the package includes column.