



**Tour Name : Kerala Nature & Pilgrimage Tour**

**Duration ; 11 Nights / 12 Days**

**About the tour:**

Kerala, situated in the south – western sector of India, quietly placed between the Arabian Sea and the Western Ghats, with palm lined coastline, harbour and fascinating beaches. In Kerala you will find vast hill stations, backwater canals, wildlife, spice, coffee and tea plantations. Kerala is worldly known for Ayurveda, the ancient holistic science of healing of human body. You will also explore the ancient temples which will provides you with a deep insight into brilliant architectural, sculptural and artistic skills of the engineers, architects and artisans of the bygone times. Standing tall, these temples are today, India’s precious jewels adding to its rich heritage.

## **Outline Itinerary**

### **Day 1; Arrive Trivandrum – Kovalam (20kms/ 30minuts drive)**

On arrival at Trivandrum airport meet with our office executive assistance and transfer to hotel in Kovalam (hotels check in time 1200hr afternoon, early check in subject to rooms availability). Rest time free & easy for personal activities and relax. Overnight at beach hotel.

### **Day 2; Kovalam**

Breakfast at hotel, city tour of Trivandrum. Visit Sree Padmanabhaswamy Temple the guardian deity of the city. The Maharaja of Travancore till date pays homage at the Padmanabhan Swamy Temple that enshrines the image of Lord Vishnu reclining under the hood of "Anantha" the great serpent. Also visit Attukal Temple a Hindu religious shrine. The city has a rich tradition of nurturing art and culture since ancient times, witness same by visiting Napier Museum, Kuthira Malika & Sri Chitra Art Gallery. Drive thru famous beaches which include Shankumugham Beach, Kovalam Beach, Vizhinjam lighthouse & Light House Beach Road. Overnight at beach hotel.

### **Day 3; Kovalam – Kanyakumari (85kms/ 2hrs)**

Breakfast at hotel, drive to Kanyakumari check in at hotel.

Later city tour visit Kanyakumari Temple one of the 108 Shakti Peetha in Hindu mythology. The temple is one of the major Hindu temples across India and is mentioned in almost all the ancient Hindu scriptures. Gandhi Mandapam and Vivekananda Memorial, watching sun set from here is the big attraction. Padmanabhapuram Palace, a temple town, located 11km from the city of Kanyakumari. The temples here are built in the distinctive Dravidian style and are adorned with massive gopurams which are a common characteristic of all the Dravidian temples. Kanyakumari is an excellent shopping destination for buying various seashell items. Overnight at hotel.

### **Day 4; Kanyakumari – Rameshwaram (325kms / 8hrs)**

After breakfast, drive to Rameshwaram, check in at hotel.

Rameshwaram is an island separated from the mainland by a small strait of water. Rameshwaram is famous for the Hindu temple dedicated to Lord Rama who, it is believed, had descended on its shores and built a bridge across the Palk Strait to reach Lanka in his quest to rescue Sita from Ravana. Additionally, the

temple is famous for being one of the 12 Jyotirlingas of Siva. Lord Rama had constructed a Siva linga in order to offer thanks to the Lord after killing Ravana. Hence, the temple is a sacred site for both Shaivites and Vaishnavites. The grandest part of the temple is the 1219 m pillared corridor consisting of 3.6m high granite pillars, richly carved and well proportioned. Built in the 12th century AD, the temple with its awe-inspiring corridors are the longest in India. Overnight at hotel.

#### **Day 5; Rameshwaram – Madurai (175kms/ 4hrs)**

Early morning visit to Adam's Bridge the name given to the chain of reefs, sandbanks and islets that almost connects Sri Lanka with India. According to legend, this is the series of stepping stones used by the monkey army, lead by Hanuman to cross the ocean in a bid to rescue Sita from the clutch of Ravana.

Breakfast at hotel drive to Madurai, check in at hotel.

Later city tour visit the Meenakshi Sundareshwar, one of the largest temple complexes in India built between the 16th and 18th centuries. Apart from the estimated 33 million sculptures there, the temple is absolutely absorbing with the endless rounds of ceremonies, prostration of countless devotees and glittering market stalls. Later visit Tiruparankundram Murugan Temple, Palamuthirsolai Murugan Temple. Also visit the Tirumal Nayak's Palace; a highly decorative monument. Its enormous roofed arcade supported by 48 – foot high stone pillar, still stands. In the evening visit the famous Meenakshi Sundareshwar Temple to attend the Aarti (Prayers) witnessing interesting rituals and ceremonies. Overnight at hotel.

#### **Day 6; Madurai – Periyar (140kms/ 4hrs)**

Breakfast at hotel drive to Periyar, check in at Jungle Resort. After refreshment visit the Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary, discover the park, animals found here include elephant, gaur, wild boars and birds like ibis and grey heron. Take a boating at Periyar Lake to view animals with a bit of extra luck we may be able to see the rare tiger as well. Afterwards take a spice plantation tour to see crops of cardamom, cinnamon, pepper, coffee, tea estates etc. You could stop at the local market and pick up some fragrant spices. Overnight at hotel.

#### **Day 7; Periyar – Munnar (110kms/ 3hrs)**

Breakfast at hotel sunrise, boat ride on the Periyar Lake, or trekking through the forest, you may have opportunity to see the herd of Elephant bathing in the river.

Later drive to Munnar, check in at hotel. The word "Munnar" means three rivers, 3 mountain streams (Madurapuzha, Nallathanni and Kundala) are joining together here. During the British rule in India, Munnar was the summer resort of the Government officials. The natural beauty, calmness and mild cold climate throughout the year make it the favorite tourist places. The tea estates, hills, lakes and forests inside Munnar range expose its beauty. Overnight at hotel.

### **Day 8; Munnar**

After breakfast, visit to Pothamedu which offers an excellent view of the tea, coffee and cardamom plantations in Munnar. The rolling hills, the lush mountain and the breathtaking scenery here is ideal for trekking and long mountain walks. Mattupetty dam and its reservoir, this concrete gravity dam is built between the hill ranges and it is used mainly for water storage for hydroelectric projects. Eravikulam National Park, The Nilgiri Tahr can be observed at close quarters here. This park established to protect the Nilgiri Tahr (Nilgiri Ibex) is breathtakingly beautiful and is easily comparable to the best mountain ranges found anywhere in the world. Mattupedi Dairy Farm, famous for the Indo-Swiss Farm, this is a highly specialized dairy farm which comes under Indo-Swiss Livestock Project. Echo Point, go there and scream as loud as you can and wait for a minute. You can hear your echo back! Overnight at hotel.

### **Day 9; Munnar – Kumarakom (150kms/ 3hrs)**

After breakfast, drive to Kumarakom check in at hotel.

The village of Kumarakom is a cluster of little islands on the Vembanad Lake, and this small water world is part of the Kuttanad region. The bird sanctuary here is a favorite haunt of migratory birds and an ornithologist's paradise. Egrets, darters, herons, teal, waterfowl, cuckoo, wild duck and migratory birds like the Siberian stork that live there in flocks is a fascination for visitors. The best way to watch the birds of the Kumarakom sanctuary is a boat trip round the islands. Overnight at hotel.

### **Day 10; Kumarakom – Alleppey (Backwaters tours through sailing boat to Alleppey)**

After breakfast, embarks at the houseboat. The day for the journey of backwaters in the boat, through the tropical countryside enchanting backwaters of Alleppey. While sailing enjoy palm fringed narrow canals winding through the vast expanse of paddy fields and the neat tiny hamlets lined up along either side of the canals are panoramic sights one can never forget.

The Chinese fishing nets, the reminiscent of our past trade links, are also found on the way. Flocks of duck swimming around the banks and tiny birds flying across the sky remains as enduring pictures reflecting the charm of this tourist land, you also enjoy fishing from the houseboats, evening enjoy sunset from the sun-deck of the houseboats. The Houseboats have generated electricity; sitting cum dining area, separate bedroom with attached English toilets, sun deck and fully loaded kitchen with a Chef, and Driver. Dinner and overnight at the houseboat.

### **Day 11; Alleppey – Cochin (60kms/ 1.30hrs)**

After breakfast, disembark from the houseboat and drive to Cochin, check in at hotel. Later city tour of the Cochin visit; Fort Cochin famous for Chinese fishing nets, scenic beaches and architectural style of ancient buildings. At St. Frances Church see the town of Vasco da Gama. The Jewish Synagogue, built in 1568 in the old part of Mattancherry Town, is one of the oldest lively synagogues. Mattancherry "Dutch" Palace has an incomparable collection of huge Kerala Temple murals, exhibits & portraits. You may also visit the famous Hill Palace Museum, the largest archaeological and heritage museum in Kerala. Bolgatty Palace is the oldest living Dutch palaces outside Holland, now converted into a heritage hotel. Willingdon Island; is a man-made island created in 1933 with wonderful walkways and jetty's. In the evening, enjoy the Kathakali Dance, one of India's most famous Classical dances with lavish costumes, exotic makeup & Masks intensifying the beauty of the dancer's intricate moments. Overnight at hotel.

### **Day 12; Cochin – Departure (flight)**

Breakfast at hotel, as per flight schedule transfer to airport to board flight for onward destination.

**Price details:**

**Price using 3 star hotels valid from 1st October 2019 till 31st March 2020**

Particular	Per person price staying in SINGLE occupancy rooms			Per person price sharing DOUBLE/ TWIN occupancy rooms			Per person price sharing TRIPLE occupancy rooms (double room with extra bed)		
	INR	Euro	USD	INR	Euro	USD	INR	Euro	USD
1 person	₹211,632	€ 2,822	\$3,256	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2 person	₹152,882	€ 2,038	\$2,352	₹115,235	€ 1,536	\$1,773	N/A	N/A	N/A
3 person	₹137,711	€ 1,836	\$2,119	₹125,080	€ 1,668	\$1,924	₹93,863	€ 1,252	\$1,444
4 person	₹134,629	€ 1,795	\$2,071	₹121,227	€ 1,616	\$1,865	₹90,781	€ 1,210	\$1,397
5 person	₹126,529	€ 1,687	\$1,947	₹111,103	€ 1,481	\$1,709	₹82,681	€ 1,102	\$1,272
6 person	₹124,610	€ 1,661	\$1,917	₹108,704	€ 1,449	\$1,672	₹80,762	€ 1,077	\$1,242
7 person	₹120,256	€ 1,603	\$1,850	₹103,262	€ 1,377	\$1,589	₹76,408	€ 1,019	\$1,176
8 person	₹116,991	€ 1,560	\$1,800	₹99,180	€ 1,322	\$1,526	₹73,143	€ 975	\$1,125
Child 5-11yrs	₹23,103			€ 308			\$355		
Child below 5yrs	Free								
H B supplement	₹8,762			€ 117			\$135		
Additional night in Trivandrum	₹5,882	€ 78	\$90	₹3,309	€ 44	\$51	₹2,696	€ 36	\$41

Price using 4 star hotels valid from 1st October 2019 till 31st March 2020										
Particular	Per person price staying in SINGLE occupancy rooms			Per person price sharing DOUBLE/ TWIN occupancy rooms			Per person price sharing TRIPLE occupancy rooms (double room with extra bed)			
	Currency	INR	Euro	USD	INR	Euro	USD	INR	Euro	USD
1 person	₹264,074	€ 3,521	\$4,063	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2 person	₹179,320	€ 2,391	\$2,759	₹115,235	€ 1,536	\$1,773	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
3 person	₹164,148	€ 2,189	\$2,525	₹125,080	€ 1,668	\$1,924	₹116,223	€ 1,550	\$1,788	
4 person	₹161,066	€ 2,148	\$2,478	₹121,227	€ 1,616	\$1,865	₹113,141	€ 1,509	\$1,741	
5 person	₹152,967	€ 2,040	\$2,353	₹111,103	€ 1,481	\$1,709	₹105,042	€ 1,401	\$1,616	
6 person	₹151,048	€ 2,014	\$2,324	₹108,704	€ 1,449	\$1,672	₹103,123	€ 1,375	\$1,587	
7 person	₹146,694	€ 1,956	\$2,257	₹103,262	€ 1,377	\$1,589	₹98,769	€ 1,317	\$1,520	
8 person	₹143,428	€ 1,912	\$2,207	₹99,180	€ 1,322	\$1,526	₹95,503	€ 1,273	\$1,469	
Child 5-11yrs	₹38,176			€ 509			\$587			
Child below 5yrs	Free									
H B supplement	₹15,588			€ 208			\$240			
Additional night in Trivandrum	₹10,294	€ 137	\$158	₹5,515	€ 74	\$85	₹4,902	€ 65	\$75	

Price using 5 star hotels valid from 1st October 2019 till 31st March 2020										
Particular	Per person price staying in SINGLE occupancy rooms			Per person price sharing DOUBLE/ TWIN occupancy rooms			Per person price sharing TRIPLE occupancy rooms (double room with extra bed)			
	Currency	INR	Euro	USD	INR	Euro	USD	INR	Euro	USD
1 person	₹339,279	€ 4,524	\$5,220	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2 person	₹223,912	€ 2,985	\$3,445	₹121,853	€ 1,625	\$1,875	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
3 person	₹202,123	€ 2,695	\$3,110	₹125,080	€ 1,668	\$1,924	₹143,728	€ 1,916	\$2,211	
4 person	₹199,040	€ 2,654	\$3,062	₹121,227	€ 1,616	\$1,865	₹140,646	€ 1,875	\$2,164	
5 person	₹190,941	€ 2,546	\$2,938	₹111,103	€ 1,481	\$1,709	₹132,547	€ 1,767	\$2,039	
6 person	₹189,022	€ 2,520	\$2,908	₹108,704	€ 1,449	\$1,672	₹130,627	€ 1,742	\$2,010	
7 person	₹184,668	€ 2,462	\$2,841	₹103,262	€ 1,377	\$1,589	₹126,273	€ 1,684	\$1,943	
8 person	₹181,403	€ 2,419	\$2,791	₹99,180	€ 1,322	\$1,526	₹123,008	€ 1,640	\$1,892	
Child 5-11yrs	₹46,228			€ 616			\$711			
Child below 5yrs	Free									
H B supplement	₹23,294			€ 311			\$358			
Additional night in Trivandrum	₹23,529	€ 314	\$362	₹11,765	€ 157	\$181	₹9,559	€ 127	\$147	

**Note: Euro & USD prices are subject to change in case of any fluctuation in currency exchange rate. Please check the currency exchange rate of the day for exact price in your currency. In any case our INR price will remain unchanged and shall be treated as final price.**

**Included in price:**

- Garland welcome and assistance of our office representative at airport
- 11 Nights/ 12 days accommodation in below mentioned hotels or similar
- Daily breakfast at hotel.
- Accommodation in Alleppey Houseboat includes all meals.
- Bottled drinking water in car
- Private English speaking guide in each cities on sightseeing days.
- Private Chauffer driven air-conditioned deluxe car for airport transfers, sightseeing & excursion as per program.
- Tea Testing tour in Munnar
- 01 Time monument entrance fees mentioned in the itinerary. (Almost all places of tourist interest are included in our itinerary)
- Kathakali dance show ticket in Cochin
- Permit charges to visit National Park
- Boat ride in Periyar River
- Applicable GST (Government taxes)

➤

➤ **Hotels used or similar**

➤

- |   |   |   |        |
|---|---|---|--------|
| ➤ Kovalam   | x | 2 | nights |
| 3* - Harmonia Beach Resort/ Sagara Beach Resort             |   |   |        |
| 4* - Estuary Island Resort/Uday Samudra Leisure Beach Hotel |   |   |        |
| 5* - Vivanta by Taj - Green Cove/ The Leela Kovalam Beach   |   |   |        |
| ➤ Kanyakumari   | x | 1 | night  |
| 3* - Sea Shore/ Hotel Seaface                               |   |   |        |
| 4* & 5* - Anantya Resorts/ Annai Resorts and Spa            |   |   |        |
| ➤ Rameshwaram   | x | 1 | night  |
| 3* - Daiwik Hotel   |   |   |        |
| 4* & 5* - Hyatt Place Rameswaram                            |   |   |        |
| ➤ Madurai   | x | 1 | night  |
| 3* - Astoria by Sparsa/ Madurai's Residency                 |   |   |        |
| 4* - GRT Regency/ Fortune Pandiyan Hotel                    |   |   |        |
| 5* - Heritage Madurai/ The Gateway Hotel Pasumalai          |   |   |        |
| ➤ Pariyar (Thekkady)  | x | 1 | night  |
| 3* - Abad Green Forest/ Hotel Treetop                       |   |   |        |
| 4* - The Elephant Court/ Cardamom County                    |   |   |        |
| 5* - Spice village/ Cardamom County                         |   |   |        |
| ➤ Munnar  | x | 2 | nights |
| 3* - Fort Munnar/ Abad Copper Castle                        |   |   |        |
| 4* - Nature Zone Jungle Resort/ Fragrant Nature Munnar      |   |   |        |
| 5* - Chandys Windy Woods/ Tea County                        |   |   |        |
| ➤ Kumarakom   | x | 1 | night  |
| 3* - Abad Whispering Palm/ Cocobay Resort                   |   |   |        |

4*	-	Eastend	Lake	Song/	Goldfield	Lake	Resort
5* - Coconut Lagoon/ The Zuri							
➤	Alleppey		x		1		night
3*	-			Deluxe			Houseboat
4*	-			Deluxe			Houseboat
5* - Premium Houseboat							
➤	Cochin		x		1		nights
3*	-	The	Dune	Hotel/		Abad	Plaza
4*	-	Casino	Hotel/	The		Avenue	Regent
5* - Xandari Harbour/ Le Meridien							
➤							

**Not Included in price:**

- Any air fare
- Camera charges at monuments
- Main Meals, Lunch or dinner unless mentioned
- Expenses of personal nature like liquor, laundry, tips, telephone, fax, internet etc.
- Or anything not mentioned above.

**Hotels used or similar in above price**

Day	City	3* Hotels	4* Hotels	5* Hotels
1	Kovalam	Harmonia Beach Resort/ Sagara Beach Resort	Estuary Island Resort/ Uday Samudra Leisure Beach Hotel	Vivanta by Taj - Green Cove/ The Leela Kovalam Beach
2	Kovalam	Harmonia Beach Resort/ Sagara Beach Resort	Estuary Island Resort/ Uday Samudra Leisure Beach Hotel	Vivanta by Taj - Green Cove/ The Leela Kovalam Beach
3	Kanyakumari	Sea Shore/ Hotel Seaface	Anantya Resorts/ Annai Resorts and Spa	Anantya Resorts/ Annai Resorts and Spa
4	Rameshwaram	Daiwik Hotel	Hyatt Place Rameswaram	Hyatt Place Rameswaram
5	Madurai	Astoria by Sparsa/ Madurai's Residency	GRT Regency/ Fortune Pandiyan Hotel	Heritage Madurai/ The Gateway Hotel Pasumalai

6	Periyar	Abad Green Forest/ Hotel Treetop	The Elephant Court/ Cardamom County	Spice village/ Cardamom County
7	Munnar	Fort Munnar/ Abad Copper Castle	Nature Zone Jungle Resort/ Fragrant Nature Munnar	Chandys Windy Woods/ Tea County
8	Munnar	Fort Munnar/ Abad Copper Castle	Nature Zone Jungle Resort/ Fragrant Nature Munnar	Chandys Windy Woods/ Tea County
9	Kumarakom	Abad Whispering Palm/ Cocobay Resort	Eastend Lake Song/ Goldfield Lake Resort	Coconut Lagoon/ The Zuri
10	Alleppey	Deluxe Houseboat	Premium Houseboat	Luxury Houseboat
11	Cochin	The Dune Hotel/ Abad Plaza	Casino Hotel/ The Avenue Regent	Xandari Harbour/ Le Meridien
12	Departure			

### **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, 7 days prior to arrival date

### **Cancellation policy:**

Note: Written cancellation will accept on all working days, except Sunday, Any cancellation sent on Sunday's will be considered on next working day (Monday).

For the X-mas and New Year period from 20 Dec to 05 Jan the payment is non-refundable.

In case you cancel the trip after commencement, refund would be restricted to a limited amount only which too would depend on the amount that we would be able to recover from the hoteliers/ contractors we patronize. For unused hotel accommodation, chartered transportation & missed meals etc. we do not bear any responsibility to refund.

- Cancellation before 30 days – no cancellation fees only bank charges.
- Cancellation before 29 -15 days – 25% of the invoice plus bank charges.
- Cancellation before 14 –7 days - 50% of the invoice plus bank charges.
- Cancellation before 6 – 3 days - 75% of the invoice plus bank charges.
- Cancellation before 2 days – Now show 90% of the invoice.

### **Our Liabilities & Limitations:**

Please note that after the finalization of the Tour/ service Cost, if there are any Hike in entrance fees of monuments / museums, Taxes, fuel cost or guide charges – by Govt of India, the same would be charged as extra.

Agora Voyages act only in the capacity of agent for the hotels, airlines, transporters, railways & contractors providing other services & all exchange orders, receipts, contracts & tickets issued by us are issued subject to terms & conditions under which these services are provided by them.

All itineraries are sample itineraries, intended to give you a general idea of the likely trip schedule. Numerous factors such as weather, road conditions, the physical ability of the participants etc. may dictate itinerary changes either before the tour or while on the trail. We reserve the right to change any schedule in the interest of the trip participants' safety, comfort & general well being.

Our rates are based on the prevailing rates as negotiated by us with the hotels, airlines etc. Hotels and Airlines retain the right to modify the rates without notice. In case of such changes the rates quoted before the modification, can be changed by us according to the modifications by hotels or airlines. All hotel bookings are based on usual check in and check out time of the hotels until unless indicated in the itinerary.

We shall not be responsible for any delays & alterations in the program or expenses incurred – directly or indirectly – due to natural hazards, flight cancellations, accident, breakdown of machinery or equipment's, breakdown of transport, weather, sickness, landslides, political closures or any untoward incidents.

We shall not be responsible for any loss, injury or damage to person, property, or otherwise in connection with any accommodation, transportation or other services, resulting – directly or indirectly – from any act of GOD, dangers, fire, accident, breakdown in machinery or equipment, breakdown of transport, wars, civil disturbances, strikes, riots, thefts, pilferages, epidemics, medical or custom department regulations, defaults, or any other causes beyond our control.

We do not have any insurance policy covering the expenses for accident, sickness, loss due to theft, or any other reasons. Visitors are advised to seek such insurance arrangements in their home country. All baggage's & personal property/s at all times are at the client's risk.

We will not be responsible for any costs arising out of unforeseen circumstances like landslides, road blocks, bad weather, etc.

### Tipping

Tipping is not included in our price. Tipping is optional, and at times expected in travel trade. Obviously there is no limit to how much you can tip and some guests who enjoy and appreciate the services of Guides, driver and other crew will and have tipped much more than our average tipping guideline of about \$10-15 per day.

### Trip Comments

When you return from your trip, please share your experience with us. Any photos, suggestions will be appreciated. Although we try our best, Tourism is a trade, which cannot be perfect and there will always remain a room for improvement. Your comments (both criticism and compliments) are invaluable to us and we look forward to hearing from you, upon your return.