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10 D KERALA BEACHES AND BACKWATERS

Day 01: Kuala Lumpur – Cochin Trivandrum

Arrive Trivandrum by flight, after traditional '**Swagat**' (Welcome) our representative would assist you at airport & transfer to hotel for check in. Overnight Hotel - Kovalam.

Day 02: Kovalam Day at Leisure.

(B)

Overnight Hotel - Kovalam

Day 03: Kovalam

(BLD)

Day at Leisure. Overnight Hotel - Kovalam.

Day 04: Kovalam - Thothapali (Overnight Houseboat)

Today we drive to Thothapali **houseboat**, locally called **Kettuvallam**, cruise around backwaters of **Thothapali** to observe & experience the daily life of the villagers along the backwaters. **Overnight Houseboat**

Day 05: Arrive Kumarakom

(B)

Morning after breakfast we disembark the houseboat in **Kumarakom**. It is a cluster of little islands, on the Vembanad Lake in Kerala. Kuttanad, the 'Wonder Land' believed to have been lying below the sea level, sprang out into the marshes when the sea receded later. **The land of lakes, canals & paddy fields, Kumarakom transports you to sheer ecstasy.** Holiday on the houseboats, traditional Kettuvallam, are an out-of-this-world experience. Furthermore Vembanad Lake is home to several types of marine life exclusively the Karimeen (Pearl Spotted Fish), Chemeen (Prawns) & Konju (Tiger Prawns). Later we visit **Kumarakom Bird sanctuary**. There are two seasons for birds: between October & February there are cormorants, teals, & other ducks & from February to July there are darters (snake birds), night herons, egrets, & Siberian storks. It also has golden backed woodpecker, crow pheasant, white-breasted water hen, tree pie etc. **Overnight Hotel – Kumarakom (B)**

Day 06 Kumarakom - Periyar (135 kms - 4 hr)

(B)

Today we head for one of the finest wildlife sanctuaries in India, the Periyar Wildlife Reserve. Upon arrival at Periyar, we assist you to check in at our hotel. Set on an attractive lakeside, it is South India's most popular Wildlife Sanctuary. Late afternoon at 1500 hrs we shall take you to a guided Spice and palntation tour in one of the Spice Gardens / Plantations for which this region is famous. **Overnight Hotel – Periyar**

Day 07: Periyar - Munnar (160 kms - 4 hr)

(B)

Periyar is a place to cruise on the lake and gives an opportunity to see wildlife. It is home to tigers, leopards, elephants, bison (gaur), antelopes, sambhar, wild boar, money etc, and a wide variety of birds. Early morning before breakfast at 0630 hrs we go for a wildlife viewing to the sanctuary on lake Periyar by boat cruise. After two hours of wildlife viewing we get back to the hotel for breakfast. Later we drive to Munnar, arrive Munnar check into hotel. **Overnight Hotel - Munnar**

Day 08: Munnar

(B)

Munnar is one of the most popular hill stations in India, Munnar is situated at the confluence of three mountain streams - Mudrapuzha, Nallathanni and Kundala. Located at 1600 Mts. above sea level, this was once the summer resort of the erstwhile British Government in South India. Sprawling tea plantations, picture book towns, winding lanes, trekking and holiday facilities make Munnar a unique experience. Munnar is essentially a tea town. Morning post breakfast we head for a half-day tour of Munnar, visiting the *world's highest tea estates spread like a green carpet over hundreds of kilometres, Lush green hills all around - a place to be seen to be believed, and Eravikulam

National Park (Park is closed in the month of January and February), the best place to see the Nilgiri Tahr (mountain goat). Rest of the day at leisure to explore the destination on your own. **Overnight Hotel - Munnar**

Day 09: Munnar - Cochin (150 kms - 4 hr)

(B)

Today we drive to Cochin always had a very popular and historical sea trade connection with Middle East, Mediterranean Europe, Dutch and British. It has one of the finest natural harbours on the Arabian coastline. Its cosmopolitan character is reflected in the buildings and structures representing different regions of the world. It is one of the few places in the world where one can see a Jewish synagogue, Portuguese churches, architecture, mosques, temples and Chinese fishing nets, all in one city. A city of peninsulas and islands, today it is Kerala's commercial hub. Evening we see Kerala's most popular classical dance, Kathakali. **Overnight Hotel - Cochin**

Day 10: Cochin – Kuala Lumpur

(B)

Today we leave for a half day city tour of Cochin, with visits to St. Francis' Church, Dutch Palace (Built by the Portuguese), Jew Town, the Jewish Synagogue built in the year 1568, spice market*, where the air is filled with the pungent smell of spices, and Chinese fishing nets. Later transfer to airport to board flight for onward Journey.

