



God's Own Country



KOCHI



MUNNAR



THEKKADY



KUMARAKOM

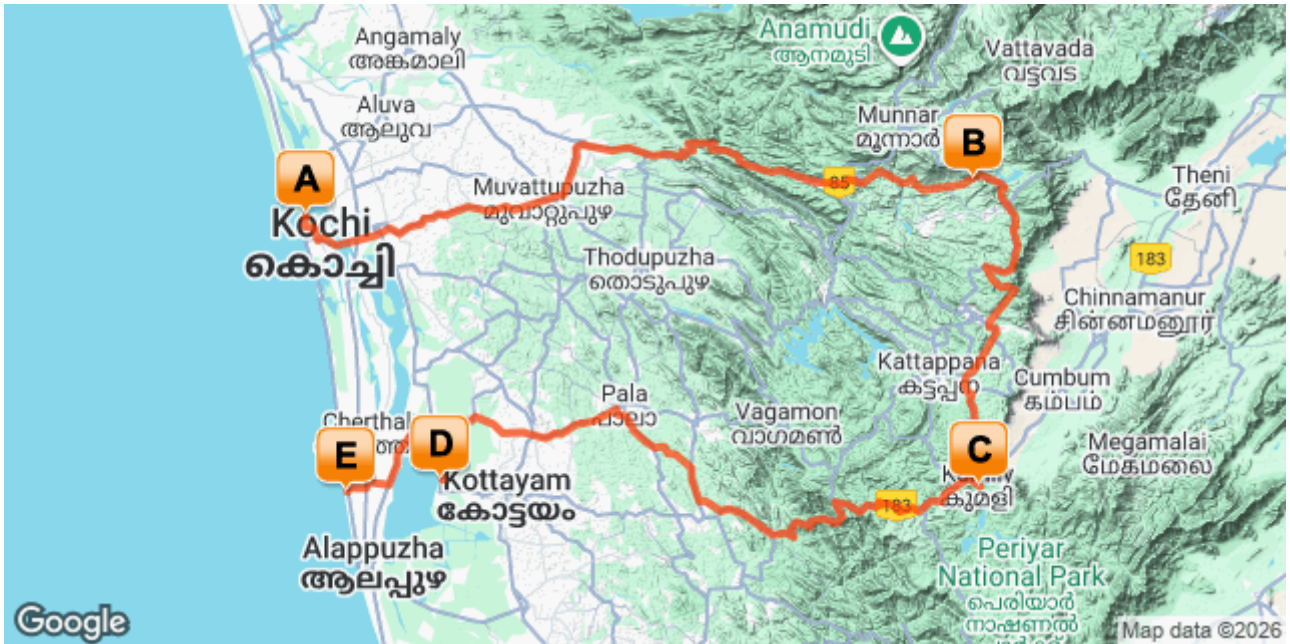


MARARIKULAM

God's Own Country

Kochi - Munnar - Thekkady - Kumarakom - Mararikulam

12 Days / 11 Nights



Introduction

Explore Cochin, a fascinating melting pot of culture, colour and charisma. Then head into the mountains and discover tea and cardamom trails in Munnar. Continue to explore the magnificent jungle that lines the banks of the Periyar River for a fantastic wildlife experience. Enjoy a ride aboard a houseboat on the Kerala backwaters, before heading over the beach to kick back and relax.

Accommodation	Destination	Basis	Duration
Brunton Boatyard	Kochi	B&B	2 Nights
SpiceTree Munnar	Munnar	B&B	2 Nights
Spice Village	Thekkady	B&B	2 Nights
Kumarakom Lake Resort	Kumarakom	B&B	2 Nights
Marari Beach Resort	Mararikulam	B&B	3 Nights

Key

B&B: Bed and Breakfast

Included

- Hotels accommodation twin sharing at the hotels mentioned above or similar for a total of 11 nights in a mentioned category rooms with breakfast & inclusive of all currently government applicable taxes.
- Services of using air-conditioned vehicle for inter-cities transfers and sightseeing.
- Meeting and assistance on arrival / departure at airports.
- All sightseeing tours / excursions as per program mentioned above.
- Unlimited water bottle during long journeys.
- Service of an English (as per requirement) speaking local guides till 04 Pax & 04 Pax onwards we will provide English speaking accompanying escort.
- Rates include entrances to all the monuments as mentioned in the program.

Excluded

- Does not include any airfare, any item not mentioned above, any items of personal nature such as table drinks, laundry, telephone bills, video camera fees, tips to guides/escort, drivers, bell boys, etc.
- Any International airfare, Travel Insurances or Visa – Please ensure clients have a valid E-visa and passport for their travel to India.

Any other expenses of personal nature

Day 1

Brunton Boatyard, Kochi

Kochi

Also known as Cochin, Kochi is a city in southwest India's coastal Kerala state. This attractive city has served as a popular port for over 600 years and is known for its eclectic architecture and its array of religious monuments, museums, galleries, cafes and antique shops. The city stretches across a number of peninsulas and islands, which can be reached by a network of water taxis and bridges. The majority of Kochi's visitor highlights can be found on the peninsula of Fort Kochi. These highlights include the St Francis Church, the oldest European-built church in India; and Mattancherry Palace, which dates back to 1557 and contains some exceptional Kerala murals and temple art. Other must-see attractions include the Kerala Folklore Museum, displaying more than 4,000 cultural and ethnic artifacts; and the 16th-century Jewish Synagogue; and the vibrant local market.

Day Itinerary

Upon your arrival in Cochin, you will be warmly welcomed by our representative and escorted to your hotel in a private car. Spend the day at leisure, allowing yourself to unwind and soak in the coastal charm, tranquil surroundings, and vibrant atmosphere of this historic city. Overnight stay at your hotel.

Overnight: Brunton Boatyard

Brunton Boatyard is a heritage hotel located on the waterfront of Fort Kochi, Kerala. Nearby attractions include the historic Mattancherry Palace, the centuries-old synagogue in Jew Town, and the bustling spice and antique markets. Sea-facing guest rooms feature en-suite bathrooms, air conditioning, Wi-Fi, tea and coffee makers, and private balconies. Guests can savour diverse culinary traditions at the on-site History Restaurant, which celebrates Kerala's multicultural past. The property also features a swimming pool, cultural experiences, and tranquil views of Vypin Island, making it an elegant retreat that blends colonial charm with modern comfort.



Basis

Bed and Breakfast

Day 2

Brunton Boatyard, Kochi

Day Itinerary

Embark on a full-day sightseeing tour of Cochin, exploring its rich cultural tapestry. Wander through the historic Jewish Synagogue, admire the grandeur of the Dutch Palace, and visit the charming colonial-era churches. Pause at the iconic Chinese fishing nets along the waterfront, where the rhythmic pull of the nets paints a picture of daily life by the sea. Cochin's streets, markets, and waterfronts offer a vibrant blend of history, culture, and modern energy. Return to your hotel for an overnight stay.

Basis

Bed and Breakfast

Day 3

SpiceTree Munnar, Munnar

Munnar

Idyllically set at the confluence of three mountain streams, Munnar is a beautiful hill station in the Western Ghats mountain range in India's Kerala state. The village once served as a popular vacation resort for the British Raj elite who flocked to here to enjoy the pleasant cool climate and the scenic natural surroundings characterised by rolling hills dotted with colonial bungalows, streams, waterfalls and 19th-century tea plantations. The main attraction in the area is the extraordinary Eravikulam National Park, which is famous for its diverse array of wildlife including the endangered mountain goat known as Nilgiri tahr. The park is also home to the exquisite Lakkam Waterfalls, some excellent hiking trails, and the impressive 2,695 metre-high Anamudi Peak.

Day Itinerary

Depart Cochin and journey to the idyllic hill station of Munnar, once a beloved British summer retreat. As you ascend into the hills, be surrounded by rolling tea plantations, mist-shrouded mountains, sparkling waterfalls, and tranquil lakes, each turn revealing a postcard-perfect scene. Let the serene beauty of Munnar envelop you as you arrive at your hotel for an overnight stay.

Overnight: SpiceTree Munnar

Spice Tree Munnar is located in Chinnakanal. Free Wi-Fi access is available in this resort. The accommodation will provide you with a flat-screen satellite TV, a balcony and a minibar. There is also an electric kettle. Featuring a shower, private bathrooms also come with a bath and a hairdryer. Extras include a heater, seating area and a CD player.

At Spicetree Munnar you will find a restaurant, 24-hour front desk, garden and library. Other facilities offered at the property include a tour desk, luggage storage and a laundry. The property offers free parking. The Kannan Devan Tea Estate and Powerhouse Waterfalls are within 6 km from the property. The Anayirangal Dam is 10 km while the Eravikulam National Park is 35 km.

The Munnar Bus station is 24 km. The Alwayse Railway station is 140 km and Cochin International Airport is 150 km.



Basis

Bed and Breakfast

Day 4

SpiceTree Munnar, Munnar

Day Itinerary

Spend the morning exploring Munnar's Tea Museum and Factory, where you can discover the fascinating journey of tea—from leaf to cup—and wander through lush, rolling tea gardens that stretch as far as the eye can see. The rest of the day is at your leisure to relax, soak in the misty hills, or simply enjoy the serene ambience of your surroundings. Overnight stay at the hotel.

Basis

Bed and Breakfast

Day 5

Spice Village, Thekkady

Thekkady

A tourist attraction in Kerala, Thekkady is a district located at the Periyar National Park. Thekkady comprises evergreen forests and savanna grasslands and is known for its natural spices such as black pepper, cardamom, cinnamon, nutmeg, ginger and clove. Elephants, tigers, sambar and many other species inhabit the park. Top attractions include the exquisite ancient Mangla Devi Temple, the aromatic Abraham's spice garden, and the massive waterfall at the sleepy, picturesque village of Chellarkovil. Take in panoramic views of the extraordinary landscape from the Chellarkovil viewpoint, and picnic on the rolling, lush green lawns at Pandikuzhi. Don't miss the opportunity to visit the Kadathanadan Kalari Centre, to see demonstrations of the best traditional martial arts. Thekkady also has a rich living tribal culture.

Day Itinerary

After breakfast, depart Munnar and embark on a scenic drive through Kerala's lush, tropical countryside toward Periyar. Upon arrival, check in to your wildlife lodge and enjoy a leisurely evening surrounded by serene forests and the tranquil waters of Periyar Lake. This region's pristine wilderness is alive with a rich tapestry of flora and fauna, offering a peaceful retreat and a chance to connect with nature. Overnight stay at the lodge.

Overnight: Spice Village

Spice Village, located in the cool highlands of Thekkady, offers guests an eco-friendly retreat inspired by the native Mannan tribe. The resort features elephant grass thatched cottages with modern amenities, including Wi-Fi, a minibar and en-suite bathrooms. Guests can savour spice-enriched culinary offerings at the on-site restaurant, which uses locally sourced ingredients. Nearby attractions include the Periyar Tiger Reserve and various spice plantations. Leisure facilities at the resort include a swimming pool and a wellness centre.



Basis

Bed and Breakfast

Day 6

Spice Village, Thekkady

Day Itinerary

Begin your day with an unforgettable jungle safari in Periyar, exploring the lush forests alive with elephants, deer, and vibrant birdlife. Continue with a serene boat ride on Periyar Lake, gliding through the heart of the sanctuary and taking in the pristine wilderness from the water. Spend the afternoon at leisure, relaxing at your lodge and soaking in the tranquil surroundings of this verdant paradise.

Basis

Bed and Breakfast

Day 7

Kumarakom Lake Resort, Kumarakom

Kumarakom

One of Kerala's most alluring towns is Kumarakom, a hub of biodiversity where mangrove forests are mixed in with rice paddies, coconut palms, and bursts of white lilies. This vivid subtropical peninsula juts into Vembanad Lake and is a popular place to study yoga, meditation, and Ayurvedic massage, and from which to take bird-watching, boating, and fishing trips. Nearby attractions include the Aruvikkuzhi Waterfalls, just two kilometres from Kumarakom, which cascade down the mountain slopes from roughly 30 metres above, and Pathiramanal (meaning 'sands of midnight') a beguiling island and bird sanctuary in the middle of the lake.

Day Itinerary

Today, drive to Kumarakom, a peaceful haven nestled on the banks of Vembanad Lake. Surrounded by lush greenery and meandering backwaters, this idyllic setting invites you to slow down, unwind, and soak in the tranquil beauty of Kerala's countryside. Spend the day at your own pace, exploring the serene landscapes or simply relaxing in the comfort of your hotel. Overnight stay at the hotel.

Overnight: Kumarakom Lake Resort

Kumarakom Lake Resort, located on the tranquil banks of Vembanad Lake in Kerala, is a celebrated luxury heritage retreat. Guests may choose from elegant rooms, villas, and suites equipped with modern amenities such as air conditioning, minibars, and hairdryers. The property boasts facilities such as an outdoor swimming pool, a fitness centre, and multiple dining options. Off-site activities available include cycling, canoeing, and fishing.



Basis

Bed and Breakfast

Day 8

Kumarakom Lake Resort, Kumarakom

Day Itinerary

Today, embark on a cruise aboard a traditional Kerala houseboat, drifting gently through the serene backwaters. Watch the landscape unfold as you glide past swaying coconut palms, lush banana groves, and quaint fishing villages.

Immerse yourself in the sights, sounds, and rhythms of rural life, while the tranquil waters and verdant wetlands reveal the rustic charm and natural beauty of Kerala.

Basis

Bed and Breakfast

Day 9

Marari Beach Resort, Mararikulam

Mararikulam

Situated only 40 km from the city of Cochin, in the Alappuzha district of Kerala, Mararikulam is a charming little coastal village known for its pristine sand beaches, swinging coconut palms, and quiet, laidback atmosphere. The village has managed to avoid the mass development associated with many of the other beach towns in the area resulting in an untouched natural environment dotted with only a handful of small resorts. The main attraction here is the exquisite Marari beach where you will find fishermen heading out daily to explore the Malabar coast, much as their ancestors have done for generations.

Day Itinerary

After breakfast, transfer to Mararikulam, a peaceful coastal village along Kerala's sun-kissed shores. With pristine beaches, swaying palm trees, and a gentle sea breeze, this serene retreat is perfect for unwinding. Spend the afternoon relaxing by the water, feeling the soft sand beneath your feet and soaking in the tranquil rhythm of coastal life.

Overnight: Marari Beach Resort

Marari Beach Resort is located in Mararikulam, Kerala, set across 30 acres of coconut groves, lily ponds, and fruit trees. Guests are close to the traditional fishing villages, where daily auctions of the fresh catch offer a glimpse into local life. The cottages feature air conditioning, private verandas, spacious bathrooms, eco-friendly toiletries, and comfortable bedding. Dining includes fresh seafood and regional delicacies, with ingredients sourced from the resort's organic garden and Ayurveda kitchen. Facilities comprise a swimming pool, Ayurvedic spa, yoga sessions, cycling trails, and guided village experiences, making Marari Beach Resort a tranquil retreat inspired by coastal traditions.



Basis

Bed and Breakfast

Day 10

Marari Beach Resort, Mararikulam

Day Itinerary

Spend a blissful day at leisure on the golden sands of Mararikulam, letting the gentle sea breeze and warm sun envelop you. Walk along the palm-fringed shoreline, listen to the soothing waves, and simply soak in the tranquil rhythm of this idyllic coastal retreat.

Basis

Bed and Breakfast

Day 11**Marari Beach Resort, Mararikulam**

Day Itinerary

Relax and unwind on the pristine beaches of Mararikulam, where the soft sands, sparkling waters, and rustling palms create the perfect backdrop for a day of tranquillity. Take in the serene coastal scenery, stroll along the shoreline, or simply lounge under the sun and let the soothing ambiance wash over you.

Basis

Bed and Breakfast

Day 12

End of Itinerary

Day Itinerary

As your unforgettable journey through Kerala draws to a close, you will be transferred to Cochin Airport for your onward flight, carrying with you memories of serene backwaters, lush hills, vibrant culture, and sun-kissed beaches.

Basis

Bed and Breakfast

Travel Information



Vast, diverse, deeply spiritual and utterly unforgettable, India is unlike anywhere else on earth – a melting pot of ethnicities and religions, a treasure trove of history and culture, and a curious mixture of chaos and serenity. Stretching across more than three million square kilometres, it encompasses a staggering array of landscapes, vistas and environs, and offers unparalleled travel experiences – from the beautiful beaches of Goa, to the compelling craziness of Kolkata, the sacred Ganges river banks of Varanasi, the snow-capped peaks of the Himalayas in Kashmir and the ancient, exquisitely crafted temples dotted across the entire country. Not to mention the vibrant, friendly people, and the incredible cuisine.

Banking and Currency

Currency

Local currency: Indian Rupee

Symbol: ₹

ISO code: INR

Subunit: The Indian Rupee is divided into 100 paise, but since 2011, only the 50-paise coin is still accepted as valid currency.

Banknotes: ₹5, ₹10, ₹20, ₹50, ₹100, ₹200, ₹500

Coins: ₹0.50 (50 paise), ₹1, ₹2, ₹5, ₹10, ₹20

₹500 and ₹1000 banknotes of Mahatma Gandhi series issued up to November 08, 2016, have ceased to be Legal Tender with effect from the midnight of November 8, 2016.

Banking

Card Transactions: Yes

ATMs: Yes

Mastercard: Yes

Visa: Yes

American Express: Limited acceptance

Diner's club: Limited acceptance

Banking Hours:

Weekdays: 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Weekends: Limited hours or closed, check with local banks.

Public Holidays: Yes (Varies, typically reduced hours)

Foreign exchange services: Yes

Travel, Transport and Getting Around

Air:

Main airlines: Air India, IndiGo, SpiceJet, Vistara

International Airports: Indira Gandhi International Airport (DEL), Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport

(BOM), Kempegowda International Airport (BLR), and others
Domestic Airports: Numerous, including Jaipur, Lucknow, Guwahati, and Patna.

Road:

Driving on the: Left
Tar roads: Yes
Gravel roads: Limited
Valid International Driver's License needed: Yes
Car hire available: Yes
Taxis: Yes
E-hailing services: Yes

Bus:

Inter-city bus services: Yes
Local city bus networks: Yes

Rail:

Railway system: Extensive
Subway System: Limited (in select cities)

Water:

Ferries: Limited
Water taxis: Limited
Leisure cruises: Limited

Food, Drink and Cuisine Advice**Food and water safety:**

Can you drink the tap water: No
Fresh fruit and veg: Wash thoroughly or peel
Ice: Use commercially produced ice
Meat: Ensure it's well-cooked
Street food: Yes

Local cuisine: Indian cuisine is diverse and varies greatly by region. Highlights include dishes like biryani, curry, dosa, chaat, and tandoori specialties. Vegetarian options are plentiful.

Drinks: Chai, lassi, sugarcane juice, and various regional beverages like coconut water. Alcoholic beverages are available, with beer and whiskey being popular choices.

Tipping: Generally 5-10% in restaurants; tipping for other services is discretionary.

Climate and Weather

Annual rainfall: Varies greatly by region, 500 mm-4,000 mm

Average temperature: Varies greatly by region, 15°C-30°C

Summer:

Average highs: 25-45°C
Average lows: 20-30°C

Winter:

Average highs: 10-25°C
Average lows: 5-15°C

Best time to visit: The best time to visit India depends on the region and your preferences. Generally, the winter months from October to March offer milder temperatures and are ideal for exploring most parts of the country.

Clothing and Dress Recommendations

Spring and Summer

Cool, light, breathable and comfortable: Yes

Lightweight warm clothes: No

Winter and Autumn

Jerseys, cardigans, sweaters, jackets: Recommended

Heavyweight clothing and boots: No

General

Umbrella and raincoat: Yes

Warm gloves, hat and scarf: No

Swimming costume (bathing suit): Yes

Hat, sunglasses and sunblock: Yes

Walking shoes: Yes

Casual: Yes

Smart-casual attire: Yes

Internet Availability

Internet cafes: Limited, mobile data or Wi-Fi in accommodations and cafes available.

Accommodation options: Yes

Restaurants: Yes

Cafes: Yes

Shopping malls: Yes

Public parks: Limited

Libraries: Limited

Electricity and Plug Standards

Plug Type: Type C, Type D, Type M

Voltage (V): 230

Frequency Hertz (Hz): 50

*Travel plug adapter and voltage converter might be necessary depending on your appliances.
