

KERALA EXTENSION PROGRAM
03 nights / 04 days

November 03 - 06, 2019

Kochi(Cochin)/Kumarakkom/Kochi(Cochin)



Brunton Boatyard, Fort Cochin

DAY 14, 3rd Nov'19 (Sun): MUMBAI - COCHIN By (9W 2403: 1655/1900 Hrs)

On arrival in Mumbai, the guests who will be going for Kerala extension, will be connecting the Jet airways flight from Mumbai to Cochin. Note: these guests will be taking one boarding pass from Goa to Cochin via Mumbai, so their luggage will be checked in through.

Kochi (popularly known as Cochin) is spread across islands and promontories in a stunning location between the Arabian Sea and the Backwaters. The city was founded in 1341 when a flood created a natural safe port which became the principal harbour for Malabar coast's spice trade. Cochin was on the main trade route between Europe and China. The rulers invited people of various religions to settle here, attracting the Jews and the Christians who built places of worship and their own communities.

On arrival, met and transfer to the hotel and check in.

Fixed menu dinner will be served at the terrace grill in hotel.

MEAL: Lunch, dinner

HOTEL: Brunton Boatyard, Cochin



HOTEL: Brunton Boatyard, Cochin

DAY 15, 4th Nov'19 (Mon): COCHIN – KUMARAKOM By: Surface (approx. 55 KM/+/- 02 hours)

You begin your exploration of the city with a walk through the bustling harbor area and quaint backstreets to discover it's rich and multifaceted past.

Kochi is full of echoes of Kerala's past colonizers, including Hindu and Mughal dynasties, Portuguese and Dutch conquerors, and the British Empire - which came seeking control of the lucrative pepper trade. The city hosts the oldest church in India, 500-year-old Portuguese houses, old tiled houses built in the Chinese pagoda style, and a Jewish community whose roots go back to the Diaspora.

St. Francis Church, originally named after Santo Antonio and dedicated to him as the Patron Saint of Portugal. Once a wooden building, it was replaced by the present stone building. Vasco De Gamma died on site in 1524 and was originally buried in the cemetery. His grave is still marked with a plaque and a brass rail, though his remains are back home in Portugal. Across, the four-century old Jewish synagogue was built in 1568 AD, it was destroyed by the Portuguese and rebuilt by the Dutch a century later. We will explore the Jew-town, which abounds with fascinating antique shops and wares. Looming protectively over the synagogue is the Mattancherry palace, erstwhile home to the Verma kings and today a fine museum.

Interactions with Syrian Christians family followed by homemade lunch. Savour traditional delicacies that includes seafood, coconut, and plantains from a nationally recognized cooking instructor

Post lunch, drive to Kumarakom.

Kumarakom, or the 'Venice of the East' is a veritable paradise in the lush backwaters of Kottayam. It is Kerala's heartland of lagoons, palm fringed lakes and paddy fields, inter-linked with hundreds of winding canals with the typical low slung country boats that carry everything from people to fish, rice and coconuts to the milkman and newspaper boy, local politicians and priests to wedding parties.

On arrival, check in at the hotel. Dinner at the hotel

MEAL: Breakfast/ Lunch/ Dinner

HOTEL: Kumarakom Lake Resort, Kumarakom



House boat on backwater

DAY 16, 5th Nov'19 (Tue): KUMARAKOM

After breakfast proceed to Alleppey boat jetty (1 hrs. drive). On arrival Alleppey embark on the houseboat for day cruise starting at 12 Noon for a duration of 4 hours (Lunch will be served on House Boat)

Kettuvallam (It is a rice-boat converted into houseboat with bedrooms and attached toilets). Originally these boats were used as ferries to carry rice from one point to another through the backwater canals. The Kettuvallam or 'boat with knots'- was so called because the entire boat was held together with coir knots only - not even a single nail is used during the construction. The boat is made of planks of jackwood joined together with coir. This is then coated with a caustic black resin made from boiled cashew kernels. With careful maintenance, a kettuvallom can last for generations. While most boats are poled by local oarsmen, some are powered by a 40 HP engine.

A visit to Kerala is incomplete without a visit to the backwaters. A series of canals, which thread their way through the state to the sea, it allows you a glimpse of life in Kerala impossible to get from road transport. Along the way you will pass rice fields, tiny villages, boats transporting children to school and farmers transporting their produce to the market, and women completing household tasks such as laundry and washing utensils.

Post lunch, disembark house boat at Alleppey and proceed Kumarakom hotel. Dinner at the Resort

MEAL: Breakfast/Lunch / Dinner

HOTEL: Kumarakom Lake Resort, Kumarakom



DAY 17, 6th Nov'19 (Wed):

KUMARAKOM – KOCHI

By: Surface (85 KM/+/- 2 ½ hour)

KOCHI DEPARTURE

BY: INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT

Breakfast at the hotel.

Enjoy Massages at the resort **(on direct payment basis)**: advisable to arrange in advance At about 1 pm, complete the check-out formalities and depart for Cochin airport by road Lunch in Cochin at an airport hotel.

Later you will be dropped at the Cochin airport to connect your onward flight

Most of the Intl flights / connecting flights are around 5 pm to 7 pm : Dep. Cochin Cochin international airport to connect your flight for onward journey : via Mumbai or Delhi

MEAL: Breakfast/Lunch

Tour ends....!

SECURE YOUR PARTICIPATION FOR EXTENSION BY PAYING THE ADVANCE

Room configuration	Per person Tour cost	50% advance deposit
Per person cost on twin/ double sharing room:	USD 1984 for one person on sharing basis	USD 992
1 person staying in a single room	USD 2576 per single	USD 1288

Note

- This is the advance deposit of 50% for the trip (excluding international travel)
- Balance needs to be paid 60 days prior travel. Our team will be in touch by email for this

Cost includes:

- Accommodation on twin share basis for total of 03 nights
- Daily Buffet breakfast and dinner at the hotels of stay
- All meals included as mentioned in the program
- Soft drinks during meals
- Glass of In house wine during dinner at the hotel
- Transportation by vehicle as per the itinerary.
 - o 04-06 pax: AC Tempo Traveller
- Services of English speaking local guides during sightseeing tours
- All entrance fees to sites and monuments for one visit only as per the itinerary
- Cochin: Kathakali dance show
- Day cruise with lunch 12 Noon for three to four hours
- Packaged drinking water in the vehicle throughout
- All currently applicable taxes.
- One tour leader to accompany the group in a single room

Cost does not include:

- Any airfare and cost for Indian visa
- All items of personal nature, tips, souvenirs, laundry, internet charges etc.
- All kind of beverages during meals
- Liquor license during any kind of private meal at exclusive venue
- Camera fees charges at some sites (no more than INR 200/ USD 4 for a still camera).
- Optional travel insurance.
- Any activities and excursions not specified.
- Any increase due to circumstances beyond our control (i.e. fuel surcharge, currency fluctuations).

Special Notes:

- Hotel Check-In 1400, Check-out time 1200 NOON.
- TCI reserves the right to modify itineraries and/or substitute hotels of a reasonably similar quality, when available, should circumstances beyond our control deem it necessary.
- The transportation arrangements includes visitation within city limits only.
- Deposits imposed by TCI's suppliers (e.g. hotels, transport companies etc.) will be charged when they occur. Full payment of deposits is due as per deposit invoice. Non-compliance with the deposit requirements can result in change or loss of services. All deposits are non-transferable.
- In no event shall the liability of TCI Travels or any of their respective subsidiaries or affiliates exceed the amount actually paid to such parties by the claimant and in no event shall any of

- such parties have liability to any claimant for special or consequential damages. Services and conditions will be subject to the law regulating the activities of travel agents in the country where the services are rendered.
- In case on any currency fluctuations or amendment in local Government taxes, or any fuel hike, we reserve the right to adjust the tour price accordingly.
- Guests travelling from the continent of North America to India can avail the E-tourist visa facility. For the complete details, please visit https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/visa/tvoa.html

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