



ULTIMATE JOURNEYS

Specialising in Asia, Africa, Australasia and the Americas

THE SPLENDOURS OF SOUTH INDIA

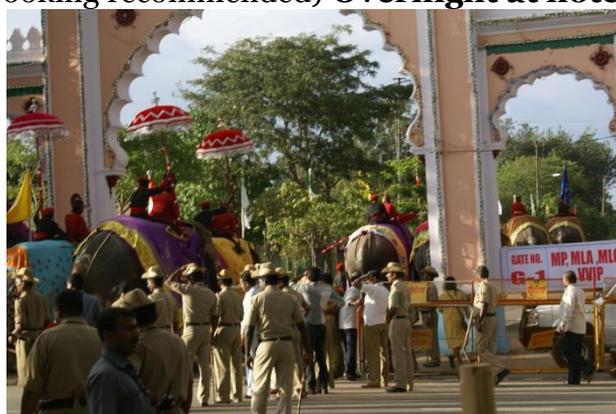
MUMBAI * MYSORE * BANGALORE * MADURAI * THEKKADY * ALLEPPEY * COCHIN

Day 1 - Arrive Mumbai: Arrive & transfer to hotel. Rest of the day at leisure or free for independent activities. **Overnight at hotel**

Day 2 - To Bangalore / Mysore: Transfer to domestic airport for flight to Bangalore. Arrive at the Garden City of Bangalore enjoying the cool air situated at 1000ft above sea level and then drive to Mysore via Srirangapatnam, where the legendary warrior Tipu Sultan built his summer palace. **Overnight at hotel (B, D)**



Day 3 - To Mysore: Today you visit the magnificent Maharaja's Palace, with its many antiques, intricate doors and frescoes, the bustling market of Mysore famous for its spices and sandalwood and before sunset visit the huge Nandi Bull on Chamundi Hill. You can time your stay to coincide with one of the festivals in Mysore (early booking recommended) **Overnight at hotel (B, D)**



Day 4 – To Bangalore - Madurai: After breakfast, drive to Bangalore and visit the important sites that make this IT capital world famous. Afternoon flight to the temple town of Madurai. Arrive Madurai and transfer to hotel for 1-night stay. **Overnight at hotel (B, D)**

Day 5 – To Thekkady: After breakfast, visit the world famous Meenakshi Temple. Afternoon drive to Thekkady in the Western Ghats mountain range and en-route visit a Rubber plantation where you can see the rubber plants, rubber tapping and the processing of Rubber.



Up-on arrival at Thekkady, check-in to the hotel for 2-nights stay. Evening has been kept free shopping in the local market. **Overnight at hotel (B, L, D)**

Day 6 – Thekkady: Full day for spice plantation visit with naturalist, elephant ride through the plantation, bathing & feeding of elephants. For your visit to Spice Plantation, wear closed shoes - it feels like a jungle walk. Spices growing here include vanilla, black pepper, cloves, cardamom, nutmeg and mace, surrounded by coconut palms, bananas and jackfruit.

After the plantation visit, enjoy lunch at a local restaurant.

After lunch, enjoy a 2-hour boat trip on the lake or trekking through the jungle are the usual ways of touring the Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary. Trips along the large artificial lake surrounded by dense forests offer the opportunity to view wild life specially elephants, wild boar, etc. **Overnight at hotel (B, L, D)**



Day 7 - To Alleppey: Today early morning after breakfast you will leave for Alleppey one of the most important tourist centers in the state, with a large network of inland canals earning it the sobriquet "Venice of the east". These large networks of canals provide Alleppey its lifeline.

On arrival check-in to the houseboat, the Rice barge - converted cargo boat - will collect you from the jetty for a lazy journey through the meandering backwaters as you watch rural life which has not changed for centuries. In the evening the boat will anchor safely for the night stay. **Overnight at hotel (B, L, D)**



Day 8 – To Cochin: After breakfast, drive to Cochin. Arrive Cochin and transfer to hotel for 2-nights stay. Cochin, one of the oldest port cities of India has very rich cultural past and cosmopolitan association. Cochin is one of the finest natural harbours in the world. With ferry rides commanding its breath taking view as you cruise around man-made islands with lush green lawns sloping down to the water's edge, Cochin is the oldest European settlement in India and recording a history of visitors who came, saw and stayed for hundreds of years. Layered impressions of Chinese, Arab, Jewish, British, French and Portuguese have left their influences.

In the evening enjoy Kathakali dance performance. Kathakali is a traditional dance form of Kerala and is performed only by men at the local theatre. **Overnight at hotel (B, L, D)**



Day 9 - Cochin: After the breakfast, leave for the half day tour of the satellite town of Kochi (Cochin) which comprise visits to the Dutch Palace, the Jewish Synagogue, St. Francis Church and the Santa Cruz Basilica. See the Chinese fishing nets, which dot the harbour as you drive along the coastline.

After lunch, you will be free for shopping at the Jewish street where you can walk through the historical Dutch and Portuguese buildings. Also visit Jew Street which is famous for the antiques.

Early evening, enjoy harbour cruise. Evening is free for shopping in the Ernakulam city or for independent activities. **Overnight at hotel (B, L, D)**

Day 10 – Home : Transfer to airport .

Call us to find the best fare to suit your date.

We can use a wide range of properties including our character / Heritage hotels or even a Maharajah's Palace. To allow us to tailor this arrangement to your taste and budget.

Call 02897 510 794