



KERALA CONNECTION

09 Nights / 10 Days

The Indian Bucket List offers a bespoke 10 Night, 11 Day journey through Central India, covering a range of captivating destinations. From the lively art scene of Kochi to the glistening backwaters of Alleppey, and from the verdant, forested hills to the aromatic spice plantations, Kerala offers a captivating blend of diverse landscapes and cultures. Engage with the region's rich cultural heritage through its vibrant dance forms and traditional martial arts. Savor the fresh, spicy, and tropical flavors of the local cuisine. Glide along tranquil backwaters in a private houseboat. Explore the natural beauty inhabited by exotic birds, butterflies, and elephants. Indulge in some of India's most luxurious resorts. Experience the essence of "God's own country."

Kochi : Also known as Cochin, is a vibrant coastal city in Kerala, India, renowned for its rich history and cultural diversity. A melting pot of influences from Portuguese, Dutch, and British colonial eras, Kochi boasts stunning architecture, including the iconic Chinese fishing nets, historic churches, and the beautiful Mattancherry Palace. The city is also famous for its bustling spice markets and vibrant art scene, particularly in the Fort Kochi area, where you can find galleries and street art. Don't miss the chance to experience a traditional Kathakali performance or indulge in the local cuisine, which features fresh seafood and aromatic spices. With its picturesque backwaters and welcoming atmosphere, Kochi is a perfect starting point for exploring the enchanting landscapes of Kerala.

Periyar National Park : Located in the Western Ghats of Kerala, is a stunning wildlife sanctuary and a haven for nature lovers. Known for the Periyar Lake, which was formed by the Mullaperiyar Dam, the area offers breathtaking views and a serene environment. Visitors can embark on guided treks, bamboo rafting, and boat rides to explore the rich biodiversity, including elephants, tigers, and various bird species. The sanctuary is also home to spice plantations, where travelers can learn about the cultivation of cardamom, pepper, and other spices. With its lush greenery and tranquil atmosphere, Periyar is an ideal destination for those seeking adventure and relaxation amidst nature.

Alleppey : Is often referred to as the "Venice of the East" due to its intricate network of backwaters and canals. This picturesque town is famous for its houseboat cruises, where travelers can glide through serene waters surrounded by lush paddy fields and coconut groves. Alleppey also hosts the annual Nehru Trophy Boat Race, a vibrant event showcasing traditional boat racing. Visitors can explore local markets, enjoy fresh seafood, and experience the unique culture of Kerala.

Kumarakom : located near Vembanad Lake, is a tranquil village known for its stunning backwaters and rich bird-life. It is part of the Kumarakom Bird Sanctuary, a paradise for birdwatchers, especially during the migratory season. The area offers luxurious resorts and houseboat stays, providing a perfect blend of relaxation and adventure. Visitors can engage in activities like canoeing, fishing, and exploring nearby villages to experience the local lifestyle. Together, Alleppey and Kumarakom offer a serene escape into the natural beauty and cultural richness of Kerala.

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Day 01
KOCHI

Explore this historic port city, you'll find a rich tapestry of culture and history that reflects its status as the oldest European settlement in India. The charming streets of Fort Kochi are perfect for leisurely strolls, where you can admire the unique architecture and vibrant local life.

Your waterfront hotel, beautifully restored from a Victorian shipyard, offers a perfect blend of comfort and heritage, providing stunning views of the Arabian Sea. Take your time to relax and soak in the serene atmosphere, perhaps enjoying a local meal or a refreshing drink as you watch the sunset over the water. If you have any questions or need recommendations for activities or dining, feel free to ask! Enjoy your stay in this enchanting city.



SPA

Day 02
KOCHI

Kochi offers a rich tapestry of experiences that beautifully blend history, culture, and local life. Starting in Fort Kochi, you can witness the iconic Chinese fishing nets, a remarkable sight as fishermen skillfully operate them, showcasing a traditional fishing method that has been in practice for centuries. As you explore further, the remnants of Fort Emmanuel provide insight into the historical alliances that shaped the region, while the Church of St. Francis stands as a testament to Kochi's colonial past, being the oldest European church in India. The nearby Santa Cruz Basilica adds to the architectural beauty of the area.

Activity 01

Mattanchery Palace, Spice Markets, Laundry Station, Jew Lane and Kathakali Dance



HISTORICAL SITE



HERITAGE WALK

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Day 03 KOCHI

Experience the vibrant energy of Kochi as you witness the early morning rush on the water, where local fishermen set out to cast their nets. Observe the bustling seafood auction, where the air is filled with excitement as fishermen negotiate over their prized catches of the day. Enjoy a cup of tea at a local Chaikadda, then explore the Soviet-era communist reading rooms that offer a glimpse into the region's unique history. Next, hop on a local ferry to Eranakulam, where you can immerse yourself in the lively atmosphere of the local market. Conclude your tour with a visit to the Eranakulatappan Temple, the city's namesake, and savor some delicious South Indian delicacies.

Activity 01

Heritage walk and Sunset Cruise.



HERITAGE WALK



SPA

Day 04 PERIYAR

Periyar National Park, located in the Western Ghats of Kerala, India, is a stunning wildlife sanctuary renowned for its rich biodiversity and picturesque landscapes. Spanning over 925 square kilometers, the park is centered around the serene Periyar Lake, which was formed by the construction of the Mullaperiyar Dam in the 19th century. Here are some highlights and details for sightseeing in Periyar National Park:

The park is home to a diverse range of wildlife, including elephants, tigers, bison, deer, and numerous species of birds. The lush greenery and varied ecosystems make it a haven for nature enthusiasts and wildlife photographers.

Activity 01

Periyar National Park, Village Walk and Talk



WILDLIFE



VILLAGE WALK



TALK

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Day 05 PERIYAR

Begin your day by waking up early and meeting your knowledgeable tribal guide for a leisurely stroll through vibrant forests and vast grasslands. Keep an eye out for a variety of colorful birds, majestic elephants, the elusive lion-tailed macaque, and perhaps even a rare sighting of a big cat basking in the morning sun. After your exploration, head back to your cozy accommodation for a delicious breakfast and some well-deserved relaxation in the breathtaking surroundings.

Later in the day, embark on a visit to a local spice plantation where you will be engulfed by exotic scents that will tantalize your senses. Discover the art of cultivating cinnamon, cardamom, clove, black pepper, ginger, turmeric, vanilla, and nutmeg from the knowledgeable farmers. Return to your luxurious cottage and pamper yourself with some peaceful downtime.

Activity 01

Heritage walk and Sunset Cruise.



SPICE WALK



SPA



WILDLIFE

Day 06 ALLEPPEY

Renowned for its enchanting backwaters, a network of serene lagoons, canals, and lakes that showcase the stunning natural beauty of Kerala. Travelers can explore these tranquil waters on traditional houseboats, offering a unique perspective of the lush landscapes, coconut groves, and vibrant local life along the banks. The backwaters are dotted with charming villages, where you can witness traditional fishing practices, rice paddies, and the daily routines of the local communities. Whether you're looking for a peaceful retreat or an immersive cultural experience, the Alleppey backwaters promise a memorable journey through one of India's most picturesque settings.

Activity 01

Houseboat and Bird-watching



HISTORICAL SITE



BOAT SAFARI



WILDLIFE

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Day 07, 08, & 09

KUMARAKOM

Kumarakom is a picturesque village located on the banks of Vembanad Lake in Kerala, India. Renowned for its serene backwaters, lush greenery, and rich biodiversity, it offers a tranquil escape for travelers seeking natural beauty and relaxation. Visitors can enjoy houseboat cruises, which provide a unique perspective of the stunning landscapes, traditional villages, and vibrant bird life, including the famous migratory Siberian cranes. The region is also known for its Ayurvedic treatments, local cuisine, and cultural experiences, making it a perfect destination for those looking to unwind and immerse themselves in the beauty of Kerala's backwaters.

Activity 01

Heritage walk and Sunset Cruise.



WALK



SPA

Day 10

KOCHI

The drive from Kumarakom to Kochi typically takes about 02 hours, covering a distance of approximately 50 kilometers. The route is scenic, featuring lush greenery, backwaters, and charming villages, making it a pleasant journey.

On the final day of your unforgettable journey, "**Kerala Connection**" you have a full day at your leisure to relax, reflect, and absorb the experiences of the past ten days. This day is designed for you to unwind, indulge in personal interests, and make the most of your remaining time in this captivating state of Kerala the Gods own Country of India.

Journey Ends - Transfer to Kochi International Airport for onward Journey.



HISTORIAL SITE



HERITAGE WALK



ART



SHOPPING