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Kerala Heritage Tour Package

10 Nights/11 Days

- Witness Kochi's historical marvels, from the ancient Fort Cochin to the captivating Chinese fishing nets.
- Visit Munnar’s sprawling tea estates
- Visit Thekkady, the spice capital
- Cruise along the iconic backwaters of Alleppey
- Unwind on the sun-kissed beaches of Kovalam
- **Valid from 1 Aug to 30 Sep 2023**

From £1499 per person

Overview:

Embark on an extraordinary journey through Kerala on this 10-night tour, where enchantment awaits at every turn. Begin in the vibrant city of Kochi, a melting pot of cultures, where the echoes of Chinese, French, and Portuguese influences create a tapestry of diversity. Immerse yourself in the captivating sights of Fort Cochin and marvel at the mystical dance of the Chinese fishing nets. Traverse the misty hills of Munnar, where emerald tea plantations stretch as far as the eye can see, inviting you to savour the finest brews. Explore the spice-scented streets of Thekkady and encounter the exotic wildlife of the Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary. Cruise along the serene backwaters of Alleppey, drifting past verdant paddy fields and ancient temples. Finally, surrender to the allure of Kovalam's sun-kissed beaches, where relaxation and tranquillity await. Kerala beckons with its rich heritage, natural wonders, and unforgettable experiences.

Itinerary:

Day 1: Arrival in Kochi

Step into the captivating world of Kochi, where diverse cultures intertwine to create a mesmerising tapestry. As you arrive, be greeted by our representative who will take you away to your hotel and assist in a seamless check-in. Immerse yourself in the vibrant streets of Fort Cochin, perfect for leisurely walks and discovering hidden gems. In the evening, embark on a captivating harbour cruise, where you'll witness one of nature's finest spectacles - the picturesque natural harbour of Kochi. Overnight stay in Kochi.

Day 2: Kochi Sightseeing

Uncover the historical treasures of Kochi on a captivating sightseeing tour. Delve into the city's past as you explore Fort Cochin, Vasco Da Gama Square, and the Santa Cruz Basilica. Visit St. Francis' Church, an ancient European church with deep-rooted Portuguese heritage. Marvel at the ancient Chinese fishing nets, a testament to Kochi's unique cultural blend. Indulge in a cooking class with a renowned local TV personality and savour the delectable flavours of Keralite cuisine. Overnight stay in Kochi.

Day 3: Kochi - Munnar

After a filling breakfast, check-out of your hotel and embark on an enchanting journey through misty hills and

lush tea plantations to reach Munnar, a paradise nestled at 1,500 meters above sea level. Marvel at the verdant landscapes adorned with sprawling tea estates and towering Acacias. En route, take a captivating spice plantation tour, where you'll witness the cultivation of aromatic spices like black pepper, cardamom, and cinnamon. Arrive in Munnar, check-in to your hotel and witness its tranquil beauty, savouring freshly brewed cups of tea that have made this region famous. Let Munnar's natural splendour captivate your soul. Overnight stay in Munnar.

Day 4: Munnar Full-day Sightseeing Tour

Unveil the majestic charm of Munnar as you embark on a full-day sightseeing adventure. Encounter the Rajamalai Wildlife Sanctuary, home to elusive mountain goats and breath-taking vistas. Explore the Kannan Devan Hills, offering panoramic views of Munnar's emerald tea estates and serene lakes. Venture to Mattupetty and keep an eye out for herds of wild elephants along the way. Immerse yourself in the fascinating world of tea at the Tea Museum, where photographs and machinery narrate the industry's revolutionary journey. End the day with a mesmerizing display of Kathakali and martial arts performances. Return to hotel for an overnight stay in Munnar.

Day 5: Munnar - Thekkady

Have a yummy breakfast, check-out of your hotel and embark on a scenic drive to Thekkady, the spice capital of Kerala. Along the way, enjoy the lush greenery of cardamom and tea plantations. Explore Thekkady and its vibrant spice market, where the air is filled with the aroma of cinnamon, cloves, nutmeg, and mace. Indulge in a captivating Kathakali performance, a blend of art, music, dance, and drama. Discover the ancient martial art of Kalaripayattu, characterised by its graceful movements and the clashing of swords. Overnight stay in Thekkady.

Day 6: Thekkady Sightseeing

Embark on a thrilling day of wildlife encounters in the pristine Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary. Amidst dense forests, engage in exhilarating mountain walks and immerse yourself in the sanctuary's exotic fauna. Experience a tranquil boat ride on the picturesque lake, where you may spot fascinating wildlife species. Explore the Tribal Heritage Museum, showcasing artefacts that reflect the rich culture, traditions, and rituals of the Mannan settlement. Dive into the spice market in Kumily Village, where you can procure the finest aromatic spices to carry home as souvenirs of this remarkable journey. Return to your Thekkady hotel for an overnight stay.

Day 7: Thekkady - Alleppey

After a sumptuous breakfast, check-out of your hotel and get ready for a journey to Alleppey, the crown jewel of Kerala's backwaters via Kuttikanam, a hill station in Idukki district known for its adventure sports. You can explore the tea plantation that surrounds this place. Later, move on to Alleppey. Traverse the tranquil waterways aboard a luxurious houseboat, meandering through verdant paddy fields and beneath swaying coconut trees. Marvel at the ancient Chinese fishing nets dotting the coastline, while the rustic charm of Alleppey's temples and buildings captivates your imagination. Indulge in the flavours of Kerala's culinary delights, served on-board your houseboat. Overnight stay in a houseboat.

Day 8: Alleppey - Kovalam

In the morning, disembark from your houseboat after breakfast and drive to Kovalam. After check in at your hotel, you can spend your time at leisure. Immerse yourself in the laid-back atmosphere, strolling along the peach-coloured sands or taking a refreshing dip in the shallow waters. Indulge in the vibrant coastal culture

and savour the delectable seafood delicacies. Overnight stay in Kovalam.

Day 9: Kovalam

Revel in the idyllic charm of Kovalam's local beaches with two days at leisure for you to explore at your own pace. Experience the famous Lighthouse Beach, with its towering lighthouse overlooking the azure waters. Overnight stay in Kovalam.

Day 10: Kovalam

Spend your day at leisure, whether it's sunbathing, exploring the vibrant beachside cafes, or simply enjoying the tranquillity of your beachfront resort. Let the rhythmic crashing of waves and the golden rays of the sun soothe your soul, creating everlasting memories of blissful beachside moments. Overnight stay in Kovalam.

Day 11: Kovalam to Trivandrum Airport

As your Kerala journey draws to a close, bid adieu to the enchanting landscapes and warm hospitality. After breakfast, check out from your beach resort in Kovalam, and spend your time at leisure. With cherished memories of a remarkable trip to Kerala, you'll be transferred to Trivandrum Airport for your departure, carrying with you the essence of this extraordinary land that will forever hold a special place in your heart.

Inclusions:

- Flight included Air India
- Two-night stay in Kochi at Old Harbour or Eighth Bastion
- Two-night stay in Windermere estate Munnar in a Garden view room
- Tour of a tea and spice plantation (w/ tea tasting) in Munnar
- Two-night stay in Thekkady, the gateway into the Periyar Sanctuary
- Your visit includes the unforgettable opportunity to see Wildlife on a Motorboat
- Discover the Dances of the Kathakali and Martial Arts of the Kalaripayattu in Munnar
- Sleep over on a houseboat as you cruise through narrow lakes and canals in Alleppey
- Be wined and dined on board with all three meals and 4 bottles of beer
- Three-night stay in Kovalam in a higher category sea view Premium Mansion
- Visit Fort Kochi Beach, Chinese fishing nets, Mattancherry Palace and Jewish Synagoge
- Keep your mind, body and soul healthy with an hour of trekking
- Sightseeing & transfers via a private air-conditioned Innova Crysta
- For certain excursions, the services of an English-speaking local guide will be available
- English speaking chauffeur throughout the trip and during select excursions
- Applicable entrance fee for monuments and sightseeing places
- Breakfast and dinner included with each hotel stay
- Quench your thirst with a mineral water bottle (1 per person each day)

AVAILABILITY DATES & PRICES

- Aug 23 £1849pp

Other Important Info

- You will need to arrange a Visa prior to travel - please ask your consultant for details of the application process.
- Our endeavour will always be to confirm the hotels listed in the package chosen, however in rare cases where we are not able to confirm certain hotel(s), like for like alternatives will be provided.

- We recommend that you buy travel Insurance as any costs incurred due to mishaps, strikes, political unrest etc. are not included and will be at the passenger's responsibility.
- The package is non-refundable for any inclusion items not used/taken
- In the Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary you may be asked if you want to switch from Bamboo rafting to a Motorboat option to explore the sanctuary as it is faster and can cover more areas.
- The Jewish Synagogue & Dutch Palace will be closed on Fridays and Saturdays (Day 2).
- Rajamalai National Park is closed from 15th January till 1st April every year, so in that period on the way to Munnar we will instead offer a complimentary visit to the Thattekad Bird Sanctuary which is also known as the Salim Ali bird sanctuary; alternatively, travellers can visit Top Station in Munnar on Day 4.
- Travellers are requested to carry documents at the time of checking out from each hotel.

Exclusions:

- Any additional meals not mentioned in the package
- Room service charges, telephone calls, laundry charges, tips of personal nature
- Meals will generally be buffet meals or on a fixed menu basis unless otherwise stated to you on the confirmation
- Accommodation will be on a double sharing basis unless otherwise stated
- Free room upgrades are dependant on availability
- Those opting for the Ultra Luxury Package - massages will be given at Kochi or Thekkady hotel