

11 Nights / 12 Days

2N Delhi- 1N Agra- 2N Jaipur- 2N Cochin- 2N Munnar-  
1N Thekkady- 1N Alleppey HB

## PACKAGE HIGHLIGHTS:

- Visit in Delhi - Jama Masjid, Red Fort, Rajghat, Qutub Minar, Humayun Tomb
- Rickshaw ride in Chandni Chowk
- Visit in Agra - Taj Mahal, Agra Fort & Fateh-pur Sikri
- Visit in Jaipur - Amber Fort, City Palace, Jantar Mantar Observatory, Hawa Mahal & Albert Museum
- Elephant ride at Amber
- In Cochin, visit to Mattancherry Palace, Jewish Synagogue, spice-market and Kathakali-show
- Trip to Eravikulam National Park, Tea Plantation & Museum, Munnar
- Visit to Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary, Boat Ride at Lake Periyar, Spice plantation tour & Kalari show
- Stay in Alleppey Houseboat, Kerala backwaters
- Services of English-speaking guide during sightseeing tours
- Assistance at airport and sightseeing tours by private air-conditioned vehicle
- Start From Delhi and End in Cochin



## ITINERARY:

### Day 01 Arrival in Delhi

Meet our representative upon arrival in Delhi and proceed to your hotel. After reaching, check-in at the hotel and spend rest of the evening at leisure. Overnight stay in Delhi.

### Day 02 Sightseeing in Delhi

After breakfast, proceed for a full-day tour of Old and New Delhi. This fascinating city has been in existence since the 6th century BC and has seen ups and downs from the rule of the Pandavas right up to the British Raj. Visit Jama Masjid, which is the largest mosque in India, commissioned by Emperor Shah Jahan. The courtyard of the mosque can hold about 25,000 worshippers. Enjoy a rickshaw ride in Chandni Chowk, the busiest market in Old Delhi...noisy, chaotic and uniquely Indian. You will then drive past to the Red Fort, which was constructed during the rule of Emperor Shah Jahan and served as the residence for the Mughal royal family. It continues to be significant till date, as every Independence Day, the Prime Minister makes a speech from its ramparts as the Indian flag is hoisted. Later, drive past President House and several other government buildings in Edwin Lutyen's Delhi before you head toward Rajghat, the memorial to Mahatma Gandhi. This simple memorial marks the spot where Mahatma Gandhi was cremated in 1948. Thereafter, visit Humayun's Tomb, commissioned by Humayun's wife Hamida Banu Begum in 1562. It was the first garden tomb built in the Indian sub-continent where the Persian architect used red sandstone on a large scale. Later in the evening visit the Qutab Minar, which is the tallest brick minaret in the world; it was commissioned by Qutbuddin Aibak, the first Muslim ruler of Delhi. **(Optional) - Attend a Sufi ceremony at Nizamuddin Dargah).** Return back to Hotel. Overnight in Delhi.

### Day 03 Delhi - Agra (210 kms / approx. 4 hours)

On arrival in Agra, check-in into your Hotel. Later proceed for Half Day City Tour of Agra. Visit the Red Fort, which was commissioned in 1565 by Akbar. The beautiful yet forbidding structure is a handsome example of Mughal architecture. Later, visit the Taj Mahal ... a mausoleum built as a symbol of Emperor Shah Jahan's devotion to his beloved queen Mumtaz Mahal. Considered an architectural marvel, its construction took thousands of workers over 21 years to complete. Overnight in Agra.

### Day 04 Agra - Jaipur (230 km/approx. 5 hours)

After breakfast, drive to Jaipur and enroute visit Fatehpur Sikri, which was built by Emperor Akbar and is home to many historical buildings. Akbar wanted to make Fatehpur Sikri his headquarters; however, he had to abandon it due to shortage of water. The Tomb of Sheikh Salim Chishti enshrines the burial place of the Sufi saint who lived a religious life here. Today, Fatehpur Sikri is a UNESCO World heritage site. Further drive to Jaipur and check into your Hotel. Jaipur is the gateway to the magnificent and vibrant state of Rajasthan. Evening take a stroll in the markets of Jaipur for the traditional dresses and shoes, curio shops, blue pottery etc. Overnight in Jaipur.

### **Day 05 Jaipur Sightseeing**

Today, enjoy a full-day sightseeing trip of Jaipur, also known as the 'Pink City'... it is famous for its colorful culture, forts, palaces, and lakes. The old city of Jaipur is painted pink, which gives it a magical glow. Visit the Amber Fort... a fascinating blend of Hindu and Mughal architecture. The best way to explore the fort is to ride up to it on elephant back. Later, stop to photograph the beautiful Hawa Mahal, also known as the "Palace of the Winds." This beautiful façade with its ornately carved latticework windows is made of pink sandstone. Post lunch, visit the City Palace... again, a synthesis of Rajasthani and Mughal styles. Later, visit the Jantar Mantar Observatory, comprising geometric devices for measuring time. You will also visit the Albert Hall, which was modeled on the Victoria and Albert Museum in London and is a fine example of Indo-Saracenic style of architecture. **(Optional) - An Evening at the Raj Mandir cinema - Bollywood film, and high atmosphere color in the room.** Overnight in Jaipur.

### **Day 06 Jaipur - Cochin (By Flight)**

After breakfast, proceed to the airport to board the flight to Cochin. Upon arrival check into your hotel. Enjoy full day at leisure. Overnight stay at the hotel.

### **Day 07 Sightseeing in Cochin**

After breakfast enjoy half day city tour covering Mattanchery Palace- gifted to the king of Cochin, by Portuguese in 1555, about 500 year old Jewish Synagogue, Chinese fishing nets, local spices market followed by colorful performing art - Kathakali Dance. Later in the evening, return to the hotel for overnight stay.

### **Day 08 Cochin to Munnar (120 km/approx. 4.5 hours)**

After breakfast, drive to Munnar - derived its name from the confluence of the three rivers around which the town grew. Today, it offers beautiful vistas, cardamom and spice plantations, aromatic oil factories, sights of several endangered species and the purple-blue of the Neelakurinji flowers that bloom every 12 years. Upon arrival, check-in at the hotel and spend evening at leisure. Overnight stay at the hotel.

### **Day 09 Sightseeing in Munnar**

Explore Eravikulam National Park, home to various elusive and endangered species. It is a great place to enjoy trekking and offers mind-blowing views of the tea plantations. Later, proceed towards Tea Museum, which gives an insight to the history of tea plantations of this region. Later visit Mattupetty Dam, Eco Point and Flower Garden. Return to the hotel for overnight stay.

### **Day 10 Munnar - Thekkady (110 kms / approx. 3 hours)**

After breakfast, drive to Thekkady (Periyar) and on arrival check-in at the hotel. Enjoy a full day sightseeing tour of Periyar. Set high in the ranges of the Western Ghats in Kerala, is the Periyar National Park and Tiger Reserve. Periyar wildlife sanctuary has a picturesque lake at the heart of the sanctuary. Herds of playful wild elephants have made Periyar Lake their favorite haunt for frolicking in the water. They can be witnessed bathing and swimming here. Enjoy a boat ride on the lake to view the wildlife at close quarters. Other inhabitants of Periyar include the leopard, wild dog, barking deer, mouse deer, Nilgiri langur, bonnet macaque, sambhar, porcupines, squirrels, gaur (Indian bison), wild boar and sloth bear. Later, take a spice plantation tour. The aroma and pleasant ambiance of the spice and tea plantations of Periyar are fascinating. Spices found in Thekkady include pepper, clove, cardamom, nutmeg, ginger, turmeric, vanilla and curry leaves. In evening, watch traditional Kalari show. **(Optional) - You can also enjoy an elephant ride in Periyar.** Return to the hotel for overnight stay.

### **Day 11 Thekkady - Alleppey (130 kms / approx. 4 hours)**

After breakfast, drive to Alleppey and board your houseboat on arrival. Alleppey, "Venice of the East" has a large network of backwater canals that meander through the town, surrounding villages and Vembanad Lake. Overnight on houseboat.

### **Day 12 Departure from Cochin**

After breakfast, you will be transferred to Cochin airport for return flight back home.