

Kerala Homestay

8 days | Starts/Ends: Kochi



Combining historic Kochi, the virgin hills of the Western Ghats amongst rubber, pepper and coconut plantations, Alleppey and the lush Kerala Backwaters. In eight sun-filled days feast upon the amazing natural wonders, wildlife, beauty and diversity of stunning Kerala - God's own country.

HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

Trip Highlights

- Kochi - the beautiful St Francis' Church, the white washed Dutch Palace, Fort Kochi and the iconic Chinese Fishing nets on the waterfront
- Coastal Alleppey - gateway to the relaxing palm fringed backwaters
- Kottamangalam - spice plantation and elephant rescue centre
- Kerala's famous tropical backwaters
- Thykattusserry - picturesque rural village

What's Included

- 6 nights homestay at a colonial plantation bungalow and 1 night - traditional rice-boat
- 7 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 dinners
- Guided sightseeing in Kochi
- Return transfer from Kochi

- Touring and excursions as per itinerary in chauffeur driven vehicle
- Services of English-speaking Indian specialist guides at some sites
- Entrance fees to all sites included in the itinerary

What's Not Included

- International flights and visas
- Laundry, drinks, items of a personal nature
- Tipping - an entirely personal gesture

ITINERARY

Day 1 : Kochi

Arrive Kochi, included transfer to hotel. In the evening enjoy a Kathakali dance performance, the traditional dance-form of Kerala. **Overnight - Kochi**

Day 2 : Kochi



Formerly a princely state, Kochi is also fondly referred to as "The Queen of the Arabian

Sea". This morning enjoy a sightseeing tour of the town including the beautiful Parsi Synagogue built in 1568, the Dutch Palace built by the Portuguese in 1555 and St Francis' Church. This evening enjoy a sunset cruise to see Chinese fishing nets at the entrance of Cochin Harbour. **Overnight - Kochi (B)**

Day 3 : Thykattusserry

Kochi - Thykattusserry. This morning drive to a small rural village called Thykattusserry being midway between Kochi and Alleppey. World's apart from the hustle and bustle of India's larger towns and cities, this charming village provides a fascinating insight into rural Indian life. The population comprises of people from different communities who live in harmony doing their daily chores like fishing and farming. At the homestay you'll be guaranteed a warm welcome, as you're showered with hospitality by the owners and made to feel like one of the family and in the kitchen you can learn about local cuisine.

Overnight - Thykattusserry (in the Alleppey District) (B, L, D)

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This information has been compiled with care and good faith. They give an accurate illustration of the proposed arrangements for this holiday. Circumstances beyond our control such as changes in local conditions, inclement weather or other reasons could force us to make changes to this itinerary. Any costs shown are subject to change, though are an accurate reflection of costs at time of writing. Please also note that visa requirements are subject to change and are the responsibility of the traveller and not that of On The Go Tours.

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Day 4 : Houseboat on the backwaters



Thykatusserry - Backwaters - Kothamangalam. This morning, board a simply furnished private rice-boat for a journey through the backwaters in and around Alleppey. Floating serenely along through palm fringed waters, watch fascinating scenes of everyday life, relax in the sunshine and absorb the picturesque scenery.

The rice-boat is a simply furnished craft and consists of a thatched covered lounge and dining area, sleeping accommodation and a bathroom with a WC and washbasin. In the evening the boat is lit by hurricane lamps. There is a small service area at the rear of the craft where the cook prepares simple but tasty meals. **Overnight - Houseboat (B, L, D)**

Day 5 : Kothamangalam

Disembark from the rice-boat at Alleppey then drive to Kothamangalam and transfer to a plantation homestay (approximately 2 hour drive). Relax, unwind and learn about spices like vanilla, pepper, nutmeg, cloves and more. **Overnight - Kothamangalam (B)**

Day 6 : Free time



Relax in the cool ambience of the homestay. **Overnight - Kothamangalam (B)**

Day 7 : Optional visit to Bird Sanctuary

Spend your day at leisure or there is also an optional tour to Dr. Salim Ali Bird Sanctuary, one of the best in Asia. More than 80% of birds found in Kerala can be seen here. **Overnight - Kothamangalam (B)**

Day 8 : Kochi

Kottayam - Kochi. Drive back to Kochi and onward transfer to the airport for your international flight.(B)

PRICES / DATES INFO

Prices shown are 'per person', based on a travelling party of at least 2 adults. The 'Single supplement' applies for single travellers who require their own room and needs to be added to the per person price.

PRICES / DATES 2020

Date	Twin Share	Single
13 Feb	CAD 2,745	CAD 4,385

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