

## Kerala- God's own Country (06 days/ 05 nights)

MUNNAR- THEKKADY- ALLEPPEY (HOUSEBOAT)- COCHIN-KHADAKWASLA

&

A Day at National Defense Academy ( Pune)



*Kerala – God's own Country tagline has been used because of its location, landscaping and its surroundings. It is the amalgamation of lush and tropical Malabar Coast on the west along with verdant backwaters in the centre ranging from Cochin to Kollam and Nilgiri mountain range covered with tea plantations in the east.*

### **PROGRAM**

***Day 01: Assemble at the School and board your coach for New Delhi airport for your Spice Jet flight to Cochin (4 Hrs 15 min with one En-route halt)***

### **COCHIN – MUNNAR by Road**

*After arriving at Cochin Airport, you will be met by our local representative who will assist in your transfer to local restaurant for lunch. After lunch drive to Munnar by road (127 kms/04 hrs), a famous hill station known for its Imperial tea estates. Keep your cameras handy to capture the splendid landscapes.*

*Munnar is Kerala's premium hill station. A hill station transcending excellence – Munnar is surrounded by gently undulating hills swathed in the soothing green of vast tea estates makes it perfect tourist destination of South India. Situated at an altitude of 1600 m above sea level, its bracing climate with the laidback atmosphere and its delightfully refreshing colonial air makes it the most sought-after destinations*





*Check-in into Ayurcounty Resort for 02 nights, enjoy the inundating nature and the sweet aroma of tea plantation. Dinner and Over night at the Resort.*

**Day 02: MUNNAR Sightseeing**



*After breakfast, proceed for Munnar sightseeing that includes Mount Caramel, tea factory and Mattapetty Lake and cattle breeding farm at the highest point of Munnar or rather it is also the highest point of South India. Don't forget to buy spices, tea and homemade chocolates here. We will organize your lunch at a local eatery, full of flavors of Kerala.*

*In the evening return back to hotel and enjoy your dinner.*

**Day 03: MUNNAR – THEKKADY**

*Early morning: After breakfast, drive to Thekkady (120 kms/ 03 hrs)*

***Thekkady-777 sq.km of lush green tropical forests is the natural habitat of elephant, bison, spotted deer, sambar, bear and many colorful birds etc.***

*Check-in into Silver Crest Resort for 01 night. Lunch at the resort, proceed towards Lake Periyar to enjoy the boat ride where one can have a unique experience of viewing wildlife at close quarters from the safety of a boat on the lake. The greatest attraction of Periyar, however are the herds of wild elephants that come down to play in the lake. (Subject to sighting)*

***After your boat ride return back to hotel and enjoy the dinner at hotel.***



**DAY 04: THEKKADY – ALLEPPEY by Road**

*After breakfast, drive to Alleppey by road (140 kms/03.5hrs) a place famous for the network of backwaters.*

**ALLEPPEY:** *The city of Alleppey is a cluster of little islands on the Vembanad Lake in Kerala, a state in India. Geographically, it is located at 9.35 North and 76.26 East. Alleppey soil is extremely fertile due to the proximity of the water source, this has resulted in the growth of a wide variety of flora in Alleppey, especially the mangrove and coconut trees. Vembanad Lake is home to several types of marine life exclusively the 'Karimeen' (Pearl Spotted Fish), the 'Chemeen' (Prawns) and the 'Konju' (Tiger Prawns).*



*Upon arrival at Alleppey, proceed to Alleppey jetty to board the picnic boat. The boat will sail through network of backwaters. While riding the boat, enjoy the panoramic view of paddy fields and villages situated on both sides of lake with many other houseboats sailing in it. Lunch and high tea will be served on board itself.*

*In evening, check-in into hotel Arcadia at Alleppey for 01 night. Enjoy the dinner in the night at Hotel.*

### **Day 05: ALLEPPEY - COCHIN by Road**

*After having breakfast at hotel, proceed towards Cochin.*

**Cochin (Kochi) City:** *With its wealth of historical associations, and its magnificent setting on a cluster of islands and narrow peninsulas, is one of the most fascinating cities of coastal South India. The port city of Cochin is also known as 'Queen of the Arabian City'. It is a city with indelible marks of Christianity, Islam, Hinduism and Jewish traditions. It is considered as an entrance to the network of backwater in Kerala "God's own Country".*

*Check-in into Hotel Riviera Suites, You will be checked in by the hotel and assigned your rooms, lunch at the hotel, before you head out to explore the city.*



*Post early lunch, we will proceed to explore this magnificent city specially the older parts of the Fort Cochin area. It is said to exist more or less similar to what it used to look like a 1000-years back. This part of the city reflects an unusual blend of medieval Portugal, Dutch and English country life grafted on to the tropical Malabar Coast. The 16th century Mattancherry Palace, also known as the Dutch Palace is a fascinating fort with elegant buildings and interesting collections from the Royal traditions of the region. The unique feature of Cochin is the unexpected and isolated Jewish community, whose origins date back to AD 52. They are self-contained and have*

*their own Synagogue. The area around the Synagogue, known as 'Jew Town' is one of the main centers of spice trade. Scores of small firms huddle together in old dilapidated buildings and the air is filled with the aroma of ginger, cardamom, cumin, turmeric and cloves. The area is very busy. In the evening see the Chinese fishing nets, silhouetted majestically against the sunset. In the same vicinity visit St. Francis church. Return back to hotel for dinner and over night.*

### **DAY 06: COCHIN – MUMBAI – PUNE by Air and surface.**

*Transfer to Cochin Airport in early hours to board the morning flight for Mumbai and from there onwards travel to Khadakwasla by road (165 kms/ 03.5 hrs). Breakfast will be served on board enroute Cochin – Mumbai.*

*After the successful visit of NDA campus, transfer to Pune Airport in evening to catch your flight for Delhi. Dinner will be served on board. After arrival board your coach for Sonapat. (70kms/02 hrs)*