

INDIAN ADVENTURE



Join us to visit two of India's most fascinating and picturesque states, visit forts, temples, bazaars, spice plantations, backwaters and sample unique and amazing food.

This will be an epic adventure and designed for those that haven't been to India and want to get a "taste" of the country within a short period of time.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Visit 4 great cities & 2 amazing states
- New Delhi City Tour
- The Taj Mahal Agra Fort Fatehpur Sikri
- Amber Fort Jantar Mantar Jaipur Bazaars
- The City Palace & Museum Pratap Memorial Jagdish Temple
- Chittorgarh Fort Lake Pichola

- Boat trip through the magical backwaters of Alleppey
- Amazing tea gardens, Spice plantations, Scenic hill stations
- Wild life sightseeing on Periyar Lake
- Kathakali dance shows & Ayurvedic treatments
- Tour around Kochi – “The Spice Capital of India”
- Drive through some of the most breath taking scenery that India has to offer

We'll have the opportunity throughout the trip to visit bazaars, temples, indulge and explore Indian culture and meet the locals in each place.



If you are interested in only a 1 week trip, it might also be possible to organise. Please contact us for more details

LEAVE LONDON FRIDAY FEB 14th 2020

Take Friday evening flight from London to New Delhi. Direct flights with Air India / BA / Virgin. Indirect flights with many other Air Lines

PART 1: DELHI / AGRA / RAJASTHAN

DAY 1 SATURDAY FEB 15th 2020 Arrival at **New Delhi**

On arrival at New Delhi Airport, we will be met by our local representative. In the afternoon we'll proceed for a sightseeing tour of India's capital. You'll also have free time on the last day of the trip to see parts of Delhi that you missed on the first day

DAY 2 SUNDAY FEB 16th 2020 **Delhi to Agra: THE TAJ MAHAL**

We'll go to the Mughal city of Agra, situated on the banks of the River Yamuna, home to one of the great world heritage sites: The Taj Mahal. Over night in Agra.



We'll also visit the Agra Fort, built by the Emperor Akbar & the Taj Mahal-the symbol of eternal love, built by Emperor Shah Jahan in memory of his wife Mumtaz Mahal

DAY 3 MONDAY FEB 17th 2020 **Agra to Jaipur (by road)**

After breakfast we'll drive to the "pink city" of Jaipur and en route visit Fatehpur Sikri, the deserted red sandstone city built by the Mughal Emperor Akbar. On arrival at Jaipur, we'll check- into our hotel and the rest of the day at leisure. Enjoy a gastronomic dinner and overnight stay at the hotel.



DAY 4 TUESDAY FEB 18th 2020 **Jaipur City Tour**



By Kuldeep Singh Mahawar

We'll visit the Amber fort, known for its large ramparts, series of gates & cobbled paths overlooking Maota Lake. Then drive past the Hawa Mahal (Palace of winds), visit the City Palace & Museum & take a stroll to the Jantar Mantar, an astronomical observatory, followed by a visit to the wonderful Bazaars of Jaipur.



DAY 5 WEDNESDAY FEB 19th 2020 Jaipur to Udaipur (by road)

Drive to Udaipur, the lake city of Rajasthan. Visit Chittorgarh Fort, the pride of Rajasthan the largest as well as the most significant fort of the country



Then a boat ride in Lake Pichola (scene of the James bond film – Octopussy), which will give us a picturesque view of ancient relics that surround these lakes.



DAY 6 THURSDAY FEB 20th 2020 **Udaipur**

We visit the The City Palace and Museum, considered to be the largest palace complex in Rajasthan, then the Pratap Memorial which has the bronze statue of the valiant warrior of Rajasthan, Maharana Pratap, the legendary king of Udaipur



We then visit the Jagdish Temple which was built in 1651, the small ornamental garden of Saheliyon Ki Bari, a truly stunning sight. In the evening we'll take a walk through the narrow lanes and back streets of Udaipur up to the washing ghats at lake Pichola. Then dinner at one of the fine downtown restaurants.

DAY 7 FRIDAY FEB 21st 2020 Travel day: **Udaipur to Mumbai to Kochi –**

Flight to Kochi. Check into hotel early evening, dinner and free time

PART 2: KERALA ADVENTURE

Known in India as “God’s own country”. Nestled between the pristine waters of the Arabian sea on the west and the lush Western Ghat mountains on the east, it’s intense network of rivers and lagoons, thick forests, exotic wildlife, tranquil stretches of emerald backwaters and a long shoreline of serene beaches make it a traveller's paradise. The literary meaning of Kerala is "the land of coconuts". "Kera" in Malayalam (the language of Kerala) means coconut.



DAY 8 SATURDAY FEBRUARY 22nd : **KOCHI**

Kochi is the commercial capital of the Southern Indian State of Kerala, is sometimes referred to as the ‘Queen of the Arabian Sea’. The city boasts a rich cultural heritage and has one of the finest natural harbours in the world. The city offers, forts, palaces, museums, old churches, cool backwaters, palm fringed lagoons, beaches combined with the amenities of a contemporary metro.

CITY TOUR

Interesting places to visit in Cochin include the Mattancherry Palace (Dutch Palace), built by the Portuguese and presented to the Cochin Raja in 1555 AD. A fine blend of Indo-European architecture, The Chinese Fishing nets, St. Francis Church, where Vasco Da Gama was buried before his remains were taken back to Portugal 14 years later and Jewish Synagogue, situated close to the Mattancherry boat jetty, the Synagogue and the ancient Jew town built in 1568 A.D. is of great historical importance.



DAY 9 SUNDAY FEBRUARY 23rd 2019 **KOCHI / MUNNAR**

Drive to Munnar. Overnight at Munnar. Pass through the panoramic western ghat hills, beautiful streams, small waterfalls, rubber, pepper cardamom and tea plantations, see Pothemedu view point and Blossom Park

MUNNAR

Munnar is a town in the Western Ghats mountain range in India's Kerala state. A hill station and former resort for the British Raj's elite, it's surrounded by rolling hills dotted with tea plantations established in the late 19th century. Eravikulam National Park, a habitat for the endangered mountain goat Nilgiri tahr, is home to the Lakkam Waterfalls, hiking trails and 2,695m-tall Anamudi Peak.



DAY 10 MONDAY FEBRUARY 24th **MUNNAR**

Visit the popular Eravikulam National Park, tea gardens, Mattupetty Reservoir, Kundala Dam and Tea Museum, echo point, we then explore the Munnar hill station.



DAY 11 TUESDAY / WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 25th/ 26th

Proceed to Thekkady, begin a breath taking journey through spice plantations and hills

THEKKADY

Thekkady is located near the Kerala-Tamil Nadu border. The sanctuary is famous for its dense evergreen, semi-evergreen, moist deciduous forests and savanna grass lands. It is home to herds of elephants, sambar, tigers, gaur, lion-tailed macaques and Nilgiri langurs. The Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary in Thekkady is one of the largest wildlife sanctuaries in India and abounds in rare species of tropical flora and fauna. The sanctuary also has a Tiger Trail programme



Boat trip on Periyar Lake, see wild animals (such as elephants, bison) & spice plantation tour



We go for some spice shopping and attend a Kalaripayattu & Kathakali show

CLICK on the picture below



DAY 12 THURSDAY FEB 27th **BACK WATERS BOAT TRIP**

Drive from Thekkady to Alleppey and check into the boat

We'll witness the full range of lives & activities of the people of Kerala & amazing scenery during this incredible trip through the back waters.



For a glimpse into what a back waters journey [CLICK](#) on the picture below





DAY 13: FRIDAY FEBRUARY 28th

ALLEPPEY / KOCHI

Ayurvedic session: A speciality of the region, particularly the hot oil massage OR Sight seeing / free time in Alleppey



Sample of a Kerala Hot Oil Massage



We then drive back from Alleppey to Kochi and catch a flight back to New Delhi and over night stay in New Delhi

DAY 14 SATURDAY FEB 29th NEW DELHI

Free day in New Delhi for shopping and additional sight seeing.

You'll need to select a flight back to London leaving Saturday night / early Sunday morning

COST

£995 (For payment before October 15th)

£1195 (For payment before November 15th)

£1395 (For payment after November 15th)

Single room supplements available. Please contact us

INCLUDED

- All accommodation (Twin share). Most stays will be in 4 Star hotels
- All transportation by A/c minibus
- 13 breakfasts
- Entry fees into the Taj Mahal, Agra Fort and Museums & Forts in Rajasthan
- Dinner evening in Jaipur with traditional music and dance
- 1 host (from the UK) for the entire length of the trip
- Local tour guides in Delhi / Rajasthan / Kerala
- Boat hire for 1 day for backwater trip + breakfast and dinner on boat
- Boat trip inside the Periyar wildlife sanctuary
- Spice plantation tours
- Pick up & drop off from Delhi & Kochi Airport (for designated flights only)
- Luxury taxes, toll, parking, bata

- **NOT INCLUDED:**

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- Ayurvedic treatments (approx. £15-£20)
- Flights to India (Approx £700-£800) (BA / Virgin / Air India are direct), many others also fly to New Delhi via regional hubs.
- Internal flights: Jaipur-Mumbai-Kochi- Delhi (Approx £130, depends on when you book them)
- Ayurvedic treatments / Kalaripayattu show Approx £20
- Lunch / Dinner except on the Backwaters Boat trip (£15-£20 per day)Entry fees to any other places except those listed above and any other excursions such as additional boat rides, elephant rides
- Visa £80
<https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/evisa/Registration>
- Travel Insurance (mandatory)

Notes

- In the Hill stations (Munnar) where it is colder, rooms will be non A/c
- Check with your GP if you need any additional vaccinations for this trip
- Min number needed for trip is 8 people
- The trip is organised jointly with a well established travel company in India

For more details and to confirm your place email your name and contact details to: emrgind@yahoo.co.uk