

# Family Indian Discovery



Days:	13
Price:	1395 USD International flight not included
Comfort:	★★★★★
Difficult:	★★★★☆
📌 Culture	

Enjoy this alluring introduction to India as we visit the spectacular Taj Mahal at sunset reflecting the rays of sun explore a hilltop fortress and discover the world heritage monuments of Delhi in the north. In the south of the country, we cherish jungle treks, curry lessons and cruising along the backwaters on a houseboat in tropical Kerala. After this active adventure, we travel to the coast to relax on sandy beaches.

Our trips begin with traveling to Agra where red fort and Magnificent Taj Mahal are cynosure of each tourist. Before heading to Pink City, we stop by Bharatpur where rickshaw ride amidst the park allows us to capture in camera different species of birds even migratory. Arrival in enthralling and historical capital city of Rajasthan is easily observed when we see all the building painted in Pink Colour. From here, we fly down to Cochin to explore the south of India. Visit of Cochin reminds us of the colonial past as we could see the Jewish Synagogue and church which are still intact. Traveling to Periyar ia similar to immersing in the nature's bounty, with great scenic charm and rich bio diversity. Moving on to the next destination – Mancombu, it is a place far away from hustle – bustle of city offer tranquility. Before we could relax in resort situated in Mararikulam, we spent one night aboard the houseboat cruising in backwaters. Our tour concludes in Cochin.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Visit the magnificent Taj Mahal and exotic palaces of Jaipur
- Alleppey - Float through the backwaters and sleep on a traditional boat
- Periyar National Park - Look out for monkey, deer and porcupine on a walk through the park
- Beaches - Relax on the beaches at Mararikulam

## Day 1. Arrival at Delhi



Delhi 📍

- Arrive at the **International airport** of Delhi. After the traditional welcome, transfer to hotel for overnight stay.

🏠 Accommodation | Hotel Jivitesh

## Day 2. Drive to Agra and Agra sightseeing



Delhi 📍

### Delhi - Agra

- After the breakfast, we will drive towards **Agra**, around 4 hrs drive (Famous for many splendid Mughal era buildings) and known as city of **Taj Mahal**. The city was first mentioned in the Indian epic Mahabharata, where it was called Agrevana (meaning "the border of the forest"). Although Agra's history is mainly associated with Mughal Empire, the place was established much before it and has linkage since Mahabharata period. The golden age of the city began with the Mughals. It was known then as Akbarabad and remained the capital of the Mughal Empire.

🚗 250km - ⌚ 5h 30m  
Agra 📍

- Upon arrival at our hotel, we will check in and relax. Later, we will go out to visit the **Agra Fort**, a historical fort in the city of Agra in India and it was the main residence of the emperors of the Mughal Dynasty till 1638, when Mughal capital was shifted from Agra to Red Fort in Delhi. In the late afternoon, we will have an opportunity to visit the **Taj Mahal** the jewel of Muslim art in India and one of the universally admired masterpieces of the world's heritage, from centuries Taj Mahal became the symbol of love and beauty. Overnight stay at the hotel.

☕ Breakfast	Hotel Jivitesh
🏠 Accommodation	Howard Plaza

## Day 3. Drive to Jaipur en-route visit Keoladeo Ghana National Park



Agra 📍  
🚗 60km - ⌚ 1h 30m  
Bharatpur 📍  
🚗 200km - ⌚ 3h 20m  
Jaipur 📍

### Agra - Bharatpur

- After the breakfast, we will drive to **Jaipur**, a capital of Rajasthan and known as "Pink City". En-route, we will visit the **Keoladeo Ghana National Park**, formerly known as the Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary in **Bharatpur**, Rajasthan. Over 230 species of birds are known to be resident. It is also a major tourist centre with score of ornithologists arriving here in the hibernal season. It was declared the protected sanctuary in 1971 and also a world heritage site. We will be taken on bird watching tour by Cycle Rickshaw and hope to see some of the 366 bird species, 379 floral species, 50 species of fish, 5 species of snakes and 7 species of turtle.

### Bharatpur - Jaipur

- Later, we will head towards the pink city Jaipur. It is called as pink city owing to its pink colored buildings. Being a vibrant city of Rajasthan, it is widely known for its fort and palaces. Jaipur was founded in 1726 by **Maharaja Jai Singh II**, the king of Amer who ruled from 1688 to 1758. The city was planned according to Indian Vastu Shastra by Vidhyadhar Bhattacharya in 1727. Upon arrival at Jaipur, we will check in to our hotel and overnight stay at the hotel.

☕ Breakfast	Howard Plaza
🏠 Accommodation	Shahpura House

## Day 4. Jaipur Full Day Sightseeing



Jaipur 📍

- After the breakfast, we drive to the ancient capital of Amer, 11 km from **Jaipur**. Famous for its massive **Amber(amer) Fort**, Amer was the ancient capital of Kachwaha dynasty for 6 centuries. We take an Elephant ride (Optional), an experience to remember for a long time, to reach the Fort situated on the hill. Having appreciated its beauty and captured that in our cameras we visit **City Palace Jaipur**, a perfect blend of Rajasthani and Mughal architecture. Next, we visit **Jantar Mantar**, a Solar Observatory built in the 18th century; an astronomical treasure house that measures time according to the movement of the Sun to an error of just 2 seconds with solar devices that give accurate astrological predictions as well till date. We also visit **Hawa Mahal** (Palace of Winds), a five-storied facade of pink sandstone. It was built in the year 1799 to allow royal ladies to watch processions and other the festivities on the road through its 953 'jharokas' or small windows without being seen by the public.

☕ Breakfast	Shahpura House
🏠 Accommodation	Shahpura House

## Day 5. Fly from Jaipur to Kochi



Jaipur 📍  
✈️ 2560km - ⌚ 4h 50m  
Cochin (Kochi) 📍

## Jaipur - Cochin (Kochi)

- Today morning is free at leisure before catching our flight to **Kochi** (also known as Cochin), a city in southwest India's coastal Kerala state. It has a port since 1341, when a flood carved out its harbor and made it accessible outsiders such as Arab, Chinese and European merchants. Kochi was also known as the Queen of the Arabian Sea. Most of European have established Cochin as one of important port for their commercial activities. Since many centuries, it has been a hub of spice trade.

🍽️ Breakfast	Shahpura House
🏠 Accommodation	Fort Queen

## Day 6. Visit Fort Kochi and watch famous Kathakali dance



Cochin (Kochi) 📍

- Today we visit **Fort Kochi**, founded by the Portuguese in 1503 and it is considered to be one of the earliest site chosen by European colonial power. An odour of spice emerges from warehouses and food stalls offering different delicacy is common sight in each nook and corner of the town. In the afternoon, we enjoy a sightseeing tour of **Mattancherry Palace**, built by the Portuguese as a gift for the Raja of Kochi, the Jewish synagogue dating from 1568 and **St Francis church**. We also explore the town of Kochi, its bazaars and old harbour area. In the evening there is the chance for an **Optional visit** to see a display of Kathakali, a form of classical dance unique to Kerala.

🍽️ Breakfast	Fort Queen
🏠 Accommodation	Fort Queen

## Day 7. Drive to Thekkady



Cochin (Kochi) 📍  
🚗 170km - ⌚ 4h 30m  
Thekkady 📍  
Periyar (Thekkady) 📍

### Cochin (Kochi) - Thekkady

- We then drive towards **Thekkady** passing through Rubber and Tea plantation and will reach **Thekkady** in the late afternoon. Overnight stay at the hotel.

🍽️ Breakfast	Fort Queen
🏠 Accommodation	Hotel Karar Garden

## Day 8. Nature trek in Periyar National Park, visit a Tea factory and drive to Chennmkary Village



Thekkady 📍  
🚗 84km - ⌚ 2h  
Chennmkary 📍

### Thekkady - Chennmkary

- Periyar National Park**, also known as Periyar Tiger Reserve. it is in the mountainous western ghats of Kerala, southern India. It is a protected area near Thekkady in the districts of Idukka, kottayam and Pathanamthitta in Kerala. The protected area covers an area of 357sqm and the rest 140 sqm of the core zone is declared as the Periyar National Park in the year 1982. It is a home to a wide variety of wildlife such as wild pigs, monkey, flying squirrel and elephant. It also has 260 species of birds including darters, ospreys, and kingfishers. We then take a **Guided walk** in hope to see any of the wildlife creatures.
- After completing our Guided walk in the Park, we head towards **Chennmkary village** via visit to a **Tea factory** at Vendeperiyar. Later, we reach at Chennmkary village, located 12 km towards East from district head quarters Alappuzha and surrounded by Veliyanad Taluk towards East. Chennmkary is also major spot for movies making, TV soaps and music albums due to its beautiful landscape view. Our accommodation is

spread over several village houses and these are styled in typically Kerala tradition. Houses are comparatively smaller and due to space constraint family have to share room together. All accommodation is close to each other, 5-10 minutes walk between them; we will be provided bedding and towel. Our meals will be prepared by locals and serve in the traditional style and will enjoy the dinner sitting together. And will have a close observance as how they are living there life and know there culture as well. Overnight stay at the home stay.

☕ Breakfast	Hotel Karar Garden
🏠 Accommodation	Backwater Villa

## Day 9. Free time to explore Mancombu Village



Chennmkary 📍

- Complete day at own leisure, we can explore the local area and tropical forests filled with the fragrance of flowers. **Mancombu village** is in district of Alappuzha in the state of Kerala. Mancombu is part of the kuttanad region in Kerala which is one of the two major paddy cultivating regions in the state. Overnight stay at a Home stay.

☕ Breakfast	Backwater Villa
🏠 Accommodation	Backwater Villa

## Day 10. Drive to Alleppey and board a houseboat to the Kerala Backwaters



Chennmkary 📍  
🚗 25km - ⌚ 1h  
Alappuzha (Alleppey) 📍

### Chennmkary - Alappuzha (Alleppey)

- After the breakfast, we will drive towards Alleppey, a city bordering the **Laccadive Sea** in the southern Indian state of Kerala. This place is alternately known as paradise of Houseboat as it offers an extraordinary experience of cruises on the rustic backwaters, crisscross of lagoons and sober canals. Here, we board our Houseboat and start our rejuvenating journey on the Kerala backwaters. These small cruises have a limited number of rooms depending on the size and have a common area to relax and enjoy the scenic beauty of backwaters. Houseboats are like taxis for villagers who perform home delivery, harvest and other goods through boats and it becomes an integral part of their daily life.
- During our houseboat journey, we will stop off at many points including **Chambakulam Saint Church** and **Chambakulam Chundan** - the famous snake boats. Overnight stay at the houseboat.

☕ Breakfast	Backwater Villa
🍴 Lunch	ATDC Houseboat
🍷 Dinner	ATDC Houseboat
🏠 Accommodation	ATDC Houseboat

## Day 11. Drive to Mararikulam



Alappuzha (Alleppey) 📍  
🚗 18km - ⌚ 1h

### Alappuzha (Alleppey) - Mararikulam

- Today, after disembarking the houseboat, we will take a short journey to Mararikulam, an exotic beach village located few kilometres from the networks of Canals of Alleppey. It has golden sandy beaches attracting the tourist from all corners of the world. Morning promenade is a quintessential way to explore the hidden treasure and its immeasurable charm.

☕ Breakfast	ATDC Houseboat
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## Day 12. Day at Mararikulam



Mararikulam 📍

- Today, you will have a day at leisure. Overnight stay at the hotel.

🍳 Breakfast

Hotel Flamingo Marari

🏠 Accommodation

Hotel Flamingo Marari



Mararikulam 📍

🚗 45km - ⌚ 1h 30m

Cochin (Kochi) 📍

### Mararikulam - Cochin (Kochi)

- Today morning, our tour terminates here and we will be transferred to the **Cochin** airport for our onward flight.

🍳 Breakfast

Hotel Flamingo Marari

## Itinerary map



## Individual price per person

2-3	4-5	6-8	9-12
1715 USD	1685 USD	1575 USD	1395 USD

### Included

- Accommodation for 11 nights on the basis of double room in the hotels mentioned or equivalent on breakfast basis
- 01 night on Full board in a Houseboat in Alleppey
- All ground transportation included in the program using private air-conditioned vehicle with English speaking driver
- Monuments entrances as described in the programme
- Forest walk with a Naturalist in Periyar (Thekkady)
- Rickshaw Ride in Keoladeo Ghana National Park, Bharatpur
- English speaking Local city guide as mentioned in the programme (till 05 Pax)
- English speaking tour leader throughout the trip (from 06 Pax onwards)
- Govt. Taxes

### Not included

- International flight tickets
- Domestic flight tickets for the Sector: (Jaipur - Cochin)
- Travel insurance
- These rates will not be valid for peak season from 20 December 2019 to 10 January 2020 , Christmas and New Year's extra supplement cost will be charged during this period
- Miscellaneous Expenses - drinks, souvenir, personal expenses etc.
- The cancellation and baggage insurance, assistance and repatriation
- Lunches and dinners during the trip except Alleppey
- Tips for driver and other local staff
- Charges for Camera in the monuments and Parks
- Indian Visa
- All services not mentioned in "Inclusion"