

# Kerala Hills Backwater Beaches

8 Nights / 9 Days

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## Overview

Explore Kerala’s complete beauty — from misty hills to serene backwaters and sunny beaches. This 9-day tour gives you the full package — relaxation, fun, and exploration — all wrapped in local charm.

## Highlights

- Hilltop Sunrises in Munnar
- Houseboat with Cruise & Lunch
- Beach Time in Varkala or Kovalam
- Ayurveda and Spa Time
- Optional Kathakali or Martial Arts Show
- Local Cooking Experience

## Detailed Itinerary

### Day 1 - Arrival in Cochin - Transfer to Munnar (Hill Station)

Your journey begins upon arrival at Cochin International Airport or the Cochin Railway Station, where a warm welcome awaits you. You’ll then be driven to Munnar, the famous hill station in Kerala. The road trip takes you through picturesque landscapes, lush tea plantations, and winding hills. On arrival, check in at your comfortable hotel. Spend the

evening relaxing amidst the cool, fresh air, or take a walk through the charming town, soaking in the local vibes. Munnar's enchanting beauty will immediately captivate you.<br>Overnight stay at Munnar.

## **Day 2 - Munnar - Tea Gardens, Waterfalls, & Hilltop Sunrise**

Start your day early with a hilltop sunrise at Top Station, where the misty morning view over the tea gardens is absolutely breathtaking. Afterward, visit the Tea Museum to understand the tea-making process. A trip to Attukal Waterfalls and the Mattupetty Dam will give you more chances to marvel at Munnar's natural beauty. For a relaxing afternoon, enjoy a leisure walk through the tea estates, where you can take in the aromatic fragrance of fresh tea leaves.<br>Overnight stay at Munnar.

## **Day 3 - Munnar to Thekkady (Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary)**

After breakfast, drive through the scenic hills of Kerala to Thekkady, home to the renowned Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary. Upon arrival, check into your hotel, and after freshening up, you can explore the local markets or enjoy a cultural performance like Kathakali or Kalaripayattu (Martial Arts) in the evening. If you're a wildlife lover, you can also opt for an optional boat ride on Periyar Lake to spot elephants, deer, and various birds.<br>Overnight stay at Thekkady.

## **Day 4 - Thekkady - Bamboo Rafting & Spice Gardens**

Begin the day with an exciting bamboo rafting session in Periyar Lake, offering the chance to experience the sanctuary's diverse flora and fauna from a peaceful, yet thrilling, vantage point. Afterward, head to a spice garden to explore Kerala's fragrant spice plantations. Learn about the cultivation of spices like cardamom, cinnamon, pepper, and vanilla, and enjoy a fresh, traditional Kerala-style lunch amidst the greenery. The day ends with an optional visit to the Chellarkovil Viewpoint for stunning views of the Western Ghats.<br>Overnight stay at Thekkady.

## **Day 5 - Thekkady to Alleppey (Houseboat Experience)**

After a leisurely breakfast, travel to Alleppey, also known as the Venice of the East, to board your traditional houseboat. Spend the day cruising through the serene backwaters of Kerala, surrounded by lush coconut groves and quaint villages. While on the boat, enjoy a traditional Kerala lunch, including freshly prepared fish and local dishes, and witness the beauty of Kerala from the comfort of your floating home. The evening is yours to relax, enjoy the sunset, and soak in the peaceful ambiance of the backwaters.<br>Overnight on the houseboat.

### **Day 6 - Houseboat to Varkala or Kovalam (Beach Escape)**

After breakfast on the houseboat, disembark at the Alleppey backwaters and transfer to one of Kerala's most stunning beaches: Varkala or Kovalam. These beaches offer pristine golden sands, clear waters, and a laid-back atmosphere, perfect for relaxation. Upon arrival, check into your beachside resort. Spend the day unwinding by the beach, enjoying water sports, or strolling along the shore while soaking up the sun.<br>Overnight stay at Varkala or Kovalam.

### **Day 7 - Beach Day at Varkala or Kovalam**

Today, enjoy a full day at the beach. You can swim, relax, or indulge in some fun activities like surfing or boating. For a bit of culture, visit the Varkala Cliff for panoramic views of the Arabian Sea or the Padmanabhaswamy Temple in Kovalam. Later, unwind with an Ayurvedic spa or massage treatment at the resort, a perfect way to relax after the previous days of exploration.<br>Overnight stay at Varkala or Kovalam.

### **Day 8 - Optional Kathakali or Martial Arts Show - Local Cooking Experience**

After breakfast, immerse yourself in Kerala's rich cultural heritage with an optional Kathakali dance performance or Kalaripayattu martial arts show, both of which are iconic to Kerala's performing arts tradition. In the afternoon, experience Kerala's culinary culture with a local cooking experience, where you'll learn how to prepare traditional Kerala dishes like Kerala Sadya, appam, fish curry, and more. After your culinary journey, enjoy the meal you helped prepare.<br>Overnight stay at Varkala or Kovalam.

## **Day 9 - Departure**

On the final day of your tour, enjoy a relaxed breakfast and some leisure time at the beach before transferring to Cochin for your onward journey. Whether you choose to shop for souvenirs or simply enjoy the last few moments of Kerala's charm, you will leave with unforgettable memories of your scenic hill stations, tranquil backwaters, and sun-kissed beaches.<br>End of Tour.

## **Accommodation Used**