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## BACKWATERS & BEACHES

13 days / 12 nights

*Lush tropical surroundings and the delicate scent of spices, your delightful journey through a maze of romantic canals and waterways will bring a unique feeling of intimacy and richness. Combine this with the beautiful coastal area of Kovalam, golden sands and palm trees – simply sit back and enjoy.*



### ITINERARY

#### Day 1

#### Cochin

Reception and welcome at Cochin airport followed by transfer to your hotel.

#### Day 2

#### Cochin

This morning enjoy a guided sightseeing tour of the city. This evening witness the classical dance – drama of Kerala called Kathakali. B

#### Day 3

#### Cochin-Kumarakom

Travel on to Kumarakom (2hrs) and the lush backwaters of Kerala. This afternoon enjoy some Ayurveda for which Kerala is famous. B

#### Day 4

#### Kumarakom

Day at leisure to relax at the hotel or explore the village of Kumarakom and Kumarakom Bird Sanctuary on your own. B

#### Day 5

#### Kumarakom-Vechoor

This morning embark your own private Ketuvellam, a traditional Kerala rice barge and spend the day cruising the backwater canals, watching village life unfold as you gently float by. This is an unbelievable beautiful paradise of mangrove forests, emerald green paddy fields and coconut groves interspersed with enchanting waterways and canals adorned with white lilies. B

#### Day 6

#### Vechoor

After breakfast, continue to enjoy the cruise. Later disembark your rice barge at Phillipkutty's farm for your 2 nights home stay. Here you will experience traditional Keralan hospitality. You are welcomed by the Phillipkutty family who have owned this farm since 1950. B

#### Day 7

#### Vechoor

Day at leisure, spend time with the family learning about traditional cooking, farming, spices and the history of the surrounding villages. B

#### Day 8

#### Vechoor-Kovalam 200kms – 4hrs drive

This morning depart Vechoor and take the coast road to Kovalam. Kovalam is a beautiful coastal area with silvery sands fringed by rows of tall palm trees, sheltered bays and fishing villages.

**Day 9-12**

**Kovalam**

The next 4 days are free for you to relax by the beach. B

**Day 13**

**Kovalam**

Free day. This evening transfer to the airport for your flight home. B