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KERALA HOMESTAY

15 Days / 14 Nights

A home away from home. This captivating tour gives you an authentic experience of Kerala. Staying with local Keralan families in their traditional homes will evoke a new meaning of life as you travel from the bustling fort city of Cochin, through verdant hills and rich spices, rubber and coffee growing country to the pristine beaches of north Kerala.

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-Mundakkayam

This morning you will be driven to Mundakkayam, situated in contoured land that is verdant with plantations of rubber, pepper, coffee, vanilla and cloves. Spend two nights at the Evergreen Estate, a British colonial style bungalow built in 1955. Visit Tharavadu which offers a unique architecture and the village to witness bamboo craftsmen and weavers working on unique cane and reed articles. B

Day 4

Mundakkayam

Full day excursion to Periyar. During the afternoon visit Periyar wildlife sanctuary enjoying a boat ride on the artificial lake formed by the Mullaperiyar Dam followed by a visit to a spice plantation growing cardamom, black pepper, cinnamom, clove, rubber, vanilla and coffee for which Thekkady is famous. B

Day 5

Mundakkayam-Olavipe

Drive to Olavipe where you can see the 250 year history of “Parayil Tharakans”, a well known Syrian Christian family of Kerala. Stay for 2 nights at Olavipe Homestay. B

Day 6

Olavipe

Day at leisure. Optional include a bicycle tour of Olavipe; a Keralan cooking lesson or trying the traditional techniques of Coir making; rowing a boat through local canals or experience a cruise at sunset. B

Day 7

Olavipe-Palakkad

Drive to the ancestral home of the Kandath family; a two hundred year old architectural gem constructed primarily of mud and teak, set in the lush rice paddies of rural Kerala. During the afternoon you will visit a weavers and potters colony to witness traditional local artists at work followed by a visit to a stunning local temple and Hyder Ali Fort. Overnight at Tharavad Homestay. B

Day 8

Palakkad-Tellicherry

Drive to Tellicherry for your two nights stay at an old colonial mansion situated overlooking the blue Arabian Sea. Enjoy some of wonderful gourmet cuisine with your hosts. B

Day 9

Tellicherry

Relax or explore the local area. B

Day 10

Tellicherry-Neeleshwar

This morning drive to Neeleshwar, an oasis of tranquillity set on one of the finest, unspoilt beaches of Kerala with neighbouring fishing villages scattered along the coast. Stay for the next four nights at Neeleshwar Hermitage. B

Day 11-13

Neeleshwar

The next three days are at leisure to relax on the beach or enjoy the facilities of the hotel. B

Day 14

Neeleshwar-Mangalore-Cochin

Transfer to Mangalore airport for your flight to Cochin. On arrival you will be met and transferred to your hotel. B

Day 15

Cochin

Free day, this afternoon transfer to the airport for your flight home. B