

## Best of North & South India

4\* Dlx / 5\* Hotels

<b>Tour Route:</b>	Delhi (2) - Agra (1) – Jaipur (2) – Delhi / Kochi (2) - Periyar (1) - Kumarakom (1) – Marari (2) – Kochi
<b>Tour Duration:</b>	11 nights / 12 days
<u>Land Cost:</u> <b>USD 500 pp</b> Twin Share	
<u>Domestic Airfare:</u> <b>USD 130 pp</b>   <u>Single Room Supplement:</u> <b>USD 400 pp</b>	

### 21 Aug (Thu) Arrive Delhi

This evening, after completion of IT&CM India, you will be transferred to another Delhi hotel, where all other participants of this post tour will be staying for 2 nights.

### 22 Aug (Fri) Discover Delhi (B/L)

08:00 – 09:30 Hrs: Breakfast at hotel. Table reserved for Travelite (India) Group at the hotels all day dining / breakfast restaurant. An opportunity for you to meet and introduce yourselves to other group members

09:45 – 12:00 Hrs: Drive to Old Delhi, passing through the busy streets of Chandni Chowk, arrive at **Jama Masjid**, the largest mosque in India. Take a brief tour of Jama Masjid before noon. Being Friday, the holy day of Islam, expect the place to be busy and crowded.

12:00 – 14:00 Hrs: Lunch with hotel inspection

14:00 – 18:30 Hrs: This afternoon take a sightseeing tour of New Delhi. Visit **Qutab Minar**, a fine example of early Muslim and Afghani architecture in India. Drive past India's seat of power, the **President House** and **Parliament House**. Take a short photo stop at **India Gate**, the famous war memorial arch of India. Then visit the gold tombed **Gurudwara Bangla Sahib**, a live Sikh temple still in active worship. This sacred temple is highly spiritual and the holy water here is believed to have cured many followers of their illness.

Return to your hotel for overnight stay.

### 23 Aug (Sat) Delhi - Agra (205 km / 4 hrs) (B/L)

08:00 – 09:30 Hrs: Breakfast at hotel and check out

09:30 – 13:30 Hrs: Drive to Agra.

13:30 – 16:00 Hrs: Arrive Agra. Lunch with brief Hotel Inspection. Then, check in at your hotel and freshen up

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**Head Office:** RZ – A / 96, Road No. 6, Street No. 9, Mahipalpur Extension, New Delhi – 110037, India

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16:00 – 17:30 Hrs: This afternoon, visit the splendid **Agra fort**, built in red sandstone, encapsulating magnificent palaces, halls of public and private audience and beautiful gardens.

18:15 – 19:00 Hrs: Watch a live theatre performance, introducing you to the story of the Taj Mahal. Watch the spectacular performance - "**Mohabbat the Taj – The saga of love**", staging the largest replica of the Taj Mahal, and presenting the legend of love that created this magnificent mausoleum.

Return to your hotel for overnight stay.

**24 Aug (Sun)                      Agra - Jaipur                      (240 km / 5 hrs)                      (B/L)**

05:30 – 08:00 Hrs (exact sunrise time TBA): Early this morning, witness the surreal views of the **Taj Mahal** by sunrise. Step inside this eternal symbol of love and appreciate the intricate designs and symmetries that rhyme as a poem written in marble. Taj Mahal is an extravagant display of love, built by Shah Jahan in memory of his beloved wife Mumtaz Mahal.

08:00 – 12:00 Hrs: Return back to your hotel in time for breakfast. Relax for some time and check out around noon.

12:00 – 13:30 Hrs: Lunch with brief Hotel Inspection

14:00 – 19:00 Hrs: Drive to Jaipur – the pink hued capital city of Rajasthan. This city of erstwhile Rajput Maharajas, is built in 9 rectangular sectors symbolising 9 divisions of the universe, as per Indian cosmology. Upon arrival in Jaipur, check in at your hotel for 2 nights stay.

Overnight stay at hotel.

**25 Aug (Mon)                      Discover Jaipur                      (B/L)**

07:00 – 08:30 Hrs: Breakfast at hotel

09:00 – 11:30 Hrs: Visit the magnificent **Amber Fort** - built in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, this is one of the most beautiful samples of Rajput architecture, housing a complex of palaces and pavilions, gardens and temples. An elephant ride will help you ascend to this hilltop fort (elephants are subject to availability). Alternatively, you could choose to walk or drive up to the fort.

12:00 – 13:30 Hrs: Lunch with brief Hotel Inspection

14:00 – 17:00 Hrs: This afternoon, visit Jaipur's **City Palace** complex with its various museums where you can see a beautiful collection of Mughal costumes, weapons and miniature paintings. Then visit the fascinating **Jantar Mantar**, the ancient astronomical observatory built by the Maharaja of Jaipur, which is the largest stone observatory in the

world. Also see **Hawa Mahal** (Palace of Winds), built in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. This palace with its innumerable windows and screened balconies was especially built for the royal women to view the city and street processions from behind their 'purdahs' so they remain invisible to the public.

17:00 – 19:00 Hrs: Evening at leisure

Overnight stay at hotel

**26 Aug (Tue) Fly Jaipur – Delhi – Kochi (B)**

08:00 – 09:00 Hrs: Breakfast at hotel

09:00 Hrs: Check out and drive to Jaipur airport to catch your flight to Kochi (via Delhi).

AI 611	Departs Jaipur	1105 hrs	Arrives Delhi	1155 hrs
AI 477	Departs Delhi	1355 hrs	Arrives Kochi	1705 hrs

Arrive Kochi, the most cosmopolitan city of Kerala. Upon your arrival at the airport, you will be met by our representative and escorted to your hotel for 2 nights stay.

Kochi, also known as the Queen of the Arabian Sea, is one of the finest natural harbours in the world. Starting from the Dutch, Portuguese and the British, Kochi was the site of the first European colonial settlements in India.

Overnight stay at hotel.

**27 Aug (Wed) Day in Kochi (B/L)**

07:30 – 09:00 Hrs: Breakfast at hotel. Table reserved for Travelite (India) FAM Group at the hotels all day dining / breakfast restaurant. An opportunity for you to meet and introduce yourselves to new group members joining in Kochi.

09:00 – 12:00 Hrs: This morning take a guided walk through the historic Fort Kochi area. Visit the Dutch Palace, Jewish Synagogue, St. Francis Church and see the authentic Chinese fishing nets still in use.

12:00 – 15:00 Hrs: Lunch with brief Hotel Inspection

15:00 – 16:30 Hrs: Time at leisure.

17:00 – 18:30 Hrs: This evening, watch the famous **Kathakali theater performance**. Kathakali is one of the oldest theatre forms in India. It is a spectacular combination of drama, dance, music and ritual. Characters with vividly painted faces and elaborate costumes re-enact stories from the Hindu epics of Mahabharata and the Ramayana

Overnight stay at hotel

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**28 Aug (Thu) Kochi to Periyar (185 Kms / 5 Hrs) (B/L)**

07:30 – 09:00 Hrs: Breakfast at hotel

09:00 – 13:00 Hrs: Enjoy a scenic drive to Periyar, the spice plantation hub of Kerala.

13:00 – 15:00 Hrs: Arrive Periyar. Lunch and Hotel Inspection

15:00 – 16:30 Hrs: This afternoon, take a **spice plantation** tour and learn about the mystery and history of Indian spices. You will be intrigued to see the vast variety of spices ranging from cloves, cardamom, ginger, pepper, chilli, turmeric etc.

This evening, check-in at your hotel for overnight stay.

Tonight enjoy a cultural performance and cooking demonstration at the hotel.

**29 Aug (Fri) Periyar to Kumarakom (140 Kms / 4.5 Hrs) (B/L)**

08:00 – 09:00 Hrs: Breakfast at hotel

09:00 – 10:30 Hrs: Take of a tour of CGH Spice Village, spread over 14 acres. CGH is renowned for its ecological and environment friendly practices and you will be amazed to see the initiatives taken by this hotel, some being the firsts in Indian hospitality industry.

This morning you also have the option to experience Ayurveda massage at the hotels Ayurveda center or take a guided walk with a naturalist to Periyar National Park (at extra charge)

11:30 – 16:00 Hrs: Check out at noon and drive to Kumarakom, the coastal town in the backwaters of Kerala. Packed lunch on coach. On arrival in Kumarakom, check in at your hotel.

16:00 – 17:30 Hrs: Time at leisure at hotel

17:30 – 18:30 Hrs: This evening, enjoy a **sunset cruise** along the backwaters of Kumarakom.

Tonight enjoy a cultural performance and cooking demonstration at the hotel.

**30 Aug (Sat) Kumarakom to Marari (30 km / 1.5 hr) (B/L)**

07:00 – 08:00 Hrs: Join the hotels scheduled **Yoga class**, an exhilarating experience.

08:00 – 09:00 Hrs: Breakfast at hotel

09:30 – 11:00 Hrs: Take a tour of CGH Coconut Lagoon, spread over 30 acres of land, of which almost 8 acres is used for rice cultivation! The highlight here is the property's inhouse butterfly garden and the variety of birds found here.

12:00 – 14:00 Hrs: Lunch with brief Hotel Inspection.

14:30 – 15:30 Hrs: Drive to Marari. Upon arrival check in at your hotel for 2 nights stay.

Marari originates from "Mararikulam", one of the local fishing villages. Here life still goes on much as it did a hundred years ago, with the men going out to sea each day to earn a living bringing in the daily catch.

16:00 – 19:00 Hrs: Enjoy an afternoon at leisure at the picturesque beach resort. You also have the option to experience Ayurveda massage at the hotels Ayurveda center (at extra charge)

Tonight enjoy a cooking demonstration at the hotel.

**31 Aug (Sun) Day in Marari (B/D)**

07:00 – 08:00 Hrs: Join the hotels scheduled **Yoga class**, an exhilarating experience.

08:00 – 09:00 Hrs: Breakfast at hotel

09:30 – 11:00 Hrs: Take a tour of CGH Marari Beach Resort, with a naturalist who will explain about the Malabar coasts unique ecosystem. Marari is home to a verity of flowers, plants, butterflies, turtles, frogs and birds.

11:00 – 15:30 Hrs: Enjoy an afternoon at leisure at the picturesque beach resort. You also have the option to experience Ayurveda massage at the hotels Ayurveda center (at extra charge)

16:00 – 17:00 Hrs: Take a **guided village walk** through the village around the resort. This is a unique experience allowing you a window into local lifestyle and culture of this region.

18:00 – 22:00 Hrs: Hotel inspection followed by farewell dinner

**01 Sep (Mon) Marari – Kochi (75 Kms / 2 Hrs) (Departure) (B)**

08:00 - 12:00 Hrs: Breakfast and morning at leisure at hotel.

12:00 Hrs: Check out and transfer to Kochi International airport to catch your flight back home.

For those proceeding for the Kovalam FAM tour, check out and drive from Marari to Kovalam today (approx. 175 Kms / 5 Hrs). Upon arrival in Kovalam, check in at your hotel and enjoy the evening at leisure.

## Inclusions & Exclusions

### INCLUSIONS

- Accommodation on twin sharing basis
- Meals as indicated in itinerary
- Meeting and assistance on arrival and departures
- Chauffeured air-conditioned vehicles for all transfers, excursions and sightseeing tours
- Monument entrance fees
- Elephant ride at Amber Fort Jaipur
- English speaking guide for sightseeing & excursion tours
- Hotel visits in each city
- All road taxes, parking fee, fuel charges and interstate taxes
- All currently applicable taxes

### EXCLUSIONS

- Expenses of personal nature like laundry, telephone, fax, internet, beverages, camera / video camera fee at monuments, medical expenses, airport departure tax etc.
- Local payments in domestic currency, such as tips and gratuities
- Domestic / International air fare
- Indian Visa Fees
- Any other services not mentioned in Price Inclusions above

### SPECIAL NOTES

- Usual Check-in time at hotels is 14:00 Hrs and check-out time is 12:00 noon
- Domestic Baggage Allowance is 15 Kgs check-in and 07 Kgs hand baggage
- Post tour is only for Travel Trade Professionals
- All applications are subject to review and acceptance by Travelite (India)
- Maximum 2 persons are allowed per company
- If travelling alone, twin room will be allocated on the basis of same gender sharing
- In case of any significant foreign exchange fluctuations or amendment in local Government taxes, or any fuel hike, we reserve the right to adjust the tour price accordingly.