

Hills & Lakes Tour

03 Nights/04 Days
Munnar -2, Kumarakom -1

Day 1

COCHIN – MUNNAR (135 Kms/04 Hrs)



Arrive Cochin, transfer to Munnar, en-route visit **Kodanad Elephant Orphanage**. Located 85 kms/ approx 1 hrs 30 min away from Kochi, Kodanad is set on the southern banks of the Lake Periyar and amid the beautiful high ranges. It is an interesting place where about in total 11 elephants are taken care off.

Arrive Munnar by afternoon and check in at your hotel.

Munnar is surrounded by about 30 tea estates, amongst the highest in the world and a forest that is still rich in wildlife. The luxuriant forest is hung with pepper vines and the hills around Munnar are covered with the rare Neelakurunji plant which flowers only once in every 12 years.

Later enjoy an orientation tour of the city. Drive past the local fruit and vegetable market where people throng daily for fruits, vegetables and other household goods. Visit the **tea museum** where you can witness the process of making Tea. Culminate the tour with a visit to a beautiful local church. Overnight stay.

Day 2

MUNNAR (Local Sightseeing 50 Kms)



After breakfast, witness a fun activity of elephants the mahouts take the elephants to nearby river body to give them a bath. The mahouts scrubbed their bodies with outer part of the Coconut. As Elephants are fond of water, they enjoy this exercise really well.

Note: This activity is done in morning only (0730 - 0930 hrs) as afterwards the Elephants are taken on their normal routine work.

Later visit **Eravikulam National Park** is 15 kms from Munnar and has an area of 97 km². The park is located along the Western Ghats and has the largest viable population of the Nilgiri Tahr. The park also has other animals such as Nilgiri marten, ruddy mongoose, small clawed otter, dusky striped squirrel, Sambar Deer, Golden Jackal, Wild Dog, Indian Porcupine, Funambulus etc. There are many species of birds too such as Nilgiri Wood Pigeon, White Bellied Short wing, Black-and-orange Flycatcher etc.

Day 3

MUNNAR - KUMARAKOM (135 Kms/04 Hours)



After Breakfast, checkout and drive to Kumarakom and check into the hotel. **Kumarakom**, the queen of Vembanad, is a 'resort' destination. This tiny village on the edge of Vembanad Lake was practically unknown till one Henry Baker purchased land from the erstwhile King of Travancore to build himself a grand home. Kumarakom Bird Sanctuary is a must-visit with its numerous beautiful rivulets and waterways. The scenic Vembanad Lake surrounded by mangrove forests and paddy fields is one of the best places for bird viewing inside the sanctuary. A large population of feathered species along with a pleasant climate make it a great picnic spot. Day is leisure, overnight stay.

Day 4

KUMARAKOM - COCHIN (65 Kms/1.30 Hours)



After Breakfast, checkout and drop at Airport or Rly. Station for your onward destination.