



Kerala Plus Village Experience Tour

**Mumbai-Kochi-Munnar-Alleppey-
Kovalam-Heranjalu**



TOUR INFO



STARTING
Mumbai



ENDING
Mumbai



DURATION
15 Days



TOUR STYLE
Shared, Private



LANGUAGE
English



GROUP SIZE
Max 10

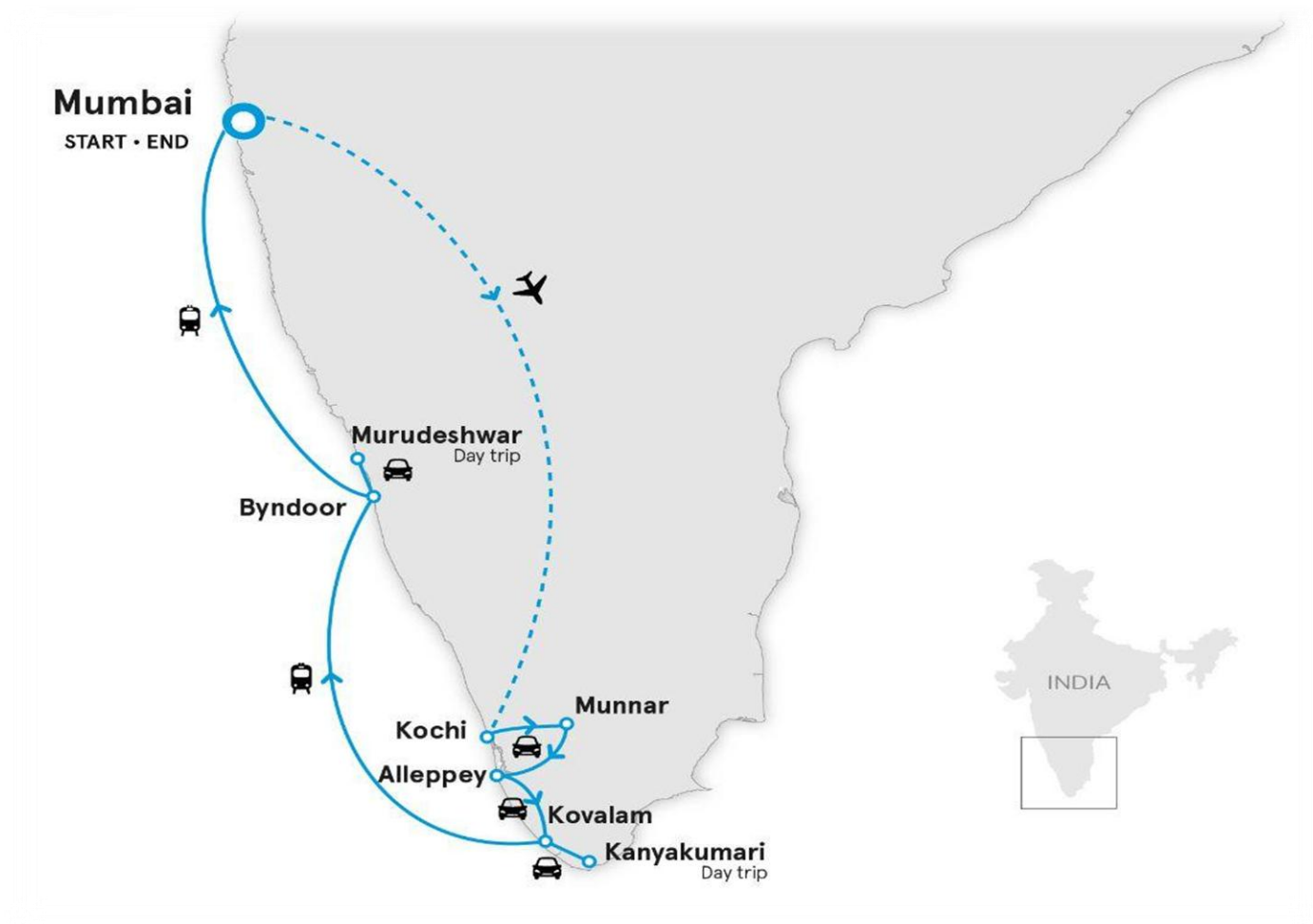


TOUR TYPE
Multi-Day
Tours



PHYSICALITY
Low

MAP OF TOUR



ITINERARY

Day 1: Mumbai

Welcome to the cosmopolitan metropolis of Mumbai! Your tour guide will pick you up from the airport and transfer you to your hotel in Colaba. Depending on your arrival time and how tired you are, you might want to explore the surrounding area on foot on your own or with your guide, seeing places like the Gateway of India, the Prince of Wales Museum, and Marine Drive.

Over a welcome dinner at a traditional Indian rooftop restaurant, your guide will go over the itinerary for the next 14 action-packed days!

Day 2: Mumbai

We will travel together to Dharavi, one of Asia's biggest slums and the heart of small-scale industry in Mumbai. The tour of Dharavi, our company's award-winning and signature tour, shows a balanced portrayal of life for the less privileged in Mumbai, and you will learn about the NGO programs directly supported by your tour.

The rest of the day will allow time for some sightseeing of your choice such as Victoria Terminus, Haji Ali Mosque, the view of the city from Malabar Hill as well as the many different, chaotic markets that the city has to offer. You also have an option to take our Bicycle tour in the morning or Food Tour in the evening.

Day 3: Mumbai/Kochi

We will take a morning flight to Kochi, one of the big cities of Kerala. After checking into the hotel, in the afternoon we will visit Fort Kochi, known for its Dutch, Portuguese, and British colonial architecture. We will explore the area, spending time with some fishermen at the famous Chinese fishing nets, and there will be a chance to try pulling the nets yourself!

Day 4: Kochi

Today we will visit "Jew Town" where the first Jewish people settled in India and Paradesi Synagogue, the first in India. We will also visit the Dutch Palace, gifted to the Cochin Royal Family by the Dutch. In the evening, you'll attend an amazing Kathakali performance. Kathakali, a 17th-century dance-drama that originated in Kerala, will capture you with its elaborate costumes, make-up, and most of all, complicated facial expressions.



Day 5: Kochi/Munnar

Today we will drive (6-7 hours) to Munnar in the morning. During the long, winding journey to Munnar, you will make several stops where your guide will show you many aspects of domestic and agricultural Kerala village life. We will also visit a toddy shop (liquor made from coconut sap, which you can try) and we will enjoy a delicious seafood lunch (also visited by Anthony Bourdain and Gordon Ramsey).

Arriving in Munnar in the late afternoon, from the hustle and bustle of Kochi, you'll barely recognize where you are amidst the rolling mountains, fresh air, and tea plantations stretching as far as the eye can see.

You'll have time to get settled into your guesthouse and explore Munnar a bit on your own. You can go for a short hike, or you can sit back and relax with a good book, a nice cup of tea, and enjoy the scenery.

Day 6: Munnar

Today we'll do a full-day tour in Munnar. We will visit Munnar's tea museum to really understand what makes this hill station famous, and you'll learn how the tea transforms from a simple leaf to a piping hot cup of chai. We will also visit the very scenic Echo Point and the Rose Garden. In the evening, you have an option to watch Kalaripayattu (martial art of Kerala), join a tea tasting event, or learn some Kerala recipes at your hotel kitchen with the chef!!

Day 7: Munnar/Alleppey

Today we'll continue south from Munnar to Alleppey (5 hrs), home to some of Kerala's most famous backwaters. Along the way, we'll stop off at various places, including a spice plantation, to learn about the ingredients that make Indian cuisine so vibrant. If the season allows, we will meet some beekeepers and taste some of the local produce.

We'll arrive in the afternoon, settle into our guesthouse, and your guide can recommend several restaurants for dinner in the evening after the long journey.

Day 8: Alleppey

We will begin early in the morning with a visit to a local fish market, where your guide will help you choose delicious seafood to be cooked on board our very own houseboat for lunch! We'll then make our way to the backwaters and board our kettuvallam (Kerala houseboat). It will be a relaxing day spent cruising along the backwaters, a vast network of lakes,



rivers, canals, and lagoons, observing and occasionally visiting some villages and rice farms. We'll stay overnight on the open water on our houseboat (bedrooms have en-suite bathrooms) and enjoy the Kerala-style lunch, dinner, and breakfast cooked by our chef on board.

Day 9: Alleppey/Kovalam

This morning, we will check out of the houseboat and travel to Kovalam (3 to 4 hrs.). In the afternoon, you will have free time to relax on the stunning beach, or you can partake in water activities, cooking classes, yoga/pilates, ayurvedic treatments, and shopping.

Day 10: Kovalam

Today we will go on a day trip to the very southern tip of India, Kanyakumari, where you will experience some incredible views of the Indian Ocean and the Arabian Sea. We will get a boat to the 41-metre-tall Thiruvalluvar Statue. In the evening, we have the optional visit to Jatayu Park to see the world's largest bird sculpture.

Day 11: Kovalam/ Overnight Train

Today we will take a day train to Heranjal Village, the home of Krishna, one of the founders of Reality Tours, in the state of Karnataka. We will enjoy the beautiful views of the region from our window when the train passes through 100s of villages, farms of Kerala on the west coast. We will be reaching Byndoor late at 12:30 am. On arrival in Byndoor, we will get home and go to bed.

Day 12: Heranjal

Today, if you wake up early, go for a village walk or jog around the rice fields and river. We will have breakfast with Krishna's family in their home, where we will be spending a couple of days. Following breakfast, your guide will orient you with an introductory walk through the village where you will meet the people and learn about their lives.

In the afternoon, we will participate in whatever village activities are happening at the time. This could be farming, a celebration, walking to the nearby river that is central to local life, or visiting the nearby coast and backwaters. We will once again join the family for a group dinner in the evening. After dinner, we will visit a live Yakshagana performance, one of the most popular folk theatre forms of Karnataka, and learn about the history and beliefs of this cultural and religious art.



Day 13: Heranjalu/ Overnight Train to Mumbai

Today we'll bid farewell to the family and visit Murudeshwar Shiva Temple, the second tallest Shiva idol in the world, before we travel back to Byndoor in the evening to catch our overnight train to Mumbai, leaving at 5 pm and arriving the next day at 6 am in Mumbai. If you prefer to fly back to Mumbai, that is possible.

Day 14: Mumbai

We will arrive in Mumbai early in the morning, and this will be the last day of our tour. We will do some last-minute sightseeing if you wish.

Day 15: Mumbai (Departure)

We will transfer you to the airport.

Please Note

Please note that the above itinerary is tentative and can be customized as per your preferences. You can get in touch with us for the pricing.

Enquiry

Excited to experience this journey? [Click here](#) to learn more and fill out your enquiry.



INCLUSIONS:

Meals

All breakfasts are included when staying in hotels/ homestays unless you leave very early in the morning. Lunches and dinners are not included apart from welcome dinners (if applicable) and meals with local families that we arrange.

Transportation

All transport mentioned in the itinerary is included. This includes internal flights, trains, buses, and transfers.

Accommodation

All accommodation mentioned in the itinerary is included.

Activities

Any activities (e.g., camel ride, food tour, city tours, cultural shows) mentioned in your itinerary are included unless we explicitly say that they are optional.

Entry fees for the monuments are not included; this allows you to opt in or out.



Our Model

We believe that tourism can and should be a force for local development. Reality Tours and Travel is a social business that uses a profit-sharing model to fund our sister charity (NGO), [Reality Gives](#).

80% of our post-tax profits go directly to Reality Gives, which runs high-quality education programs in underprivileged areas where Reality Tours also runs tours.



We started over a decade ago in Dharavi (Mumbai), and Reality Gives is now also running classes in New Delhi in the Sanjay Colony slum as well as in Naujheel, a village in rural Uttar Pradesh.





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Thank You!

