

Nehru Boat Race Experience in Southern India

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Day 1

DAY 01 II ARRIVAL MUMBAI II FLIGHT

Upon arrival at Mumbai airport after Traditional welcome you will be transferred to your hotel. Overnight at hotel.

Day 2

DAY 02 II MUMBAI

Today proceed for a half day City tour of Mumbai, visiting the Prince of Wales Museum. This museum has a rare collection of ancient Indus Valley artifacts dating back to 2000 BC, Later we take the boat cruise from Gateway of India to visit Elephanta Caves (Monday Closed). This caves dates back to 5th Century rock cut temples. Evening drive through the Marine Drive, this runs along the shore of the Arabian Sea. Overnight at hotel.

Day 3

DAY 03 II MUMBAI – BANGALORE II FLIGHT

Post breakfast transfer to the airport to board flight for Bangalore. On arrival transfer to the hotel for check in. Afternoon start half day sightseeing tour of the “Garden City”. Start by visiting the Lal Bagh Gardens laid out by Tipu Sultan and his father in the 18th century. The Lal Bagh has a variety of old trees, fountains, lotus pools, terraces and an assortment of tropical and sub-tropical herbs. Also visit the Bull Temple and drive past the Government Secretariat, Vidhan Soudha (Legislature building) and Cubbon Park. Overnight at hotel.

Day 4

DAY 04 II BANGALORE – SRAVANBELGOLA – HASSAN II 183 KMS / 4 HRS

Post breakfast drive to Hassan. En route stop to visit at Sravanabelagola. Here the statue of Lord Gomateshvara is hewn out of a single rock and visible from a distance of 25 Kms. It is said to be the world tallest monolithic statue. Every 12 years it is bathed with milk and honey. The statue is located at the top of the Vindhyagiri hill and to reach here one has to climb up 614 rock – cut steps. Proceed to Hassan. Overnight at hotel.

Day 5

DAY 05 II HASSAN – HALEBED – BELUR – MYSORE II 190 KMS/ 5 HRS

Morning breakfast drive to Belur and Halebid to visit the magnificent carved temples. The Channekeshava temple of Belur built 900 years ago is an exquisite example of Hoysala art. Halebid's 12th century Hoysaleswara and Kedareshwara temples are masterpieces of Hindu art with elaborate and ornate carving of deities and scenes from the epics. Later proceed to Mysore. On arrival check in and overnight at hotel.

Day 6

DAY 06 II MYSORE

Post breakfast, leave for full day sightseeing tour visiting the palace of the Maharaja built in 1911-12. The palace is a harmonious synthesis of the Hindu and Saracenic styles of architecture with archways, domes, turrets, colonnades and sculptures which are magnificent. Visit the Art Gallery. Later drive up to Chamundi hill to see Chamundeswari Temple and have a panoramic view of Mysore from the top of the hill. On way back, pass through the impressive statue of Nandi Bull. Overnight at hotel.

Day 7

DAY 07 II MYSORE – KOZHIKODE II 206 KMS/ 5.5 HRS

Post breakfast drive to Kozhikode (Calicut). En route you pass through small town, country side of South India. On arrival check in Hotel at Kozhikode. Kozhikode was the place where the famous sailor Vasco Da Gama landed in 1498. Historically these places have also been known for trading of spices. Evening visit the traditional bazaar here. Overnight at hotel.

Day 8

DAY 08 II KOZHIKODE – COCHIN II 205 KMS/ 5.5 HRS

After breakfast check-out and drive to Cochin. Presently Cochin is India's largest ports and also a bustling city. . Historically it has been associated with the Portuguese, Chinese, Dutch and Jews. It is also one of the major cultural centers of Kerala. On arrival check in and overnight at hotel.

Day 9

DAY 09 II COCHIN – ALLEPPEY II 60 KMS / 1.5 HRS

Post breakfast leave for half day tour of the satellite towns of Kochi (Cochin) and Ernakulam. It comprises visits to the St. Francis Church and the Santa Cruz Basilica. While driving along the coastline, at the Harbor's mouth, one can also view the unique and still-in-use "Chinese Fishing Nets" which were introduced by the Chinese traders in the 14th Century. The tour ends in the Fort Kochi area where you can walk through the historical Dutch and Portuguese buildings. Some parts of this nearly 500-year-old Fort are still amazingly well preserved. Later drive to Alleppey. Alleppey is a market town surrounded by coconut trees and have lots of canals. This is also the place where most of the backwaters tour takes place. Overnight at hotel.

Day 10

DAY 10 II ALLEPPEY (SNAKE BOAT RACE)

Post breakfast transfer to the venue of the Nehru boat race to view the race. The guest can enjoy the colourful boat pageantry which precedes the boat race. Each snake Boat (Chundan Vallams) is crewed by 100 to 120 rowers who plough the waters to the tune of the legendry songs. The celebrations include music and folk dance performances apart from the boat race. Overnight at hotel.

Day 11

DAY 11 II ALLEPPEY – KOVALAM II 160 KMS / 4.5 HRS

Post breakfast take the drive to Kovalam through the scenic routes of Kerala. Afternoon arrive Kovalam and check in Hotel. Kovalam is about 16 km from Thiruvananthapuram, the capital city of Kerala State, is an internationally renowned beach destination. Kovalam has three crescent beaches formed by rocks projecting into the Arabian Sea. The southernmost of these is known as the Lighthouse Beach. Overnight at hotel.

Day 12

DAY 12 II KOVALAM

Post breakfast free time in Kovalam. The options include here to take Ayurveda massage or treatment (optional) to revitalize. Or just to take walk or relax by the beaches. Overnight at hotel.

Day 13

DAY 13 II KOVLAM – TRIVANDRUM – MUMBAI II FLIGHT

Morning free at leisure. In time transfer to airport to board flight to Mumbai. On arrival in Mumbai, proceed to the International airport for onward destination.
