



# KERALA NATURAL HISTORY SAFARI



## **Itinerary**

### **Day 1 & 2: Kochi – Birder's Paradise - Lowland Forests of Thattekkad**

On arrival, we will proceed towards Thattekkad, a lowland forest rich in wildlife including birds & butterflies. 57 species of fishes, 12 species of amphibians (4 are endemic to Western Ghats), 30 species of reptiles, 38 species of aquatic macro vertebrates, besides 275 species of birds and 76 species of butterflies, many of them endemic. Wild animals like Elephant, Sambar, Wild Dogs, Civet Cat, Jungle Cat are also likely to be seen. Thattekkad Bird sanctuary serves as a field laboratory for conservation education, research and monitoring. We will stay at the Hornbill Camp located on the bank of the river Periyar.

### **Day 3 & 4: Land of the Cloud Forests - Munnar**

From Thattekkad, we will take the spectacular 3 hour drive along the climbing road - through forests and tea gardens – to the hill station of Munnar, 1500 metres high in the mountains. The combination of crisp mountain air, craggy peaks and tall red wood trees make it a peaceful retreat. Here rare endemic bird species find their home - the White bellied Shortwing, the Broad tailed Grass bird – as well as the endangered Nilgiri Tahr (ibex). We will make our way to the enclave of the Nilgiri Tahr at Rajamala and explore the grasslands ecology at Munnar. We will also take the road to Top Station and visit Asia's largest high altitude mountain forest, described as a "living Fossil" – the *Manavan Shola* – a veritable treasure trove of endemism & biodiversity. O/N at resort.

### **Day 5 & 6: Periyar – Discovering the Rain forests & Wildlife**

Today we will take the 3 hour drive across the Cardamom Hills to the Periyar Tiger Reserve -- a place known for its great swathes of forests and wildlife. We will make the journey into the forests at Gavi - one of the last remaining habitats of the Lion Tailed macaques, an endemic species listed in the Red Data book. Besides this is also an opportunity to see other wildlife & birds at close quarters. O/N at the Eco Lodge or Cottage Tents.

### **Day 7: Depart**

We will depart for Kochi. TOUR ENDS

## **Price**

US \$ 1150 per person (ex flights), on Twin share, based on 2 people travelling.

## **Inclusions:**

- Accommodation on twin share, on 'All Meals' basis
  - A/c SUV at disposal
  - Naturalist Guide
  - Birding & wildlife walks/ safaris
  - Tea Estate & Tea factory visits
  - Tribal village visits
  - Visit Marayur megalithic burial sites
  - Walk through *Manavan Shola*
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- Entry fees

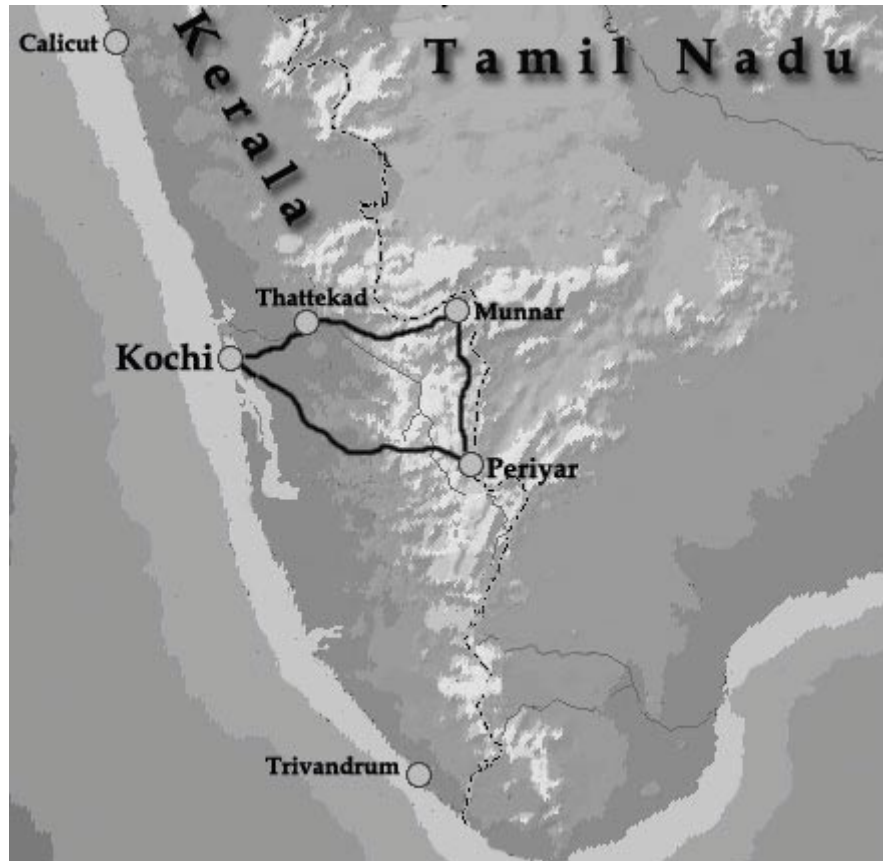
## Departures

This trip can be tailor-made to suit your interests of time and budget requirements as necessary.

## General Info

VISA: All Travellers to India require Valid VISAs.

## Map of the Area



## Information on weather, climate & Clothing

In general the weather will be warm and pleasant – hot during the day, except in the hills, where it will be cooler. You will need cotton wear, with full sleeves for evenings. At Munnar, it is recommended that you carry woollens.

### **List of clothing and equipment**

Footwear

Trekking/ walking or running shoes ( trainers)



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Campshoes or throngs ( flip-flops)  
Socks – Cotton. One pair woolen or polypropylene  
Clothing  
Sweater or light jacket  
Hiking shorts or skirts  
Light Waterproof jacket / poncho  
Hiking pants  
T-shirts or Blouses  
Underwear  
Sunhat ( wide brim preferable)  
Swimwear ( optional)  
Equipment  
Small Rucksack (day pack)  
Waterbottle  
Flashlight with spare batteries and bulb  
Other items  
Toilet articles  
Lighter  
Swiss knife  
Sunblock ( SPF-35 plus)  
Hand Towels for day use  
Laundry soap  
Personal medical kit  
Bandana / sweatband  
Sun glasses  
**Optional gizmos**  
GPS  
Thermometer  
Compass  
Laptop or Notebook for recording bird lists etc

### **How to pack ?**

Daypack: is a small backpack carried personally through out. We suggest you pack in it :

- Spare pair of socks, hankie and hand towel
- Camera & film
- Binoculars, and bird book
- Bandana / scarf, and sun hat
- Flash light / head light with spare cells
- Sun block lotion
- Chocolates, candy, dry fruit as per choice
- Personal medication
- Sweater or light jacket (when going up the hills)



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- Personal documents

## **Holdall bag / Suitcase:**

Pack what you need for overnight and subsequent days. Items you are likely to need:

- Sets of spare clothing,
- Trainers and camp slippers
- Spare underwear and hankies
- Personal toilet bag
- Wet-bag for carrying wet clothing

## **Water Bottle**

Suggest carry on person either in day pack or on belt.

## **Land transportation**

Travel will be in Air conditioned SUV, Your baggage will be carried on the roof rack, or in luggage compartment of the SUV. At Munnar & Periyar, jeeps may be provided for safari / birding along minor forest roads.