

**#88,3rd main,K.E.B Layout,B.T.M.1st stage**

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| **PROPOSED ITINERARY FOR COCHIN,TRIVANDRUM,KANYAKUMARI AND KOVALAM.** | | |
| **DAYS** | **PROGRAM** | **STATUS** |
| **DAY-1** | **Departure from Bangalore railway station to Cochin.** | **O/N**  **Journey** |
| **DAY-2** | **Arrive @ Cochin & check-in rooms.**  **After breakfast, sightseeing of Cochin; visit:**  **Shipyard, St. Francis Church, Wellington Island boat cruise & Chinese fishing net.** | **Halt @ Cochin** |
| **DAY-3** | **After breakfast, visit Vegaland.**  **After dinner, departure to Kanyakumari.** | **O/N**  **Journey** |
| **DAY-4** | **Arrive @ Kanyakumari & check-in rooms.**  **After breakfast, sightseeing of Kanyakumari; visit: Vivekananda rock, Tiruvalluvar statue & Suchindram temple.** | **Halt @ Kanyakumari** |
| **DAY-5** | **Early departure to Trivandrum & sightseeing of Trivandrum; visit:**  **Sri Padmanabha swamy temple & Zoo.** | **Halt @ Trivandrum** |
| **DAY-6** | **After breakfast, visit Veli village & Kovalam beach.**  **Drive to railway station & depart to Bangalore.** | **O/N**  **Journey** |
| **DAY-7** | **Morning arrival @**  **Bangalore railway station.** | **Tour concludes** |

**COCHIN:**

* **Shipyard:** Cochin Shipyard was **incorporated in 1972** as a Government of India company, with the **first phase of facilities** coming online **in 1982**. The yard has facilities to build vessels up to **1.1 million tons and repair vessels up to 1.25 million tons**, the **largest such facilities in India.** The **first ship** to roll out of the Cochin Shipyard was the **MV Rani Padmini in 1981**. The yard has delivered **two of India's largest double-hull Aframax tankers each of 95,000 DWT (Dead Weight Tonnage).** Recently it unveiled the **first range of indigenous aircraft carriers** for the Indian Navy the **Vikrant-class aircraft carriers.**
* **St. Francis church:** The St. Francis Church, well-known for its beautiful structural design has an **important place in history**. It is here that the famous explorer, **Vasco-da-Gama, was originally buried.** **His remains** would be taken back **14 years** later but to this day, **the exact spot is clearly marked**. The credit for its construction goes to the **Portuguese Franciscan Friars in 1503.** Originally made with **mud and wood,** it went under a lot of work with the **Portuguese, Dutch and the British.** The interiors have two **stepped pinnacles** crowning the top of the chancel roof. **History has left its imprint here, which is evident to this day.**
* **Wellington Island:** This **man-made Island**, named after a **former Viceroy,** is **among the biggest of its kind in India**. It is a major commercial center. It is also home to the **Kochi Naval Base of the Indian Navy, the Central Institute of Fisheries Technology and the Port of Kochi.** It handles **millions of tons** of freight every year. The island is connected to the mainland by the **Venduruthy Bridge.**
* **Wellington boat cruise:** A unique opportunity to experience the **beauty of Kerala Backwaters, flora and fauna**, Village life through **Shikara boat (Covered boat) and Country Boat (Open Canoe).**
* **Chinese fishing nets:** Legend has it that the famous **Chinese explorer, Zheng He,** introduced the Chinese Fishing Nets to the fishermen in Kochi over **500 years ago**. Even though he'd leave, these would become **staple sights** in these parts. The **Chinese fishing nets, or** **Cheenvala** for the locals, have attracted visitors in the Fort Kochi area **for centuries**. **Dawn and dusk** is when one can see the Cheenvala in action. Over **four fishermen** operate one of these nets which are constructed of **bamboo and teak poles**. Certain teak poles have **lights on them** that are supposed to **attract fish.** Watching these majestic nets being **suspended in mid- air**, row upon row, is a truly **spellbinding experience.**

**KANYAKUMARI:**

* **Boat cruise to Vivekananda memorial:** At Kanyakumari - a unique symbol of unity and purity - is the **Memorial of Swami Vivekananda**, another symbol of the united aspiration of Nation. Inaugurating the Rock Memorial on **September 2, 1970,** the **President of India Shri V.V. Giri** called upon fellow Indians to rise to the call of the nation.
* **Thiruvallavur statue:** The Tamilnadu Government has installed a statue of **Saint Thiruvalluvar** who gave us quintessential words of wisdom known as Thirukkural. The stone statue is **133 feet** high including the pedestal. The **3 tier pedestal** known as **Atharapeedam** is surrounded by an **artistic Mandapa known as Alankara Mandapam** with **38 feet** height. Surrounding the Alankara Mandapa stand **10 elephant statues signifying 8 directions,** with earth and space down. The foundation stone for the statue was laid in **1979**. **Five hundred** **sculptors** were engaged for this work. The statue was inaugurated on **1st January 2000 by Dr. M. Karunanidhi,** the then chief minister of Tamilnadu.

**TRIVANDRUM:**

* **Museum:** Napier Museum **built in the** **19th century** is the Museum is **named after the former Madras Governor General, John Napier** and is also called the Government Art Museum. It is a **combination of the Kerala, Mughal, Chinese and Italian** architectural styles. This **Indo-Sarascenic** structure boasts a natural air-conditioning system and houses a **rare collection of archaeological and historic artefacts, bronze idols, ancient ornaments, a temple chariot and ivory carvings.**
* **Sri Padmanabha temple:** This temple is a **blend of the Kerala and Dravidian styles of architecture**. Dating back to **8th century**, it is **one of the 108 sacred Vishnu temples**. The idol of the presiding deity of the **Sree Padmanabhaswamy Temple** is noted for its composition, which has **12,008 salagramams**, which were brought from Nepal, taken from the banks of the River Gandhaki. The **garbhagriha or the sanctum sanctorum** of Sree Padmanabhaswamy temple is located **on a stone slab** and the main idol, which is about **18 ft long**, can be **viewed through three different doors.** The head and chest are seen through the first door; while the hands can be sighted through the second door and the feet through the third door.
* **Shree chitra art gallery:** Sree Chitra Art Gallery is an art gallery in Thiruvananthapuram India, established in **1935.** The gallery features a unique **collection of traditional and contemporary paintings,** including the works of Raja Ravi Varma**.** The gallery houses **400-year-old** Tanjore miniature paintings**.**
* **Trivandrum zoo:** The Thiruvananthapuram Zoo**,** occupies **55 acres of woodland, lakes, and lawns.** It is the **oldest zoo in India and Asia.** It is home to **82 species** from around the world. The zoo also includes a **snake farm called The Reptile House,** which exhibits **both poisonous and non-poisonous snakes** and also **have 7 Anacondas.**

**KOVALAM:**

* **Kovalam beach:** Kovalam is an **internationally renowned beach** with **three adjacent crescent beaches**.  A **massive rocky promontory** on the beach has created a beautiful bay of calm waters ideal for sea bathing. The **tropical sun acts so fast** that one can see the **faint blush of coppery tan on the skin in a matter of minutes.** The beach complex includes a **string of budget cottages, Ayurvedic health resorts, and convention facilities, shopping zones, swimming pools, Yoga and Ayurvedic massage centers.**
* **Veli village:** The Veli Tourist Village which lies where the **Veli Lake meets the Arabian Sea** provides for unique boating and picnicking opportunities. One can **hire pedal boats or paddleboats** for the whole duration of the trip. A separate **children’s park and a floating cafe** run by **Kerala Tourism Development Corporation (KTDC)** are added attractions.