



# ANDAMAN

THE EMERALD ISLANDS





## Andaman at a Glance :

Coral reefs, white sandy beaches, 'sea-walk' with marine life, aquatic sports and an abundance of natural beauty - Andaman has all this and more in store for you! One of the most romantic places for honeymooners, a perfect getaway for tired souls and a haven for nature lovers, Andaman offers everything to everyone. Located in the Bay of Bengal, this group of islands is fondly called the 'Emerald Islands.' They have a rich history and old world charm as Andaman has been a colony of Denmark, Britain and Japan. From being known as 'Kaala Paani' to being known as the land of pristine beaches, Andaman has come a long way in becoming a much sought after destination.

## Places of Interest :

**1) Port Blair** - The capital city has a lot to offer its tourists. The very infamous Cellular jail where Indian freedom fighters were incarcerated and tortured, still stands as a massive and eerie reminder of the times. The moving Son-et-Lumiere (sound and light show at the jail) takes you back in times when "Kaala Paani" was a dreaded word. Apart from this, Ross Island, Viper Island, Corbyn's Cove Beach, North Bay Beach are the other attractions that will catch your fancy.

**2) Havelock Islands** - If you ever imagined walking barefoot on soft sandy beaches where the only sound you could hear is of waves hitting the shores, a visit to Havelock makes your dream come true. Havelock boasts four beautiful beaches namely Radhanagar beach, Elephant beach, Kalapathar Beach and Vijaynagar beach, that charge your batteries and provide you serene tranquility.

**3) Diglipur** - A land of rich flora and fauna, mud volcanoes, extensive orange groves, lush green forests with exquisite sandal trees; it provides many exciting opportunities for hiking and trekking, making this town a bustling place for tourist activities.

**4) Rangat** - 'Relax' and 'enjoy', these two buzzwords aptly describe Rangat. A town on the Middle Andaman Island, it boasts lovely beaches and rich marine life. Cutbert Bay Beach, Moorys Dare, Panchvati Hills, Long Island, Lalaji Bay Beach are some favourite tourist spots around here. Camping, trekking, sun basking, mountaineering, snorkeling, dolphin spotting, turtle nesting, you name the activity and Rangat offers it to you. Its serene and world class beaches make it an idyllic destination for honeymooners and adventure travellers.

## Weather :

The climate is tropical and conducive for a wide variety of flora and fauna. Summer and winter are fairly moderate and it remains pleasant through the year. Temperatures hover between summer highs of 32 degree C and winter lows of 23 degree C. July brings heavy rainfall which continues till September.

## Things to buy :

Explore the famous Aberdeen Bazaar in Port Blair. Small bamboo figurines, handmade artifacts by Nicobar artisans, sparkling jewellery made with sea shells and sea pearls are some of the items which you cannot afford to miss.

## Cuisine :

Since it is an archipelago, seafood, and especially fish, forms the main cuisine. This is what you get in any restaurant. Plenty of fruits as mango,

banana, orange, pineapple, guava are also available on these islands and consumed by locals. Both North Indian and South Indian food are easily available as they form part of the staple cuisine of the varied people settled here. While the latter is known for its aroma and spices, the former is known for its various curries and gravies.

## Culture :

The culture of this archipelago comprises of mainly two communities, Natives and Indians. The Natives are basically tribal people who have a unique culture of their own. Whereas, the settlers from Indian origin come from different parts of India who speak many languages and celebrate all festivals with equal passion and zest.

*Wishing you happy vacations at Andaman!*

## Points to Remember :

- 1) Travel Tips
- 2) Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
- 3) Timings you need to keep in mind
- 4) Do's and Don'ts

## Travel Tips :

Please bring along the following items for a comfortable and safe trip:

- 1) Lots of cotton, linen and other sweat absorbent clothing making this town



- 3) Beach Sandals (you'll be in and out of water often)**
- 4) Bermudas/ shorts**
- 5) Light casual T shirts/ polo**
- 6) Light n happy summer clothing**
- 7) Swimming costume**
- 8) Hand Sanitizer**
- 9) Sun screen**
- 10) Sun glasses**
- 11) Wide-brimmed Sun Hat**
- 12) Camera/ Video camera with spare batteries/ charger**
- 13) Torch with spare batteries**
- 14) Basic medical kit (for scratches and common cold etc.)**
- 15) Avomine or Perinorm tablets are recommended to avoid sea sickness/ nausea during sail.**

Plus lot of holiday enthusiasm and energy to explore the beaches and offbeat places. And your family and friends.... as it's a place to enjoy with company!

## Special Requests :

While we will pass on all your special requests to the hotel if requested timely (i.e., early/late check-in, extra bed, wheelchair, etc), we do not guarantee these unless specified as a part of package under 'package

inclusions'. These requests are subject to Hotel's acceptance and you may have to pay extra to avail these services depending on the internal policies of the hotel.

Similarly on flights, special requests (seat assignment, wheelchair assistance, travelling with pets, etc) are subject to airline's discretion and these requests must be placed directly with the airline. Depending on the airline policies, these requests may be chargeable.

## Frequently Asked Questions :

Here is what a lot of travelers generally want to know...

**1) Can old age people travel to the Andaman Islands?**

Ans : Yes, there is no problem whatsoever.

**2) What level of facilities can a traveler expect at Port Blair?**

Ans : Port Blair is a fairly big town with facilities similar to towns of its size, in the mainland. Hotels in all categories are available here. Port Blair also has hospitals, an airport, a port, banks, ATMs and decent mobile connectivity.

**3) What should one expect in terms of the standard of hotels and their facilities, as there is scarcity of resources. (Star category for this area hasn't be defined).**

Ans : It varies from hotel to hotel, apparently there is no star categorisation for this destination. Hotels are categorized under STD/DLX/PRM/LUX

**4) Do I need to know swimming to try scuba diving?**

Ans : Not at all. A non-swimmer can easily experience the joys of scuba diving with an instructor.

**5) Are credit cards accepted?**

Ans : Credit cards are accepted in Port Blair, but you would need to keep cash handy for use in Havelock. Not to offer its to not accepted in Havelock.

**6) Is sea travel safe between Port Blair and Havelock?**

Ans : Very safe! The sea can get rough sometimes in September and October but there's no reason to worry. It is a short journey with enough contingency measures in place.

**7) What is the best season to explore the underwater world?**

Ans : The best time to explore the underwater world is between December to April. February to April especially the waters are very calm with visibility of upto 40 plus meters is possible during this period. This season draws seasoned divers.

**8) Is scuba diving cost included in the package? Can scuba diving be arranged for on request?**

Ans : Yes, it's included in some GROUP packages. In case not part of the package, it can be offered to a customer on request and extra supplement charges.

**9) Are all hotel rooms sea facing? Will we get sea facing hotel room?**

Ans : No, rooms vary. Sea-facing rooms are subject to availability.

**10) What kind of ferry arrangement can one find in Andaman?**

Ans : Ferries in Andaman are classified as: Government Ferry, Makruzz and Coastal Cruise. We prefer and provide Makruzz. However we mention "Cruise transfers" as it's always subject to availability and weather conditions.



**11) Why is non- AC cab provided at Havelock- can this be converted to AC cab? What is the process?**

Ans : AC cabs are very limited in numbers at Havelock. However the same can be provided on case-to-case basis depending on availability and extra supplement.

**12) Are there shacks on the beaches?**

Ans : Yes, some beaches do have shacks, but not all. These are basically for d shacks and there are not too many of them.

**13) What level of facilities can a traveler expect at Havelock?**

Ans : The resorts in Havelock are generally self sufficient; however, being a remote island provisions can, on occasion, get delayed.

**14) Do Port Blair and Havelock have different STD number?**

Ans : The STD Dial Code – 03192 - is applicable across all the islands

## Timings you need to keep in mind :

- **Cruise Timings** : These are subject to change as per the availability for the group
- **Standard Hotel Check-in time** : 0800hrs
- **Standard Hotel Check-out time** : 0730hrs
- **Triple Sharing Occupancy** : Only extra mattress are been provided in Hotels
- **Timings for Cellular Jail Museum** : 0900 hrs to 1230 hrs, 1330 hrs to 1645 hrs (Closed on Mondays).



- **Sound & Light Show at Cellular Jail**

- Hindi show is on daily at 1730 hrs
- On Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays the second show is also in Hindi at 1845 hrs
- English show is available on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 1845 hrs.

- **Ross Island** : 0900 hrs to 1230 hrs, 1330 hrs to 1645 hrs (Closed on Wednesday)

- **Museums:** All museums are closed on Mondays (Chatham Saw Mill is only closed on Sundays)

## Do's & Don'ts :

We hope you have a happy and memorable experience at the Andamans. To "Cruise transfers" would like you to keep a few Do's and Don'ts in mind while there.

### DOs

- Swim in safe areas only.
- Please drink sufficient water to avoid dehydration.
- Keep the beaches and the environment clean.
- Visit the permitted areas in the Islands only.
- Dispose of waste directly with the garbage at proper places/dustbins.

- Avail the service of Scuba Dive instructors having certification of international/professional organizations like PADI, CMAS, NAUI, BSAC and SSI for safe diving experience.
- Observe decency and decorum in dress, specially at places of worship.
- Observe decency and decorum in dress, - is applicable places of worship.
- At the beach, parents are requested to keep an eye on their kids at all times.
- Enjoy the wilderness...leave only footprints... take only photographs....
- For Baratangh tour, drive the vehicles in accordance to convoy system. Same day return by ATR is not permissible accordingly to Jarawa Policy.
- Please pick up your bags and bottle while leaving the visiting spot.

*Finally do enjoy the sea, sand and wilderness, and while at Havelock enjoy a sunrise walk along the beach.*

### **DON'Ts**

- Do not enter into restricted/tribal areas.
- While inside Tribal Reserve areas, do not take video, film or photographs of tribals.
- Do not carry sea fans and seashells unless specific permits are obtained from Fisheries department.



- Avoid use of plastics/ polythene.
- Do not light fire in forest areas
- Do not stay on the beaches or forest during nights by putting up tents/hammocks
- Nudity on beaches and public places is forbidden and a punishable offense.
- Do not enter the National Parks without permission.
- Do not touch/ disturb corals and marine life.
- Do not leave behind any waste material.

*Hope you have a great  
Travel Experience!*