

# INDIAN CULINARY TOUR

15 Days / 14 Nights

*If food is an adventure, then this culinary tour of India is an adventure of a lifetime that is not to be missed. This journey through Southern India lets you enjoy the diverse tastes and aromas that make Indian cooking unique. The tour not only gives you the chance to savour a variety of curries, chutneys, subtle spices and other foods but also take part in the actual cooking of these Indian delicacies. The tour also includes many of the temples, wildlife and other sights of South India.*



## Day 1: Arrive Chennai

On arrival at Chennai International Airport you will be met and transferred to your hotel. Overnight at your hotel.

## Day 2: Chennai – Mahabalipuram

After breakfast, you will be taken on a tour of Chennai visiting Fort St. George, San Thome Church, Kapaleeswarar Temple, and the National Art Gallery. Later drive to Mahabalipuram. Overnight at your hotel. (B)

## Day 3: Mahabalipuram

After an early morning yoga session and breakfast, drive to Kanchipuram for a sightseeing tour. In the evening, enjoy a tour of Mahabalipuram visiting Shore Temple, Arjuna's Penance & the Cave Temple. Overnight at your hotel. (B)

## Day 4: Mahabalipuram – Tanjore

After breakfast you will depart for Tanjore by road, enroute visiting Chidambaram, the ancient capital. Overnight at your hotel. (B)

## Day 5: Tanjore – Trichy – Tanjore

After breakfast you will visit Tanjore City and see the Brihadeeshwara Temple and the Palace housing the Tamil University Museum, the Art Gallery, the Saraswati Mahal Library, and Trichy, home of the world famous temples. Return to Tanjore. Dinner & overnight at the hotel.

## Day 6: Tanjore – Madurai

After breakfast at the hotel, you will be driven to Madurai, where you will check in to your hotel. Evening at leisure. Overnight at your hotel. (B, L, D)

## Day 7: Madurai

Today you will experience the richness of Chettinad cuisine. During the day you will visit a local vegetable & spice market to source fresh ingredients and later take part in the preparation of dinner. Enjoy your creation with a local family at their house. Overnight at your hotel. (B, D)

## Day 8: Madurai – Thekkady (Periyar)

After breakfast you will be driven to Thekkady. Overnight at your hotel. (B)

## Day 9: Thekkady (Periyar)

Early this morning you will depart for Periyar National Park to view the wildlife by boat. Return to the hotel for breakfast. In the evening a Chef at your hotel will demonstrate regional cuisines and delicacies. Overnight at your hotel. (B)

## Day 10: Thekkady – Kumarakom – Alleppey

After breakfast you will be driven to Kumarakom where you will embark on an overnight cruise of the backwaters in a Kettuvallam (houseboat), offering picturesque views of 'God's Own Country'. Lunch, dinner and overnight onboard the houseboat. (B)

## Day 11: Alleppey – Cochin

After breakfast you will disembark at Alleppey and proceed to Cochin. The afternoon is at leisure, before and evening visit to a local theatre for a Kathakali dance performance. Overnight at your hotel. (B)

## Day 12: Cochin

After breakfast you will be taken on a tour of Cochin including Mattancherry, to visit the oldest Jewish Synagogue in India; Later visit the Chinese fishing nets, St. Francis Church, and the Dutch Palace. In the afternoon you will help prepare your dinner (Kerala style) with a local Cochin family in their home. After dinner you will return to your hotel for you rovernight stay. (B, D)

## Day 13: Cochin – Kovalam

After breakfast you will be driven to Kovalam. Rest of the day you will be free to relax on the beach or enjoy Ayurveda (additional cost). Overnight at your hotel. (B)

## Day 14: Kovalam

After breakfast you will take an excursion to Kanyakumari – famous for its beaches and temples. Visit the Kumari Amman temple, the Gandhi Museum, and Vivekananda Rock before returning to your hotel in the evening. Overnight at your hotel. (B)

## Day 15 Kovalam - Trivandrum

Today you will be transferred to Trivandrum airport for your onward flight and the end of your tour.

## PRICE PER PERSON FROM:

(1 Aug 08 - 30 Sep 08)

Superior \$2,650  
Luxury \$2,875

(1 Oct 08 - 30 Apr 09)

Superior \$3,445  
Luxury \$3,850

## PRICE INCLUDES

- 14 nights accommodation on twin share basis
- Transfers
- Meals as specified in the itinerary
- An air-conditioned vehicle for all transfers, excursions and sightseeing tours.
- Entrance fees at all monuments and parks
- Boat ride in Periyar & light Jungle trek
- A local English speaking guide for visits as per the itinerary

**Based on minimum of 2 passengers travelling together.**

## HOTELS

City	Superior	Deluxe
Chennai	The Park	Taj Coromandal
Mahabalipuram	GRT Temple Bay	Taj Fisherman's Cove
Thanjavur	Sangam	Sangam
Madurai	Taj Garden Retreat	Taj Garden Retreat
Thekkady	Spice Village	Taj Garden Retreat
Alleppey	Houseboat AC	Houseboat AC
Cochin	Trident Cochin	Malabar House
Kovalam	Travencore Heritage	Leela Kovalam

