

# LONELY PLANET

## Get Romantic in Kerala

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SPECIAL FOCUS

# Get ♥ Romantic in Kerala

When you think of Kerala, your mind instantly paints a gorgeous picture of calm backwaters and languid palm trees. While this version of Kerala is easy to fall in love with, there's a lot more this lush green state has to offer. The K trio – Kochi, Kollam and Kovalam – is tailor-made for romance

## Kochi ♥

So Kochi is a great holiday destination for kids, families and solo travellers, but now's the time to make it the place to get your romance on.

Start your day in the lap of nature. Plan a visit to the beautiful **Mangalavanam Bird Sanctuary**. Spread across 2.74 hectares, here you can go on a long romantic walk as you try to spot the different species of migratory birds. Next, take a stroll down beautiful **Fort Kochi**. See the amazing heritage bungalows and experience local and international flavours at roadside eateries and cool cafes. Don't forget to pick up some great souvenirs to mark this romantic break from the quaint shops in these streets and alleys. In the evening, take a long romantic walk on **Cheral Beach**. Regarded as one of the best and most popular beaches in Kochi, this is the place at which to enjoy a memorable evening just lazing around or dipping your feet in the cool and calm waters. Want something even more romantic? Head to **Marine Drive**. Set the mood right for the rest of the evening like a pro. Take a romantic walk by the water as you watch the sun go down in the distance. Hop over to the malls nearby and surprise your partner with some impromptu shopping.

How about ending the evening with a perfect meal? Reserve a table for a romantic meal for two at one of Kochi's classic restaurants, listen to your favourite tunes, experience some great flavours in the local dishes, and order the best wine for a memorable evening in Kochi.

PHOTOGRAPHS: JALI FROM 123RF; SHARTEL; MARINA PISCICOVA & JOSE MAHE FERNANDEZ



