

THE DESERT TRAIL

Kerala Backwaters

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The backwater regions of Kerala are one of the most popular tourist destinations in the world. The scenic backwaters are a long intricate network of lagoons, canals, lakes, estuaries and deltas of several rivers that flow into the Arabian Sea. The tranquil backwater cruises are a once in a lifetime experience.

Backwaters are a network of man-made and natural canals of 1500 km, 5 big lakes and 38 rivers extending from one end of Kerala to the other. These are one of the largest fresh-water sources and rich in marine habitat. The backwater tour in Kerala encircles Alleppey Backwaters, Kumarakom Backwaters, Kuttanad Backwaters, Padanna Backwaters and several other mesmerizing spots.

The most beautiful and accessible part of the back waters is the A shtamudi Lake located in Kollam district. This is the second biggest lake in Kerala and the most visited tourist

area in South India which receives visitors from all over the world.

The very pretty Munroe Island is also a great place to visit where you can soak in nature at its finest form.

Vembanad backwater stretch located in Ernakulam, Alapuzha and Kottayam area.

Alappuzha is known as the 'Venice of the East ' and very popular for its houseboat cruises. This area is flanked

by palm trees. The lake village of Kumarakom in Kottayam is a famous bird sanctuary with home of several rare migratory birds with large expanse of backwaters and lagoons.

The third backwater region is located at Kannur-Valiyaparambu Backwaters in districts of Kannur and Kasaragod. This region is least exploited and has numerous small uninhabited islands.

Houseboat Tourism

The unique and perfect way to explore Kerala backwaters is through the attractive and traditional houseboats. These houseboats are also known as 'kettuvallam'. Traditionally used for transporting rice, spices and passengers, they take you to the otherwise inaccessible hinterlands of the state. You can hire a boat for one or several days. If you go for more than a day, the boat usually comes with a navigator, cook and other various facilities.

Staying on the boat in the night is an amazing experience, when the surroundings are bathed in blue. You can truly experience the tranquil backwaters. Enjoy beautiful surroundings and splashes of water amidst lush greenery. This unique combination of Kerala houseboat and pristine backwaters provides a great experience.

If you have not visited the backwaters of Kerala, you have missed out on an incredible experience.



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