

# Kumarakom Birding & Backwater Houseboat: Avian Paradise Escape

Prepared by TourGrids

Destination  
**Kerala**

Duration  
**5 Nights 6 Days**

Starting from  
**Rs. 20,450 / person**

## ITINERARY ROUTE

↶ Kumarakom · 3N

↶ Alleppey · 1N

↶ Kochi · 1N

## Overview

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A serene 5-night / 6-day Kerala tour package designed for bird lovers, nature photographers and travelers seeking a relaxed backwater experience. This Kerala Wildlife tour package focuses on the lush wetlands of Kumarakom, extensive birding at the Kumarakom Bird Sanctuary and a peaceful overnight on a traditional Alleppey houseboat across the Vembanad Lake and canals. Ideal as a short wildlife-centric getaway or as an add-on to longer Kerala circuits, this itinerary also aligns with travelers searching for Kerala Wildlife package options and is tailored for those looking for 5 and 6 Kerala Wildlife tour package lengths.

### Highlights:

- Kumarakom Bird Sanctuary – guided early-morning birding
- Vembanad Lake & Backwaters – scenic boat cruises
- Overnight on a traditional Alleppey houseboat (kettuvallam)
- Pathiramanal Island birding stop and village interactions
- Fort Kochi & historic Mattancherry quarter city tour

Best for birdwatchers, wildlife photographers, couples and families seeking a gentle, low-impact Kerala tour package.

#### ✓ **What's Included**

- ✓ Accommodation for 5 nights: 3 nights in Kumarakom, 1 night on a private houseboat in Alleppey, 1 night in Kochi (twin/double basis).
- ✓ Daily breakfast at hotels/resorts and all meals on the houseboat (as specified).
- ✓ Guided early-morning birding sessions at Kumarakom Bird Sanctuary with a local naturalist.
- ✓ Private transfers and sightseeing as per itinerary in an air-conditioned vehicle.
- ✓ Boat trips: Pathiramanal transfer, local backwater cruises, and houseboat cruise.
- ✓ Entrance fees to scheduled attractions, parking and applicable taxes.
- ✓ This package is designed as a focused Kerala tour package and can be upgraded to a longer Kerala Wildlife tour package on request.

#### ✗ **Not Included**

- ✗ International and domestic flights to/from Kochi.
- ✗ Visa, travel insurance, gratuities and personal expenses.
- ✗ Meals not specified in inclusions and alcohol.
- ✗ Camera/video permits at certain monuments (if applicable).
- ✗ Optional activities (Kathakali performance, Ayurveda treatments) unless pre-booked.
- ✗ Early check-in or late checkout charges unless confirmed.

## Day-by-Day Itinerary

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Day

1

### **Arrival in Kochi — Transfer to Kumarakom and Sunset Birdwatching**

Arrive at Cochin International Airport (Kochi) and drive to Kumarakom (approx. 1–1.5 hours). Check in to your riverside/resort accommodation and unwind. Late afternoon, head out for your first guided sunset birdwatching session at the Kumarakom Bird Sanctuary and along the Vembanad Lake edge — ideal for spotting kingfishers, herons, egrets, and migratory waterfowl. Return to the resort for dinner.

Tip: Carry a light jacket for early morning or evening breezes and a pair of binoculars if you have one.

Day

2

### **Full Day Birding — Pathiramanal Island & Village Walk**

Start with an early morning guided birding walk inside Kumarakom Bird Sanctuary and the reed beds by Vembanad Lake — a prime time for migratory and resident birds. After breakfast, take a short boat trip to Pathiramanal Island, a small island known for concentrated bird activity and scenic viewpoints. Enjoy a relaxed village walk in the afternoon to observe local fishing and coir-making traditions.

Note: The boat to Pathiramanal is weather-dependent; alternative canal birding will be arranged in poor conditions.

Day

3

### **Backwater Cruise & Local Experiences**

After an early breakfast, embark on a guided boat safari through narrow canals and paddy-fringed backwaters — excellent for photographing waterbirds, kingfishers and egrets close-up. Return to your resort for lunch and enjoy an optional Ayurveda massage or leisure time in the afternoon. As dusk falls, take a short evening cruise to watch the sun set over the Vembanad Lake.

Tip: Sun protection and a hat are recommended for daytime cruises.

Day

4

### **Transfer to Alleppey — Embark on Traditional Houseboat**

Checkout after breakfast and transfer to Alleppey (Alappuzha) for boarding your private traditional kettuvallam houseboat. Sail through the scenic backwaters, passing villages, toddy shops, coconut groves and rice paddies. Enjoy freshly prepared Kerala meals on board and a leisurely cruise into the canals. Overnight on the houseboat—an intimate way to experience Kerala's famed waterways.

Important: Houseboat itinerary may vary with tides; the crew will plan the safest scenic route.

Day

5

## Disembark & Transfer to Kochi — Fort Kochi Heritage Walk

After breakfast on board, disembark in Alleppey and drive to Kochi. Spend the afternoon exploring Fort Kochi: visit the iconic Chinese fishing nets, St. Francis Church, Mattancherry Palace (Dutch Palace) and the Jewish Synagogue and spice markets. Enjoy an optional Kathakali performance or a seaside dinner.

Note: Fort Kochi streets are best explored on foot; wear comfortable shoes.

Day

6

## Departure from Kochi — Optional Extensions

After breakfast, transfer to Cochin International Airport for your onward flight. If you wish to extend into a broader Kerala Wildlife tour package or a Kerala Wildlife package (for example, a visit to Periyar/ Thekkady for a wildlife safari and spice plantations), our team can arrange a customized extension.

Tip: Book airport transfers at least 24 hours in advance for early morning departures.

## 🔍 Frequently Asked Questions

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### 🔍 What are the top tourist destinations in Kerala?

Kerala offers stunning tourist destinations like Munnar's tea plantations, Alleppey's backwaters, Kochi's vibrant culture, and Wayanad's lush hills. Don't miss the stunning beaches of Varkala and Kovalam, as well as the tranquil landscapes of Thekkady and Kumarakom. Each offers unique experiences for every traveler.

### 🔍 What is the best time to visit Kerala?

The best time to visit Kerala is from October to March. During these months, the weather is pleasantly cool and dry, making it ideal for exploring the lush backwaters, hill stations, and vibrant culture. Remember to experience the festivals and local events that take place during this peak tourist season!

### 🔍 How can I travel around Kerala?

Traveling around Kerala is easy thanks to its extensive transport options. You can use private taxis, auto-rickshaws, and public buses. For scenic routes, consider hiring a houseboat, especially in the backwaters of Alleppey. Trains and domestic flights connect major cities, making exploration seamless.

## ❓ What are the famous cuisines to try in Kerala?

Kerala is renowned for its delicious cuisine, featuring dishes like Sambar, Appam, and Puttu. Don't miss the spicy Kerala fish curry and the delectable dosa. For a unique experience, try traditional Sadya, a vegetarian feast served on a banana leaf, highlighting the region's rich flavors and diverse culinary traditions.

## ❓ What activities can I enjoy in Kerala's backwaters?

In Kerala's backwaters, you can enjoy serene houseboat cruises, kayaking through lush mangroves, and bird watching. Experience local cuisine on board, visit traditional villages, and partake in unique cultural performances. Don't miss the opportunity for peaceful sunsets and picturesque landscapes!

## ❓ Is Kerala suitable for family vacations?

Yes, Kerala is ideal for family vacations! With its serene backwaters, lush hill stations, wildlife sanctuaries, and beautiful beaches, it offers a variety of activities for all ages. Families can enjoy houseboat rides, explore spice plantations, and visit cultural sites, making it a memorable destination.

## ❓ What are the important festivals celebrated in Kerala?

Kerala is home to vibrant festivals like Onam, celebrated with colorful festivities and the traditional feast; Vishu, marking the New Year with family gatherings; and Thrissur Pooram, showcasing grand temple processions and spectacular fireworks. These events reflect the rich culture and heritage, making Kerala a unique tourist destination.

## ★ Traveller Reviews



**Aditi Rao**

★★★★★ 5/5

### Everlasting Impressions of Kerala

From the stunning scenery to rich traditions, this tour made lasting impressions. I can't help but reminisce about the experiences. Highly recommend!



**Kunal Kaur**

★★★★★ 5/5

### **A Well-Rounded Experience**

This Kerala tour provided a perfect blend of relaxation and activities. We got to unwind in the backwaters and explore beautiful hill stations. A great balance!



**Vani Dubey**

★★★★★ 5/5

### **Heavenly Kerala Escape**

Kerala felt like heaven on earth! The combination of nature, culture, and warm hospitality made it a trip to remember. I left a piece of my heart there!



**Kiran Menon**

★★★★☆ 4/5

### **An Immersive Eco-Tour**

The eco-tour experience was unique and educational. We learned about sustainable practices while enjoying the nature-rich surroundings. Very well organized!



**Rajesh Iyer**

★★★★★ 5/5

### **Charming Village Tours**

Exploring local villages was a highlight. Interacting with locals and understanding their lifestyle was eye-opening. Very enriching experience!

## **⚡ Why Choose TourGrids?**

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Because your dream vacation deserves the best! From expert advice to personalized trips, easy booking, and unbeatable deals – we make travel stress-free and fun!

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Personalized guidance from verified travel experts who understand your needs.

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