

Journey up the Backwaters Kerala, Southern India

February 16th – March 1st 2026

Arranged by Indus Experiences

**Led by Clare Inskip and accompanied by Hermione and
William Owen**



Itinerary and Costs

Per person sharing twin room and twin cabin on cruise **£5515.00**

Per Person in double room and cabin on single occupancy basis **£6540.00**

Double room for single occupancy will be provided at Brunton Boat Yard and at Seclude Marari Sands. On MV Vaikundam there are 8 twin bedded and one double bedded cabin.

Cost Includes:

- International Flights with Emirates airlines in Economy class.
- All transfers by an air conditioned small coach.
- Services of an English-speaking representative for transfers.
- Local English-speaking guide for sightseeing.
- Sightseeing in Cochin.
- Full board meals on MV Vaikundam, just Breakfast & Dinner at Brunton Boat Yard, and Seclude Marari Beach Resort.
- Entrance fee and performances as mentioned in the itinerary.
- 100% protection of payment by our ATOL & ABTA licences

Cost does not include:

- Visa fee for India. We will send a stepwise guide how to apply for visa.
- Travel Insurance
- Any expenses of a personal nature
- Tips and Gratuities

Day 1: Monday

16 February 2026

Departure London Heathrow by Emirates Airlines at 13:40 via Dubai

Day 2: Tuesday

17 February 2026

Arrive Cochin at
08:45. Transfer to
Brunton boat yard.
Afternoon sunset
cruise on the
Harbour. Dinner



Day 3: Wednesday

18 February 2026

Cochin Sightseeing/Painting Breakfast & Dinner

Day 4: Thursday

19 February 2026

Board MV Vaikundam - drive from Cochin to Alleppey to board MV
Vaikundam

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner.

Alleppey / Punnamada / Kanjipaddom

Board RV Vaikundam this afternoon at Punnamada in Alleppey. Our welcoming team on-board will help you with smooth check-in, followed by the safety briefing.

Enjoy the traditional lunch and relax on-board.

Our guide on-board will brief us about Alleppey – the Green Venice of the East, its



geographical, cultural and social significance.

We will drop anchor at Kanjippadom, where we will explore the village on a leisurely walk. We will also visit the boat building yard.

Overnight onboard MV Vaikundam. Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 5: Friday

20 February 2026

Kanjippadom – Karumadi – Thottappalli

Overnight onboard MV Vaikundam. Breakfast, lunch, Dinner

Day 6: Saturday

21 February 2026

Thottappalli – Changankari

While cruising, we will have an informative lecture by an Ayurveda doctor to know about this 5000-years old Science of life. We will reach the remote village Changankari and drop our anchors.



Overnight onboard MV Vaikundam. Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 7: Sunday

22 February 2026

Changankari – Champakkulam – Mankompu

Traditional lunch at a beautiful house of a local family, on the bank of the Pampa River. Cruise to Mankompu village where we will witness a cultural performance.

Overnight onboard MV Vaikundam. Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 8: Monday

23 February 2026

Mankompu – Kainakari – Kavalam

We will take the country boat to travel through the more narrow canals, observing local life along the way.

Return to the boat. Lunch onboard, while cruising to Kavalam, where the river reverses its course and drains into Lake Vembanad. As we go along the way we interact with toddy tappers.

Overnight onboard MV Vaikundam. Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 9: Tuesday

24 February 2026

Kavalam – Kumarakom

Early this morning, we set out by country boat to watch the migratory birds of Kumarakom. This afternoon, we will visit the house of a Syrian Christian family for a home hosted lunch. Return to our boat and cruise to Thanneermukkom barrage, built across Vembanad, the largest lake of Kerala, divides the lake into two; one half with perennial salty water and the other with fresh water enriched by rivers.

Overnight onboard MV Vaikundam. Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 10: Wednesday

25 February 2026

Kumarakom – Chenganda – Vaikom

After breakfast we sail to Chenganda village where we will get an opportunity to interact with coir weavers, the shell harvesters and farmers. Return to the boat for lunch while

sailing. We drop the anchor at the ancient village, Vaikom. We will have a short walk to

visit the cultural centre to watch Kathakali. We will take a tuk tuk ride to the ancient temple of Shiva. farewell dinner on board. Overnight onboard MV Vaikundam. Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 11: Thursday

26 February 2026

We will sail from Vaikom towards the jetty for Marari Beach. Short drive to Seclude Marari Sands for three nights beach stay. Breakfast, Dinner.



Day 12: Friday

27 February

Day at leisure at Seclude Marari Sands. Breakfast, Dinner

Day 13: Saturday

28 February

Day at leisure at Seclude Marari Sands. Breakfast, Dinner

Day 14: Sunday

01 March

Transfer to Cochin airport, fly to London Heathrow by Emirates airlines flight at 09:40, arrive Heathrow at 20:00