



CYCLE KERALA – INDIA (9 DAYS)



ITINERARY- OUTLINE FOR BESPOKE TRIPS

This stunning 392km cycle challenge takes place in Kerala, one of the undiscovered jewels of India. The sun bleached seashore, incessant blue waves, green coconut groves and lagoons are all part of the essence of Kochi, our starting point for the challenge. As we move east on our bicycles we see more of the interior with its lush land of rivers flowing through hills and paddy fields emptying themselves into the backwaters. We arrive at the once far off dark blue mountains, with their hill stations and cooler temperatures before returning to the beaches of south coast . Only when you have been to Kerala can you understand why it is named "Gods Own Country".

DAY 1 DEPARTURE UK

DAY 2 INDIA KOCHI

On arrival in to Kochi we transfer directly to our hotel where we have breakfast and then a bike fitting with our local team who will brief us on the challenge ahead. The rest of the afternoon we discover a little of this amazing city and tonight we have a welcome dinner and an early night.

DAY 3 THE BIRDS LAGOON 53KM

After breakfast we cycle through a scenic countryside of temples, spice gardens, paddy fields and rubber plantations. Our comfortable accommodation on the Thattekkad river in the late afternoon is a welcome sight and here we have time to relax in a magnificent jungle setting. If we are lucky, at dusk elephants may join us as they bath on the far bank of the river.

DAY 4 MUNNAR TEA COUNTY 82KM

Today we hit the hills in a big way, with a tough climb into the Western Ghats. An exceptional day with great views, a fresher climate, whilst passing tea estates, vibrant villages all the way to the hill station of Munnar and our hotel.

DAY 5 PERIYAR 107KM

The longest and most exciting ride with 70km down hill and some tough uphill! Passing forests, tea gardens and spice plantations, we end our day with a good freewheel into Periyar where we can either relax after a good evening meal or have a stiff drink at the bar.

DAY 6 KOTTAYAM 96KM

Today is a great cycling day, as the first 35 km are relatively gentle rolling hills and lovely scenery. We then have a fantastic 18km of superb downhill, where we hardly need to pedal. This takes us to the Mundakayam River and a good lunch will be waiting for us prepared in the shade of palm trees. This afternoon we continue on to the town of Kottayam.

DAY 7 THE ARABIAN SEA 54KM

And so to the final day of the cycle challenge where we reach the coast for the afternoon. Idyllically set on the tropical shoreline of the Arabian Sea we spend the rest of the day relaxing and soaking tired muscles. Tonight we celebrate our achievements with a great dinner and party.

DAY 8 ALLEPPEY BEACH

Today we have the full day free to enjoy Alleppey and the beaches.

DAY 9 DEPART

We start early on our flights back to the UK.



LOGISTICS



CHALLENGE COST

From £1999 per person

Minimum number 15 participants

For groups less than 15, please get in touch.

CHALLENGE COST INCLUSIONS

Pre-trip briefing by Action Challenge staff

International flights

Action Challenge cycle guide

First aid trained member of staff/doctor

English-speaking local guide

Luggage Transfer

Bike

All accommodation

All meals, except in free time

All transfers

All National Park fees

3 litres of water provided daily

FITNESS & RATING

This is a moderate challenge that requires a good level of fitness to complete the route.

ABOUT ACTION CHALLENGE

As our name suggests, Action Challenge specialises in the creation of challenging, travel-based activities the world over. Since 1999, we have worked with many blue chip companies, over 600 national and regional charities, schools, sports clubs, groups of friends and individuals on both UK and overseas events. With over 160 itineraries in some of the most unexplored places on the globe, we are proud of lengths we go to, to bring our clients experiences they would be unable to find elsewhere.

NOT INCLUDED

Alcoholic drinks

Travel insurance

Personal kit

Single supplement

Tips for local guides

Local departure tax

Fuel supplement

ACCOMMODATION

Twin/triple share rooms in comfortable hotels throughout.

FOOD

Breakfast will be served at the accommodation, lunch en-route, and dinner at the hotel/log cabin or at a local restaurant.

WEATHER

From October-March the weather should be pleasant in the morning getting increasingly hotter throughout the day. There may be a possibility of rains as we experience a little of the post monsoon rain.

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