32 Houseboating, backwaters of Kerala

South India

12-Day Golden Chariot Rail Safari

HIGHLIGHTS

- Ride a houseboat on Kerala's backwaters to experience rural life
- Discover India's rich culture on a 4-day luxury rail excursion
- Go behind the scenes of a Kathakali dance performance
- Enjoy the amenities of a five-star beach resort in Goa

Southern India's coastal beauty, architecture, ancient Dravidian culture and unspoiled wild places are revealed on this 12-day journey. Experience the multi-cultural history of Cochin and watch a private Kathakali dance performance. Take an overnight cruise on the backwaters of Kerala on a traditional yet comfortable houseboat. Track Asiatic elephants and Indian bison in Nagarhole National Park. Board your richly appointed train for a four-day journey north from Mysore to Goa with stops to discover India's cultural treasures along the way. Conclude your travels at a five-star beach resort in idyllic South Goa.

Days 1-2 Arrive Cochin and take a guided city tour **Day 3** Drive to Alleppey for an overnight cruise on Kerala's backwaters **Day 4** Fly to Bangalore **Days 5-6** Game drives in Nagarhole National Park **Day 7** Board the Golden Chariot Train, visit Mysore Palace and Srirangapatna **Day 8** Visit Shravanabelagola, a famed Jain pilgrim center, and Halebid **Day 9** Explore the ruins of Hampi **Day 10** Sculptures and cliffs of Badami and Pattadakal **Day 11** Disembark train at Goa **Day 12** Fly to Mumbai for international flights home

Recommended Time to Visit: November – March

Price*: From $7,840 per person, double occupancy
**Prices are approximate, and can vary based on time of travel, number of guests and room type. Call for a quote for your custom journey.*

For trip details, visit **SmithsonianJourneys.org/south-india-pd**