



Riceboat On A Kerala Backwater

#### Kerala's Unique Riceboats

An overnight rice boat journey is considered to be of the **World's Great Travel Experiences**.

The original **Rice Boats** or **Kettuvalloms** were used to carry rice and spices from **Kerala's Kuttanad** backwaters to the port of **Cochin**.

The exotic houseboats of today are the renovated **Kettuvalloms** of olden times. These are a fabulous way to explore the fascinating beauty of the backwaters. A rice boat is a luxurious, self contained world from which to observe rural **Indian** life flowing gently by.

#### Interior Of House Boats

A **Rice Boat** is about 60-80 feet in length and has a width of around 13 feet in the middle. The materials that go into the making are all local and eco friendly bamboo poles and mats, coconut fibre ropes, coir carpets etc. Traditional lanterns are used as external lights but for interior lighting, solar panels are used. All large boats are powered by a 40 HP engine.

There are single bedroom houseboats for two people and two bedroom houseboats for four people. All feature A/c bedrooms with en-suite bathrooms.

#### Dining

Meals are cooked on board and supplemented with fresh fish from the backwaters. The cuisine is traditional **Kerala** flavour with local specialities such as delicious fish and prawns.



Rice Boat Bedroom





Rice Boat Interior Side Verandah View

#### Activities

The curved roof of wood or plaited palm opens out to provide shade and allow uninterrupted views. Besides gliding in the canals you may try exploring, swimming, fishing, bird watching or just lazing in the sun.

Cruising aboard a houseboat, you are left spellbound by the beauty of **Kerala**. A private houseboat trip indeed makes a trip to **Kerala** complete.

#### The Crew

The crew includes a personal cook, a chef, navigator and the boat captain. In addition there is also a separate rest room for the crew.



View Of The Backwaters From A Rice Boat





Rice Boat Side View

### The Backwaters

**Kerala** is a labyrinth of lazily meandering backwaters sprinkled with traditional houseboats, fishing vessels and country craft. It's an intricate network of innumerable lagoons, lakes, canals, estuaries and the deltas of forty-four rivers that drain into the **Arabian Sea** of which over 900 km is navigable. The largest backwater stretch in **Kerala** is the **Vembanad Lake** which opens out into the sea at the **Cochin** port.



Fabulous Seafood Available In The Backwaters



Please Note: The India Experience Provides Large Air Conditioned Deluxe Houseboats For All Clients