



# GOOD THYME RESTAURANT & CATERING INDIA

October 26th - November 10th 2020 \*includes travels days  
A Culinary & Cultural Experience of India

## ITINERARY

**Day one 28th October** – Today is your arrival day. Depending on arrival times you will be picked up at the New Delhi International airport and transferred to your hotel to rest. Once everyone has arrived your hostess, Jennifer, will give you an introduction to Travel in India and go over your itinerary in detail. If time allows we will take a short drive through Delhi to see a few of the main sights of the Capital of India to include The Parliament House, India Gate and others. We will then proceed to a very special Welcome Dinner. Our first dinner together will be a very Modern Take on Indian Cuisine at the award winning Indian Accent at the Lodhi Hotel. This is a 7 course tasting menu and will give a modern introduction to what we will learn more about in the days to come. We will then overnight at our hotel.

**Day two 29th October** – We will rise early for breakfast at the hotel and depart for Old Delhi. Here we will take a half day tour of the Old City. We will witness the bustling wholesale markets of foods, spices, flowers, pulses, grains as well as household items and traditional clothing. We will also visit the Jama Masjid, one of the largest and oldest Mosques in all of South Asia. After a walk around we will take an escorted Street Food Tour for our lunch. We will learn about many of the traditional street foods of North India. After our tour of Old Delhi we will drive to Central Delhi, known as Lutyen's Delhi. This beautiful, well planned and very green part of Delhi was once home to many of British families as well as the British Government houses before India regained Independence in 1947. However, prior to this it was also the home of many of India's ruling class during the time of the Mughal Empire beginning in the 1500's.

We will learn a bit of the history of this area of Delhi which now houses most of the current Government buildings, Embassies from around the world as well as government officials' homes. We will stop at the Courtyard by Visarat, a beautiful old style Haveli that has been lovingly restored to house an amazing restaurant as well as a space for cooking classes. We will spend the late afternoon taking cooking classes from well-known Delhi Chef Rajan Bedi. He and a few of his colleagues will introduce us to a variety of traditional North Indian Dishes. After our class we will enjoy a garden family style feast of all we have cooked together. We will then overnight at our hotel.

**Day three 30th October** – After breakfast we will depart by Coach to Jaipur Rajasthan. Jaipur was recently elected as a UNESCO World Heritage City. Situated in the desert state of Rajasthan and the state capital, Jaipur is full of history of a different kind of India. Rajasthan was once a series of small kingdoms ruled by Maharajas and much of that lifestyle is still very present in Jaipur. Today will be primarily a travel day. We will arrive and check into our heritage style hotel, relax by the pool and enjoy dinner on our own. We will overnight in our hotel.

**Day four 31st October** – Today we will take an early morning tour of the Amer Fort of Jaipur to learn a bit of the history of this magnificent city as well as some of the history of the state of Rajasthan. We will then spend time at the City Palace where the current Prince of Jaipur and his family still reside. In the later afternoon we will spend our time in a cooking class with a well-renown expert in Rajasthani cuisine to learn about the very different styles of cooking and ingredients used in the cuisines of the desert tribes as well as the kings who once ruled here. We will then dine like Maharajas for our evening dinner. We will overnight in our hotels.

**Day five 1st November** – After breakfast we will take a three hour drive by Coach to the world famous Ranthambore National Park. This park has one of the largest populations of Bengal Tigers in India. Other animals that can be seen are the Sloth Bear, Indian Antelope, Samabar Deer and 100's of species of South East Asian bird species. Once we arrive at the resort, we will have lunch and then get ready for our first private evening safari. After the safari we will have a traditional Rajasthani dinner. Overnight at the resort.

**Day six 2nd November** – Today we will wake very early in the morning to take our second private jungle safari. Tea/Coffee and snacks will be provided before going on safari. Once we return, you will have breakfast and then enjoy the amenities of the resort including the swimming pool and spa. In the evening we will enjoy dinner, a special talk by a local wildlife and tiger conservation expert and enjoy a bonfire with local traditional music and dance.

**Day seven 3rd November** – After breakfast we will drive to Agra, the home of the Taj Mahal, one of the Seven Wonders of the World. Once we arrive we will check into our hotel and then depart for a Sunset Tour of the truly magnificent Taj Mahal. The Taj Mahal was built in 1632 by the Mughal emperor, Shah Jahan, to house the tomb of his favorite wife, Mumtaz Mahal. It is truly a sight to see and as the sun begins to set in the sky the entire architectural marvel changes with the light offering a variety of chances for amazing photographs. After our visit we will enjoy a rooftop traditional Indian meal with traditional Indian music and dance. We will overnight at our hotel.





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**Day eight 4th November** – Today after breakfast we will take a tour of the Agra Fort, one of the most beautiful of India's ancient walled cities that housed the Palaces of many of the Mughal Emperors. After our visit we will take time for some shopping and lunch before heading for our drive to Delhi. Once we arrive in Delhi we will take time to relax in our hotel rooms or poolside, enjoy sharing some of our favorite memories so far and get ready for the second half of our journey. Dinner will be on your own in the hotel. We will overnight at the hotel.

**Day nine 5th November** – Today we will go to the airport for our flight to Kochi Kerala. We will be leaving North India behind to go to one of the most beautiful southern states in India. India was a subcontinent until only 70 years ago and due to that fact each and every part of India still holds its own traditions, flavors, differing landscapes and cultures. Kerala is vastly different than Rajasthan and that will be evident right away. For hundreds of years Kerala has been occupied by the Dutch the Portuguese and others who came to Kerala for spices of all kinds. Kerala is home to many spice plantations including cinnamon, cardamom, as well as coffee, tea, and cocoa plantations. It is also home to rubber tree plantations, wild elephants, countless waterfalls and fishing ports along the Arabian Sea. During our four nights in Kerala we will spend time near to the sea as well as in what is known as the backwaters of Kerala to witness the culture of spice plantations as well as seafood and fishing villages.

We will begin by spending our first night in the capital city of Kochi, actually in Fort Cochin a smaller fishing village part of the city. Once we arrive we will check into our hotel, have time to walk around the quaint village town and then enjoy a 5 course meal along the waterfront full of fresh Kerala foods. Kerala is the home of Ayurveda and its cuisine is decidedly different than that of North India. Here we will taste fresh coconut curries, fresh spices and fruits as well as various types of fresh seafood and fish. After dinner we will overnight at our hotel.

**Day ten 6th November** – After breakfast we will drive to board our deluxe Backwaters overnight boat cruise to experience life in the backwaters of Kerala. We will board the boats and begin our 6 hour cruise through the serenely beautiful backwaters of Kerala. We will witness village life as seen from our boats. Lunch, dinner and breakfast will be served on board by your personal chef. You will also have a chance to purchase that days freshly caught seafood that will be cooked to your specification by your onboard chef. We will overnight on the boat. All boats have separate bedrooms with attached washrooms for your comfort.

**Day eleven 7th November** – After a late breakfast we will take a short drive to a beach resort on Marari Beach on the Arabian Sea. On this day we will take a guided naturalist tour of the area and visit a few fishing villages as well as try our hand at fishing like a villager. We will learn about the handicrafts of the area as well. Dinner will be on our own at the hotel and at your leisure. For dinner you will have your choice of freshly caught seafood to choose from cooked as per your choice by the chefs. We will over night at the resort.

**Day twelve 8th November** – This day you are free to enjoy all the resort has to offer, sit pool side, take a long walk on the beach, enjoy an ayurvedic massage or share all of your favorite memories of your trip to India. We will be at the beach resort.

**Day thirteen 9th November** – Today we will drive to the city of Kochi for our flight to Delhi. Once we arrive in Delhi we will check into our hotel and begin to prepare for the journey back home. This evening we will come together for a Farewell dinner at the Kheer Restaurant where the award winning Chefs will prepare a full Indian meal for you to remember.

Depending on flight departure times you will overnight at the hotel or prepare for an early morning flight.

**Day fourteen 10th November** – Depending on your flight time you will be transferred from the hotel to the Delhi International airport.

