EXPERIENCE THEKKADY

LIFE, AS LIVED BY RAJEEV & PRIYA.
Valiyapara

We move on to a lesser known destination in Thekkady named Valiyapara, which translates to ‘huge rock’. We make our way to this huge rock through a dense bamboo forest. From the top of this rock, you can see the paddy fields and vegetable farms in Tamil Nadu villages, stretching as far as Goodalloor.

The Experience

Located on the banks of the Periyar Lake, Thekkady is one of the most sought-after wildlife destinations in the country. The land is home to many exotic animal species such as Langur, Sambar, Gaur etc. and also noted for its natural spices. Get set for an unforgettable journey that will familiarise you to the people, nature and culture of Thekkady. You can have the trip customized and choose your stopovers from the itinerary given below. An escort will accompany you for the trip.

Vincent’s House

Our journey begins from the house of Vincent Joseph, a traditional medical practitioner. Without using modern vessels, he prepares coffee in coconut shells, recreating the magic of coffee making from another era. While you enjoy a hot cuppa, Vincent will share with you its many secrets.

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**PAPPAD MAKING**

Pappad is indispensable in every sumptuous Kerala meal. Get to know first-hand the various stages involved in pappad making with Rajeev, who along with his wife Priya, runs a pappad making unit as part of the Responsible Tourism Project. Don't forget to get a pack when you leave.

**BEE-KEEPING**

Bee-keeping is a craft that requires patience and passion. Antony practices sustainable bee-keeping at his house. Here, you can collect honey from the cardamom plantation and relish its fresh taste. You will also get some tips from Antony on how to distinguish pure honey from artificial honey.

**ASHRAM**

Discover peace and serenity at the Shanthigiri Ashram. Don't miss the opportunity to interact with Swamiji, the spiritual guru. You will be served a sumptuous meal here. After lunch, take a stroll through the spice farm where cardamom and pepper are cultivated. There is also a power loom inside the Ashram where you get to see the traditional craft of mundu-making.
OTTAKATHALANEDU
We head to Ottakathalamedu- a vantage point that offers the spectacular view of the Thekkady dam site and nearby hills. But be cautious, heavy winds often blow here. Make sure you don’t get carried away!

JOMSY’S HOUSE
Chocolate making is a fun-filled activity. You can watch the whole process first-hand at Jomsy’s house. Don’t miss the opportunity to taste the pure homemade chocolate.

TRIBAL DANCE
Our journey draws to a close at Vanashree Auditorium located inside the Thekkady forest area. A magnificent performance of tribal art forms like Mannakkoothu and Paliyakkoothu await you here. Now, it’s time to head home with the goodness of Thekkady.

For reservations and more details please contact your Responsible Tourism Travel Desk, Thekkady.
Ph: +91 4869 222025
Email: vlethekkady@gmail.com info@rtkerala.com
Kerala Institute of Tourism and Travel Studies
(Nodal agency for implementing RT in Kerala)
Residency Compound Thycaud Thiruvananthapuram
Phone: 0471 2329468
For VLE Package Bookings:
www.rtkerala.com  info@rtkerala.com