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Kerala Driving Distance & Time Chart

Practical Road Distances & Realistic Journey Times for Planning Your Kerala Holiday

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Prepared by Troper Tours | Kerala Tour Operator

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A practical reference guide for planning road journeys across Kerala.

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Plan Your Kerala Route With Realistic Driving Times

Kerala may look compact on a map, but road travel can take considerably longer than the distance suggests. Mountain roads around Munnar and Thekkady, busy urban areas, local traffic, road conditions, weather and sightseeing stops can all affect the actual duration of a journey.

This guide helps travellers understand approximate road distances and realistic driving times between Kerala's most popular destinations. Figures are intended for travel planning, not guaranteed arrival times.

Where appropriate, journey times are presented as practical ranges rather than a single number because actual conditions can change.

Quick Reference: Most Popular Kerala Routes

Route	Approx. Distance	Practical Drive Time
Kochi → Munnar	125–135 km	4–5 hours
Kochi → Thekkady	145–200 km	5–6.5 hours
Kochi → Alleppey	55–65 km	1.5–2 hours
Kochi → Kumarakom	65–80 km	1.5–2 hours
Kochi → Kovalam	210–235 km	5.5–7 hours
Kochi → Varkala	160–175 km	3.5–4.5 hours
Kochi → Wayanad	270–300 km	6–8 hours
Munnar → Thekkady	90–110 km	3–4 hours
Munnar → Alleppey	160–175 km	4.5–5.5 hours
Thekkady → Alleppey	135–165 km	4–5 hours
Thekkady → Kumarakom	120–130 km	3.5–4.5 hours
Alleppey → Kovalam	155–165 km	3.5–4.5 hours
Alleppey → Varkala	105–120 km	2.5–3.5 hours
Kovalam → Varkala	50–60 km	1.5–2 hours
Kovalam → Kanyakumari	85–90 km	2.5–3 hours
Trivandrum → Kanyakumari	85–90 km	2.5–3 hours

Planning note: Distances can differ depending on the exact hotel, starting point and route selected. Journey times can also change significantly with traffic, weather and road conditions.

Kochi Route Guide

Kochi → Munnar

Distance: 125–135 km **Drive time:** 4–5 hours

A scenic journey from the coastal plains into the Western Ghats. The final section becomes increasingly winding as you approach Munnar. Allow additional time if you plan stops at waterfalls, viewpoints, spice plantations or other attractions.

Kochi → Thekkady

Distance: 145–200 km **Drive time:** 5–6.5 hours

The route gradually changes from coastal and midland areas into the high ranges of Idukki. Exact distance depends on the route and the location used for Thekkady/Kumily.

Kochi → Alleppey / Alappuzha

Distance: 55–65 km **Drive time:** 1.5–2 hours

One of the easiest transfers in a typical Kerala itinerary.

Kochi → Kumarakom

Distance: 65–80 km **Drive time:** 1.5–2 hours

A convenient transfer from Kochi to the backwater region.

Kochi → Kovalam

Distance: 210–235 km **Drive time:** 5.5–7 hours

A substantially longer transfer. Traffic around major urban areas can influence the journey.

Kochi → Varkala

Distance: 160–175 km **Drive time:** 3.5–4.5 hours

A useful route for travellers combining central Kerala with the southern coast.

Kochi → Wayanad

Distance: 270–300 km **Drive time:** 6–8 hours

A long journey involving hill roads and changes in elevation.

Munnar Route Guide

Munnar → Thekkady

Distance: 90–110 km **Drive time:** 3–4 hours

One of Kerala's most scenic hill transfers. Winding roads and sightseeing stops can extend the travel day.

Munnar → Alleppey

Distance: 160–175 km **Drive time:** 4.5–5.5 hours

The route descends from the high ranges towards the backwater region.

Munnar → Kochi

Distance: 125–135 km **Drive time:** 4–5 hours

The reverse of the Kochi–Munnar journey; allow extra time for the mountain section.

Thekkady Route Guide

Thekkady → Alleppey

Distance: 135–165 km **Drive time:** 4–5 hours

A common route combining wildlife, spice plantations and Kerala backwaters.

Thekkady → Kumarakom

Distance: 120–130 km **Drive time:** 3.5–4.5 hours

A popular transfer towards the Kumarakom backwaters.

Thekkady → Kovalam

Distance: 260–330 km **Drive time:** 6.5–8 hours

A long transfer. Consider an intermediate stop if your schedule permits.

Thekkady → Madurai

Distance: 140–160 km **Drive time:** 3.5–4 hours

A useful route for travellers combining Kerala with Tamil Nadu.

Alleppey / Alappuzha Route Guide

Alleppey → Kumarakom

Distance: 30–35 km **Drive time:** ~1 hour

A short transfer between two major backwater destinations.

Alleppey → Kovalam

Distance: 155–165 km **Drive time:** 3.5–4.5 hours

A common route combining Kerala backwaters with the southern coast.

Alleppey → Varkala

Distance: 105–120 km **Drive time:** 2.5–3.5 hours

A useful alternative to travelling directly to Kovalam.

Alleppey → Kochi

Distance: 55–65 km **Drive time:** 1.5–2 hours

One of the shorter inter-destination transfers in a classic Kerala itinerary.

Southern Kerala Route Guide

Trivandrum → Kovalam

Distance: 15–20 km **Drive time:** 30–60 minutes

Actual time depends heavily on your starting point in Thiruvananthapuram and traffic.

Kovalam → Varkala

Distance: 50–60 km **Drive time:** 1.5–2 hours

A practical coastal route connecting two well-known beach destinations.

Kovalam → Kanyakumari

Distance: 85–90 km **Drive time:** 2.5–3 hours

Crosses from Kerala into Tamil Nadu.

Trivandrum → Kanyakumari

Distance: 85–90 km **Drive time:** 2.5–3 hours

A convenient route for combining southern Kerala with Kanyakumari.

Northern Kerala Route Guide

Kochi → Wayanad



Distance: 270–300 km **Drive time:** 6–8 hours

A long journey with hill-road sections.

Wayanad → Kannur

Distance: 90–110 km **Drive time:** 2.5–3.5 hours

Useful for travellers exploring northern Kerala.

Kannur → Bekal

Distance: 65–75 km **Drive time:** 1.5–2 hours

A northern coastal route towards Kasaragod and Bekal.

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Popular Kerala Tour Circuits

Classic Kerala Circuit: Kochi → Munnar → Thekkady → Alleppey → Kochi

This classic route combines Kochi's heritage, Munnar's tea landscapes, Thekkady's wildlife and spice experiences, and Alleppey's backwaters.

Southern Kerala Circuit: Trivandrum → Kovalam → Varkala → Alleppey → Trivandrum

A good option for travellers focused on beaches, coastal scenery and backwaters.

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Hill & Wildlife Circuit: Kochi → Munnar → Thekkady → Kochi

A shorter combination for travellers who want mountain scenery, tea plantations, spices and wildlife.

Why Distance Alone Can Be Misleading in Kerala

Mountain roads: Routes around Munnar and Thekkady include winding roads and elevation changes.

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Traffic: Urban areas such as Kochi and Thiruvananthapuram can experience significant traffic.

Local roads: The final section to a hotel may use narrower roads than the main highway.

Weather: Heavy rain can slow traffic and affect visibility and road conditions.

Sightseeing: Waterfalls, viewpoints, spice gardens and tea plantations can turn a transfer into a sightseeing day.

Hotel location: Two hotels in the same destination can be several kilometres apart.

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How Much Extra Time Should You Allow?

Under 2 hours: Usually comfortable as a transfer combined with sightseeing.

2–4 hours: A normal travel day between many major destinations.

4–6 hours: Plan the day primarily around the journey, with selected stops.

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6+ hours: Consider whether an intermediate destination would create a better experience.

For airport and international flight connections, leave a generous buffer rather than planning around the minimum estimated road time.

Explore More Kerala Travel Resources

For travellers continuing their planning, these resources from Tropertours provide useful next steps:

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- **Kerala Tour Packages** — explore complete Kerala itineraries and destination combinations.
- **Kerala Honeymoon Packages** — plan a romantic Kerala itinerary around travel time and destinations.
- **Kerala Family Tour Packages** — compare family-friendly routes and practical travel plans.
- **South India Trip Cost Calculator** — estimate the overall cost of a Kerala or South India holiday.
- **Kerala Houseboat Packages** — explore backwater experiences and plan them around your road itinerary.

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Important Note About the Figures

The distances and journey times in this guide are approximate planning figures. Actual road distance and travel time may vary according to exact pickup and drop-off locations, route selection, traffic, road works, weather, seasonal conditions, diversions, vehicle type, road conditions and sightseeing stops.

Kerala Tourism publishes destination distance and duration reference data, while other route sources can show different figures for the same journey. Tropertours therefore uses practical ranges where appropriate rather than claiming that one number is universally exact.

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Plan Your Kerala Holiday With Troper Tours

A good Kerala itinerary is not simply about fitting as many destinations as possible into a limited number of days. It is about balancing travel time, sightseeing, accommodation, experiences and rest.

Troper Tours helps travellers create itineraries around their available days, arrival airport, departure airport and preferred destinations.

About Troper Tours

Troper Tours is a Kerala-based tour operator helping travellers plan and experience Kerala with private transportation, accommodation, sightseeing and customised itineraries. We believe realistic travel planning matters: explaining journey times honestly, allowing appropriate travel time between destinations and building itineraries around the actual geography of Kerala.

Sources & Verification

Primary reference: Kerala Tourism – Distance Chart. Route figures should be cross-checked against current route conditions and exact hotel locations before travel.

Website: tropertours.in