

## **About Kochi and How to reach Kochi (Cochin).**

Kochi (Cochin), the Queen of Arabian sea, is a city in the south west tip of Indian Peninsula and is the financial capital of the state of Kerala. Kerala (known as the God's own Country), one of the MUST SEE places is rated in the top three tourist destinations by the World Travel & Tourism Council and featured in National Geographic Traveler's '50 greatest places of a lifetime'. Kerala, with the 100% literacy rate, and has all the standard of living indices and healthcare facilities on par with any developed country, is entirely a different experience in the vast country India. Cochin, the land of spices, is a city surrounded by backwaters and fishing nets is the place where the first Jewish Synagogue outside Israel was built centuries ago and a place to visit, the port where Vasco de Gamma reached in 15<sup>th</sup> century and Columbus planned to reach in his travel, but reached the American coast by which he discovered America. Disciple of Jesus Christ, Saint Thomas reached near Cochin in AD40 by which Christianity started in India. Kerala is a multi-religious and multi-cultural harmonious society with importance to all religions Hindus, Christians and Muslims.

[www.cochin.org](http://www.cochin.org)

<https://www.keralatourism.org/video-clips/life-in-god-s-own-country/>

Cochin International Airport (the first major airport in the World completely powered by Solar energy) is situated about 30 kms north of the city and is connected by many direct flights from International destinations like Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Bangkok, Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Doha, etc. Apart from that, many daily flights operate to Cochin from New Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore, Chennai and other cities in India. ([www.cial.aero](http://www.cial.aero))

### **Few tips to reach Cochin from US, Europe and Fareast.**

1. Airlines like Emirates, Etihad, Qatar operates few direct flights daily from Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Doha respectively (if traveling by any these airlines from Europe or US East Coast)
2. Every day one or two flights each from Singapore, Kuala Lumpur and Bangkok (if traveling from Far East). Also Singapore Airlines connects US west coast to Cochin.
3. Most of the US, European and Far East airlines flies direct to New Delhi and Mumbai daily and from where easy connection flights are available to Cochin. (New Delhi – Cochin about 3.0 hours and Mumbai – Cochin about 2.0 hours)
4. For VISA requirements, please check with Government of India websites. Also, certain information is available at <https://india.travisa.com/>

### **How to reach Crowne Plaza Hotel from Cochin International Airport**

1. Pre-book a hotel pick up after the room reservation informing the name, flight details. Hotel will arrange the pick up from Airport.
2. Uber Taxi is available at Cochin Airport – and can be booked through Uber site. Destination – Crowne Plaza Hotel, Cochin.
3. Pre-paid Taxi is available at the arrival terminal of Cochin Airport from where it can be hired with payment at the counter itself (to provide details and destination) – payment by Credit Cards and cash possible. (Better to avoid other type of Taxi services.)

### **Cash and Credit Cards**

- Money changers are available at the arrival terminal of the airport and it is advisable to make the currency exchange at the airport itself.
- Almost all shopping malls and restaurants accept Credit Cards.