

## ACTIVITIES IN PERIYAR.2

### **Bullock cart Discoveries**

Visit the farmlands of a village hidden in the valley behind the mountains of Periyar Tiger Reserve in a bullock cart.

The village is rich in bird diversity (New explorations for a serious bird watcher, also wonderful beginning for a novice)

With vineyards, diverse agricultural crops of mangoes, tamarind, onions, sunflower, jasmine and a score of other vegetables, the village will take your breath away when the guides start to interpret how farming has woven delicately with the culture and the life of the natives.

To feel the slow pace of the village life, to be part of the innocence, to take away you between cock and stick fights, to quench the thirst with the nectar from tender coconuts.

Conducted by a group of people who were engaged in sandalwood smuggling, later surrendered before the Forest Department .The profit from this program goes to rehabilitate this group of people.

The program starts at 6 am in the morning and at 2.30 pm in the afternoon and is a half -day package.

### **Nature Walk-** *(The guided day trek)*

#### **The Program**

Different nature trails traversing diverse habitats form the trekking routes, generally 4 to 5 km. in length. This is an interpretive programme offering excellent opportunity to watch birds, butterflies and other wildlife. The trails often pass through evergreen and moist deciduous forests interspersed with marshy grassland. Programme is offered between 7.00 am. and 10.30 am. and between 2.00 pm. and 5.00 pm. and lasts for about 3 hours. A maximum of 6 persons can go for trekking at a time along each nature trail, accompanied by a trained tribal guide. The Nature walk is the right programme to feel nature, hear her whispers and smell her flowers.

**Only children of 12 years and above are allowed to participate in this Program.**

## **Boating in Periyar Lake**

### **The Program**

This is a cruise, which we can see the animals such as elephants, gaurs and bisons along the serene lake, in close quarters on the safety of the boat, If possible make the trip closer to sunrise and sunset for better chances of spotting wildlife. A camera and a pair of binoculars are highly recommended accessories.

## **The Periyar Tiger Trail** *-( Adventure trekking and camping )*

### **The program**

The programme is unique in being conducted by a team of poachers who turned protectors of the forests. The team members are hardy and dependable with an intimate knowledge of the forest terrain. The programs are 1 night/2 days and 2 nights/3 days. The first day's trek starts at 9 am and ends by noon in the second or third day. The team consists of a maximum of 5 visitors, 5 guides and 2 forest officials. Normally 20 to 35 kms. of trekking distance will be covered, depending on the route chosen.

Here, one may chance to encounter much indigenous wildlife like Nilgiri langur, giant squirrel, elephant and who knows, even the tiger! The trek route passes through hills and valleys with a variety of tropical plants and wide-open spaces. Enroute vegetarian meals will be prepared and served and country tents will be pitched for holing up in the night. Trekking groups are accompanied by armed forest guards with good communication equipments, and geared to face any emergency situation. Remember to listen to unusual and strange adventure stories of the former poachers, now your guides and protectors of the forests.

### **Preconditions for joining the tiger trail**

Visitors who are medically fit and aged between 15 - 65 are advised to take the tiger trail. Visitors should be serious nature lovers willing to sacrifice some of the luxuries and comforts of a hotel.

### **Two Nights Camp**

**Facilities:- Guide, food, trekking, rafting, tent**

**Only children of 12 years and above are allowed to participate in this Program.**

## **Green Mansion - ( *Over Night Camping* )**

### **The program**

Gavi, a picturesque land is one of the off-the-track destinations ideal for a wilderness retreat replete with trekking, birding, canoeing and facilities for boarding. There are hills and valleys, tropical forests, sprawling grasslands, sholas, cascading waterfalls and cardamom plantations. Endangered species including the elephant, Nilgiritahr, lion-tailed macaque are often sighted at the outskirts of Gavi.

The programme is being sponsored by Kerala Forest Development Corporation Ltd, a State Government Undertaking. We, the Gavi Division with its cardamom plantations, may be the largest in Kerala, had started this project in the starting of this Centaury to cater people with a quest for adventure tourism on Eco grounds .Now Gavi Eco Tourism hosts memorable wildlife and Jungle experiences in the most remote and virgin areas adjecenting the Periyar Tiger Reserve.

Cottage Tents are conjures up the essence of the place-tranquility amidst the abundance of nature. The cool breeze from the Gavi Lake, the gentle whistle of the Malabar whistling thrush or the raucous cry of the Nilgiri Langur will keep you company as you wander the grounds in perfect harmony with nature.

**Facilities :-( including Jungle safari, trekking, food, guide, park entrance fees)**

## **Border Hiking- ( *Protection oriented range hiking* )**

### **The Program**

This is a conservation oriented hard trek taking up a full day. The trekking starts at 8 o' clock in the morning and ends in the evening.

The route passes through undulating terrains. Altitudinal ranges of 900 meters to 1300 meters will be covered and the trekkers could glimpse the lofty escarpments bordering the park watershed and the vast plains down below. Gaur, sloth bear, elephant, etc. are often sighted along this route apart from birds and butterflies. Maximum of 10 tourists can take the programme in two different groups. The trekkers will go with two guides and an armed forest guard. Vegetarian refreshments can be had en route. recommended for youth.

**Only children of 12 years and above are allowed to participate in this Program.**

## **Bamboo Rafting** –( *Range Hiking and Rafting* )

### **The Program**

This is a dawn to dusk range hiking and rafting programme through some of the richest forest tracts of Periyar Tiger Reserve. Starting at 8 am from the boat landing, a mosaic of habitats will be traversed before the party gets into rafts made of bamboos.

The forests are rich in bird life and arboreal animals like giant squirrel and Nilgiri langur. The rafting is for about three hours and one gets a panoramic view of forest-clad hills reflected on the lake. Animals like elephant, gaur and sambar are sighted keeping close to the edges of the lake.

Snacks and packed food will be served enroute.

**Maximum 10Pax per Slot, Timing 7.30 am to 12.30 pm& 9.30 am to 2.30 pm.**

**Only children of 12 years and above are allowed to participate in this Program.**

## **Jungle Scout(Night Trekking)**

This unique ecotourism programme intends to entertain those who are desirous of experiencing the wilderness during night and contribute towards forest protection by joining the regular forest protection party as a paid volunteer

The programme is offered in three timing slots of three hours each

### **Time Slots**

07.00 PM to 10.00 PM

10.00 AM to 01.00 AM

**Only children of 12 years and above are allowed to participate in this Program.**