

PORT QUESTIONNAIRE

NAME OF PORT: KOCHI

Alternate spelling(s), if applicable: **KOCHI (formerly known as COCHIN)**

Phonetic pronunciation: **KO-CHI**

Is this port city the same as the Cruise Line's advertised destination? Yes No

Please provide a brief OPERATIONAL port description:

KOCHI PORT IS A NATURAL HARBOUR AND MAINLY A COMMERCIAL PORT BUT ALSO PROVIDES DOCKING FOR CRUISE VESSELS. THERE ARE THREE WHARFS, THESE BEING (1) ERNAKULAM WHARF, (2) MATTANCHERRY WHARF AND (3) BTP. ERNAKULAM WHARF HAS TWO BERTHS # 5 & # 8, MATTANCHERRY ALSO HAS TWO BERTHS # 1 & # 3.

PORT SPECIFICS:

Actual Name of Port (i.e. what a guest would tell a taxi driver): **KOCHI PORT (WILLINGTON ISLAND)**

Do ships dock or anchor? **Dock**

Is this port convenient for Turnarounds? Yes No

Is there a covered and secure luggage holding area? Yes No

Is this primarily a passenger or container port? **Container**

If docking, are there preferred berths? Yes No

Please elaborate: **PORT AUTHORITIES ALLOT THE BERTH 48 HRS PRIOR ONLY FOR DOCKING.**

If anchoring, are there preferred tender landings? Yes No

Is there a terminal building? Yes No

Does the local Tourist Board provide services at the port? Yes No

Can we provide personnel for onboard tourism information? Yes No

DISTANCES (please use kilometers throughout the form)

Port to City Center: **10 KMS**

Gangway to coaches (tour or shuttle): **30-35 MTRS**

Gangway to port entrance or terminal: **100 MTRS**

Is it walking distance from the pier to City Center? Yes No

PIER FACILITIES

Are phones available on the pier? Yes No

If so, are phone cards needed? Yes No

Can phone cards be purchased on the pier? Yes No

Is Internet service available on the pier? Yes No

Are there any issues on the pier that affect wheelchairs? **THERE ARE HEAVY CRANE TRACKS AND SURFACE AS WELL IS UNEVEN AT THE BERTH AREA.**

TOUR DISPATCH

Generally speaking, is this an easy or challenging port for tour dispatch?

Please elaborate: **THIS IS A MODERATELY EASY PORT FOR TOUR DISPATCH, AS VEHICLES CAN BE COMFORTABLY PARKED TOGETHER AT THE PIER.**

Is there space for the coaches to line up efficiently, or must they be called in small numbers by radio from the port gate/holding area? **COACHES CAN BE ALIGNED AND PARKED TOGETHER COMFORTABLY INSIDE THE PORT AS THERE IS SUFFICIENT PARKING SPACE INSIDE THE PORT PREMISE.**

How do guests reach the coaches? **Across from gangway**

What is the approximate walking distance to coaches? **30 - 35 MTRS**

TRANSPORT

SHUTTLES

- Is shuttle service required? Yes No
- Are complimentary shuttles provided by the port? Yes No
- Does the port require shuttling guests to the terminal / port entrance? Yes No
- Can we supply shuttle service on request? Yes No
- Are complimentary shuttles offered by local businesses? Yes No
- Does the port provide dedicated crew shuttles? Yes No
- Do local businesses provide dedicated crew shuttles? Yes No
- What is the recommended shuttle drop-off point? **NA**
- What is the distance from port to drop-off? **NA**
- In normal traffic conditions, what is the drive time from port to drop-off? **NA**
- Are there times of day, based on traffic patterns, when shuttle operation is not recommended? **NO**
- Is an escort recommended at the shuttle drop? (e.g. difficult to find, problem with pickpockets, etc.) **NO**
- In this region, are public restrooms common? Yes No
- If so, do they require local currency? Yes No

TAXIS

- Are taxis normally readily available at the port? Yes No
- Must taxis wait at a port gate or terminal building, or can they drive directly to the pier? **PRE-PAID PORT AREA TAXIS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE PIER.**
- Are taxis allowed to post Half-Day & Full-Day rates on the pier? (e.g. sandwich boards) Yes No
- Are most of the taxis good quality cars? Yes No
- What is the hourly rate? **RATES ARE FIXED BY THE PORT**
- What is the taxi rate from the pier to City Center? **RATES ARE FIXED BY THE PORT**
- Are multiple currencies accepted? Yes No
- Credit cards? Yes No
- Would the taxi usually use the meter for cruise guests? Yes No
- Are there unofficial taxis of which the guests should be made aware? Yes No
- If so, please elaborate: **THERE ARE PRIVATE TAXIS WHICH ARE ALSO PARKED OUTSIDE THE MAIN GATE.**

PRIVATE CARS

- Must private cars wait at a port gate or terminal building, or can they drive directly to the pier/gangway? **AT THE PIER**
- Are late model cars, limos & vans available in this port (Mercedes/Volvo, or basically taxi)? **AVAILABLE MODELS ARE TOYOTA INNOVA, DELUXE INDIAN MIDSIZE CARS, MINI VANS (TEMPO TRAVELLER) AMONGST OTHERS**
- Do the majority of drivers have the language skills to act as guides, or is it recommended to hire both driver AND guide? **Recommend use of Guide. Drivers speak very little English.**

PRIVATE ARRANGEMENTS

- Are helicopters, water taxis and/or private planes on or near the pier to take guests to airports, points of interest? If so, please describe: **NA**

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Please describe any ferry, bus or train service that would be of interest to cruise guests, including distance from the pier and destination: **PUBLIC FERRY & PUBLIC BUSES (NON AIRCONDITIONED) ARE AVAILABLE TO THE CITY CENTRE. THE PUBLIC FERRY JETTY IS 01 KM FROM THE PIER, AND TRANSFER BY FERRY TO CITY CENTRE IS ABOUT 30 MINUTES. TRANSFER BY PUBLIC BUS FROM THE PORT MAIN GATE TO CITY CENTRE IS ABOUT 45 MINUTES ONE WAY.**

- Are there any serious safety or health concerns about using public transportation in this port? If so, please detail: **NOT RECOMMENDED FOR TOURISTS DUE TO SAFETY MEASURES.**

DESTINATION DETAILS

Please provide a DESTINATION description that would be useful for marketing purposes:

KOCHI

Discover the amazing contrasts of this cosmopolitan Portuguese-founded city with its lovely colonial architecture, Dutch-style palaces, historic churches, Jewish quarter and huge Chinese fishing nets! Or explore tranquil canals by boat and see ancient villages, exquisite scenery, plantations and temples.

Walk along the Portuguese Fortress to the harbour passing through Chinese fishing nets. Visit the "Dutch Palace" filled with the treasures of the rajahs and stroll to the Jewish quarter. Or opt to cruise the city's backwater canals, past wooded islands and houses perched on stilts. Also experience famous dance art forms like kathakali, mohiniyattam. Ancient martial arts like kalaripayattu were also born in Kerala.

CURRENCY

What is the local currency? **INDIAN RUPEES**

Are US Dollars accepted? Yes No

Are GBP accepted? Yes No

Are Euros accepted? Yes No

Are there exchange facilities on the pier? Yes No

Are credit cards readily accepted? Yes No

TELEPHONE

Country Code: **0091**

City Codes: City Name Code
KOCHI 0484

VISA INFORMATION

Do any nationalities require visas to enter this port? Yes No

Are ship blanket visas available for this port? Yes No

MONTHLY TEMPERATURES & RAINFALL

Average monthly temperatures and rainfall for each month of the year:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Degrees Centigrade	28	28	32	35	36	28	28	29	28	28	26	25
Centimeters	3	2	5	12	30	72	60	36	20	34	18	4
Degrees Fahrenheit	82	82	90	95	97	82	82	84	82	82	79	77
Inches	1	1	2	5	12	28	23	14	8	13	7	2

IMPORTANT HOLIDAYS AND FESTIVALS

Dates, events and possible effect on a ship call

Date	Event	Effect on ship call
September 02, 2009	Onam-local festival	Shops are closed
December 25, 2009	Christmas	Shops are closed
ALL SUNDAYS		commercial shops are closed, touristic shops at Mattancherry and Fort Cochin will be open
October 02, 2009	Gandhi Jayanti	Shops are closed
January 26, 2010	Republic day	Shops are closed
	Onam-local festival	Shops are closed
October, 02, 2010	Gandhi Jayanti	Shops are closed
December 26, 2010	Christmas	Shops are closed

IMPORTANT SERVICES

	Name	Hours of Operation	Distance from Port (km)
Airport	Nedumbasserry International Airport		40 KMS
Churches			
Catholic	St.Mary's Basilica	5AM - 6 PM	15 KMS
Synagogue	Pardesi Synagogue	10-12 & 3-5 PM Closed on Fridays and Saturdays	10 KMS

Mosque	Juma -Masjid, Vytila	5AM - 9 PM	12 KMS
Protestant	St. Francis Church	10 am - 5 PM Closed on Sundays	15 KMS
Nearest Banks/ATM	Standared Chartered Bank & ATM	24 Hrs	1 KM
Post Office	Willington Island Post Office	10 AM - 5 PM	1 KM
Internet Services	Willington Island	9 AM - 5 PM	1 KM

ATTRACTIONS AND ACTIVITIES

The top five (5) cultural and historic points of interest:

	<i>Name</i>	<i>Distance from Port (km)</i>
1	Jewish Synagogue (closed on Fridays, Saturdays)	12 KM
2	Dutch Palace (closed on Fridays and National Holidays) 1000hrs-1700hrs	12 KM
3	St. Francis Church (closed on Sundays)	15 KM
4	Chinese Fishing nets	15 KM
5	Hill Palace - (Closed on Mondays and National Holidays) 1000-1700hrs	25 KM

	<i>Name</i>	<i>Hours of Operation</i>	<i>Distance from Port (km)</i>
GOLF	NA		
SWIMMING BEACH	NA		
Nearest bicycle rental	NA		
Nearest scooter/moped rental	NA		

HOTELS, RESORTS & SPAS

	<i>Name</i>	<i>Distance from Port (km)</i>
5-star hotels	Taj Malabar	02 KMS
	Brunton's Boatyard	15 KMS
moderate hotels	Casino	02 KMS
	Trident Hilton	02 KMS
5-star resort/spa	Taj Malabar	02 KMS
moderate resort/spa	Casino	02 KMS

SHOPPING

Please specify the days of the week and/or time of day that shops are closed: **ALL Sundays, Christmas & Onam festival**

Are there any genuinely unique items for purchase in this region? **SPICES, LOCAL HANDICRAFTS AND ANTIQUES.**

Can personal shoppers be booked through us? Yes No

Are there any unique and colorful bazaars or food markets in the regions? If so, please give name, location and proximity to the port: **Ernakulam Market -15 KMS from the Pier**

DINING

Three (3) recommended restaurants:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Distance from Port (km)</i>
Riceboat Restaurant, Taj Malabar, Willington Island	02 KMS
History Restaurant, Brunton boatyard, Fort Cochin	15 KMS
Grand Hotel, Ernakulam	05 KMS

Please list any local food specialties: **Sea food**