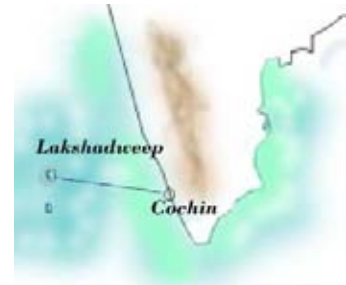


The Lakshadweep Islands, 4 and 8 Day Packages

The Lakshadweep Islands, or Laccadives, as they were formerly known, are set in the Indian Ocean 200 miles off the South Western coast of India. There are 36 coral islands and atolls, only 10 of which are inhabited and only two on which tourists are allowed to stay. The major island is connected to Cochin by Agatti airport, which has a flight a day to Cochin and three flights a week to Goa. There are regular ferry sailings to Cochin. The islands form an archipelago of unsurpassed beauty. The reefs are pristine, the sands silver and the waters clear.



Legend has it that the islands were discovered by shipwrecked sailors during the reign of Cheraman Perumal, a legendary King of Kerala, around 435 AD. The Portuguese came to the islands to trade in coir, but for hundreds of years the Lakshadweep islands have remained outside the changing modern world.

The environment of the Lakshadweep Islands is strictly controlled. It is illegal to pick up coral, and there are other restrictions outside of the resorts. Visitors must have accommodation booked in advance, and an entry permit is essential. This lasts for the duration of the stay, plus 12 hours transit time. Because there is little capacity for either rooms or flights, it is necessary to book a visit to the islands well in advance. During the monsoon season transport can be erratic, and at any season we will check flight timings etc. before you set out. Flights and ferries leave from Cochin, ferries taking from 18 to 22 hours, flights just over an hour. There is only one flight a day.



Bangaram Island Resort

The Bangaram Island Resort, part of the CGH Earth group of hotels, occupies a small exclusive island round a lagoon. All of the facilities are on the beach, and the main attractions include fishing and scuba diving and snorkeling for the many creatures which inhabit its clear waters, including turtles, dolphins and many tropical fish. Excursions can be taken to local uninhabited islands and there is a yoga and ayurveda centre.

The transfer from Agatti to Bangaram takes an hour by boat. When the water is choppy a helicopter is used.



Agatti Resort

Agatti Resort is conveniently situated for the airport, which connects the Lakshadweep Islands to the mainland. There are 9 beach huts and 10 detached beach bungalows set back about 50 yards from a sandy bay with dining restaurant. There are two grades of cottage, Standard and Deluxe. Standard cottages are located on the beach in between the lush green coconut trees. Deluxe cottages are located on the beach and face the lagoon. All cottages overlook the beautiful beach and lagoon and are eco-friendly and have a tranquil atmosphere.

