

Recently, Brahmaputra Cruise Private Limited (BCPL) has also commenced long distance River Cruise on the Brahmaputra through their vessel M.V. Manas Putra. This cruise too features visits and attractions such as Elephant & Jeep Safaris at Kaziranga National Park, Tea Garden visits including tea factory and research center, visits to Majuli (largest river island), opportunity to see the rich tradition and culture of the Assamese people and various tribes, colourful folk dance performances, walks in different tribal villages and opportunity to know their lifestyles, visits to temples (Maa Kamakhya, Shiv Temple - Sivasagar) and forts from the Ahom Kingdom.

The best period for river cruise on Brahmaputra is between October to April when the weather is pleasant. During the rainy season, the weather is hot and humid which may not be to the liking of tourists.

National Waterway No. 3 (NW – 3) : West Coast canal from Kollam to Kottapuram along with Champakara and Udyogmandal canals (205 kms)

Presently, a 105 km stretch of the NW-3 from Alappuzha to Kochi along with Champakara and Udyogmandal canals is operational with LAD of 3 m. Capital dredging contract has recently been awarded and with its completion by December 2011, the entire stretch of NW-3 will have LAD of 3 m. With the induction of two new Dredgers for NW-3 by March 2010, IWA will be able to further expedite dredging activities on NW-3.

IWA has successfully implemented the project for providing and maintaining 24 hours navigational aids by way of buoys and lights and this facility is available on the entire stretch of NW-3.

Terminal Facilities

Seven modern fixed terminals have been constructed by IWA at Aluva, Viakom, Kayamkulam, Kottapuram, Maradu, Thanneermukkam and Trikkunnappuzha and one is under construction at Kollam.

River Cruise in Gods Own Country

Kerala's backwaters offer incomparable beauty and unique experience which have contributed to its inclusion in the list of 50 must see places in the world.



Kerala backwaters include the Kuttanad region, called the rice bowl of Kerala, where paddy cultivation is done on fields which are below sea level; lake Vembanad the largest stretch of backwaters in Kerala; lake Ashtamudi and lake Kayamkulam. The palm fringed, tranquil backwaters which house hundreds of River Cruise

between Kochi to Alleppey, also known as Venice of the East is popular among tourists. M.V.Vrinda - an exclusive river cruiser with 8 tastefully appointed luxury cabins takes tourists from Kochi along the main waterway on Lake Vembanad, Kerala's largest backwater stretch to

Alleppey. Tourists are taken in smaller country boats on rice excursion, tour of traditional Kerala tharavad (family residence), St. Marys Church established by St. Thomas in 1721 and are also exposed to performance of traditional classical dance forms like Kathakali and Mohiniattam.

