

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT



IV World Water Fowl Conference

11-13, November 2009
Thrissur, Kerala, India

Organised by:
**Centre for Advanced Studies in Poultry Science,
College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences,
Kerala Agricultural University**
and
World's Poultry Science Association (India Branch)
under the auspices of **Asia Pacific Federation of WPSA**



Dear Colleagues,

The Centre for Advanced Studies in Poultry Science, Kerala Agricultural University and the World's Poultry Science Association (India Branch) have great pleasure in extending a warm invitation to the IV World Water Fowl Conference scheduled to be held in Thrissur, Kerala, India from 11-13 November, 2009. The conference is organised under the auspices of Asia Pacific Federation of WPSA.

Theme of the conference : "Water Fowl Production for Food Security"

A comprehensive scientific programme covering all major aspects of waterfowl management, breeding and genetics, nutrition, health, processing and marketing is planned. We are confident that the conference will provide a good opportunity to update the knowledge in different water fowl-related fields. It will also address the future research projects in an economical climate, to prevent and control infectious diseases and to optimise the production systems. Moreover, it will represent an opportunity to put together water fowl researchers and technicians from Asia, Europe, Mediterranean, Middle East and many other parts of the world.

Located in the Cultural Capital of Kerala, the venue for this event will be the Lulu International Convention Centre, Thrissur. Thrissur is particularly suitable for hosting people coming from different countries and cultures sharing a common interest for poultry science, beauty of art and good way of life.

We look forward to welcome you to Thrissur, Kerala.

Mrs. Anuradha J. Desai
President (WPSA-IB)

Prof. A. Jalaludeen
Organising Secretary

The Centre for Advanced Studies in Poultry Science of the Kerala Agricultural University is hosting the IV World Water Fowl Conference at Thrissur in association with the WPSA -India Chapter under the auspices of Asia Pacific Federation of WPSA. The conference is intended to create a platform for the exchange of knowledge, to share useful information and newer concepts which would make tremendous improvement in sustainable water fowl production. This conference should be the meeting place for experts from all over the world involved in Water Fowl Science and Practice.

The theme for the conference is "Water Fowl Production for Food Security" conceptualizing the importance of water birds in the present day scenario. The focus will be on the main issues currently related to research and production of water fowls. The technical programme will be structured around the plenary session and concurrent symposia on a wide variety of topics from invited speakers. There will be an insightful poster presentation of relevant papers and brief discussions of the same on the days of the conference.

Scientific sessions

- Genetic Resources and Breeding ■ Nutrition
- Production Systems ■ Housing and Management
- Bio security and Diseases ■ Product Processing

Delegates :- Advance registration is solicited.

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Language :- The official language of the conference is English

Venue:- The city of Thrissur is located in South India in the State of Kerala. There are three international airports in the State at Thiruvananthapuram (300kms.), Karippur (100kms) and Nedumbassery (55kms) which operate international and domestic flights.

The Lulu Convention Centre, Thrissur offers amenities and services of international standards through perfect blend of modern facilities with a charm of traditional Keralite ambience and hospitality.

Visa :- is required for entry to India. For clarifications please contact the Indian High Commission /Embassy or visit the following web site of India's Ministry of External Affairs and select "Missions and Posts Abroad": <http://www.meaindia.nic.in/>

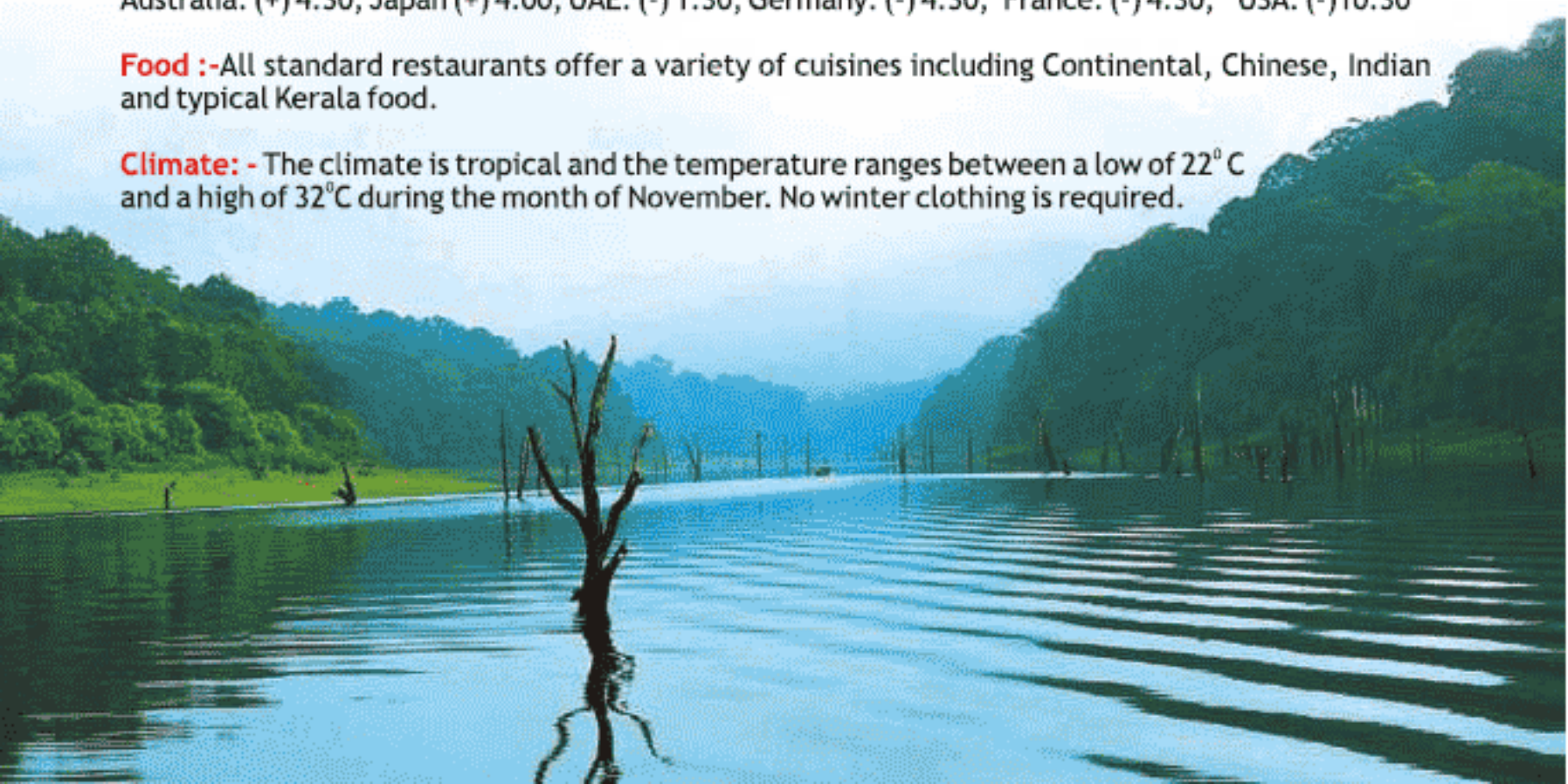
Currency:- Indian Rupee - Conversion rates 1 US \$ = 45 rupees, 1 £ = 84 rupees. There is no limit to the amount of foreign currency that visitors can bring. Banks are open for transaction from 10:00 - 14:00 hrs on week days and from 10:00 - 12:00 hrs on Saturdays.

Credit cards :- All major hotels, restaurants and shopping centres honour major credit cards.

Time: Indian Standard Time (IST) is 5.30 hours ahead of GMT. (Hours fast (+), slow (-) on IST)
Australia: (+) 4.30, Japan (+) 4.00, UAE: (-) 1.30, Germany: (-) 4.30, France: (-) 4.30, USA: (-) 10.30

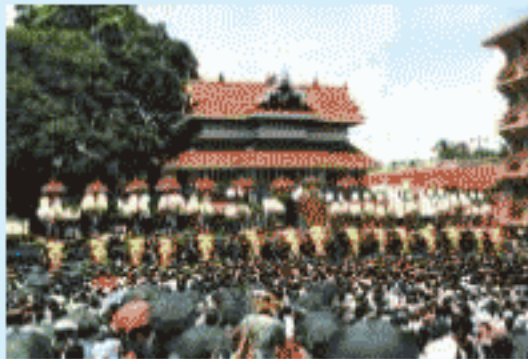
Food :- All standard restaurants offer a variety of cuisines including Continental, Chinese, Indian and typical Kerala food.

Climate: - The climate is tropical and the temperature ranges between a low of 22^o C and a high of 32^o C during the month of November. No winter clothing is required.



PLACES OF INTEREST

IV KERALA BECKONS YOU



Thrissur Pooram



Punnathur Kotta



Indo-Portuguese Museum



Thattekkad Bird Sanctuary

Natural beauty, clean air and primordial greenery amidst the vast expanse of water and sky, typifies the State of Kerala - better known as God's own country. The enigmatic strip of land is replete with endless miles of placid backwater that adds to its marine beauty. The slopes of the Western Ghats are a perfect rundown of rare flora and fauna and the fragrance of its coffee blossoms waft in the air round the year. If the strain of urban life has your nerves jangling, Kerala will help you unwind and drain the tension out.

Festivals and Art forms: The State's rich cultural past finds expression in various traditional art forms. Numerous festivals add colour to the lives of people. The very sight of so many long, narrow boats racing past each other, the splash of water, amidst the delightful cheer of spectators and drum beats, adds a touch of thrill and freshness to the air. There are other fairs and festivals, each of which reveals a unique flavour of the culture that thrives here.

The State's rich handicraft is another attraction. Shining brassware, wood and horn carvings, bell metal castings, gold and silver ornaments are only some of them. Kerala is also affluent in art and culture. On the one hand is Kathakali, a classical dance-drama that has survived the test of time, and on the other is Mohiniyattom, filled with grace and passion holds the spectator spellbound.

Tourist Delight : To the uninitiated, Kerala comes as an extremely pleasant surprise. It unveils an endless list of destinations, each one of which has a hidden treasure of its own. The bewitching beaches ; the inviting backwaters of Kochi, Kumarakom, Kollam, Veli, Kuttanad, Karunanagapally; the wild waterfalls seem to amply prove that God was more than partial while designing this land. Man took over after God, further beautifying this land with temples, palaces, forts, synagogues and many more structures. Kerala's equable climate, natural abundance of forests and the cool monsoon season are best suited for tourism.

Kerala Backwaters : Backwaters in Kerala are inter-connected freshwater rivers and canals that feed towards the sea. It is a network of channels, lakes, lagoons and deltas of approximately 44 rivers emptying in the Arabian sea. The principal mode of transport on these backwaters is houseboats. A vast network of backwaters in Alappuzha, Kollam, Kottayam, and Ernakulam districts makes Kerala the Venice of East.



Athirappilly Water Falls

Beaches : Kerala owns the finest beaches in India. The tranquil, palm fringed beaches are spread on the coast of Arabian sea with gentle surf. Famous beaches in Kerala are Alappuzha beach , Kovalam beach, Varkala Beach and Marai Beach. The unforgettable image of the coconut-palms-lined high rock promontory that cuddles the calm and wide expanse of the blue waters is always inviting.

Wildlife in Kerala : The State is bestowed with tremendous beauty and enchanting springs. The rich flora and fauna of Kerala is a surprise package for many travellers. You could explore the enticing beauty of Kerala through its dramatic contours. The State is a most sought after destination for nature lovers. One of the fascinating wildlife sanctuaries in Kerala is Periyar National Park.

Kerala offers diverse opportunity for watching birds in the wild nature and bird sanctuaries. Take wildlife travel tours to enjoy bird watching and photography. Bird sanctuaries hold a collection of several bird species, including the world famous Siberian Cranes and Indian Myna.

The Elephants of Kerala are an integral part of the daily life. Brought up in the wild and then caught and domesticated, the elephants, however close and friendly, has been a source of awe and wonder for human beings. These elephants are loved, revered, groomed and given a prestigious place in the state's culture scape. Almost all of the festivals in Kerala include at least one elephant decorated with gold plated caparisons (nettipattom), bells and necklaces. People mounted on the elephants hold tinsel silk parasols (muthukuda) up high, swaying white tufts (venchamaram) and peacock feather fans (aalavattom) to the rhythm of the orchestra.

Many of the Hindu temples in Kerala own elephants, and most of them are donated by devotees. The most famous Guruvayur temple in Kerala has more than 60 domesticated elephants. They have constructed the world's only Elephant Palace in Punnathur Kotta, 3 km away from the temple..

The People : Keralites are a peaceful lot. They can best be described as religious, intelligent, warm and progressive. Hospitality runs in their blood. Over the years, people from far off places have come here, only to find themselves trapped forever in the irresistible charm of the state. Kerala has taken them all in its fold and the result is reflected in the religious and cultural mix, as well as the cosmopolitan outlook of the masses here.

The Terrain : Built around a hillock, Thrissur enjoys the distinction of being the cultural capital of Kerala, highlighted by the tourism department. It is located in the central region of Kerala and is replete with a rich history and culture.

Thrissur district is divided into three regions: the highlands, the midlands and the lowlands. The highlands in the eastern portion comprise of densely forested hills and widespread ravines. The lush and expansive paddy fields along with the network of rivers and canals form the midlands or the plains.

KERALA IN NUTSHELL

- **Airports:** Kochi, Karippur and Thiruvananthapuram
- **Seaports:** Kochi.
- **Language:** Malayalam; English is widely used.
- **Major Beaches:** Kovalam, Varkala, Fort Kochi, Kappad and Bekal.
- **Wild Life Sanctuaries:** Thekkady (Periyar), Parambikkulam, Wayanad, Silent Valley and Neyyar.
- **Bird Sanctuary:** Thattekad, Kumarakom.
- **Major Hill Stations:** Ponmudi, Peerumade, Thekkady, Munnar and Wayanad.

Continually updated information about the conference will be posted
at our website- www.kau.edu/waterfowl2009