



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Health  
Organization

**CODEX**  
**ALIMENTARIUS**  
INTERNATIONAL FOOD STANDARDS



7<sup>th</sup> Session  
of  
**Codex Committee on Spices & Culinary Herbs**  
(CCSCH)



29<sup>th</sup> January to 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2024  
at Kochi (Cochin), Kerala, India



## OVERVIEW OF CCSCH7

The 7<sup>th</sup> Session of the Committee on Spices and Culinary Herbs will be held in Kochi, Kerala, India during 29<sup>th</sup> January to 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2024. The Sessions will take place at Hotel Le Meridien Kochi, Kerala, India. The Sessions will be conducted in English, French, Spanish and Arabic with simultaneous interpretation. The plenary sessions will be streamed live online.

The opening session will begin at 09:30 hours Indian Standard Time (IST) on Monday, 29th January 2024. Sessions will take place on 29, 30, and 31 January 2024 from 09:30 to 17:00 hours IST.

The draft report of the sessions will be made available in English, French and Spanish. The adoption of the Report will take place on Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2024 from 09.30 hours IST.

Schedule for the virtual pre-meetings, if any, will be published in the [CCSCH7 webpage](#) of the Codex website.

Information on registration and the program of the session will also be available on the [CCSCH7 web page](#).





### **(a) REGISTRATION FOR CCSCH7**

Delegates are requested to use the [Codex online registration system](#) to take part in the session.

Onsite registration facilities will be open on Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> January 2024 from 13:00 to 18:00 hours and on Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> January 2024 from 08:00 hours outside the plenary hall at 'Hotel Le Meridien Kochi'. The Registration desk will provide information and assistance to all participants. After registration, the participants are requested to collect their badges and to carry the same with them during the sessions and functions of CCSCH7.

### **(b) LIVE STREAMS**

The Plenary Sessions will be streamed live online, in listening mode only, in English, French, Spanish and Arabic languages. Remote interventions will not be possible during the live streams

Links to the live streams will be available on the [CCSCH7 web page](#) and does not require registration.

### **(c) DOCUMENTS**

All documents for the Sessions will be made available in English, French and Spanish on the [CCSCH7 web page](#).





## INDIA & CCSCH

India, the 'Spice bowl of the world' is home to a plethora of unique spices and herbs since time immemorial. Rightly so, India has also been the home of the CCSCH committee since 2014.

We are pleased to welcome the participants to Kerala, the 'God's own country', for the 7<sup>th</sup> Session of the CCSCH. The city of Kochi (Cochin) will be hosting the CCSCH7 session. Kerala, located in the southwest coast of India, is a tropical landscape of stunning beauty, a tourism paradise and famous for its rich cultural heritage, traditions, art forms, and cuisine.



# TRAVELING TO CCSCH7

## (a) VISA REQUIREMENTS

Please visit the Government of India's [Authorized Portal for Visa Application to India](#) for details of applying for Indian visa.

## (b) VENUE CITY: KOCHI (COCHIN), KERALA, INDIA

### ACCESSIBILITY BY AIR

A number of domestic and international flights operate from the Cochin International Airport (COK) located at Nedumbassery, connecting the city with major cities in India, and across the globe.

### ACCESSIBILITY BY RAIL

Trains running from the main railway stations in Kochi, viz. Ernakulam Junction (South), and Ernakulam Town (North), connect to all major cities of India. For travel within the main part of the city, the elevated Metro trains may be explored.

### ACCESSIBILITY BY ROAD

An extensive network of National/ State highways and local roads link Kochi to the rest of the country. Private and public transport services are also available from all major cities of India.





## GETTING TO THE VENUE

The Le Meridien Kochi is the venue hotel where the entire session of CCSCH7 will be held. It is located at Maradu, Ernakulam, Kochi (Cochin) which is approximately 32 Kms away from the Cochin International Airport (Nedumbassery Airport). Prepaid taxis are available at both the national and international terminals. Uber and Ola services are also available. Alternatively, hotels can be requested to provide taxis on payment.

Preferential rates for rooms will be available for the CCSCH7 delegates during the session period, from 28th January 2024 onwards, at the venue hotel. Please note that the availability of accommodation at the venue hotel is limited.

**Le Meridien Kochi**  
Maradu, Ernakulam, Kochi (Cochin), Pin-682304 Kerala, India

Booking requests should be sent by email or over the telephone using “CCSCH7” as the reference:

[Le Meridien Kochi](#) | [Email](#)



**Le Meridien Kochi**  
**Maradu, Ernakulam,**  
**Kochi (Cochin), Pin-682304**  
**Kerala, India**

## ACCOMMODATION OPTIONS NEARBY

Hotel Name	Distance from Venue hotel (approx.)
<u>Crowne Plaza Kochi, an IHG Hotel</u>	<b>0.3 km</b>
<u>Holiday Inn Cochin, an IHG Hotel</u>	<b>6.1 km</b>
<u>Monsoon Empress</u>	<b>6.9 km</b>
<u>Kochi Marriott Hotel</u>	<b>10.0 km</b>
<u>Starlit Suites Kochi</u>	<b>1.6 km</b>
<u>Radisson Blu Kochi</u>	<b>3.9 km</b>
<u>Keys Select by Lemon Tree Hotels, Kochi</u>	<b>1.8 km</b>
<u>The Avenue Center Hotel</u>	<b>3.4 km</b>
<u>The Gateway Hotel Marine Drive, Ernakulam</u>	<b>8.5 km</b>
<u>Ramada Resort by Wyndham Kochi</u>	<b>5.1 km</b>
<u>Trident, Cochin</u>	<b>5.9 km</b>
<u>Sugar Business Hotel</u>	<b>0.4 km</b>
<u>CGH Earth - Casino Hotel</u>	<b>6.1 km</b>
<u>Ibis Kochi City Centre</u>	<b>9.3 km</b>
<u>Bolgatty Palace and Island Resort</u>	<b>8.5 km</b>
<u>Taj Malabar Resort &amp; Spa, Cochin</u>	<b>10.3 km</b>
<u>Fragrant Nature Kochi</u>	<b>11 km</b>
<u>Grand Hyatt Kochi Bolgatty</u>	<b>8.5 km</b>
<u>The Renai Cochin</u>	<b>9.5 km</b>

Delegates would need to book their accommodation early, as only limited rooms are available at the venue hotel. As there are other conferences taking place in Kochi around the same time as CCSCH7, it would be preferable to confirm accommodation in advance.



## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **(a) LOCAL CURRENCY**

India's official currency is the Indian Rupee. Currency exchange facilities are available with major banks, at the airport and with the authorized dealers in the city. ATMs are available at the Airport as well as near the venue hotel. International credit cum debit cards are accepted in most shops.

### **(b) ELECTRICAL SYSTEM**

India uses 230 volts, 50 Hz alternating current as the power source. The two pin plug is also called the Europlug. It has two round 4 mm (0.157 in) pins. The three pin plug is rated at 6A / 250V. It has three round pins in a triangular pattern

### **(c) LANGUAGE**

People generally speak English, Hindi and Malayalam.

### **(d) WEATHER**

During January -February, Kochi has usually sunny days and nights. The temperature varies between 25 to 33°C.

### **(e) TIME ZONE**

Kochi is in the Indian Standard time zone (IST). GMT + 5.30 hours. There is no daylight saving.

### **(f) INTERNET FACILITIES**

Free Wi – Fi facility will be available in the meeting hall.

### **(g) CORRESPONDENCE**

All correspondence concerning the meeting should be addressed to:



**CCSCH Secretariat,  
Spices Board (Ministry of Commerce & Industry,  
Govt. of India), 'Sugandha Bhavan',  
N.H. By Pass, Palarivattom.P.O,  
Cochin – 682025, Kerala, India  
Email: [codex.sb-ker@gov.in](mailto:codex.sb-ker@gov.in)  
Tele : +91 484 2333610 to 2333616**



# PLACES OF INTERESTS IN AND AROUND KOCHI

Kerala is regarded as a tourists paradise and offers many places of enchanting and engaging beauty. The city of Kochi (cochin) has a rich history and has a plenty of sites that attract global visitors. Some of the nearby attractions are Fort Kochi beach with Chinese fishing nets, Hill Palace museum, Santa Cruz Cathedral Basilica, and the Marine Drive.

**Historical sites :** Mattancherry/ Fort Kochi - Jew Town, Jewish Synagogue, St. Francis Church, Santa Cruz Basilica, Vasco House, Dutch Palace, Fort Kochi beach, Chinese fishing nets. Also to watch the sunset. or a dance drama will be a great experience for an evening.

**Dance forms:** Classical dance form of Kerala, “Mohiniyattam”, which literally means “Dance of the Enchantress”, will be a visual treat. In addition, the classical dance-drama form of Kerala, Kathakali, which means a story play or a dance drama will be a great experience worth an evening.

**Cherai beach :** One can enjoy a swim or take a walk in the fishing villages, paddy fields and coconut groves and sip the juice of a tender coconut.





**Museums and art galleries:** Museum of Kerala History, Gallery of Contemporary Art, Hill Palace Museum and Chaithram Art Gallery.

**Shopping:** Broadway or Jew Town (Mattancherry) for curios, and handicrafts. Modern shopping malls like Forum, LULU, etc, sell exquisite traditional as well as designer products. For authentic sources of incredible Indian spices, one may explore the Spice India Signature Stall at the Lulu Mall, Edappally. There are plenty of stalls selling spices and artifacts in Fort Kochi.



**Boat-rides:** One can enjoy a boat-ride along the scenic backwaters of Cochin. For extended period, a “Kettuvallom” (houseboat) may be hired to spend a few nights on board slowly travelling up the tranquil backwaters while having freshly cooked meals prepared with freshly caught fish. One can also enjoy the recently introduced 'Water Metro' boating services.

Please visit the official Kerala [Tourism Website](#) for more information.



## CUISINE

Kerala has a rich and diverse culinary heritage, renowned for its unique flavors and traditional cooking methods. Kerala's cuisine is distinguished by the generous use of aromatic spices, fresh coconut, and an abundance of tropical ingredients. The region offers an array of savory and spicy dishes, including the grand vegetarian feast called 'Sadya' and the popular 'Kerala Parotta' served with Chicken Curry. Seafood aficionados can indulge in coastal delicacies such as Meen Curry (fish curry) and Karimeen Pollichathu (pearl spot fish). Kerala cuisine offers a blend of diverse tastes and culinary traditions, promising an exceptional gastronomic experience.

Over the years, Kochi has emerged as a cosmopolitan city with culinary infusions from Portuguese, Dutch, British as well as Gulf countries. Authentic international cuisines can be availed in some of the major Hotels and Restaurants in the city.







**HOST/SECRETARIAT**



**Host Country: INDIA**  
**Secretariat: SPICES BOARD,**  
**(Ministry of Commerce & Industry,**  
**Government of India)**