GETTING THERE FROM PORT BLAIR

Government ferries run by the Directorate of Shipping Services connect Phoenix Bay jetty / Haddo Wharf, Port Blair to Little Andaman every day. The journey takes about 7 to 9 hours. For schedule of boat service visit website: **www.and.nic.in.** The Civil Aviation Dept. of A&N Administration operates regular seaplane/heli service from Port Blair airport to Little Andaman. It takes about 35 minutes by Seaplane. For schedule of seaplane/ helicopter service visit: **www.and.nic.in.**

ACCOMMODATION

Stay options at Little Andaman is very limited. There are 6-8 private hotels/lodges/resorts with basic facilities. APWD, ANIFPDCL and Forest Dept. guest houses cater for government servants. These guest houses rent out room for tourists subject to availability. The total room capacity in the island would be less than 80.

TOURS AND TRANSPORT

Auto rickshaws, taxis, buses, motorbikes and cycles are available for transport within the island. Resort owners in Little Andaman also hire out vehicles including two wheelers. They also arrange for snorkeling, swimming, boat tickets, etc.

SAFETY TIPS FOR SEA- ENTHUSIASTS

Andaman & Nicobar Islands have many sandy beaches and coral reefs. But only some of these beaches are suitable for supervised safe swimming, snorkeling and diving. Though Andaman water is generally safe for swimming and looks inviting, it also has some potentially dangerous marine animals with which one may come in conflict. Though such incidences are extremely rare, visitors are advised to observe the following precautions for a safe and enriching swimming experience.

DO'S:

- **Find out about safe swimming or diving** area from Tourist Information Center, Local Tour Operators and Forest Department Staff. Do not swim in Protected Areas to avoid dangerous animals.
- **Look for the safety sign boards.** They help you to identify potential dangers.
- **Ask a lifeguard on duty for some advice** on swimming conditions like local currents, tides, visibility, and the presence of dangerous marine creatures etc. Swimming conditions can change quickly, so seek prior advice from a lifeguard before entering in water in an unpatrolled area.
- **Get a friend to swim with you** so that you can look out for each other's safety and get help, if needed. Children should always be supervised by an adult. Avoid swimming in the dark.
- **Raise your hand up for help** if you get into trouble in the water. Stay calm and wave your arm for help.

DON'TS:

- Do not dangle your arms or legs in the water during boat rides.
- Do not swim under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- Shiny jewellery or bright colored clothes resemble fins of small fishes and may attract predatory fishes. Avoid such accessory or clothing while swimming.
- If you have an open wound, please avoid swimming. Many predatory fish are attracted to blood odour.
- Avoid diving or swimming amongst school of fish. This may attract predatory fishes.
- Avoid night swimming or diving.

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NOS. (STD CODE 03192)

Primary Health Centre & Ambulance Service-Hut Bay	284209
Primary Health Centre - RK Puram	288009
Police Station	284208
Divisional Forest Officer	284334/284335(f)
Tehsildar-Hutbay (for ship/seaplane tickets)	284014/9434274351
Divisional Manager, ANIFPDCL-Hutbay	284219/284211
APWD	284545
Official website of Tourism Department : **www.andamans.gov.in**	

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critique

Incredible India

Little Andaman

THE BEST SURFING DESTINATION IN INDIA

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Little Andaman

THE BEST SURFING DESTINATION IN INDIA

Little Andaman Island, located south of the South Andaman Island, is at a distance of 120 km by sea from Port Blair. Hut Bay in Little Andaman is the entry and exit point and also the island headquarter. The USP of the island is the excellent surfing potential one of its beaches offer to tourists which no other beach in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands or even in mainland India can match.

The island, in addition to its long beaches, has other attractions for the tourists. There are two waterfalls - both in the midst of the evergreen rainforest. The 'White Surf Waterfall' is 6.5 km. from the Hut Bay jetty. The other - 'Whisper Wave Waterfall', is 15 km. from the jetty. Journey to 'Whisper Wave' located in Krishna Nallah includes a 4 km. trek through the forest.

BEACHES IN LITTLE ANDAMAN

HUT BAY BEACH

The long stretch of golden sandy beaches of Hut Bay begins at Netaji Nagar which is 5 km. from Hut Bay jetty. This beach shaped like a curve extends up to 22 km. and in between there are some stretches with thick black rock formation known as 'Kalapathar'. With Hut Bay beach at one end, Kalapathar in the middle and Butler Bay beach at the other end, the Little Andaman beach is the longest beach in Andaman & Nicobar islands.

KALAPATHAR BEACH

The defining character of this beach is its black rocky lime stone formation which juts out from the land towards the sea. The beach, as such, is not appropriate for swimming. However, blocks of rocks close to the shore form a circle which turn into a 'mini swimming pool' filled with sea water during high tide. The place is also an ideal picnic spot with thick forest in the background and hut type resting place provided by the Forest Department.

BUTLER BAY BEACH

Located 14 km from Hut Bay jetty, this beautiful beach with its spectacular waves is the best surfing point in the island. 'Surf break' is located further down the beach. The beach is also suitable for sun basking and snorkeling. Accommodation facilities - hut-type resorts - are available nearby. Boating through the creek near the beach is an exciting experience.

There is also a beach named 'Chattaan Beach' near the jetty where local people throng to spend time.

ACTIVITIES

FARM TIKKREY

Situated at the heart of Hut Bay, close to APWD guest house is a 5 hectare wetland known as Farm Tikkrey, filled with Lotus and Water Lilly. At sunrise, the site of crimson – red blossoming lotus flowers spread over the long stretch of watery land looks like a red carpet. This sight makes it an ideal assembling place for morning walkers. Plenty of water birds and migratory birds can also be seen.

RED OIL PALM PLANTATION

Little Andaman is also famous for its red oil palm plantation, which is spread across an area of 1593 hectares. There is a palm oil extraction factory inside the plantation. This can be visited while traveling between the White Surf Waterfall and Butler Bay beach.

AGRICULTURE PROGENY FARM

Further to Butler Bay, at 19 km. is the Agriculture Progeny Farm and a Village Knowledge Centre operated by the Agriculture Department. The campus is refreshing with spices like nutmeg, clove, and cinnamon grown here and cultivation of cash crops like coconut, aracanut, and vegetables. There is a fresh water pond nearby and the place is also a habitat for birds. Interested tourists can get tips on bee-keeping techniques.

ELEPHANT RIDE

The Andaman Nicobar Forest and Plantation Development Corporation Ltd which operates the red oil palm plantation also has elephants for its forestry operation. One can also see the elephant lumbering operation and elephant calves training inside the forest. Some of the elephants are available for jungle ride in spare time. Do check out for availability with ANFPDCL.

SURFING

Surfing is fast gaining in popularity in the island as an activity option with small resorts renting out surfboards and arranging for surf camps near Butler Bay beach whose waves make it the best surfing destination in India.

PLANTATION/FOREST TRAIL /TREKKING

The forest in Little Andaman and the huge Red Oil Palm plantation in the island offer scope for trekking in the forest as well as on the plantation trail.

OUT OF BOUND AREAS FOR TOURISTS

The Onges and Nicobarese, the aboriginal tribes of the Andaman and Nicobar islands have been settled in some part of the Little Andaman which is out of bound for tourists. Entry to tribal areas is restricted.