

**NOTICE INVITING
EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
(EOI)**

**FOR
OPERATION OF HOUSEBOATS
IN ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR
ISLANDS**

**DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM
ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR
ADMINISTRATION**

NOTICE INVITING EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The Department of Tourism, Andaman and Nicobar Administration, invites Expressions of Interest (EOI) from reputed and experienced operators for starting operation of houseboats in Andaman and Nicobar Islands on pre decided routes.

1. INTRODUCTION

The Andaman and Nicobar Islands, a Union Territory of India, is a premier tourist destination known for its pristine beaches, coral reefs, and lush forests. The Department of Tourism, Andaman and Nicobar Administration, aims to promote tourism in the islands and provide unique experiences to visitors. The floral and faunal diversity of the islands is one of the distinct and richest in the country. Wetlands and mangrove creeks are ecologically important ecosystems and popular tourist attractions.

Houseboats have been utilized for centuries across the globe for both residential and commercial purposes. Over time, this traditional use has evolved into a unique form of tourism, offering visitors immersive scenic and cultural experiences, especially in tranquil settings such as backwaters, lakes, and rivers. Countries such as India (Kerala and Kashmir), the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, the United States, Canada, France, and Australia are prominent destinations for houseboat tourism. European nations, in particular, have a rich tradition of houseboat living and travel along canals, combining luxury, history, and culinary tourism.

In India, houseboat tourism is primarily concentrated in Kerala, Jammu & Kashmir, and parts of the North Eastern region (such as Assam and Manipur). Houseboats hold immense potential to promote eco-tourism, rural tourism, and cultural tourism.

Houseboat tourism in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands will offer a captivating and immersive experience in one of India's most pristine and breath-taking destinations. Nestled in the Bay of Bengal, this archipelago boasts stunning landscapes, turquoise waters, and rich biodiversity, making it an ideal setting for houseboat adventures. Exploring the islands on a houseboat will allow the tourists to witness the mesmerizing beauty of the archipelago at a relaxed pace. They can cruise through the emerald waters, meander along the scenic backwaters, and soak in the panoramic views of pristine beaches and dense exotic mangroves creeks.

Houseboat tours in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands can be customized based on the preferences and duration of stay of tourists. One can opt for day trips, overnight stays, or even multi-day cruises to fully immerse in the tranquillity of the archipelago.

2. SCOPE OF WORK

The selected operator(s) will be required to:

- Operate houseboats on designated routes as per the applicable rules/policies.
- Provide accommodation and amenities to tourists on the houseboats
- Ensure safety and security of tourists
- Maintain the houseboats in good condition
- Comply with all applicable laws and regulations

3. MINIMUM FACILITIES ON HOUSE BOATS WOULD INCLUDE:-

- i. Bed rooms with attached toilets.
- ii. Clean and good quality linen and toiletries
- iii. Life Saving Appliances/Fire Fighting Appliance as per type of registration.
- iv. Dining room
- v. Kitchen using fire proof materials
- vi. Good quality crockery and glassware
- vii. Purified drinking water
- viii. Common toilet
- ix. Good quality furniture
- x. Provision for 24-hour electricity on board the houseboat for lights and fans
- xi. Alternate sources of energy for fuel, i.e. solar power, for heating, lighting, etc.
- xii. Use of LED lamps
- xiii. Sufficient fire extinguishers and tools as per requirements of Fire Department.
- xiv. Proper arrangement for discharge of waste and waste management.

4. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- The applicant should be a registered company/firm/individual
- Should have experience in operating houseboats/tourist vessels (desirable)
- Should have a minimum annual turnover of ₹50 Lakhs for last three financial years.

5. CLEARANCES/PERMITS/APPROVALS REQUIRED

The following clearances /permits will be required:

- i. Registration of vessels under Inland Vessels Act 2021 with the registering authority i.e. Deputy Commissioner (South Andaman/North & Middle Andaman/Nicobar).
- ii. Clearance for Pollution and Waste Management/Disposal from Pollution Control Committee, Deptt. of Science & Technology, A&N Administration.
- iii. Food Safety Certificate from Food Safety and Standards Authority of India.

- iv. Fire Safety Certificate from Fire Department.
- v. NOC from Port Management Board (PMB) for desired route of operations or place of positioning in the mooring site.

6. CONDITIONS FOR OPERATION OF HOUSE BOATS

- i. The Vessel owner/operator shall comply with all safety measures provided in the IV Act and Rules, Order/Circular/Guidelines of DG (Shipping), Govt. of India and A&N Administration as issued from time to time.
- ii. For renewal of registration, periodical surveys of the vessels and other legal requirements will be followed by the owner/operator of the vessels as per concerned Act/Rules i.e. IV Act.
- iii. Area of Operation will be within IV limits, as per zone prescribed in the certificate of registry issued by Dy. Commissioner (South Andaman/North & Middle Andaman/Nicobar)/ IV Chief Surveyor for boats under I.V. Act.
- iv. Routes for House Boat operations are: -
 - 1. Junglighat-Viper Island-Dundas Point-Bamboo Flat-North Bay-NSCB Dweep
 - 2. Junglighat-North Bay-NSCB Dweep-Junglighat.
 - 3. Junglighat- Viper Island- Dundas Point- Junglighat.
 - 4. Middle Strait-Kadamtala-Middle Strait.
- v. The Houseboats will be provided with shore electricity subject to availability at the particular location. However, House Boat operators should also make necessary arrangements i.e. Gen Set/ Solar power etc on board.
- vi. The House Boat operator should follow the Excise Policy of A&N Islands.
- vii. The House Boat Operator must comply with Employees Provident Fund (EPF) and GST (Goods & Service Tax) laws and proof of compliance/registration under EPF and GST should be submitted to the Director (Tourism) for initial registration of House Boats.
- viii. The House Boat operator shall provide details of staff attached with the House Boats at the time of registration and shall have 60% of staff deployed on the house boats from amongst the local residents on the allotted route.

7. PROCESS FOR APPROVAL

- i. House boat will be operated at designated routes or locations as per allotment by the Implementation Committee.
- ii. General Financial Rules and other relevant guidelines will be followed for the allotment of designated routes, specific mooring sites/designated mooring points.

- iii. A base price will be determined and fixed for all identified routes by the committee headed by the Advisory committee assisted by one co-opted member from finance/accounts department.
- iv. Permission for operating house boats in a particular route shall be allotted by the implementation committee on a first come first serve basis. If the carrying capacity is exceeded, the allotment shall be done on the alternate route as per the choice of the applicant or to the next nearest route.

8. PRE PROPOSAL MEETING

A pre-proposal meeting will be held on **16/12/2025** in the conference hall of Directorate of Tourism. The interested parties are requested to send their interest to attend the pre proposal meeting through email to thedirectortourism@gmail.com latest by **15/12/2025**, 11:00 AM with the following details:

- Name of entity:
- Name (designation)of the attendee/s:
- E-mail ID/s:
- Contact No.:
- Queries/ Suggestion on EoI (if any) :

Interested parties can also join through virtual mode online, link for which will be provided in due course of time upon receiving a request through e mail.

8. EOI DOCUMENTS

The EOI document should include:

- Company profile
- Experience in operating houseboats/tourist vessels(if any)
- Financial statements (audited)
- Proposed business plan.
- Route on which houseboats will be operated.
- Details of proposed houseboats (number, type, capacity)
- Any other relevant information

9. SUBMISSION OF EOI

The applicant should submit the EOI proposal along with letter of transmittal attached with this EOI document as **Annexure-I**. The EOI should be submitted in a sealed envelope, on or before **23/12/2025** and should be addressed to:

Director, Department of Tourism
Andaman and Nicobar Administration

Sri Vijaya Puram , Andaman and Nicobar Islands

10. CONTACT DETAILS

For further information, please contact:

Director, Department of Tourism

Andaman and Nicobar Administration

Sri Vijaya Puram, Andaman and Nicobar Islands

Phone: 03192-244013

Email :thedirectortourism@gmail.com

11. DISCLAIMER

The Andaman and Nicobar Administration reserves the right to accept or reject any or all EOIs without assigning any reason thereof.

Letter of Transmittal (*To be typed in Applicant's Letter head*)

To

**The Director,
Tourism Department,
Andaman & Nicobar Administration,
Sri Vijaya Puram -744101
Email: thedirectortourism@gmail.com**

Sub: Submission of EOI for Operation of Houseboats in A & N Islands .

Sir,

Having examined the details given in EOI Notice for the subject project, I/we hereby submit our Expression of Interest and the relevant information in relation to operation of houseboats in A&N Islands.

I/ We hereby certify that all the statements made in the information supplied and the accompanying statements/documents are true and correct. I / We have furnished all information and details necessary for this EOI and have no further pertinent information to supply.

I/ We also authorize Tourism Department or their Authorized representatives to approach individuals, employers and firms to verify our competence and general reputation.

I/We understand that A&N Administration will be at liberty to finalize the project parameters and issue global RFQ for the project if required.

Enclosures:

Seal of applicant & Date of submission

Signature(s)of Applicant(s)