

India

destination **FACTSHEET**



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TOP 5 THINGS TO KNOW

1 Visa

US citizens will need to apply for an E-Visa to enter India as a tourist. See full details below. Passengers can apply online at <https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/>

2 Etiquette

Politeness and respect for traditions are highly valued in India. Greet people with a “Namaste,” which involves a slight bow with hands pressed together in front of the chest. Dress modestly, especially when visiting religious sites, and always remove your shoes before entering temples or homes.

3 Language

India has numerous languages – 22 official languages, and over 450 languages are spoken. Hindi and English are the most widely spoken.

4 Water

Tap water is generally not safe to drink in India. Stick to bottled water, which is readily available. Be cautious with ice, as it may not be made from purified water. It's advisable to carry anti-diarrheal medicine for any stomach issues.

5 Climate

India has diverse climates depending on the region. The winter season (October to March) is the most pleasant time to visit most parts of the country, especially in the north. Summers (April to June) can be extremely hot, particularly in central and northern India, while the monsoon season (July and August) brings heavy rainfall, mainly in the southern and eastern regions.



ACIS TRIP SERVICES

Rooming

Accommodations are based on triples where available. If triples are not available, twins will be used. Please note that the hotel rooms in India are generally quite small.

Hotels:

ACIS typically uses centrally located, three or four-star Western style hotels.

Meals






Indian cuisine is known for its rich flavors and variety. ACIS tours to India include breakfast and dinner daily, unless otherwise stated. Meals usually feature a combination of vegetarian and non-vegetarian options, with rice, bread, and curries commonly served. Sharing dishes is a common practice.





Tour Manager

Your Tour Manager will accompany you throughout your time in India



GENERAL INFORMATION AND TRAVEL TIPS

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| Flights  | Be prepared for a long flight (minimum of 12 hours). |
| Passport Requirements  | Your passport should be valid for at least 6 months after your arrival date in India, with at least two blank pages available for entry stamps. |
| Visa Requirements  | <p>US Citizens will need to apply online for an E-Visa to India, within 30 – 4 days prior to departure. Please note, visa denial is not an insured cancellation reason so we recommend all travelers upgrade to the Ultimate Plus Protection Plan. Visa application can be made online at https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/</p> <p>You will need your flight, hotel and passport information to complete the application form. For full screenshots of the entire application form, please see here: https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/evisa/images/SampleForm.pdf</p> |
| Money Matters  | The currency in India is the Indian Rupee (INR). ATMs are widely available. Credit cards are commonly accepted but it's best to carry cash for smaller transactions. |
| Parental Consent (if necessary)  | No parental consent is needed to travel to India. |

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| Time Difference  | <p>India operates on Indian Standard Time (IST), which is UTC +5:30. The country does not observe daylight saving time.</p> |
| Electrical outlets  | <p>India uses 220V with Type C, D, and M outlets. Carry a universal plug adapter to ensure compatibility with your devices.</p> |
| Luggage Restrictions  | <p>The weight limit on internal flights is one checked bag maximum 44 pounds and one carryon bag maximum 15 lbs.</p> <p>Domestic flights in India may have strict baggage weight limits, usually around 15-20 kg for checked luggage and 7-10 kg for carry-ons. Extra charges may apply for overweight luggage.</p> <p>Identification tags should be on all luggage, even carry-ons, and all other tags should be removed at each destination hotel, so that bags won't get misdirected as you travel through Asia.</p> <p>Take medicines, vanity kit and emergency clothing in your carry-on, in case your luggage is misplaced en route or tardy getting to your hotel room.</p> |
| Tipping  | <p>Pre-paid tips of \$14 per person per day will be listed on your account to cover tour manager, local bus and guide.</p> <p>All meals included in the itinerary also include gratuity, so it is NOT necessary to leave an additional tip at meals.</p> |



WHAT TO PACK

Pack lightly; remember you'll have to carry what you bring! If possible, bring a carry-on bag only, or one checked bag and a small carry-on item.

As summer temperatures are quite hot and humidity is high, light cottons are recommended. For winter, warm casual clothes that can be worn in layers are recommended

Some key items include:

- ✓ Comfortable walking shoes
- ✓ Durable Sandals/Flip flops (Birkenstocks, Tevas, etc.)
- ✓ Lightweight cotton clothing
- ✓ Bring a light sweater or jacket and an umbrella for evenings
- ✓ Lightweight raincoat
- ✓ For winter, warm casual clothes that can be worn in layers are recommended
- ✓ Purell and tissues
- ✓ Basic Medical Supplies such as anti-diarrhea medicine, aspirin, Band-Aids.
- ✓ Umbrella
- ✓ Personal Neck Fan
- ✓ Sunscreen
- ✓ Bug Repellent



HEALTHCARE

Consult a travel doctor before your trip to India for personalized medical advice and recommended vaccinations, such as Hepatitis A and Typhoid. Carry any necessary medications with you, as they may not be easily available locally.

For information on vaccinations needed in each country, we recommend you consult <http://www.cdc.gov/>.

Medical Expenses

In the event of a medical emergency where expenses are involved, the passenger must pay the expenses directly and mail receipts to our Boston office for reimbursement. Deductible amounts per the type of insurance purchased.

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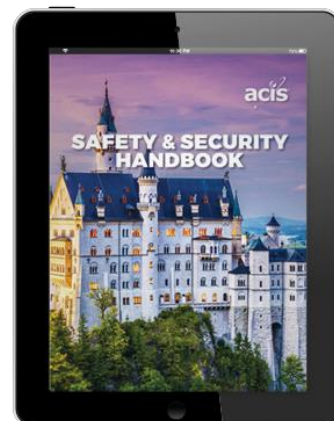


SAFETY AND SECURITY

India is generally safe for travelers, but it's important to stay vigilant. Keep your belongings secure, especially in crowded places, and be cautious of pickpockets. Use reputable transportation services like registered taxis or ride-sharing apps.

Should you have any issues at all during your trip, please call ACIS and we will rectify the problem immediately. It is vital that you notify us as soon as you experience a problem as we can resolve issues very quickly on the spot before it adversely affects your trip.

ACIS Emergency number 617-450-5678



VISAS & IMPORTANT INFORMATION

E-Visas are required for US citizens travelling to India. The application is entirely online and should take approximately 10 – 15 minutes to complete. Estimated turnaround time to receive your visa once you've completed the application is 72-hours. Visas can be applied for between 30 – 4 days prior to departure.

Denial of visa is not a refundable reason for cancellation, so we highly recommend upgrading to an ACIS protection plans that included CFAR (Cancel for Any Reason) coverage.

Passengers can apply online at <https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/> You will need your flight, hotel and passport information to complete the application form. There's also this helpful guide which shows screenshots of the entire application form here so you can see all the information you will need prior to filling out the form: <https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/evisa/images/SampleForm.pdf>.

Non-US citizens should carefully research entry requirements to avoid being denied entry into the country.

Due to the recent changes in U.S. passport requirements, it may take longer than normal to process your passport. Be sure to apply for your passports especially early when traveling to Asia or the Pacific. It is best to apply for your passport when you first enroll on your ACIS tour.

Bartering

Bargaining is common in local markets, particularly when shopping for souvenirs or handicrafts. However, fixed prices are generally expected in malls and branded stores.

Restrooms

Public restrooms are available in most tourist areas, but the cleanliness and facilities may vary. Western-style toilets are common in hotels and restaurants. It's a good idea to carry hand sanitizer and tissues, as some restrooms may not provide toilet paper.

Currency & Money Matters

The currency in India is the Indian Rupee (INR). ATMs are widely available. Credit cards are commonly accepted but it's best to carry cash for smaller transactions.

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