



**Incredible Real India**  
TOURS & TRAVELS

## Travel Tips to India

**If you are coming for the first time to India, you should not be intimidated.**

Traveling here can be a major culture shock, especially on your first visit. It's a huge and impressive country, with many different cultures and customs, but also a very unique one that could transform you in many ways. Visitors will find truly remarkable and amazing sights that are unlike anything else in the world. It also boasts a culinary scene with delicious food, incredible nature, warm and charismatic people; and a rich cultural heritage that UNESCO has declared Patrimony of Humanity.

So, in order to help you make the most of your trip to India, here are some tips and tricks you should know before you come.



## “Padharo Mhare Desh”

Welcome to My Land!

We are delighted to have you coming to India, a unique land, culture and place in the world that you are about to discover and feel. On behalf of Incredible Real India team, I extend you a very warm welcome and trust your stay with us will be the rise of a dream translated into a unique memorable journey, and travel experience as local.

You will find some tips to make your travel as good and comfortable as possible. Be so kind to follow it.

Should you require any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact

Mr. Devender Yadav at this phone number.

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**Be My Guest!**  
**Peace at your home and in life too**

*-Raju India*

# Getting Ready



## Visa

For India and Nepal is a must. Citizens from more than 150 countries could get an e-visa. You need to apply online to get the approval by email; once you pass customs on your arrival, you will get stamped on your passport.



## Insurance

Travel insurance is a must to get for any loss or Medical emergency.



## Clothes

Try to travel as light as possible, trust local laundry to wash your belongings, and beautiful Indian cotton shops to complete your wardrobe. Covering your body is recommended to follow tradition and protect yourself from sunburns and mosquitos. Women and men cover their shoulders and legs. Of course, you will notice different customs in more modern areas, especially with younger people.



## Healt

Bring your own medication in case you are taking one. Get in contact with your physician about vaccines or any other question before your arrival. Should you need a doctor or pharmacy, you will find them in location.



## Money

You can withdraw money at ATMs or exchange cash through your driver/guide who will get you best rate. Of course don't do this with strangers. You will need a lot of small notes for tips, small purchases, restrooms, etc.



## Food

Food is delicious and ... different. Be careful with meat and dairy product at beginning of your trip. Fruits are safe if you peel them, and you can have it fresh in hotel's restaurants. Papayas are delicious with a little bit of squeezed lime. Ask for no chillies if you don't want spicy food. Ask for less sugar in chai(Tea) and less salt in general. Try everything even in small amounts. Street food can be eaten in places that are clean and have a lot of customers. It is a part of Indian culture not to be missed.

If you get an upset stomach, eat less and have bananas and boiled rice. Mineral and bottled water are suggested to avoid dehydration.



## Water

Always drink mineral and bottled water.



## Safety

Safety rules are not different than in other countries. Be street smart and watch your belongings, without being obsessed about it. Don't eat anything offered by fellow travellers on train or road travels. It might have sleeping pills. Always travel reserved class in trains. Always avoid driving at night on Indian highways, it is not recommended.



## Driver

As a driver you always have one person with you to help you and your luggage is always safe. If you don't feel comfortable by the driving or he drives fast is always better to tell him to drive slow or just give us a call without any hesitation.





# Getting Ready



## Solo Women

Women traveling alone in certain deserted places should avoid walking at odd hours. While traveling, don't act confused. Keep a posture of a person known to the region.



## Temples

Temples are a rich part of Indian Culture and you do not want to miss any of them. It is very touching to observe locals in their praying rituals, listen to the songs and dances, whether you are a believer or not. There is a lot of religious respect that you will observe in Hindu temples, Muslim mosques, Jain temples, Sikh temples etc. Spending time in worship places is a must in India. You will have to remove your shoes so plan on bringing old socks that you can discard or buy a pack of cheap socks.



## Tipping

Tipping is a very common practice in India. Some ideas for how to tip is as for face photography at touristic places should be 20 to 50 rupees (less than a Euro). At restaurants it should be 5 to 10% of your bill. Tipping for your driver should not be less than 5 - 10 Euro for a day since he get tips once or twice a month, rest is depend on your pocket and on his level of services he is serving you.



## Beggars

Begging you will encounter a high level of mendacity which is understandable considering India is poor, even as an emerging country. Give when you feel like giving. Keep in mind that some beggars in tourist places are actually working for someone and not keeping much of their gatherings.



## A Tip for You

Before departure or at your hotel with Wi-Fi, research the places you are visiting. Bring one or two guide books. India is a very rich country with a lot of culture and traditions and you want to know what is going on. Travel with an OPEN Mind.



## Cultural Differences

When you first arrive in India, it is essentially guaranteed that you will experience cultural shock. There is no use trying to fight it. Instead, prepare yourself and accept that things will not be the same as you are used to back home. Try to open your mind and leave your expectations at home.



## Religious Scams

At many of the temples and mosques, you may be pressured to make a donation or to buy a sacred offering. For example, a holy man might put a red dot on your forehead or wrap a string around your wrist, then ask you for money. Many visitors feel pressured into doing this, as they don't want to be disrespectful of the local religion. However, you don't need to if you don't want to. If it sounds like the price would be very high for a local to do, it is probably not a real spiritual offering but just a way of getting money from tourists.



## Learn How to Bargain

Bargaining is a natural part of shopping in India, but it will feel a little bit strange and intimidating at first if you are from a culture where bargaining is not the norm. The important thing to remember is that it is not a battle - it is a friendly negotiation.



# Getting Ready



## Don't Expect Things on Time

Remember that things happen on "Indian Time." Trains won't necessarily leave when they are scheduled, Indian friends might not arrive when they said they would, and things can take a lot longer than expected.

It's important to keep this in mind and to allow extra time for delays so that you don't get stressed out. Take a good book to read while you wait and just sit tight, the thing you are waiting for, will happen eventually.



## Avoid Affection in Public

If you are traveling to India with your partner, avoid hugging, kissing or holding hands in public. These types of public displays of love are considered inappropriate in Indian culture. Keep your affections discreet.



## Just go for it

Coming to this land will be much more challenging than traveling to other countries. You might find yourself overwhelmed and exhausted at times, so it is important to take care of yourself and be prepared for this journey in many ways. However, the experience of visiting India is absolutely worth it. You will see some marvels of the world, meet some unforgettable people, and immerse yourself into a fascinating ancient culture. You'll be glad and see life in a very different perspective after your travel to India.