

Butterfield & Robinson

SLOW DOWN TO SEE THE WORLD



Exploring India

Your Journey

Upon arriving in Delhi you are immediately surrounded by the heart of *'incredible India'*, witnessing the hustle of its streets before journeying out to the greatest monument of 'love' with a visit to the Taj Mahal. Explore the rural lands of Rajasthan where the cities give way to the smells of exotic spice. The rest of your journey grows in experiences—the omnipresent colors, the elephant traffic jams, contrasting with the opulence of the havelis, palaces and forts you visit and stay in.



At times you will find yourself wandering down alleyways of towns more ancient than history remembers. The innate ability to survive, conquer and create has long been key to the cultural dominance of the Indian people, who are currently second only to China in economic growth. India is the gentle grace of women as they carry pots on their heads, twice their size, the arrogance of camels as they walk by, their noses lifted to the heavens, apparently because only they know the hundredth name of Allah and we mortals only 99! India is the rhythm of its music, and the whirl of the dancing girls skirts. India is the complexity of its many religions, accepting them all, the world's largest example of democracy merged with the ongoing but ancient rivalry between Hindu and Muslim. India is a land of contrasts, one you need to experience for yourself.

Day 1:

Arrival in Delhi

You are welcomed as you exit the aircraft and then assisted with immigration and customs formalities. In the arrival hall you are introduced to your Butterfield & Robinson representative and transferred to your hotel.

The capital of India, Delhi is home to 16 million people, making it the third largest city in India. The strategic location of the city made it an attractive point for invading armies, and it served as the capital for many great empires that ruled India. Many of these Empires built significant monuments, and whilst the Mughal and the British are the most visible, while driving through the city you will see ruins from previous capitals, the earliest dating back to the 12th century.

Rooms: Royal Premier Room.

Meals: None.



HOTEL | *The Leela Palace, New Delhi*

2 nights |

The new and lavish 260 room Leela Palace Hotel is located in the exclusive diplomatic enclave, boasting some of the largest and most opulent rooms in the city. Drink in the library bar, dine in the Jamavar Indian restaurant or sample sushi in Megu. Try an Ayurvedic treatment in ESPA or simply relax by the beautiful pool.

Day 2:

Exploring Old Delhi

This morning your guide will meet you in the hotel lobby at around 10.00am. Head into the backstreets and markets of Old Delhi - partially on foot and partially by cycle rickshaw.

In complete contrast to the new city, the Old City is a labyrinthine maze of lanes overhung by a tangled mass of wires. Within this chaos lies a semblance of order – each lane in this area is dedicated to a particular item, rather like a department store. There are lanes selling bangles, grocers, items used in weddings, silverware, clothes, spices and shoes. Sharing the same space are vendors with carts selling a variety of items, street side dentists, natural healers and cobblers. The Old city has space for all professions. Visit the Jama Masjid, which is believed to be the largest mosque in India, accommodating 20,000 worshippers at any given time.

1.00pm: Lunch will be arranged at Spice Route Restaurant at The Imperial Hotel.



Leave the Imperial soon after 2.00pm and drive 30 minutes approx. to Mehrauli. Here you ride simple, local bikes on a fascinating privately guided 2 hour bike ride through the Mehrauli area of Delhi. This is a venture started by Vicky Roy (a slum dweller, brought up at the Salaam Balak Trust's rehab center and now a known photographer) and his friends from Salaam Balak. Ride through the streets and by-lanes of the Mehrauli village during which you'll see forgotten monuments from the Qutub era, one of the oldest vegetable and fruit markets, an active shrine of Kaki Bakhtiar Khan (which looks like a mini version of Nizamuddin dargah), quirky houses and shops of every trade along the way. Return to your hotel later this afternoon (we estimate between 5.30-6.00pm) for some time at leisure.

Note – some luggage will be collected this evening and driven to Jodhpur in advance of your arrival.

8.00pm: Dinner at your hotel.

Rooms: Royal Premier Room.

Meals: Lunch & Dinner.

Day 3:

Agra & The Taj Mahal & Onwards to Jodhpur

This morning leave your hotel at around 7.00am and transfer 45 minutes to the airport to board your private plane to Agra *leaving at 8:30am, arriving into Agra at 9.30am*. On arrival you will be welcomed and taken to explore the Taj Mahal and Agra Fort. The Taj Mahal is a monument of love built by Shah Jahan in 1630 for his Queen, Mumtaz Mahal to enshrine her mortal remains. For 22 years, 20,000 men labored day and night to build this masterpiece, which has held the world awestruck ever since. The Taj Mahal is truly one of the wonders of the world.



The Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan was imprisoned by his son in Agra's magnificent Fort. Here you will see the art and crafting of the white marble that has made the area so famous, the Pearl Mosque and the Halls of Public and Private Audience. Afterwards, if time permits head over to the Tomb of Itimad ud Daulah. Before the Taj Mahal was built, its design was already standing in the form of Itmad-Ud-Daulah's Tomb, hence it is affectionately known as the 'Baby Taj'. Built to represent a silver jewel box in marble, this mausoleum houses the body of Mirza Ghiyas Beg, the father of the Mughal Empress Noor Jahan.

After sightseeing in Agra, you will be driven to Agra airport to board your private flight to Jodhpur *leaving at 2.00pm, arriving in Jodhpur at 3.30pm*. Lunch will be provided at Peshawri Restaurant in the ITC Mughal Agra Hotel, it is the sister restaurant of the famous Bukhara restaurant in Delhi. On arrival in Jodhpur you will be welcomed and assisted on your transfer to the Umaid Bhawan Palace for a 2 night stay. The remainder of today is at your leisure.

8.00pm: Dinner will be arranged at your hotel.

Rooms: Historical Suite.

Meals: Lunch & Dinner.



HOTEL | *Umaid Bhawan Palace, Jodhpur*

2 nights |

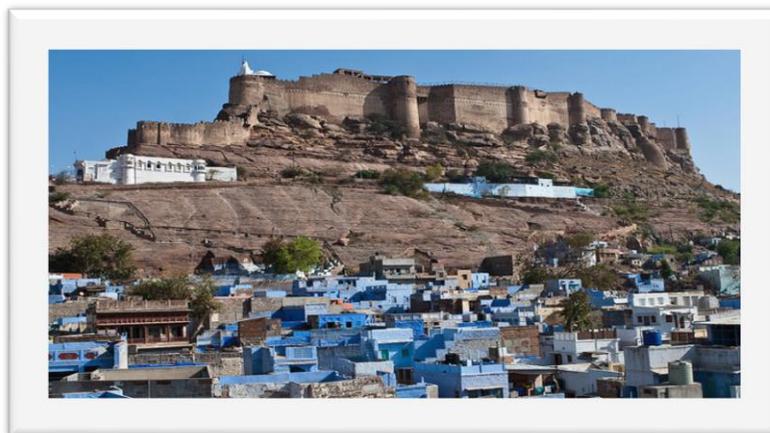
Perched high above the desert capital of Jodhpur, Umaid Bhawan Palace is the last of the great palaces of India and one of the largest private residences in the world - set amidst 26 acres of lush gardens. 64 decadent rooms and suites showcase the renowned Art Deco style with a distinct ambience. Stroll through the private museum, test your skills on the marbled squash courts or enjoy a game of billiards in the paneled recreation room.

Day 4:

Exploring Jodhpur

This morning, after perhaps a session of group yoga, leave the hotel at around 8.30am and transfer around 30 minutes out of Jodhpur to the start of your bike ride. The cycling route is mainly flat and will be for around 1.5 – 2 hours, weaving through farmland and small patches of bush, ending in Salawas at the home of the most famous dhurry (rug) maker in Rajasthan, if not India - Roopraj Dhurry Udhyog. You will have the opportunity to meet Roopraj himself who will explain his cooperative and demonstrate how his beautiful rugs are made.

Lunch will be arranged at Raas Haveli in the center of Jodhpur.



A zip-line tour is included this afternoon - suspended above Mehrangarh Fort. This is a unique and exhilarating journey between battlements, hill forts and ridge tops located at the Fort in Jodhpur. Enjoy breath-taking views as you fly down a series of ultra-strong steel cables, securely attached by a harness and pulley. Trained instructors accompany you to ensure your safety and entertain you with their local knowledge.

This evening enjoy a private curated tour of Meherangarh Fort. The area was the stronghold of the Rathore Dynasty of Maharajas and is home to the most impressive palace fort complex in India. Meherangarh Fort was founded in 1459 by Rao Jodha, after whom the city is named. It is a beautiful site worthy of a visit with wonderful views over the city and intricate latticed windows of red sandstone (it was also the setting of Kipling's *The Jungle Book*).

Dinner will be on Chokelao Mahal Terrace at Merangarh Fort.

Rooms: Historical Suite.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner.

Day 5:

Journey from Jodhpur to Bera

This morning at around 9.00am you will be driven about 30 minutes out of town to begin cycling through Bishnoi villages – here you have the chance to witness a short opium ceremony, a local tradition in this part of Rajasthan. Continue to Mihir Garh for an early lunch. This area is also home to some of the finest Marwari horses. Continue cycling through the desert until you reach the hamlet of Rohet which will take around 2 hours. It is here your vans will drive you the rest of the way to Jawai which is approx 2.5 hours by road (note: you may cycle for longer if you wish).

Your drive to Jawai is through the small villages and up and down forested hills before arriving at the beautifully remote Leopard Camp, home for the next 2 nights. Due to the unique flavor and customs of this land, Jawai provides an entirely different rural wildlife experience from other parts of Rajasthan.

We estimate your arrival at Jawai to be around 3.00pm after which you can then enjoy some peaceful time by the small swimming pool or a chat with the resident naturalists. This afternoon you will be taken out with the camp's experienced trackers and drivers to track these elusive big cats, travelling in excellent, customized 4x4 safari jeeps. While searching for leopards, you will see what is known in India as "Gaudhuli" or the cow dust hour, named for the dust raised by cattle leaving or returning home at this hour. It is a magical time to be out in the countryside. Sunrise and sunset are considered auspicious times in India, and as you drive through the village you will see small rituals performed to welcome in the night and to ward off the dark spirits. This is a rare glimpse into life in rural India.

Note: morning safaris will leave at around 6.30AM. Afternoon safaris will leave at around 4.00PM and Jeeps may be shared with other guests.

Rooms: Private Luxury Tent.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner.



HOTEL | *Jawai Leopard Camp*

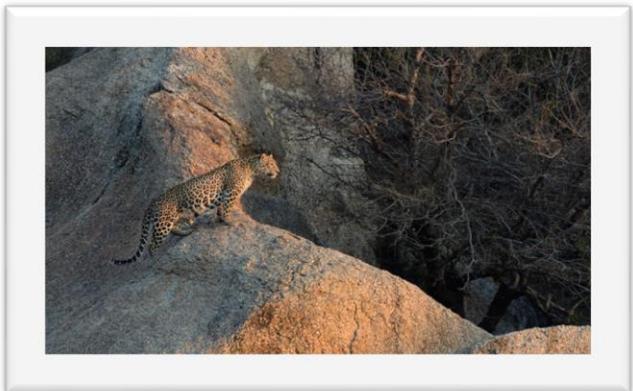
2 nights |

Created in a timeless flourish with canvas, stainless steel and leather accoutrements, each of the 10 tents at Jawai is abutted by a private deck that looks upon unobstructed, spectacular views of the dramatic wilderness around. The use of local stone and stainless steel brings an elegant and light feeling to the camp. An inviting Dining Tent and a scattering of discreetly located areas to unwind in form part of the Encampment.

Day 6:

Exploring Bera

This morning you will be taken for a cycling tour accompanied by the expert guide from the Jawai. Biking expeditions allow you to explore this beautiful landscape outside the confines of a jeep. This activity also allows you to explore areas that are usually out of bounds while in a Jeep. Your naturalist guide will provide insights on the flora and fauna of the region. A typical biking tour will last 1.5 to 3 hours or more depending on your preferences. This afternoon you may choose to spend more time exploring the area by bike or on foot or head out further afield on a Jeep safari.





Rooms: Private Luxury Tent.
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner.

Day 7:

Journey from Bera to Devi Garh

This morning, set out on a cycling route through the local countryside to further explore the region. Later at around 11.00am you will be driven one hour approx. to the Ranakpur Jain Temples. The richly marbled and carved temples at Ranakpur belong to the Jain religious sect, who are best known for their skills at commerce and trading, the temple is unique in that each of its 1,144 pillars are distinct in their design. The temple is a living one, with devotees visiting the many shrines to perform rituals, chant and meditate.



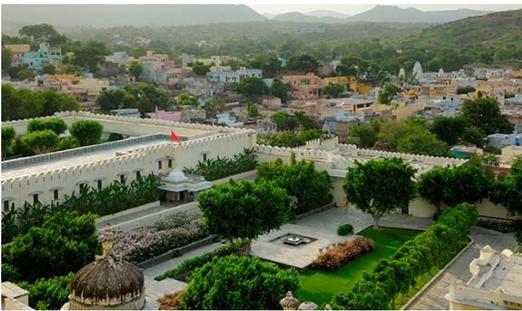
From Ranakpur, stop at Mountbatten Lodge for lunch before continuing to Devi Garh (around two hours from Ranakpur). Part of the route travels across the Aravalli Hills, the oldest mountain range in the world. Along the way you will see a very traditional way of life still being practiced. Small

hamlets, fields being irrigated using a Persian water wheel; outdoor schools and sartorially colorful ladies working in the fields. The drive is unhurried and you may stop whenever you wish to take a photograph. On arrival in Delwara check-in to Devi Garh for an overnight stay – we estimate you will arrive around 4pm. Note – during your time at Devi Garh we will arrange a short camel trek.

Dinner will be arranged at your hotel.

Rooms: Aravali Suite.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner.



HOTEL | *Devi Garh, Delwara*

1 night |

Tucked away in the age-old Aravalli hills of Rajasthan, the 18th C Devi Garh Fort Palace has undergone years of restoration and reconstruction to regain its past glory. An imposing and impressive structure, it is now a boutique hotel with 39 suites. Each suite is unique: luxurious and beautiful, embellished with marble and semi-precious stones, yet equipped with the most modern of conveniences.

Day 8:

Journey from Devi Garh to Udaipur

This morning at around 9.00am you will be driven to Nagda Temples which is approx. 10 minute drive from Devi Garh. Nagda Temples are known as the “Sas” and “Bahu” temples (literally Temples of the Mother in law and Daughter in law), these elaborately carved 10th century temples are dedicated to Lord Vishnu. On the larger Sas temple, there are beautiful friezes with scenes from the Ramayana, meeting of lovers, and images of the Hindu trinity of Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva. The Bahu temple has a richly carved archway and columns profusely carved with female figurines.

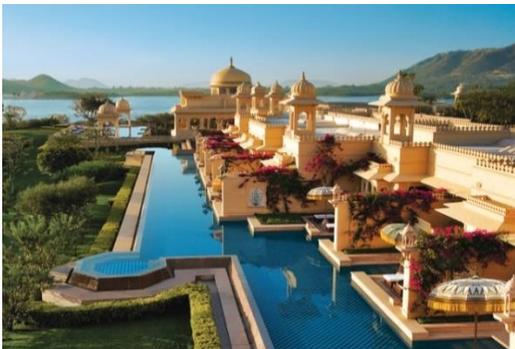


From here you will pick up your bikes at 11am and cycle onwards to Udaipur. The three hour ride takes you through the outskirts of city, stopping at small hamlets which provide great photographic opportunities. Snacks and soft drinks will be provided on the ride. A vehicle will be available if you choose to stop cycling earlier.

Later, check-in to the Oberoi Udaivilas Hotel for a 2 night stay. Lunch will be booked for around 2.30pm at the hotel. For the rest of the day you will have a vehicle and guide at your disposal should you wish to head out for additional sightseeing. Dinner will be arranged at an alternative lakeside restaurant.

Rooms: Premier Room with Semi-Private Pool.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner.



HOTEL | *Oberoi Udaivilas, Udaipur*

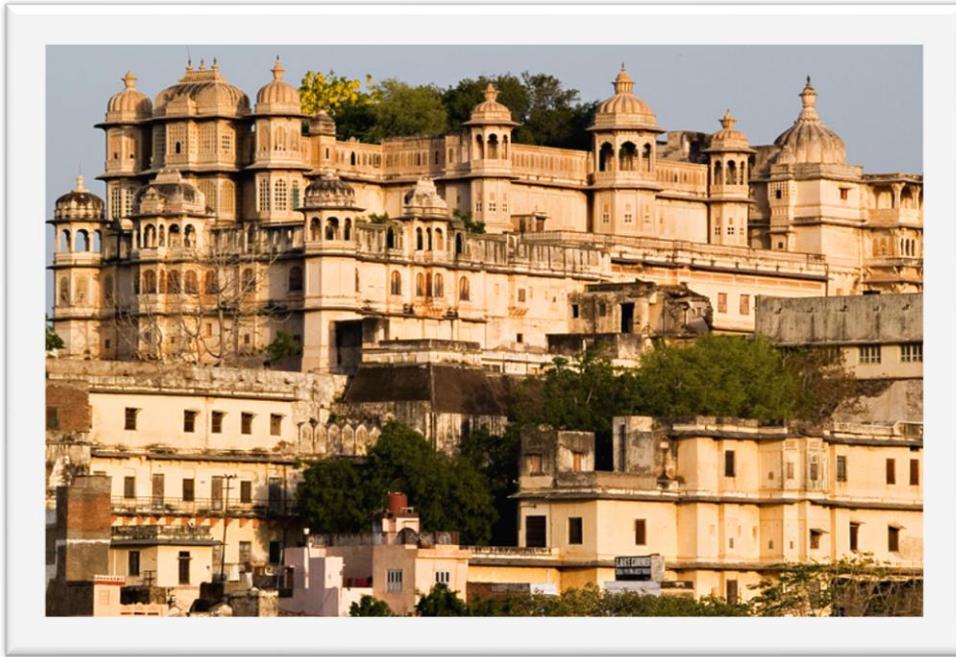
2 nights |

Built on the edge of Lake Pichola with a sublime view of the Lake Palace, the City Palace Complex, and the ghats, the Oberoi Udaivilas is one of the most luxurious hotels in India. Given the grand architecture with numerous domes and elegantly furnished rooms, this is a contemporary palace in its own right. Traditionally dressed staff have an unusual old-world courtesy and genuine concern for the welfare of guests. The restaurants serve delicious Continental and Indian food.

Day 9:

Udaipur

This morning is at your leisure in Udaipur.



This afternoon, head out with your guide at around 3.30pm on a two hour walking tour of the Old City and end with a private sunset boat cruise on Lake Pichola starting at around 5.30pm.

Rooms: Premier Room with Semi-Private Pool.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner.

Day 10:

Journey from Udaipur to Delhi & Departure Home

This morning set out early from your hotel for a cycling tour for around 1 hour within the city limits. We suggest starting at 8.00am to avoid the rush hour on the roads.

Return to the hotel for breakfast and later set out to explore the City Palace of Udaipur. The detailed art and workmanship is a tribute to the skills of local artisans and craftspeople. Built as a stepped palace encompassing a hill, the four palaces illustrate various architectural styles, reflecting prevailing influences, mostly Mughal and Rajput. In keeping with the claim of the royal family that they are “Surya vansh” – descendants of the Sun, the whole structure faces east, and a stunning bejeweled image of the sun greets you at the entrance.

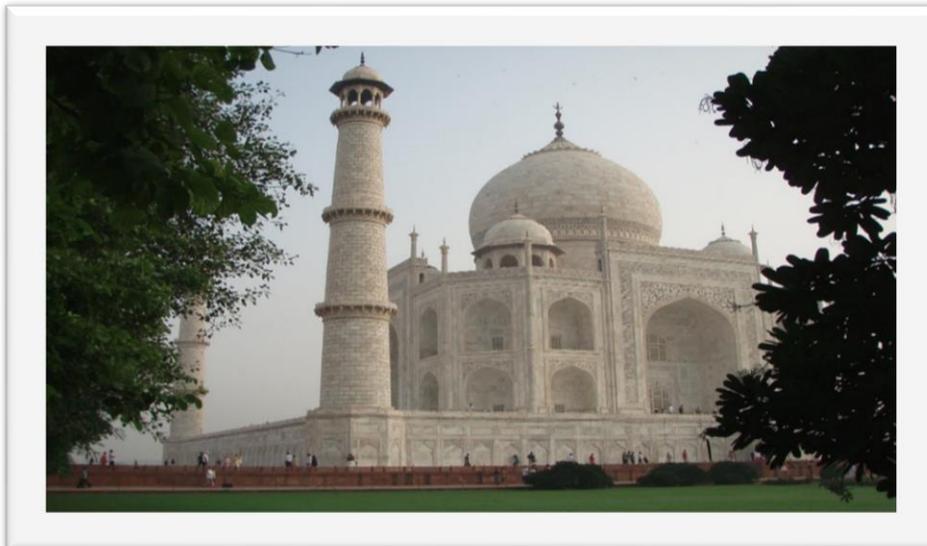
1.00pm: Lunch will be arranged at one of the local restaurants. We suggest Fateh Prakash Terrace Restaurant.

Later you will be transferred to the airport in Udaipur for a flight to Delhi.

On arrival in Delhi, you will be met by a B&R Representative and driven to the Oberoi Gurgaon Restaurant for dinner (if time permits) then driven back to the airport for your international flight home.

Rooms: None.

Meals: Breakfast & Lunch.



The Details

Start: Delhi
Finish: Delhi

LEVEL OF ACTIVITY

This trip is rated Easy to Moderate. Activities are varied and include countryside and city cycling, walking and general sightseeing.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- All hotel accommodation
- All meals as indicated
- Services of a local accompanying guide throughout
- All special events and private tours in Delhi, Agra, - Jodhpur and Udaipur
- Safari drives at Jawai may be shared with up to two other guests
- Bikes and helmets: *Delhi: regular non-gear bikes; Jodhpur, Delwara and Udaipur: Trek 3500- 4500; Jawai Camp: Firefox Target bikes.*
- Private charter flight: Delhi-Agra-Jodhpur
- Aircraft: PILATUS PC-12 (06 Pax + 02 Pilots) Single Turbo Propeller, pressurized with AC, maximum baggage allowance in the hold: 150kg.
- Scheduled flight in Economy Class: Udaipur-Delhi
- Baggage allowance – 30kg per person + 7kg hand baggage
- All transportation from rendezvous to drop-off in an air-conditioned vehicle (Toyota Fortuner or similar)
- Entrances to any monuments in the itinerary
- Porter's fee at the airports
- All tips to restaurants, hotels, drivers and day-guides

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- International flights
- Visas
- Meals not listed as included
- Beverages
- Cancellation insurance
- Items of a personal nature
- Early check-in or late check-out
- Gratuity to your B&R accompanying guide

Please note that your final itinerary may vary slightly from this one as we continuously research and develop each trip, customizing your experience to match your interests and tastes. Inclement weather—though we'd like to think there won't be any—may also necessitate minor alterations. ©2015 Butterfield & Robinson Inc.

GENERAL INDIA TRAVEL INFORMATION

Visa Formalities

All visitors are required to obtain a visa, most often in their home country. A new visa-on-arrival system was implemented in 2014 for holders of passports of the following countries:

Australia, Brazil, Cambodia, Cook Islands, Djibouti, Fiji, Finland, Germany, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kiribati, Laos, Luxembourg, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia, Myanmar, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue Island, Norway, Oman, Palau, Palestine, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Russia, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Thailand, Tonga, Tuvalu, UAE, Ukraine, USA, Vanuatu, Vietnam.

For more information: <https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/visa/tvoa.html>

Passport

You must be in possession of a valid passport, which will not expire for at least six months after your journey is due to end. It should have two clear pages for entry and exit stamps as well as your visa. A wise precaution is to carry a photocopy of your passport kept separately.

Insurance

While travelling in India it is important that you obtain good personal travel insurance. A suitable policy will include an unlimited amount for medical, hospital and additional health associated costs. Most policies cover loss of baggage, personal money (usually limited) delay and curtailment. Do make sure your policy covers you for unexpected cancellation of your trip in this unlikely event you will then be covered for financial cost. You should carry your insurance policy with you at all time, preferably in your relevant details in a separate place, with your passport photocopy.

Foreign Exchange

Visiting foreigners can exchange money at international airports where 24-hour exchange facilities are available, through banks and approved moneychangers. Or, you may change money at the big city hotels. You can also change money at national or international banks such as Standard Chartered, Citibank, Bank of America, Hong Kong Bank and others in the major metro cities. Most of these have 24-hour ATMs. American Express and Thomas Cook offices may be found in major metros and tourist cities.

Bank timings are usually from 1000 hrs to 1700 hrs on weekdays and 1000hrs to 1400 hrs on Saturdays. Please remember that not all banks will exchange foreign currency or travellers cheques particularly in small towns.

Exchange money only through authorized banks or Money Changers. Insist on a receipt/encashment certificate when changing money. Retain all receipts to facilitate re-conversion of unspent money on departure from India. The current exchange rate of the USD to the Indian Rupee is 1 USD=Rs 63.

Travelers Cheques/Credit Cards

Travelers Cheques should be of well-known brands like Thomas Cook, American Express and Visa. Large establishments generally accept Major Credit Cards like American Express, Master Cards, Diners Club, Visa, etc, including hotels, shops and airlines.

ATMs are available at various locations in Bangalore, Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi, Hyderabad and Madras, and some of the smaller metros along popular travel circuits, and user cards must be compatible with Amex, Cirrus, Maestro, MasterCard, Visa/Visa Electron/Visa Plus.

Currency

India's currency is 'Rupee', abbreviated as 'Rs'. One Rupee is equal to 100 paise. Coins are in various small denominations of 10, 25, 50 Paise (these are rarely in circulation these days) & 1, 2, & 5, Rupees. Notes (Bills) are in denominations of 10, 20, 50, 100, 500 & 1000 Rupees.

Dress

Most of the hotels are smart but not hugely formal and the smart casual label is the best description for suggested dress code. Do carry a warm coat/jersey for early morning starts and especially for any train journeys, as the onboard air-conditioning can be very severe. Places of religious worship should be respected by covering shoulders and above the knee – it is therefore advised that on any days of sightseeing or exploration that you follow this guide line to be on the safe side. It is strongly advised that you carry a hat for sightseeing and exploring to keep off the mid-day sun.

Shopping

India can be described as a shopper's paradise with products such as hand-woven rugs, inlaid marble, semi-precious stone jewelry, silk fabrics, brassware, etc. India's diversity is expressed through the creation of master craftspeople. Each state has a unique handicraft to proudly reflect the inherited skills. Souvenir shops and art & craft emporiums are to be found everywhere. Consult your guidebook or the local guides and people. Usually the "pavement markets" do not guarantee the products and they do not accept credit / debit cards. Genuine products can only be guaranteed at a government showroom or branded showroom. Shopping can be one of the ways to interact with a local. For people who like to bargain, shopping is a true pleasure. For others, fixed priced stores are a relief. Whatever transaction you prefer, we hope your purchase that was made in India, will remind you of your trip. Yes, the guides do take you to shops and showrooms, while you are on tour. You can say "no" when you don't want to visit the shops or not interested in shopping with a guide. But when you do visit the store with the guide, you do not necessarily pay a higher price for a substandard product. As this is a worldwide phenomenon, we accept it too with its "blues". What we have done is, selected a few stores both privately owned & government owned (but in both cases Government recognized) at important destinations, where we are sure of two things: 1) Quality of the product, 2) The product if too heavy should be delivered at your doorstep without any extra cost even if the extra cost needs to be added to the price of the product. As for price,

some are fixed price & some are bargain shops. So go ahead and enjoy the shopping – and please ask our advice at any time.

Tipping

It is usual to tip the waiters, porters, guides and drivers. Tips are not included in the bills, whether of hotels, transport companies or any other suppliers. At hotels and restaurants, about 10% of the bill is usually acceptable.

Though we give below the general guidelines, it is to be remembered that tipping is a sign of gratification for good service, and therefore please view the below guidelines as the middle ground, which can be adjusted depending on the level of service you feel you have received.

Please note the below amounts are per couple/individual traveler.

Guides, Escorts and Transport:

Accompanying Guide	\$60-90 USD per day.
Guide (Full Day)	Rs 500 – Rs 800 per day
Guide (Half Day)	Rs 400 – Rs 600 per day
Tour Escort	Rs 500 – Rs 800 per day
Driver for the tour	Rs 300 – Rs 500 per day
Driver for local duties	Rs 300 per day
Elephants at Amber Fort	Rs 50 per elephant

Hotels/ Restaurants:

Bell Boy	Rs 30 – Rs 50 per member of staff
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Room Service & Restaurants:

About 10% of the bill total (Unless service is mentioned as included)

*Please note: Some hotels, The Oberoi Group and many smaller Heritage properties for example, have a general tipping system in place.

Electricity

In India voltage is 220 volts AC, 50 cycles, though some areas also have DC supplies. Visitors are advised to check the voltage before using electrical appliances. Socket sizes vary, so it is as well to take a set of plug adapters, available from most electrical stores.

Prohibited Articles

The Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act bans all forms of wildlife trade. Violations of the provisions of the Act are punishable with heavy fines and imprisonment up to 7 years. Foreigners are, therefore, advised not to buy any wildlife or wildlife products or derivatives especially ivory articles, fur and skin articles derived from wild animals such as Shahtoosh.

Photography

Visitors to India find varied subjects for photography including people, monuments, wildlife, festivities, and landscapes. Note, however, these formalities, in respect of photography:

- Special permission of the Archaeological Survey of India, New Delhi, is required for use of tripod and artificial light on monuments.
- Special permission of Government of India is required for any photography for the purpose of publicity and commercial use.
- Photography is prohibited in tribal areas.
- Taking photographs of airports, railway stations, bridges, military installations, and from the air is prohibited.

Visiting Places of Worship

Removing one's shoes before entering temples, mosques or Gurudwaras (Sikh Temple) is essential. Avoid taking leather goods of any kinds (bag, belt etc) and cigarettes into places of worship, as these are often not permitted. Do not wear shorts or sleeveless tops in places of public worship.

Inoculations/Vaccinations

Before traveling to India it is advised that you get vaccinations for tetanus, hepatitis, and typhoid. Consult your doctor before taking them / also take advice on other vaccinations for meningitis and tuberculosis. Most vaccination courses are completed within four weeks, best taken before the trip. Malaria preventive course may be taken before your trip, but again this should be consulted with your doctor.