# India: Delhi, Agra & Jaipur

Pre-departure information for your tour



# Passport, visa & entry requirements

- In order to enter India, U.S. and Canadian citizens need a valid passport with an expiration date extending at least six months beyond the date of return.
- We recommend having at least two blank passport pages for entry stamps.
- U.S. and Canadian passport holders must obtain a visa in advance in order to enter India. You may choose to apply directly to the <u>Indian consulate</u> or use a visa provider, such as our partner company, <u>VisaCentral</u>. Obtaining an Indian visa will be an additional cost. *Please note: Canadian citizens are not eligible for the Indian E-Visa at this time*.
- If you're not a U.S. or Canadian citizen, you must contact the Indian consulate for specific entry requirements.
- You can see the most up-to-date entry requirements for the destination(s) you'll visit on tour by going to <u>goaheadtours.com/</u> <u>entry-requirements</u> and searching the code GTI.

### Tour pacing & mobility

- You will walk for about 1.5 hours daily across moderately uneven terrain, including paved roads and cobblestone streets, with some hills and stairs.
- Travelers should be healthy enough to participate in all included walks without assistance.
- You should feel comfortable managing your own luggage at times, as well as getting in and out of trains and small boats.
- Go Ahead Tours and the Tour Director who accompanies your group are unable to provide special, individual mobility assistance to travelers on tour. The responsibility of the Tour Director is to ensure the group as a whole enjoys a relaxing and informative journey, and he or she cannot be relied upon to provide ongoing, individualized assistance to any one traveler.
- If you have any mobility concerns or physical restrictions, please contact our Customer Experience Team.

### **Transportation & arrival**

### information

- Round-trip flights booked through Go Ahead Tours arrive in and depart from Delhi (or from Mumbai on the tour extension). A representative from Go Ahead Tours will meet you at the airport and take you to your hotel. Please remain in the arrival lounge, as the representative might be escorting one of your fellow travelers to the bus at the time of your arrival.
- Transfers to and from the airport at your destination are included for travelers who have purchased their flights through Go Ahead Tours. Travelers who purchase their own flights may request airport transfers with Go Ahead Tours for an additional cost.
- A train ride from Fatehpur Sikri to Ranthambore is included in the price of the tour. (The tour extension includes flights from Jaipur to Cochin and Cochin to Mumbai, as well as a houseboat cruise through the Kerala Backwaters).
- All other included transportation on this tour is by private motor coach.

### Baggage allowance

- Please note that our travelers are limited to one checked bag and one carry-on bag per person due to storage limitations on motor coaches and other transfers, which may include train connections or flights.
- Contact your airline(s) for baggage size and weight restrictions for your flights, which may include on-tour flights in addition to your round-trip flights to and from tour.
  Please note that your included on-tour flights may have more restrictive baggage limits.
- Some airlines may impose additional charges if you choose to check any baggage or exceed baggage size and weight restrictions. Be advised that you are responsible for any baggage fees incurred on all flights.
- Please note that the flights included on the tour extension may have baggage restrictions as low as 33lbs for checked bags and 15lbs for carry-on bags. You will be responsible for any costs associated with overweight baggage.
- Make sure you label your baggage and keep valuables, medication, and documents in

your carry-on bag.

# **Clothing & packing tips**

- We recommend packing lightweight, loosefitting clothing that can be easily layered to accommodate varying temperatures, as well as a light jacket or rainwear.
- A sturdy pair of walking shoes or sneakers is recommended for sightseeing.
- Waterproof shoes or sandals, a swimsuit, sunscreen, and insect repellent are recommended for outdoor activities.
- Binoculars are handy for a closer look at local wildlife and scenery.
- You may want to pack dressier attire if you plan to visit a high-end restaurant or attend a special performance.
- It is preferable not to visit temples or other religious sites with bare legs and shoulders (and entrance may be denied on this basis).

### Health

- At least 60 days prior to departure, check with your doctor or healthcare provider for the latest updates and entry requirements, or visit the Center for Disease Control and Prevention website at cdc.gov.
- Local governments may require proof of a yellow fever vaccination (often referred to as a yellow card) or a statement of medical exemption from the vaccine. This is only required of travelers arriving from a country with a risk of yellow fever virus transmission (Please note: This does not include the U.S. or Canada). Visit cdc.gov/yellowfever for more information.
- Take proper care with sun exposure, the sun can be especially strong in some of the regions on this tour.
- Drink bottled water only. Refrain from ingesting tap water, including when brushing your teeth.
- Avoid eating fresh fruits and vegetables unless they're cooked or washed in clean water and peeled.
- Public restrooms in India can be quite bare. We suggest carrying bathroom tissue and hand sanitizer with you.
- If you have medication that you take daily, be sure you have enough for each day of the tour and any possible delays encountered.

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- If you have dietary restrictions and/or food allergies please notify Go Ahead Tours at least 30 days prior to your departure by logging in to your account and updating your traveler info. To update this information closer to your departure date, please call our Customer Experience Team.
- You can see the most up-to-date entry requirements for the destination(s) you'll visit on tour by going to goaheadtours.com/ entry-requirements and searching the code GTI.

### Cuisine

 In the northern regions of India, you'll encounter a great deal of flavorful meat dishes, as well as *kebabs* and *biryanis*. In tandoor cooking, probably the most popular cuisine in this region, vegetables, paneer (Indian cheese), or meat is marinated in spiced yogurt and cooked over coals. As many Indians are vegetarians, meat-free options abound. Meals are usually served with rice or bread, such as unleavened *roti* or deep-fried *puri*. Many of your included meals will be buffet style, which will allow you to try a variety of new dishes.

## Electricity & air conditioning

- India operates on 230 volts and uses a type D plug with two small, round pins and one larger round pin.
- We recommend packing a universal adapter, as well as a voltage converter if you plan on using your own hairdryer or other device without a built-in converter.
- The strength of the air conditioning in Asian hotels is often not as strong or as cool as what one might be used to in the U.S. or Canada. When air conditioning is available, it is usually regulated seasonally and controlled centrally by the hotel.
- Your hotels may provide hairdryers, irons, and other small appliances. However, these amenities cannot be guaranteed.

## Connectivity

- Wi-Fi is available in most hotels, though some charges may apply.
- There is no Wi-Fi on any of the motor

coaches.

Please contact your mobile service provider for information on roaming charges.

#### **Time zones**

- India is 10.5 hours ahead of Eastern Time (ET) and does not observe Daylight Saving Time.
- When it's noon in New York, it's 10:30pm in Delhi from November through March and 9:30pm from April through October.

### Currency

- You will use the Indian rupee on this tour.
- Better rates of exchange are usually available overseas, though you may want to order some currency from your local bank or a foreign currency exchange retailer, such as Travelex, before you arrive.
- Travelers may carry up to 25,000 Indian rupees into the country when entering through an airport. Travelers may bring up to 25,000 Indian rupees out of India unless continuing on to Bhutan or Nepal.
- If you wish, you can also obtain rupees through a currency exchange booth at the airport upon your arrival in India. Keep receipt of your exchange.
- Cash is the preferred method of payment across India. Some larger vendors may accept international debit and credit cards, such as MasterCard and Visa, though it is uncommon and a minimum payment is generally required.
- Inform your bank and credit card company of your travel plans so that they won't confuse your international purchases for fraudulent charges.

### Tipping

- At the conclusion of your tour, it's customary to offer your Tour Director and driver a gratuity in local currency. Please keep current exchange rates in mind.
- We recommend tipping the equivalent of \$7USD to \$10USD per person per day for your Tour Director and the equivalent of \$3USD per person per day for your driver.
- If applicable, we also recommend the equivalent of \$2USD per local guide.

 Tips can only be paid in cash. International travel is, by its very nature, unpredictable. We must therefore reserve the right to change this itinerary, without advance notice, to meet with local conditions at the time of travel. We appreciate you understanding. Please refer to our website for Terms & Conditions, dates, and prices.