



India Explorer Tour & Volunteer

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Project overview



What's included:

- 24/7 support in case of emergencies

Visit: <https://www.truexperiencetravel.co.uk> - Call us on: +44 (0) 1494 526163 or +44 (0) 7951 536023

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- Accommodation
- Airport Pick up
- English speaking coordinator
- Meals
- Orientation

What's not included:

- Airport drop off
- Flights
- Travel insurance
- Vaccination
- Visa

Project itinerary

Your adventure in India begins with 2 weeks Packed full of activities exploring the Indian culture and country before finishing off your experience with a week of volunteering in The Buddhist monastery of Sikkim.

Arrive at Dabolim airport, Goa where you will be met by coordinators who will take you on the 45 minute transfer to the North Goan base.

Week 1

Day 1: Monday

After your arrival at Dabolim Airport in Goa on Sunday, our coordinators will receive you at the airport and transfer you to our base in North Goa which is about a 45 minute drive.

You will be introduced to your fellow travelers and other participants working on various social projects. Begin with an orientation session which will take you through Indian culture, do's and don'ts as a traveler in India, and safety precautions during your travel. We then go out to visit the famous colorful Goan market and visit the North Goan beach to watch the sun go down the Arabian sea.

Day 2: Tuesday

We begin our day with a visit to old Goa, the part which was previously a Portuguese colony. Admire the beautiful Portuguese architecture and visit the beautiful spice plantation hidden away in the



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mountains and enjoy some great spread of Indian food in the pristine location. Later in the evening, we go for a Bollywood movie.

Day 3: Wednesday

You will learn cooking Goan food and visit the beach for a few hours.

Day 4: Thursday

In the morning we will give you a Hindi language class, teaching you a few words which will be helpful for you through your travel in India. In the afternoon after lunch you will go and visit Fort Aguada before taking an evening bus to Hampi on a journey back in time, ruins of an ancient Hindu kingdom and a world UNESCO heritage site.

Day 5: Friday

Check into a beautifully located guest house close to the river Tunga. We then go on a bicycle tour of this ancient kingdom to visit amazingly carved temples and witness breathtaking views of the kingdom. In the evening, experience Yoga at Sunset on a hill overlooking the mountains.

Day 6: Saturday

Begin your day with Yoga at Sunrise and meditation and go on a coracle ride in the river Tunga and witness this kingdom through another perspective. In the evening, we depart to another destination called Mysore.

Day 7: Sunday

Check into a beautiful guest house and visit the famous Mysore Palace and an impressive Indian temple situated on a hill. In the evening we visit the Palace light illumination.

Week 2

Day 8: Monday

Visit the famous Mysore Devaraj Urs market and taste a spread of south Indian food. We then visit a silk factory where you can witness the making of silk sarees.

In the evening we take a bus to the backwaters of Kerala.

Day 9: Tuesday

Arrive in the morning. After breakfast get an Ayurvedic massage and later check into a boathouse. Here you will cruise the whole day in the backwaters, and enjoy dinner on the boat and an overnight stay in the boathouse. You will also get a chance to visit markets along the backwaters.



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Day 10: Wednesday

Later in the morning, we depart to Munnar also called the blue hills of tea plantations, one of the biggest in south of India. Munnar is a hill station in the Western Ghats located in the state of Kerala. Munnar which was a former resort for the British Raj elite, is set within rolling hills dotted with tea plantations established in the 19th century.

Witness the traditional art of Kalaripayattu and Kathakali dance at Punarjani traditional village. Stay overnight at a guest house situated in the mountains overlooking the plantations.

Day 11: Thursday

Departure to Madurai.

As the third largest city of Tamil Nadu, Madurai is a city known for its historical and cultural significance, the first association with the city being the acclaimed Meenakshi Amman Temple. In fact, the city has been constructed in the form of a lotus around the Meenakshi Amman temple. An ancient city with a rich cultural and architectural heritage, it is called the 'Athens of the east'; but Madurai, arguably, has as much as history as Athens itself. The Greeks traded with the then Pandya kingdom from the 3rd to the 10th century B.C.

Day 12: Friday

Madurai. Sightseeing in Madurai where you will visit 3 iconic temples, witness a Carnatic music concert in a temple.

Day 13: Saturday

We take a flight to Bagdogra and by road to Gangtok the capital of Sikkim.

Sikkim is a small state in northwest India, bordered by Bhutan, Tibet and Nepal. Part of the Himalayas, the area has a dramatic landscape including India's highest mountain, 8,586m Kanchenjunga. Sikkim is also home to glaciers, alpine meadows and thousands of varieties of wildflowers. Steep paths lead to hilltop Buddhist monasteries such as Pemayangtse, which dates to the early 1700s.

Day 14: Sunday

Rest Day in Gangtok, Sikkim. Evening we go to explore the town of Gangtok, the capital of Sikkim.

Week 3

Day 15-19: Monday to Friday



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Help in renovation activities at the Buddhist monastery in Sikkim

Day 20: Saturday

A day for you to relax and go shopping if you choose to.

Day 21: Sunday

Departure

A few things to consider while you are with us

- Participants are requested to be back at the centre or guest houses by 22:30 everyday
- Participants will not be entertained to hire any vehicles on their own
- Consumption of alcohol is strictly prohibited at all our centres
- Respect and adhere to our code of conduct
- Our staff is there to support you and to guide you and make your trip memorable, we request you to kindly follow their instructions at all times.
- You will not be allowed to bring outsiders inside our centres, guest houses or hotels
- Please provide your mobile phone number during the time of booking, as this will be useful for us to contact you at the Goa Airport as this is quite a crowded airport, and we would not want to lose you!

This schedule can be changed and/or amended depending on weather conditions, local conditions and unforeseen circumstances.

Mode of transportation could change due to unavoidable circumstances.



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APPLICATION FORM

		Booking ref:	
Fullname			
Nationality		Passport number	
Age	Male Female	Date of birth	
e-mail address		Phone number	
Flight Details		Home address	
Contact person at home (In case of an emergency)		Contact number (In case of an emergency)	

Do you have any health problems or allergies we should know about?

To complete your placement we will require the following:

- Copy of your passport
- CV
- Full flight itinerary
- Proof of travel insurance
- Consent to travel for young people over 17 but under 18 years old (see attached consent form attached)