

# ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

## INDIA

### PASSPORT AND VISA INFORMATION

Your passport needs to be valid for **at least six (6) months** after your journey ends and should have a minimum of two (2) blank visa pages for entry and exit stamps.

**A tourist visa is required for U.S. and Canadian passport holders for entry into India and must be obtained prior to departure.** There are currently two options available as outlined below. A&K recommends an electronic visa (eVisa).

**Electronic Visa (eVisa):** To apply for an eVisa, visit [indianvisaonline.gov.in/visa/tvoa.html](http://indianvisaonline.gov.in/visa/tvoa.html). The current fee for a double-entry visa is USD \$100 (subject to change without notice). Do not apply for an eVisa earlier than 120 days and no later than four days before your scheduled date of arrival. Read and follow all instructions carefully to ensure a smooth arrival in India. You may be required to upload documents (e.g. passport photo or copy of your passport information page) to complete the eVisa process. If you experience technical problems with the eVisa website, try again a few hours later or the following day.

Please be aware that eVisas are valid for entry through 26 designated airports, most commonly Mumbai, Delhi and Chennai, and five seaports. A list of valid entry points will be displayed in the eVisa process. If you are arriving into India via any other point of entry, eVisas are not applicable and you must obtain a visa stamp in your passport.

**Visa Stamp:** A visa stamp in your passport can be obtained by applying through a visa processing service. While there are additional costs involved in using a visa service, this option is available for guests who prefer assistance in the visa process. This type of visa has a 10-year validity and allows multiple visits with stays of up to 90 days per visit.

Our partner VisaCentral offers easy, efficient U.S. passport and visa processing. Visit them online at [visacentral.com/abercrombiekent](http://visacentral.com/abercrombiekent) or call 844 823 1224 and reference A&K's account number 73001. Service fees apply.

Citizens of other countries should contact the appropriate consular office for entry requirements pertaining to their journey.

### VACCINATIONS

A yellow fever vaccination is only required to enter India if you are arriving from, or have transited through, a yellow fever-endemic area in South America or Africa. The CDC and WHO each provide a current list of all affected countries. If vaccination for yellow fever is necessary, you must carry an International Certificate of Vaccination provided by your physician; you may be denied entry without it. If your physician advises against receiving the vaccination because of your personal medical history, he or she can provide you with the necessary documentation for the country/countries you are visiting.

### CASH & CREDIT CARDS

Cash transactions can generally be made in either U.S. dollars or local currency. U.S. dollars should be recently issued bills in smaller denominations. The import and export of Indian Rupees is strictly prohibited unless you are a resident of India. So make certain to conduct any currency exchanges within India. Major credit cards are accepted on a limited basis, mainly in the larger shops, hotels and restaurants. Access to ATM machines is widespread in cities and towns but limited in rural areas.

# PACKING LIST & BAGGAGE RESTRICTIONS INDIA

## BAGGAGE RESTRICTIONS

On domestic flights within India, each passenger must adhere to the following baggage restrictions based on class of service:

**Checked Baggage in Economy Class:** Each passenger is limited to one piece of checked baggage with a maximum weight of approximately 33 pounds (15 kilograms). Dimensions should not exceed 62 total inches (158 centimeters).

**Checked Baggage in Business Class:** Each passenger is limited to two pieces of checked baggage with a maximum, combined weight of approximately 66 pounds (30 kilograms). Dimensions of any single item should not exceed 62 total inches (158 centimeters).

**Carry-On Baggage in both Economy and Business Class:** Each passenger is limited to one piece of luggage with a maximum weight of approximately 15 pounds (7 kilograms). Dimensions should not exceed 22 inches (56 centimeters) x 14 inches (35 centimeters) x 9 inches (23 centimeters).

Please use the provided A&K luggage tags, even if your bags already have ID tags. This makes it easier for A&K staff to collect and manage your luggage for you.

### Special Restrictions on Power Packs, Cellphone or Computer batteries:

On Internal Air flights within India, power packs, cell phone and computer batteries are not allowed to be brought onto airplanes in checked luggage. They can only be brought onto the plane in carry-on luggage. Specifications of the power pack must be labeled on the power pack. Airport security officers have the right to confiscate any items that violate these restrictions.

## PACKING LIST

Choose versatile, casual clothing that can be layered if the weather requires. Smart casual attire is appropriate for evenings. Formal clothing is not necessary.

Temples and other religious sites require modest dress to enter. Guests are advised to pack clothing that covers knees, shoulders, and upper arms for select visits. You may be required to remove shoes when entering sacred sites.

### Clothing

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Casual slacks                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Walking shorts                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Polo shirts, casual short-sleeve shirts or blouses | <input type="checkbox"/> Long sleeve shirts or blouses                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sweater or lightweight jacket                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Long comfortable skirts for women                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Comfortable walking shoes with traction            | <input type="checkbox"/> Lightweight raincoat or poncho                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brimmed hat for sun protection                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Sleepwear   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Personal garments                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Socks   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Swimwear/cover-up                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Foldable umbrella for rain protection and sun shade |

### Other Recommended Items

- Sunglasses
- Simple first-aid kit
- Extra eyeglasses/contact lenses
- Charging cables for electronics
- Sun block / Insect repellent
- Prescriptions and medications (in their original bottles and/or packaging)
- Smartphone
- Global travel adapter

#### Optional Items

- Small LED flashlight
- Lightweight binoculars
- Foldable walking stick
- Small daypack or fanny pack

Laundry service is available at most hotels and dry cleaning is available in larger cities. Check costs and return times before using these services.

## TIPPING GUIDELINES INDIA

While decisions regarding tipping rest entirely with you, we suggest the following gratuities (noted in U.S. dollars) depending on the type of journey.

	<b>All Small Group Journeys and Pre/Post Tour Group Extensions</b>	<b>Tailor Made and Signature Journeys</b>
Resident Tour Director or Group Extension Guide	\$15 per person, per day	Not applicable
Local Guides	Included	\$20 per person, per day (full day)
Drivers	Included	\$10 per person, per day (full day)
Airport Transfer Drivers	Included	\$5 per person, per transfer
Hotel Porters	Included	\$2 per bag
Cruise Vessel or Rail Staff (if applicable)	Included	\$15 per person, per day – Gratuities are accepted on board and shared among the staff.
Housekeepers	Included	\$2 per person, per night
Included Meals	Included	Included
Restaurants or Room Service on Own	10-15% unless already added	10-15% unless already added

For extra nights or Tailor Made services added to a Small Group Journey, please follow the Tailor Made Journeys guidelines for these days only.