

Visa for India

The instruction and information given here is general in nature, however for specific information, you need to visit the site of the Indian embassy or consulate in your country.

1. Passport valid for a minimum of six months beyond the date of intended departure from India should accompany visa applications.
2. Paste one photo and staple the other one on the form at specified place.
3. Foreigners holding other nationalities (other than the country where applying for visa), should submit proof of long-term (at least three years)/ permanent residence in the country (where applying). For citizen of other countries, a reference has to be made to their country of residence for which an additional fee is applicable and will involve extra processing time. Please refrain from making inquiries about the status of application during this time.
4. Following visas are available from the Indian missions abroad:

- **TOURIST VISA**

Is given for 6 months normally, rest specifically depends on the country of residence. The applicant is required to produce/submit documents in proof of his financial standing. Tourist travelling in groups of not less than four members under the auspices of a recognised travel agency may be considered for grant of collective tourist visa.

- **BUSINESSVISA**

Valid for one or more year with multiple entries. A letter from sponsoring organization indicating nature of business, probable duration of stay, places and organizations to be visited incorporating there in a guarantee to meet maintenance expenses, etc. should accompany the application.

- **STUDENTVISA**

Are issued for the duration of the academic course of study or for a period of five years whichever is less, on the basis of firm letters of admission from Universities/recognised colleges or educational institutions in India. Change of purpose and institutions are not permissible.

- **TRANSIT VISA**

Are issued for a maximum period of 15-days with single/double entry facilities to bonafide transit passengers only.

- **JOURNALIST VISA**

Are issued to professional journalists and photographers for visiting India. The applicants are required to contact on arrival in New Delhi, the External Publicity Division of the Ministry of External Affairs and in other places, the Office of the Government of India's Press Information Bureaus.

- **CONFERENCE VISA**

Are issued for attending conferences/seminars/meetings in India. A letter of invitation from the organiser of the conference is to be submitted alongwith the visa application. Delegates coming to attend conferences may combine tourism with attending conferences

- **EMPLOYMENT VISA**

Are issued to skilled and qualified professionals or persons who are engaged or appointed by companies, organisations, economic undertakings as technicians, technical experts, senior executives etc. Applicants are required to submit proof of contract/employment/engagement of of foreign nationals by the company or organisation.

- **FEES**

The fee structure depends on the nationality of the passport holder and type/duration of visa applied. The existing fee structure is:

• Transit Visa	US\$ 5.00
• Visas with validity upto six months	US\$ 30.00
• Visas with validity upto one year	US\$ 50.00
• Student Visa	US\$ 50.00
• Visas with validity between one to five years	US\$100.00

Visa fees indicated in US\$ are payable in local currencies as well. Visa fees are not refundable except in cases where a visa already issued is cancelled thereafter.

- **PROCESSINGDURATION**

Depends on the type of visa applied.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION:

The duration of stay in India, for each visit on a tourist visa or business visa is only for a period of 6 months even though a valid visa may be for more than 6 months.

Visa is given for a period for which passport is valid. For example, if a passport is valid until April 30,2003 and an applicant is applying for 5 years visa on December 31,1999, the applicant will not be issued a 5 years visa as the passport expires before the 5 year visa.

Issue of a visa for India after sending in the application forms is normally 24 hours.

Validity of all visas is counted from the date of their issue.

- Tourist visa up to 5 years may be granted if the foreigner is connected with the tourism trade.
- If visa is for more than 180 days, registration is compulsory within 14 days of first arrival in India.
- Extension of visa in Delhi- MHA- Director(F), Lok Nayak Bhawan, 1st floor, Khan market, New Delhi- 110003.

Important websites: <http://passport.nic.in/> ; all information about visa and possibility to download an applicationform.

<http://meaindia.nic.in/> ; Indian ministry of foreign affairs.

General Requirements for Visa

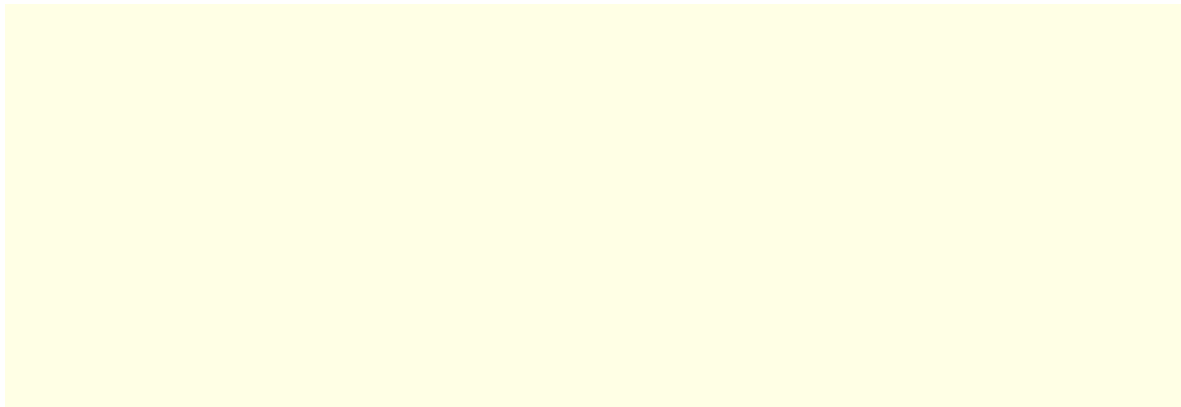
1. Original passport valid for at least 6 months
2. Correct visa fee
3. Two passport size photographs (5 photographs in case of Pakistani Nationals)
4. Supporting documents, where necessary
5. Duly completed application form (Pakistani and Bangladeshi Nationals need to apply on special application forms)

Tourist Visa

Tourists wishing to visit India will normally be granted tourist Visa, effective from the date of issue. Tourist Visa are non-extendible and non-convertible. Travel Agents who have to visit India frequently may be granted tourist Visa for a longer duration.

Business Visa

Business Visa are normally granted for 3 or 6 months. However, multiple-entry Business Visa for up to 2 years validity may be granted to technicians/experts going to India in pursuance of bilateral agreements or joint venture projects having government approval.



Recommended Vaccinations and Preventive Medications

The following vaccines may be recommended for your travel to South Asia. Discuss your travel plans and personal health with a health-care provider to determine which vaccines you will need.

- [Hepatitis A](#) or immune globulin (IG). Transmission of hepatitis A virus can occur through direct person-to-person contact; through exposure to contaminated water, ice, or shellfish harvested in contaminated water; or from fruits, vegetables, or other foods that are eaten uncooked and that were contaminated during harvesting or subsequent handling.
- [Hepatitis B](#), especially if you might be exposed to blood or body fluids (for example, health-care workers), have sexual contact with the local population, or be exposed through medical treatment. Hepatitis B vaccine is now recommended for all infants and for children ages 11–12 years who did not receive the series as infants.
- [Japanese encephalitis](#), if you plan to visit rural farming areas and under special circumstances, such as a known outbreak of Japanese encephalitis.
- Malaria: your risk of malaria may be high in these countries, including cities. See your health care provider for a prescription antimalarial drug. For details concerning risk and preventive medications, see [Malaria Information for Travelers to South Asia](#).
- [Rabies](#), if you might have extensive unprotected outdoor exposure in rural areas, such as might occur during camping, hiking, or bicycling, or engaging in certain occupational activities.
- [Typhoid](#). Typhoid fever can be contracted through contaminated drinking water or food, or by eating food or drinking beverages that have been handled by a person who is infected. Large outbreaks are most often related to fecal contamination of water supplies or foods sold by street vendors. Vaccination is particularly important because of the presence of *S. typhi* strains resistant to multiple antibiotics in this region. There have been recent reports of [typhoid drug resistance in India and Nepal](#).
- As needed, booster doses for [tetanus-diphtheria](#) and [measles](#), and a one-time dose of [polio](#) for adults.

Required Vaccinations

None.

Health Precautions

- Always drink bottled water.
- For the first few days it might be advisable to clean your teeth in bottled water.
- Eat fruit you can peel.
- Always wash fruit well before eating it.
- Wash your hands before and after eating.
- Always keep a tube of mosquito repellent with you.
- Always carry a kit of the basic emergency medicines you might need for diarrhoea, fever, etc. Also, band aids and an antiseptic ointment.
- If you do catch a bug, do not panic. It will go away in a few days - but try the following tips to keep it down:
 - Drink lassi - a yoghurt drink. It will help tone down the bacteria.
 - Eat plain rice, or try a simple khichdi - an easily digestible mixture of rice and lentils.
 - Drink plenty of coconut water. It's cooling, and naturally sterilized!
 - Drink plenty of fluids and take some electrolyte salts if the bug persists.

Time difference between Europe and India

GMT + 5.5 hours

General information about India

Country name: Republic of India

Area: 3.30 million square km

Population: 1,05 billion citizens

Capital City: New Delhi

People: 70% Indo Aryan, 27% Dravidian, 3% other

Language: Hindi, English, Malayalam, Urdu, Telugu, Tamil, Marathi, Kashmiri, Gujarati, Bengali and 844 dialects

Religion: 81% Hindu, 13% Muslim, 2.4% Christian, 2% Sikh, 0.7% Buddhist, 0.5% Jains, 0.4% other religions

Government: Federal Republic

Head of Indian State: President A.P.J. Abdul Kalam

Head of Indian Government: Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh

Gross Domestic Product: US\$2.2 trillion

Gross Domestic Product per capita: US\$2,200

Annual Growth per year: 5.3%

Inflation per year: 5.3%

Major Industries: Food processing, fish, steel, transportation services, communication and IT services, software development, cementing, mining, petroleum, rice, oilseed, cotton, jute, machinery, tea, sugarcane, potatoes, cattle, wheat, water buffalo, chemicals, sheep, goats, poultry, textiles

Major Trading India Partners: United States, Hong Kong, Saudi Arabia, Germany, Belgium, UK, Japan

National emblem: Replica of the Lion Capital of Sarnath

National animal: Tiger, Panthera tigris

National fruit: Mango

National tree: Banyan

National flower: Lotus

National bird: Peacock

Weather Mumbai

