

INDIA

India, officially the Republic of India, is a country located in South Asia. It borders with the following countries: Pakistan, China, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh and Myanmar; its coasts are lapped by the Arabian Sea and the Indian Ocean. It is a country of great geographical contrasts, as you can ride a camel through its desert dunes, paddle a boat through the rivers in its tropical regions or climb the highest mountains of the Himalayas.

The contrast in the landscape is found in its people as well. Different cultures live and coexist in this country that is divided into 28 states and 7 union territories. There are numerous religions professed in this country; although Hinduism is the most practiced religion. You can find other religions as well like the Muslims, Catholics, Buddhists, Jains, etc...

Its capital is New Delhi, although the financial and economic center is in Mumbai. The official language is Hindi, although other languages like Pahari, Maharashtra or Punjabi are spoken. Independent since 1949 from the British Empire, India is today one of the world's major economies, with an annual average, much higher of that of many European countries.

One of the main objectives of the country is to curb social and economic inequalities that affect its society. Despite the fact of being one of the first economies of the world, more than half of India's population lives with less than Two euros per day.

Before traveling to India, you have to take into account the following:

Vaccination:

There are no compulsory vaccinations to travel to India; only yellow fever's vaccination certificate is required for travelers coming from countries where there is a risk of yellow fever transmission. However, there are other recommended vaccines such as Hepatitis A and B, typhoid, cholera and tetanus.

For more information, please visit your nearest international vaccination center

Visa:

The majority of citizens need a visa to travel to India. To volunteer for a short period, you can apply for tourism visa that can be valid for 6 months.

Weather:

As a subcontinent, India has great climatic contrasts depending on the region in which you find yourself. Except for the Himalayan region, the rest of the country has an intertropical and subtropical climate that depends each year of the monsoon, the rainy season, which starts in June and lasts until September.

In the north, in cities like New Delhi, the temperature drops in winter, while in the interior it stays warm but not excessively hot. As the winter passes and the spring gets closer, the percentage of humidity drops and the heat increases, making it from March until April, the hottest months in India.

Currency:

The currency of India is the rupee; currently circulating coins are 10, 25 and 50 paisa (as cents) and 1, 2, 5 and 10 rupees. As for the paper money, there are 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 500 and 1000Rs. The best option is to travel with dollars and change once you get there, either in the airport or at any trusted money exchange office in the country.

<http://www.xe.com/ucc/es/>