

We recommend that you check the weather forecast prior to your departure so that you can pack accordingly.

Average temperatures	February		
	Temp °C min/max	Humidity	Rain mm
DELHI	10 / 24	HIGH	20
AGRA	8 / 26	MED	18
JODPHUR	12 / 28	LOW	5
KHAJURAHO	11 / 28	MED	28
VARANASI	11 / 27	MED	8
MUMBAI	18 / 31	MED	1
KOCHI [Cochin]	25 / 31	MED	20
KOVALAM / TRIVANDRUM	23 / 31	HIGH	20
OOTY [highlands]	7 / 20	MED	10
CHENNAI [Madras]	21 / 31	HIGH	10
KATHMANDU	6 / 17	LOW	10
Average temperatures	March		
	Temp °C min/max	Humidity	Rain mm
DELHI	15 / 30	HIGH	10
AGRA	16 / 32	LOW	9
JODPHUR	17 / 33	LOW	3
KHAJURAHO	15 / 34	MED	8
VARANASI	17 / 33	HIGH	3
MUMBAI	21 / 33	MED	0
KOCHI [Cochin]	26 / 31	HIGH	40
KOVALAM / TRIVANDRUM	25 / 32	HIGH	40
OOTY [highlands]	9 / 22	MED	25
CHENNAI [Madras]	23 / 33	HIGH	10
KATHMANDU	10 / 21	LOW	30
KOLKATA [Calcutta]	21 / 34	HIGH	33
DARJEELING	6 / 14	MED	45
GANGTOK	9 / 18	LOW	122
THIMPU	4 / 16	LOW	23
WANGDUE PHODRANG	10 / 23	LOW	21
Average temperatures	April		
	Temp °C min/max	Humidity	Rain mm
DELHI	21 / 36	MED	10
AGRA	22 / 38	LOW	6
JODPHUR	23 / 38	HIGH	3
KHAJURAHO	22 / 40	MED	5
VARANASI	22 / 39	HIGH	4
MUMBAI	24 / 33	HIGH	0
KOCHI [Cochin]	26 / 31	HIGH	120
KOVALAM / TRIVANDRUM	26 / 32	VERY HIGH	110
OOTY [highlands]	11 / 22	MED	75
CHENNAI [Madras]	26 / 35	HIGH	10
KATHMANDU	13 / 25	MED	30
KOLKATA [Calcutta]	25 / 36	HIGH	51
DARJEELING	9 / 17	MED	104
GANGTOK	12 / 21	MED	270
THIMPU	7 / 20	LOW	58
WANGDUE PHODRANG	13 / 26	LOW	52

The best times to visit India are at the beginning and end of the year in the beginning and end of the cool season. Daytime temperatures are still quite high, but evenings are dryer and cooler. If your tour visits mountains or hill stations, temperatures and humidity levels will be significantly lower so you will need to take warmer clothes with you. The major cities in India are becoming increasingly westernised in their clothing and attitudes, however in the smaller towns and villages people still dress a little more traditionally and conservatively.

If you are visiting Ladakh, Little Tibet:

The best months to visit are **June, July, September, October and November**. These times of year experience the most favourable weather in Ladakh, when there is minimal rainfall and the best road conditions possible. However, no matter the time of year, or how warm it is, sudden and unpredictable drops in temperature, snow or storms can hit on the mountain passes. The sun is also much stronger at high altitude so you can be sunburnt more quickly.

These months are also the start and end of the hot season in Delhi and Amritsar so temperatures and humidity levels are higher. (See weather temperatures for Delhi, Amritsar, Dharamsala, Leh and Manali)

If you are visiting the Himalayan Kingdoms:

North-eastern India and southern Bhutan have a sub-tropical climate. During the months of **March, April and May** it is their equivalent to spring before the monsoon season and during the months of **September, October and November** it is their equivalent to autumn after the monsoon season – during these months it is the coolest and driest time of year. The lower altitude coastal plains experience warm and humid weather with cooler evenings. The higher altitude hill stations of Sikkim and mountainous areas of Bhutan are also at their most pleasant, although temperatures are significantly lower and there are occasional heavy rains. **Remember that at high altitude**, no matter the time of year; sudden and unpredictable drops in temperature, snow or storms can hit on the mountain passes. The sun is also much stronger so you can be sunburnt more quickly. (See weather temperatures for Kolkata, Darjeeling, Gangtok, Thimpu and Wangdue Phodrang). The monsoon usually arrives in mid-June, with light rain falling mainly in the afternoons and evenings.

Consider your packing carefully. Generally, casual clothes are recommended. Loose fitting, lightweight cotton materials are the most comfortable for humid weather, while layers of warmer clothes are advised for cooler evenings. A waterproof jacket will be required for the wetter conditions in April. The dress code throughout the tour is casual; however, it is important that all passengers dress conservatively. Smart casual clothes are suitable for evening banquets and shows, but are not compulsory.

Please note, due to restrictions on your internal flights, your luggage allowance is **15kg for checked luggage** and 5 kg for hand luggage.

Example packing list:

- ✓ Your travel documents and passport – including a photocopy of your passport in case it is lost or stolen whilst you are travelling. Keep one photocopy at home and take another photocopy on your trip with you.
- ✓ Main luggage and 'day bag' – a smaller bag to carry with you during the day.
- ✓ Luggage padlocks.

Average temperatures	May		
	Temp °C min/max	Humidity	Rain mm
DELHI	26 / 40	MED	10
AGRA	26 / 42	LOW	11
JODPHUR	27 / 41	MED	10
KHAJURAHO	27 / 42	MED	9
VARANASI	26 / 41	HIGH	10
MUMBAI	27 / 33	HIGH	21
KOCHI [Cochin]	26 / 31	HIGH	310
KOVALAM / TRIVANDRUM	25 / 31	VERY HIGH	200
OOTY [highlands]	11 / 22	HIGH	148
CHENNAI [Madras]	28 / 37	HIGH	40
KATHMANDU	17 / 26	HIGH	100
KOLKATA [Calcutta]	26 / 36	HIGH	126
DARJEELING	12 / 19	HIGH	182
GANGTOK	14 / 22	HIGH	527
THIMPU	13 / 23	LOW	122
WANGDUE PHODRANG	17 / 29	MED	60
Average temperatures	June		
	Temp °C min/max	Humidity	Rain mm
DELHI	28 / 40	MED	60
AMRITSAR	26 / 41	LOW	32
DHARAMSALA	22 / 31	MED	100
LEH	6 / 21	LOW	4
MANALI	12 / 27	LOW	74
Average temperatures	July		
	Temp °C min/max	Humidity	Rain mm
DELHI	27 / 35	VERY HIGH	200
AMRITSAR	26 / 37	HIGH	116
DHARAMSALA	20 / 27	HIGH	810
LEH	10 / 24	LOW	10
MANALI	15 / 26	LOW	217

- ✓ Money belt to carry passport, cash, credit cards, airline tickets, etc.
- ✓ Comfortable trousers & shorts (or skirts for women).
- ✓ Shirts or long-sleeved tops of light cotton material.
- ✓ Walking shoes, sandals and socks – it is important to have sturdy and comfortable shoes for sightseeing every day.
- ✓ A water/windproof jacket and small umbrella.
- ✓ Sun protection – hat, sunscreen, sunglasses and lip balm.
- ✓ Personal medical kit – please refer to your *Travel Guide*.
- ✓ Antibacterial wipes and or gel – to clean hands before eating.
- ✓ Some clothing covering the knees and shoulders for visits to religious sites. Women may find a ‘modesty shawl’ or sarong useful.
- ✓ Old pair of socks to wear when visiting temples.
- ✓ Small torch, conversion plug and spare batteries – batteries available to buy locally tend to be unreliable.
- ✓ Scarf or bandana to protect your face against dusty winds in high altitude areas.
- ✓ Spare glasses/contact lenses – it is difficult to get any prescription lenses repaired locally.
- ✓ Toilet paper – not all sightseeing public toilets will provide this.
- ✓ Snacks – tea bags/coffee, milk powder or sachets, muesli bars, instant soups or noodles, or anything else you can’t live without!
- ✓ Camera and spare film/memory card – film available locally tends to be bad quality or sun damaged.
- ✓ If travelling to Ladakh – ‘Sleep sheet’ or compact and lightweight sleeping bag – at remote accommodations linen is provided but possibly not up to Australian standard.
- ✓ Tracksuit/similar outfit of soft material is recommended for overnight train journeys as well as a small bath towel.

Average temperatures	September			October			November			December		
	Temp °C min/max	Humidity	Rain mm	Temp °C min/max	Humidity	Rain mm	Temp °C min/max	Humidity	Rain mm	Temp °C min/max	Humidity	Rain mm
DELHI	25 / 34	VERY HIGH	120	19 / 33	HIGH	310	13 / 28	HIGH	1	23 / 8	VERY HIGH	10
AGRA	25 / 34	MED	130	19 / 34	MED	25	12 / 29	MED	4	24 / 8	MED	6
JODPHUR	24 / 35	HIGH	57	19 / 36	MED	6	15 / 31	MED	3	27 / 10	LOW	2
KHAJURAHO	24 / 33	HIGH	188	19 / 34	MED	37	13 / 30	MED	8	26 / 9	-	5
VARANASI	25 / 33	HIGH	247	21 / 33	MED	35	14 / 29	MED	11	25 / 10	-	7
MUMBAI	24 / 30	VERY HIGH	325	23 / 33	HIGH	81	20 / 33	MED	113	32 / 18	MED	4
KOCHI [Cochin]	25 / 28	VERY HIGH	240	25 / 29	VERY HIGH	310	25 / 30	VERY HIGH	160	30 / 23	HIGH	40
KOVALAM / TRIVANDRUM	23 / 29	VERY HIGH	130	23 / 29	VERY HIGH	260	23 / 29	VERY HIGH	170	30 / 23	HIGH	60
OOTY [highlands]	11 / 18	HIGH	135	10 / 19	HIGH	190	9 / 19	MED	140	20 / 7	-	53
CHENNAI [Madras]	25 / 34	HIGH	120	24 / 32	VERY HIGH	280	23 / 29	VERY HIGH	330	28 / 21	VERY HIGH	130
KATHMANDU	19 / 25	HIGH	180	15 / 23	VERY HIGH	50	9 / 20	VERY HIGH	8	16 / 5	VERY HIGH	10
AMRITSAR	23 / 36	HIGH	50	15 / 34	MED	54	8 / 28	MED	10	22 / 5	HIGH	10
DHARAMSALA	19 / 26	MED	375	15 / 25	LOW	50	11 / 20	LOW	20	17 / 7	-	55
LEH	5 / 21	LOW	12	-1 / 14	LOW	7	-6 / 8	LOW	10	1 / -10	LOW	10
MANALI	11 / 25	LOW	112	5 / 22	LOW	38	1/18	LOW	32	14 / 0	LOW	56
KOLKATA [Calcutta]	26 / 32	VERY HIGH	277	24/32	HIGH	138	19/29	HIGH	24	26 / 14	HIGH	6
DARJEELING	13 / 19	HIGH	414	10 / 18	HIGH	121	6 / 15	MED	12	13 / 3	-	5
GANGTOK	16 / 22	HIGH	463	12 / 21	LOW	177	9 / 18	LOW	41	14 / 6	-	21
THIMPU	15 / 23	HIGH	155	10 / 22	MED	38	5 / 18	LOW	8	15 / -1	LOW	3
WANGDUE PHODRANG	19 / 27	MED	100	15 / 26	LOW	62	10 / 22	LOW	13	19 / 6	-	-