

# 20-Day India Itinerary for First-Time Tourists.

## Phase 1: Delhi – History and Modernity (Day 1 - 4)

Day	Destination	Key Places to Visit	Local Food Recommendations	Transport & Essential Tips
1	<b>Arrival in New Delhi</b>	Arrive at Indira Gandhi International Airport ( <b>DEL</b> ). Check into your accommodation.	Dinner at <b>Connaught Place</b> (CP). Try a mid-range Indian thali.	Use a pre-paid taxi or the <b>Metro (Airport Express Line)</b> . <b>Tip:</b> Get your local SIM card at the airport.
2	<b>Old Delhi</b>	<b>Red Fort, Jama Masjid</b> , stroll through <b>Chandni Chowk</b> Market, Gurudwara Sis Ganj Sahib.	<b>Local Food:</b> <b>Parathas</b> from Parathe Wali Gali, <b>Chaat</b> (street snacks) from Chandni Chowk, Jalebi.	Use the <b>Delhi Metro</b> or <b>Auto-rickshaws</b> for transport. Be prepared for crowds!
3	<b>New Delhi</b>	<b>India Gate, Lotus Temple, Qutub Minar, Humayun's Tomb.</b>	<b>Mid-range:</b> Try <b>Nizam's Kathi Kabab</b> near Humayun's Tomb.	Use <b>Uber/Ola</b> or the Delhi Metro (Yellow Line).
4	<b>Travel to Agra</b>	Take an early morning train/taxi to Agra. In the afternoon, visit <b>Agra Fort</b> .	<b>Agra's Petha</b> (sweet) and try local <b>Mughlai</b> cuisine in the Tajganj area.	<b>Recommended Transport: Train</b> (Shatabdi Express - NDLS to AGC) is fast and comfortable.

## Phase 2: Agra and Jaipur – Mughal and Rajputana Grandeur (Day 5 - 8)

Day	Destination	Key Places to Visit	Local Food Recommendations	Transport & Essential Tips
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5	<b>Agra</b>	<b>Taj Mahal</b> (ideally at <b>sunrise</b> ), sunset view from <b>Mehtab Bagh</b> across the river.	Dinner in Sadar Bazaar.	<b>Tip:</b> The Taj Mahal is closed on Fridays. Book your tickets online in advance.
6	<b>Travel to Jaipur</b>	Morning travel from Agra to Jaipur. Check in and visit the <b>City Palace</b> in the afternoon.	<b>Local Food:</b> The classic Rajasthani meal: <b>Dal Baati Churma</b> .	<b>Recommended Transport:</b> <b>Pre-booked taxi/driver</b> —you can stop at <b>Fatehpur Sikri</b> on the way.
7	<b>Jaipur</b>	<b>Amber Fort</b> (jeep/elephant ride), <b>Jal Mahal</b> , and the iconic facade of <b>Hawa Mahal</b> .	<b>Lassi</b> from Lassi Wala (MI Road), <b>Pyaaaz Kachori</b> from Rawat Mishthan Bhandar.	Use auto-rickshaws or taxis.
8	<b>Jaipur</b>	View the city from <b>Nahargarh Fort</b> , visit <b>Jantar Mantar</b> , and Albert Hall Museum.	<b>Tip:</b> Explore the local bazaars (Johari Bazar, Bapu Bazar) for handicrafts and textiles.	You can watch the <b>Sound and Light Show</b> at Amber Fort in the evening.

### Phase 3: Udaipur and Varanasi – Lakes and Spirituality (Day 9 - 14)

Day	Destination	Key Places to Visit	Local Food Recommendations	Transport & Essential Tips
9	<b>Travel to Udaipur</b>	Morning flight or overnight train from Jaipur to Udaipur. Check into a hotel near Lake Pichola.	<b>Local Food:</b> Try <b>Laal Maas</b> (if non-vegetarian) or a local <b>Thali</b> .	<b>Recommended Transport:</b> An <b>Overnight Train</b> or a <b>Flight</b> is best for this long distance.

10	Udaipur	<b>Boat ride on Lake Pichola</b> , visit <b>Jag Mandir</b> , the main <b>City Palace</b> complex, and Jagdish Temple.	Dinner at a <b>Rooftop Cafe</b> with a view of the Lake Palace at sunset.	The main sights are close—explore the area on <b>foot</b> .
11	Udaipur	<b>Saheliyon Ki Bari</b> , watch the <b>sunset</b> from <b>Monsoon Palace (Sajjangarh Fort)</b> .		<b>Tip:</b> Hire a taxi/auto-rickshaw to reach Sajjangarh Fort.
12	Travel to Varanasi	Morning flight from Udaipur to Varanasi (usually a connecting flight). Evening <b>Ganga Aarti</b> at <b>Dashashwamedh Ghat</b> .	<b>Local Food:</b> <b>Tamanna Chat Bhandar</b> (for Chaat), <b>Malaiyo</b> (a sweet, seasonal dish).	<b>Recommended Transport:</b> <b>Flight</b> is necessary for this major distance change.
13	Varanasi	<b>Sunrise boat ride</b> on the Ganges River, visit <b>Kashi Vishwanath Temple</b> .	<b>Local Food:</b> <b>Kachori-Sabzi</b> for breakfast and a famous <b>Banarasi Paan</b> .	<b>Tip:</b> Be respectful at the ghats and arrive early to get a good spot for the Ganga Aarti.
14	Varanasi	Day trip to <b>Sarnath</b> (where Buddha gave his first sermon).		

#### Phase 4: Kerala – Tranquil Backwaters and Hills (Day 15 - 20)

Day	Destination	Key Places to Visit	Local Food Recommendations	Transport & Essential Tips
15	Travel to Kochi	Flight from Varanasi to <b>Kochi (Cochin/COK)</b> . Check into your hotel in <b>Fort Kochi</b> .	<b>Local Food:</b> <b>Sea Food</b> , Kerala's <b>Appam</b> and <b>Stew</b> .	<b>Recommended Transport:</b> <b>Flight</b> —this crosses from North to South India.

16	Fort Kochi	<b>Chinese Fishing Nets</b> , Mattancherry Palace, St. Francis Church, Jewish Synagogue.	<b>Tip:</b> Watch a <b>Kathakali Dance Performance</b> in the evening.	Explore Fort Kochi best on <b>foot</b> or by a rented bicycle.
17	<b>Alleppey (Alappuzha)</b>	Take a cab from Kochi to Alleppey. Check into a <b>Houseboat</b> in the backwaters.	<b>Local Food:</b> Enjoy freshly prepared <b>Kerala-style Fish Curry</b> on the houseboat.	<b>Cab/Taxi:</b> Kochi to Alleppey (approx. 1.5 - 2 hours).
18	<b>Munnar</b>	Check out of the houseboat. Take a cab from Alleppey to the hill station of <b>Munnar</b> .	<b>Munnar Tea.</b>	<b>Cab/Taxi:</b> Alleppey to Munnar (hilly route, approx. 5 hours).
19	<b>Munnar</b>	Explore the <b>Tea Plantations</b> , Eravikulam National Park, Mattupetty Dam.		<b>Tip:</b> Pack <b>warm clothes</b> as the climate is cool here.
20	<b>Departure</b>	Take a taxi from Munnar to Kochi Airport ( <b>COK</b> ) for your onward journey.		Allow ample time (4-5 hours) for the travel to the airport.

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