Exodus Visa Information for Travel to India

Disclaimer: Please check official sources before applying for your visa. Do not apply until your trip is confirmed and you have been sent your Confirmation Document. We are not responsible for the actions of local immigration and customs officials, whether at points of entry or otherwise, and any subsequent effects.

VISA APPLICATION PROCESS SUMMARY

Do I need a visa in advance?

Yes. You can either apply for either:
- Indian eVisa (recommended) – online application
- Standard Visa – requires an in-person visit to VFS (Visa Facilitation Service)

Visa costs:

Indian eVisa:
Please note, these prices are to be used as a guide and may be subject to change.

30 days validity:
- US $10 (if travelling between April to June)
- US $ 25 (if travelling between July to March)

1 Year validity visa:
- US $ 40 + 2.5% bank transaction fee

Standard Visa (1-Year):
- £116 + £15 VFS service charge _ £3 Consular Surcharge
- Optional: £15 courier fee if not collecting passport in person

(Prices may be higher if you are using Visa Service Agency, for example Travcour)

IMPORTANT NOTES:

We recommend applying for a 1-Year eVisa.
All eVisas must be applied for online at least 4-days before arrival. Further details on when to apply are below.

If your trip includes Ladakh or Sikkim, do not mention these locations on your visa application. Doing so can cause delays or even rejection.

Requirements for application:
- Passport photo (2x2 inches)
- Photocopy of passport bio page
- Referee/Indian reference (provided at the end of this document in appendix)
- Previous Indian Visa reference number (if applicable)

When to apply:

Indian eVisa:
- 30-days eVisa: Apply 4-30 days before travel
- 1-year eVisa: Apply up to 120 days before travel

Standard Visa (1-Year)*:
- Apply 8-12 weeks before travel

* Standard Visa – Important Note:
Appointments at VFS/BLS can experience lengthy delays, so book your in-person slot as early as possible to avoid issues.

Processing time

Indian eVisa:
eVisa will be issued up to 72-hours after payment is made and confirmation email received

Standard Visa (1-Year):

VISA APPLICATION OPTIONS

You can apply for your Indian Visa in two ways:
- **e-Tourist Visa (recommended)** – apply online.
- **Standard Visa via VFS (VISA FACILITATION SERVICE)** – Requires an in-person appointment.

You may also use a Visa Service Agency like **Travcour** for Standard Visa applications, but note this still requires an in-person appointment, if you use an agency.

IMPORTANT NOTES

Pakistani Passport holders, or those of Pakistani descent: Allow extra time to prepare additional documents for visa processing.
Photo requirement: 2" x 2" (50mm x 50mm), available at most Post Office or photo booths.

VISA TYPES

e-Tourist Visa
- **30-day eVisa:** This is a double entry visa, and is valid for entry to India within 30-days from the date your eVisa is granted. You can only apply for this type of visa only within 30-days of travel.

- **1-year eVisa:** This is a multiple entry visa, and is only valid for 1-year from the date your visa is issued. You can apply for this type of visa within 180-days of travel.

Standard Visa via VFS
- If applying for a visa through VFS, all applicants must complete an online form, then submit the printed form and documents **in person** at your chosen branch of the Indian High Commission's Visa Facilitation Service (VFS).
  - **Online submission alone does not complete your application process.**
- To complete your online form, you'll need:
  - Two referee details (one at home, one in India)
  - Start hotel details
    - All details for your start hotel and referee in India are provided below.
- British Passport Holders whose parents were not born in the UK, should check conditions with the Indian Embassy

HELPFUL LINKS

For official guidance by country:
- Australia: www.smartraveller.gov.au/destinations/asia/india
- Canada: www.travel.gc.ca/destinations/india
- United Kingdom: www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/india/entry-requirements
- USA: www.travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/International-Travel-Country-Information-Pages/India.html

APPLYING FOR YOUR VISA
Please see the Appendix* section for all in-country details required to complete your visa application

Option 1: eVisa (Recommended)

Before You Start	• Check you meet all requirements for application, especially around the entry points and type of visa available.
	• Prepare:
	o Digital passport photo (2x2 inches, specific size requirements)
	o Passport bio page scan
	o Reference Name in home country
	o Reference Name in India section, please see below relating to your Trip Code.
Application Process	• Visit the official portal: https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/evisa/tvoa.html
	o Read the instructions carefully, and review the Sample eVisa Form.
	▪ This provides guidance on how to apply, and information that you will need for your application.
	o Complete the online application form.
	o Pay the fee online (credit/debit card)
	o Receive confirmation email, and eVisa within 72 hours.

Option 2: Standard Visa via VFS

Before You Start	Prepare:
	• Digital passport photo (2x2 inches, specific size requirements)
	• Passport bio page scan
	• Reference Name in home country
	• Reference Name in India section, please see below relating to your Trip Code.
Two-Stage Process	**Step 1**: Complete Online Application
	To apply for the Indian visa, you need to go through the relevant Indian High Commission's Visa Facilitation Service VFS/BLS website:
	UK: http://www.vfsglobal.com/India/UK/
	USA: https://visa.vfsglobal.com/usa/en/ind/apply-visa
	Canada: https://www.blsindia-canada.com/
	Australia: https://visa.vfsglobal.com/aus/en/ind/apply-visa
	1. Complete the application and declaration forms.
	2. You can choose to pay for the visa online **or** at the appointment.
	3. At the end of the online application process, you will need to make an appointment at your nearest branch to submit the application.
	4. Print your application form.
	Step 2: Attend Your Appointment
	Visit your chosen visa application Centre at the time of the appointment. You will need to submit the following:
	a. Printed application form
	b. Photocopy of the photo page of your passport
	c. The signed declaration
	d. A hard copy passport photo (2x2 inches)
	Submit the documents and pay the visa fee (if not already paid online)
	A family member or nominee is entitled to submit a visa application on behalf of the applicant, provided they have a letter of authorization signed by the applicant

NEED HELP APPLYING?

- The easiest way is to apply online through the official **Indian government eVisa portal** (see link and steps in the *Applying for Your Visa* section).
- For trip-specific details (like hotel addresses and references), check the **Appendix** in this document.
- For specific questions, contact the **Indian Embassy** or if you're applying via a Visa Service Agency (Standard Visas Only) contact

them directly.

PHOTO GUIDELINES

When preparing your visa application, it's essential to ensure that your passport photos meet the specified requirements. Follow these steps to resize your photos effectively:

1. **Use Image Editing Software**: Instead of struggling with manual resizing, use image editing software. The Paint app on Windows computers or laptops is a suitable choice as well as the Preview App on Mac computers.
2. **Open the Photo in Paint**:
    a. Launch the Paint app.
    b. Open the picture you want to resize.
3. **Select the Resize Option**:
    a. Look for the "Resize" button. It's usually located under the "View" tab.
    b. Click on it.
4. **Adjust the Dimensions**:
    a. In the Resize dialog, you'll see percentage fields for both horizontal and vertical dimensions.
    b. Enter a value lower than 100 (e.g., 80) to reduce the photo size.
    c. Click "Select" to apply the changes.
5. **Save the Resized Photo**:
    a. Save the modified photo in a secure file you use often.
    b. Close the Paint app.
6. **Check the File Size**:
    a. Navigate to the location where you saved the file.
    b. Verify that the photo now meets the recommended size (usually 1 MB or below).
    c. This can be found on the right-hand side of the file if you have files saved under the detailed tab or alternatively if you hover over the document, it will specific the file size.

Remember to follow any additional guidelines provided by the visa website. By adhering to these steps, you'll ensure that your passport photos are professionally resized for your visa application.

SMALL PRINT

All nationalities require a full passport that must be valid for 6 months beyond the intended length of stay and need to **be within 10 years from date of issue**. *It is your responsibility to have the correct personal documents and to obtain your own visa, if one is necessary, in accordance with the regulations of the country you are to visit.*

If a visa is required prior to travel, it is your responsibility to obtain one. However, we strongly advise you not to do this until your trip has been confirmed as a guaranteed departure. The information above is meant to aid you in getting your visa. Information can change, so if you are at all concerned, please check with the embassy.

Please see below for information to complete your visa application.

- **Reference in your country of origin:** Name and address of a friend or family member.
- **Accommodation in India:** Address and phone number of your start hotel (varies trip-by-trip, see list below).
- **Indian Reference/ Inviting Organisation:** Please check the below list, as details of your point of contact will be provided under each section.

TRIP CODE	TRIP NAME	START HOTEL DETAILS
MIK	**Cycle Kerala & TropicalIndia**	**Hotel Sandesh The Prince,** 3, Nazarbad Main Road, Mysore, Karnataka, 570010. Phone +91 821 243 6777
MIT	**Southern India coast to Coast Ride**	**Hotel Athithi,** No126 S.V Patel Salai Pondicherry 605 001, India. Phone +91 9789 443186
MIA	**Cycle the Coast of Kerala**	**Casino Hotel**, 585 Willingdon Island, Kochi, Kerala- 682003 Phone +91 484 2668 421

Reference in India for the above trips (MIK-MIA):
Mr. Ranju Joseph, **Pioneer Travels**, Pioneer House, G V Iyer Road, Cochin 682003. Tel: +91 4842 666 148

TRIP CODE	TRIP NAME	START HOTEL DETAILS
TGL	**In Search of the Snow Leopard**	**Hotel Regent Grand,** East Patel Nagar, Opposite Metro Pillar No 167 New Delhi – 110008 Phone: +91 1146 011 111
TBS	**Darjeeling Sikkim & the Singalila Ridge**	**Bloom Hotel Karol Bagh** 17A/32, Gurudwara Road, Near Pusa Road, Metro Pillar No: 98-99, Karol Bagh, New Delhi, 110005. Tel: +91 11 4641 3759
TGV	**Peaks of Ladakh**	**Hotel Deventure,** Bp -11, Opposite Metro Pillar No 221, New Delhi 110002, India Phone +91 9996 117 770
TGD	**Ladakh: Nubra Valley Trek**	

Please note: If your trip visits Ladakh or Sikkim, we recommend **you do not mention this on your Indian visa application**. *This can sometimes slow down or even cause the embassy/consulate to reject your visa.*

Reference in India for the above trips (TGL – TGD):

Mr. Ramesh Wattal, **Welcome Travels**, 209 Skipper Corner, 88 Nehru Place, New Delhi 110019. Tel: +91 1126 424 638

TRIP CODE	TRIP NAME	START HOTEL DETAILS
AIO	**Highlights of Kerala**	**The Killians,** Post box 22, River Road, Fort Kochi, 682 001, Kerala Phone: +91 484 22 17 245
AIQ	**Foothills of the Himalaya**	**Hotel Bel Morris** E-514, Greater Kailash - II, New Delhi, 110048, India. Phone +91 1147 023 544
AIT	**Kerala & the Tropical South**	**Hotel Abad Atrium,** M G Road, Shenoys, Kochi 682035 Kerala. Phone: +91 4842 381 122
AIU	**Discover South India – Premium Adventure**	**Regenta Central Javaji,** Bogadi Road, Near AIIS, Gangothri Layout, Mysore, Karnataka - 570026, India. Phone +91 5624 010 519

Reference in India for the above trips (AIO – AIU):
Mr. Farooq A. Kolu, **SITA**, Tower B, Delta Square, M.G. Road, Sector 25, Gurgaon 122001, Haryana, New Delhi Tel: +91 1244 563 000

TRIP CODE	TRIP NAME	START HOTEL DETAILS
AIC	**Highlights of Northern India**	**Hotel 7 Apple**, Amer Road, Opposite Jalmahal, Jaipur, Rajasthan, 302002, India. Phone +91 8452 982 777
AICA	**Highlights of Northern India- SummerDeparture**	**Sariska Safari Lodge** Village Amra ka Baas, Tehsil Thanaghazi, Sariska, Rajasthan, 301022, India. Phone +91 9810 726 252
AID	**India's Taj Mahal and Tigers - Premium Adventure**	**The Metropolitan Hotel & Spa**, Sector 4, Gole Market, New Delhi, Delhi, 110001, India. Phone: +91 1142 500 200
AIK/AIKA	**Colors of Rajasthan**	**Hotel Rockland, CR Park,** B 207, Chittaranjan Park, Outer Ring Road, New Delhi, 110019, India. Phone: +91 011 4272 2222
AIN	**Highlights of Northern India & Nepal**	
AIR	**India's North & South – Premium Adventure**	**Taj Ambassador,** Sujan Singh Park, Subramania Bharti Marg, New Delhi, , 110003, India. Phone: +91 11 6626 1000
AIX	**India's Golden Triangle**	**Hotel Iris Park,** A 1/23&24, Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi 110029, India. Phone: +91-9625498991
MIJ	**Cycling through Rajasthan**	**Hotel Ashok Country Resort,** 30 Rajkore Road, Kapashera, New Delhi 110037, India. Phone +91 1125 064 590
TGK	**Spice Trails of Kerala**	**Hotel Grand**, MG Road, Ernakulam, Kochi, 682011, Kerala, India. Phone: +91 4842 382 061
WIW	**India Tiger Safari**	**Indus Biznotel**, R-71, Hansraj Gupta Rd, Block R, Greater Kailash I, New Delhi, 110048, India. Phone +91 11 4026 7700

Reference in India for the above trips (AIC – WIW):
Mr. Arvind Tickoo, **Kash Venture Travels**, 805-806 Ansals Kirti Shikhar, District Centre Janakpuri, New Delhi, 110 058. Tel: +91 1125 523 807