

India Suggested Packing List:

Here are a few reminders, add to it as you see fit:

Due	To do:	
	Contact your debit- and credit-card companies. Prior to your trip, call your bank and credit-card company to let them know which countries you'll be visiting. This will ensure that they don't decline foreign transactions. While you have them on the line, confirm your debit card's daily withdrawal limit, request an increase if you want, and ask about fees for international transactions.	
	Take care of medical business. Visit your doctor to get a checkup, and deal with any dental work that needs to be done. If you use prescription drugs, get a sufficient supply to cover your trip, along with a copy of your prescription so you can refill it at a pharmacy if necessary. Call your health insurance provider to see if they cover you internationally or whether you might need to buy special medical insurance.	
	Look into travel insurance. This can minimize the financial risks of a vacation. Your potential loss varies, depending on factors such as your health, how much of your trip is prepaid, the refundability of your air ticket, and what coverage you already have (through your medical, homeowners', or renters' insurance, and/or credit card). One participant recommended Travel Guard.	
	Print itineraries/ photo copy documents: passport, front/back ID, credit/debit/insurance cards	
	Prepare gadgets for takeoff: If you plan to use your US mobile phone, confirm voice- and data-roaming fees or turn data off. If you're bringing a mobile device, download any tools that might come in handy on the road, such as translators, maps, ebooks, and internet calling apps like Skype or Viber. Request SIM card/ phone if needed.	
	Start malaria meds. as directed, if you're taking them.	

Use this list to keep track of your shopping list:

Notes	To purchase (suggestions, not requirements!):	
	AC power travel adapter for use in India http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B0034E2TFS/ref=oh_details_o00_s00_i00?ie=UTF8&psc=1	

Packing Tips:

General school of thought: If you won't wear/use it more than three times, don't bring it!

Pick & choose from this list as you see fit. When in doubt; pack light, wash frequently, buy it if you need it.

Limit your luggage, as you'll need to be able to manage it throughout our travels.

Suggestion -- Packing cubes: These see-through, zip-up mesh containers keep your clothes tightly packed and well organized.

Vacuum-less roll-up compression bags: This allows you to pack bulky clothes or cloth souvenirs by letting the air out through their one-way nozzles. Miracles were performed in suitcases for the return trips in the past. (Of course, the over-50lb. bag fee still applies :))

Notes	Linens	
	Bath/hand towel, washcloth (light & quick drying)	
	Travel sheet in stuff sack, pillow case (sheets are provided, but are a bit stiff)	
	neck pillow for travel, eye-mask for blocking out light	
	Handkerchief (mostly for wiping sweat)	

Notes	Documents/Money/Security	
	Documents and photocopies: Bring your passport, plane e-ticket printout, driver's license, and so on. Photocopies and a couple of passport-type photos can help you get replacements more quickly if the originals are lost or stolen. <u>A Passport photo</u> is required to get a phone or SIM card (you can get one taken there or bring an extra.) Carry photocopies separately hidden in your luggage and keep the originals in your money belt. In your luggage, you'll also want to pack a careful record of all reservations (print out your flight/hotel confirmation emails), along with a trip calendar page to keep things up-to-date as your trip evolves.	
	Money: Bring your preferred mix of a credit card, a debit card, and a small emergency stash of hard cash. I rely on a debit card for ATM withdrawals, and a credit card with a PIN number as a backup.	
	Money belt: Passport, debit card, credit cards, driver's license	
	Purse with strap across chest	

Notes	Miscellaneous	
	Laundry detergent in small bottle or individual packets, stain pen or wipes, clothes line/ a few clothes pins (Can be used for other purposes.)	
	Hangers (a few), wrinkle release spray	
	Earplugs (If night noises bother you, you'll love a good set of expandable foam plugs + a spare pair.)	
	Small daypack: A lightweight pack is great for carrying your cardigan, sunscreen/insect repellent, towel, camera, literature, and snacks for a day out.	
	Collapsible umbrella	
	Durable food items: granola/protein bars, nuts, packets of nut butter, fruit leather, gum	
	Gatorade packets (ISJS has electrolyte packets, but this might be a tastier option to switch it up)	
	Water bottle: I chose one with a covered top. Make sure it's empty before you go through airport security.	
	Sealable plastic baggies: Bring a few of a variety of sizes. In addition to holding your carry-on liquids, they're ideal for packing leftover food, containing wetness, and bagging potential leaks before they happen. Bring extras for the flight home.	
	Sewing kit: needle, thread, a few safety pins	
	Postcards from home and photos of your family: A small collection of show-and-tell pictures (either digital or paper) can spark great conversation with people you meet.	
	Address list: To keep in touch, many travelers write blogs or send mass emails as they travel, but if you prefer to mail postcards, consider printing your mail list.	
	Small gifts: Local hosts may appreciate small souvenirs from your hometown. Local kids at school would love stickers or pencils. <i>This is not expected or required -- purely optional!</i>	
	Notepad/journal, pen: Great for reminders, lecture notes, and communication aid.	
	Office supplies: Bring stationery or thank you notes :)	

Notes	Electronics	
	Small Flashlight	
	Wristwatch (A built-in alarm is handy. If none of your gadgets have one, pack a small travel alarm clock.)	
	Power adapter: India's electrical outlets are different from ours. See above for link to a recommended adapter.	
	Camera, if you aren't planning on using your cell phone!	
	MP3 player, mobile phone, e-reader, tablet/laptop computer: For each item, remember to bring a charger, power cord, and/or extra batteries.	
	If you may want to present something via your computer, our laptops are PCs - if you have a Mac, you'll want to bring a <u>dongle</u> so you can project!	