

Travelling to India

Visas. All Canadian nationals require a visa to enter India. Entry visas for business persons visiting India are issued for one to three entries and are valid for up to 90 days. To obtain a visa, business persons require a letter from their employer regarding the purpose and duration of their visit to India. Contact the High Commission of India in Ottawa or the Indian Consulates in Toronto and Vancouver for guidance.

Currency. The Indian rupee (Rs.) is divided into 100 paise (p.). In calculations and statements of large sums of money, the following Indian denominations are used:

- 1 Lakh = 100 000 rupees (written in India as 1,00,000)
- 1 crore = 10 million rupees (written in India as 1,00,00,000)

On arrival in India, those carrying currency, including traveller's cheques, exceeding US\$1 000 in value must declare the total amount to the customs authorities. There is no limit to the amount one can bring in, but the declaration will help exchange of currency and also reconversion of unspent rupees when leaving India. You are advised to keep all receipts of currency exchange transactions. This proof is needed to exchange leftover rupees when leaving. Foreigners are required to pay hotel bills in foreign exchange. Visitors are not allowed to bring in or take out any Indian currency.

Hotels. Almost all major Indian cities have good hotels. Some Indian hotels are listed among the top 100 hotels in the world. The following is a list of luxury hotels in the country's major business centres:

- New Delhi: Hyatt Regency, Maurya Sheraton, Meridien, Oberoi, Taj Mahal, Taj Palace Intercontinental, Holiday Inn, Ashok Hotel
- Bombay: The Oberoi, The Oberoi Towers, Taj Mahal Intercontinental, The President, Sea Rock Sheraton, Holiday Inn
- Madras: Chola Sheraton, Taj Coromandel, Park Sheraton
- Calcutta: Oberoi Grand, Airport Ashok, Hindustan International, Park Hotel
- Bangalore: Taj Residency, Windsor Manor, Sheraton, Ashok Hotel