

Important

Our team member Preparation/Journal Guides are country-specific, comprehensive, and professionally done.

Each guide contains well over 100 pages of essential information needed for short-term team members traveling to another country.

As an example, we offer for your review our table of contents and 24 sample pages from our 2011 India Guide/Journal. We have prepared guides for more than 70 countries, and we will gladly make one for YOUR team, even if it is a new country for us! We assure you that all are of professional quality.

2011
edition

Revised & Expanded



INDIA

Jan 24 to Feb 3

The Essentials

A guide for short-term team members

 CORNERSTONE

in partnership with



DR. DON ORVIS ~ KAY REIMER

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Team Leadership

Team Leaders(s)

Name(s) _____

Church _____

Contact Info _____

Co-leader

Name(s) _____

Church _____

Contact Info _____

In-country Host(s)

Name(s) _____

SAMPLE GUIDE

Passports

Entering and exiting the United States by air requires a valid passport from the U.S. or your country of citizenship regardless of age.

It is strongly recommended that you visit www.travel.state.gov, "international travel" link for most recent requirements.



Applying for a passport

It can take up to two months to get a passport, so it is important to apply for one immediately. Visit http://travel.state.gov/passport/passport_1738.html or your local post office for information on how to obtain a passport.

Once you receive your passport

- Sign it
- Keep it in a safe place. Do NOT pack it in your suitcase; keep it on you at all times.
- Make three (3) black and white copies of the page with your photo and text.
- Give one (1) copy to your team leader immediately.
- Give one (1) copy to your family.
- Take (1) copy with you and keep separate from the original in case it is lost.
- If you have a secure email, scan the page with your photo and text, then send it to yourself as an attachment.

Maximizing Team Personalities

Several authors over the centuries have identified human personalities with various labels. For sake of simplicity, we suggest using Gary Smalley's four profile personalities...



beaver



golden retriever



lion



otter

It is important not only to understand these personality types, but it is essential for team leaders and members to ***“bring out the best in each personality for the benefit of the entire team.”***

Following is a brief summary of each of Smalley's four personalities.

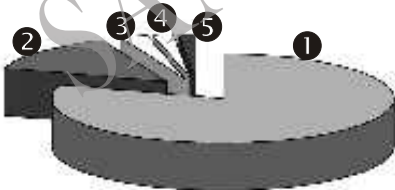
- You are either born a Hindu or you are not—no proselytizing
- They believe everyone goes through a series of rebirths to reach spiritual salvation and have three basic practices: worship, cremation of the dead, and the rules and regulations of the caste system
- It is an idolatrous religion with 200 million holy cows and 330 million gods
- Often Hindus will believe in God as just another god, rather than the only, true, living God
- Persecution is severe for many of the Muslims who have turned to Christ
- There remain only 6.6 million Buddhists in India, however some spots in northern India continue as important pilgrimage sites
- Eighteen million Indians belong to the Sikh religion and 4.5 million are Jains both religions are derivatives of the Hindu beliefs
- A few Malabar Christians remain, also known as the Jacobite church, who take their name from the Malabar Coast in southwestern India, where, according to tradition, Christianity was first brought by St. Thomas, the apostle
- Less than three percent of India's population embraces the Christian beliefs, which includes Roman Catholicism
- 50% of the population have never heard the name of Jesus
- William Carey was a pioneer of the gospel in India 200 years ago

A FEW PERCENTAGES REGARDING RELIGION

INDIA'S SPIRITUALITY

The major religious groups in India include:

1. Hindu, 80%
2. Muslim, 14%
3. Christian, 2.4%
4. Sikh, 2%
5. Non-religious/other, 1.6%



- Buses are convenient, but are usually driven fast, recklessly and without consideration for the official rules of the road
- Buses and trucks often run red lights and merge directly into traffic; cars, auto-rickshaws, bicycles and pedestrians behave only a little more cautiously
- Frequent use of one's horn to announce one's presence is both customary and wise
- Traffic moves on the left
- Be alert while crossing streets and intersections
- If a driver hits a pedestrian or a cow, the vehicle and its occupants are at risk of being attacked by passersby, which post significant risk of injury, death or at least of incineration of the vehicle; it can be unsafe to remain at the scene of an accident, so may wish to seek out the nearest police station



IMPORTANT THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND



Electricity 230 volts, 50 Hz



Time Zone is 10.5 hours ahead of Eastern Standard Time (EST)

Cultural Do's & Don'ts

FYI

- The official languages of India are English and Hindi, but more than fourteen major and three hundred minor languages are spoken in India.
- The Republic of India has no official religion. However, religion plays a major role in the daily lives of most Indians, and two of the world's great religions—Buddhism and Hinduism—were born here.

Protocol

- Among Indians, a side-to-side toss of one's head indicates agreement, although Westerners may interpret it as meaning “no.”
- Watch carefully; the Indian head toss is not quite the same as the Western negative nod (which leads with the jaw). On the other hand, the North American up-and-down head nod (used to signify “yes”) has the meaning of “no” in India.
- The word “no” has harsh implications in India. Evasive refusals are more common, and are considered more polite. Never directly refuse an invitation, just be vague and avoid a time commitment. “I'll try” is an acceptable refusal.
- In monetary transactions, your change is simply placed in your hand, without explanation of the amount. Very often, if you remain standing with your hand outstretched, you will receive more change.
- Keep lots of change on hand, as street merchants and taxi drivers often claim they do not have change.
- When walking the streets, try not to stare, especially at the impoverished; that is considered a way to humiliate them.
- Remember that Hindus do not eat beef and Muslims do not eat pork.
- Be prepared to eat lamb or chicken.



