

Solo Traveler India Itinerary Checklist

A planning checklist built for solo travelers in India, covering the safety, booking, and pacing decisions that change when you're traveling alone.

WHY A CHECKLIST, NOT JUST AN ITINERARY

Solo travel in India comes with planning needs a group itinerary doesn't have — single-occupancy pricing, safety-conscious accommodation choices, and a different risk calculus around transport and timing. This checklist sorts those solo-specific decisions by when to act on them.

BEFORE YOU BOOK FLIGHTS

- Check single-occupancy or solo-traveler rates, since many hotels price per room rather than per person
- Research neighborhoods in each city with good reputations for solo safety, particularly for evening walkability
- Decide whether to join a small-group tour for any leg of the trip versus going fully independent
- Pick a season that keeps daylight hours working in your favor, since solo sightseeing is easier with more daylight
- Confirm visa requirements and apply with normal lead time

2-4 WEEKS OUT

- Book centrally located accommodation in each city to minimize solo travel after dark
- Arrange airport pickup for arrival, especially for late-night flights
- Consider a private guide or driver for at least your first city to ease into solo navigation
- Share your full itinerary and accommodation details with someone at home before departure
- Buy advance tickets for major sites to avoid long solo waits at ticket counters

THE WEEK BEFORE DEPARTURE

- Set up check-in points with someone at home — a quick daily message is enough
- Save offline maps and emergency contact numbers for each city on your route
- Pack light enough to manage your own luggage comfortably through transfers
- Research local transport norms — ride-hailing apps versus hailed taxis vary by city in reliability
- Keep a backup digital and physical copy of your passport, visa, and key bookings separate from your main wallet

Solo trips go more smoothly with slightly fewer cities than a group trip of the same length — it leaves room to slow down when you want to.

