India 4U

Do’s and don’ts in India

Small things that make a big difference.

Do

- ✓ Say namaste, palms together
- ✓ Cover shoulders and knees at temples
- ✓ Take your shoes off at the door
- ✓ Carry a scarf for gurdwaras and mosques
- ✓ Eat with your right hand
- ✓ Carry small notes for autos and tips
- ✓ Drink bottled or filtered water
- ✓ Use app cabs or prepaid taxis
- ✓ Say yes to chai
- ✓ Leave slack in your plans

Don’t

- ✗ Point your feet at people or shrines
- ✗ Touch anyone’s head
- ✗ Photograph people without asking
- ✗ Photograph cremations at the ghats
- ✗ Wear leather into some temples
- ✗ Lose your temper in public
- ✗ Believe “your hotel is closed”
- ✗ Buy gems to resell at home
- ✗ Drink tap water
- ✗ Try to see everything in one trip

Sources: Compiled by India 4U editors. Checked October 2026.
Customs vary by region and community. When unsure, watch what others do.

Find it online
india-4u.com