

An Information Guide
for
Foreign Exchange Students coming to
University of Delhi



International Relations Office
Room No. 12, First Floor
Conference Centre, Gate No. 4
University of Delhi
Delhi – 110 007, INDIA

About India



The world's largest democracy and second most populous country emerged as a major power in the 1990s. It is militarily strong, has major cultural influence and is a fast-growing and powerful economy. With its many languages, cultures and religions, India is highly diverse. This is also reflected in its federal political system, whereby power is shared between the central government and 28 states. The country has a burgeoning urban middle class and has made great strides in fields such as information technology. Its large, skilled workforce makes it a popular choice for international companies seeking to outsource work. The majority of its population resides in rural areas.

India is home to great variety of people and cultures. The main religions of the people are Hinduism, Islam, Sikhism, Jainism, Buddhism and Christianity. It is a place of great cultural importance. Each state has a very different and peculiar culture which doesn't fail to leave a mark on the memory of whosoever visits it. Spicy food, colorful dresses and classical dance are the prominent features of Indian culture.

Rich in culture, with a rapidly growing economy, studying in India offers lots of opportunities. In total, there are more than 300 universities in India.

About Delhi



New Delhi, the capital city of the world's largest democracy India, is a political hub of the country. Delhi is not only a historic city with long cherished historical values, which can be seen in the remains of the past Mughal

Rule in India, but Delhi is also a Cosmopolitan city, where people are open to embracing new ideas and life styles. People from all parts of the country live in Delhi and there is unity among the citizens from all castes and creed. Delhi has a population of around 21 million and the growing population has led to the development of NCR, called National Capital Region. Satellite cities like Gurgaon, Noida and Faridabad have shared the load of Delhi by offering more space for commercial and residential properties.

Delhi has many big shopping complexes and malls where you can find all your shopping requirements under one roof. There are several world- class restaurants and hotels.

Although the traditional values and cultural heritage still have an important place in the lifestyle of Delhi, people are changing to a new culture and lifestyle which is very similar to the western culture.

Climate of Delhi

Delhi experiences all types of weather including extreme hot and extreme cold. The average temperature of New Delhi during summer ranges from 25° C to 46° C. May and June are considered to be the hottest months of the year. Summer in Delhi stays till October before tinge of winter starts to sets in. It is advisable to wear light cotton clothes during summers. In comparison to summer, winters are short. Winter Season starts from the end of November and continues till February-March. Temperatures fall to as low as 3 to 4° C at the peak of winter. Winters in Delhi are really chilly with the problems of fog and smog. The city does not experience a long rainy season. The monsoon lasts from July to September. October sees the end of the monsoon but it is reasonably pleasant.

Transportation in Delhi

The Delhi Metro is one of the fastest ways to commute in Delhi and has transformed public transport in the city so much so that the Metro line has become the life-line of New Delhi. There is a superfast airport express in service to connect the airport with the central part of New Delhi.
<http://www.delhimetrorail.com/AirportExpressLine.aspx>

Buses are one of the common and cheap ways to travel around the city. . As mentioned on the airport webpage, all buses going towards Terminal 3 of the airport arrive and depart from a 'staging area' located opposite Centaur Hot. From there to the Airport Terminal, DIAL provides a shuttle bus, every 15 minutes and this service is available 24x7.

Taxis

Now getting a cab at the airport has become simpler, a hassle - free convenience that gets you to your destination sooner and safer.

For the convenience of all passengers, the Delhi International Airport has a relationship with four Cab operators (<https://www.newdelhiairport.in/to-from-airport-tool.aspx>). The option of using UBER and OLA cabs is also available.

All cabs are equipped with the following features :

- > Air conditioned luxury cabs.
- > Round-the-clock availability
- > Backed by GPS technology to track location.
- > Digital cab meters integrated with the GPS system to ensure every fare is tracked.
- > In - Car payment facility; customer can pay through cash or credit card as well.

Trains

Delhi is well connected with most parts of India by train. The large train network carries lot of people everyday. Delhi is connected to all cities directly and one can book tickets online and make plans for the entire travel in India. Though trips to Agra, Jaipur, etc are best by road, trains are best for overnight journeys.

For more details visit the website : <https://www.newdelhiairport.in/to-from-airport-tool.aspx>

Food in Delhi

From the by lanes of the walled city to the swanky hotels and restaurants, Delhi has the taste of all. Delhi gives you the option of choosing from a wide variety of cuisines--a mixture of regional and international food.. All these varieties are readily available in all parts of Delhi. International chains such as McDonalds, Dominos, Pizza Hut, Pizza Express, Wimpy and TGIF can be found all over the city.

The most popular and one of the delightful offerings of Indian cuisines can be found at Delhi Haat, where you can have the taste of real India. Delhi Haat has food stalls from almost every state in India, which offer cheap and good quality food. The place has special importance as it offers a rural market (haat) ambience with food from almost all parts of the country.

University of Delhi

The University of Delhi is a premier university of the country known for its high standards in teaching and research and attracts eminent scholars to its faculty. The University of Delhi was established in 1922 as a unitary, teaching and residential university by an Act of the then Central Legislative Assembly. Over the last nine decades the University has grown into one of the largest universities in India. At present, there are 16 faculties, 87 academic departments and 90 colleges spread all over the city, with about 700,000 students.

The Delhi University Library system, comprises 24 libraries along with 78 college libraries to meet the needs of undergraduate students. There are three main libraries in the university - a) Central Science Library - which holds the collections of Faculties of Sciences and Mathematical Sciences, b) Central Reference Library - which holds the collections of Faculty of Arts and Law, and c) Ratan Tata Library - which holds the collections of Faculty of Social Sciences.

In the early 1970s, the University initiated a new organizational pattern based on the multi-campus concept.

The main campus of the University of Delhi is situated in the northern part of the city of Delhi adjoining the Ridge in a picturesque surrounding. Some of the Administrative offices of the University are housed in the old Viceregal Lodge. The main Campus with its thirty nine post graduate

departments concentrate on the basic disciplines like Arts, Sciences, Social Sciences, Mathematical Sciences, Law, Music, Education and Management.

The South Campus, which made a beginning in 1973 is organized into academic departments which offer teaching and research programmes with an inter-disciplinary and applied orientation in areas like Business Economics, Financial Studies, Applied Psychology, Applied Operations Research, Biotechnology, Informatics and Communication, Electronic Sciences, Biochemistry, Plant Molecular Biology, Microbiology, Bio-Physics and Genetics.

Academic Calender

The Academic year of the University is divided into two terms.

SEMESTER I/III/V/VII	
Classes Begin	20 th July, 2018 (Friday)
Mid-Semester break	15 th October, 2018 (Monday) to 21 st October, 2018 (Sunday) Note:- Dusshera on 19.10.2018(Friday)
Classes begin after Mid-Semester Break	22 rd October, 2018 (Monday)
Dispersal of Classes, Preparation leave and Practical Examinations begin	16 th November, 2018 (Friday)
Theory Examinations begin	30 th November, 2018 (Friday)
Winter Break	17 th December, 2018 (Monday) 31 st December, 2018 (Monday)
SEMESTER II/IV/VI/VIII	
Classes begin	1 st January, 2019 (Tuesday)
Mid-Semester break	18 th March, 2019 (Monday) to 24 th March, 2019 (Sunday) Note:- Holi on 20.03.2019 (Wednesday)
Classes begin after Mid-Semester Break	25 th March, 2019 (Monday)
Dispersal of Classes, Preparation leave and Practical Examinations begin	29 th April, 2019 (Monday)
Theory Examinations begin	10 th May, 2019 (Friday)
Summer Vacations	26 st May, 2019 (Sunday) to 19 th July, 2019 (Friday)

ACCOMMODATION

All foreign exchange students are entitled to accommodation in university hostels. The rooms are provided after completing all hostel admission formalities upon arrival in Delhi. In the meantime, the students are accommodated in a guest room of the hostel shared by 4-5 students.

Accommodation Costs

The cost of accommodation at university hostels is INR 15,000/month/person approximately. The payment is made quarterly (three months in advance) within ten days of the beginning of the quarter.

A deposit of INR 30,000 - 40,000 approx. is required at the time of hostel admission depending upon the hostel.

The guest residents staying for less than 3 months are required to deposit INR 7000 at the time of arrival and INR 800 as monthly charges.

Accommodation details

There are separate hostels for boys and girls. All hostels are located either within the university campus or within a radius of 3.5 km. A shuttle bus is available from the hostel complex to University (North) campus from morning till evening, where the hostel is not within the campus. The hostels have dining area, cafeteria, laundry, common/reading/TV/Computer room.

Code of Conduct

Exchange students are required to follow the hostel regulations including courteous behavior towards the other guests. Any breach of these regulations may be reported to hostel warden for appropriate action. Hence, all exchange students are encouraged to take note of the regulations when signing the housing contract with the hostel.

ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

REGISTRATION FOR FOREIGN STUDENTS

International Students holding Indian Visa for more than 180 days need to register at the Foreign Regional Registration Office located in the South of Delhi. An online appointment can be obtained. All required documents for the same will be provided by the office of International Relations.

HEALTH

WUS Health Centre located both on the main and south campuses provide medical care, health protection and instruction. The Doctor is available 24x7 in the main campus. A New Life Hospital is in the Vicinity of the University (North) Campus. Some of the bigger hospitals in the vicinity of the University are St. Stephens, Bara Hindu Rao and Tirath Ram Shah.

Opening a Bank Account

The State Bank of India and ICICI Bank branches are located on the premises of the main campus, while the south campus has a branch of the State Bank of India. Students can open their savings bank account in these banks by filling up the required form available in the bank. Three passport size photographs and signatures of two persons who have an account in that bank also need to be submitted along with the form.

Postage

There is a post office on the campus near the entrance of the University main gate in both campuses.

STUDENT LIFE IN UNIVERSITY OF DELHI

There is diversity of cultural life around the campus. The Delhi University Cultural Council organizes group trips for concerts, stage performances, recitals and art shows in and around the Capital.

Gandhi Bhawan, situated at the heart of the campus, provides a meeting place for discussions, lectures, documentary films and exhibitions for students as well as teachers on the life and the work of Gandhi. Besides, the centre offers programmes on Yoga, Nature Cure, Geeta discourse and maintains a rich library and reading materials.

The University has always encouraged student participation in sports. It has won laurels in several games including swimming, cricket, badminton and table tennis. The campus provides opportunities for diverse sports, social and cultural activities.

PREPARING TO STUDY ABROAD

What to Bring

The following is a short list of items that we recommend you bring with you:

- ◆ Passport with Visa
- ◆ Student Identification, preferably an International Student ID card.
- ◆ Signed Learning Agreement or Workplan
- ◆ Passport Sized Photographs
- ◆ Letter of Affiliation received from the University of Delhi

- ◆ Prescription medicine. It can be difficult to find an appropriate equivalent medicine in another country; therefore, it is a good idea for you to bring an adequate supply of medicine with you if possible. Medications should be packaged in the original, properly labeled bottles/strips and you should not try to send medication by mail.
- ◆ Prescriptions. Regardless of whether it is possible to bring a supply of medication or not, you should be sure to carry all your current prescriptions with you, and, if possible, to know the chemical composition and not only brand names for your medicine. This will make it easier to find an equivalent, if necessary.
- ◆ Prescriptions for glasses and contact lenses, and if possible an extra pair of glasses or contacts.
- ◆ Clothes. Students in India tend to dress fairly casually, jeans or casual pants or Indian dress like kurta pyjama being acceptable for every day wear. The weather in Delhi tends to be hot in the summer from April to June (the maximum temperature may go up to 46°C); and it is mildly cold in the winter from November to February, 10 to 25 degree centigrade (in December and January, the minimum temperature may go down to 1°C). The monsoon is active in the months of July and August.
- ◆ Toiletries. You might want to bring enough of your usual toiletries to get started, but as India has a good selection of all such items, shipping or bringing large amounts of toiletries is not required.