

Situated south of Bombay, Goa is a vibrantly exotic destination for a honeymoon. Having had almost 5 Centuries of Portuguese rule until 1961, Goa has a glorious mix of Indian and Portuguese culture that has influenced the traditions to bring about an exciting blend of cultures that enthrals the senses.

Goa is a tropical paradise amidst architecture of the Mediterranean. Goa has fascinated and endeared itself to those who appreciate boundless sunshine dazzling through leafy palms onto fine sands and warm seas. It has captured the imaginations of those who have enjoyed its carnivals, visited its Cathedrals and sampled its cuisine. The richness of the culture is sadly not mirrored by the richness of its people so do be prepared to see poverty on the streets.

The 100km coastline has some of the finest beaches on the sub-continent for sunbathing and water's edge strolls, however at times, strong currents in the seas around them often rule out swimming. Water sports are available in some resorts, so do check with your travel agent at the time of booking if that is your bag.



Goa has scenery to include rich green paddy fields surrounded by wide slow-flowing waterways. Grand colonial buildings, Hindu temples and restored Christian churches that sit beside tine fishing villages. Whit churches gleam alongside colourful distinctive houses, set amidst tropical flowering trees. You may witness striking remains of fortresses which conjure up pictures of the past. You may also find deep valleys and fast flowing rivers surrounded by wooded uplands. 'Old Goa' is worth a visit for its wildly varied architecture, and there are several wildlife sanctuaries in the state. There are a wide range of excursions available in Goa, so there is no reason why you should miss any of these amazing sights.

Goa is renowned for its seafood and its spicy cuisine. Grub in Goa is an intriguing blend of Indian and Portuguese dishes, spicy sauces, coconut milk and a superb range of vegetarian dishes are the result of the Hindu culture. Hotels offer international alternatives for those with western palates. As well as sightseeing and sampling the local cuisine, another great way to enjoy the charm of India is strolling around the many shops and markets. A friendly atmosphere and warm welcome awaits you.



In the north there is an exciting mix of fascinating colourful markets, bars and restaurants offering delicious specialities – the fresh fish and seafood amongst the best you will find anywhere in the world. The northern area is the livelier part of Goa as is reflected in the nightlife. Water sports are widely available. The hotels in Central Goa are ideally placed for exploring. South Goa is the ideal place if you are looking for a more peaceful honeymoon with a laid-back pace. Some of the finest beaches in the region skirt the coast with attractive golden sands.

Words of wisdom

Alcohol will not be served if elections are taking place (yikes)

India’s rail system is the largest in Asia, and one of the cheapest – but far from the fastest. Train travel is a great experience for the gregarious honeymooner. Buses tend to be crowded, so why not hire a chauffeured tourist car for a day of exploration?



Hawkers are present on nearly all of the beaches, be firm but not rude – remember they live in extreme poverty compared to our own lifestyles. Goa may be a culture shock for those having not experienced anything other than western society; this is the case with many developing destinations.

Do take the time to read up on Hindu culture and Hinduism. It is truly fascinating and will make your honeymoon more special of you have a little background knowledge before you go and experience it first hand.

Visas must be obtained from the Indian High Commission.