

# Roadmap to Becoming a Cook

## ■ Roadmap 1: Becoming a Cook in India after IHM

### ■ Education & Skills

1. Complete IHM (B.Sc. in Hospitality & Hotel Administration or Diploma in Food Production).
2. Learn basics of Indian & Continental cuisine, bakery, hygiene, nutrition, kitchen management.
3. Improve knife skills, speed, and consistency.

### ■■■ Internships & Training

1. Do industrial training (IT) in 5-star hotels (Taj, Oberoi, ITC, Hyatt, etc.).
2. Learn kitchen hierarchy (Commis → DCDP → CDP → Sous Chef → Executive Chef).

### ■ First Job (Entry Level)

- Position: Commis Chef (I, II, III).
- Salary: ■15,000 – ■25,000/month.
- Accommodation & Meals: Staff meals provided, some hotels give shared accommodation.
- Growth: Within 2–3 years, can become Demi Chef de Partie (DCDP).

### ■ Career Growth in India

- 3–5 years: CDP (■40,000–■60,000).
- 7–10 years: Sous Chef (■70,000–■1,20,000).
- 12–15 years: Executive Chef (■1.5–3 Lakh+).

### ■ Tips

- Learn regional cuisines (South Indian, Rajasthani, Bengali, etc.).
- Build network with hotels, restaurants, cloud kitchens.
- Optional: Start own restaurant, café, or catering after 5–7 years.

## ■ Roadmap 2: Cruise Ship Cook Jobs

### ■ Education & Skills

1. Complete IHM or equivalent diploma/degree in culinary.
2. Strong English communication (minimum B1 level).
3. HACCP & USPH food safety knowledge (very important).

### ■■■ Work Experience

- Most cruise lines require 1–2 years hotel/restaurant kitchen experience.
- Start in 5-star hotels or luxury resorts in India.

### ■ Applying for Cruise Jobs

- Apply through official hiring partners (V.H. Global, Kamaxi Overseas, Indus Hospitality).
- Popular cruise lines: Royal Caribbean, Carnival, MSC, Norwegian, Costa.

## ■ Job Roles on Cruise

- Commis / Assistant Cook → Demi Chef de Partie → CDP → Sous Chef → Head Chef.

## ■ Salary & Benefits

- Entry-level salary: \$900 – \$1,200/month (■75,000 – ■1,00,000).
- Experienced chefs: \$2,000 – \$4,500/month (■1.6 – ■3.5 Lakh).
- Accommodation & Meals provided free.
- Free medical care on board.
- Contract: 6–9 months at sea + 2–3 months vacation.

## ■ Extra Requirements

- STCW safety training (mandatory).
- Medical fitness test (PCC, yellow fever, TB test, etc.).
- Strong discipline, speed & multi-cuisine skills.