

Table Of Content

Geographical location	4
Neighbouring cities/countries	5
Significance	6
History	7
Cultural identity	8
Natural resources	9
Key site seeing places (paid and free)	10
- Paid	10
-- Reis Magos Fort	10
- Free	11
-- Agonda Beach	11
-- Varca Beach	11
-- Palolem Beach	11
-- Basilica of Bom Jesus	12
-- Old Goa	12
-- Benaulim Beach	12
-- Panaji	13
-- The Tomb of St. Francis	13
-- Candolim	14
-- Margao	14
-- Colva	14
-- Anjuna Beach	15
-- Mapusa	15
-- Arambol	15
-- Mormugao	16
-- Dona Paula	16
-- Salcete	17
-- Canacona	17
-- Vagator Beach	17
-- Arpora	18
-- Morjim	18

Key sites sports & adventure	19
Adventure sports, Local sports, stadiums	21
Spas and relaxation	22
Events calendar	23
Key local guides and tours	27
Transportation hubs	28
Transportation cost	29
Baggage allowance	30
Restaurant & Nightlife	31
Average meal cost	35
Shopping	36
Tourist benefits	37
Essential local apps	38
Driving	39
Travel essentials	40
Essential clothes	41
Local currency	42
Change vendor's commission, ATM charges	43
Staying connected	44
Time Zone	45
Languages	46
Political Scenario	47
Economic Scenario	48
Religious belief	49
Visa requirements	50
Essential vaccination	51
Theft and Safety	52
Embassy/Consulate	53
Accessibility	54
Emergencies	55
Do's and Don'ts	56
Tipping basics	57
Pet info	58

Conclusion 59

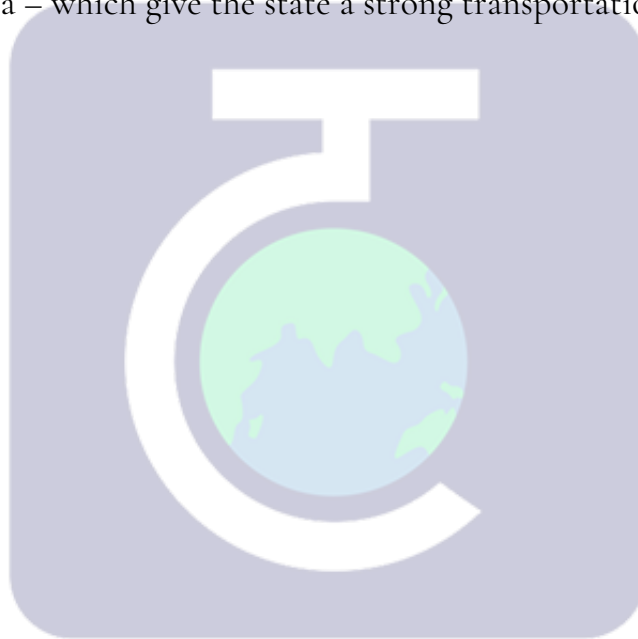
Disclaimer 60



Index

1. Geographical location

Goa is one of the most popular and well-known coastal states of India. It is a segment of the coastal country called the Konkan. Goa lies on the western coast of India and the state is world-renowned for its for long slew of beachy tourists and other scenic locations. The Western Ghats play a significant role in the flora and fauna of the state. Moreover, the Arabian Sea stretches through the coastline of Goa. Goa also has a number of rivers - Mandovi, Tiracol, Zuari, Chapora, Sal and Talpona – which give the state a strong transportation network.



Index

2. Neighbouring cities/countries

Goa Is Quite Strategically-located On The India Map. The Small Beachy State Shares Its Borders With The States Of Maharashtra (in The North), And Karnataka (in The South). A Big Part Of Goa's Appeal Is Attributed To Its Proximity With The Arabian Sea Which Spreads Vastly Across The Coastline Of Goa.



3. Significance

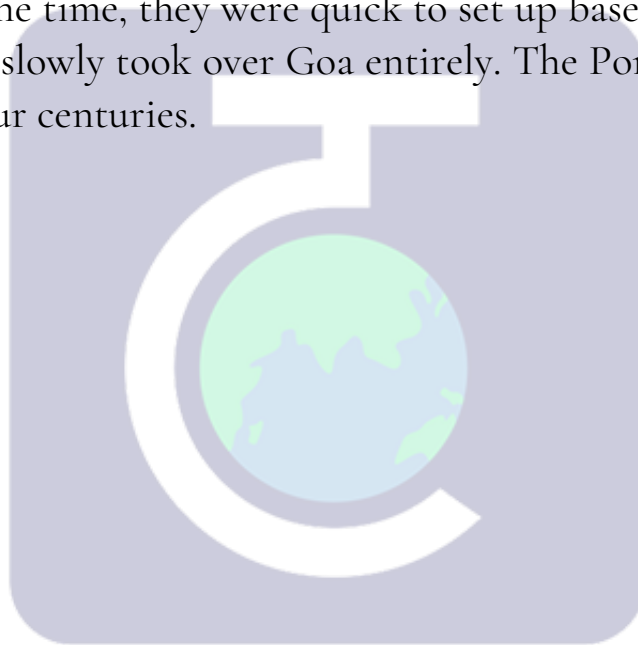
One of the richest states in India, Goa is the most sought after tourist destination for its panoramic beaches, plethora of adventures, excellent facilities, and friendly local people. With a charming mix of colonial heritage and regional characteristics, this small state has a unique flavor that entices international tourists and people from all over the country. Modernity and tradition co-exist beautifully in its culture. Goa welcomes all kinds of people. Economically, Goa is far ahead than many of the bigger states in India. The rich soil with ample mineral and ore deposits is favorable for mining and agriculture, contributing to a major part of the state's revenue apart from tourism.



Index

4. History

Goa's history dates back to nearly 30,000 years. The art engravings seen on the rocks indicate the earliest traces of human inhabitation in India. Goa's way of life, culture, architecture, history and rituals is deeply influenced by the Portuguese that occupied Goa in 1510. Prior to that Goa's governance was in the hands of the Delhi Sultanate during the Mughal-era. Soon after the Portuguese defeated the Mughal emperor of the time, they were quick to set up base in the capital of Goa – Panjim – and then slowly took over Goa entirely. The Portuguese reign in Goa lasted almost over four centuries.



5. Cultural identity

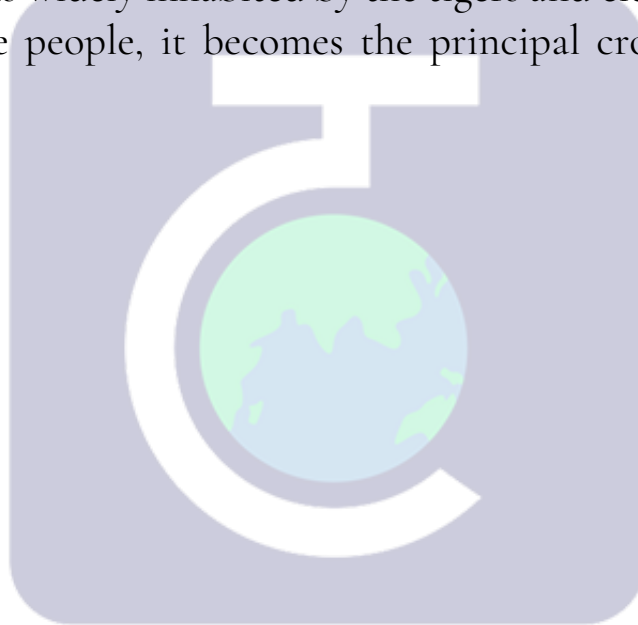
The population of Goa believes in practicing the motto of 'Unity in Diversity'. The state witnesses strong harmonious relations between all faiths and cultures. All occasions of festive celebrations are celebrated and observed with great spirit. Prominent festivals of Goa include: Chavoth, Diwali, Christmas, Easter, Shigmo, Samvatsar Padvo, Dasara etc. The Goan Carnival and New Year celebration famously attract a lot of tourists.



Index

6. Natural resources

The state of Goa is endowed with mineral resources like Bauxite, Iron ore, Manganese ore, which are of the economic importance and to talk about the minor minerals in the state then, Basalt, Laterite stones, Murrum, River Sand is found. Mining in Goa is synonymous with Iron ore mining and is completely in the private sector. Forest cover in Goa is diverse and it has 40 percent forest cover of the total area and is widely inhabited by the tigers and elephants. Rice and fish being the diet of the people, it becomes the principal crop in the scenario of agriculture in Goa.



Index

7. Key site seeing places (paid and free)

7.1. Paid

7.1.1. Reis Magos Fort

Reis Magos is a fort located in Bardez. It was the armed outpost of Adil Shah of Bijapur in 1493 but later came under Portuguese control in 1541. It was later restored and made sparkling new, by a well-known architect, Gerard De Cunha.

Address : Verem, Bardez, Goa 403114

Zipcode : 403114

Location : 15.4970692, 73.80952860000002

Contact : 0832 290 4649

Website : <http://reismagosfort.com/>

Nearest Public Transport : Verem Bus Station

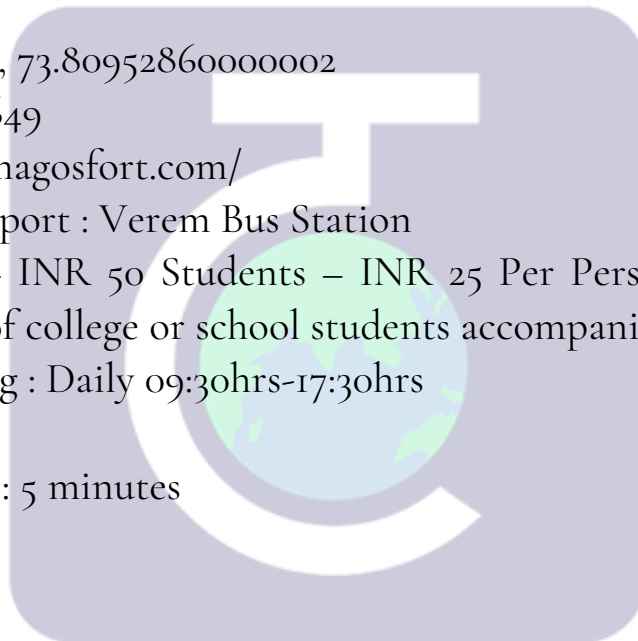
Entry Fee : Adults – INR 50 Students – INR 25 Per Person – INR 10 Special discounts for group of college or school students accompanied by teachers.

Open & Close Timing : Daily 09:30hrs-17:30hrs

Time Required : 1

Expected Wait Time : 5 minutes

Buy Ticket : No



Index

7.2. Free

7.2.1. Agonda Beach

This beach is popular for its pristine beachside view and is a precious hub for the Olive Ridley Turtle eggs. You can enjoy a long stroll on the beach and a couple of drinks as you spend a slow-paced, yet invigorating day here.

Address : South Goa District, Agonda 403001, India

Zipcode : 403001

Location : 15.0437626, 73.98575770000002

Contact : 8976536961

Nearest Public Transport : Canacona Train Station (NR)

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 3

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.2. Varca Beach

This is yet another breezy and spectacular beach in Goa, which is popular for its Club Mahindra Varca resort. Tourists usually enjoy the typical Goan cuisines on the shacks or relax on the beach while watching dolphins.

Address : Varca Beach, Fatrade, Goa 403721

Zipcode : 403721

Location : 15.2209348, 73.92900150000003

Nearest Public Transport : Seralim Train Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 3

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.3. Palolem Beach

Palolem Beach is located in Canacona of southern Goa. It is an immaculate crescent shaped shore popular for fantastic beach parties. There is also an exciting "Forbidden Beach" in one corner rumored for ghost stories.

Address : within 2.5 kilometres of the market town of Chaudi, Canacona, India 403702

Zipcode : 403702

Location : 15.0099648, 74.02321860000006
Nearest Public Transport : Baga Bus Station
Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours
Time Required : 3
Buy Ticket : No

7.2.4. Basilica of Bom Jesus

This is a Roman Catholic Church which contains the mortal remains of Saint Francis Xavier. Its ornate walls and beautifully gilded ceilings behind the altar give visitors a glimpse of the Baroque style of architecture.

Address : Old Goa Rd, Bainguinim, Goa 403402

Zipcode : 403402

Location : 15.5008938, 73.9116272

Contact : 0832 228 5790

Website : <http://www.bomjesus.org/>

Nearest Public Transport : Old Goa Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Daily 07:30hrs-18:30hrs

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.5. Old Goa

Old Goa had been a principal Portuguese colony from 1510 to 1835. It was an ancient trade center for the export of spices and was once called the "Rome of the East".

Address : Velha Goa, Goa 403402

Zipcode : 403402

Location : 15.5027745, 73.9154069

Nearest Public Transport : Old Goa Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 3

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.6. Benaulim Beach

Benaulim is an idyllic beach town in the south of Goa. Legend has it that Lord

Parashurama shot an arrow from the Sahyadri Mountains which landed in this place, and hence it came to be known as "Banavalli" before the Portuguese invasion.

Address : Benaulim, Goa 403716

Zipcode : 403716

Location : 15.2570626, 73.91871379999998

Nearest Public Transport : Madgaon Train Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 3

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.7. Panaji

A laid-back city on the banks of the Mandovi River, Panaji is popular for its ochre colored buildings and slender twisted alleys that remind us of the Portuguese culture infused with an old world charm.

Address : Panjim, Goa 403001

Zipcode : 403001

Location : 15.4909301, 73.82784960000004

Nearest Public Transport : Inox Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 4

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.8. The Tomb of St. Francis

The Tomb of St. Francis is located in the Basilica of Bom Jesus. The entire church is divided into 4 altars with intricate panels and ornate ceilings. The tomb is recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site and it holds the remains of St. Francis Xavier.

Address : Basilica of Bom Jesus | Old Goa, Panjim, India 403108

Zipcode : 403108

Location : 15.5008938, 73.9116272

Contact : 918322285790

Website : <http://www.bomjesus.org/>

Nearest Public Transport : Old Goa Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Daily 07:30hrs-18:30hrs

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.9. Candolim

Candolim is located in the Bardez town of Goa and is famous for its multicolored sand dunes which make it a painter's palette. One of its main attractions is the ship "River Princess", which is tagged to the shores as it draws a large number of tourists.

Address : Candolim, Goa 403515

Zipcode : 403515

Location : 15.5145247, 73.76837840000007

Nearest Public Transport : Sinqerim Bus Stop

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.10. Margao

Margao is the commercial capital of Goa. It has some popular landmarks like the Sebastian Chapel, Monte Hill Chapel, Damodar Temple and the Maruti Mandir. Curry of Margao is a special cuisine here that is exported to Portugal.

Address : Margao, Goa 403601

Zipcode : 403601

Location : 15.2832187, 73.98619099999996

Nearest Public Transport : Madgaon Train Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 4

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.11. Colva

Colva is a beach city in Salcete, Goa popular for its beach shacks, drinks bars and pubs. Its pristine white sands lined with coconut palms are worth watching. Colva was earlier known for its beach and a number of hawkers selling local crafts at high prices. One can relax their body at the shacks on the beach or even try out

some water sports while in Colva.

Address : Colva, Goa 403708

Zipcode : 403708

Location : 15.27611780000001, 73.91920779999998

Nearest Public Transport : Colva Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 3

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.12. Anjuna Beach

Anjuna is a popular beach in Goa mainly known for its whacky trance parties. St. Michael's church is one of the main spots here. The flea market draws visitors every Wednesday to buy small trinkets, fruits, clothes and decorative item.

Address : Anjuna, Goa 403519

Zipcode : 403519

Location : 15.5735995, 73.74070649999999

Nearest Public Transport : Anjuna Bus Stop

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 3

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.13. Mapusa

Mapusa is a small town located near Mount Alto. It is famous for its Lord Bodeswar Temple constructed on rice fields, the pastel colored Maruti Temple of Lord Hanuman and Church of Our Lady of Miracles.

Address : Mapusa, Goa 403507

Zipcode : 403507

Location : 15.6002273, 73.81249839999998

Nearest Public Transport : Kucheli Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.14. Arambol

Arambol Beach is popular for its "fresh water lake" and the spectacular Banyan tree between the jungle valleys. Arambol has a pulsating music scene dominated by the "Gypsie Fusion Bands".

Address : Arambol, Goa 403519

Zipcode : 403519

Location : 15.6871252, 73.72130629999992

Nearest Public Transport : Bhatwadi Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.15. Mormugao

Mormugao is famous for its beautiful port. It was a busy trade center during the Portuguese invasion. It was a shooting location for popular Hollywood films like The Sea Wolves and the Bollywood film, Bhootnath.

Address : Mormugao, Goa 403803

Zipcode : 403803

Location : 15.3874352, 73.81543940000006

Nearest Public Transport : Vasco da Gama Train Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.16. Dona Paula

Dona Paula is a fascinating tourist destination in Goa and the center of the National Institute of Oceanography. The sight of waves dashing against the rocks of Dona Paula is extremely picturesque. There is a popular myth that Dona Paula buried in Cabo Chapel appears from the sea waves wearing a necklace.

Address : Dona Paula, Goa 403004

Zipcode : 403004

Location : 15.4608099, 73.80955740000002

Nearest Public Transport : Dona Paula Bus Stop

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.17. Salcete

Salcete is a town located in the southern part of Goa known for its pristine beaches and whitewashed churches. It is derived from the Hindu name, Shashti. Chandreshwar Temple and Holy Spirit Church are some most well-known attractions in Salcete.

Address : Salcete, Goa 403707

Zipcode : 403707

Location : 15.243667599999999, 73.98300289999997

Nearest Public Transport : Chandor Goa Railway Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 3

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.18. Canacona

Canacona is a popular beach in Goa known for its scenic drive along the coconut and palm trees. It is famous for the Cotigao wildlife sanctuary and the annual Galibaga show, which features scores of turtle's crawling up the shores.

Address : Canacona, Goa 403702

Zipcode : 403702

Location : 14.9931145, 74.04763779999996

Nearest Public Transport : Canacona Train Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 3

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.19. Vagator Beach

Vagator is the northernmost beach of Bardez, sporting some vibrant red cliffs and fresh water springs along the shores. It is host to many electrifying trance parties held in famous bars namely Nine Bars and Primrose.

Address : Vagator, Goa 403519

Zipcode : 403519

Location : 15.5985577, 73.733657

Nearest Public Transport : Anjuna Charrasta Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 4

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.20. Arpora

Arpora is a village located in North Goa. Despite its modernization, Arpora is still home to traditional hamlets with rice fields and salt pans. One of the popular attractions here is the Saturday Night Market, which sells everything from musical mouth harps to delectable fast food.

Address : Arpora, Goa 403519

Zipcode : 403519

Location : 15.5713347, 73.76837840000007

Nearest Public Transport : Arpora Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 3

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.21. Morjim

Morjim is located on the banks of the Chapora River. It has a popular bird sanctuary with an effervescent mix of bird species and is also the nesting site for Olive Ridley turtles. The town is filled with Russian immigrants and is also known as "Little Russia".

Address : Morjim, Goa 403519

Zipcode : 403519

Location : 15.6316233, 73.73895960000004

Nearest Public Transport : Morjim Tem Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

Index

8. Key sites sports & adventure

Goa is a haven for adventure lovers. Its beaches, country sides, and the waters offer a wide range of activities like trekking, hiking, white water river rafting, hot air balloon rides, jet skiing, banana ride, water skiing, camping, scuba diving, ATV biking, canyoning, and much more.

- **Hiking -**

Address : Panjim Belgaum Road, Caranzol, Goa 403410

Location : 15.333894,74.288363

Contact No : +91-832-2612211

Nearest Public Transport : Caranzol Railway Station

Entry Fees : Adult – INR 20 Children – INR 5

Open / Close Time : Daily 08:00hrs-17:00hrs

Time Required : 2.00

Wait Time : 15 minutes

- **Watersports -**

Address : Calangute, Goa 403519

Location : 15.544895,73.75479

Nearest Public Transport : Baga Bus Station (NR)

Open / Close Time : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 3.00

- **Watersports at Baga -**

Address : Baga, Goa 403519

Location : 15.557605,73.753976

Nearest Public Transport : Baga Bus Station

Open / Close Time : Open 24 hours
Time Required : 3.00



Index

9. Adventure sports, Local sports, stadiums

Association football is probably one of the oldest and the most popular sports in Goa. The state is home to many national league football teams and clubs. Some of the top notch teams include Salgaocar Sports Club, Churchill Brothers, Vasco Sports Club, etc. Cricket, like the rest of India, is also a widely enjoyed game in Goa which has its own team.

- **Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium:**

Address : Fatorda, Margao, South Goa, Goa 403602

Location : 15.2893665,73.96243589999995

Contact No : 0832 274 3050

Website : <http://www.tsag.org/>

- **Duler Football Stadium:**

Address : Duler Ground Rd, Duler, Mapusa, Goa, 403507

Location : 15.59864,73.81603740000003

Open/Close time : Depends upon the events

10. Spas and relaxation

- **Snip Salon & Spa:**

Address : Taj Road, Gaurawaddo, Calangute, Goa 403516

Location : 15.532234,73.76410290000001

Contact No : 0832 227 5421

Website : <http://www.snip.co.in/calangute>

- **Tatva Elements Spa:**

Address : H.No.3/1/GF, Calangute - Anjuna Rd, Opp. Calangute Chapel, Naika Vaddo, Arpora, Goa 403516

Location : 15.5405846,73.76397359999999

Contact No : 08007607331

Website : <http://www.tatvaspa.com/>

- **Kenilworth Beach Resort & Spa:**

Address : Near Utorda Beach, Salcete, Goa 403713

Location : 15.3184412,73.90199510000002

Contact No : 0832 669 8888

Website : <http://www.kenilworthhotels.com/goa/>

11. Events calendar

Month

Events

Feast Of Three Kings @ Our Lady of Remedies chapel at Cuelim

A festival with three boys dressed like kings bearing the gifts the wise men gave to baby Jesus and enter the chapel with a marching band.

Goa Carnival @ Goa

A festival whereby people celebrate the legendary king Momo for bringing peace and tourists get to enjoy culture and different types of dishes of Goa.

Shigmotsav/Gulalotsav Festival @ Ponda

It is the most famous spring festival in this city with parades performing folk dances along the road.

Goa Food and Cultural Festival @ Goa

At this festival, tourists enjoy the different, cultural, types of dishes cooked in Goa

Holy Spirit Feast @ Holy Spirit

church at Margao

This festival is celebrated after the Easter holiday where locals give thanks for the rainy season. Sao Joao Festival @ various places

Sangodds which is another name for folk dances are performed during this festival as the Catholics honor and celebrate St John the Baptist. Touxeachem Feast @ Santana Church at Talaulim

An interesting religious festival whereby childless couples offer cucumbers believing they will be blessed with children. Bonderam Festival @ Divar Island

This festival is usually commemorated with a parade and loud music to celebrate peace that was achieved by use of flags when there was war in Divar village.

World Tourism Day @ Goa

The tourism department of Goa together with the private sector organizes various activities and

**competitions on this day.
Diwali @ Goa**

It is a Hindu religious festival that is marked by burning effigies of the demon king ravana and the Hindus light up the city with lights, lanterns and fireworks

Tripurari Poornima @ the banks of river Valvanthi in Sanquelim.

An event that is held to mark the end of Diwali with boat racing competitions and folk dances along the river.

Dattajayanti @ Sanquelim, Bicholim

**A Hindu festival whereby people from all over Goa gather in the temple to celebrate the birth of Lord Dattatreya
Sunburn @ Vagator**

**Enjoy the largest music festival which is held as the EDM festival. Have the best of house music, trance and electronic dance music.
Go Supersonic**

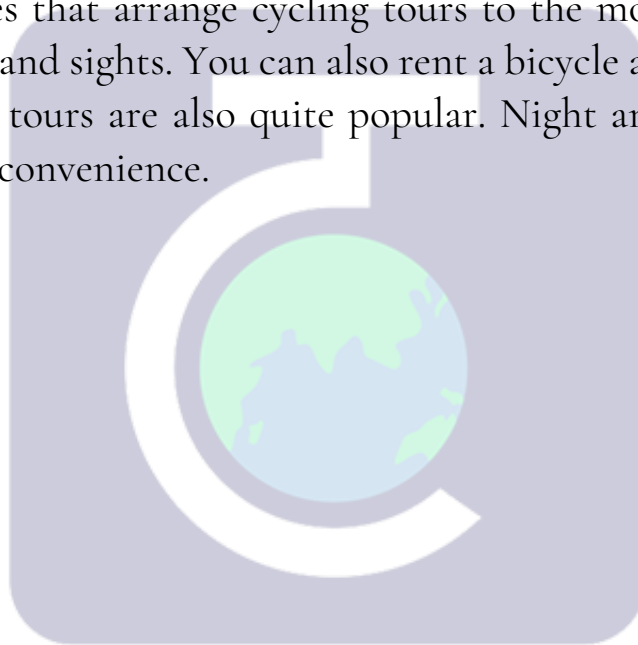
It houses the definitive experience of dance music in

**India. The stage awakens the
madness of the great musicians
and rock bands.**



12. Key local guides and tours

Goa is not just a city. It is a whole state that has a lot to offer for the international as well as domestic visitors. Each area offers a different kind of experience. It is better to have the help of a professional guide to visit the places that suit your interests. Many licensed guides offer their services to the tourists for hourly or daily fees. Cycling is probably the best way to enjoy Goa. There are several travel agencies that arrange cycling tours to the most popular as well as less frequented spots and sights. You can also rent a bicycle and explore the places on your own. Cruise tours are also quite popular. Night and day cruises can be arranged as per your convenience.

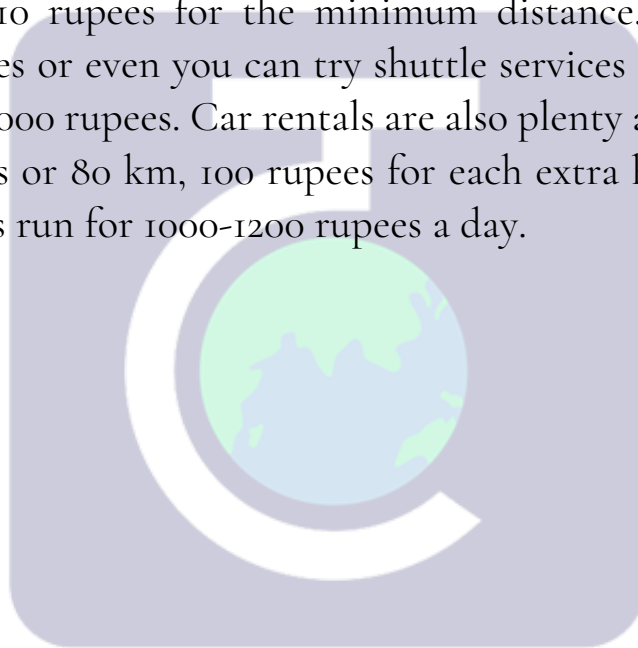


Index**13. Transportation hubs**

Goa International Airport is located at Dabolim 30 km away from the capital city Panjim. The nearest city to the airport is Vasco de Gama which is 4km away. Only a few airlines have direct international flights to Goa. Travelers can reach at the various International airports in India and then get domestic flights to Goa. The nearest major city with an international airport is The Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport in Mumbai is about 608 km away from Goa. Tourists arriving at the Mumbai airport can either fly to the Goa airport or take buses or trains or taxis to reach Goa. The bus fare ranges from 500 to 1500 rupees. Taxi rates start from 15,000 rupees and can go over 30,000 rupees depending on the type of the car. The distance between the airport and the city center is approximately 26 kilometers which shall take around 31 minutes to reach. Buses may take 8 rupees and taxis shall charge 350 rupees – 475 rupees.

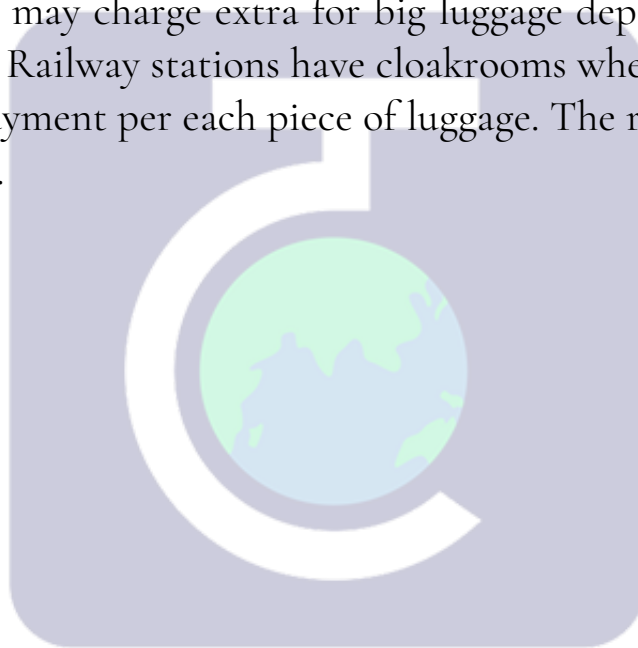
14. Transportation cost

Getting around in Goa is very inexpensive if you know how to bargain. While public transport systems have fixed rates, taxi cabs and auto-rickshaws are notorious for asking hefty rates. Though they are metered and charge the normal fare from the locals, visitors are always charged extra on some reason or other. Bargain before starting the journey to get a decent rate. Government run bus rates start from 8 -10 rupees for the minimum distance. Monthly passes are available at 500 rupees or even you can try shuttle services between major cities. The passes cost 950-1000 rupees. Car rentals are also plenty and the fare is around 1000-1500 for 8 hours or 80 km, 100 rupees for each extra hour or 10 rupees per extra kilometer. Jeeps run for 1000-1200 rupees a day.



Index**15. Baggage allowance**

Public transport systems do not charge any extra fare for luggage in Goa. Trains and buses have sufficient space for keeping big and heavy luggage pieces. In the interior parts, you can even travel on top of the bus with your luggage. Taxis also have large luggage compartment which can contain 5-6 suitcases or bags. However, you will not be able to stuff your entire luggage into the auto-rickshaws. And, they may charge extra for big luggage depending on how many such pieces you have. Railway stations have cloakrooms where you can leave your luggage for a fixed payment per each piece of luggage. The rate is about 15 rupees per day for a suitcase.



16. Restaurant & Nightlife

Panjim, Salcette and Vagator are the finest places to enjoy different types of cuisines.

Food -

Panjim, Salcette and Vagator are the finest places to enjoy different types of cuisines.

- **Bomra:**

Address : 247 Fort Aquada Road, Candolim, Goa 403515

Location : 15.5070949,73.770158499

Contact No : 097675 91056

Website : <http://bomras.com/>

Open / Close Time : Daily 12:00hrs-14:00hrs; 19:00hrs-23:00hrs

- **Anand Sea Food Restaurant & Bar:**

Address : Zamblim, Calangute Road, Anjuna, Goa 403509

Location : 15.5957587,73.760748599

Contact No : 09820000000

Open / Close Time : Daily 11:30hrs-15:30hrs; 18:30hrs-23:00hrs

- **Baba Au Rhum:**

Address : House No. 1054, Sim Vaddo, Anjuna, Bardez, Goa 403509

Location : 15.5766747,73.755747700

Contact No : 096572 10468

Open / Close Time : Wednesday to Monday – 09:00hrs-22:00hrs;

Tuesday Closed

- **Martins Corner:**

Address : Binwaddo, Betalbatim, Salcette, Goa 403708

Location : 15.3038596,73.914337899

Contact No : 0832 288 0413

Website : <http://www.martinscornergoa.com/>

Open / Close Time : Daily 11:00hrs-15:30hrs; 18:30hrs-23:30hrs

- **Thalassa:**

Address : Small Vagator, Ozran, Vagator, Goa 403509

Location : 15.5948722,73.735424100

Contact No : 098500 33537

Website : <http://www.thalassagoa.com/>

Open / Close Time : Daily 10:00hrs-23:30hrs

- **Ritz Classic Restaurant N Bar:**

Address : 10678, 1st Floor, Wagle Vision Building, 18th June Road, Panjim, Goa 403001

Location : 15.4984334,73.826714999

Contact No : 0832 242 6417

Open / Close Time : Daily 12:00hrs-15:00hrs; 19:00hrs-23:00hrs

- **Club Cubana:**

Address : Arpora Hill, North Goa, Goa, 403507

Location : 15.575745,73.766822000

Contact No : 098235 39000

Website : <http://www.clubcubanagoa.com/>

Open / Close Time : Daily 21:30hrs-04:00hrs

- **LPK Waterfront:**

Address : Road Opposite Bank of India, Bhatiwado, Nerul, Goa 403114

Location : 15.513292,73.783422999

Contact No : 093267 33295

Open / Close Time : Daily 21:30hrs-03:30hrs

- **Cafe Mambos:**

Address : Titos Lane, бага beach, Baga, Goa 403516

Location : 15.5561084,73.752159399

Contact No : 098227 65002

Open / Close Time : Daily 18:00hrs-03:00hrs

- **Curlies Beach Shack:**

Address : Near Flea Market, Monteiro Vaddo, Anjuna, Goa 403509

Location : 15.569453,73.742264999

Contact No : 095524 71720

Website : <http://curliesgoa.com/>

Open / Close Time : Daily 09:00hrs-02:00hrs

- **Deltin Royale:**

Address : Noah's Ark, RND Jetty, Dayanand Bhandodkar Marg, Panjim, Goa 403001

Location : 15.500645,73.831319000

Contact No : 098196 98196

Website : <http://www.deltin.com/deltin-royale/>

Open / Close Time : Open 24 hours

- **Casino Pride:**

Address : River Mandovi, Captain Of Ports Jetty, Panjim, Goa 403001

Location : 15.501567,73.827717

Contact No : 0832 651 6666

Website : <http://www.bestgoacasino.com/>

Open / Close Time : Open 24 hours



Index**17. Average meal cost**

At an inexpensive restaurant, a normal meal costs 250 rupees and a three course meal for two people at a mid-range restaurant is available at 800 rupees. You can have a combo meal at McDonald's at 300 rupees. A fresh cappuccino can be purchased at 72.78 rupees. 11.2 oz small bottle of water is available at 15.60 rupees. You can have 1 pint draught of domestic beer at 60.00 rupees while 11.2 oz small bottle of imported beer costs 85.00 rupees.



18. Shopping

Goa mainly boasts of street markets. Other than the beaches, good food, shopping is the next biggest attraction which pulls tourists to come to Goa and spend time here. If you're a serious shopper, Goa's markets are going to impress you very much. The Mapusa Market : It is one of the most popular markets and your reason to go there would be because you'd like to know and explore the flavors of Goa. This bustling market is an attraction for local vendors and traders across Goa. Here you will find everything: fashion and apparel, Goan pottery, handicrafts, local spices, fruits, homemade pickles and so much more! Anjuna Flea Market : If you like to shop and shop cheap, the Anjuna Flea Market is your place to go to. It is one of the liveliest markets of Goa. The market is very popular and thronged by locals and tourists because it is nearby to the famed Anjuna beach of Goa. Calangute Market Square : If you like to shop and collect antique jewelry and souvenirs, then don't forget to go to the Calangute Market Square. It is a tourist-favorite market and you can stroll around and check out the spreads of goods and items made from metal, clay and leather. Mackie's Night Bazaar : For foodies at heart, the Mackie's Night Bazaar is a must-go-to! It is a night bazaar where you can satiate your appetite for good food. There are hundreds of stall here selling multiple culinary delicacies at nominal rates. Also you can shop for handicrafts and experience live music and dance! There are various shopping malls such as Caculo Mall for having a variety in eating options and a fun place to hang out with family and friends, Mall De Goa for enjoying the latest movie shows and a variety in selection of eateries and shops and Big G for shopping line of brands, supermarket and a wide choice of restaurants.

Index**19. Tourist benefits**

The Government of India has not yet implemented tax refund policy for international tourists for their purchases within the country. In Goa, some products have are exempted from tax like alcoholic beverages. Other than that, there is no tax refund scheme applicable for foreign visitors. However, tourists can find stores that offer interesting deals and discounts during specific seasons; for example, tourist season is mainly the time when more offers are found in the shops. Shops in the local markets provide the opportunity to bargain the prices and reach at a reasonable rate. No bargaining is possible in big malls and such other shopping centers where the prices are fixed and not changeable.



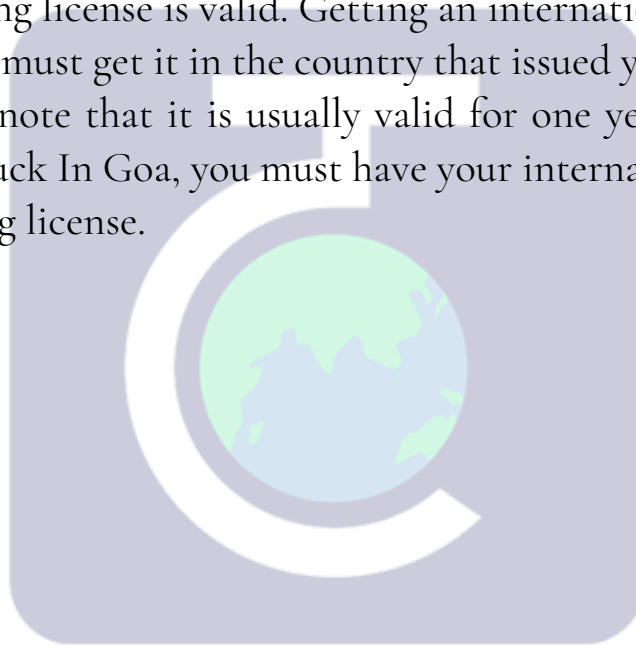
20. Essential local apps

Travelling and going about seeing the sights and scenery of Goa becomes much easier when you have the following apps installed in your mobile phone device. Goa Tourism: This is the official Goa tourism App. It is a user-friendly app which lets you learn and know more information about the fun activities that you can indulge in while in Goa. The app also gives you details about the exotic places around Goa that you can visit.



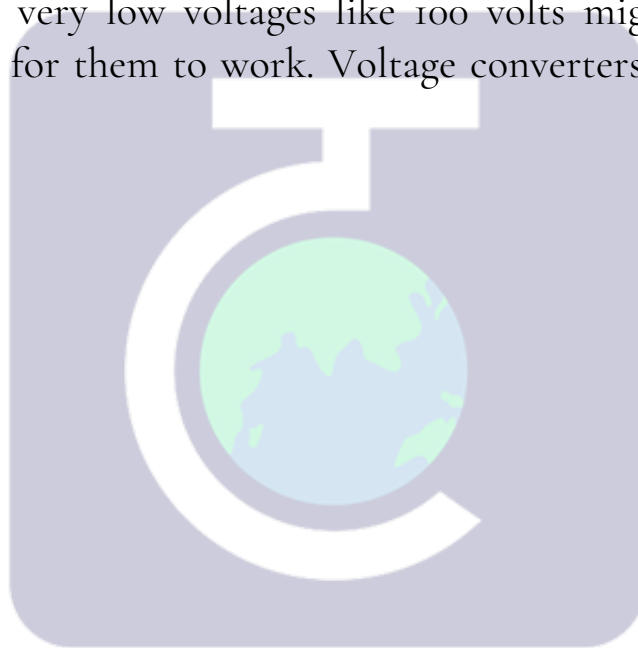
21. Driving

Tourists and visitors will need an International Driving Permit and valid foreign driving license. If the police stop you, the first thing they will ask for is an International Driving Permit. The international driving permit is basically a translation of your driving license as it includes translations of different languages making it understandable in most countries of the world. It also acts as proof that your driving license is valid. Getting an international driving license is quite simple and you must get it in the country that issued your driving license. It is also important to note that it is usually valid for one year. To legally drive a motorcycle, car or truck In Goa, you must have your international driving permit and your valid driving license.



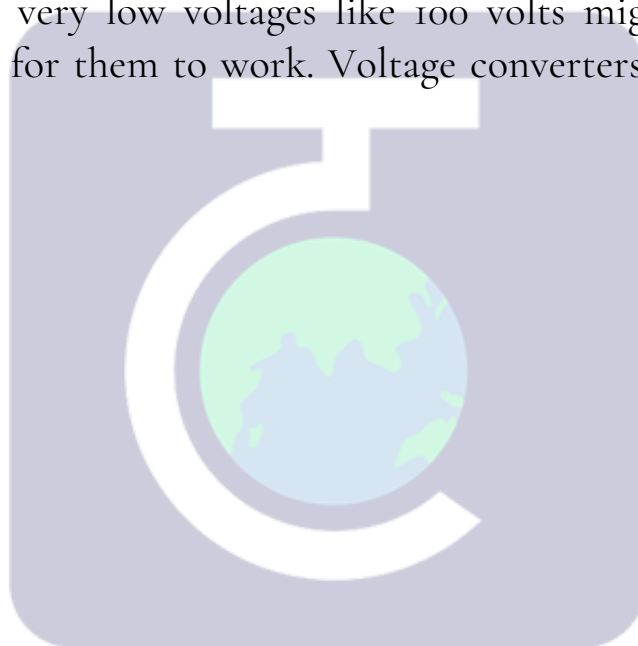
22. Travel essentials

Goa has a standard voltage of 220 volts with a frequency of 50 hertz. The most common type of sockets in this city is the two pin plugs with round holes. A travel adapter is recommended to fit the local plugs you might find in Goa. It is advisable to buy one in Goa as they are relatively cheap there. For electrical gadgets that have a different voltage, a voltage converter is required. Some appliances that have very low voltages like 100 volts might require a fuse or transformer in order for them to work. Voltage converters are readily available across Goa.



23. Essential clothes

Goa has a standard voltage of 220 volts with a frequency of 50 hertz. The most common type of sockets in this city is the two pin plugs with round holes. A travel adapter is recommended to fit the local plugs you might find in Goa. It is advisable to buy one in Goa as they are relatively cheap there. For electrical gadgets that have a different voltage, a voltage converter is required. Some appliances that have very low voltages like 100 volts might require a fuse or transformer in order for them to work. Voltage converters are readily available across Goa.



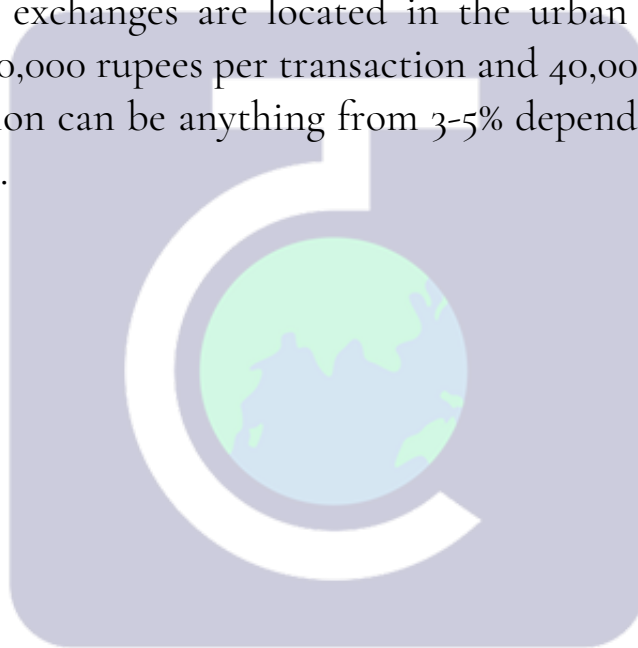
24. Local currency

The local currency of Goa is Indian Rupees. It is denoted as INR. 1 USD = INR 66.72.



25. Change vendor's commission, ATM charges

Travelers can change foreign currency into Indian rupees in airport, in banks, travel agency offices, and exchange offices in Goa. Some upscale hotels and resorts also offer this facility. Generally, airport exchanges offer lower rates. The State Bank of India offers the best exchange rates. Banks often take 1% as commission while the exchange offices and travel agencies usually charge in the range of 2-5%. Most exchanges are located in the urban areas. ATMs have a withdrawal limit of 10,000 rupees per transaction and 40,000 rupees per day. The transaction commission can be anything from 3-5% depending on the policies of the card issuing bank.



26. Staying connected

Carry your ID proof documents to any of the mobile phone or telecom stores in Goa and you can easily procure a mobile SIM card. For internet access on your phone, you'd have to buy a separate Data Recharge Pack. Note: If you're travelling from Maharashtra into Goa, and already have a SIM card that you bought in the Maharashtra belt then you do not need to purchase a separate SIM card as Maharashtra and Goa are a single telecom sector.



27. Time Zone

The time zone of Goa is Indian Standard Time, UTC + 05:30 hours.



28. Languages

Portuguese was the main language before 1961. However, Marathi and Konkani are widely spoken now.



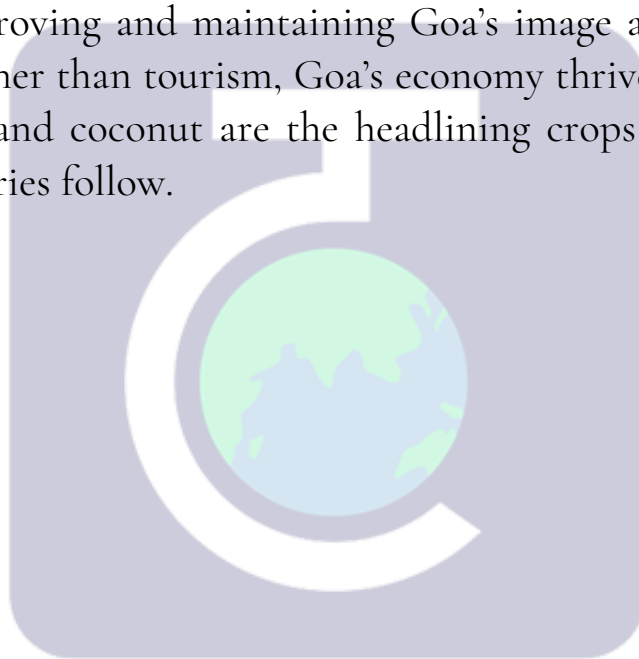
29. Political Scenario

The governance and administration of the state is headed by the Chief Minister. Goa has a Legislative Assembly of its own. Goa's political circles are stable and better now.



30. Economic Scenario

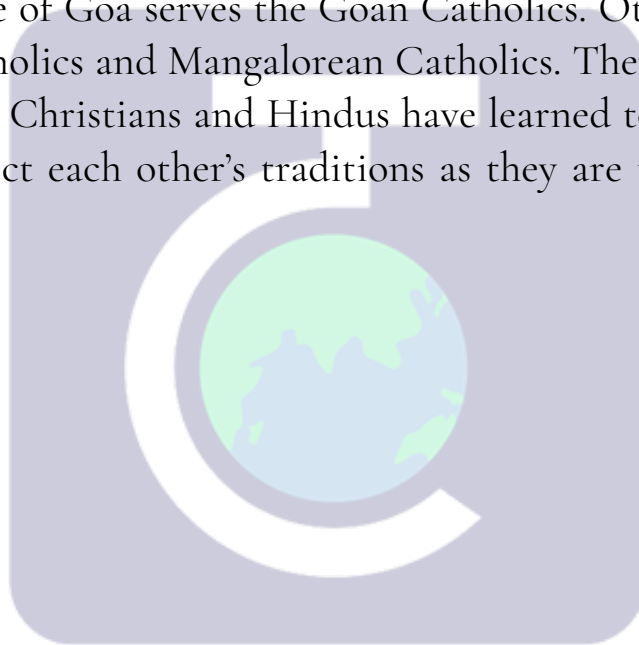
Goa's economy is one of the strongest ones in the country. Tourism is the honey-pot industry of Goa. It plays a significant and influential role in the movement of the state's economy and also contributes in a big way in the socio-economic development of the state. A large part of the revenue generated by the state comes from the tourist arrivals. The government is applying continual efforts towards further improving and maintaining Goa's image as one of the country top tourist spots. Other than tourism, Goa's economy thrives on its agro-output. Rice, areca, cashew and coconut are the headlining crops of Goa. Fishing and medium-scale industries follow.



Index

31. Religious belief

The main religion in Goa is Hinduism with 66%, followed by Christianity with 26% and thirdly Islam with 8%. Other smaller religions found in this city are Jainism, Sikhism and Buddhism. Christianity is sub divided into smaller groups with Roman Catholics being the major group. In the ancient years, Goa was the capital of the Roman church and was called Rome of the East. The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Goa serves the Goan Catholics. Other Christian groups include Karwari Catholics and Mangalorean Catholics. There is also a Methodist church in Goa. Goan Christians and Hindus have learned to live peacefully with each other and respect each other's traditions as they are the main religions in this city.



Index

32. Visa requirements

In order for tourists to travel to Goa, they must possess a valid passport and valid Indian visa with them. You're required to file your visa applications at the Indian Visa Application Center (IVAC). A date of interview is scheduled wherein visa seekers are required to come along with the required set of support documents. Regardless of the visa validity, tourists can stay in India for 6 months (180 days) maximum. Alternatively you can visit <https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/visa/index.html> to know the guidelines and procedure.



33. Essential vaccination

Before travelling to Goa, it is required you take the following vaccines tetanus, measles, mumps, rubella, polio and diphtheria. Typhoid, hepatitis A, hepatitis B, rabies, Japanese encephalitis and cholera vaccines are also recommended as there is risk of these diseases in Goa.



Index**34. Theft and Safety**

The level of safety for tourist in Goa is quite low. There have been recorded many uninvestigated and also unsolved tourist killings in Goa. It is not so safe for the tourists as to curb the crime in the city, Goa topped the list and ranked second after recording 66 cases of crime in the state and the total number of crimes registered against the foreign nationals in the year, 2014, stood at 384. There are also recorded cases for the attacks because of the skin color or religion. You also to be worried about the thefts like being mugged or robbed.



35. Embassy/Consulate

There are not many foreign embassies and consulates spread across the city. However, the few are located at Vasco Da Gama and Panaji. You can have more information at <http://embassy.goabroad.com/embassies-in/india>.



36. Accessibility

Goa city does not fully take care of the disabled and so it is recommended that you call before travelling and enquire if you can get assistance with your disability while in the city. For the wheelchair bound persons, there are usually some people that assist you to get out of the plane. There are also some hotels that are accessible by the disabled and you will need to book them in advance.



Index**37. Emergencies**

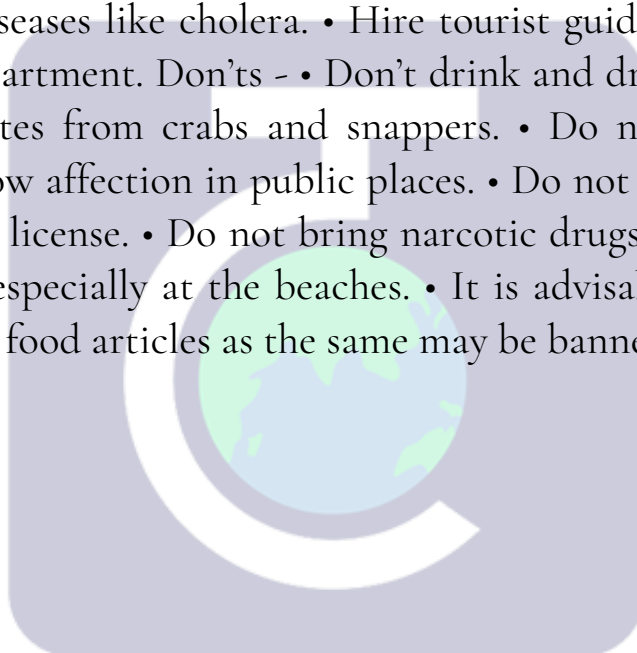
Grace Intensive Cardiac Care Center is one of the best hospitals in Goa with great facilities and offers emergency services. Dr. Kolwalkars Galaxy Hospital is another great hospital that only accepts medical insurance. For ambulances services call 102, for police services call 100 and in case of fire call 101.



Index

38. Do's and Don'ts

Do's - • Always take travel insurance to cater for emergencies like theft, loss and medial. • Ask for encashment certificate when converting money. • Buy from genuine shops only. • It is advisable to carry a certified doctor's prescription along with the medicines to ensure hassle free import clearance. • Signboards are not many in Goa so it would be advisable to carry maps with you. • Take clean water and food to avoid diseases like cholera. • Hire tourist guides that are registered with the tourism department. Don'ts - • Don't drink and drive • Do not sleep on the beach or risk bites from crabs and snappers. • Do not wear heels in the beaches. • Do not show affection in public places. • Do not drive without a valid international driving license. • Do not bring narcotic drugs to the city. • Do not walk alone at night especially at the beaches. • It is advisable that do not carry unsealed/ unbranded food articles as the same may be banned for import.



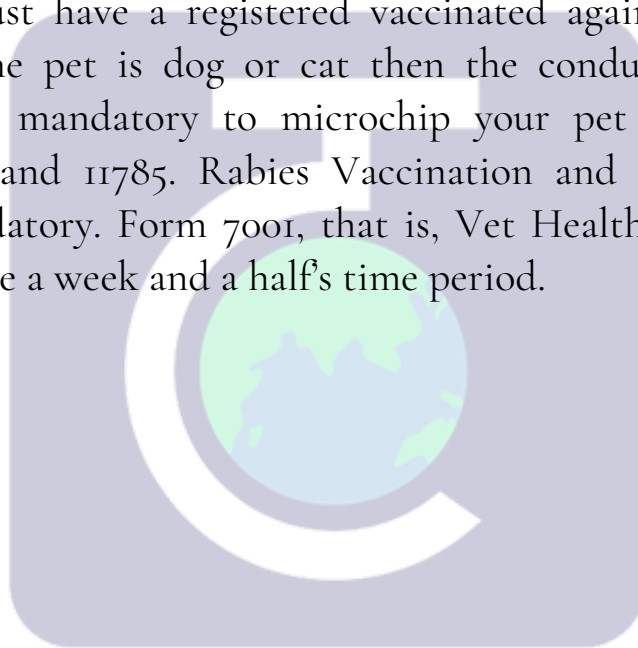
39.Tipping basics

Tipping in Goa has not been customary but the practice is slowly becoming acceptable. Most hotels and restaurants often charge a service fee which means you are not supposed to tip. However some hotels may not have the service charge and you are required to tip 10% of the total bill. It is not customary to tip the service providers but bearing in mind they earn minimal wages it is a good gesture to tip.



Index**40.Pet info**

If you are travelling for a short period like for 2 or 3 weeks to Goa, then, probably, the best solution is not to take your pet with you as the climate of Goa is very hot and humid. But if you are travelling for a long and it's compulsory to take your pet with you then it is mandatory for you to prepare all the necessary documents and to make your pet all the mandatory vaccinations. Also, the Animal passport must have a registered vaccinated against Rabies. It is not mandatory but if the pet is dog or cat then the conduction of chipping is recommended. It is mandatory to microchip your pet complying the ISO Standards of 11784 and 11785. Rabies Vaccination and the necessary health certificates are mandatory. Form 7001, that is, Vet Health Certificate must be issued within no more a week and a half's time period.



Index

Conclusion – Why to select this destination

Why Choose Goa ? Some states in India offer a highly regional experience and some others have a metropolitan way of life. Goa has both. The subdued tone of rustic life with a rich cultural heritage and the loud colors of the city with all the latest fun and entertainment make Goa the perfect holiday destination. It is beaches, beaches, and more beaches in Goa. The sea itself offers the most exciting of adventures. The variety of activities available in its numerous beaches and resorts is reason enough to spend your next vacation exploring the coastal fun in this beautiful state. A wide array of water sports like skiing, surfing, diving, boat rides, cruises, etc. are the chief attractions here. Goan food is a brand in itself. The myriad combinations of local spices, coconut, and fresh seafood are irresistible. Never forget to try its vindaloos, Xacuti, bebinca, khatkhate, Cashew feni, and many such traditional dishes that are quite popular among the visitors. Goa is also a city of big, colorful celebrations and festivals. The most famous is the Goan Carnical and New Year celebrations. Local festivals and other Indian festivals are celebrated with much fervor and offer a slice of the traditional culture of the state. There are various music festivals that can bring the best of your night outs. The live music of the bands playing give the perfect experience you strive while visiting a place like Goa. For those interested in architecture, Goa has the best of Indian, Portuguese, and Islamic architecture in its churches, mosques, temples, houses, and other buildings which are open for visitors to explore. The places of worship are popular pilgrimage destinations as well. Nightlife in the cities is an unforgettable experience. Dance, music, sea, food, and spirits make life an affair to celebrate in Goa.

Index

Disclaimer

All rights reserved. This Travel Guide (inclusive of all content – text, graphics, images, illustrations, designs, etc.) is an Intellectual Property of Taxidio Travel India Pvt. Ltd. Copying, republishing, uploading, reproducing, downloading, distributing, posting, transmitting, or duplicating any of the material is prohibited. All the information contained in this Travel Guide is purely a work of research. The information may have undergone changes from the time it has been compiled. Taxidio Travel India Pvt. Ltd. Cannot be held liable for any alteration, inaccuracies or omissions.

