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Goa itinerary for 3 days – a first-timer's travel guide

February 16, 2019

In this post, I will share with you the best itinerary for Goa in 3 days for beginners based on my personal experience.

A travel lover, lived in Bangalore for 4 years and never been to Goa yet? Do you even exist? Because if you do, you must know that we are with you too. At least we were till December 2018. So finally on our third wedding anniversary, we decided to explore Goa in 3 days. We took a 2-day leave from office and embarked upon the long drive in the wee hours of the night.

Unlike big cities, Goa is a tiny yet diverse state of India that needs to be explored slowly. But since it was our first time to Goa, I charted out a plan to see the best of Goa – the historic sites, the beaches, and the western ghats, all in just 3 days. But the best thing is that we didn't rush from one spot to another, and had enough time to relax. That's because I spent considerable time charting out our itinerary which I am going to share with you here (along with alternatives).

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Goa In 3 days – Where to stay in Goa?

The first step to planning an itinerary is to decide your base location. Goa is full of surprises and attractions which would leave you spoilt for choices of what to do in Goa in 3 days. Panaji, the capital of Goa is a good place to base yourself if you are visiting for the first time. Being centrally located it offers you the opportunity to explore the best of Goa with ease.

Check out the best places to stay in Goa (<https://www.backpacknxplore.com/places-to-stay-in-goa>) for different types of holiday.



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Illuminated garden of Crown Goa

We stayed at Crown Goa (https://www.booking.com/hotel/in/the-crown-goa.en.html?aid=1624018&no_rooms=1&group_adults=2), an excellent 4-star hotel located right across the river Mandovi. Being situated at an elevation makes it a visible landmark and a great place to enjoy views of the riverside. The favorable location helped us explore a lot of places just by walking leisurely in the evening.

Book your hotels for North Goa (https://www.booking.com/searchresults.en.html?city=-2106977&aid=1624018&no_rooms=1&group_adults=2).

Quick Goa Itinerary for 3 days

It's difficult to decide upon just one itinerary for all, especially in a place like Goa which attracts all types of tourists. I made based on the things we love – nature, castles, rivers, beaches and some cultural experiences.



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Day 1 – Get acquainted with Goa

- Reach Panjim by 2 pm, freshen up at your hotel and have lunch
- Dolphin watching cruise at Miramar beach (1 – 1.5 hours)
- Explore new Panjim (1 hour)
- Cruise party in Mandovi (1 hour)

Day 2 – Explore Goa beyond the beaches

- Dudhsagar falls (4 hours including 1-way drive)
- Private spice plantation and old Goa city tour (https://www.getyourguide.com/goa-1825/anjuna-private-spice-plantation-and-goa-city-tour-t188475/?referrer_view_id=76baeb5b0384eof1c9d9ca1d35a1fc91&referrer_view_position=4&partner_id=RNMKoTA&utm_medium=online_publisher&placement=content-middle&deeplink_id=2c471765-4d8b-535f-87eo-842e21bf185f) (4 hours)
- Visit the Reis Magos Fort and watch the sunset at Miramar beach (2 hours)
- Retire with a spa or hit the casinos at night if interested

Day 3 – Dive into Goa and her golden beaches

- Aguada Fort, Central jail Aguada and rocky beach (3 hours)
- Sinquerim Beach (2 hours including a couple of water sports)
- Candolim beach
- Sunset at Chapora fort (1.5-2 hours)
- Foot massage at the Anjuna or Baga beach
- Return to the hotel or dine out with live music

Day 4: Goodbye Goa – on your way back



- Drive to Bangalore via Karwar and stay at south Goa
- Halt for a bit at the Tagore Park



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Travelling to India soon? Check your Visa requirements and apply here (https://www.ivisa.com/apply-online?utm_source=backpacknxplore).

We didn't visit casinos or engage in water sports as we preferred to relax on our wedding anniversary. That's because we realized that we are going to visit Goa often from now on. You can squeeze in a couple of those easily on this trip. If you like scuba diving you can replace the Dudhsagar falls and plantation tour with a guided sports trip

(https://www.getyourguide.com/anjuna-l1768/malwan-scuba-diving-and-water-sports-trip-t188700/?partner_id=RNMKoTA&utm_medium=online_publisher&utm_source=backpacknxplore%40gmail.com&placement=content-middle&cmp=scuba-goa&deeplink_id=ef39e337-7656-5406-93c2-7d136e2463ee).

Now that your itinerary is sorted, let's take a look at the highlights of our 3 day Goa itinerary.

Pin the image below to save the post!



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Read about the best places to visit in monsoon
(<https://www.backpacknxplore.com/places-to-visit-monsoon-india>) in India.

Short historical background of Goa

Goa is not just about parties and casinos. It has a history of thousands of years since the prehistoric ages. So to fully appreciate Goa it's good to know a little bit about its long and diverse history that helped shape the unique Goan culture.



Goa has been the melting point of several empires from time immemorial. Before the Portuguese, Goa was ruled for 200 years by Hindu dynasties, followed by the conquest by Bahmani sultanate.

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In 1510 the Portuguese conquered Goa and established the first European settlements in India. Even after independence from the British rule, Goa remained under the Portuguese till 1961. Thus there is a strong Portuguese influence in the modern Goan culture.

If you like historical sites you can check out this itinerary for Hampi (<https://www.backpacknxplore.com/hampi-3-day-itinerary-from-bangalore>), the capital of the great Vijayanagara Empire.

Best of Goa in 3 days – In and Around Panjim

As I said earlier, Panjim is an excellent place to base yourself as you can get the best of everything in Goa. Panaji, the Goan capital that is also called Panjim is divided into two parts – Old Panjim and new Panjim. The Old part of the city is famous for the Latin quarters and the Portuguese ruins. The new Panjim city is where you find the floating casinos, Miramar Beach and Dona Paula.

Old Goa Churches

We headed to Old Goa on the first day right after lunch at our hotel. That's a good thing to do, but you may not have the time for a guided spice plantation tour then. I recommended it for day 2 along with Dudhsagar falls as they are in the same direction. The churches and convents of old Goa have been accorded with the UNESCO world heritage status. Built in the 16th and 17th centuries they are some of the finest Portuguese architecture in the world. The churches are still active and are frequented by locals and tourists alike.



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The most attractive structure here is the Basilica of Bom Jesus, also called St. Francis Xavier's tomb which was completed in 1605. It is regarded as one of the finest examples of Baroque architecture in the subcontinent. The other two important structures which are a part of the World UNESCO group of monuments in Goa are the Se Cathedral and St Augustine's tower both of which lie opposite to the Basilica.



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I highly recommend a guided tour of the heritage churches (https://www.getyourguide.com/goa-l825/1-day-goa-shore-excursion-t26173/?deeplink_id=9b5ec468-2f6c-5004-a971-091e77a67097). You can also book a combo of old goa and spice plantation guided tour (https://www.getyourguide.com/goa-l825/1-day-goa-shore-excursion-t26173/?deeplink_id=9b5ec468-2f6c-5004-a971-091e77a67097) in Goa.

Fountainhas



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Source: Wikimedia Creative Commons

Fountainhas is the Latin quarter of Goa where the wealthy Portuguese families lived. The houses in the neighborhood are painted in pastel shades typical to 18th-century Portuguese houses. These houses are painted every year so they appear new. Cute little

cafes that are 100-years old are dotted around the neighborhood. Walking on the narrow streets of Fountainhas will take you to the Latin Quarter of Goa.



Book this guided tour of the Latin Quarter (<https://www.backpacknxplore.com/>) now available at an introductory price.

Mandovi River



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The Mandovi river flows through Panjim before it meets the Arabian Sea. There are multiple floating casinos in the river and river cruise parties. At just Rs. 250 you will get to sail on the river for 1 hour while watching some traditional Goan dance performances. After the performances, the floor is open for the DJ party. Remember that the last tickets are sold at 8:30 pm.

Miramar Beach

Situated at the confluence of the Mirashtra and Arabian sea, Miramar is one of the most beautiful beaches in Goa. We beach first to go for a dolphin-watching cruise. The cost of the dolphin cruise is Rs. 300 for one hour guided trip.
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The best time to see dolphins is in the morning and afternoon. We were surprised to spot at least 4 dolphins on the trip. I have seen some guides introduce historic places by the name of its architect or its commissioner, or some mythological story around the place. This was the first time I saw a guide introducing every single place in the skyline only by the name of the Hindi movies that were shot there. Some of the movies were not even popular so he had to name the actors and songs to remind us of the scenes. It was quite amusing.



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Look at the walled coastline from the dolphin cruise. That's the huge Aguada Fort walls. We visited Miramar beach again in the evening the next day to bathe in the Arabian sea and watch the sunset. It was not as desolate as it was in the morning but was still calm. The calm and clean Miramar beach is an awesome place to watch the twilight unfold.



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Dona Paula



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This is a beautiful promenade and a former fishing village in Panjim. The viewpoint is very pretty with the hills at the backdrop. We visited Dona Paula on the day we left Goa for Bangalore. This is different from other beaches in central and north Goa in look and feel. It is named after Dona Paula, a Portuguese woman who did a lot of philanthropic work for the fishermen. If you have time you can visit the Cabo Raj Bhavan and the historic British cemetery. The grand palace turned government residence, Cabo Raj Bhavan could only be admired from the outside till 2018. From January 2019, the Raj Bhavan has opened its doors to tourists on the weekends.

Church and markets in Panjim



When in Panjim you cannot miss the beautiful church of “Our Lady of Immaculate Conception” which was built in the 16th century. The church is whitewashed and so well-maintained that there is no way to say that it is so old. There are daily masses held here. A short walk from the church brings you to the Panjim market where you can find all kinds of shops. If you are looking to buy some fancy Goan dresses do not purchase anything here and rather go to Aguada, Calangute and other beaches that have flea markets all around.

Pin the post!

3-day Goa itinerary - Bathing Beaches of North Goa



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North Goa is known for its vibrant beaches and amazing nightlife. Unfortunately, most of the beaches are crowded all day because of the same reason. Good thing is that despite the crowd the beaches are mostly clean. The calm waters make it apt for bathing, swimming and water sports. Some of the most famous beaches have a car parking charge of Rs. 100 and the car needs to be parked almost a kilometer away from the beach. The beaches are lined with pretty shacks and free loungers.

Sinquerim beach

Located near the Lower Aguada the Sinquerim beach is perfect for having a peaceful time. We enjoyed strolling at the walls of the fort overlooking the calm blue waters. There are various activities like jet boat rides, banana rides and paragliding at the beach.



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Up for some marine adventure? Book a Malwan Scuba-diving trip

(<https://www.getyourguide.com/anjuna-l1768/malwan-scuba-diving-and-water-sports-trip-t188700/>)

partner_id=RNMKoTA&utm_medium=online_publisher&utm_source=backpacknxplore%4ogmail.com&placement=content-middle&cmp=scuba-goa&deeplink_id=ef39e337-7656-5406-93c2-7d136e2463ee) online.

Rocky beach near the Central Jail



This beach is refreshingly different than the others because of the rocks and the fact that it is nicely tucked away from the tourist zones in north Goa. There is nothing much to do here except sit, watch the waves and just talk.

Baga beach



Baga beach is located near the Chapora fort and is a real party hub. The shacks turn into silent bars and nightclubs in the evening. The loungers are full throughout the evening with people enjoying foot massages. On your walk from the parking area to the beach, you will find a host of shops for fashion garments and souvenirs and tattoo parlors.

Other party beaches of North Goa are the Candolim beach, Calangute, Anjuna, and Vagator beach.

Goa is where you have the freedom to explore and experiment with your fashion sense like no other place in India. So shop freely for your Goa Trip – swimwear (<https://www.amazon.in/gp/product/B01BBUEBZM?ie=UTF8&tag=bpox01-21&camp=3638&linkCode=xm2&creativeASIN=B01BBUEBZM>), bikini (https://www.amazon.in/dp/B0777NF831/?_encoding=UTF8&tag=bpox01-21&linkCode=ur2&linkId=61e6f8ef33d09da19b86a4c043bd6136&camp=3638&creative=24630), stylish cover-ups (https://www.amazon.in/gp/product/B07TR5VVQH/ref=as_li_tl?ie=UTF8&camp=3638&creative=24630&creativeASIN=B07TR5VVQH&linkCode=as2&tag=bpox01-21&linkId=d271c5dd92923f243652b1594a342de3), shorts (https://www.amazon.in/gp/product/B01N31FUAC/ref=as_li_tl?ie=UTF8&camp=3638&creative=24630&creativeASIN=B01N31FUAC&linkCode=as2&tag=bpox01-21&linkId=8f451eea1b77dbb05f1cf4aoc96d5837), summer dresses, hats (<https://www.amazon.in/s?k=hats&i=apparel&camp=3638&creative=24630&linkCode=ur2&linkId=40a71546027b4ca975d8e4447ba62152&tag=bpox01-21>), flipflops (<https://www.amazon.in/s?k=flipflop&i=shoes&camp=3638&creative=24630&linkCode=ur2&linkId=6f184a3cd131a60a12609dd2aaf5f65f&tag=bpox01-21>) and more.

Shop on Amazon for your Beach Holiday! (<https://www.amazon.in/s?k=beach&i=apparel&camp=3638&creative=24630&linkCode=ur2&linkId=9b140eee4726031904b7f42ccda2a485&tag=bpox01-21>)

Goa itinerary for 3 days - Explore the forts of Goa



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Goa is home to some centuries-old fort which are the best examples of Portuguese military architecture in the subcontinent. The forts were raised mainly to defend against the invasion by other foreign traders.

Aguada Fort



(<https://www.backpacknxplore.com/>)

The biggest fort that you cannot miss on your 3-day itinerary for Goa is the Aguada fort. Its a large fort divided into upper and lower Aguada and is one of the few intact Portuguese forts in the subcontinent. In 1604 the Dutch troop blocked the mouth of river Mandovi with seven ships for one month. The Portuguese could not thwart them from their original forts Reis Magos and Gasper Dias. They identified this gap in their defense and raised the huge Aguada fort at the mouth of river Mandovi and another fort Mormugao at the mouth of the river Zuari. The Aguada fort has a lighthouse, chapel and a huge underground water storage system.



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Chapora Fort

The Chapora Fort is in ruins but offers a spectacular view of the sunset at Vagator beach and the unending view of the Arabian sea. It involved a short trek in uneven lands, so be careful of wearing comfortable shoes if you plan to visit there. The fort has a long history of defiance against the Portuguese colonizers. The site was destroyed and recreated multiple times since 1510, the time of the Portuguese invasion in India. The fort lost its military significance towards the end of the 18th century. The place shot to fame after the popular Hindi movie Dil Chahta Hai.



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There are many other forts to explore in Goa namely the Reis Magos fort which was the oldest Portuguese fort in India, Fort Mormugao and other smaller ones.

Love forts? Check out this amazing list of best forts of India (<https://www.backpacknxplore.com/best-forts-of-india.html>) from North to South, and the East to West.

Another side of Goa – 3 days – Dudhsagar falls and the Western Ghats

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Discover Goa beyond the beaches – the lush green forests of the western ghats (<https://www.backpacknxplore.com/western-ghats-road-trip>), wildlife and one of the tallest cascades in India – the Dudhsagar falls. To protect the environment the tourism in the area is put under tight control. There is now only one legal way to visit the Dudhsagar falls. You have to park your car outside the gates and book a jeep safari from there. You have to drive 68 km from Panjim to Kulem for booking the jeep safari. It is a 1.5-2 hour drive on an average day.

The jeep then takes you on an off-roading trip through the Bhagwan Mahavir Wildlife Sanctuary. It is a 40-minute drive as the jeep shoots across several small streams. Each jeep has a capacity of seven people and costs Rs. 3500. On contrary to what we had heard before, the people at the counter assisted in the formation of groups. Despite such controls in place the Dudhsagar falls are brimming with tourists all the time, so be prepared to stand in the queue for at least 30 minutes.



(<https://www.backpacknxplore.com/>)

The natural pool at the foot of Dudhsagar falls is so clear that you can easily see the fish inside. Here are some travel tips for the Dudhsagar falls to visit. There are many lifeguards in the area for additional safety. Here are some important travel tips to visit the Dudhsagar falls.

- Plan to visit Dudhsagar falls the first thing in the morning as it keeps getting crowded with time. We had our breakfast and started at 9 am.
- It's a plastic-free zone so please do not carry any plastic bottles as they will be taken away from you at the gate.
- Carry a change of clothes for swimming but do not carry any soap or detergent. Respect the purity of the environment here



- As soon as a jeep is allotted to you, you have to board it. The jeeps are not allowed to wait for any passengers because of 
- You are given 1.5 hours to reach the waterfalls and swim in the pool. After the jeep drops you they will give you a cut-off time by which you need to return. Be on time.
- One of the reasons for the scarcity of jeeps in the afternoon is that the tourists do not care about the rules and they spend more time than they are allowed to. It's important to respect the rules and other people's time, more so when you form a group with unknown people.
- You can book a package tour from ticketpapa.com (<http://ticketpapa.com>) for a complete guided tour of the forests, falls and spice plantation including pick up and drop.

How to reach Goa?

If you are not an Indian citizen, then you need to check your visa requirements and apply here (https://www.ivisa.com/apply-online?utm_source=backpacknxplore). Bangalore and Mumbai are the nearest metropolitan cities to Goa. The shortest driving distance from Bangalore via NH48 is 556 km. From Mumbai, the shortest distance is 587 km by AH 47 and NH48.

Goa by self-drive

However, there are several other routes that you can follow for a scenic drive from Bangalore to Goa. The most popular route from Bangalore to Goa is through the Konkan coast via Karwar. That is the route that most of the overnight buses connecting the two cities take. NH48 is the best road to drive on and on an average day, you can reach Goa within 10 hours with usual breaks if you start before 4 am.

Choose your self-drive rental car from Zoomcar (https://linksredirect.com/?pub_id=37025CL33420&source=linkkit&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.zoomcar.com%2F) or Myles (<https://linksredirect.com/>)

pub_id=37025CL33420&source=listings&list_id=A%2F%2Fwww.mylescars.com%2F).



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The beautiful road to Goa

Goa by public transport

There is no dearth of buses leaving from Bangalore to Goa every day. Trains are the most preferred mode of transport not only for comfort but also because of the spectacular views of the Western Ghats, not to forget the mesmerizing Dudhsagar Falls. [\(https://www.backpacknxplore.com/\)](https://www.backpacknxplore.com/)

The most preferred trains are Kcg Yesvantpur Junction Express (17603) which passes through Yesvantpur station at midnight and Vasco Da Gama Superfast Express (02683) which starts from the same station at 10:30 PM. After reaching Goa you can hire a taxi or rent bikes for exploring the city.

Related: Best one-day trips from Bangalore

[*\(https://www.backpacknxplore.com/places-near-bangalore-one-day-trip\)*](https://www.backpacknxplore.com/places-near-bangalore-one-day-trip)

3 days in Goa – FAQs

What is the best time to visit Goa?

Goa has a hot and humid climate for a larger part of the year. So the best time to visit Goa is in winter between November to February. To avoid the peak-season crowd you should visit between November to 2nd week of December. Christmas and new year are celebrated with great pomp in Goa. So you can visit for these events if you don't mind the crowd.

Where and what to eat in Goa?

You must try the variety of seafood in Goa. Fresh prawns and pomfret cooked in different styles from grilled to fried are a foodies delight. Fenny is a popular and cheap alcoholic drink in Goa which I honestly hated. But I hardly drink, so don't take my word for it and try it yourself. Discussion about food in Goa will take another post altogether but all I can say is that it's one of my favorite food destinations now. One tip will be to not eat at the beach shacks and instead eat in the hotels outside the beach. The food is cheaper and of better quality off the beach.

What are the recommended guided tours in Goa?



It's a great idea to go for guided tours if you only have 3 days in Goa. I highly recommend it to foreign tourists and Indians who don't plan to visit Goa often. While hop-on-hop-off buses are available, they are not very popular here. The most highly rated guided tour of Goa is the Get Your Guide full-day private tour (https://www.getyourguide.com/goa-l825/goa-full-day-private-tour-t11054/?partner_id=RNMKoTA&utm_medium=online_publisher&utm_source=backpacknxplor%40gmail.com&placement=content-middle&cmp=best-goa&deeplink_id=18a1a688-22e7-5734-a5da-e17119e9644f) of 8-hours.

What are the best books about Goa?

Goa is a beautiful tiny state that has inspired thousands of travelogues and stories. Here are some of the best books of Goa I can recommend for you.

- [Goa Travel: Being the Accounts of Travellers from the 16th to the 21st Century](https://www.amazon.in/Goa-Travel-Accounts-Travellers-Century/dp/8129129264/?_encoding=UTF8&tag=bpx01-21&linkCode=ur2&linkId=oe1eo37552a315e11cf2f8bdeobe2e5d&camp=3638&creative=24630) (https://www.amazon.in/Goa-Travel-Accounts-Travellers-Century/dp/8129129264/?_encoding=UTF8&tag=bpx01-21&linkCode=ur2&linkId=oe1eo37552a315e11cf2f8bdeobe2e5d&camp=3638&creative=24630)
- [Goa – A Daughter's Story](https://www.amazon.in/Goa-Daughters-Maria-Aurora-Couto/dp/0143033433/?_encoding=UTF8&tag=bpx01-21&linkCode=ur2&linkId=obaec652bd26f272637a299fb215f8a6&camp=3638&creative=24630) (https://www.amazon.in/Goa-Daughters-Maria-Aurora-Couto/dp/0143033433/?_encoding=UTF8&tag=bpx01-21&linkCode=ur2&linkId=obaec652bd26f272637a299fb215f8a6&camp=3638&creative=24630)
- [Lonely Planet Travel Guide – India](https://www.amazon.in/Lonely-Planet-India-Travel-Guide/dp/1786571447?_encoding=UTF8&tag=bpx01-21&linkCode=ur2&linkId=ae5a4925a4cd34aacd7bc49coaf4342f&camp=3638&creative=24630) (https://www.amazon.in/Lonely-Planet-India-Travel-Guide/dp/1786571447?_encoding=UTF8&tag=bpx01-21&linkCode=ur2&linkId=ae5a4925a4cd34aacd7bc49coaf4342f&camp=3638&creative=24630)

If you have any more questions be sure to leave them in the comments. I will be happy to answer them from my personal experience. Don't forget to subscribe to our newsletters and follow us on social media.

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Did you like the post? Share the post to help them plan their Goan vacation. Anything I missed that could be squeezed into this? Please share your ideas and ask any questions in the comments.

Disclaimer: The post contains affiliate links. It means we can be eligible for a commission if you book through these links, without any additional cost to you. All pictures and written content is my own. Please do not reproduce any of these without my written consent.

(<https://www.backpacknxplore.com/author/admin-sinjana>)

Sinjana Ghosh (<https://www.backpacknxplore.com/author/admin-sinjana>)

Sinjana Ghosh is a full-time business professional with a penchant for writing and travel planning. Backpack & Explore is a journal of her travel stories and tips she collects from her travels. Sinjana is the author of the travel book "Postcards from India" which is available at [Notionpress.com](https://www.notionpress.com)



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50 Comments

Karen • February 16, 2019

We went there 26 years ago – blimey was it really that long ago? Rekindled some lovely memories of our two weeks. Thank you. kx

[Reply](#)

Emma Jane Explores (<https://emmajaneexplores.com>) • February 16, 2019

I visited Goa a few years ago now and found it so pretty and relaxing. I loved the fact that we saw cows wandering along the beaches and the people there were friendly and chilled out. I would definitely go back to check out more of what you've mentioned in this post!

[Reply](#)

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Arunima Dey (<https://namastesolotravel.com>) • February 17, 2019

That's a very detailed post! I have been to Goa several years but with my parents and can't recall much besides the church and the location of that iconic Dil Chahta Hai scene. Keeping this bookmarked for a handy guide if we plan on doing a long weekend getaway from Delhi

[Reply](#)

Jessica • February 17, 2019

I have yet to travel to India but I continue to read so many people talking about their travels there. Now I need to add Goa to the list of places to visit when I finally make it to India! Great read!

[Reply](#)

Johnny (<https://johnnystraventures.com>) • February 17, 2019

Decent itinerary you've put together! Glad you mentioned that off-peak times were during the winter season as Goa seems like a great place to go to escape the cold and snow. Pictures of the rivers and beach are really beautiful too!

[Reply](#)

All Dunnell (<https://travelswithmyart.com>) • February 17, 2019

Such a thorough and interesting guide to Goa and your photographs are great too. Thanks for sharing 😊



(<https://www.backpacknxplore.com/>)

Laureen Lund (<http://www.myfabfiftieslife.com>) • February 17, 2019

Goa is on our list but we hadn't considered a drive tour. thanks for all the in-depth info and ideas.

Reply

Emma Harris (<http://www.methemanandthebaby.co.uk>) • February 17, 2019

That illuminated garden is stunning! And that view of Vagator beach is something else! 😊

Reply

Sarah Wilson • February 18, 2019

I visited Goa many years ago and wasn't impressed but my friend had booked it and we stayed in a town that was popular with Brits and I came away feeling very disappointed. But this itinerary makes me want to give it another go. I love your mix of forts, falls and beaches. This is the Goa I was hoping to see 😊

Reply

Sinjana Ghosh • February 19, 2019

I hope you get to see that next time. The forts are very beautiful.



Soraya • February 18, 2019

So interesting to learn that Goa has a history that stretches Waaaayyy back to prehistoric times! So amazing that there is history from the Paleolithic age. Good to know that the best time to visit here is from November to February and I will be sure to do it before Christmas to avoid the crowd. I am like you and am not a big partier, but great to know that there's still plenty to do for the non party type. The natural side of Goa looks incredibly beautiful and visiting via car I think would be the best option for me because of the flexibility of getting around and exploring.

[Reply](#)

Lisa (<https://www.followingtherivera.com/>) • February 18, 2019

I'd love to visit Goa one day! India is a country I've still yet to see, but there's something special about Goa. The churches sound amazing, and it'd be interesting to see the Portuguese influences there too. Miramar Beach sounds like a dream right about now, it's so cold where I am.

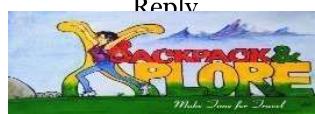
[Reply](#)

Sinjana Ghosh • February 19, 2019

You would love Goa, it's a perfect place for tourists from all over the world

Jane Dempster-Smith • February 18, 2019

Thanks for bringing back memories of our time in Goa. We loved Panjim, great accommodation and food and sightseeing was excellent. We enjoyed the beaches. This is a great 3 day itinerary that you have provided. Thanks.



(<https://www.backpacknxplore.com/>)

Anda • February 18, 2019

I haven't yet been to India, but it's very high up on my list. I'd love to visit all these picturesque cities, like Bangalore, Mumbai, or Goa. However, 10 hours on the road to reach Goa from Bangalore seems like a very long time. Trains would probably be better. Do they have any flights there from any of the big cities around? I would rather fly there.

[Reply](#)

Sinjana Ghosh • February 19, 2019

Ofcourse Anda. There are many flights to Goa from all the major cities. But the roadtrip is beautiful, especially the one through the Konkan coast.

Swati & Sam • February 18, 2019

Goa is an amazing place for some awesome food and culture. We have been to Goa several times and every time it feels like a new place. We love the beaches in South Goa as compared to North Goa as they are a little less crowded and are clean.

[Reply](#)

Sinjana Ghosh • February 19, 2019

Yes, I have heard that a lot. We loved our drive through South Goa and Karwar. Will definitely plan a visit next time.

Soumya Gayatri (<https://www.storiesbysoumya.com>) • February 19, 2019

I totally identify with your first statement on the post. I have lived in Mumbai for so long and I travel on every possible weekend. Yet, I have never been to Goa. And yes! I do exist. I am so glad you have put together such a wonderful itinerary of the state. I am not party-goer either. So, I like the inclusion of everything natural and historical in your itinerary. I am planning a trip there very soon. So, this will come in handy.

[Reply](#)

Sinjana Ghosh • February 19, 2019

Wow! same pinch.. haha.. Yes I really loved Goa because there is so much more to do than parties. I don't mind parties either, just that I



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Nina Out and About (<https://ninaoutandabout.ca>) • February 21, 2019

Goa looks so lovely! I would love to go and see the fort and the beaches!

Reply

blair villanueva • February 21, 2019

Wow so many places to explore in Goa. I am amazed to see that cathedrals, the beautiful river and famous forts. It seems India have the majority of cultures in their country. I wish to visit it someday.

Reply

Sinjana Ghosh • February 21, 2019

Thanks Blair. Yes India will surprise you at every junction.

Kathryn Burrington (<https://travelwithkat.com>) • February 21, 2019

I visited Goa for a week to do some photography for a holiday company a few years ago and absolutely loved it. I'd dearly love to go back on holiday. My favourite memory was sitting with my feet in the sand one evening with a cool beer outside a beach shack. We then had the best Indian meal I've ever tasted at The Garden Restaurant in Colva. We also spent a night on a rice boat which was



fabulous and visited the Dudhsagar Falls. Much better than a week in the office any day!



(<https://www.backpacknxplore.com/>)

Sinjana Ghosh • February 21, 2019

Thank you so much. Yes, we loved the chilled out life in Goa too.

Amy Chung (<https://familyglobetrotters.com>) • February 23, 2019

Hahaha! Sometimes the destinations close to home are the least visited because we're so busy going so far away. This is true for me. Living in Australia, I have yet to explore New Zealand properly! Love the beaches and that waterfall but had no idea the churches were so beautiful too. I have heard amazing things about Goan cuisine, especially their curries. One day, I shall explore this region!

Reply

Sinjana Ghosh • February 23, 2019

Yes you will surely enjoy Goa. I found Goan cuisine a bit tangy for my tastebuds, but I loved the fresh seafood.

Leah (<https://anadventureiscalling.com>) • February 24, 2019

The more I read about Goa, the more I would like to go! Great itinerary- you included so many great tips and details. I would especially like to visit those old churches. I love history, and this beautiful area seems to be full of it. Great photos!

Reply

Lisa (<https://www.followingtherivera.com>) • February 24, 2019

This would be a dream destination to reach Goa, and India itself one day. I've watched several documentaries about the trains there, and I'd like to take your suggestion and see those views of the falls on the way to Goa. The old churches, resembling the Portuguese rule are so stunning too. I hope to see it one day!

Reply



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Rosie (<https://ravenoustravellers.com>) • February 26, 2019

Great informative post! Glad you finally made it to Goa. We visited Goa last year and really loved it so many great restaurants to choose from. We spent most of our time on the beach so I'd love to go back again to see the old churches and whale watching.

[Reply](#)

umiko • February 26, 2019

The old Goa churches are so impressive! Seems the details are still looked like when they built it. Walking around the Fountainhas sounds wonderful, too! Just like you, if I get a chance to visit Goa, Old Panjim will be my first choice.

[Reply](#)

Archana Singh (<https://www.travelseewrite.com>) • March 14, 2019

There was a time when I used to visit Goa every year. Pretty much-covered everything you wrote about. I love South Goa more than North. Find it more peaceful and beautiful. Love the Mandovi river.

[Reply](#)

Mel (<http://www.fusionopedia.com>) • April 18, 2019

Great details. I am also a travel blogger, a Goan, who writes about Goa.

[Reply](#)



Sarah • June 6, 2019

[\(https://www.backpacknxplore.com/\)](https://www.backpacknxplore.com/)

I love the marine drive there.

Your guide was impressive and mind-blowing photos.

[Reply](#)

madhu sharma • August 3, 2019

Wow very nice intenerary. I have been to Goa so many times but haven't visited all these places. Next time will catch up on the remaining. Thanks for sharing

[Reply](#)

Ann (<http://www.anngelic.com>) • October 26, 2019

Seems really beautiful!

But do you think 3 days in Goa is enough?

[Reply](#)

Sinjana Ghosh • October 26, 2019

Thanks Ann. Ofcourse not. People come to Goa and stay here forever. But 3-days is a realistic minimum number of days needed to see the highlights and enjoy your trip.



Laureen Lund (<http://www.myfabfiftieslife.com>) • October 26, 2019

Thanks for all the live links in this blog its a great help for planning. I have wanted to go to Goa forever! I think it might happen in 2020.

I got a lot of great ideas from your blog and I am saving to help with my itinerary.

[Reply](#)

Sinjana Ghosh • October 26, 2019

Thank you so much. Hope you have an awesome holiday in Goa soon.

Jain Shweta (<https://limestays.com/>) • November 21, 2019

Goa is an amazing place for some awesome food and culture. We have been to Goa several times and every time it feels like a new place. We love the beaches in South Goa as compared to North Goa as they are a little less crowded and are clean. Thanks for sharing the blog with information of different ways and things.

[Reply](#)

Sinjana Ghosh • November 21, 2019

Thanks Shweta. I also loved what i saw of the south Goa beaches. Will make sure that I visit it next time.

Ordan Smith • December 18, 2019

Thank you for sharing this information your post is amazing. I was huge like Goa I love this place.

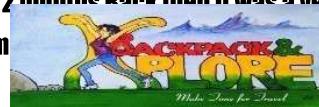
[Reply](#)

Sinjana Ghosh • December 18, 2019

Thanks Ordan. Hope it is helpful.

Nicky (<https://www.aboveusonlyskies.com>) • January 28, 2020

I visited Goa for a week 25 years ago and stayed for 2 months. Back then it was a very different place, with empty beaches and dolphins swimming off the shore. You've made me miss it so much. Thank you for rekindling fond memories.



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Jackqueline Blindt • April 27, 2020

I am extremely impressed with your writing skills and also with the layout on your weblog. Is this a paid theme or did you customize it yourself? Anyway keep up the nice quality writing, it is rare to see a nice blog like this one nowadays..

[Reply](#)

Sinjana Ghosh • April 27, 2020

Thanks Jackqueline. Yes it's a paid theme but just one time payment

Simran Shetty • April 30, 2020

Loved your blog. Goa being the most attractive place where all love to visit to have a peacfull vacation.

[Reply](#)

Sue (<https://www.suewherewhywhat.com/>) • May 6, 2020

Wow! That sounds like a busy 3 days but a fab itinerary, thank you for sharing. I went to Goa years ago & have to admit I didn't venture far from the beaches so clearly missed a lot! But I always like a reason to return 😊

[Reply](#)

Priyanka Saini • May 15, 2020

Great detailed blog. Perfect

[Reply](#)

Madhuri Rao (<https://cleopatrastravel.com/goa/>) • May 30, 2021

This was helpful to get so much info and knowledge that could help in planning a short trip to goa. I liked that many important aspects were included and taken care of in details for readers.



[Reply](#)

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