



What you should know about a CFCA mission awareness trip to southern India

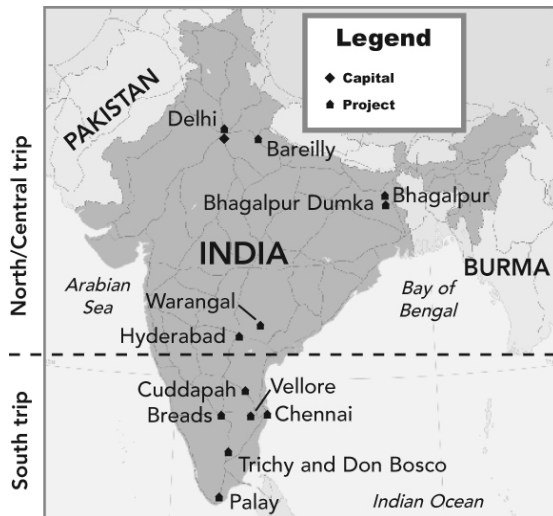
The following information is for 2010 trips. The dates and trips to specific countries change from year to year depending on interest, the political situation within countries and the ability of projects to host a mission awareness trip. A detailed itinerary with specific arrival instructions will be provided at least one week prior to departure.

Trip Dates **Jan. 9 – 21, 2010, to Southern India Projects:** Breads, Chennai, Cuddapah, Don Bosco, Palay, Trichy and Vellore

CFCA will host two mission awareness trips to India in 2010. Each will visit different regions of India. Sponsors should register for the trip that corresponds with their sponsored friend's project. Please refer to the map below. If you have questions regarding which trip to take, please call the trip coordinator at (800) 875-6564 or (913) 384-6500.

Trip Cost **\$650** (Includes food, lodging and in-country transportation. Airfare **not** included.)

On your trip to India you may do some or all of the following activities:



- Meet your friend and possibly the family
- Enjoy performances by the CFCA community
- Visit subprojects and learn about the reality and potential of CFCA families
- Witness the living conditions in some of the areas where CFCA works
- Visit with the local people and learn from their diverse experiences, perspectives and strong faith
- Visit cultural and regional sites of interest

Entry and Exit Requirements

A passport valid for at least six months after arrival and an Indian tourist visa are required for entry. All Indian visas must be obtained online through the government-appointed agency **Travisa** at <http://indiavisa.travisaoutsourcing.com>. You will receive instructions in your confirmation packet. It may take a number of weeks to obtain a visa. The total cost for a six-month, multiple-entry visa for U.S. citizens is \$73 plus shipping. *All fees are subject to change.* While in India, participants should carry a passport or a photocopy at all times. Participants who will be traveling with a minor should contact a CFCA trip coordinator for additional information.

Airport and Arrival Arrangements

Applicants should await receipt of the confirmation letter before making airline reservations. In the meantime, we strongly encourage you to research airfares with a travel agent, the airlines, or via the Internet. Vista Travel, (800) 537-5066, may also be contacted regarding airfare. The agency is familiar with our programs and schedules.

All trip participants will fly to and depart from the U.S. on the first date listed. You will arrive at your destination one to two days after departure due to overnight travel and passing through multiple

Airport and Arrival Arrangements (Cont'd.)

time zones. **CFCA project staff will meet you at the airport. Do not accept any offers of transportation from anyone other than the CFCA team.** Your return flight to the U.S. should be scheduled so that you will arrive back in the U.S. on the last date listed.

Participants will fly to and depart from **Chennai International Airport (MAA) in Chennai.** Those traveling from the U.S. should depart from the U.S. on Jan. 9 and arrive in the U.S. on Jan. 21.

Accommodations and Food

All trip participants will stay in simple accommodations near the CFCA projects, usually in some type of retreat center or hotel. Private rooms are available for married couples and families. Individuals will be assigned a roommate. Running water for showers is readily available, but it may not be heated. Tap water is unsafe for drinking. The project provides bottled water. Alcoholic beverages are not included in the trip cost.

Participants will eat simple, nutritious meals. You will have the privilege of trying a variety of foods. Typically, a selection of food is available at each meal. All food is prepared with purified water. All meals will be eaten with the group. Do not purchase food from street vendors. Meals are often served at a later hour than most Americans are accustomed to eating. We recommend bringing snacks such as dried fruit and nut mixes, raisins, granola bars, etc., as you may want something to eat between scheduled meals.

Participants wishing to use personal electrical appliances during the trip should carry an electrical converter and adapters to fit types C and D outlets. Diagrams of the outlets are available at www.escapeartist.com, a Web site for overseas job seekers. Search for “diagrams of adapter plugs.” The **electrical current** in India is 230V versus 120V in the U.S.

Climate

The geography of India is diverse so the weather varies. From mid-July to September, certain regions of India experience monsoon rains. Participants should be prepared for cool mornings and high temperatures in the afternoons. Even the coolest months (November to mid-March) may feel very warm to people not used to such a climate. Average January temperatures in southern India range from 70 to the mid 80s.

Health/Medical Preparations

Please contact your medical doctor and local health department for their recommendations on immunizations and where to get them. Any recommendations regarding medical matters must be made by qualified medical personnel. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Web site at www.cdc.gov/travel has helpful information about immunizations. You should also consult with your medical insurance company prior to traveling to confirm whether your policy applies in a foreign country. **If your policy does not cover emergency expenses such as a medical evacuation, we urge you to consider the purchase of temporary travel insurance.** You may find further information on travel insurance through a travel agent or through research on the Internet.

This trip involves a particularly rigorous schedule. It may be challenging for those with physical limitations. Please consult your doctor and a CFCA trip coordinator with your concerns.

Currency Exchange and Handling

The local currency is the Indian **rupee**. Your lodging, food and in-country transportation are included in the trip cost. You should bring additional money for the purchase of snacks and souvenirs, and to cover any exit fees there might be. You should not carry bills greater than \$20 because it may be difficult for local banks or vendors to make change. Do not bring torn or severely worn currency. Traveler's checks are not recommended, and ATMs are not readily available.