



retreat | recreate
India Textiles & Handcrafts Tour
October 2026

Useful Information

As at July 2026

Please make a point of re-reading the Trip Notes prior to departure for details of currency, weather, general health, vaccination, safety, mobile phone and WIFI communication (eSIMs/SIMs/roaming/data etc), etc

Please note: This information is the result of many, many, many hours of research and is made available to our tour participants (only) as an additional resource. Please respect our request that you **please refrain from sharing it.**

GENERAL OVERVIEW

- The Republic of India is bordered by Afghanistan, China, Nepal and Bhutan to the north, Bangladesh and Myanmar (Burma) to the east and Pakistan to the west.
- The capital city of India is **Delhi**.
- India is the seventh largest country in the world, covering more than three million square kilometres, and is second only to China in terms of population, at more than **1.48 billion**.
- India is one of the most diverse countries in the world. It is a sophisticated, modern, industrial leader that is home to many ancient tribes. Religion and language distinguish different groups.
- Hindus comprise 80% of the population, Muslims 14%, with the remaining 6% mainly comprised of Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists and Jains.
- **Twenty-three official languages** are spoken, along with more than a thousand minor languages and dialects. Hindi is the language of more than forty percent of the population; English is also widely spoken.
- The **caste system** is pervasive and, although integral to Hindu belief, it also encompasses non-Hindus. It holds special sway in rural areas and may dictate where a person lives and what their occupation is.
- 81% of males over 15 are **literate**, compared to 61% of females: 71% of the total adult population are literate.
- **Indian Railways** is India's largest employer, with around 1.4 million workers.
- Producing 1900 movies each year and turning over US\$4 billion, India's **film industry** is the largest in the world, in

terms of ticket numbers if not box office receipts.

- **Time Zone:** India Standard Time (ITC) is UTC+5:30

USEFUL CONTACTS (please add to your phone contacts)

- The **retreat|recreate host** on this trip is Susan Keeble. Susan's WhatsApp number is +61 407 835 922.
- The contact number for our **tour leader in India, Mr Avdesh Chandra Mishra** will be provided at the pre-trip briefing and added to our WhatsApp group chat on day 1.
- Our **tour operator's 24/7 contact & emergency number:** +91 77288 58457 (Omit +91 within India)
Tour coordinator: +91 90015 54422
Email: experience@vedic walks.com

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

- **Ambulance: 102**
- **Fire: 101**
- **Police: 100**
- **International world-wide emergency number: 112**
(does not require credit or a local SIM)

HEALTH & SAFETY

- Consult your travel doctor regarding recommended **vaccinations** (eg typhoid, Hep A, Hep B etc). See also: www.traveldoctor.com.au/destination/s/india
- Take sensible precautions with foods you are unused to, to avoid travellers' diarrhoea.
- If you suffer from motion sickness, consider bringing ginger tablets, Travacalm, Kwell etc or pressure point wristbands.
- Do not drink tap water or use it to brush your teeth. Please bring and carry a reusable water bottle or filter bottle and refill it as we travel.
- **Stay hydrated!** Carry and take hydration powders if, at any time, you feel headache, foggy, cranky or nauseous.
- Carry and wear insect repellent, particularly in the evenings.
- Carry and wear sunscreen, sunhat and sunglasses.
- Carry your own full medical kit at all times (refer to the Suggested Packing List for this trip).
- Please also refer to the Trip Notes

ETIQUETTE

Meeting and Greeting

- Greeting with '**namaste**' (na-mas-tay) and placing both hands together in prayer position, with a slight bow is appreciated and is a respectful custom. The full translation of 'namaste' is: 'the divine in me recognises the divine in you and bows before you' – much more than 'hello'.
- Men shake hands with men when meeting or leaving. **Men generally do not touch women** when meeting or greeting. Traditional Indian women

may shake hands with foreign women but not usually with men.

- **Indian English** can be very formal and even ceremonious. Indian people may well address you as "sir" or "madam", even "good lady" or "kind sir". At the same time, you should be aware that your English may seem rude to them. In particular, swearing is taken rather seriously.
- **Intrusive questions** - As a traveller, you will frequently run into locals who want to strike up a conversation. You will be peppered with questions that may seem odd or intrusive to an English speaker - don't take offence. In India, subjects like family, occupation, and income are considered polite conversation, even between strangers. Consider such queries as icebreakers, and feel free to ask the same questions back
- Westerners have an ambiguous status in Indian eyes. In one way, you represent the rich sahib, whose culture dominates the world. On the other hand, as a non-Hindu, you are an outcaste, your presence (in theory) polluting to an orthodox or high-caste Hindu, while to members of all religions, your morals and your standards of spiritual and physical cleanliness are suspect.

Body Language and behaviour

- **Public displays of affection** are not appropriate in India. Kissing and embracing are considered a sexual act.
- Indians generally allow an arm's length space between themselves and others - personal space is valued.
- When an Indian smiles and jerks his/her head backward, a gesture that

looks somewhat like a Western 'no', this means 'yes'.

- Head wobble can mean 'yes', 'no' or 'I have no idea'.
- When an Indian answers, 'I will try,' they generally mean 'no.' This is considered a polite 'no.'
- The Western side-to-side hand wave for 'hello' is frequently interpreted by Indians as 'no' or 'go away.'
- Only use your **right hand** to pass money or pick up merchandise. See the 'right hand rule' below.
- Do not touch anyone's **head**.
- **Feet** are considered unclean. Feet are sacred for holy men and women. Pointing feet or footwear towards people or deities, or touching anyone with your feet is considered an insult. Apologize immediately if your feet or shoes touch another person.
- Many Indians do not wear shoes inside a home. Follow your host's example. Bare feet are acceptable. If you are wearing socks, make sure your socks are clean and without holes.
- Indians are very sensitive to being beckoned rudely. A hand and arm waved up and down (Western 'good-bye') means '**come here**.' To beckon, extend your arm, palm down and make a scratching motion with fingers kept together.
- Standing with **hands on hips** is considered aggressive.
- **Whistling** in public is considered rude.
- Never point with a single finger or two fingers (used only with inferiors). **Point** with your whole hand, thumb or chin. The chin is not used to point at superiors.
- Ask permission before **smoking**. It is considered rude to smoke in the presence of elders.
- Avoid showing **anger**.

The right hand rule

- With the improvement of sanitation standards, the rules of eating with your right hand or avoiding touching foods or items with your left hand are less hard and fast.
- Traditionally, the left hand was used for cleaning yourself after using the bathroom, cleaning your feet, taking off your shoes and other unsavoury functions, while the right hand is for eating, shaking hands and so on.
- In general, it's best to avoid passing anything to anyone with your left hand, or using your left hand to gesture at anyone (also refer to the note re pointing in the 'body language and behaviour' section. In general, it's best to accept things given to you with your right hand, although using both hands is a sign of respect.

Dining

- Allow hosts to serve you. Never refuse food, but don't feel obligated to empty your plate. Hindu hosts are never supposed to let their guests' plates be empty.
- Take food from communal dish with a spoon; never your fingers. Use chappati or poori (bread) torn into small pieces to scoop up food.
- Your lips shouldn't touch other people's food. When drinking out of a cup or bottle to be shared with others, don't let it touch your lips, but rather pour it directly into your mouth. *Jhutha*, or sullied food, is strictly taboo. This custom also protects you from diseases like hepatitis.
- It is customary to wash your hands before and after eating.

Clothing

- Indian people generally dress very conservatively. Women are expected to dress modestly with legs (to below knees as a minimum, preferably to mid-calf) and shoulders covered. Loose fitting trousers or long skirts are acceptable. Plunging necklines, shoe-string straps, shorts and short skirts are offensive to many.
- In summary: aim to cover your chest, upper arms, legs and backside.
- The rules of dress are particularly important when visiting a temple or mosque. Keep your legs and head covered, and take off your shoes.
- Always have a lightweight cotton shawl/scarf handy

Temples and Religion

- Religion is taken very seriously in India; it's important to show due respect to religious buildings, shrines, images, and people at prayer. When entering a **temple or mosque**, remove your shoes and leave them at the door (socks are acceptable). Keep your legs, shoulders and head covered too.
- Some temples – Jain ones in particular – do not allow you to enter wearing or carrying leather articles, and forbid entry to menstruating women.
- In a **mosque**, non-Muslims would not normally be allowed in at prayer time and women are sometimes not permitted entry at all. In a **Hindu temple**, you are often not allowed into the inner sanctum; and at a **Buddhist stupa** or monument, you should always walk clockwise around a stupa (ie, with the *stupa* on your right).
- **Funeral processions** are private affairs, and should be left in peace. In Hindu funerals, the body is normally

carried to the cremation site within hours of death by white-shrouded relatives (white is the colour of mourning). The eldest son is expected to shave his head and wear white following the death of a parent. At Varanasi and other places, you may see cremations in progress. Such occasions should be treated with respect.

Photography

- On all retreat|recreate tours we aim to be responsible travellers and as culturally sensitive as possible. The question of 'if and when' it is appropriate to take a photo is high on our list of considerations and one that we routinely raise during our pre-tour briefing.
- Please **always** ask permission before taking a photo of another person and if the answer is 'no', fully respect this. If you wish to photograph children, you should always seek permission from the parent/guardian.
- If you do receive permission to take photos of people, please seriously consider whether it is appropriate to post them on social media, particularly if the photo is of a child or children.
- Hindus are very superstitious about taking photographs of images of deities and inside temples; if in doubt, desist.
- Never take photos of funerals or cremations.
- Photography in some locations is not permitted or is culturally inappropriate. Our local guide will be able to provide advice and guidance during the tour. If in doubt, it is better to forfeit the photograph and capture the moment in memory.

USEFUL PHRASES

There are 23 languages (including English) recognised in India's constitution and more than 1600 minor spoken languages. While English is widely spoken, we encourage you to learn at least a few basic words of Hindi, the widely spoken local language, out of both respect for the local culture and as a courtesy to the people we will meet.

HINDI

Hello/ Goodbye Na-ma-ste*

Namaste means "I bow to you", coming from the Sanskrit words *namah* (bow or salutation) and *te* (to you). On a deeper spiritual level it means 'the divine in me honours the divine in you and bows before you', acknowledging that despite outward differences, all people share the same core spirit and are interconnected.

Good morning Su prabhat

Good evening Shubh ratri

Thank you (formal) Dhan-ya-vad

Please kri-pa-yaa

Yes Ha

Please/thanks Han ji

No na-hee

OK aa-cha

How are you? Guesse ho?

I am fine mai theek hu

Very good Bahod aa-cha

Beautiful sundar

Very beautiful Bahod sundar

Delicious svādiṣṭ

Very delicious Bahod svādiṣṭ

Water paa-nee

Alcohol daru

Food khana

Excuse me su-ni-ye

How much is it? ne kaa hay

1, 2, 3, 4, ek, dar, teen, cha

5, 6, 7 paanch, cha, sard

8, 9, 10 art, nay, das

URDU

Hello/Greeting Salaam

Thank you Shukriya

Sightseeing, Shopping and Dining

Suggestions for exploration in your own time

NB. Open days and hours can change without notice. Please check online before visiting

Note: Those marked with an * are included in our tour itinerary.

DELHI - Textile venues and shopping

- **Anokhi:** several locations including N Block Market, Greater Kailash. Open 10.30– 19.30 and 32 Khan Market, New Delhi. Tel. 011 24603423 Open 7 days, 10:00 – 20:00.
Anokhi has outlets all over India. <https://www.anokhi.com/anokhi/our-shops.html> The Anokhi brand is distinguished by its prints, designs and product quality. The company is well known as an alternative role model for good business practices, and the ongoing revival of traditional textile skills.
- **Bagh:** N 10, Block Market, Greater Kailash-1, N Block, Greater Kailash I, Greater Kailash, New Delhi. Open daily 10.30-20:30. Women's ethnic wear featuring handcrafted clothing and everyday styles.
- ***Chandni Chowk:** One of India's oldest markets. A labyrinth of flower sellers, fabric merchants, spice traders etc.
- **Connaught Place** – iconic shopping district, home to Indian lifestyle brands, cafes and bookstores – Fabindia, Cottage Emporium
- **Dastkar Nature Bazaar:** South Delhi Anuvrat Marg, Kisan Haat Andheria Modh, New Delhi. This not-for-profit NGO promotes regional crafts and holds monthly themed events showcasing regional craft, culture, food, natural and handmade products.
- **Delhi Haat Craft Cottage Industries** – 95, Shamboo, N.S.I.C, Metro Station
- **Nsic Okhla, New Delhi.** Hours: 09:00-20:30 daily. Rickshaw drivers and guides will often try to take you here instead of Dilli Haat (listed below) as they get commissions. This is a multi-story business selling crafts but given the reviews, products are not necessarily authentic and good quality
- **Dilli Haat:** Operated by the Ministry of Tourism and Textiles, this open air craft bazaar and food market showcases textiles and handcrafts from India's rural areas, allowing artisans and craftspeople from all over India to have direct contact with buyers (cutting out the middle man).
- **Fab India:** numerous locations including: N Block Market, Greater Kailash, New Delhi, A-1, Hamilton House, Connaught Place (Next To Starbucks Coffee), New Delhi, 20/21 Khan Market, New Delhi. Fab India links over 55,000 craft-based rural producers to modern urban markets, thereby creating a base for skilled, sustainable, rural employment while also preserving India's traditional handcrafts. It has stores all over India. www.fabindia.com/store-locator
- **Gallery:** 29 Sunder Naga, New Delhi: A beautifully curated gallery and shop that carries Indian miniature paintings, pichwai paintings of Krishna cult, oil paintings, Ravi Verma prints, Tanjore paintings, old photographs, Bengal School paintings, lithographs, tribal, folk and primitive art, art from the British Raj, tantra, Jain and Sikh art, Islamic art and superb rare

textiles.

www.gallery29sundernagar.com

- **Gamthi:** Shop.46, Shankar Market, Connaught Lane, Connaught Place, New Delhi. Open Mon-Sat 10:30–19:30. Fabulous fabric store.
- **Haus Khas village:** South Delhi (nearest Metro is Green Park). Arty shops crammed into narrow lanes with boutiques selling designer Indian clothing, handicrafts, contemporary ceramics, Bollywood movie posters etc.
- **Kamala:** Baba Kharak Singh Marg. Open 10:00-19:00 Mon-Sat. Sells crafts, curios, textiles and homewares from the Crafts Council of India. Using traditional techniques but offering contemporary designs.
- **Kamayani:** 16 Anandlok, Khel Gaon Marg, New Delhi www.kamayani.in Open Mon-Sat 11:00-19:00. Kamayani started off as an informal meeting place for craftsmen and now showcases hand-painted textiles, intricate embroideries, saris and vintage textiles from all over India, providing a window into the country's rich textile heritage.
- **Kashmir loom:** C65- Basement, Nizamuddin East, New Delhi. Open 10:00-18:30. Closed on Sundays. Works with traditional artisans to create beautiful products and infuse new life into the age-old art of shawl making.
- **Khan market:** Rabindra Nagar, New Delhi. For top end, upmarket textiles and garments, fashion, books, cafes and homewares and Indian lifestyle brands eg. Anokhi, Good Earth, Nicobar, Amrapali Jewels, Ogaan etc.
- ***National Crafts Museum.** Pragati Maidan Bhairon Marg, New Delhi. Open Tue – Sun 10:00-17:00, Closed

Monday. Free entry. The exhibits and displays celebrate the traditional crafts. Artisans sell their products in the rear courtyard.
<http://nationalcraftsmuseum.nic.in>

- **Needledust:** 1) 2nd Floor, Select Citywalk Mall, Saket, New Delhi. Open daily 10:30-20:30.
2) 40-B Gd Floor, close to fashion street, Asiad Village entrance, Shahpur Jat, New Delhi. Open 10:30-19:30 (Mon to Sat), 11:00-18:30 pm (Sun). Crafted by some of India's finest artisans, but with the design of a modern luxury shoe, Needledust's handcrafted fine leather juttis combine the finesse of old royal moulds with innovative design and exquisite embroidery.
- **Old Delhi's bazaars:** **Kinari bazaar** (trimmings market) famous for zardozi (gold embroidery), temple trim and wedding turban. **Nai Sarak** is lined with stalls selling saris, shawls, chiffon and lehanga. **Ballimaran** has sequined slippers and fancy curly-toed juttis.
- **Sona Handicrafts:** 486, Samta Budh Vihar, Pocket 3, Paschim Puri, Paschim Vihar, Delhi, 110063. Ph: +91-98 73 207662. Handcrafted heritage and vintage textiles.
- **State government emporiums** are situated adjacent to each other at Baba Kharak Singh Marg in Connaught Place,. Open 11:00-19:00 Mon-Sat. The emporiums are a haven for shoppers interested in handicrafts and cultural items, showcasing the specialities of India's different states.
- **Central Cottage Industries Emporium:** Jawahar Vyapar Ghawan, Janpath, New Delhi. Open 10:00-19:00 daily. This is a world-famous emporium sells exquisite handicraft and handloom products. The emporium was set up in 1952 as

an endeavour to preserve Indian crafts and skill of craftspeople and to help them earn a livelihood. It offers the finest craft pieces from every nook and corner of India. Excellent.

- **Jammu and Kashmir Emporium:** at Baba Kharak Singh Marg in Connaught Place, New Delhi. Open 11:00-18:00 Mon-Sat. A haven for Kashmir silks, Pashmina shawls, willow chairs, home décor items, walnut furniture, papier maché décor items, and crewel craft.
- **Rajiv Gandhi Handicrafts Bhavan:** Located right next to the emporia complex, RGHB houses shops that sell books, paper products, rural handicrafts and more.

DELHI – Sightseeing

- ***Agrasen Ki Baoli step well:** Hailey Lane. Open dawn-dusk. A 14th century, 60-meter long and 15-meter wide step well on Hailey Road near Connaught Place in New Delhi. Consisting of 103 steps made of red stone, it is also reputed to be one of the most haunted places in India.
- ***Gurudwara Bangla Sahib** (Sikh temple): Ashoka Rd, Connaught Place. Delhi – Magnificent white marble gurdwara topped with golden domes plus a huge, grand kitchen that feeds thousands of people every day.
- **Humayan's tomb:** Mathura Road. Open dawn - dusk. This tomb, built in 1570, is of particular cultural significance. It was the first garden-tomb on the Indian sub-continent and it inspired several major architectural innovations, culminating in the construction of the Taj Mahal.
- **Ho Ho Bus Service** (Hop-on, hop-off) Departures 08:30am-14:40. Last stop at 6.45pm at Jantar Mantar. Tues-Sun.

Delhi Tourism and Transport Development Corporation operates this air con bus service which circuits the major sights every 45 minutes. <http://hohodelhi.com/>

- ***Jama Masjid:** Jama Masjid Rd, Jama Masjid, Chandni Chowk, New Delhi. Open 8am - 1 hour before sunset. One of India's largest mosques and a pocket of calm at the heart of Old Delhi. Constructed of marble and red sandstone, the Friday Mosque is able to hold a mind-blowing 25,000 people.
- **Lakshmi Narayan temple:** Birla Mandir Open 04:30-13:30 and 14:30-21:00. A beautiful Orissan style temple of red sandstone built in 1939. Ghandi inaugurated the complex as a temple for all castes.
- **National Museum,** Janpath, New Delhi. Open Tues-Sat 07:00-18:00 (closed Monday). Nearest metro: Central Secretariat / Udyog Bhawan.
- **Nature Morte:** Contemporary art at **The Dhan Mill Gallery:** 278,288 100 Feet Rd, Chhatarpur Hills, New Delhi. Open: Tue - Sun, 11:00-19:00. <https://www.naturemorte.com/>
- **Salaam Baalak Trust (SBT):** Gali Chandiwalli Paharganj. This charitable organisation aims to provide a sensitive and caring environment to street and working children and other children on the margins of society. www.salaambaalaktrust.com
Street Connections: 2413/14/15, Front Building, Floor 2 & 3, Gali Tilak, Chuna Mandi, Paharganj, Delhi. Tours operate 9am-noon Mon-Sat. These fascinating walks explore the hidden corners of Old Delhi and are guided by former street children who have been helped by **Salam Baalak trust**. The tour fees help SBT to assist more street children. <http://walk.streetconnections.co.uk/>

DELHI – Dining

There are thousands of places to eat in Delhi, but here are a few suggestions.

Near Maidens Hotel (distances to venues shown in brackets)

- **The Curzon Room** (within Maidens Hotel). Open 12:00-15:00 & 19:00-23:00. Heritage dining in an elegant colonial setting offering refined North Indian and Continental cuisine. Perfect for a relaxed evening without needing to leave the hotel.
- **The Garden Terrace** (open 24 hours) and **The Cavalry Bar** (open 11:00-24:00) are also at Maidens hotel.
- **BOA village** (300m). 1st Exchange, Store Building 13, Civil Lines, New Delhi. Open 13:00-00.30. Stylish pan-Asian restaurant serving Japanese, Thai and Korean cuisine with one of the best cocktail menus in North Delhi. Reservations: eazydiner.com, zomato.com
- **Sagar Ratna** (300m) The Exchange Building, Metro station, next to Civil Lines, New Delhi. Open 08:00-23:00. Authentic South Indian cuisine. <https://www.sagarratna.com/>
- **Romeo Lane** (300m) 13, Third floor, Exchange building, Sham Nath Marg, Civil Lines, New Delhi. Open 11:00-01:00. Known for its striking interiors and lively atmosphere, Romeo Lane offers Mediterranean and European cuisine alongside excellent cocktails. Menu and reservations at zomato.com
- **Dhaba Estd 1986** (2km) 21/31, North, Mall Rd, P&T Colony, Civil Lines, New Delhi. Open 12:00-24:00 A contemporary interpretation of North Indian favourites, beautifully presented in a modern setting. <https://dhaba1986.com/>

- **L’Opera** (2km) 13, Sham Nath Marg, Civil Lines, New Delhi. Open 08:00-24:00. An authentic French patisserie offering artisanal bread, pastries, excellent coffee and light meals. <https://loperaindia.com/>

Signature dining experiences:

- **Indian Accent** at The Lodhi Hotel (11km). Lodhi Rd, CGO Complex, Pragati Vihar, New Delhi. Open 12:00-14:30, 18:45-21:00 & 21:45-24:00. Consistently ranked among India’s finest restaurants, this venue reimagines regional Indian cuisine with creativity and elegance. Indian Accent have pledged to serve over 150,000 meals this year to girls living in Salaam Baalak shelter homes. See page 8 for a brief description of Salaam Baalak Trust’s valuable work. www.indianaccent.com/newdelhi
- **Bukhara** (14km) ITC MAURYA, Sardar Patel Marg, Akhaura Block, Diplomatic Enclave, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi. Open 12:30-14:25 & 19:00-23:45. An iconic Delhi institution famous for its open kitchens, tandoor cooking and legendary Dal Bukhara.
- **Varq** at the Taj Mahal Hotel (10km) 1, Taj Mahal Hotel, near Khan Market, South Block, Man Singh Road Area, New Delhi. Open 12:30-14:25, 19:00-23:45. An elegant fine dining restaurant celebrating India’s royal culinary traditions with modern presentation. [Website](#)

Greater Kailash area

- **Blue Tokai Coffee Roasters** – GK 1, 53, Hansraj Gupta Road, South, Phase 1, Block R, Greater Kailash I, New Delhi. Good coffee, snacks and breakfasts.
- **Café Brown Sugar** - Gate No-1, M-73, 1st Floor Greater Kailash, M Block,

Greater Kailash I, Market, New Delhi
Pizza, sandwiches & other global bites
(Italian, Chinese, Mexican and Indian),
plus desserts, offered in an unfussy
counter-serve café.

- **Café Culture** - M Block Greater Kailash I Ground Floor, M-33 GK 1 M Block Market, New Delhi - Café, European, pizza with vegetarian and vegan options. Breakfast, lunch and dinner.
- **Coffee Bond** - Shop No. 4 Local Shopping Complex, South Extension II, Uday Park, First floor, Greater Kailash 1 Road, Market, M 29, M Block, New Delhi (entrance is next to Wow Momo). Quiet, good coffee, breakfasts, salads, sandwiches etc
- **Delhi Salad Store** - M 34/1 M Block Market, part 1, Greater Kailash, New Delhi. Health food cafe & juicing company serving tasty, nutritious, fresh food.
- **Moti Mahal Deluxe 2** M-20, Block M, Greater Kailash II, Market, New Delhi - A national dining chain serving traditional India dishes for nearly a century - popular with locals and tourists. *A favourite with our groups.
- **Music and Mountains Bar and restaurant** - M-23, Greater Kailash I, New Delhi. Nice venue for drinks and small meals.
- **Prince's Paan & Chaat Corner** M 29, M Block Market, Near Hotel South Delhi, Greater Kailash 1, New Delhi Paan is a betel leaf stuffed with a variety of ingredients. Chaat are savoury snacks such as samosa, pani puri, seasoned fried chickpeas, fritters, patties or naan etc - often served with chutney. Try their Dandi Kulfi – a delicious, creamy, ice cream snack.

Near Connaught Place

- **Daryaganj:** Shop No. 11, Regal Building, Sansad Marg, Hanuman Road Area, Connaught Place, New Delhi. The dishes on the menu honour authentic dishes that have been enjoyed for generations and take you to the lanes of daryaganj.
- **Indian Coffee House:** Babakharak Singh Marg Mohansingh Place (shop/office complex) 2nd floor, Baba Kharak Singh Rd, near P V R rivoli, New Delhi. A staple of the city as well as the entire country, this place has been going strong since 1957.
- **Kwality Restaurant:** No.7, Regal Building, Sansad Marg, Hanuman Road Area, Connaught Place, New Delhi. Has been serving up some amazing dishes in terms of flavour, aroma and presentation for a good 70 years now.

AGRA - Textile Shopping

- **Khadi Gramodyog** – On Mahatma Ghandi Rd. Open 11:00-19:00 Wed-Mon. Handloom weaving centre where cotton is handspun and woven into khadi fabric. No English signage. Look for the khadi logo of hands clasped around a mud hut.
- **Kinari Bazaar** – the collective name for the many colourful markets in the maze of narrow laneways behind Jama Masjid. (Open 11:00-21:00, Closed Tuesdays). Offers a wide choice of handicrafts, along with marble, glassware, rugs, leather and textiles.
- **Mughal Carpet:** 198 Fatehabad Road (near Hotel Ganga Ratan), Agra. Tel: +91 983 7303930. Huge range of handmade carpets <http://www.mughalcarpet.com/index.html>
- **Sadar Bazaar, the old town and the area around the Taj are full of Emporiums:** near Agra Cant Railway Station (Open 11.30-18:00, Closed Tuesdays). Good for handicrafts, ethnic clothing, footwear and leather bags.
- **Sanskriti** - several locations. A boutique store with one of the finest collections of Zari-Zardozi textiles with gold wirework and gemstones.
- **Subhash Bazaar:** located on the northern edge of Agra's Jama Masjid (Open 09:00-20:00, Closed Tuesdays). Particularly good for silk and saris.

AGRA – Dining

- **Pinch of Spice:** 1076, 2, Fatehabad Rd, opposite Hotel ITC Mughal, Tajganj, Agra. One of Agra's best restaurants and near the Taj Mahal. Open late.
- **Peshawari** (at ITC Mughal luxury resort and spa) - award winning restaurant with reviews for excellent food, ambience and service.
- **Saniya Palace Hotel:** Near South gate of Taj Mahal Chowk Kajziyan, Tajganj. This hotel has the most pleasant rooftop restaurant in Taj Ganj and the best rooftop view of the Taj. Western and western-friendly Indian dishes are reasonably good.
- **Shankara Vegis:** 3/100, Taj East Gate Rd, Near Taj Mahal, Kinari Bazar, South Gate, Tajganj. Most places in the Taj Ganj seem to be rated as mediocre, however Shankara Vegis with its red tablecloths and straw lined walls gets some good reviews. Great vegetarian thalis are served by the genuinely friendly, non-pushy owners.
- **Sheroes Café and Community hub:** Behind Go Stops Hostel, Taj Nagari Phase 1, Agra. Open 10:00-22:00. Women affected by acid attacks are often isolated and shunned by society, impacting their ability to obtain an education. This entrepreneurial café provides acid-attack survivors with employment, a chance to earn a livelihood and the opportunity to socialise with other women and guests.

JAIPUR – Textile shopping

- **Anokhi Boutique:** 2nd floor KK Square, C-11 Prithviraj Rd, C-Scheme, Jaipur. Open 10:00-20:00 daily. Beautiful cotton clothing, home goods, and textiles that are ethically made using traditional Indian craftsmanship particularly block printed fabrics. We'll visit Anokhi Museum during our tour.
- **Bapu Bazaar** - Located in the heart of Jaipur city, between the Sanganer Gate and the New Gate. This vibrant bazaar dedicated to artisan-made Rajasthani art and craft.
- **Ganesham textiles:** Behind Patwar Sangh, Opposite Dussera Kothi Road, Govind Nagar, W, Amer Road, Govind Nagar, Jaipur. Stocks a wide range of textiles from many regions of India. Caters mostly to tour groups.
- **Indian Art House:** House No. 941, Pano Ka Dariba, Subhash Chowk, Brahampuri, Jaipur. Open daily 09:30-20:00. A family-run, multilevel (stairs only) treasure trove, full of vintage textile and artefact treasures.
- **Neerja:** Anand Bhawn, Jacob Rd, Civil Lines, Jaipur. Open daily 10:00-21:00. Supporting thousands of Jaipur craftsmen and their families, this manufacturer and exporter of Blue pottery continues to work to ensure the survival of this craft.
- **Nila House:** C-86 Prithviraj Rd, C-Scheme Jaipur. Open Mon-Sat 11:00-19:00. <https://www.nilajaipur.com/> A cultural centre of excellence, set in the heart of Jaipur, dedicated to honouring and preserving the natural dye and handloom traditions of India. Check website for exhibition schedule.
- **Old Bazaars:** offer some of Jaipur's best shopping experiences. Stunning textiles, beautiful Jaipur quilts, magical carpets, furniture, pottery, puppets, lacquer bangles, leather shoes and more. Bapu, Kshanpol and Nehru bazaars all sell textiles and fabric.
- **Rajasthan Fabric and Arts:** 174, Laxmandwara (near City Palace). Tel: +91 141 260 0555. Open daily 10:00-18:00. An exquisite shop known for vintage/antique textiles, quilts and art
- **Ramnarayan Blue Pottery:** Kotjewar post, Boraj district, Jaipur. Open Mon-Fri, 09:00-18:00. Tel: 91-7737904171, 7733878874. This organisation provides empowerment, skills development programs, the means to earn a sustainable livelihood and health education to disadvantaged rural women, as well as reviving and maintaining the art of blue pottery. <http://rnbluepottery.com/>
- **Sakshi Textile:** Laxmi Colony, Near Stadium, Sanganer, Jaipur. Tel: +91-0141-2273 1476. Block printed fabrics and blue pottery.
- **Saraaf Carpet Textile:** WRQP+74F, Aamer Road, Jaipur, Main Road, Amer Road, Jaipur. One of the largest manufacturers of carpets in Rajasthan. The store is located very close to the old city and offers a wide range of handwoven carpets and collectables.
- **Saurashtra Oriental Arts:** 3-4 Amer Road, Santosh Sagar Colony, Jaipur. Tel +91 141 263 0233/+91 94140 70316. Open 09:00-21:00. Many interior designers from around the world frequent this shop for the vast collection of new and vintage dhurries, quilts and embroideries from India, Afghanistan, Pakistan and more. <https://www.saurashtraorientalarts.com/>

- **Silver and Art Palace:** 313-A, Near Subhash Chowk, Old Amer Rd, Jaipur. Run by the same family for generations and showcasing the confluence of traditional and modern gemstone jewellery of Jaipur.
- **Tulsi:** Cjamcra bhawan, Plot No. S-55, Ashok Mar, C-Scheme, Opp St Xavier School, Jaipur. Tel: +91. 14. 14109492. Luxury women's designer clothing brand.

JAIPUR – Other sightseeing

- **Pink City Rickshaw Company:** is a not for profit organization aiming to provide a new aspirational employment opportunity to 200 women from low income households in Jaipur. They offer well planned tours in custom designed, eco-friendly rickshaws driven by smart, enthusiastic and well trained women. <http://pinkcityrickshawcompany.com/>

JAIPUR - Dining

- ***Bar Palladio:** Narain Niwas Palace Hotel, Kanta Bagh, Narain Singh Rd. Mon –Sat 16:00-23:00, Sun 11:30-23:00. Tel: (0141) 256 5556. The famous creation of a passionate Italian-Swiss expat foodie. The opulent interior features exotic murals and tented canopies and there are also eight beautiful garden pavilions. A nice place for pre-dinner drinks. Delicious Italian menu. Advance booking recommended. *The venue for our optional group dinner on day 6

- **Choubara:** 39, Gupta Garden, Amer Rd, Amoli Haveli, Sita Ram Bawan, Pink city, Jaipur. Tel: +91 93513 60903 Authentic multi cuisine restaurant near the old city. Currently open by appointment only.
- **1135 AD:** Opulent Maharaja's dining room within the Amber Fort serving opulent Indian dishes by candlelight. Table reservations: +91 98290 37170
- **LMB or Laxmi Misthan Bhandar:** Johari Bazaar. Open 08:00-23:00. Tel: 0141-256 0845. A vegetarian restaurant in the old city, operating since 1954. Popular with both locals and international tourists.
- **Natraj:** Mirza Ismail Rd, Panch Batti, C Scheme, Ashok Nagar, Jaipur. Tel: 0141-237 5804. Open 09:30-22:30. Classy with extensive vegetarian menu including thalis and South Indian menu plus a great array of Indian sweets.
- **The Forresta Kitchen and bar:** Devraj Niwas, Mirza Ismail Rd, near Khasa Kothi Flyover, Bani Park, Jaipur. Global fare and clever cocktails served in a stylish rustic setting with a tree-bordered patio. <https://www.theforrestakitchenbar.com/>
- **Spice Court:** Jacob Rd, Mysore House/Achrol House Colony, Madrampur, Civil Lines, Jaipur - Features warm hospitality, eclectic ambience and great food.

JODHPUR – Textile shopping

- **Baba Art Emporium:** 224 Sadar Market | Clock Tower, Jodhpur. Open 11:00-20:00. A huge shop with 12 sections, each with its own speciality, selling Indian textiles and handicrafts.
- **Isha Silk:** Shop 212, 213 Vegetable Market, Sardar market, Clock Tower Rd. Open 14:00-21:00 daily. Lovely shop run by our bandhani artist and his family, selling handmade cotton clothing, silk garments and leather shoes
- **Maharani Textiles and Handcrafts,** just around the corner from the clock tower on Cycle Market Rd. An enormous warehouse full of everything: Huge carved doors, tables, chairs, benches, and statues, fabrics stacked from floor to ceiling, duvet covers, quilts, bedspreads and scarves with intricate handiwork and detailing. Textile dealers from all over the world shop here.
- **Mochi Bazaar (cobblers market)** - 72P6+9VC, Korna House Rd, Bhistiyan Ka Bas, Jodhpur. Famous for selling leather Jodhpuri juttis/mojaris in myriad colours, patterns and designs.
- **Monarch Garments:** A-13 Palace Rd, Jodhpur. Open: 10:30-20:45. If you're after an authentic pair of jodhpurs, (the riding breeches which originated in this city) this is the place to buy ready-made or have a pair tailored for you within two days. www.monarch-garments.com

JODHPUR – Dining

- **Indique** at Pal Haveli Hotel, Gulab Sagar, Near Clock Tower. Open daily 10:00-18:00. Tel: +91-9672293328 / 2638344. Has a superb rooftop terrace with 360° views of the city. Relaxed ambience and lovely at sunset. www.palhaveli.com
 - **Jankar Haveli Hotel** - Makarana Mohalla, Fort Road, behind Clock Tower. Great thali and candle-lit terrace with the stunning, illuminated Mehrangarh Fort as a backdrop. Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner. <http://www.jhankarhaveli.com/>
 - **Sambhali Cafe** – Holi Chowk, Gido Ki Gali, Lakhara Bazar Rd, Opposite Lane Of Parihar Dairy, Jodhpur. Open 09:00-19:00 daily. Opened Nov 2024 by Sambhali trust, this ground-breaking cafe is Rajasthan's first LGBTQI+ cafe. The initiative aims to generate opportunities and transform the narrative for historically marginalised individuals. A symbol of courage and recognition, this venue offers a meaningful space for employment, self-expression and community connection. Great views of the fort. Cash only.
 - **Stepwell café:** Tunwarji ka jhalra, Jodhpur. Open 12:00-22:30. Modern café with espresso coffee, cakes and Italian dishes. Located next to the restored Tunwarji ka Jhalra step well.
 - **Shri Mishrilal Hotel:** located just inside the southern gate of Sardar market. Not fancy, but whips up the most superb creamy mahkania lassis. Reputed to be the best lassi in town and possibly the best in Rajasthan too.
 - **The Vintage Room (at Khas Bagh hotel)** Police Line Rd, Ajit Colony, Jodhpur. Authentic Rajasthani cuisine with authentic charm
- **Chokelao Mahal** – located at the Mehrangarh fort in a beautifully restored 18th C garden with views of the fort and over the city. Open daily 10:00-16:30 and 19:00-22:30.

UDAIPUR – Textile venues and shopping

- **Andraab:** 12A Alkapuri (Behind Rampratap Hotel). Tel: +91 294 243 3346/3347. Open 10:00 – 20:00. www.andraab.com A family business specialising in exquisite, sophisticated and expensive pashminas from Kashmir working directly with weavers from villages outside Srinagar.
- **Bada Bazar:** Udaipur's liveliest and most popular market is best explored on foot. Saris, shawls, tie dye, bandhini fabrics, silver and gold jewellery and camel leather items (bags, footwear, diaries etc.) can be found at very reasonable rates.
- **Ganesh Handicraft Emporium and Vipul Shah Bags:** City Palace Road Near City Palace, Jagdish Chowk, Udaipur. Open daily 09:30-19:00. This high profile family-run business is located inside a 350 year old haveli and has 16 galleries. A treasure trove of vintage textiles, wooden crafts and painting. <http://www.ganeshemporium.com/>
- **Jagdish Temple Street:** a bustling street with shops offering wooden items, handcrafted postcards, mud and metal articles and journals made of camel leather.
- **Maharani Emporium:** 113, Opp Sahelion Ki Bari, Udaipur. Tel: +91 294 241 5760 +91 979 910 4647. Open 10:00-20:00 daily. A huge emporium displaying an extensive range of vintage and new textiles.
- **Shilpgram:** A Village situated 3km west of Fateh Sagar. Conventional mud cottages and wooden houses selling stoneware, wooden furnishings etc
- **Sadhna:** Jagdish Temple Rd (opp Ganesh temple) Open daily 10:00 - 19:00. Tel: (0294) 241 7454. Sadhna

Trust works on local, rural and tribal development issues. Sells lovely embroidered applied and patchwork clothing and home wares.

- **Silver Corner:** Shop 15, Lal ghat, Opp Jagat Niwas Palace Hotel. Ph: +91 294 5100660 Mob: +91 9828582203 All kinds of silver jewellery, ornaments, precious and semi-precious stones.

UDAIPUR – Dining

- **Ambrai** (Lake Side): Hotel Amet Haveli outside Chandpole, Udaipur. Traditional dishes served in a lakefront venue with City Palace views.
- **Jagat Niwas Palace Hotel restaurant:** 23-25 Lal Ghat, behind Jagdish Temple. Open daily 07:00-10:00, 12:00-15:00 and 18:00-22:00. Rooftop restaurant with superb lake view, delicious Indian cuisine and excellent service.
- **Milletts of Mewar:** 25, Sajjan Vihar, near Monsoon Palace, Udaipur. Specializing in traditional and re-imagined Indian/Rajasthani fare, millets plus organic, gluten free, vegan, raw & dietary options. Creative, authentic, and sustainable.
- **Rainbow Restaurant:** 27-28 Lal Ghat, Pichola Lake behind Jagdish Temple. Open daily 07:30-23:00. Has a rooftop terrace with great views of the lake and good menu.
- **The Artist House:** Near, Ashoka Cinema Rd, Thakkre Baba Conlony, Surajpole, Nada Khada, Udaipur. Once a traditional theatre for Udaipur's elite and royals, the dining experience at this venue amalgamates a club, al-fresco, co-working space, cocktail bar, restaurant and pizzeria, offering a unique experience.

Aari embroidery: fine embroidery created using a hooked needle or awl, known as an aari.

Abhala bharat: mirrors or flat metal discs are couched onto the surface of a cloth. The practice is centred around Kutch, Gujarat

Ajarakh: double-sided, resist, block-printed and dyed, kala cotton cloth from the village of Ajrakhpur, Gujarat (see below) featuring Islamic geometric designs in blue, red, white and black.

Alpana: Bengali folk art style painting

Appliqué: decorative needlework technique where cloth is sewn with pieces of cloth or ribbons

Ashavali: luxury brocade traditionally made of heavy silk and metallic thread, thought to date from around the 11th century. Named after its place of origin, Ashaval, Gujarat (now known as Ahmedabad)

Bandhani: is the art of binding. Bandha means '*to bind*'. Otherwise referred to as 'tie and dye'. Fabric is tightly bound to create a dye-resist.

Batik: resist dyeing technique using hot wax

Bela: type of block printing usually specific to production of a style made in Kutch, Gujarat

Block printing: the use of carved wooden blocks to transfer dye or mordant to cloth, creating repeated patterns

Brocade: a supplementary weft weaving technique used to create sometimes elaborate motifs and patterns. Decorative threads are added while weaving in addition to those structurally integral to the cloth

Butta/Buta/Boteh: motifs, usually based on flowers, trees or mangoes with a curling tip, frequently found on Indian

textiles; the latter also known as paisley after the Scottish mill town Paisley, in Renfrewshire, which created mass-market imitations of Indian cloth from the late 18th century onwards

Catechu: brown dye extracted from Acacia trees

Chaklas: square wall hangings, often embroidered, beaded or appliqued

Chamba rumal: embroidered handkerchief traditionally involved in marriage ceremonies, usually a fine cotton muslin with silk threads. Associated with the historic Chamba State, which is now part of Himachal Pradesh, northern India

Chanderi: a fine cloth woven with gold threads and silk associated with the town of the same name in Madhya Pradesh

Charkha: portable spinning wheel associated with the Indian independence movement led by Gandhi

Chikankari/Chikan: fine white embroidery and pulled thread work on white cotton. Associated with the city of Nawabs in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

Chinai: silk embroidery on silk using Chinese techniques and motifs

Chintz: generic term applied to Indian printed and painted cottons usually with floral or geometric designs. Often associated with those created for export

Couching: embroidery technique in which threads or other materials are attached to the surface of a cloth by building up multiple stitches. Often used with mirrors or other hard materials that cannot be pierced with a sewing needle

Cut Dana: embroidery technique involving the attachment of cut stones in patterns using couching stitches in combination with other stitches and decorative threads

Dabu: block printing using mud resist. The dabu printed fabric is then dipped into indigo or other dye and sundried before the mud is removed.

Damask: method of weaving often intricate patterns into cloth using continuous weft, and often with the same-coloured warp and weft threads

Darshan-dwar phulkari: embroidery which honours the divine, usually created for use in shrines and temples. Darshan-dwar literally means '*doorway to the divine*' and phulkari is a type of embroidery done in Punjab

Dhoti: length of cloth (approx 4 yards) tied to form loose trousers for Hindu men.

Dupatta: shawl traditionally worn by women to cover the head and shoulders

Ek taar: untwisted single silk yarns used for embroidery, sometimes known as floss

Gaghra: skirt

Gota patti: technique involving the sewing of metallic ribbons onto the surface of a cloth which originated in Rajasthan

Gultarashi: cutting or shaving of rug pile at different lengths to create contours, often used to accentuate designs or to create patterns

Himroo: hand-loomed fabric with a cotton base and silk weaving, with Persian heritage

Ikat: woven fabric in which the pattern is resist dyed before weaving. Bunches of threads are tie dyed, often several times, before they are woven, requiring great skill and calculation. Single ikat refers to a cloth where the threads of either the warp or the weft are dyed before weaving; double ikat refers to cloth where both the warp and the weft are resist dyed before weaving. See also Patola

Indigo: one of the world's oldest dyes, resulting in a range of shades of blue, extracted from the leaves of certain plants from the *Indigofera* genus. The most commonly used is the species *Indigofera*

tinctoria, which has a unique ability to permanently dye both protein and cellulose fibres without the use of mordants.

Jaal: in the context of Indian textiles, it is a delicate lattice or net-like pattern

Jali: perforated pattern in chikan embroidery work. Also applies to stonework lattice

Jacquard loom: invented in France in the early 19th century, it was the first automated loom that could produce complex woven patterns in direct competition with hand-made Indian examples. The patterns were made using punch cards that were fed through the loom, causing particular warp threads to be lifted before the weft threads were passed through

Jamdahni/Jamdan: weaving technique, traditionally used in Bengal, where different parts of the warp threads are manipulated independently in a supplementary weft technique, creating repeating patterns. The resulting cloth is usually very fine, translucent cotton muslin with ethereal delicate floral and geometric motifs.

Jhutti/Juti/Jhutti/Jooti (Urdu): slip-on leather footwear, from very plain for daily wear to embroidered and embellished for special occasions.

Jullaha: weaver

Kaarigar: artisan or skilled maker

Kachha Kasab: embroidery, specifically involving couching of metallic threads onto the surface, usually in floral or geometric patterns

Kadhua/Kadwa: a supplementary weft weaving technique where each motif is woven separately, particular to Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh

Kala cotton: translates as black cotton. A pest and drought resistant indigenous species of cotton from Kutch, Gujarat.

Kalam: pen-like instrument with felt-like reservoir used for drawing designs or applying wax resists for **kalamkari / kalam qaari** cloths

Kalamkari: hand-painted and hand-drawn cotton cloths created with natural dyes, associated with Andhra Pradesh. Kalam means '*pen*'; kari translates to '*work*' or '*the art of*'

Kamangiri: wall or fresco painting from Kutch, Gujarat

Kameez: shirt like tunic usually worn over baggy pants which are known as **salwar**. The full outfit is known as salwar kameez.

Kamdani/Mukaish/Badla: uses flat strips of silver inserted into the surface of the cloth, generally in combination with fine Chikankari embroidery to accent its patterns

Kani: type of very fine Kashmir shawl; also the name of the wooden spools used to create the intricate weave associated with the ancient and protected technique similar to tapestry weaving or flatweave carpets

Kanthas: embroidered and decorated quilt covers

Kasavu mundu veshti: two-piece sari set (the sari, and an undergarment worn on the torso). Kasavu also refers to the gold or silver thread weaving technique of Kerala

Katab: Gujarati term for applique

Khadi/Khaddar: hand spun, hand woven cloth from indigenous hand-spun cotton. This cloth became synonymous with the struggle for Indian independence. Khadi was promoted by Gandhi as a means of self-sufficiency and its production was an act of defiance against the colonial rule of the British

Khatri: caste of professional dyers

Kinkhab: a heavy woven brocade cloth of silk and precious metal thread

Kora: raw, unprocessed cotton

Kota Doria cloth: a combination of cotton and silk, woven on pit looms in a square check pattern. From the village of Kota, Rajasthan.

Kotpad: a weaving and natural dyeing technique using dyes extracted from manjistha (madder root); synonymous with the village of the same name in Odisha

Lac: resin excreted by lac beetles used as a dyestuff to create pinks and light red colours

Maheshwari: type of cloth synonymous with the village of Mashewar, Madhya Pradesh. Usually silk or a combination of silk and cotton, and often woven with metallic threads

Leheria - a resist dyeing technique resulting in multi-striped or chequered multi-coloured patterning.

Malir - cotton cloth woven on narrow looms, block printed in ajarakh style but mainly red rather than indigo.

Meghwal/Meghwar - caste of leather workers

Misru/Mashru - literally means 'mixed'. A woven fabric with silk warp and cotton weft.

Mojari – leather slip on footwear. Also called 'Nagra' or jooti in various regions.

Mordant - metallic salt which combines chemically with a dye to fix the dye permanently.

Manjistha: Indian madder (*Rubia cordifolia*), used in natural dyeing to create rich reds and browns; used in conjunction with mordants to dye cotton reds and blacks

Marodi: embroidery using highly twisted gold thread, native to Gujarat

Mashru: heavy cloth, usually with a satin silk face and cotton base, created by using a cotton warp and silk weft. The weft threads are passed over more of the weft threads resulting in a face, or surface, that is predominantly made of the weft (silk), which means the reverse of the cloth is predominantly made of the warp threads (cotton)

Mata ni Pachedi: literally '*behind the mother goddess*' in Gujarati language, a temple cloth depicting religious stories. It is created with kalamkari (hand-painting) using natural dyes in a tradition that dates back thousands of years

Meenakari: weaving technique in Varanasi where colours are added to the motifs, resembling encrusted jewels on fabric

Mochi: embroidery of Kutch and Saurashtra, famed for chain-stitch silk embroidery created using notched hooks or awls

Mordant: metallic oxide used to bind dyes to fibres

Muga: type of silk endemic to Assam, golden in colour and traditionally linked with royalty

Mulmul: muslin fabric of finely woven cotton plain traditionally associated with Bengal

Naba Kothi: textile depicts nine houses with nine auspicious motifs, woven in Odisha using tie and dye technique

Nakshi kantha: type of embroidered cover from Bengal created by quilting together several layers of repurposed soft, fine cotton saris in an early form of recycling

Odhni: shawl

Pachchikar: marble inlay work

Roghan/Rogan work: a design skillfully printed onto fabric with a mixture of thickened oil and pigment

Paithani: variety of weave named after Paithan, Maharashtra, which involves

tapestry-style weaving using vibrant silk yarns and golden thread

Parsi Gara: embroidered saris predominantly worn by women in the Parsi community for weddings and on special occasions. The saris are characterised by heavily embroidered motifs and traditionally with Chinese design influence

Patolu/Patola: double ikat (traditionally made in Patan, Gujarat but now also made in Orissa and Andhra Pradesh). In single ikat cloth, the threads of either the warp or weft are resist-dyed before they are woven. In double ikat, both the warp and weft are resist-dyed. The traditional format of Patola features side and end borders, and a central field usually consisting of repeating motifs.

Patwa work: silk tassel-making technique that originated in Rajasthan

Phulia khadi: hand-spun and hand-woven cotton from Phulia, West Bengal, known for its soft, fine weave.

Phulkari: embroidery from Punjab, an area that straddles northwest India and eastern Pakistan. Characterised by fine darning embroidery covering most of the surface of a cloth

Pichwai: genre of hand-painted temple or sacred cloths devoted to the god Krishna, associated with the temple town of Nathdwara, Rajasthan

Rabari: ethnic minority people who originated in central Asia and settled in parts of Pakistan, Rajasthan and Gujarat in the 12th century, known for complex surface embellishment combining mirror work, chain stitch and running stitch, among others

Rangkaat: translates to '*cutting colour*', a complex weaving technique of interlocking different hues of weft in a mosaic pattern using silk, and metallic threads. Associated with Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh

Resham: fine silk thread

Resist dyeing: range of techniques where areas of the surface of textiles, or threads used to create them, are treated or tied to prevent dye from reaching those areas, and thus creating designs

Saadi/saree: an unstitched, draped garment worn by women in India. Often 6m in length.

Sainchi phulkari: type of phulkari that depicts human and animal figures in narrative scenes of everyday life in rural Punjab; sainchi means '*authentic*' in Punjabi

Sambalpuri bandha: a sari created using the double ikat technique, originating in the city of Sambalpur, Odisha

Shamilami: type of embroidery using animal motifs, associated with Manipur, eastern India

Shisha - mirrored glass used in embroidery work

Toran: doorway hanging (Gujarati)

Tanchoi: translates to '*touching the body*', it is a supplementary weft weave that renders a soft satin-like finish on the back of the fabric - generally saris woven in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh

Tangaliya weaving: a Gujarati weaving technique made on pit looms, where knots are made at certain intervals in weft threads, to create small dots on the surface of the cloth. Associated with the Surendranagar district in the Saurashtra region of Gujarat

Telia Rumal: a headcloth or lincloth created with double ikat, originally from Andhra Pradesh, where traditionally the threads are treated with oil to soften them before dyeing and weaving

Thikri: small, hand-blown mirrors used to embellish the surface of Gujarati embroidery (Abhala bhara)

Tie dye: resist dyeing technique where threads are tightly bound around either other threads or a finished cloth to

prevent the dyestuff from reaching those areas when it is submerged in a dyebath. Sometimes extends to the use of clamps and other devices to restrict the areas of cloth subject to the dye

Tussar silk: sometimes referred to as '*wild silk*' as the silk cocoons are traditionally collected from trees growing in forests; prized for its golden colour

Vastra: general word for garment or clothing

Warp: threads strung tightly on a loom for weft threads to pass under and over

Weft: threads woven between warp threads to create the structure of cloth. Discontinuous or supplementary weft are additional threads that are not part of the structure of the cloth that are woven in to create patterns

Zardozi: heavy, ornate embroidery usually reserved for luxurious fabrics like silk or velvet, using metallic threads and sometimes precious stones, pearls and other ornaments

Zari: fine metallic threads used in embroidery or weaving