



**Temples and Tattoos
with Travelin' Mick**
An Adventure in Western India
14 Days/13 Nights
November 3rd to 16th, 2012

	Activities	Overnight
Day 1	Fly to Mumbai, arriving on Saturday, November 3 rd .	Mumbai
Day 2 (Sun, Nov 4 th)	After a leisurely breakfast, we will start our walking tour of historic Mumbai. Sights to be seen today include the Gateway of India, Victoria Terminus, Crawford Market, the Kala Ghoda neighborhood and the Shahid Bhagat Singh Marg neighborhood. Mumbai is a melting pot for people from all parts of India, as well as the Middle East and Europe. As we wander the crowded streets, you will see men and women wearing the latest Western and Indian fashions walking side-by-side with those in traditional dress, jewelry and other body adornment.	Mumbai
Day 3 (Mon, Nov 5 th)	Morning visit to Juhu Beach and the upscale suburb of Bandra. This part of town is home to Mumbai's elite, and is a hub for dining and shopping, filled with contemporary expressions of body adornment. We will hunt for street tattoo artists, browse through jewelry shops packed with gems and gold, and view gorgeous wedding attire and other traditional Indian garments. We will also meet with local <i>mehendiwallas</i> (henna artists), who will discuss the significance of mehndi for Indian women during festivals and wedding ceremonies and demonstrate their art on any interested group members. If we are lucky, today we will also get the chance to dine with one of the founders of the modern tattoo scene in India, Dr. J. A. Kohiyar.	Mumbai
Day 4 (Tues, Nov 6 th)	Morning flight from Mumbai to Mangalore in the state of Karnataka. This coastal city lies within a rich tract of coffee, cashew and pepper plantations. This afternoon we will tour some of these plantations and learn about the region's long trading history with the Middle East and Europe.	Mangalore
Day 5 (Wed, Nov 7 th)	Morning drive to Hassan. Afternoon visit to the magnificent Hoysala dynasty temples at Belur and Halebid. The Hoysala kings ruled much of Karnataka between the 10 th and 14 th centuries, and their temples are known for their star-shaped ground plans and their intricately-carved wall panels and ceiling brackets. In Belur, we will admire the Chennakeshava Temple, which was built in 1117 by Emperor Vishnuvardhana to commemorate the Hoysala's victory over the invading Cholas from Tamil Nadu. In nearby Halebid, capital of the Hoysala empire in the 12 th and 13 th centuries, we will visit the Hoysaleswara Temple. This temple is dedicated to Shiva, and	Hassan

contains beautiful carvings of the deity, as well as of mythological animals and scenes from the *Ramayana* and the *Mababharata* (Hindu epic poems).

Day 6 (Thurs, Nov 8 th)	Morning departure for Chikmagalur, a town at the foothills of the Mullayanagiri mountain range. This afternoon you will have the option of relaxing at your hotel, or taking a brisk trek in the forest and hills around Mullayanagiri. The forests of Karnataka are home to the fragrant and rare Indian sandalwood tree. Today we will also visit an outlet that sells local sandalwood items, including carvings, soaps, essential oils and incense.	Chikmagalur
Day 7 (Fri, Nov 9 th)	This morning we will begin driving to Hospet, our base for the next three nights. En route we will stop for lunch at Chitradurga, home to an impressive granite fort that rises above the town and is filled with the ruins of ancient temples, granaries, houses and water reservoirs. Arrive in Hospet in time for dinner.	Hospet
Day 8 (Sat, Nov 10 th)	Full day sightseeing of Hampi, a UNESCO World Heritage site which contains the ruins of Vijayanagar, the “City of Victory.” Spread over eight square miles, Vijayanagar served as the capital of three generations of Hindu rulers in the 15 th and 16 th centuries. In the city’s Sacred Centre, we will visit the Virupaksha Temple, dedicated to the goddess Pampa and her consort Pampapati (aka Virupaksha or Shiva). We will also visit the magnificent Vitthala Temple, which contains a massive <i>mabamandapa</i> , or great hall, with beautifully carved pillars and friezes. An irrigated valley stretches down the center of Vijayanagar, and across this valley lies the city’s Royal Centre. Here we will view the Queen’s Bath, the Lotus Mahal, and a magnificent carved stable which once housed the royal elephants.	Hospet
Day 9 (Sun, Nov 11 th)	Full day sightseeing of Lambani villages. The Lambani are related to the nomadic Banjara tribe of Rajasthan, Gujarat and Pakistan, and share many aesthetic characteristics with this group. For example, Lambani women are known for their colorful and heavily-embroidered blouses and skirts which often incorporate tiny mirrors and coins. They also wear thick bangles on their arms and elaborate ornaments in the hair around both ears. They further have a wonderful tattooing tradition, and today we will meet many women with beautiful designs on their faces, arms and hands. We will also visit Sandur Kushala Kala Kendra, an NGO established by a local mining company to improve the quality of life of Lambani women by encouraging their embroidery skills and marketing their crafts around the world.	Hospet
Day 10 (Mon, Nov 12 th)	Early morning departure for Badami, capital of the Chalukya kings during the 6 th and 7 th centuries AD. The remarkable cave temples of Badami are built into cliffs of red sandstone overlooking a lake, and contain a number of important carvings of Hindu and Jain deities. Other Chalukya architectural marvels to be visited today include the 8 th century temple complex of Pattadakal, which contains an interesting mix of North Indian and South Indian temples, and the semi-circular Durga Temple in nearby Aihole. Continue driving to Hubli for dinner and overnight.	Hubli
Day 11 (Tues, Nov 13 th)	Today we will drive from Hubli to the beautiful beaches of North Goa, passing through endless acres of cotton and peanut plantations. Arrive in Goa in the afternoon. Goa was a Portuguese colony for more than 400 years	Anjuna

before becoming part of independent India, and its arts, music, architecture and cuisine all strongly reflect this European past.

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| Day 12
(Wed,
Nov 14 th) | Today we will explore the local tattoo scene on several of Goa's more popular beaches, including Tattoo Laboratory, a personal favorite of Travelin' Mick. We will also visit the weekly flea market in Anjuna, which features a huge range of crafts from all over India. Here we will again meet members of the Lambani tribe who come to the weekly market to sell their textiles and crafts. | Anjuna |
| Day 13
(Thurs
Nov 15 th) | This morning we will explore Old Goa, capital of Portuguese India until the mid-18 th century. Originally built by the Bijapur Sultanate in the 15 th century, the town is now filled with ornate churches and monasteries designed by Portuguese and Italian architects. Sé Cathedral, one of the largest churches in Asia, contains an enormous, gilded high altar dedicated to St. Catherine of Alexandria. The Basilica de Bom Jesus, which was built by the Jesuits in 1594, houses the remains of Francis Xavier, Goa's patron saint. Lunch will be in Panaji, Goa's current capital, located at the mouth of the Mandovi river. This afternoon you will be free to wander through Panaji's Old Town, which is filled with brightly painted houses and cafes; many Old Town residents still speak Portuguese (and some still boast cross tattoos). | Anjuna |
| Day 14
(Fri,
Nov 16 th) | The morning is at your leisure to prepare for your return home or your departure for other destinations in India. | In flight |

Accommodation Utilized – Our tour in India will utilize a mixture of 3-star and 4-star hotels, all of which are very clean and comfortable and feature a wide range of food choices. The exact lodging to be utilized on the trip will be provided to you well in advance of your departure from your home country.

Travel Insurance Note - Travelers who do not reside in the United States will be required to purchase trip cancellation/interruption, baggage delay/loss and supplemental medical expense insurance (discussed on the following page) in order to participate in the tour.



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Trip cost: \$4,590.00 per person

Single supplement: \$1,100.00

Deposit required to hold booking: \$600.00

Balance of trip cost due: September 3rd, 2012

Trip cost includes:

- All accommodations (based on double occupancy);
- All meals, including unlimited soft drinks;
- Ground transportation (car/motorcoach/train/boat);
- Flights within the Indian subcontinent, including all required taxes and fees;
- All airport transfers;
- Baggage handling and portage;
- The services of experienced, English-speaking guides;
- All monument/museum/site entry fees;
- All gratuities except for senior tour guides;
- 24/7 emergency medical/security evacuation services;
- Bottled water in all vehicles; and,
- All required local taxes and fees.

Trip cost does not include:

- International flights to/from the Indian subcontinent;
- Items of a personal nature such as laundry, telephone calls, Internet/business center expenses and room service;
- Alcoholic beverages;
- Gratuities for senior tour guides;
- Excess baggage charges;
- Trip cancellation/interruption, baggage delay/loss and supplemental medical expense insurance – **highly recommended for U.S. residents/mandatory for non-U.S. residents;**
- Visa/passport processing costs; and,
- Immunizations and prescription medications required for travel.

If you cancel: a) 60 days or more before departure, you forfeit 50% of your trip deposit plus any cancellation fees, surcharges or non-refundable deposits charged to us by individual hotels, airlines or other third-parties; b) 31 to 59 days before departure, you forfeit 50% of the land cost; and c) 30 days or less before departure, you forfeit 100% of the land cost.

Since we will not waive our stated cancellation and refund policies regardless of cause, **we highly encourage travelers to purchase trip cancellation/interruption, baggage delay/loss and supplemental medical expense insurance.** Upon receipt of your trip deposit, you will receive a comprehensive sign-up package that will include our full Payment Terms and Conditions, as well as instructions for purchasing trip cancellation/interruption, baggage delay/loss and supplemental medical expense insurance. It is important to note that, in order to have a *pre-existing conditions* waiver or a *cancel-for-any-reason* waiver included in your plan, you must purchase your supplemental travel insurance within 15 to 21 days (depending upon the policy chosen) of making your initial trip deposit.

Our full Payment Terms and Conditions can be found at
<http://www.fromlosttofoundtravel.com/pricingandpaymentterms/paymentterms.html>