



Ted and Amani Wedding – Frequently Asked Questions

When and where is the wedding?

Wedding is scheduled to happen at [Taj Holiday Village Resort and Spa](#) (Goa, India) on 12th, 13th and 14th Dec 2024

When are guests expected to Arrive and Depart?

Guests are expected to arrive by 15:00 hours (Standard Check In Time of the Hotel) on 12th Dec 2024 and depart after breakfast on 15th Dec 2024

How do guests reach Goa?

Goa has two Airports Dabolim (GOI) in South Goa and Mopa Manohar International Airport (GOX) in North Goa.

Both Airports are about 1 hour drive from Taj Holiday Resort and Spa.

What are possible international flight connections from United States to India / Goa?

There are direct flights into Mumbai (BOM), Delhi (DEL) and Bangalore (BLR) from East Coast (JFK and EWR) and West Coast (SFO)

Example 1 of How Connections can work – East Coast – Direct flight - United

11th Dec – Newark to Delhi

UA 816 New York/Newark (EWR) 9:40 AM Delhi (DEL) 11:10 AM (12th Dec)

Connecting with

12th Dec – Delhi to Goa

AI 881 Del 5:25 PM Arriving at Goa (GOI) 8:05 PM

Note: Above does not reach in time for the 12th Dinner (So alternative option is to arrive on previous day)



Example 2 of How Connections can work – East Coast – Direct Air India flight

11th Dec – Arriving Mumbai on 12th Dec at 11:35 AM



10:55 AM – 11:35 AM⁺¹
Air India

14 hr 10 min
JFK-BOM

Nonstop

12th Dec Mumbai to Goa Connection



3:30 PM – 4:50 PM
Air India

1 hr 20 min
BOM-GOX

Nonstop

So this would reach guests at Taj Holiday Resort and Spa at around 6 PM in time for the 12th Dec Dinner

Example 3 of How Connections can work – East Coast – Via Gulf Carrier

10th Dec – Arriving at GOX after a layover at Doha



8:20 PM – 2:35 AM⁺²
Qatar Airways

19 hr 45 min
JFK-GOX

1 stop
3 hr 45 min DOH

Note: Previous night booking required here for early Check-in

Example 4 of How Connections can work – West Coast – Direct Air India Flight

11th Dec – SFO - Delhi



9:15 AM – 2:45 PM⁺¹
Air India

16 hr
SFO-DEL

Nonstop

12th Dec – Connecting Delhi with Goa



6:40 PM – 9:20 PM
Vistara

2 hr 40 min
DEL-GOI

Nonstop

Note: Above does not reach in time for the 12th Dinner (So alternative option is to arrive on previous day)



Example 5 of How Connections can work – West Coast – Direct Air India Flight

10th Dec – SFO - Delhi



8:30 PM – 2:55 AM⁺²
Air India

16 hr 55 min
SFO-DEL

12th Dec Connecting Delhi with Goa



IndiGo
6E-5301

07:30

2h 30m
non-stop

10:00

Note: Early Check in could be requested for the above.

Example 6 of How Connections can work – West Coast – Via Gulf Carrier



2:50 PM – 2:35 AM⁺²
Qatar Airways

22 hr 15 min
SFO-GOX

1 stop
3 hr 15 min DOH

Note: Above will require room to be booked for previous night for room check in at 4 AM

Example 7 of How Connections can work – West Coast – United

Guests are required to connect to EWR from West Coast and use Example 1 above.

What are possible international flight connections from UK to India / Goa?

Guests looking to arrive direct to GOA - Air India has a direct flight into GOA (GOX) from Gatwick (LGW) (Not daily flight).

e.g. On 10th Dec there is a direct Air India Flight from Gatwick 8:10 PM to Goa (GOX) 10:45 AM (11th Dec). Return flight is at GOX 12:35 PM reaching Gatwick (LGW) 5:25 PM

Guests looking to arrive on 12th Dec below flight works better

11th Dec Air India Heathrow 9:05 PM to Mumbai (BOM) 11:30 AM (12th Dec) connecting at 3:05 PM to Goa (GOX) reaching at 4:25 PM

Guests travelling to other destinations before or after wedding, may arrive at Delhi (DEL), Mumbai (BOM), Chennai (MAA), Hyderabad (HYD), Bengaluru (BLR). These have direct flights from British Airways / Virgin Atlantic / Air India.



These Airports also have convenient direct connections to GOA (GOI or GOX).

What about Accommodation at Taj Holiday Resort and Spa?

12th, 13th and 14th accommodation with meals is organised by the bride family
(Starting with 12th Dec dinner till 15th Dec breakfast)

Guests looking to arrive early or depart late, are required to book additional accommodation.

Note: For Departure connection via Mumbai or Delhi, guests will be required to take suitable connecting flight from either GOX or GOI

How to organise Airport Transfer and additional reservations?

Guests arriving on 12th Dec at GOX or GOI, will be provided complimentary Airport transfers from bride family. Do write to us on tedamani@nivalink.co.in with flight details.

Those arriving earlier, they would require to arrive on own. Outside terminal exit, many prepaid counter for transport services, guests will be able to book a transfer upon arrival. International Credit card accepted. Goa Miles app also can be used for booking a transfer (No UBER in Goa).

For departure transfer to Airport, hotel travel desk can be used (No prebooking required. However informing the travel desk a day before departure is recommended).

Bride family has designated [Nivalink](https://nivalink.co.in) as agency for co-ordinating guest arrival / departure and organising travel within India (Pre or post wedding).

So guests have an option to write to Niraj Vashi (Director, Nivalink) on niraj@nivalink.co.in or Whatsapp (+91-9920241404) for any assistance regarding India trip.



Do US Nationals require Visa for travelling to India?

US Nationals are required to procure e-visa before boarding their International flight. E-visa can be applied 120 days before India arrival date (e.g. for 11th Dec 2024 Arrival, can apply for e-visa after 14th Aug 2024)

Details are given on this link <https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/evisa/tvoa.html>

Guests are required to apply for e-Tourist Visa (30 days). e-Visa typically gets processed within 3 or 4 working days after a successful application.

What is required for e-visa?

- Scanned Bio Page of the passport showing the Photograph and Details
- The digital photograph to be uploaded

Format - JPEG

Size - Minimum 10 KB / Maximum 1 MB

The height and width of the Photo must be equal.

Photo should present full face, front view, eyes open and without spectacles

Background should be plain light colored or white background.

No shadows on the face or on the background.

No borders.

- A document linked to Purpose of Travel (e.g. Wedding Invitation)

Some details on Taj Holiday Resort and Spa?

Taj Holiday Resort and Spa is a 5* resort set on the Candolim / Sinquerim beach in North Goa having 142 Suites and Villas spread over 28 acres of landscaped area.

Some of the complimentary facilities / Room amenities for guests would be

- Wi-Fi



- Swimming pool (including children's pool)
- In Room - Tea/coffee makers, mineral water and newspapers, Rest Easy menu with choice of pillows
- Fitness centre (Gymnasium)
- Children's activity centre

Some of the Chargeable facilities are

- Beauty salon
- Spa and Yoga
- Room Service
- 9-Hole Executive Golf Course

Note:

- Entire Resort is booked for the Wedding and Room allocation for guests would be finalised closer to the date of arrival and will be communicated in advance.

Things to do in North Goa – What is closer to Taj Holiday Resort and Spa

Goa is an erstwhile Portuguese colony and therefore steeped in Portuguese colonial occupation, struggles, history, heritage and cuisine.

1. **Fort Aguada** – 17th century Portuguese Fort with a lighthouse overlooking Arabian Sea – 2 kms from Taj Holiday Resort and Spa (Entry is free. Open 9 :30 AM to 6 PM)
2. **Reis Magos Church, Fort and Museum** – A Church and a 16th Century Fort with a museum in it overlooking Mandovi River - 2 kms from Taj Holiday Resort and Spa (Entry – Rs. 50 per person. Open 9 :30 AM to 5 PM – Closed on Mondays)
3. **Restaurants / Bar / Lounges** – Taj Holiday Resort and Spa is located on the Southern, quieter and more exclusive corner of North Goa (Sinquerim). Areas just North of Sinquerim (2 kms onwards) is home to many beach shacks,



restaurants, lounges and night clubs. December is considered the “most happening” time to be in North Goa for partying.

4. **Panjim / Old Goa Heritage Areas** – Panjim (Capital of State of Goa) is 15 kms away from Taj Holiday Resort and Spa. It is renowned for its heritage bylanes (Good for a morning heritage walk). Old Goa area (6 kms from Panjim and 21 kms from Taj Holiday Resort and Spa) is a UNESCO heritage site comprising Churches (Basilica of Bom Jesus, Se Cathedral, Church of St Francis of Assisi). Morning Heritage walk alongwith Old Goa tour is a popular half day excursion for guests.
5. **Deltin Casino** – Land Based Casinos in Goa are very basic and would not interest International travellers. However there are Casino Cruises that operate that takes casino enthusiasts on high seas for serious gambling. Closest pickup point for Deltin Casino is 5 kms away from Taj Holiday Resort and Spa.
6. **Bird and Butterfly watching** – Goa is set having a coast overlooking Arabian Sea on one side and Western Ghats (area high in Biodiversity) on the other side. This makes Goa renowned for Bird Photographers. Some of the sought after species include 8 species of Kingfishers (Including Oriental Dwarf Kingfisher), Malabar Trogon, Hornbills, Barbets, Paradise Flycatcher etc (200+ bird species and 200+ species of Butterfly). Half day Guided bird watching can be organised for guests.
7. **Watersports** – Nearby Candolim beach (walking distance) is home to many watersports options (Jetski, Banana Boat ride etc.). Rivers in Goa also offer exclusive boat rides for travellers looking to explore the hinterland areas of Goa.

Note: Some of above may be well suited for travellers arriving early or departing late.



Moving around Goa

While there may not be much time to move around on 13th Dec and 14th Dec, guests arriving early may looking to explore a bit and for them the options to move around area as under:

1. Hotel travel desk will be able to organise a cab readily
2. Goa does not have UBER. There are app based cab service such as Goa Miles
3. Self-Drive Car / Bikes are available for exploring Goa on own. As India has right hand drive (as against US that has Left hand drive), a self-drive may not be an easy option for US Nationals.
4. Half day or Full day excursion cabs can be organised (if planned in advance)

General Information on Goa/India

Adaptor / Plug Points (Across India) - For India there are three associated plug types, types C, D and M. Plug type C is the plug which has two round pins, plug type D is the plug which has three round pins in a triangular pattern and plug type M is the plug which also has three round pins. India operates on a 230V supply voltage and 50Hz. If your appliance can only run on 110 – 130 volts, you will need to use a converter for usage in India (e.g. Laptops typically have dual voltage capability and therefore a simple adaptor is ok).

Expected Temperature / Climate in Goa – Min / Max temperature range would be – 70/90 degrees (Fahrenheit). It can be breezy being next to the beach. It will be Sunny or partly cloudy with no rain expected (about 40-50% humidity).

Credit Cards – Visa and Mastercard are generally accepted everywhere in Goa / India (Hotel, Restaurants, most shops). Acceptance of American Express Card (Amex) is limited to Big hotels, reputed restaurants and boutique shops. Other cards such as Discover are not as well accepted.

Currency Exchange – Airport Terminal exit and Hotel front desk will have currency exchange option. These always offer less favorable exchange rate (Current



exchange rate is USD 1 = Rs. 83.5 approx) as compared to the money exchange shops / ATMs. You will find these money exchange shops / ATMs on the Fort Aguada Road, within a walking distance (10-15 minutes max) from Taj Holiday Village Resort and Spa entrance. As credit cards are generally accepted everywhere, use of cash is limited to tipping and making small purchases. You can bring in up to USD 5000 per person in Cash without filling any disclosure forms.

Swimming on Sinquerim Beach – Sinquerim is the beach on which Taj Holiday Resort and Spa is located. You can directly walk from the resort to the beach. Swimming is safe during the day (Not recommended during nights). Govt Lifeguards are there to guard against any eventuality. It is ok to wear Bikinis or any regular beachwear.

Flying within India – Flights have 7 KG hand baggage and 15 KG check in baggage allowance. Additional check in baggage can be bought (Only exception is Air India – Some of the Air India flights have 20 or 25 kg Check in Allowance).

Note: If you are flying in by Air India connecting to Goa by a domestic flight then you will be allowed same check in baggage as your international flight.

General Dos and Don'ts

- **Water** – Do not consume tap water. Always insist on bottled mineral water
- **Food** – Avoid street food. Never accept any food from a stranger. Food in India by default may seem little spicy, so when ordering do request for “less spicy” or “medium spicy” meals.
- **General Interaction** – You may be approached by strangers offering to “Help”. It is advisable to avoid this as it is often never genuine and can be a tourist trap or even a mini scam.
- **Shopping** – Guided shopping in Goa almost always involves commissions to the guide. However good guides will take you to shops offering genuine good merchandise who have honest pricing. So a good idea would be to avoid big ticket shopping in Goa unless the source is authentic and validated. Buying



souvenirs and small ticket items are ok. Shopping at other locations like Jaipur is popular and there shops even offer reliable courier services to the US.

- **Tipping** – Tips are always at your discretion, upon being satisfied at the service. Hotel bell boys, Restaurant servers are ok with Rs. 100 tip. Guides and Drivers will be happy with Rs. 500 for a full day of service. For just pickup – drop, Drivers are ok with Rs. 200 tip.
- **Medication** – Paracetamols, Antibiotics, Cough Syrups etc. are readily available at Pharmacies in India. However it is important to carry your regular medications. Some travellers take precautionary Malaria shots before arriving. It is not a must or recommended (As Malaria is not as prevalent as it once was). Taj Holiday Resort and Spa has a doctor on call facility in case of need for medical attention.
- **Smoking** – Smoking rules are followed quite strictly in hotels, good restaurants and public areas across India. Smoking is permitted in designated areas, beach and other open areas. Smoking Guests are requested to get acquainted with Smoking rules of Taj Holiday Resort and Spa.