



Ted and Amani Wedding – Frequently Asked Questions

When and where is the wedding?

The wedding is scheduled to take place 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 a 1-hour drive from the Taj Holiday Resort and Spa.

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

There are direct flights into Mumbai (BOM) and Delhi (DEL) from the 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 to 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 (an alternative option is to arrive on the 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

This would deliver guests to the 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 US 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 US via 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 (an alternative option is to arrive on the previous day)



Example 5 of how connections can work – West Coast US via 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 US 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 US via United

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

What are some 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: the 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 traveling to other destinations before or after the wedding may transit via Delhi (DEL), Mumbai (BOM), Chennai (MAA), Hyderabad (HYD), or 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 the Taj Holiday Village Resort?

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

Guests looking to arrive early or depart late must book additional accommodation.

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

How to organise airport transfers and additional reservations?

Guests arriving on 12th Dec only at GOX or GOI will be provided complementary airport transfers from the bride's family. ****Do write to us on tedamani@nivalink.co.in with flight details.****

Those arriving before the 12th must arrange their own transport to the hotel. Outside the terminal exit you will find several counters for prepaid taxis. International credit cards—VISA, Mastercard—are accepted. There is no Uber in Goa, but the Goa Miles app is similar.

For departure transfer to the airport, the hotel travel desk can be used. No prebooking is required, but informing the travel desk a day before departure is recommended.

The bride's family has designated [Nivalink](https://www.nivalink.co.in) as the travel agency for coordinating guest arrival / departure and organising travel within India (pre or post wedding).



Guests can email Niraj Vashi (Director, Nivalink) at niraj@nivalink.co.in or call via WhatsApp (+91-9920241404) for any assistance regarding their India trip.



Do US nationals require a visa for traveling to India?

US nationals are required to procure an e-visa before boarding their international flight. You can apply for an e-visa as of 120 days before your India arrival date (e.g., for 11th Dec 2024 arrival, can apply for an e-visa after 14th Aug 2024).

Details are provided 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 the e-visa?

- Scanned bio page of the passport showing the photograph and details
- A 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

No shadows on the face or in 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-star 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 include:



- 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 include:

- Beauty salon
- Spa and yoga
- Room service
- 9-hole executive golf course

Note:

- The entire resort is booked for the wedding.
- *Room allocation for guests will be finalised closer to the date of arrival and will be communicated in advance.*

Things to do in North Goa – closer to the Taj Holiday Village Resort

Goa is a former 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 Village (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 overlooking Mandovi River - 2 kms from Taj Holiday Village (Entry – Rs. 50 per person. Open 9 :30 AM to 5 PM – Closed Mondays)
3. **Restaurants / Bar / Lounges** – Taj Holiday Village is located on the southern, quieter, and more exclusive corner of North Goa (Sinquerim). Areas just north of Sinquerim (2 kms onward) 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 Village. It is renowned for its heritage by lanes (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 along with 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 travelers. However, there are casino cruise that operate that take casino enthusiasts on the high seas for serious gambling. Closest pickup point for Deltin Casino is 5 kms away from Taj Holiday Village.
6. **Bird and butterfly watching** – Goa has a coast overlooking the 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. **Water sports** – Nearby Candolim beach (walking distance) is home to many water sports options (Jet ski, Banana Boat ride, etc.). Rivers in Goa also offer exclusive boat rides for travelers looking to explore the hinterland areas of Goa.

Note: Some of the above may be well suited for travelers 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 look to explore a bit. The options are:

1. The hotel travel desk will be able to organise a cab readily.
2. Goa does not have Uber. There are similar app-based cab services such as Goa Miles
3. Self-drive car / bikes are available. As India has right-hand drive, 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 that has two round pins, plug type D is the plug with three round pins in a triangular pattern, and plug type M 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 (Note: 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, reputable restaurants, and boutique shops. Other cards such as Discover are not as accepted.

Currency exchange – The airport terminal exit and the hotel front desk will have currency exchanges. These always offer less favorable exchange rates (the current



exchange rate is USD 1 = Rs. 83.5 approx) as compared to the money exchange shops / ATMs. You can find these money exchange shops / ATMs on the Fort Aguada Road, within a walking distance (10-15 minutes max) from the Taj Holiday Village 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\$5,000 per person in cash without having to file any disclosure forms.

Swimming on Sinquerim Beach – Sinquerim is the beach where the Taj Holiday Village is located. You can directly walk from the resort to the beach. Swimming is safe during the day (not recommended at night). Gov't lifeguards are on duty. 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 carries a fee. (The only exception is Air India – some 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 the 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 its 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. 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 shops there 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 (acetaminophen), antibiotics, cough syrups, etc. are readily available at pharmacies in India. However, it is important to carry your regular medications. Some travelers take precautionary malaria shots before arriving. It is not a must or recommended as malaria is not as prevalent as it once was. The Taj Holiday Village has a doctor on call facility in case of a 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 the smoking rules of the Taj Holiday Village.