

What's the best advice you can give future students to maximize their experience abroad?

"Don't get caught up in material things - do something because you want to do it, not because you'll get more Instagram likes. Also, don't watch India through your camera lens."

"Do not judge the culture no matter how crazy some things might seem. Only then will you be able to truly immerse yourself in the culture and learn the most about it."

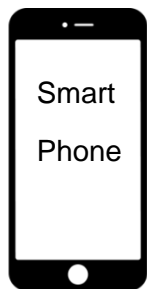
"Take it all in, think about it, talk to the advisors about it, discuss it with people in your groups, and write memories down!"

"Be in the moment! Don't be so concerned with taking pictures--- look up from the camera lens because I can assure you what is above that screen is way better in person. And as one of our tour guides put it, you can always google the images later--take this in in person while you are here."

What items did you not bring that you wish you had?

- Watch
- Pants/capris
- Feminine hygiene products
- Snacks
- Sunscreen
- BUG SPRAY

Which devices would you recommend others take in the future?



What items did you pack and NOT need while abroad?

- Rain jacket
- Towel
- Too many business professional clothes

Most common ways to communicate with family and friends back home:

#1. Through WiFi-enabled smart phones apps

- Skype
- Whatsapp
- iMessage

#2. Email/ Facebook

WCOB India

"I loved this trip. As my first time abroad, I had high expectations--and the trip met them and then some. I saw places that I know I will never have the opportunity to see again. I made great friends, I learned more than I think my brain has even soaked in yet. It was a great experience."

Approximately how much did you spend out of pocket during the program (in USD)?

	Max Value	Average Value
Communication (cell phone, Internet charges, etc.):	200.00	11.60
Food:	500.00	158.40
Going out/free time:	200.00	37.80
Lodging:	100.00	20.00
Other:	75.00	6.20
Personal travel/excursions:	350.00	44.17
Program related travel/excursions:	50.00	3.33
Required books/supplies:	20.00	0.83
Souvenirs/gifts:	400.00	140.80

What advice do you have for students to budget and spend money wisely?

"Bargain with people. They set the price 4-5x higher for Americans."

"Shopping in India is cheap. I bought \$500 worth of food, souvenirs, random trip requirements and I got more than 40 gifts for myself and others."

"Don't spend too much on the first leg of any trip, save your money! At the end of the trip, I can almost guarantee you that you'll find something better or the same, or will forget about that thing from that city."

"Work on your poker face. Don't let shop/market attendants know how interested you are in something. Have in your head the price you're willing to pay for something and walk away if they want match it. Quite often, they'll agree to that price as you're walking out the door IF they think they're losing you. If you act too interested, they won't be as likely to drop the price."

What do you wish you had known more about before you left?

"I wish I'd known more about their agriculture before I left. Watching the farmers through our bus windows was fascinating."

"The many types of fruits in India that are not available anywhere else."

"I believe that India is the type of country that you can't fully prepare for, and that's the beauty of it. You have to learn as you go."

"Take bland snacks. Bland food is not always available and your stomach will not be able to handle a constant diet of spicy food."

Did this program deepen your interest in your academic field of study?

"Businesses must adapt to the cultures that they exist in, whether local or global. After going to India I have seen what it takes to succeed in a very chaotic and diverse culture, and how businesses must change with the preferences of the people there."

"It exposed us to a whole new way of doing business and functioning that we would miss out on were we not to travel to the other side of the planet. There are many things that we could learn from but also have an opportunity to teach to both in India and in the United States."

"Learning about the business environment of India made me rethink my idea of conventional business. It opened my mind to new ways to operate within such an unstable and complex supply chain and market place."

"I'm most interested in non-profit organizations and social entrepreneurship, specifically those centered on conservation. We saw some amazing things in India - things they're doing right! The amazing things served to pique my interest and served as inspiration to work hard and make greater progress."

How might students best get to know the people and culture of your host country?

"Talk to people! Don't be nervous to ask questions. They are just as curious about you and the US as you are about them!"

"By jumping right in to the culture. Once the initial shock wears off you will adjust well to everything."

"Embrace the diversity and be open minded."

"Talk to locals, faculty advisors, or the tour guide. Be observant. Interact with as many people as possible. Keep an open mind."

"Ask questions of your faculty leaders and anyone that you're working with (partner school students, lecturers, etc.)."

How did you pay for things on a daily basis?

1. Cash (exchanged from US currency)
2. Cash (withdrawn from local ATM/bank from US bank account)
3. Credit Cards/Debit Cards
4. Bartering

What credit cards were most accepted?

