



India 2012

This adventure to India was one of the best trips of my life. It was a complete culture shock and a completely new experience and I loved every moment of it.

In the first week, seeing the sights of India was fascinating and the attention we got was unbelievable. Seeing the Taj Mahal had to be the highlight, it was so huge and it just didn't look real! Walking round experiencing the new culture was a main feature of the trip, the new (very spicy) foods, our surroundings, the roads!! Everything was so different from our normal ways of life. All our tour guides were great and that first week we got to see what India is celebrated for, it's fantastic architecture and culture. As a group that had met up as a whole only once! We really bonded, having great fun in our hotel rooms and taking full advantage of the facilities in our spare time, especially the spa and pools! All our accommodation was wonderful and we felt privileged to be staying in some of these top hotels. The weather was very hot in this first week, however there was no sun! Just very very humid but we were very thankful for our air conditioned bus, which we had lots of fun on whilst travelling the Golden Triangle, stuck in traffic jams due to flooding for 8 hours!! We kept ourselves entertained playing cards but also just looking out the window never got boring, India was just so exciting!

We were all very excited to be going to Sangam and have a chance to relax and be a bit more independent. We were definitely on our own now, we frequently had to get rickshaws by ourselves round the city and it was a great experience. Our bartering skills improved rapidly and we really felt like we could experience India not as a tourist but as a local. Visiting homes, temples, walking to the shops, buying food, we were very involved in their way of life. Everyone at Sangam was absolutely lovely and we all got on so well with the staff and other participants. We had so much fun with all the activities they organised and the games. We all were very sad to be leaving our friends we had made but were ready to eat something at home other than curry!!

Travelling to India was a once in a life time opportunity that I am very grateful for having and would recommend to anyone to visit there!

