



Body Art and Adornment of Orissa (including Mumbai and Kolkata) 12 Days/11 Nights Wednesday departure

	Activities	Overnight
Day 1	Fly U.S. to Mumbai.	Mumbai
Day 2	Morning visit to the Elephanta cave temples. This complex was built in the 6 th century A.D. and contains many superb Indian sculptures, including a magnificent three-headed bust of Shiva that is 18-feet tall. Afternoon tour of historic Mumbai. Highlights 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 women wearing the latest Western and Indian fashions walking side-by-side with those in traditional jewelry and dress.	Mumbai
Day 3	Morning drive to Juhu Beach, passing through Malabar Hill, past Haji Ali Mosque, and through the upscale suburb of Bandra. This part of town is home to Mumbai's elite, and is a hub for dining and shopping. We will spend the day exploring this part of the city, which is filled with contemporary expressions of body art and adornment in India. We will visit boutiques for women's and men's ready-to-wear and wedding attire, upscale jewelry shops, modern tattoo and piercing studios, and even a beauty salon to learn about Indian hair care and cosmetics.	Mumbai
Day 4	Morning flight from Mumbai to Bhubaneswar, the capital of Orissa. Upon arrival, begin drive to Puri. En route we will visit several villages that utilize rice, the main crop in this region, for constructing and decorating their simple mud huts. Rice straw is utilized for roof thatching, while rice paste is used to decorate houses with intricate geometric and floral designs. Afternoon walking tour of Puri. Highlights include a stroll along Puri's lively beach promenade and a rooftop viewing of the 12 th century Jagannath Temple, which is home to 6,000 resident priests.	Puri
Day 5	Morning tour of the Sun Temple at Konark. This complex, on the shores of the Bay of Bengal, was built in the 13 th century by the Ganga dynasty, and originally served as a navigational aid for sailors heading to Kolkata. While the site's tallest towers have collapsed due to sea and air corrosion, the remaining structures still feature thousands of striking carvings and sculptures. The main temple is shaped like a gigantic chariot, complete with	Bhubaneswar

12 pairs of wheels. Afternoon tour of Bhubaneswar, which is home to over 400 Hindu temples dating from the 7th to the 13th centuries. These temples, such as Lingaraj, Vaital Deul, Parasurameshwar, Mukteshwar and Rajarani, have their own, unique style that borrows from traditional North Indian temple design.

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| Day 6 | Morning drive to Taptapani, stopping en route at Chilika Lake. This 425 square mile lagoon is one of the largest brackish water lakes in Asia. It is also one of the most important wetlands in the world due to the extensive variety of bird and aquatic life it supports, such as the rare Irrawaddy Dolphin, the white ibis, the purple moorhen, the Dalmatian pelican and the flamingo. | Taptapani |
| Day 7 | Morning visit to the hot springs of Taptapani, where women of the Saora tribe are often found “taking the cure.” The Saoras are agriculturalists known for their beautiful mud houses featuring intricate wall paintings and carved doors and lintels. Afternoon drive to Rayagada, stopping en route at one or more local villages that produce cotton and silk textiles. | Rayagada |
| Day 8 | Morning visit to a community of Dongria Kondhs in the Niyamgiri hills. The Dongria Kondhs boast beautiful body adornment, including brass and iron earrings, nose rings and hair combs that double as small knives. Today we will visit the weekly tribal market at Chatikona where Dongria Kondhs barter with other local tribal groups. Afternoon drive to Jeypore, stopping en route for a snack at a local coffee and spice plantation. | Jeypore |
| Day 9 | Early morning departure for the weekly market in Onukudelli, where we will see the Bonda people coming to trade with other tribal groups. The Bonda are one of the oldest and most primitive tribes in mainland India. Bonda women shave their heads, utilize large beaded necklaces to cover their chests, and wear heavy brass and silver rings around their necks. While at Onukudelli, we will also see the Godabas, the Parajas and the Malis, all of whom are interestingly adorned and tattooed. Optional afternoon visit to the Jagannath temple in Koraput, which features a collection of interesting shrines devoted to different regions in India. | Jeypore |
| Day 10 | Drive Jeypore to Visakhapatnam, stopping en route at the weekly market in Kunduli, the largest tribal market in Orissa. If time permits, we will also visit the 11 th century Simhachalam Temple near Visakhapatnam. This temple, one of the wealthiest in India, is dedicated to Narasimha, the “man-lion,” an incarnation of Vishnu. Evening flight to Kolkata. | Kolkata |
| Day 11 | Morning visit to the Pareshnath Jain Temple, a mosaic garden built in 1867 featuring extensive stone and mirror inlay work, stained glass, and European-style sculptures and fountains. Our next stop is BBD Bagh, the heart of old Kolkata. This area contains a number of British colonial buildings dating from the 18 th and 19 th centuries, including St. John’s Church, the General Post Office, the High Court, the Government House and the Writer’s Building. After lunch we will take a boat ride along the Hoogly river, eventually reaching Kumartuli, Area of the Potters, where intricate figures of Hindu gods and goddesses are made. This will be followed by a visit to Belur Math, headquarters of the Ramakrishna Mission. The site was built in 1938 and embodies Ramakrishna’s philosophy of the unity of all faiths. The | Kolkata |

ground plan is in the shape of a cross, and the architectural elements borrow from Mughal, Buddhist and Hindu aesthetics. Dinner at O'Calcutta.

Day 12 Morning visit to the Indian Museum, the oldest and largest museum in India, which houses an array of ancient artifacts, sculptures, coins and paintings, many of which illustrate the long history of body adornment in India. This will be followed by a walking tour through New Market, with its myriad of shops selling everything from flowers, vegetables and meat to china, DVDs, traditional perfumes, brocade fabrics, shoes and jewelry. We will also visit a local boutique that sells (often controversially) fashion-forward apparel for Islamic women. The rest of the afternoon is at your leisure to prepare for your return to the U.S. or your departure for other destinations in India.

Flight to U.S.

Suggested Extensions: Villages of West Bengal

Trip Timing - For the best weather conditions, this trip can be taken anytime between October and March. In all of our tours, we concentrate our sightseeing in the morning and afternoon hours, avoiding the hot mid-day sun as much as possible.

