

# ThriveSeed Orientation Week

5-DAY OPTIONAL PROGRAMME

Information Package



Last Updated: 16-02-2019

The Orientation Programme offered by ThriveSeed is an important option for volunteers who are first-time travelers to India. The purpose of Orientation is to familiarize new volunteers to the culture, language, geography, and people of New Delhi. We offer this option so to better prepare volunteers for the atmosphere in which they will be operating during their time with ThriveSeed, and to reduce the effects of “culture-shock” frequently experienced by new travelers to India.

## Day 1 – Welcome to India!

Upon your departure from the Delhi airport, you will be welcomed to India and escorted by vehicle to ThriveSeed’s headquarters. Upon your arrival, you will be briefed on the following topics:

- Welcome to India
- Introduction to ThriveSeed’s operating programs
- Basic culture and history of the area
- About India
- Possible safety issues and concerns
- Orientation week activities
- Details about your role as a volunteer following the orientation week

In the evening, you will be treated to a welcome dinner with ThriveSeed’s coordinator and other volunteers.

Note that your arrival time in Delhi’s airport may slightly alter the exact timing of some activities.

## Day 2 – Market & Temple Tours

The second day of orientation will begin to familiarize you with some of the wonderful attractions India has to offer, which are intimately connected with India’s rich history, colourful culture, and intimate ties to religion:

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|-------------------|---|
| Dilli Haat        | – ethnic craft market where you will find handcrafted goods and foods from across India’s states on display |
| Akshardham Temple | – the largest Hindu temple in the entire world, enveloped by magnificent and intricate carvings and statues |



## Day 3 – Discussion Period & Language Lessons

On this day, you will have the opportunity to talk with current volunteers and ThriveSeed’s coordinator on a variety of topics facing both the communities in which ThriveSeed operates and Indians across the country. A popular point of discussion during this time is India’s arranged marriage and joint family systems.




As well, you will take part in a Hindi language class, and be introduced to basic Hindi words and phrases that will help you better navigate the city and interactions with non-English speakers.

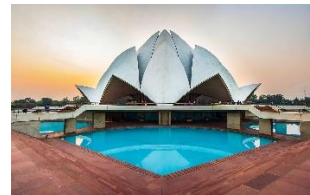
## Day 4 – Lessons (continued) & Movie Night

Further instruction in Hindi language will give you an advantage during your volunteer placement in ThriveSeed’s school projects. To test your new knowledge, in the evening you will attend a Bollywood movie, famous to India, in either the cinema or the volunteer house to better understand some of the terms you have learnt.

## Day 5 – New Delhi Tour & Authentic Indian Meal

On the final day of Orientation week will be your opportunity to explore even more internationally famous wonders of New Delhi, some of which you may already know of:

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|----------------|--|---|---|
| India Gate     | – standing 42m high in the middle of a crossroads, this monument commemorates the 70 000 Indian soldiers who lost their lives fighting for the British army in WWI, and the 13 000 soldiers killed in the Afghan war of 1919             |  |   |
| Lotus Temple   | – the last of 7 Major Bahai’s temples built around the world, this work of art and architecture rests in the middle of lush gardens and was built of pure white marble as a symbol common to Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, and Islam      |   |  |
| Humayun’s Tomb | – a magnificent garden tomb built in 1565 A.D., 9 years after the death of Humayun, features garden squares with pathways and water channels surrounding the double-dome mausoleum central to the enclosure (UNESCO World Heritage Site) |   |  |



## Qutub Minar

- soaring above Quwwat-ul-Islam Mosque, at 72m high and built of red sandstone and marble, this tower is a symbol of victory post-dating Delhi's defeat of the last Hindu kingdom
- it has been said that if you encircle the tower with your hands clasped and your back to it, then make a wish, your wish will be fulfilled



After your visits to the many fantastic tourist attractions Delhi has to offer, you will enjoy a meal at a local restaurant consisting of authentic Indian cuisine, with flavours and ingredients from India herself.

## Cost:

**\$300.00 USD**

This optional Orientation Programme was created with the intention to help our volunteers better adjust to the everyday tasks of being in India, such as street navigation and communicating with locals, so that your experience with ThriveSeed goes smoothly and pleasantly.

If you are interested in the Orientation week, please inform us with your enquiry so we may make the necessary arrangements for you.