

Textile traditions in North India

November 2016

Dates: 12th – 25th November 2016

(These are suggested dates- we could take 5th -18th November instead depending on the groups needs.)

This unique 14 day process will take you to parts of India which have some of the most wonderful textiles traditions. The journey will look at the skills and processes that are used by crafts people, and how these skilled communities are responding to India's rapidly changing environment.



The visit aims to enable people interested in art and crafts from the UK to visit and interact with crafts people from India, mainly in the field of textiles. You will visit their workshops and facilities, learn about their traditions, and practically learn some new skills through hands on activities

Who is this for?

This journey is open to all who are interested in travel and textiles. The plan is for the group to consist of 10- 20 people who have a specific professional and/or personal interest in the themes that we will be discussing and developing during the visit, and who can offer something to the group dynamic as a whole.



Who is the visit being organised by? The visit is organised by a study centre in India called Sangam alongside Devika Krishnan. Sangam have been facilitating visits like this since 2004, and Devika is a designer who works with many crafts communities across India and coordinates Dastakar Ranthambor in Rajasthan.

What is Sangam? Sangam is a study centre in the village of Silvepura 20 miles north of Bangalore. The centre works closely with local schools, runs study visits for visiting teachers, and facilitates journeys around South India. "Sangam" means "meeting point" or "confluence", ie between people of different cultures.

Imogen and Kiran Sahi run Sangam. Imo is a teacher from the UK and works as a consultant education advisor and master trainer for the British Council alongside Sangam. Kiran is a designer from India, trained at the National Institute of Design and teaches art and design, he has had fifteen years of professional experience guiding and interpreting India to visitors and is skilled at interpreting and explaining Indian culture and the ways in which it is changing and developing. Visitors working with Sangam therefore both experience India, and are enabled to understand what they are seeing. Together Imo and Kiran have developed Sangam into a place for enabling learning. They facilitate the process of the visit, the activities, accommodation, transport, and helping to interpret what we encounter. To find out more about Sangam and their work please look at their website: www.sangamprojects.com



Where will the group stay? You will stay in comfortable and authentic simple guest houses and hotels. In the summer of 2016 you will be sent a pack containing all the details of where you are staying.



How will we travel? The journey will involve some trains, some buses, some cars and some flying, and will depend on which route you choose. A bit of everything! The group will be accompanied throughout by Kiran Sahi and Devika Krishnan. Devika regularly coordinates crafts tours in North India. They will interpret and explain what you see on the journeys and will facilitate the process.



What will the weather be like? November in India will be cool and dry with temperatures in Rajasthan in the mid to late 20s and early 30s and in Kashmir in the low 20s and at times going down to 8 degrees C at night.

What should we bring? In the summer of 2016 you will be sent a comprehensive preparation pack containing advice about kit lists, advice for travelling to India, how to get a visa and medical advice. You will also be invited to an optional informal meeting before you travel when you will meet with the rest of the group, hear more about the programme, and will be a chance for you to ask questions.



What is the cost? The visit cost will be between £1300- £1500 per person. The exact cost will depend on the choice of journey and the final programme details. Details of what this includes are to be found on the final page of this document.

What will we do? There are three route options for this journey, and the price is different for each of the options. All the journeys are outlined below. These drafts may change depending on your interests, but we will work with these as a draft plan. Once you have made your choice we will send more details of the chosen journey.



How to apply: Please mail Kiran at Sangam using the email addresses below and we will send you through an application form. The completed application form needs to be emailed to the address below by the end of **February 2016**.

How to find out more:

If there are queries which have not been covered above, or if you would like to talk over details of the visit prior to booking, please contact:

To apply:

Contact: Kiran Sahi at: sangaminfo@gmail.com

Please also see our website page about this visit : http://www.sangamprojects.com/how_we_do_it/study-tours-and-journeys-of-learning/textile-traditions-in-india-2016-november

Textile traditions in India 2016

Three route options for this journey:

There is a keen interest from the group in textiles, so most of the visits will be looking at this area of craft. Below are three options of what we could incorporate into the programme with a cost guide for each of these choices. You will need to decide as a group which of these options you would prefer. Once you have made that choice, in early 2016 we will send you a detailed programme.

Option 1: Rajasthan and Karnataka.

Price guide: GBP 1300.

This option will begin and end in Karnataka and will look at silk farming processing and weaving, and block printing in the Bangalore and Mysore area. You will then fly to Jaipur in Rajasthan where you will look at fine block printing, mud resist block printing, you will travel to Ranthambor national park where you will look at the textiles livelihoods projects and cloth dyeing communities. In both locations you will visit markets, sanctuaries, temples and palaces.

Date	Suggested activities	Evening location
Sat 25 th June	Flight to Bangalore.	
Sun 26 th June	Arrive early morning at Sangam. Rest and recuperate. Drive to Yellahanka- visit Swathi and pit weavers/ power loom community. Making a small diya from clay, learn rangoli patterning and decorate with lamps.	Sangam
Mon 27 th June	AM: Early morning Yoga. Drive to Bangalore. (1 hour) Tharangini block printing workshop. - History types of blockprinting - Review of technique and design influences. - Colour mixing of natural dyes. Lunch in Bangalore- Mint Masala. PM: - Printing on paper with single and multiple colours. - Printing on silk cushions with single and multiple colours.	Sangam
Tues 28 th June	AM: Early morning Yoga. Drive to Bangalore Tharangini block printing workshop. Tie-Dye techniques - different styles of dyeing both traditional and contemporary Making of blocks - wood craft Lunch at Jayamahar Palace. PM: Intro to Jewelry making, metalsmithing work in silver and gold, filigree, beadwork, setting stones.	Sangam
Weds 29 th June	AM: Drive south towards Mysore to past silk worm farms, rice paddy, jaggary processing units. Visit to silk market in Ramanagaram. PM: 19 th C Painted wall murals at Tippus summer palace at Srirangapatnam. Visit to Bird sanctuary.	Mysore
Thurs 30 th June	AM: visit to the silk weaving power loom factory, the weaving communities in and near Mysore. Options of visit Mysore Palace and Devaraja Market. PM: to Somnathpur temple.	Mysore
Fri 1 st July	AM: Drive past Melkote, Sravanabelagola back to Sangam. (3 hours) PM: Cooking and Indian food workshop. Evening packing for Rajasthan part.	Sangam
Sat 2 nd July	AM: Flight to Jaipur. Arrive early morning in Jaipur. Check in rest and recuperate. PM: Visit to Gunnibhai- a fine block printer and master block maker. Evening: Visit to Anoukhi Textiles Museum.	Jaipur.

Sun 3 rd July	AM: Drive north to Kaladera. A textiles town. (1.30 mins) Visit Artisans working on mud resist block printing. PM: Return to Jaipur. Visit to Amer Fort/ Palace.	Jaipur.
Mon 4 th July	AM: Drive south to Ranthambhor national park. (3. 30 mins) Lunch. PM: Visit to the Kendra centre textile project run by Dastakar Ranthambhor. http://www.dastkarranthambhore.org/ Visit to outreach village- textiles recycling livelihood project.	Tented huts in Ranthambhor national park.
Tues 5 th July	AM: Forest Safari in Ranthambhor national park PM: Drive back to Jaipur. (3. 30 mins)	Jaipur
Weds 6 th July	AM: Morning in Jaipur. PM: Flight to Bangalore.	Sangam
Thurs 7 th July	AM: Shopping in Bangalore. Cycle rides and walks to finish off the visit. Bonfire debrief.	Sangam
Fri 8 th July	Early am Flight from Bangalore.	Flight.

Options two and three continue on the next pages....

Option 2: Rajasthan and Kashmir.

Price guide: GBP 1460

This option will begin in Jaipur in Rajasthan where you will look at fine block printing, mud resist block printing, you will travel to Ranthambor national park where you will look at the textiles livelihoods projects and cloth dyeing communities. You will then travel to Srinagar in Kashmir where you will visit weavers, embroidery workshops, wood and paper crafts, and basket weavers. You will visit the shepherds crafts valley of Pahalgam and trek in the mountains. The journey will finish with two days in Delhi.

Date	Suggested activities	Evening location
Sat 25 th June	Flight to Jaipur.	Flight
Sun 26 th June	AM: Arrive early morning in Jaipur. Check in rest and recuperate. PM: Visit to Gunnibhai- a fine block printer and master block maker. Evening: Visit to Anoukhi Textiles Museum.	Jaipur.
Mon 27 th June	AM: Drive north to Kaladera. A textiles town. (1.30 mins) Visit Artisans working on mud resist block printing. PM: Return to Jaipur. Visit to Amer Fort/ Palace.	Jaipur.
Tues 28 th June	AM: Drive south to Ranthambhor national park. (3. 30 mins) Lunch. PM: Visit to the Kendra centre textile project run by Dastakar Ranthambhor. http://www.dastkarranthambhore.org/ Visit to outreach village- textiles recycling livelihood project.	Tented huts in Ranthambhor national park.
Weds 29 th June	AM: Forest Safari in Ranthambhor national park PM: Drive back to Jaipur. (3. 30 mins)	Jaipur
Thurs 30 th June	AM: Flight to Sri Nagar (Kashmir). https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Srinagar Arrive by lunch time, check in. PM: Visits to Pashmina weaving centre, Carpet weaving and khadi weaving facilities. Evening lake walk and boat ride.	Srinagar
Fri 1 st July	Visiting traditional Kashmiri craftspeople in Srinagar. AM: Embroidery unit. PM: Papier Mache unit and Visit to woodcarvers. Evening garden visit.	Srinagar
Sat 2 nd July	AM: Drive along Jhelum river to Pahalgam (3 hours) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pahalgam PM: River walk and forest visit. Prepare for trekking visits.	Pahalgam
Sun 3 rd July	AM: Drive to Aru village (30 minutes) Visit to shepherds crafts embroidery centre. https://shepherdcrafts.wordpress.com/ PM: Trek along shepherds trail through pine forests. Visit cheese factory. (Back to Pahalgam?)	Pahalgam
Mon 4 th July	AM: Drive to shepherds camp.(Distance?) Full day/ 4 hour trek with picnic. (Incredibly scenic) Return to Pahalgam (30 mins).	Pahalgam
Tues 5 th July	AM: Drive back to Srinagar (3 hours) Check into house boat. Spend day on houseboat visiting basket weavers, and the floating market.	Houseboat in Srinagar
Weds 6 th July	AM: Fly to Delhi. (1.30 mins) PM: In hotel and recovering from journeys!	Delhi
Thurs 7 th July	Day in Delhi. Visit to Old Delhi. Shopping and visit to Dastakar and studios.	Delhi
Fri 8 th July	Early am Flight from Delhi.	Flight.

Option 3: Rajasthan and culture.

Price guide: GBP 1410

This option will begin in Jaipur in Rajasthan where you will look at fine block printing, mud resist block printing, you will travel to Ranthambor national park where you will look at the textiles livelihoods projects and cloth dying communities. You will then travel do an extension of the traditional golden triangle cultural route where you will go on a 5 day bus journey and 3 day train journey through Kota, Bundi, Jodhpur, Pokaran Desert, Agra, and finishing with two days in Delhi. You will visit Palaces, forts, temples and markets.

Date	Suggested activities	Evening location
Sat 25 th June	Flight to Jaipur.	Flight
Sun 26 th June	AM: Arrive early morning in Jaipur. Check in rest and recuperate. PM: Visit to Gunnibhai- a fine block printer and master block maker. Evening: Visit to Anoukhi Textiles Museum.	Jaipur.
Mon 27 th June	AM: Drive north to Kaladera. A textiles town. (1.30 mins) Visit Artisans working on mud resist block printing. PM: Return to Jaipur. Visit to Amer Fort/ Palace. Looking at the plan for the 5 day bus journey.	Jaipur.
Tues 28 th June	AM: Set off for five day bus trip. Drive south to Ranthambhor national park. (3. 30 mins) Lunch. PM: Visit to the Kendra centre textile project run by Dastakar Ranthambhor. Visit to outreach village- textiles recycling livelihood project.	Tented huts in Ranthambhor national park.
Weds 29 th June	AM: Forest Safari PM: Drive south to Kota. (2.30 mins) Visit to weaver. Fine organic silk and cotton sari weaves. Visit to organic farms. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kota,_Rajasthan	Kota.
Thurs 30 th June	AM: Drive north to Bundi (1 hour) Fort town. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bundi Walks/ horse riding. Exploring forts, step wells and palaces.	Bundi
Fri 1 st July	AM: Drive west to Jodhpur. (6 hours) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jodhpur Arrive by the afternoon. Evening exploring Jodhpur city.	Jodhpur
Sat 2 nd July	AM: Drive into Thar desert to the pit looms of Pokhran. (2 hours) Spend day on the desert journey. (It will be HOT) Return to jodhpur by the evening.	Jodhpur
Sun 3 rd July	AM: Train/ drive back to Jaipur. Evening: Rest in Jaipur, shopping etc.	Jaipur
Mon 4 th July	AM: Train to Agra. (2.30 mins) PM: Palace at Agra.	Agra
Tues 5 th July	AM: Taj majal early morning PM: Agra Fort.	Agra.
Weds 6 th July	AM: Train to Delhi. (2 hours) PM: In hotel and recovering from journeys!	Delhi
Thurs 7 th July	Day in Delhi. Visit to Old Delhi. Shopping and visit to Dastakar and studios.	Delhi
Fri 8 th July	Early am Flight from Delhi	Flight.

Information about costs for this programme:

We have costed out the above programmes as cost effectively as we could possibly make it!

The cost for these programmes includes:

- All accommodation during the journey in India in shared twin accommodation in simple but comfortable guest houses and hotels.
- Three meals for the 12 days in India (except for one lunch on the final shopping day.)
- All transport during the visit in India, including internal flights, airport transfers, taxis and buses.
- All facilitation, guides and organisation of this programme.
- Any workshops and activities including materials.
- Donations for the craft facilities that we visit.
- Contingency.

The cost for these programmes does not include:

- A flight from your home location to the location of the start of the programme in India. (A flight from the UK to India currently costs about 500- 600 pounds)
- Entrance fees for the final chosen cultural activities. (Costing maybe about 20 pounds altogether.)
- One lunch on the final shopping day and any snacks and food over and above the three meals provided.
- Any vaccinations required for travel in India. (About 15 pounds altogether)
- A visa for India (Costing 35 pounds)
- Insurance for your time in India. (About 25 pounds)

What next?

Please do be in touch with Kiran if you would like to ask questions or wish to complete an application form.

Kiran Sahi **Email:** sangaminfo@gmail.com

He will send you an application form, and once received she will confirm that you have a place on the visit.

You can also download one from our webpage about the visit.

Looking forward to meeting you,
Kiran Sahi (Sangam)

www.sangamprojects.com.