

# Textile traditions in India

## June and July 2016

Dates: 25<sup>th</sup> June - 8th July 2016

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. Kiran is skilled at interpreting and explaining Indian culture and the ways in which it is changing and developing, so that visitors working with Sangam 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](http://www.sangamprojects.com)



**Where will the group stay?** You will stay in comfortable and authentic simple guest houses and hotels. In early 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. Kiran has had fifteen years of professional experience guiding and interpreting India to visitors and 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?** June and July in India is a pre monsoon months. It will be hot and dry however towards the end of the trip, the monsoon rains may be just beginning.

**What should we bring?** In early 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 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 **£1100- £1150** per person. The exact cost will depending 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 2015**.

**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:

**Group leader:**

Kiran Sahi at: [sangaminfo@gmail.com](mailto: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/traditional-skills-in-a-rapidly-changing-world](http://www.sangamprojects.com/how_we_do_it/study-tours-and-journeys-of-learning/traditional-skills-in-a-rapidly-changing-world)

## Textile traditions in India 2016 Rajasthan and Karnataka.

Price guide: GBP 1100.

The journey 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 dying communities. In both locations you will visit markets, sanctuaries, temples and palaces.

Date	Suggested activities	Evening location
Sat 25 <sup>th</sup> June	Flight to Bangalore.	
Sun 26 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> June	AM: Drive south towards Mysore to past silk worm farms, rice paddy, jaggery processing units. Visit to silk market in Ramanagaram. PM: 19 <sup>th</sup> C Painted wall murals at Tippus summer palace at Srirangapatnam. Visit to Bird sanctuary.	Mysore
Thurs 30 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>st</sup> 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 <sup>nd</sup> 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 <sup>rd</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> July	AM: Drive south to Ranthambhor national park. (3. 30 mins) Lunch.	Tented huts in Ranthambhor

	PM: Visit to the Kendra centre textile project run by Dastakar Ranthambhor. http://www.dastkarranthambhore.org/ Visit to outreach village- textiles recycling livelihood project.	national park.
Tues 5 <sup>th</sup> July	AM: Forest Safari in Ranthambhor national park PM: Drive back to Jaipur. (3. 30 mins)	Jaipur
Weds 6 <sup>th</sup> July	AM: Morning in Jaipur. PM: Flight to Bangalore.	Sangam
Thurs 7 <sup>th</sup> July	AM: Shopping in Bangalore. Cycle rides and walks to finish off the visit. Bonfire debrief.	Sangam
Fri 8 <sup>th</sup> July	Early am Flight from Bangalore.	Flight.

## Information about costs for this programme:

We have costed out the above programme 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 be in touch with us and we will send you details of how to apply and confirm your place on the visit.

[sangaminfo@gmail.com](mailto:sangaminfo@gmail.com)

Looking forward to meeting you,

Kiran Sahi (Sangam)

[www.sangamprojects.com](http://www.sangamprojects.com).