

This information is for those who have expressed interest in traveling with Yogi Lama Gursam to the Sacred Buddhist sites in India in 2010.

Advice for Pilgrims 2010

After you register we will begin making travel arrangements as of September 1st. At that point, we will assist you with the purchase of the group flight. You will need to communicate directly with our travel agent in the USA as well about booking your flight. You will make the payment for flight directly with the Travel Agent who will probably email you a copy of the credit card authorization form and some other forms which you will need to fill out.

The group tickets will probably non-refundable, but you always have the other option of purchasing your own ticket independently and we can organize your transport from Delhi airport to hotel in Delhi if you provide us with your arrival information. You will be responsible for arranging your own travel insurance (need to get within 2 weeks of ticket purchase, usually) and we will not be providing assistance with this, however you will find that it is quite easy to do on line.

Once you've booked your ticket, I highly recommend that you contact the airline itself to make sure that you have a your ticket , seat and to make sure that you'll be confirmed for that flight. Travel agents do make mistakes sometimes.

You will be responsible for arranging your transportation to New York, JFK on time. We will all be meeting at JFK airport 3.5 to 3 hours before the flight departs and departing together. You may want to consider the benefits of arriving well in advance or the day before as you wish.

If for any reason you arrive in India before the tour starts on the 28th of February, of course any expenses incurred before that date, even if with the same hotel or travel agency are yours to pay.

You may want to Begin **keeping a notebook and a list(s) for pretrip planning.** **Pilgrims in the past have found this to be a very useful method.**

1. We have a **sample cost worksheet** to help get an idea of what the pilgrimage might mean to you financially.
2. The pilgrimage is on a first come first serve basis. Space is limited, and the list of those interested may be **longer than available spaces**. Those who make their deposit first will or have been put on the pilgrimage list first. **Please let us know as soon as possible if you have sent a deposit (you're a definite) so we can keep an eye out for your check to come in the mail. Please let us also know if you're investigating (unsure), but you are still on the list or you're positive you can't go (can't).** The deposit checks for 105 USD will be made out

to, Gurme Lama, Yogi Lama Gursam's legal name and sent to:

Lama Gursam c/o Phuntsok Tobgyal 365 Westminster Rd. Apt. #1C Brooklyn, NY 11218. 100 USD of this deposit will go towards the cost of the trip. 5 dollars of the deposit will be used to make the wire transfer. If you cancel your booking for the tour, this deposit is non refundable. The cost of the tour will depend on the actual amount of Pilgrims who show up in Delhi on the 28th of February, not on the amount of pilgrims registered beforehand.

Therefore, we will be able to give you only an approximate price of the Pilgrimage cost in advance, but pilgrims will need to be flexible about 90 USD due to the possibility of a few people who may come at the last minute or who may cancel or cost fluctuations.

3. We will need a copy of your travel insurance policy when you arrive, this will help you if you have medical needs while traveling. If you decide not to purchase travel insurance, that is up to you. As your tour guides and Lamas are not responsible for your health issues, though we will do what we can to assist you.

4. **You should be getting your passport soon!!!** if you don't already have it. We will also need copies of your passports when you arrive in case of emergency. **You may want to carry 2 extra passport type photos, even if you already have your passport** and your own copies of important personal information in a separate place than where you keep your passport when you travel.

5. When emailing to me (Amber), try to keep "Pilgrim 2010" in the subject line. It will help us organize your emails.

6. You may want to print and keep the following information with you while travelling in India

US Embassy in Delhi

Embassy of the United States of America
Chanakyapuri
New Delhi - 110021
Tel: 2419-8000 or 8062 or 8374

Canadian Embassy in Delhi

Canadian High Commission
7/8, Shantipath, Chanakyapuri
New Delhi - 110021
Tel: 26876500

Tenzin, Travel Agent 98.1090.4887 or 4897

Please also remember to write down the names/numbers of the guest houses/hotels we stay at, and/or ask for one of their business cards in case you get lost.

Please let me know if you have any questions at all.

Sincerely,
Amber Moore