

**Rotary**  
District 3054



**BE THE  
INSPIRATION**

**rotary  
youth  
exchange**



Rishikesh



Agra



Jaipur



Bhuj | Rann of Kutch



Ahmedabad

**DISCOVER  
INDIA**

**INTERNATIONAL  
YOUTH  
CAMP**

Rotary District 3054

**11<sup>th</sup> TO 27<sup>th</sup>  
JANUARY 2019**

*An opportunity  
to explore and experience  
Indian culture, heritage,  
philosophy and lifestyle*

**Host Club > Rotary Club  
Ahmedabad Supreme**



India, officially the Republic of India is the seventh-largest country by area, the second-most populous country with over 1.2 billion people, and the most populous democracy in the world. India is a federal constitutional republic governed under a parliamentary system consisting of 29 states and 7 union territories.

It is known from archaeological evidence that a highly sophisticated urbanized culture—the Indus civilization—dominated the north western part of the subcontinent from about 2600 to 2000 BCE. From that period on, India functioned as a virtually self-contained political and cultural arena, which gave rise to a distinctive tradition that was associated primarily with Hinduism, the roots of which can largely be traced to the Indus civilization. Other religions, notably Buddhism and Jainism, originated in India—though their presence there is now quite small—and throughout the centuries residents of the subcontinent developed a rich intellectual life in such fields as mathematics, astronomy, architecture, literature, music, and the fine arts.

India remains one of the most ethnically diverse countries in the world. Apart from its many religions and sects, India is home to innumerable castes and tribes, as well as to more than a dozen major and hundreds of minor linguistic groups from several language families unrelated to one another. Religious minorities, including Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists, and Jains, still account for a significant proportion of the population; collectively, their numbers exceed the populations of all countries except China.

## Discover India 2019

As part of Short Term Exchange program under Rotary Youth Exchange, Rotary District 3054 initiated hosting its first International Youth Camp named Discover India in 2015. This is going to be the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of Discover India, which has been able to create a brand for itself among the many International Youth camps organised every year by various Rotary Districts and Clubs.

Rotary District 3054 and host club RC Ahmedabad Supreme invites 24 Youths from across the world for a journey that will give them first hand feel and understanding of incredible India and an opportunity to see some parts of our Rotary district 3054. This camp will surely take the participants, closer to the Indian culture, heritage, philosophy, economy and lifestyle. We believe this will help the youths enhance their knowledge about India, its society and its people. We are very confident that this camp will give all the campers some friends for life and though all our campers will come alone but they will surely go back home with some of the finest memories for life. We are confident that these 16 days will be one of the most memorable days in the lives of each and every camper.

## Factsheet

<b>Camp Theme:</b>	Discover India – An opportunity to explore and experience Indian Culture, Heritage, Philosophy and Lifestyle.
<b>Organized by:</b>	Rotary District 3054 in association Discover India Camps
<b>Host Club:</b>	Rotary Club of Ahmedabad Supreme
<b>Participant's age:</b>	18 - 24 years
<b>Number of Participants:</b>	30 (1 boy & 1 girls from each country, on first come first serve basis)
<b>Date of Arrival:</b>	Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> January 2019 (latest by 3 pm in the afternoon)
<b>Date of Departure:</b>	Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> January 2019 (anytime)
<b>Port for Arrival / Departure:</b>	Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport, Ahmedabad
<b>Accommodation:</b>	To get an understanding of the Indian family living and culture, the participants will be staying with Rotary members or with Rotaract or ROTEX members and their families.

At some of the places like Kutch and Agra, the participants may be accommodated in Hostels / Hotels and will be sharing rooms or Dormitories.

**Camp Program:** District 3054 is situated on the western side of India and primarily comprises of areas of state of Gujarat and Rajasthan. The detailed program will be circulated to the camp participants later, but here is a glimpse of what the camp may include:

- Visit to places of historical and cultural importance in the Ahmedabad like Sabarmati Ashram, Akshardham Temple, Heritage walk of the walled city of Ahmedabad.
- A visit to the Great Rann of Kutch, the only Salt Desert in the world
- City of Lakes Udaipur, a princely town of the state of Rajasthan.
- Visit to the Royal pink city of Jaipur and Amer fort.
- Wonders of the world – The TAJ along with the Red Fort of Agra
- Rafting in the finest waters of River Byasi
- Opportunity to learn some steps of the traditional dance form Garba.
- Meeting with the member of the State Governments & Rotary
- Attend Rotary club meetings and participant in Rotary Projects
- Hands-on training in India cuisines.



**Application form:**

Please send in your application using regular short-term youth exchange form available with youth exchange officers of your club or district. **Last date to send in your application is 15th November 2018.** The application must be endorsed and signed by sponsoring Rotary club signatories and District Youth Exchange Chairman.

**Camp Fee:**

Euro 500 **or** USD 590. The camp fee is to be paid in cash at the time of arrival at the camp.

There is no additional cost involved in the camp, except out of pocket expenses of shopping etc. and for the activities that the participants may undertake, and which is not part of main camp program.

The applicant is expected to bear his / her cost of round-trip travel to Ahmedabad (Gujarat) India, and will have to bear for any additional expenses and any pre-or-post event, travels, meals, or accommodation not covered during the camp program.

**Insurance:**

All participants should be adequately insured for travel and medical cover of USD 100,000 as per the RI Insurance guidelines. Please submit a copy of your Insurance policy along with a copy of your passport to the camp organizers on your arrival.

**Camp Contact:**

Please send your application and queries to:

**Rtn. Bhanu Gupta**

District Chairman – IYE

District 3054

Phone: +91-98250-28982 | Email: [bhanu\\_gupta@hotmail.com](mailto:bhanu_gupta@hotmail.com)

**Camp Coordinators**

**Rtn. Naimish Ravani**

President

RC Ahmedabad Supreme

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Director – New Generation

Rotary Club Ahmedabad Supreme

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## Testimonials from some of our former campers

If I was only allowed to say one thing about Discover India, I would say: amazing. I would recommend it to everybody because it gave me memories I will never forget. The Indian culture and heritage are wonderful and overwhelming when you come from a small country like Denmark. But Rotary had arranged a great program where we got to see beautiful temples, met with university students our own age, saw the beautiful white desert, experienced traditional dance, saw Taj Mahal and so many other things. It was a really packed program, but it was all worth it. Most importantly the different Rotary clubs and host families invited us in to their lives like we were friends and family from day one. I always felt safe and welcome and that means a lot when you are so far away from home and experiencing a completely different culture. With Discover India, I met so many great people within Rotary and within the campers. We all have a special bond and now I have friends and family all over the world.

- **Trine Trustrup, Denmark**

Rotary strives to build an international community which will in turn contribute to the spread of world peace. Discover India is one such place where rotary is making great strides in this objective. As a participant, this past January I not only explored the Indian culture on my own, but saw it through the eyes of the many other participants who came from a myriad of cultures. Each perspective helped me truly delve into the complexities of the culture without judgement. I believe my worldview to be vastly broadened by my time in India. Through everything I have seen while in the context of Rotary (both on long-term exchange and Discover India) I have seen again and again the importance of travel and an open mind. The friendships formed through Discover India are forever as are the memories

- **Rebecca Singer, USA**

This January I attended the Discover India Camp. Well, I can tell you: I couldn't make a better choice than doing that. We were such a fun group and we accepted each other the way we are. Together we experienced India, and got to know each other, in the end we were like a huge family.

This was my 4th experience with the Rotary, and they proved again that it is very well-organized organization. If someone was ill, there was always a doctor in the neighbourhood. Everywhere were kind guides who spoke perfectly English and who kept our attention. I am very thankful to the Rotary for making this possible.

- **Margot Stormmesand, Netherlands**

As a well experienced traveller I must confirm, that the best way how to explore some country is through the locals, especially in case of India. We say that from visiting India you can take just two impressions. One is that you feel in love with the country, culture, etc. The second one is that you will never want to come back. Let your experience put into the first group and explore India with Discover India Camps. In this highly tilted world is very beneficial to understand Indian mentality and culture and know how to cooperate with Indians. Let your experience be the best with Discover India Camps.

On January 2016, I had a great pleasure of participating on discover India camp organized by Bhanu Gupta. It was one of the best organized travel camps I have ever participated at. Thanks to Bhanu and Divya I felt as a part of the Indian community and could discover the purest culture of India.

- **Blaž Maršálek, Czech Republic**

For me discover India camp was a crazy decision...I had no idea what to expect from the country or the people living there. But believe me when I tell you it was a life changing experience. I got the chance to live for two weeks with local rotation families and they really showed me the best hospitality ever. I was also surrounded by students from other countries and they were the best company someone could ask for. What is different about India is the spiritual culture they have and the many languages and beliefs which make this camp a very interesting one.

You will get to see alot and eat different types of food take it easy with the spicy And for sure you will return back home with a lot of great memories and a desire to come back again one day and revisit the beautiful India again.

Finally If you like adventure I guarantee this is the camp for you.

- **Daniel Nasrallah, Egypt**

The Discover India camp of year 2018 was one of the most life changing experiences I've had so far! Going to India was an eye opening experience and I can't wait to be back to see my host families whom i missed so much and the friends I've made who also became my family. The kindest people, tastiest foods, and the most wonderful places you will defiantly find in India! it was so much more than I expected to the point that I did not want to go back home. The discover India youth camp knew exactly where to take us, to the kindest families and to the most interesting places and i would not change a thing except for the duration of the camp which I would make a lot longer ha-ha, would absolutely recommend you to join the camp and you will not be disappointed. If I could do it again I would.

- **Jianna Awwad, Israel**



"Discover India Camp 2018 was for me an unforgettable and very educational experience. I was able to learn a new culture and got to know so many beautiful people with whom I could exchange ideas and make lots of great memories. All the things that felt normal at home were a new discovery there, especially the food. Speaking of food, you won't be disappointed. The big variety of spices guarantees for an unforgettable tasting experience. Because of the Indian culture, I had the chance to change a bit my way of thinking and acting in the day by day life. I really got to appreciate more the small things in life. Our hosts were amazing; this is also the reason why we're keeping such a close connection to each other. I would definitely recommend this camp to all the people for which curiosity has no borders."

- **Matie Ciorba, Romania**

So, why do you really should prepare your luggage very quickly and book a spot for you inside the Discover India Camp? Because It's an unique opportunity of knowing deeply your soul, people around you, have sensations of astonishment caused by amazing architectures spread all around the cities and little villages while you're sharing opinions, stories, memories with many guys from India and many others world countries.

The Camp provides an extended variety of activities and tours through the North West part of India. Without doubts I personally think that all the new campers will be impressed by the care, hospitality and the huge amount of love which is always show by the host families; and even if they are not present in some moments because maybe you will be in a hotel or, basically, in another city they are constantly in touch with you, asking about the day passed and the places visited.

- **Andrea Giuliani, Italy**





*Welcome to India*

