

# DESTINATION: INDIA

A horizontal decorative border consisting of a series of small, dark diamonds.

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Everywhere you turn in India, there is something to do or to see that you probably have never done or seen before. There are experiences to be had — whether fascinating or shocking or rewarding or confusing or educational or frustrating — all day long, no matter where you happen to be.



Journeying there can involve camping at a pristine lake in a remote tribal region, hiking in the Himalayas, visiting Tibetan villages and monasteries, drinking mango lassis for the first time from a market stall in Kolkata, playing cricket with a group of Indians met at a Hindu temple, and spending an evening with the family of a taxi driver who invited you to his home for dinner.

## THAT IS INDIA.

The result of such an incredible variety and frequency of memorable experiences is exactly what can happen to you and countless other travelers: You simply can't get enough, and constantly feel the need to return over and over again for more. And though this booklet on India could never do the country justice, today we want to share some of the best things to do in India.





## EAT IN DELHI.

Delhi has the BEST food. Period. You can find some of the best Mughalai curries, chaat (vegetarian street food), international restaurants and cuisines from all over India. Particularly, unique Delhi-style stuffed parathas, a type of flatbread made from wheat dough and lightly fried in oil on both sides.



While the usual filling is potatoes, on this street you can get them stuffed with anything, from cheese to squash to raisins to mint to mixed vegetables to cashews and more. Some of the places have been around for over 100 years, and it doesn't take long to see why these hole-in-the-wall eateries are almost always full of Indians enjoying this tasty meal.



Make some local friends and get them to take you to their favorite places. Vegetarians and vegans will LOVE Delhi food. I strongly recommends these restaurant chains that are all over Delhi – Kebab Gali for Indian curries, Haldiram's for typical Delhi vegetarian food, Karim's for Old Delhi style curries, Sagar Ratna for Dosas, Asian Haus for home delivery of Asian food, Sushi Haus for home delivery of sushi, Dee's Biryani for Biryanis and Chawla chick inn for Indian curries.

## RAJ MANDIR CINEMA (JAIPUR)

It's one of the best-known cinemas in India. Opened in 1976, this large art-deco structure is my favorite place in the country to catch a Bollywood film. The pastel-colored interior design, the efficient suit-clad staff, the spacious theater with its comfortable seats,



and the lively atmosphere deriving from hundreds of excited Indian moviegoers all make you feel as if you're attending a major movie premiere.



## VISIT CHAND BAORI STEPWELL (ABHANERI)

Step inside this spectacularly striking, 1,200-year-old "water tank," one of the largest in India. Constructed by King Chanda of the Nikumbha Dynasty in 8000 BCE, the massive rectangular well is approximately 30

meters deep and consists of over 3,500 steps intertwined in a precise maze-like pattern on three sides, playing with the sunlight reflecting off of its angles.

## VISIT THE CAVE PAINTINGS IN BUNDI

Sign up for a trip with the local named Kukki on the outskirts of Bundi, a beautiful little town in Rajasthan. You'll hear Kukki's story on the tour, but here's a short version: he was a man with little education and no background in archaeology who ended up discovering





some of India's most impressive cave paintings and ancient artifacts simply by wandering around ruined monuments and structures on his own. Some of the paintings you'll see are of hunting scenes and daily life and are believed to be 15,000 years old.

But even apart from the paintings, joining Kukki is absolutely wonderful, as he takes you to seldom-visited areas of Rajasthan, tells you endless stories about his fascinating life and work, and teaches you about the general history of the region. His personality alone is enough reason to go on this tour, and if you're in Bundi, there is no better way to spend half a day. These are sights you don't want to miss.



## VISIT THE TAJ MAHAL

Visiting the Taj Mahal in Agra is likely on your itinerary if you're traveling to India for the first time. And it should be! Situated on the Yamuna River, this incredible architectural feat is one of the Seven New Wonders of the World for a reason.

While the Taj Mahal is a crowded attraction, many of the visitors are Indians traveling within their own country. You'll have the opportunity to get to mingle with friendly Indian families, which may just be a highlight of your visit. Many people claim the building itself is smaller than they expected. And while that may be true, the grandeur isn't in the size, but in the Taj Mahal's exquisite marble detailing.



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## WORD SEARCH



HINDU

HIMALAYAN

YOGA

DIWALI

BENGAL

PAKISTAN

BOLLYWOOD

CYBERCULTURE

ELEPHANT

SANSKRIT

SARI

NEW DELHI

COMMONWEALTH

MOUNTAINOUS

SIKH

POPULOUS

MUMBAI

SPICES

DHARMA

BUDDHISM

# DESTINATION: INDIA

## TRIVIA QUIZ

1. What everyday item do we use now that was invented in India?
- A. Soap
  - B. Shampoo
  - C. Forks
  - D. Towels
2. India has a spa dedicated to which?
- A. Visiting royalty
  - B. Hindu clergy
  - C. Yoga teachers
  - D. Elephants
3. India is the second-largest country to speak which language?
- A. English
  - B. Chinese
  - C. French
  - D. Spanish
4. India has the largest population of which?
- A. Goat herders
  - B. Vegetarians
  - C. Fishermen
  - D. Taxi drivers
5. India recently overtook the European Union with production of which?
- A. Beer
  - B. Wine
  - C. Milk
  - D. Bread
6. India was the first country to consume which?
- A. Milk
  - B. Tofu
  - C. Peas
  - D. Sugar
7. Which were first mined in India?
- A. Rubies
  - B. Sapphires
  - C. Diamonds
  - D. Opals
8. Which is the official language of India?
- A. English
  - B. Hindi
  - C. Bengali
  - D. There isn't one



9. How old are Saris - the traditional Indian garment?

- A. Over 500 years
- B. Over 3000 years
- C. Over 5000 years
- D. Over 1000 years

10. What animal is only found in India?

- A. White Tiger
- B. Pangolin
- C. Elephant
- D. Himalayan Black Bear

11. Which superstar is/was of Indian origin?

- A. David Bowie
- B. Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson
- C. Freddie Mercury
- D. Angelina Jolie

12. Which game is known to have originated in India?

- A. Monopoly
- B. Backgammon
- C. Dominoes
- D. Chess

13. At over 5,000 years old, which city is the oldest inhabited cities?

- A. Mumbai
- B. Varanasi
- C. Kolkata
- D. Jaipur

14. What are there more of in India than in the entire Western Hemisphere of Earth?

- A. Tigers
- B. Elephants
- C. Rice farms
- D. People

15. True or false - there is a hill in India that defies gravity

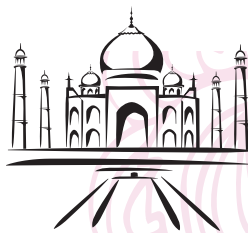
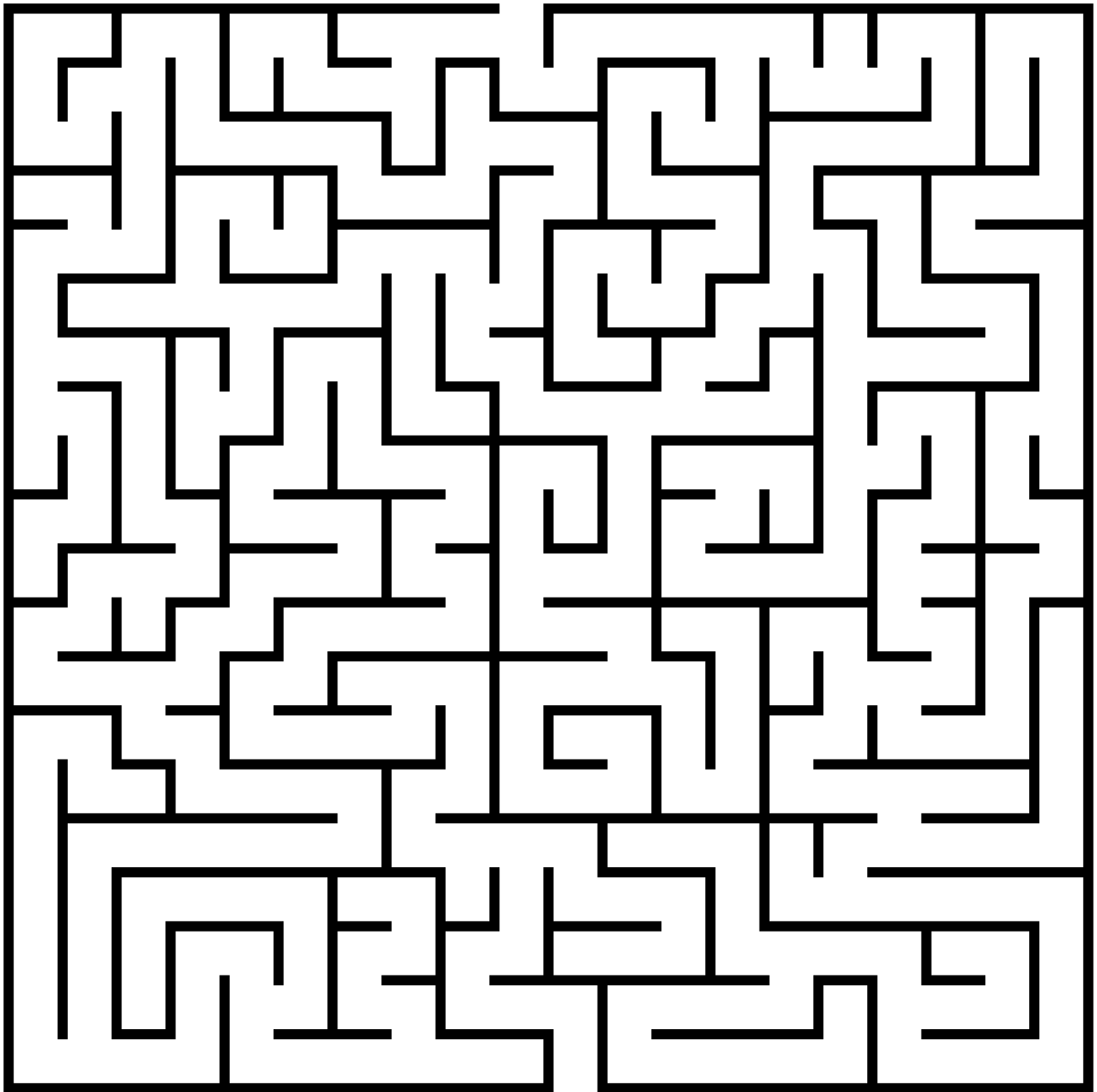
- A. True
  - B. False
- 



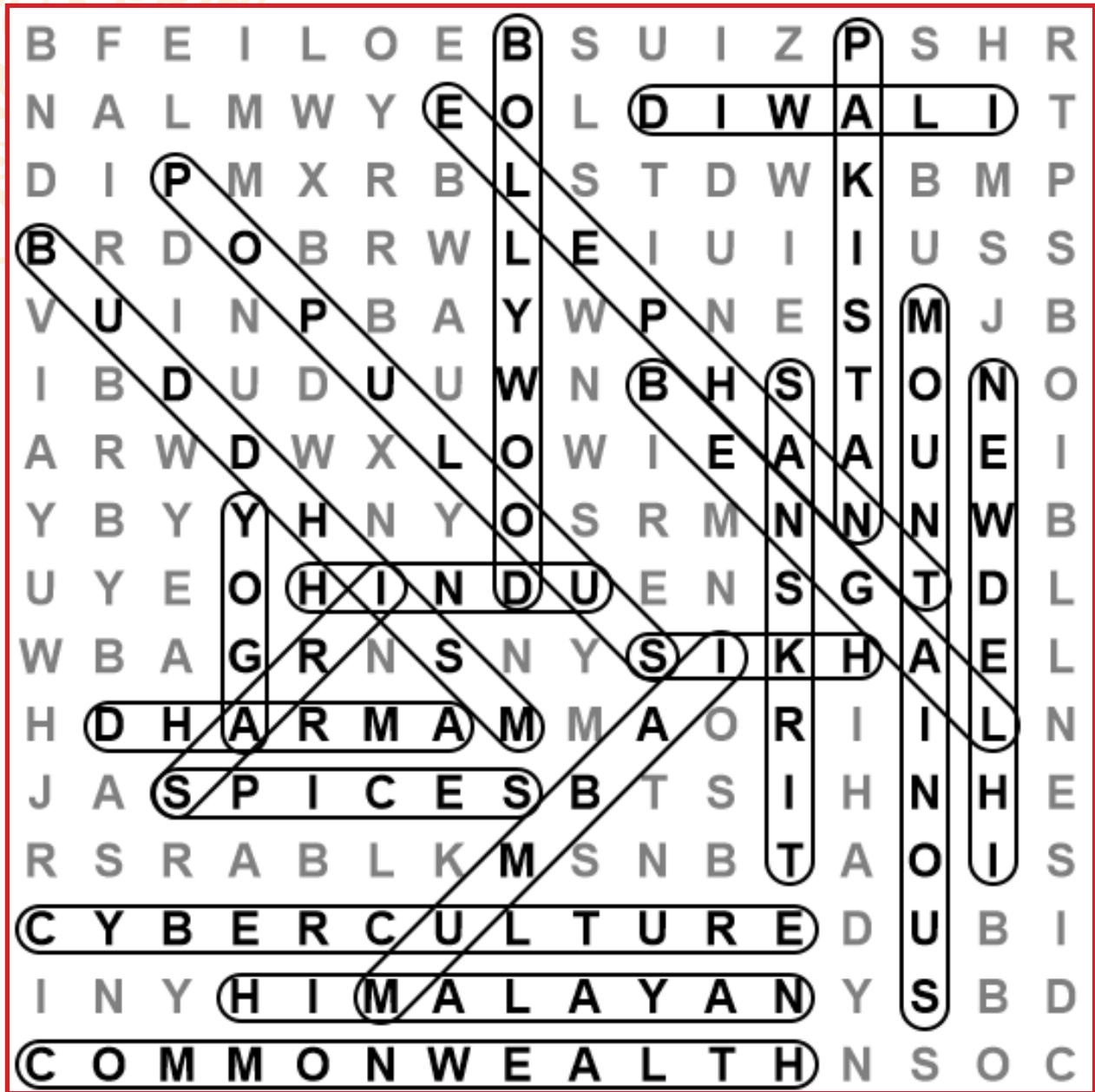
# DESTINATION: *MAZE* INDIA



Can you help the tourist make  
his way to his first stop, the  
Taj Mahal?



## WORD SEARCH SOLUTION



# DESTINATION: TRIVIA QUIZ INDIA ANSWERS



**1. B. Shampoo** - Shampoo was invented in India, not the commercial liquid ones but the method by use of herbs. The word 'shampoo' itself has been derived from the Sanskrit word champu, which means to massage.

**2. D. Elephants** - Elephants receive baths, massages and even food at the Punnathoor Cotta Elephant Yard Rejuvenation Centre in Kerala. Now that's a BIG step for the country.

**3. A. English** - India is second only to the USA when it comes to speaking English with around 125 million people speaking the language, which is only 10% of our population. This is expected to grow by quite a margin in the coming years.

**4. B. Vegetarians** - Be it because of religious reasons or personal choices or both, around 20-40% of Indians are vegetarians, making it the largest vegetarian-friendly country in the world.

**5. C. Milk** - India recently overtook the European Union with production reaching over 132.4m metric tons in 2014.

**6. D. Sugar** - India was the first country to develop extraction and purifying techniques of sugar. Many visitors from abroad learned the refining and cultivation of sugar from them.

**7. C. Diamonds** - Initially, diamonds were only found in the alluvial deposits in Guntur and Krishna District of the Krishna River Delta. Until diamonds were found in Brazil during the 18th century, India led the world in diamond production.

**8. D. There isn't one** - In India, there isn't one national language- the constitution states there are 23 official languages. While Hindi is the most widely spoken and the language of the central government in India, no language is more official than the others. According to the constitution, each of the 22 local languages (plus English) are of equal importance.

**9. C. Over 5000 years** - The sari dates back to at least 3000 BCE. Sari wearers often choose the colour of their garment based on the occasion. Red is often worn by brides to symbolise fertility and prosperity.



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## TRIVIA QUIZ ANSWERS CON'D



**10. A. White Tiger** - White tigers are only found among Indian tigers. White tigers a type of Bengal tiger created through a variant in pigmentation. They often grow into larger animals than their orange-coloured cousins. It is also the National Animal.

**11. C. Freddie Mercury** - Known as the world's first Indian rock star, Freddie was born of Parsi origin with the name Farrokh Bulsara.

**12. D. Chess** - One of the oldest games in the world that is still played, the popular game was invented around the 6th Century AD.

**13. B. Varanasi** - It is also one of India's holiest cities. According to Hindu mythology, Lord Shiva founded the city 5000 years ago.

**14. D. People** - there are more people!

**15. A. True** - The strange phenomenon was discovered on a stretch of road near Tulsi Shyam in Gujarat. Signs at the road instruct drivers to park their cars and leave them in neutral, and the cars begin to roll up the hill against the pull of gravity!

# DESTINATION IN

