

General Information of Chandigarh

Chandigarh serves as a gateway to the states of Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir. Situated in the foothills of the Shiwalik range, a few minutes is all it takes to reach Kalka and then onto all the hill spots in the Shimla hills. Chandigarh is also a take-off point for Kullu Manali as well as Jammu & Kashmir. The City Beautiful welcomes you with the giant Open Hand, the Tower of Shadows and the Geometric Hill.

Architect of Chandigarh, a French national Le Corbusier saw the master plan of Chandigarh as analogous to a living organism, with a clearly defined head (the Capital Complex, Sector 1), heart (the City Centre, Sector 17), lungs (the leisure valley, innumerable open spaces and green sector), the intellect (the cultural and educational institutions), the circulatory system (the network of roads, the 7 Vs), and the viscera (the Industrial belt).

Climate and Clothing

Winters (Dec-Feb) are most pleasant and can be quite cold with the mercury dipping to 2 degrees C. Heavy woollens and jackets are recommended for winters and airy cottons for summers, more so when the humidity sets in after the rains. **In December, the temperature ranges is 10° Celsius to 20° Celsius.** Suggestion is that you bring a jacket/ suit and tie with you for special occasions. A jacket/ pullover is recommended for evenings

Smoking Policy

Public smoking is forbidden in Chandigarh. Entire exhibition venue and all conference rooms are non-smoking areas

Shopping

Being well planned, the city offers a market in almost every sector. The Central Plaza of Sector 17 is the hub and has almost everything that one may desire. Most of the state and cooperative emporia are in Sector 17 and 22. Sector 22 also has its own fare of shopping delights and jewellery shops with traditional and exquisite jewellery on display. Some interesting shopping can be done at: Phulkari, Punjab Emporium, Sector 17, Leathera Punjab, Sectors 17, 22, 35, Weavco, Punjab Handlooms, Sector 17, Black Partridge, Haryana Emporium, Sector 17, Haryana State Handlooms, Sector 22, Chandigarh Emporium, CITCO, Sector 17, Khadi Gram Udyog Bhavan, Sectors 17, 22 & Gram Shilpa, Khadi Ashram, Sector 17. Most shops in Chandigarh are generally open from 1000 to 2100 Monday – Saturday. In stores and shopping centres major credit cards are accepted.