

Weather and climate The climate in both states is tropical, meaning that it is generally hot and humid. March to June is summer with temperatures ranging from 20-45 degrees, July to September is monsoon season and October to February is winter with temperatures ranging between the low teens and up to 30 degrees.

Accommodation The guest houses at both centres are simple but adequate. There won't be hot water for washing or flushing toilets but accommodation will be clean and comfortable.

Food and water It is advisable to drink bottled water, avoid salads and to make sure all hot food is heated all the way through and served whilst still hot. Go to fitfortravel.nhs.uk to read their advice on foreign travel.

On Your Return

New Hope very much appreciates the help given by volunteers. We would love to hear about your trip once you are back. Any thoughts and feedback of your experience would be very welcome.

Contact New Hope Rural Community Trust UK, 49 Alfred Street, Southampton, Hants, SO14 ONB

Disclaimer

We make every effort to ensure that our leaflets are correct at the time of publication. They are intended as a brief summary of relevant issues to help you plan your trip. Legal advice should be sought where appropriate. New Hope is unable to accept liability for any loss or damage or inconvenience arising as a consequence of the use of this information. The inclusion of other organisations in the leaflet does not imply any endorsement of independent bodies; all sources of further information are listed solely for signposting purposes.

The beginnings of New Hope

The director of New Hope, Eliazar Rose, and his wife, Ruth, come from very humble backgrounds. Both their parents suffered from leprosy and have experienced the horror of being ostracized. Those with leprosy were forced to live in colonies, which in the 1950s was horrendous and without real anti leprosy drugs. Eliazar was painfully aware of the shame and rejection suffered by his parents and from an early age he resolved to fight both the disease and its stigma.

In 1985, he and three like-minded young Indians founded the New Hope Rural Leprosy Trust to fight leprosy, poverty, literacy and many other challenges facing Orissa, the poorest state in India. Eliazar chose to base New Hope Trust in the state of Orissa in a tribal area known as the Koroput District. New Hope Rural Community Trust was subsequently started in the UK to raise funds for New Hope.

New Hope's work today is wide ranging. The centre in Orissa provides many orphaned or abandoned children a place to call home and a school to go to. There are medical facilities for treatment and care of the children as well as for those in the community affected by leprosy or in need of cataract surgery. New Hope also works in the community providing assistance such as safe birthing kits and emergency aid such as for the Tsunami of Boxing Day, 2004. There is also another centre with a school and medical facilities in Andhra Pradesh, the recent focus being orphaned HIV positive children and once again fighting the stigma associated with this condition.

New Hope Rural Community Trust



Working for change, caring for those in need in India

Volunteer Information



Registered Charity Number 1002694

Thank you for your interest in becoming a New Hope volunteer! Here is some information that will help you to start planning your trip.

New Hope's work is based across two centres; there is the original base in Muniguda, which is in the state of Orissa (now officially called Odisha), and the Kothavalasa centre which is in the state of Andhra Pradesh.



Before you go

Visa You will need to apply for a visa to travel to India. Visit vfsglobal.co.uk for more information.

Immunisations / Anti-malarial tablets Visit your General Practitioner 6-8 weeks before travel to discuss this. You will need to take anti-malarial tablets. Malaria precautions are essential, avoid mosquito bites by covering up with clothing such as

long sleeves and long trousers, especially after sunset, using insect repellents on exposed skin and, when necessary, sleeping under a mosquito net. If you develop a fever seek medical attention promptly. Remember malaria can develop even up to one year after exposure. Visit fitfortravel.nhs.uk for up-to-date advice.

Insurance Be sure to get adequate travel insurance before departure. New Hope will not take responsibility for any medical costs during your stay. Look for the following in your policy: cancellation or curtailment charges, personal accident, emergency medical expenses, repatriation, overseas legal expenses, personal money, passport and documents, baggage cover, personal liability and search & rescue. Also be sure to check that your policy covers volunteers, that the insurers are aware of any activities you will be doing and that there are no age restrictions that limit your cover.

Flights You will need to get to Visakhapatnam to visit New Hope. There are frequent flights to Hyderabad, from there you can either take a night train or an internal flight on to Visakhapatnam.

Foreign Travel Advice Visit gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/india before departure for the latest advice on travel in India from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. Currently the Orissa government has imposed severe restrictions on the movement of tourists, especially foreign tourists, in areas inhabited by tribal people.

During your trip

Once you have arrived at New Hope you will feel very welcome. The staff will do all they can to make you feel comfortable and the children will be excited to see you! Although the children have had a tough start to life, many of them being orphans or suffering from HIV, the atmosphere at New Hope is a very happy and positive one. You will be staying on the centres' grounds which are very remote, so transport needs to be arranged to get to local villages or towns. You will become a part of the New Hope community during your stay and probably spend most of your time on site. The schools and medical centres will be busy, so any skills you have in these areas will be very useful.

There are a few cultural differences that need to be considered. Clothing needs to be modest; for women this means no shorts, short skirts or low necklines; men can wear shorts for manual work but trousers should be worn during office or community meetings. When greeting, a hug or kiss could be very embarrassing. 'Namaste', the usual greeting with a bow of the head and hands pressed together, is the normal custom. English is taught and spoken by most children and adults at New Hope. The principle and regional language of Orissa is Oriya and in Andhra Pradesh it is Telugu.

New Hope prides itself on delivering any funds raised directly to those that need it. This means that volunteers will need to cover their costs travelling to and from New Hope as well as costs associated with their stay. It is best to ask whilst at New Hope how much it will cost to cover your food, travel and accommodation; it will be a very small amount compared to UK standards!