



Carolina Fonseca
&
Mystic Art Retreats™

present

Gypsy Duende

8TH OCT - 26TH OCT 2024

An immersion with the Gypsy Dancers of Rajasthan





GYPSY DUENDE

8th October – 26th October 2024

Rajasthan, India

‘The room became a swirl of colour and joy as we swished our huge skirts and shawls feeling exhilarated by the music and energy of the dance’

Carolina Fonseca, the curator, and lead artist of this cultural immersion is an Indophile and has practically spent every non-covid year travelling through India since her childhood.



The jewel experience in her crown of Indian travel tales and experiences is however staying with the gypsy communities of Rajasthan from whom she learnt the native dance styles and the evolutionary tales behind them. Studying the essence of the Gypsy culture through understanding their folklore and music rhythms; learning dance gestures and motivation for the artform; witnessing their peripatetic lifestyle and spontaneity of being, observing their transcendence of pain both current and ancestral into love and liberation through dance movement; Carolina’s work imbibes a thorough understanding of the community and their art form across its visual, visceral, and transcendent natures.

This cultural immersion is an invitation to learn with Carolina and one of the world’s pioneering dance communities whose work of ‘gesture and movements’ even informed the early Roman empire: the **Kalbeliyas** (description in following sections). We shall travel to 3 different cities within the Royal state of Rajasthan, stay in comfortable heritage palace hotels, enjoying gourmet cuisine and witness the beautiful sites within Udaipur, Jodhpur and Pushkar.

DANZADEUNDE

Duende is a word that evokes a moment of authentic presence, manifested poetically through artistic expression. It is an experience that goes beyond concepts, memory, and projections. It brings together like a magnet, the witnesses of its manifestations, and it opens their spirits, as the sunlight seeps through a gap into a cave. Duende cannot be grasped or learned, or transmitted.

It cannot be defined. It does not depend on the technique or the skill of the artists. It

manifests spontaneously, opens our hearts, and then goes away as mysteriously as it came.



HOW DO YOU EVOKE DUENDE?

By renouncing what is not Duende. By giving up the idea of self as the structure, the systematic centre that determines what we perceive. By fully letting yourself go, immediately, without reservation, without hope and fear. By opening our awareness to space and without restraint to the here and now. To leave behind the blind attachment to a dualistic view of our ordinary perceptions: self/other; here, there; good/bad; inside/outside; show/watch. Allow yourself to be as you are, here and now, without hope or fear, free and spontaneous. Train to let the natural beauty of your feelings flow unimpeded and truthfully, free of mental fabrications. Open up the channels through which your inner invisible and unspeakable experience can manifest outward freely. Train your body to channel this flow, with sensitivity and precision.

GYPSY DUENDE

GYPSY DUENDE, created by artist Yumma Mudra, was born from a study about the essence of gypsy dances. It's premise is that the best way to transmit and teach an art that requires total involvement, dancing mainly with the heart and not only with the body, and trying to preserve in his teaching his free and wild nature. This investigation led naturally to reflection on the authenticity of expression and to the conclusion that a person does not become authentic but allows himself to be authentic.

It is a method of teaching dance in which the form, or the technique if you prefer, is used above all as an instrument and not as an end in itself. An instrument to return to the freshness and sincerity of the gesture, just as a child or an elderly person can show when they dance, cultivating sensitivity, improvisation and a sense of humor. In addition to posture, rhythms, technique and speed, we work deeply on the expression and interpretation of steps, sequences and group movements, using accessories (shawls, skirts, etc.).

We seek how to construct a dance that is born from despair, transforming it into a generous offering of joy and a celebration of the moment, thanks to the magic of

Duende. A journey through the world, time, oneself, uniting body and soul. ~

KALBELIYAS

Kalbeliyas are Saperas, professional snake catchers who used to earn a living by keeping villages snake-free and entertaining audiences by snake charming. They have also played a significant role in development of Rajasthani folk music and dance.

Guru Gorakhnath, the founder of the Nath sampradaya, was known for his magical powers. When he was put to test by his disciples, the Guru told them that whatever they would ask for, he could make it appear. Kanipa (alternately Kanifanath), one of his close disciples, asked for a bowl of venom, thinking that Guru Gorakhnath would not be able to procure it. But the Guru surprised his disciple and presented him with venom from a snake. The Guru then instructed him that from that time onwards, Kanipa and his followers would be associated with this animal and it would be his responsibility to protect snakes. Humbled by this experience, Kanipa adhered to Gorakhnath's words, and that is how the Jogi Nath community, or Kalbeliyas as they are popularly known, came into being. This is the origin story the community believes in.

Kalbeliyas are snake catchers (sapera). They have an innate knowledge of different types of snake species found in Rajasthan, how to track them, how to detect their well-hidden lairs, how to handle them safely, how to extract their venom and how to cohabit with them. For these special skills, Kalbeliyas were tasked to catch and rescue snakes if any strayed into a home or village. Snake-catching provided them with the opportunity to educate villagers not to harm snakes and how it plays an important role in the ecosystem by keeping control over pest populations, including other snakes. In return, villagers provided alms and food for their snake-catching services.



Snakes are sacred to Kalbeliyas, and they form a lifelong bond with them through music. They are the pioneers in the development of wind instruments like the been and pungi. They believe their musical gift is a blessing from their Guru, using which they are able to hypnotise and catch snakes. Whenever a snake was caught, a performance was put up in front of villagers. Playing a rhythmic tune on the been, the sapers would 'charm' the snake by swinging the been in front of the snake (snakes can't hear music, but follow the swinging movement of the been). Over centuries, snake performance became a source of public entertainment, and sapers made a living as itinerant snake charmers. Young boys would accompany elders, learn snake-catching and dance to the music, the ever-popular nagin (snake) dance. Snake-charming became a stereotype of India in the western imagination.

Kaal means death, a metaphor for the Indian cobra—hence Kalbeliyas handle 'death'. Even the lethal venom of the cobra does not scare them. For them, any snakebite can be cured, provided the victim is brought to them immediately. In toxicology, snake venom (zootoxin) is essentially a mix of thousands of proteins, notably neurotoxins which immobilise prey, and hundreds of enzymes that help in the digestion of prey. These complex proteins can have a range of effect on the human body. For example, neurotoxins damage the nervous system, myotoxins damage muscles, cytotoxins damage cells and hemotoxins damage red blood cells. The antidote to snake venom depends on the type of snake. Kalbeliyas administer antidotes by physically feeling the intensity of cold/hotness or numbness in and around the bite mark. They have knowledge of Ayurveda medicine and keep medicinal herbs. Using a mixture of various herbs and a combination of chants, Kalbeliyas save many victims of snake and scorpion bites. They perform the role of medicine men, especially in rural Rajasthan where access to antivenom serum is limited.

Traditionally, while young boys and adult men went out to catch snakes and earn a living as sapers, women in the Kalbeliya community worked as midwives and healers. Once they set up their temporary camps close to a village, Kalbeliya women would be visited by pregnant ladies and girls with their various health issues. One of the most sought-after concoction is soorma that the Kalbeliyas prepare from snake venom and a mixture of herbs and oils. The white, waxy paste is known to prevent and cure eye disease. All members of the tribe use soorma from a very young age, and they believe that no Kalbeliya would ever go blind or need glasses to read. This treatment is still in demand in far-flung areas of Rajasthan.

Travelling with their camels or carts, Kalbeliyas erect makeshift shacks or tents outside villages. Literally and socially, they live on the fringes, because they are considered of low caste. Due to limited integration in society, they have largely retained their nomadic lifestyle. Some depend on agricultural work for sustenance. In the past, the mere presence of Kalbeliya camps alerted villagers, and they would give them food and water as a sign of respect for their veneration of the naga, held sacred not only by Kalbeliyas, but by all Hindus as semi-divine deities and by women as a symbol of fertility and Lord Shiva.

In 1972, Kalbeliyas faced an existential crisis when the Wildlife Protection Act came into being and the Indian government and various animal welfare organisations cracked down against wildlife hunting and trade in animal parts. This severely impacted profession that depended on wild animals, like snake catchers and snake charmers. Sapers had no other option but to give up their traditional occupation, which was their only source of income. This is when women of the community were forced to take up a more active role and train themselves as professional dancers to cater to the growing tourism industry in Rajasthan.

Then came Gulabo Sapera. From a very young age, she would accompany her father to catch snakes and swayed to been music, mimicking the swinging movement of snakes. She started her dance career in 1981, at age 10.



Now an internationally acclaimed performer and Padma Shri recipient (2016), Gulabo Sapera is the first woman from the community to perform Kalbeliya dance in front of audiences, both at home and abroad. Kalbeliyas credit her for making the dance easily identifiable with Rajasthani culture. Seeing her success, young girls began learning dance from Gulabo Sapera and a community that was once known as snake charmers is now recognised for their music and dance.

RAJASTHAN

Rajasthan, India's largest state is the land of the Great Indian Desert, of hardy folk, of veritable treasure-trove of ancient lore, music, dance, ballads and myths. Also known as the Land of Kings, it is a colourful melange of massive forts, stunning palaces, diverse culture, delectable cuisines and warm people, set amidst a rugged yet inviting landscape. It has always been acknowledged for its tradition and rich cultural heritage. The contour of Rajasthan is varied and well divided by the Aravalli Range, spreading from the southwest to the northeast and an unproductive desert region in the northwest to a comparatively fertile land in the east. It is home to the Great Indian Thar Desert and the Chambal River which is solely responsible for the water supply in the region.



Most of Rajasthan's population consists of Indians of various social, occupational, and religious backgrounds. The most notable section of the population are the Rajputs.

Aboriginal people constitute more than one-tenth of the population of Rajasthan, which

includes the Mina, most of whom are farmers, the Banjara, known as traveling traders and artisans, the Gadia Lohar, who traditionally have made and repaired agricultural and household implements, the Bhil, possessing great skill in archery, the Garasia and Kathodi, the Sahariya, the Kalbeliya, snake charmers and the Rabari, who are traditionally cattle breeders.

Art and craft of Rajasthan is an integral part of the state. Each district and city specializes in different art forms. Rajasthan is well known all over the world for its hand-printed textiles, which include, Bandhani, Leheriya, Batik, etc. and Furnitures,

Leatherwork, Jewellery- Meenakari, Beaded and Lac Jewellery, Miniature paintings, Blue pottery, Puppetry, Durries, Gesso work and metal craft. The use of lively colours and flamboyant, fantasy designs are distinctive in all forms of arts and crafts of Rajasthan.

JODHPUR



Jodhpur is a vibrant and historically rich city located in northwestern Rajasthan. Often referred to as the "Blue City" due to the distinctive, blue-painted houses that dominate its landscape, Jodhpur is a popular tourist destination known for its magnificent forts, palaces, and colorful markets. The old city of Jodhpur is a maze of narrow lanes and vibrant markets, where one can experience the true essence of Rajasthan.

Jodhpur's rich cultural heritage is reflected in its festivals, music, and dance forms. Whether exploring its historic forts, wandering through the bustling markets, or savouring the local cuisine, Jodhpur stands as a

testament to the rich heritage of India's royal past.

Key Highlights of Jodhpur include:

Bandhani and Tie-and-Dye textile art: Jodhpur is renowned for its Bandhani textiles, which involve tying the fabric in small knots and then dyeing it. The result is a mesmerizing array of patterns and colours. These textiles are often used in traditional Rajasthani attire.

Wooden Furniture: Skilled artisans in Jodhpur are known for crafting exquisite wooden furniture, including intricately carved doors, tables, and chairs. The traditional craftsmanship and designs are highly sought after both locally and internationally.

Metalwork: Jodhpur is famous for its metalwork, especially in brass and copper. Items like utensils, decorative pieces, and figurines display intricate designs and fine craftsmanship.

Blue Pottery: Jodhpur's blue pottery is distinct and visually striking. The use of blue and white glazes creates beautiful ceramic pieces such as tiles, plates, and bowls.

Miniature Paintings: Jodhpur has been a hub for Rajasthani miniature paintings for centuries. These detailed artworks often depict scenes from mythology, folklore, and royal life. The artists use vibrant colours and intricate brushwork to create captivating compositions.

Folk Performances & Festivals: The vibrant folk culture of Jodhpur is showcased through energetic folk dances like Ghoomar and Kalbelia, accompanied by traditional instruments, a treat for visitors.

PUSHKAR

Pushkar is a captivating and spiritually significant town located in Rajasthan. Nestled on the shores of the sacred Pushkar Lake and surrounded by the Aravalli Hills, Pushkar is renowned for its vibrant culture, religious fervour, and breathtaking landscapes. The town holds a special place in Hindu mythology and is a popular pilgrimage destination, attracting both devotees and travellers from around the world. Key highlights of Pushkar include:



Pushkar Lake: The centrepiece of the town, Pushkar Lake is considered one of the most sacred lakes in India. According to Hindu mythology, the lake was created by Lord Brahma and is believed to have healing properties. Pilgrims come to take ritual baths in its holy waters to cleanse themselves of sins and seek blessings.

Brahma Temple: Pushkar is home to the rare Brahma Temple, dedicated to Lord Brahma, the creator in Hinduism. It's one of the few temples in the world where the deity Brahma is worshipped. The temple's distinct red spire and

intricate architecture make it a notable landmark.

Ghats and Temples: The ghats (steps leading to the lake) around Pushkar Lake are bustling with activity, where devotees perform rituals and prayers. Pushkar is also home to numerous other temples, each with its own unique architecture and significance.

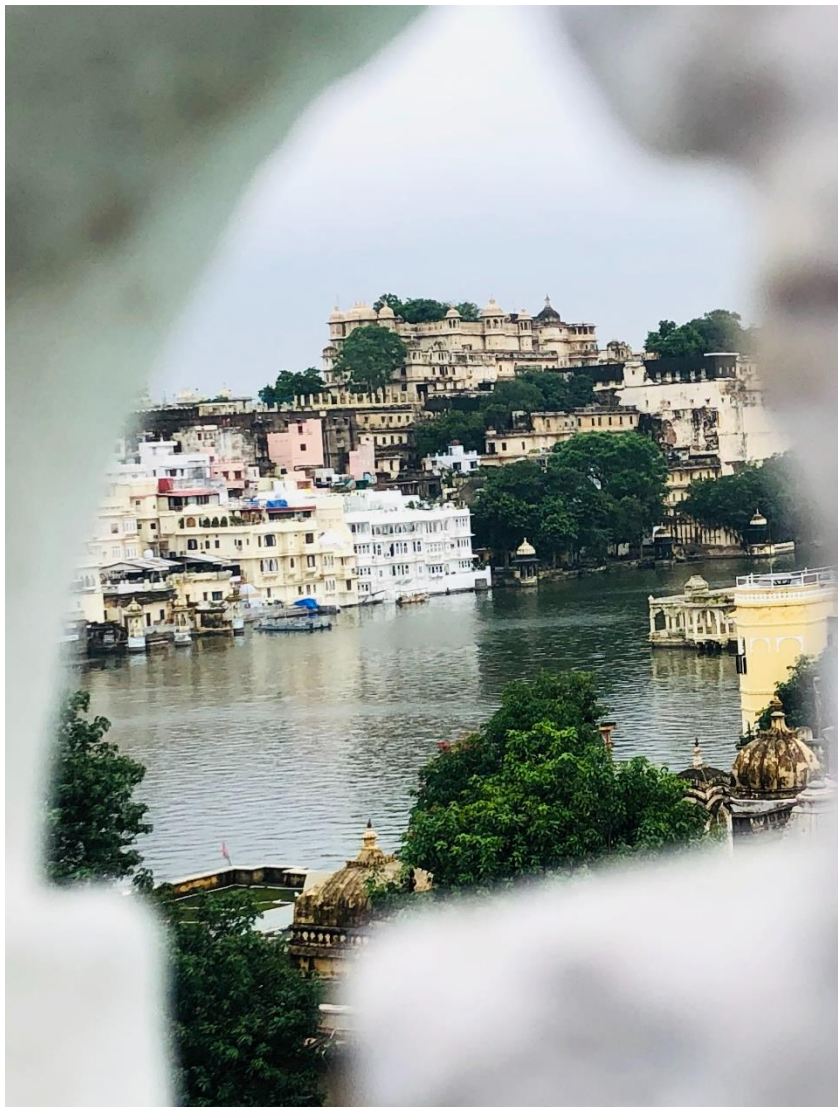
Handicrafts and Shopping: Pushkar's bustling streets are lined with shops selling traditional Rajasthani textiles, jewellery, handicrafts, and souvenirs. The town's bazaars are a treasure trove for shopping enthusiasts.

Folk Culture: Pushkar comes alive with traditional Rajasthani music, dance, and cultural performances during festivals and fairs. Visitors can immerse themselves in the local culture and witness captivating folk performances.

UDAIPUR

Long considered a must-see in India and the world, this Rajasthani city has preserved its charming past. And its smaller scale is what makes Udaipur such a memorable place to visit, from the ornate palaces and narrow, winding streets, to the boutique jewellery stores and bustling markets. Nestled in the heart of the Aravalli Range, the city of

Udaipur is a picturesque jewel in the crown of Rajasthan, India. The City of Lakes, as Udaipur is often fondly called, is centered around the tranquil waters of Lake Pichola. Standing proudly on the eastern banks of the lake is the majestic City Palace, a grand architectural marvel that offers a panoramic view of the city below. The palace, a fusion of Rajput and Mughal styles, narrates the rich history of Udaipur through its intricately designed courtyards, ornate balconies, and splendid archways. As the sun dips below the horizon, casting a warm golden glow over the city, the waters of Lake Pichola come alive with the reflections of the majestic palaces that line its shores. The iconic Lake Palace, seemingly floating on the tranquil surface, adds a touch of ethereal beauty to the already mesmerizing landscape. Boating on the lake during sunset is a surreal experience, as the soft hues of twilight gradually give way to the shimmering lights of the city, creating a magical ambience.






Udaipur is not just a city of palaces; it is also a haven for art and culture. The Jagdish Temple, with its intricately carved pillars and vibrant sculptures, stands as a testament to the city's spiritual roots. The Saheliyon-ki-Bari, or the Garden of the Maidens, is a serene retreat adorned with fountains, kiosks, marble elephants, and lush greenery, offering respite from the hustle and bustle of urban life.

The bustling markets of Udaipur are a treasure trove for those seeking traditional Rajasthani handicrafts. From vibrant textiles and embroidered garments to intricately designed jewelry, the markets showcase the skilled craftsmanship that has been passed down through generations.

Udaipur is not merely a destination; it is an immersive experience, where history, culture, and natural beauty converge to create a tapestry of unforgettable moments.

SCHEDULE

<p>DAY 1 – 8th Oct NEW DELHI Arrival at New Delhi</p> <p>Accom: Pride Plaza Lunch: Hotel Dinner: Hotel</p>	<p>DAY 2 – 09th Oct NEW DELHI - UDAIPUR</p> <p>Fly to Udaipur Accom: Karohi Haveli Lunch: Hotel Dinner: Hotel</p>	<p>DAY 3 – 10th Oct UDAIPUR</p> <p>Accom: Karohi Haveli Lunch: tba Dinner: Hotel</p>	<p>DAY 4 – 11th Oct UDAIPUR</p> <p>Accom: Karohi Haveli Lunch: tba Dinner: Hotel</p>	<p>DAY 5 – 12th Oct UDAIPUR - PUSHKAR</p> <p>Coach to Pushkar Accom: Gulab Niwas Lunch: tba Dinner: Hotel</p>	<p>DAY 6 – 13th Oct PUSHKAR</p> <p>Accom: Gulab Niwas Lunch: tba Dinner: Hotel</p>
<p>DAY 7 – 14th Oct PUSHKAR</p> <p>Accom: Gulab Niwas Lunch: tba Dinner: Hotel</p>	<p>DAY 8 – 15th Oct PUSHKAR</p> <p>Accom: Gulab Niwas Lunch: tba Dinner: Hotel</p>	<p>DAY 9 – 16th Oct PUSHKAR</p> <p>Accom: Gulab Niwas Lunch: tba Dinner: Hotel</p>	<p>DAY 10 – 17th Oct PUSHKAR</p> <p>Accom: Gulab Niwas Lunch: tba Dinner: Hotel</p>	<p>DAY 11 – 18th Oct PUSHKAR</p> <p>Accom: Gulab Niwas Lunch: tba Dinner: Hotel</p>	<p>DAY 12 – 19th Oct PUSHKAR - JODHPUR</p> <p>Coach to Jodhpur Accom: Jhankar Haveli Lunch: tba Dinner: Hotel</p>
<p>DAY 13 – 20th Oct JODHPUR</p> <p>Accom: Jhankar Haveli Lunch: tba Dinner: Hotel</p>	<p>DAY 14 – 21st Oct JODHPUR</p> <p>Accom: Jhankar Haveli Lunch: tba Dinner: Hotel</p>	<p>DAY 15 – 22nd Oct JODHPUR</p> <p>Accom: Jhankar Haveli Lunch: tba Dinner: Hotel</p>	<p>DAY 16 – 23rd Oct JODHPUR</p> <p>Accom: Jhankar Haveli Lunch: tba Dinner: Hotel</p>	<p>DAY 17 – 24th Oct JODHPUR</p> <p>Accom: Jhankar Haveli Lunch: tba Dinner: Hotel</p>	<p>DAY 18 – 25th Oct JODHPUR</p> <p>Accom: Jhankar Haveli Lunch: tba Dinner: Hotel</p>
<p>DAY 19 – 26th Oct JODHPUR – NEW DELHI</p> <p>Fly to New Delhi Accom: Checkout Breakfast</p>	<p> Onward Connections to home countries</p> <p> Extra night in Delhi with onward connections to home countries</p> <p> Onward travel within India</p>				

When you are on a Mystic Art Retreats tour, every detail is taken care for you so you can relax and truly experience each moment. Airfare to India is not included in the price of your trip. Please contact your local travel agency or the airlines directly to make any arrangements you may need. If you would like assistance with booking your flights or other travel plans, please contact Mukul Purohit (details below) who shall personally guide you on every facet of your travel planning.

PAYMENTS AND CANCELLATION

- 👤 USD 2900 on twin sharing, 50% deposit before 1st April, non-refundable
- 👤 USD 3600 on single sharing, 50% deposit before 1st April, non-refundable
- 👤 USD 2700 on twin sharing if 50% deposit paid before 1st March, non-refundable
- 👤 USD 3400 on single sharing, 50% deposit paid before 1st April, non-refundable
- 👤 Bank Details and Paypal details available following expression of interest to mp@mysticart.org (Mukul Purohit, Co-founder of Mystic Art Retreats)
- 👤 A separate terms and conditions contract shall be sent on signing up which shall list the conditions for refund and indemnifying us in case of illnesses that are not declared.

INCLUSIONS

- 👤 Savour wishful sites of three world renowned towns of cultural and historic significance
- 👤 Be led by internationally acclaimed multi-lingual artist Carolina Fonsesca who shall co-lead the dance immersion with three kalbeliya dance teachers
- 👤 Accommodation in New Delhi, Jodhpur, Udaipur and Pushkar in leisure (New Delhi) and heritage hotels (the three cities)
- 👤 Domestic Airfares
- 👤 All meals including Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner at places blending global and Indian cuisine
- 👤 All applicable inter-city transfers within Rajasthan and to places of sightseeing in Airconditioned coach
- 👤 Historic and Cultural sites and attractions in Jodhpur, Udaipur and Pushkar
- 👤 Be guided by our Executive Producer Mukul Purohit, cofounder of Mystic art retreats, who will masterfully orchestrate our trip and details
- 👤 Government educated English speaking guides

RAJASTHAN WEATHER IN OCTOBER

In the month of October, Rajasthan experiences a transitional period from the monsoon season to the cooler winter months. October is generally considered a pleasant and favorable time to visit Jaipur due to its moderate temperatures and relatively dry conditions. The average daytime temperature typically ranges from around 25°C to 35°C (77°F to 95°F), making it relatively warm but as the month progresses, the nights start to become cooler, with temperatures ranging from 18°C to 25°C (64°F to 77°F).

VISAS

If you haven't already, please do secure your airfare and Indian visa as soon as possible. It is very easy and quick to secure an e-visa. Rules vary dramatically depending on your passport and nationality. Be sure to check online as soon as possible for more detailed information. It is helpful to check your own country's travel advisories as well as the Indian Government website.

INSURANCE

We care about you but cannot be responsible if you become injured, ill, miss a flight, or need emergency transport. We recommend that you buy travel insurance. Policies cover missed flights, lost or stolen luggage, and most importantly, emergency evacuation.

PACKING LIST

A separate packing list produced by our co-founder Ekabhumi Ellik would be provided that covers all possible items you would need to bring with you on your journey to make it hassle free.

IMMUNISATION

The rules for citizens of different countries varies. We strongly suggest that you make an appointment to a travel medicine clinic as soon as possible. They will confirm if there are any immunisations that are required by India for your entry into their country, and make suggestions based on the season, location, and any recent outbreaks.

MONEY

All your basic necessities are covered, but it is still wise to bring some cash, which you can get changed at the airport. We suggest you get some cash for tipping, shopping, and snacks outside of the hotel. ATM machines are common. Credit cards are widely accepted. We recommend you call the contact number on the back of your cards to see if there are any foreign transaction fees for your credit and ATM cards, as well as to notify them of your travel plans so you don't get cut off by their security.

FOOD AND WATER

The general rule for food when traveling to India is “wash it, cook it, peel it, or forget it.” The well run hotels where we stay and the restaurants where we eat prepare foods in a sanitary manner, using distilled water to wash vegetables, and iodine to kill any bacteria. You should drink bottled water, and avoid ice cubes and frozen drinks if you are unsure of the water used for making the ice. Bottled water is provided by hotels for use when brushing your teeth. We provide purified or bottled water on all trips; however, in an effort to reduce waste, we strongly encourage you to bring a water bottle to refill where it is safe to do so.

DIGESTION AND GUT HEALTH

There are many tips people give for avoiding illness while in India, like taking supplements such as probiotics and grape seed extract. The best advice is usually the simplest: get enough sleep, cultivate strong digestion, use hand sanitizer, and avoid tap water. We have had no illnesses or upset stomachs from the food at the retreat, but we cannot control the quality of food you eat elsewhere. Make sure your digestion is strong. Not only does strong digestion and healthy gut flora help avoid food poisoning, it also supports general immunity and improves mood. Our host retreat will filter all water used to make your drinks and meals, so no worries in the dining room. Use bottled water for brushing your teeth (NOT THE TAP WATER) and rinsing your toothbrush. We suggest you bring hand sanitizer or “wet wipe” napkins in a sealed package to clean your hands, especially on field trips.

TRIP LEADERSHIP

Carolina Fonsesca: Carolina is a world renowned choreographer, dancer & teacher, who devotes herself to translating sacred languages of ethnic cultures in a contemporary form. Her practice harps on empowering local cultures through varied forms of ancient and contemporary movement.

Carolina Fonseca has dedicated her life in-depth studies of Dance. Since the age of 3,

she learnt competitive Acrobatic Gymnastics and then followed the study of Classical and Modern Dance and, in parallel, the study of Vajrayana Buddhist philosophy. Through the different Cultures and Traditions through which she traveled, and lived with nomadic peoples from Central Asia, Eastern Europe and South America, she absorbed and transformed translating gestures and cultures, freeing Dance from Folk exoticism, rediscovering human nature in the Sacred and the Profane. Carolina is completely dedicated to Dance, Performance and Choreography (Graphic and Choreo) Dance Teacher of the Danzaduende School Methodology), her root Master is Yumma Mudra and bases her knowledge on the study of Sophia and breathing developed by Koreosof Michel Raji.

Being multi-lingual and proficient in Spanish, Portuguese, French and English; Carolina's teaching style demonstrates a cross-cultural competence encompassing a large populace across the world.

PRODUCTION

Mukul Purohit
Executive Producer & Co-founder
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Mystic Art Retreats™ are immersive events in spectacular locations that serve to expand consciousness through creative expression and skillful craft.

These retreats are typically based around the arts as an avenue for encouraging the expansion of awareness, personal growth, and deep connection to the cultures we visit. Beauty, pleasure, and spiritual wisdom are key components of every retreat with the events meant to be inspiring and encouraging rather than challenging and disciplined.

The programming includes both fine art and performing arts. We believe that our retreats work best when we inspire in our participants a sense of wonder, awe, and delight in being exactly where they are in the present moment. Transformation and spiritual growth will happen naturally when we are in sacred places and making sacred art.

Our globally renowned experts from different sacred traditions lead art retreats at special venues that range from quaint palaces, natural stone homes and rural stays.