

financial year as well as availability of accommodation. The accommodation so earmarked, however, in no case exceed upto maximum of 30% of capacity of coach depending on the utilization of this quota during the last 6 month period.

- n. Out of the total berth potential of around 13.49 lakhs berths/seats per day, on an average, around 2.52 lakh seats/berths are available for booking under Tatkal / Premium Tatkal every day i.e. approximately 18.70% of the total accommodation.
- o. Instructions have also been issued to zonal Railways to introduce Tatkal scheme in the passenger trains in that train/class in which average utilisation during the previous financial year has been more than 60%. The minimum Tatkal charges prescribed for different classes will be applicable as flat Tatkal charges. All other conditions applicable to normal Tatkal scheme will be applicable in case of identified passenger trains.

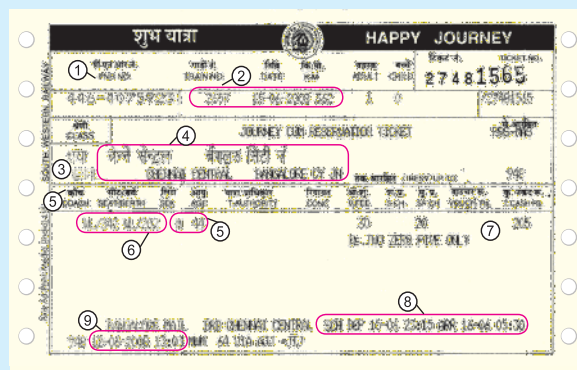
The Up-gradation Scheme

- With a view to optimise the utilisation of available accommodation in train, a scheme to upgrade full-fare paying passengers to the higher class without any extra charge against the available vacant accommodation is available in almost Mail/Express trains.
- The passengers are required to give the option for being considered for upgradation. If no option is given at the time of filling up of requisition form, the same is treated as “yes” and passenger(s) can be considered for upgradation.
- The passengers for upgradation are selected automatically (except in cases where the passenger has shown his unwillingness to be upgraded) on random basis by the System at the time of preparation of reservation charts.
- All the passengers on a ticket are upgraded together.
- It is not done for block booking transactions.
- If a passenger, who has been upgraded, cancels his ticket, cancellation charges of the original class only are payable. It is advisable to avail the facility (by exercising the option in the affirmative) and always to check the status (coach/ berth numbers) before boarding the train.

SALIENT FEATURES OF ALTERNATE TRAIN ACCOMMODATION SCHEME – “VIKALP”

- The Alternate Train Accommodation Scheme (ATAS) was launched under the name “VIKALP” on pilot basis only for the tickets booked through internet on two sectors i.e. Delhi–Jammu and Delhi–Lucknow sectors (November, 2015).
- The scheme is applicable to all passengers getting the status of waiting list at the time of booking irrespective of booking quota and concession.
- Under this scheme, Waiting list passengers can give choice to opt for VIKALP scheme.
- This scheme has been expanded to cover all type of trains on all sectors from 01.04.2017.
- All the passengers booked under the scheme are given an option for getting alternate accommodation irrespective of the fact whether the boarding/ destination station of the passenger are originating/ terminating/roadside station.
- No extra charges are taken from passenger or any refund is provided for difference of fare.
- VIKALP opted passengers who remain fully Waitlisted after charting will only be considered for allotment in the alternate train.
- Either all passengers of a PNR or none will be transferred to alternate train in same class. The passenger can be considered for shifting to a train leaving from any station amongst the cluster of stations defined by Railways based on the convenience of the passengers to a station serving the destination station on the same analogy.
- Waitlisted passengers of original train shall not be allowed to board the original train if allotted alternate accommodation.
- Passengers once provided alternate accommodation in alternate train will be treated as normal passengers in alternate train and will be eligible for up gradation.
- When a VIKALP opted passenger opts to cancel, after he/she has been given an alternate accommodation, he/she will be treated as a CONFIRMED passenger and the cancellation rules will apply accordingly.
- No refund for difference of fare between the original train and the alternate train, including Tatkal charges, if any, will be given to re-allocated passengers or realised from them.
- Once a VIKALP passenger has been allotted alternate accommodation, journey modification will not be permitted.
- When a passenger who has been allotted alternate accommodation has not performed his journey in the alternate train, he can claim for refunds by filing a TDR request.

KNOW YOUR TICKET



- 1 The Passenger Name Record (PNR) Number printed on your ticket is a unique number. Quote this number to check the status of your ticket.
- 2 Indicates the train number, date of journey, the distance for which the ticket is issued and the number of adults and children on your ticket.
- 3 Refers to the class of accommodation in which you intend to travel. Such class of accommodation is abbreviated as below.
IA-First AC; 2A-2-TierAC Sleeper; 3A-3-TierAC; EC - Executive Class; CC-AC Chair Car; FC-First Class; SL-Sleeper Class; II-Second Class Seat.
- 4 Indicates the originating and destination station of your journey as well as the station up to which you have sought a reservation. The name of such stations are displayed in both English and Hindi.
- 5 Indicates the confirmed status of your ticket. Viz. Coach No. A2, Berth/Seat No. 34, Sex: M (Male)/F (Female), Age : 38. In case you have AC First Class or First Class Ticket, the coach number or seat/berth number is not displayed. Such passengers may ascertain their actual accommodation status from the Reservation Chart.
- 6 Indicates your waitlisted position. Two such waitlist numbers are indicated: the first, is the **running waitlist number** and the second, the **current waitlist number** at the time of booking your ticket. The former is unique for a given train, date, route and class combination you are travelling on. Please look at the reservation chart with reference to your **running waitlist number to** instantly ascertain the final status of your ticket.
PQWL, RLWL, RSWL etc. indicate waitlist position of your ticket. PQ, RL and RS are internal codes used for operational reasons.
- 7 Indicates the amount paid for your ticket, both in words and figures. This may include charges such as Concession Amount (CONC) Reservation Fee (R Fee), Super Fast Charges (S.CH) and Voucher Charges (Vou. Ch)
- 8 Displays the name of the train, your boarding station and the date and time of your travel along with scheduled arrival time and date at destination station.
- 9 Displays the date and time you bought your ticket.

Can I book my tickets on a Credit Card?

Yes. For your convenience, Indian Railways have exclusive counters where you can reserve your ticket through credit / debit cards.

Can I book my tickets through Mobile Phone?

Yes. You can book reserved tickets through mobile phones. The procedure for booking is similar to that of booking tickets through Internet. For details, please visit www.irctc.co.in

Can I book my tickets through Travel Agents?

Yes, you can approach authorised Agents, who will book your tickets on payment of prescribed charges. No separate reservation quotas have been assigned to these agents.

Can I book meals through E-catering?

Yes, E-catering service has been started by Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) at all 408 A1 & A Category Stations and trains without pantry where passengers can book preferred meal of reputed brands through e-catering website as well as through phone and SMS. The website address is www.ecatering.irctc.co.in and phone numbers are 1800-1034-139 (Toll-free), 0120-4383892-99 (Toll) and SMS MEAL to 139 Further, a four digit all Indian Toll free no.1323 is operational along with a Mobile APP launched for this service. The list of the trains in which e-catering facility is available are shown in the above website.

Are there any special facilities provided by Indian Railways for foreign tourists?

Yes. Foreign tourists who wish to experience Indian by train, can enjoy the special facilities earmarked for them. These are explained below in greater detail:

BOOKING TOURISTS THROUGH INTERNET UPTO 365 DAYS IN ADVANCE

With a view to provide confirmed reservation to foreign tourists through Internet (e-ticketing) upto 365 days in advance, they have been allowed to book accommodation in Executive Class/1st AC/2nd AC Class in all trains including Shatabdi, Rajdhani, Duronto, Gatimaan etc. for which the fares are uniformly charged at 1.5 times the base fare by IR and IRCTC collects enhanced service charges of Rs. 200 per ticket. The procedure for the same is as under:

- i. For booking the tickets the passport number, Nationality and the international Mobile no. of the passenger has to be mandatorily entered for generation of the ticket.
- ii. All tickets are booked on applicable fare and no concession is admissible.
- iii. Payment is to be made only through international debit/credit cards. An SMS confirming the reservation of the ticket is sent to the registered mobile number.
- iv. The passenger who has reserved the ticket under this category has to carry the original Passport (given at the time of booking ticket) with valid visa as identity proof and make it available for check during the journey. In case the passenger is not able to show the original Passport with valid visa, the passenger is treated as without ticket and charged penalty equivalent to 3 times the fare of the ticket and if passenger fails to pay the penalty, legal action will be taken against the passenger.
- v. Eight berths (two cabins) per FAC, four berths (one cabin) per FACCW, Eight berth per 2A coach (two inside berth cabins) and ten seats per EC from general quota berths available in these classes are made available for booking 365 days in advance.
- vi. In case the party seeking berth is more than the available foreign tourist quota, the confirmed accommodation is provided up to the limit of foreign tourist quota and the remaining passengers are registered and provided confirmed accommodation on the opening day of reservation as per extant practice. However, fare for all such berths/seats is charged 50% extra uniformly.
- vii. In case of cancellation of the tickets booked under this facility by the passenger flat 50% of the fare is deducted in addition to the

cancellation charges applicable while refunding the amount. The time limit for granting 50% refund is as per extant Refund rules i.e. upto 4 hours before scheduled departure of train, through website only.

viii. No change of name is permissible on such tickets under any condition.

ix. Authorised ticketing agents are not allowed to book accommodation under Foreign Tourist Quota.

Assistance Cells: Major Reservation Centres have special Cells to help foreign tourists plan their itinerary, reserve their tickets and render any assistance required.

The International Tourist Bureau situated on the first floor of New Delhi Railway Station provides personalised service and assistance to foreign tourists and NRIs regarding reservations, itinerary planning and other enquiries. This Bureau is manned by trained staff and tourist guides, fluent in foreign languages. For any assistance, please contact: **The Manager, International Tourist Bureau, I Floor, New Delhi Railway Station, New Delhi-110 001.** Tel : 011-23405156, 23346804. Fax : 011-23343050.

Indrail Pass: This travel-as-you-please ticket has been created especially for foreign tourists and Indian nationals residing abroad. This ticket is available for a specified time period from 1/2 day to 90 days. Indrail Passes should be used within one year of issue. Validity period starts from the date of the first train journey and ends on the midnight of the last journey.

During the period of validity, foreign tourists can travel from anywhere to anywhere on the Indian Railways network without route or train restrictions and without payment of any additional charges.

What is the cost of the Indrail Pass?

The cost of the Indrail Pass varies with the class of travel and the validity period. For your convenience, the details are given as follows:

Period of Validity & Fare Structure (Fares in U.S. Dollars)^{*}

Period of Validity	A.C. First Class		First Class/ AC-2 Tire/ AC-3 Tier/AC Chair Car		Sleeper Class Second Class (Non-AC)	
	Adult	Child	Adult	Child	Adult	Child
1/2 day*	57	29	26	13	11	6
1 day*	95	47	43	22	19	10
2 days*	160	80	70	35	30	15
4 days*	220	110	110	55	50	25
7 days	270	135	135	68	80	40
15 days	370	185	185	95	90	45
21 days	396	198	198	99	100	50
30 days	495	248	248	126	125	65
60 days	800	400	400	200	185	95
90 days	1060	530	530	265	235	120

* For sale only by General Sales Agents. Please note: Fares are subject to revision.

Indrail Passes are also sold through General Sales Agents in Bahrain, Bangladesh, Finland, Germany, Kuwait, Malaysia, Nepal, Oman, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, the DAE and the UK.

Where are Indrail Passes available?

In India, Indrail Passes are available for sale in Railway Reservation Offices at: Ahmedabad, Aurangabad, Bangalore, Howrah, Chennai, Gorakhpur, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Mumbai, New Delhi, Pune, Secunderabad, Thiruvananthapuram Central, Vadodara, Varanasi and Vasco-da-Gama. Certain recognised Travel Agents are also authorised to sell these Passes in Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai.