



Information for International Students visiting IIT Mandi

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Reaching Mandi

The usual travel route to Mandi is via Delhi or Chandigarh. Please see below for different travel options.

From Delhi:

By bus/taxi: From ISBT (Inter State Bus Terminal), Kashmere Gate, Delhi, one can board buses towards Manali or Mandi. You can opt for different bus types ranging from ordinary to luxury. For more details, please visit the Himachal Road Transport Corporation website (<http://www.hrtchp.com/hrtctickets/>) or Himachal Pradesh Tourism Development Corporation website (<http://hptdc.gov.in/bus.htm>) for ticket bookings. Private buses are also available and could be checked online on RedBus website (<https://www.redbus.in/>) or MakeMyTrip website (<https://www.makemytrip.com/>). The road distance between Delhi and Mandi is about 475 km. It usually takes approximately 10-12 hours by bus between Mandi and Delhi (depending on traffic and other conditions). Traveling by taxi or personal vehicle generally reduces journey time by an hour.

By train: An alternative route to reach Mandi from Delhi is to travel by train up to Kiratpur Sahib by Delhi-Una Himachal express (Train number 14553). It takes approximately 3.5 hrs to reach Mandi from Kiratpur by road. The Kiratpur Sahib railway station is very small and a bit far from the bus stand. Thus you may need to travel by taxi between the railway station and bus stand. All the buses going from Delhi and Chandigarh to Mandi pass through Kiratpur Sahib bus stand. Another option to travel between Mandi and Delhi is to take a train up to Chandigarh (where, several trains are available). From Chandigarh, one needs to travel by bus or taxi to Mandi. For train bookings, please see the following IRCTC website (<https://www.irctc.co.in/eticketing/loginHome.jsf>).

By flight: The nearest airport to Mandi is Bhunter (Kullu) at a distance of about 75 km. This is a small domestic airport housing propeller aircrafts. The journey from Mandi to Bhunter (Kullu) takes about 1-hour by taxi (a bus may take longer). There is an Air India flight AI 9805 between Delhi and Bhunter in the morning (Departing Delhi at 6:35 am); however, flights to Kullu are prone to delays and/or cancellations in monsoon and winter months due to adverse weather conditions in the hills. Another option is to fly to Gaggal airport (Dharamshala) and then take a bus/taxi between Dharamshala and Mandi. For Delhi – Dharamshala flights, please see this website: https://www.makemytrip.com/flights/new_delhi-dharamshala-cheap-airtickets.html. It takes about 3-4 hours to travel between Gaggal airport and Mandi.

From Chandigarh:

By bus/taxi: The buses from Chandigarh to Mandi are available at the Sector 43A bus stand in Chandigarh. The other option to travel between Chandigarh and Mandi is by taxi. The distance between Chandigarh and Mandi is approximately 200 kms. This distance can be covered in approximately 6 hours by bus. By taxi, it usually takes around 5 hours to travel to Mandi.

Reaching IIT Mandi

IIT Mandi's main campus is located at Kamand, a village 20 kilometers from Mandi bus stand. After your arrival in Mandi town, you can come to Kamand campus by taxi or IIT Mandi shuttle bus. There are buses at every hour between IIT Mandi's Mandi campus and IIT Mandi's Kamand campus. IIT Mandi's Mandi campus is located above the Mandi bus stand (up the hill).

International students get accommodation in a hostel together with Indian students. Contact Mr. Pavin Samuel, Deputy Administrator (students) for questions related to hostel accommodation (pavinaas@iitmandi.ac.in). On the first working day after you arrival, please, visit the international office (Directorate Office-102, Kamand campus) to complete necessary formalities (which include submitting copies of your documents like passport, visa, passport-size photographs, and filling in form C). Your contact person in the international office is Ms Chandan Sharma (oir@iitmandi.ac.in). On the same day also visit Dr Astrid Kiehn (astrid@iitmandi.ac.in, office A1-321, Kamand campus) the non-administrative contact person for international students on campus. You will be assigned a faculty coordinator for issues related to academic activities. You will also get a copy of the student handbook which provides lots of information regarding life on campus.

Two Campuses at Kamand

There are two IIT Mandi campi: North campus (Salgi campus) and South campus (Kamand campus). There are student hostels, sports facilities, etc on both campi. A frequent bus shuttle is connecting the two campi. Earlier, all academic activities happened on South campus, but gradually, many of them are shifting to North campus.

Facilities at IIT Mandi

The Institute provides several facilities for sports, cultural activities, and hiking's. Please see the student's handbook for more details.

Medical Facilities

IIT Mandi has a small Medical Unit and it provides round the clock medical care to campus residents. There are two Medical officers and two nurses and other staff to provide general medical care. There is one ambulance to attend emergencies (Emergency Number: 9816663003). The Institute has tie-ups with several private hospitals in Mandi town. These include:

1. Mandav Hopital- Phone number: +91 -1905- 221922, 221923
2. Harihar hospital- Phone number: +91-1905 – 246600, 246605
3. Jagriti Hospital-Phone number: +91-1905-237037, +91-9816003020, +91-9816203020

Some Usual Question and Answers

Is there a bank on campus?

There are two banks on Kamand campus: State Bank of India and Punjab National Bank. These banks are located opposite Director's office, near security post. Banking hours are generally from 9 am to 3 pm on weekdays. Banks may also be open on every alternate Saturday of the month.

Where I can book Railway tickets and flight tickets?

For railway tickets, please see: <https://www.irctc.co.in/eticketing/loginHome.jsf>

For flight tickets, some popular websites include: <https://www.makemytrip.com/>, <https://www.yatra.com/>

Where to get safe drinking water?

All the hostels and messes have water purifiers. You may also buy bottled water from general store, near Cedar (D1) mess.

Whom to contact in case of Hostel related problems?

Mr. Pavin Samuel, Deputy Administrator (Students) on +91-1905-267016 (or via email: pavinaas@iitmandi.ac.in). In addition, each hostel has a caretaker and wardens. You can find details about caretaker and wardens from your hostel's notice board.

Whom to meet if some major difficulty arises?

The Advisor for International Students or your Faculty Advisor.

What things do you need to bring?

Documents, medicines and books which you would like to bring. A sleeping bag may be useful. It is essential to have appropriate health insurance while studying at IIT Mandi. You will be provided with only out-patient facility at IIT Mandi's Medical Unit (located on-campus). Thus, you should obtain a personal health insurance policy for yourself, which covers sickness and accidents before leaving your home country.

How to get local sim for cell phone?

There is a stationery shop outside Cedar (D1) mess. You can get a local cell number very easily after depositing a copy of your identity proof, passport size photographs etc.

How to access WiFi in the hostel?

Get in touch with Mr. Lalit Thakur (Email: lalit@iitmandi.ac.in Phone: +91-1905-267129).

How to travel to and from Mandi?

There are frequent buses between Mandi and Kamand, see the time table under http://www.iitmandi.ac.in/files/Institute_Vehicle_Schedule_%2025-09-18.pdf. Also, one can hire a taxi from Mandi to Kamand and Kamand to Mandi. The rate is close to INR 650 for a small car and INR 750 for large (Toyota Innova type) car. Please contact Mr. Sanjay for this purpose (Phone: +91-94184-00034). Mr. Sanjay can also assist you with local tours within the Himachal Pradesh state or travel to Chandigarh or Delhi.

Sightseeing in Mandi

There are lot of places for sightseeing around Mandi district. Please, see the following links for more details:

<http://travel.india.com/mandi/places-to-visit/>, <http://travel.india.com/mandi/places-to-visit/>

<https://www.ixigo.com/places-to-visit-see-in-mandi-lp-1098799>

<http://www.himachalworld.com/tourism-in-himachal/tourism-in-mandi.html>

Important Phone Numbers:

Director office: +91-1905-267001

Registrar office: +91-1905-267015

Dean (Students) office: +91-1905-267062

Office of International Relations (IR; Ask for Chandan Sharma): +91-1905-267132

Associate Dean (IR): +91-1905-267041, +91-862-797-4036

Advisor (IR): +91-1905-267053; +91-783-896-6476

Deputy Administrator (Students): +91-1905-267016

Medical Unit Office: +91-1905-267014 (Emergency number: 981-666-3003)

Security office: +91-1905-267098

Assistant Registrar (Academics): +91-1905-267058

Library: +91-1905-267059

Police: 100

Fire: 101

Ambulance: 108