Article Side
Rail Travel in India by Drue Bear

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India is one of the biggest countries in the world. There are different types of transport which connect one part of country to another. There are buses and private vehicles which connect short distance. Air carriers connect medium to long distances. However railways connect from small to medium to large distances. Railways are considered the best mode of transport in India due to several reasons. Firstly, they have extensive connectivity. There are local trains for daily people who commute on daily basis. There are small distance trains like Shatabdi which connect short distances. And then there are premium trains like Rajdhani, Duronto etc which connect medium to large distances. And as such railways is indeed the life line of common masses.

Earlier, you need to stand in long queue and get tickets from railways counter. However now you can get railway tickets online. You can visit railways website and get the tickets. There are two options available- iticket and eticket. Iticket is similar to your regular ticket and is delivered to your shipping address. So in order to book iticket, you need to book at least 2-3 days in advance. You can book iticket in confirmed/RAC/WL status. For etickets, you have to the option to book them even at the last moment just before the final chart gets prepared. You can only book these tickets if they are available and you canâ€™t book them if they in RAC or WL status. You can either take a print out or carry them in electonoc format on laptop, PDA, ipad etc. You also need to carry a identification papers like PAN card, voters card, unique identification number etc as it will be required by train ticket examiner.

The process for ticket reservation is very simple. When you register, make a note of account id and password for all future reservations. The process for booking train tickets is fairly simple. From your account, you can go to the ticket section and choose travel dates, source and destination station to see the available options. You will be shown a list of trains like Rajdhani, Duronto, Shatabdi and similar trains if applicable. You can then select preferred train and see if they are vacant or not. If train tickets are available, you can check fare and move to payment gateway. You need to fill some individual details like name, age etc and choose berth preference.

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Author is an associate editor for a Travel in India. We also provide information about Online Flight Booking, Holiday Packages and Flights Booking in India.

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