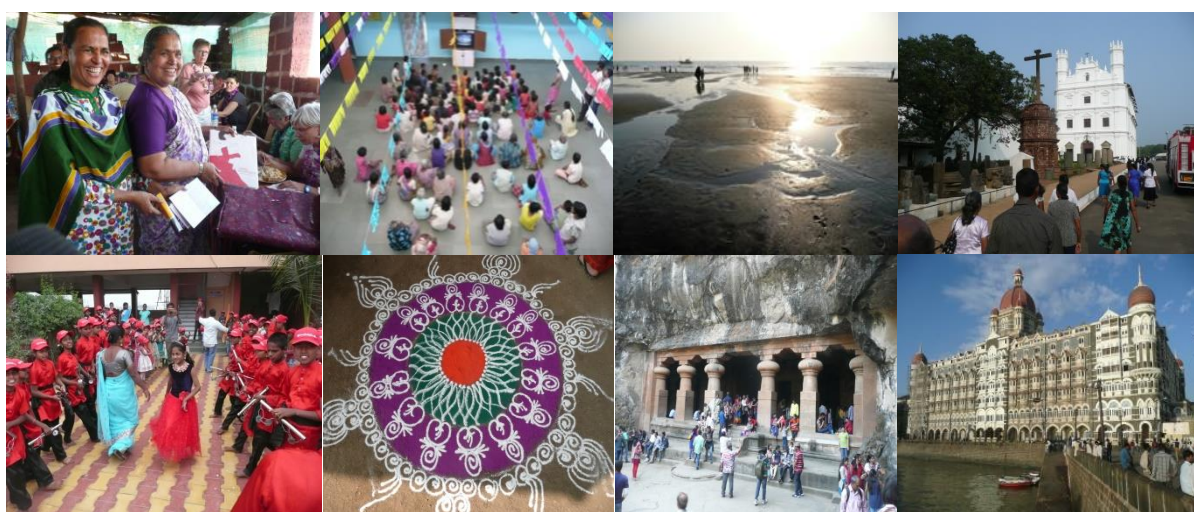


# Study Tour to India

**February 24 – March 8, 2020**

*The tour will take us to places of Sr. Lucy Kurien and the social organization MAHER („Mothers´ Home“) for women in distress, street children, elderly people, awareness projects, village development, etc. We will draw and paint, sing, dance and live together with mentally disturbed women, orphans and elderlies at Vatsalyadham near Pune in the state of Maharashtra. We will stay at the MAHER homes at Ratnagiri and at Miraj. We will also enjoy Goa with its colonial old town and its fabled beaches. A visit of Ness Wadia College of Commerce at Pune will give us insight into one of the top 25 business schools in India. We will take India nice and slow and share Indian joy of life at markets, in villages and in many encounters with wonderful people.*



## Program:

**Monday, Feb. 24:** 5:30 departure from Café Viele Leute Pfarrplatz 4, Linz to Munich in mini-bus, flight Lufthansa LH 766 Munich - Mumbai (11:10 – 23:55), bus transfer to Suba Palace Hotel, overnight stay. All members of the group will be checked in electronically on the previous day.

**Tuesday, Feb. 25:** City tour of Mumbai (9:30 -17:00) Victoria train station, laundry services at Dhobi Ghats, Haji Ali Mosque, Gandhi Museum, lunch, Amirchand Panalalji Jain Temple, Taj Mahal Hotel; shopping in the old town, dinner, overnight at Suba Palace Hotel.

**Wednesday, Feb. 26:** Boat trip to Elephanta Island, visit of the temples (UNESCO World Heritage Site), lunch, in the afternoon bus trip to Miraj (240 km), overnight at MAHER children´s home.

**Thursday, Feb. 27:** Meeting people at MAHER home at Miraj, trip to surroundings of Miraj, overnight at children´s home.

**Friday, Feb. 28:** Bus trip to Ratnagiri (190 km), overnight at MAHER children´s home at Ratnagiri.

**Saturday, Feb. 29:** Meeting people at MAHER home at Ratnagiri, trip to Jesuit church and to beach, overnight at children´s home.

**Sunday, Mar. 1:** Bus trip to Goa (250 km), overnight at XXX hotel.

**Monday, Mar. 2:** Visit of Old Goa and its Portuguese churches and buildings (UNESCO World Heritage), overnight at XXX hotel.

**Tuesday, Mar. 3:** visit of Old Goa and surroundings, overnight at XXX hotel.

**Wednesday, Mar. 4:** Flight Goa – Pune, Jet Airways 13:15 -17:15, transfer to MAHER women´s and children´s home at Vatsalyadham, overnight stay at Vatsalyadham.

**Thursday, Mar. 5:** Visit of Vatsalyadham and MAHER homes in the area, overnight at Vatsalyadham.

**Friday, Mar. 6:** Visit of Ness Wadia College of Commerce in Pune, meeting professors and students, at noon lunch at German Bakery, Pune market, old town, shopping, overnight at Vatsalyadham.

**Saturday, Mar. 7:** Visit of Karunalaya men´s home and other homes in the area, art workshop with women and children, in the evening transfer to Mumbai airport

**Sunday, Mar. 8:** Flight Mumbai – Munich on Lufthansa LH 767 (1:25 – 5:50), bus transfer to Linz. Advance electronic check-in for all participants.

**Services:** all flights economy class, transportation, hotels, overnight stays at Vatsalyadham in room for several people, full board at MAHER homes. Not included are meals, if not otherwise stated, visa fee (visas will be organized by tour guide), travel insurance (recommended). Minor program changes possible.

**Arrival, climate, health, currency:** For entering India Austrian citizens need a passport which is still valid 3 months after planned entry into India and a visa. Currency: 1 Rupie = 100 Paise (1€ = approx. 80 Rupies). Climate: between 10° und 30°C, average 1-2 rainy days/month, no vaccinations are required in India, recommended are hepatitis A and tetanus.

**Price: € 1.700**

**Preparation, events:** MAHER ([www.maherashram.org](http://www.maherashram.org)), founded and managed by Sr. Lucy Kurien from the order „Sisters of the Cross“, has been supported by the Linz City Parish and the Hartheim Institute for Mentally and Multiply Disturbed People“ near Linz for 16 years. In 2013 the book „beyond – an encounter in art“ was published in cooperation of Kulturformen Hartheim and MAHER.

As introduction to the trip we will have a preparatory evening and will watch the film „Sister Heart“ on Sr. Lucy and her work; date and venue to be announced.

**Bookings until October 15, 2019 at:** Wolfgang Schwaiger, 4060 Leonding, Aichbergstraße 73, Tel.: 0699 17 25 02 53, Mail: [wolfgangschwaiger@gmx.net](mailto:wolfgangschwaiger@gmx.net)