

Things to Bring with you to MUWCI

Our current MUWCI students and the Head of Admissions have created this suggested packing overview to help you figure out what to bring with you to MUWCI. The list is general advice on what will be useful, especially for students from overseas who may not have a chance to return home for a while. Please keep in mind that you can buy most things in Pune! To get some idea of what things are available in India and their comparative costs, please visit [Amazon India](#).

Note: We recognise students who come to UWC Mahindra College from a variety of socio-economic backgrounds and have different budgets and ideas of what items are 'essential' and what are 'luxuries'. Excessive displays of wealth and overly consumerist attitudes have no place at UWCs. When budgeting and packing for your UWC experience, you are encouraged to think about what it will mean to live in a community with such differences.

Clothing:

Most students wear summer clothes that are light and breathable, including cotton t-shirts, blouses, leggings, dresses, skirts, shorts and capris. Jeans, pants, and light sweaters are preferred in the evenings and in the cooler winter months (Dec – Jan). It is encouraged to bring activewear in order to engage in sporting activities (and activity trivenis). These could be any cotton/synthetic breathable shirts, shorts and trousers. One set of formal clothes is nice to have for festive occasions, as well as a national costume for regional celebrations.

Clothes should be modest and make you comfortable to participate in activities on campus, in the villages, or further afield. When going off campus, it's best to ensure clothing covers shoulders and knees, and that necklines and waistbands are not too low. Clothes should also be easy to self-laundry in the washing machines without complicated fabric care instructions.

Student Pro Tip: It is recommended to bring lots of underwear and socks so you can go longer without having to do laundry! 😊. Having some clothes that you don't mind getting dirty or torn could be useful for events like Holi, project weeks, and more.

Shoes:

Open flat shoes are popular with many students, but it is useful to have a pair of closed shoes (eg. sneakers or loafers), especially when traveling. Running shoes or other athletic shoes are necessary, depending on your preference of sports activities. Hiking shoes are also highly recommended, especially in the rain and during the Orientation Programme at the start of the year. (These shoes are also available for purchase in India). A pair of formal shoes to go along with clothes for special occasions is optional.

Student Pro Tip: A pair of sturdy rain-proof shoes (see: hiking shoes, OR rain boots or

water-proof sandals/flats) will be indispensable during the monsoons (Aug – Sept). Also a pair of slippers/slides for inside your room can help keep the floor clean. Crocs are a pretty good choice though.

Special Clothing & Accessories:

- Monsoon: you will want to bring a raincoat (should have good rain protection, but not too warm), a sturdy umbrella, and rain boots or rain proof shoes/sandals with good tread (gumboots are highly recommended).
- Hiking: for Travel Week treks you will need a winter jacket (very warm gear required only for North India/Himalayas are available to borrow) .
- Sports: specific sports shoes depending on activity, sports clothes, cap, lots of socks.
- Swimming shorts/briefs or one piece-swimsuit (**two-piece suits aren't allowed at the MUWCI pool**). A swim shirt can be beneficial to avoid sunburn or if you have sensitive skin.

Toiletries & Medication:

Most big multinational cosmetic brands are available in India. Bring some toiletries to get you started for the first few days. You can purchase soap, shampoo, toothpaste, laundry detergent and other daily essentials from Paud, the nearest town. If applicable, bring sanitary products of your choice, though tampons (OB non-applicator type) and sanitary napkins are available in department stores.

Student pro tip: bring menstrual hygiene products that you are used to and comfortable with will last you until you find products here that you like.

Bring a basic first aid kit and a small amount of over-the-counter medication that you're familiar with and use to treat everyday ailments like headaches, cuts, indigestion, and so on. If you are on prescription medication(s) please bring your own supply or follow instructions about ensuring availability with the doctor for procuring these locally via the Medical Center.

Room Décor:

The college provides bedsheets, pillowcases, and blankets. You must bring towels or purchase your own here (bring a small one for the first few days which you can use for travel later). Also useful is a small blanket you can use on trains and buses.

Items like a laundry basket, shower caddy, decorative lights, desk organizers etc. can be bought in Pune. Some students also like to bring small portable speakers for music.

Student Pro Tip: Bring photos, mementos, wall hangings, flags, art work, and so on to decorate your room and make it feel familiar and cozy.

Documentation:

Keep your valuable documents safe in your personal room safe. You can carry photocopies of all your documents (passport, visa, national ID etc.) when you are off campus, as well as digital scans stored in your email or in the cloud in case of loss. You should also keep details of any

ATM/Debit cards you will bring, including information to report loss.

Technology:

MUWCI requires every student to have the following (if you are a scholarship student and unable to afford any of these items please contact the Admissions Office for details about items available on loan):

- Laptop or Netbook
- Scientific Calculator: All students are required to have a scientific calculator for IB Math, SAT & ACT exams. Any of the TI (Texas Instruments) 84 models are acceptable. TI Nspire models are acceptable so long as they are non-CAS and version 1.3 or higher. If these models are not easily available you will be able to purchase one through the college vendor for approximately Rs. 10,000/- per device. The college will only loan a scientific calculator in emergency exam situations and to students on the Admission office designated list.

Mobile Phone: All students are expected to have a smartphone. Phones should be unlocked and functional on GSM networks. This is part of the safety requirements for students to travel without supervision.

Food:

Bring special foods from your country that you won't find in India! Non-perishable foodstuffs (tinned, dried, or pickled) can be a wonderful treat to share with your friends. Do also bring any specialty cooking equipment or utensils (e.g. coffee press) that are specific to your part of the world. You can buy basic cutlery, mugs, plates, and pots in Pune.

Student Pro Tip: Bring enough snacks to last you the first few days on campus in case you need to adjust to the food. Sharing some snacks from home is also a great way to bond with your roommates!

Odds & Ends:

Some other useful items:

- English Dictionary for translations from your native language. (The IB allows you to use a hard-copy translating dictionary for non-language examinations. The dictionary should not contain notes and is only permitted if English is not your best language. Electronic dictionaries are NOT permitted, so bring a paper version from home)
- Camera (DSLRs are also available on short term loan from school, but bring one if you have it — there are active photography and videography clubs on campus)
- Backpack for school
- Larger Hiking Backpack for travels (also available for loan from school, with sleeping bag)
- Insect Repellent / Bug Spray
- Locks
- Universal Multiplugs / Adaptors
- Spare chargers
- Small Torch / Flashlight
- Small purse or wallet (crossbody sling for safety)

- Water bottle and travel mug
- Musical instrument (if small and portable)
- Some favorite stationery supplies to get you started
- Non-marking adhesive hooks or tack to attach things to the wall • Flag of your country / region
- Energy & enthusiasm for many adventures!

What NOT to bring: large amounts of cash, expensive clothes or accessories (including jewelry), too many electronic devices, pets, and items against the [UWC Code of Conduct](#).