

Destinations of India

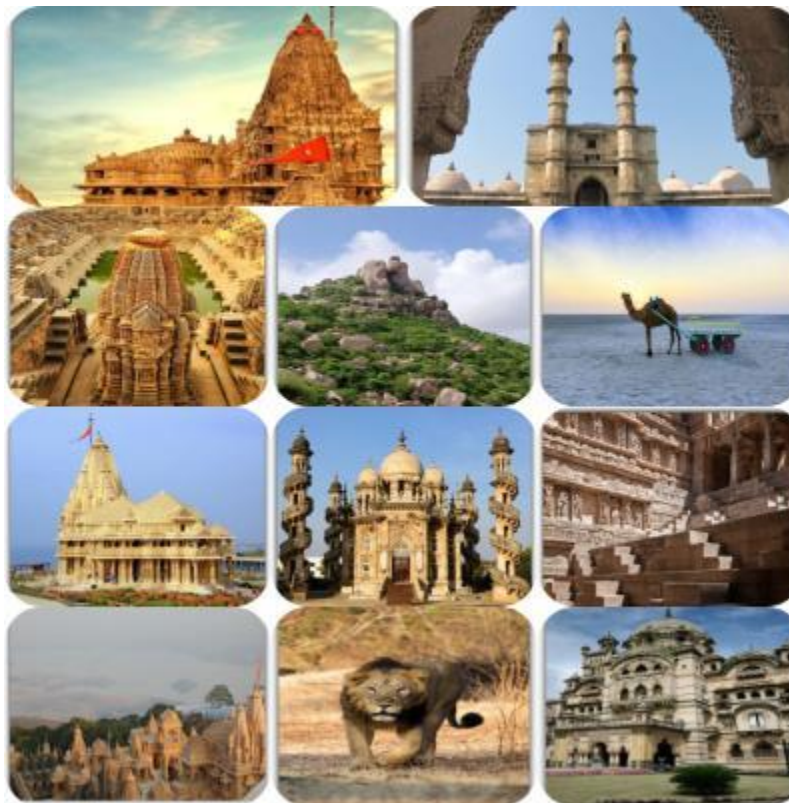
(Premium Meeting & Travel Company)

No 88/3, Ground Floor, 1st Main Road, Radha Krishna T. R. Nagar Bangalore- 560028 INDIA PH: +91- 80 – 26764868 560028

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Gujarat Tourism



Gujarat is a state in western India known for its rich history, vibrant culture, Gujarat is a treasure trove of cultural, historical, and natural wonders, making it a prime destination for tourism.

Geography: Located on the western coast of India, **Capital:** Gandhinagar. **Largest City:** Ahmedabad. **Language:** Gujarati **Festivals:** Navratri , Uttarayan (kite festival), and Diwali are major festivals. **Cuisine:** Known for its vegetarian dishes like dhokla, thepla, and khandvi,

TOURISM HIGHLIGHTS

Somnath Temple: One of the 12 Jyotirlingas of Lord Shiva, known for its magnificent architecture and spiritual significance. **Dwarkadhish Temple:** Located in Dwarka, it is one of the Char Dham pilgrimage sites dedicated to

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Lord Krishna. **Modhera Sun Temple:** A beautifully carved temple dedicated to the Sun God, built during the Solanki dynasty.

Rani ki Vav (Queen's Stepwell): A UNESCO World Heritage Site in Patan, renowned for its intricate carvings and stunning architecture.

Champaner-Pavagadh Archaeological Park: A UNESCO World Heritage Site featuring forts, temples, and mosques. **Rann of Kutch:** A vast white salt desert that transforms into a cultural hub during the Rann Utsav, featuring folk music, dance, and handicrafts.

Gir National Park: The only home of the Asiatic lion, offering safaris to witness these majestic creatures in their natural habitat. **Saputara Hill Station:** Gujarat's only hill station, known for its lush greenery, waterfalls, and cool climate.

Marine National Park (Jamnagar): India's first marine park, featuring coral reefs, mangroves, and marine life.

Statue of Unity (Kevadia): The tallest statue in the world, dedicated to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, surrounded by attractions like a valley of flowers, light shows, and adventure activities.

Sabarmati Ashram (Ahmedabad): The residence of Mahatma Gandhi, offering a glimpse into his life and teachings. **Kankaria Lake (Ahmedabad):** A scenic lake with activities like boating, a zoo, and a vibrant night market.

Kutch Handicrafts: Famous for embroidery, mirror work, and Bandhani (tie-dye) textiles. **Patola Silk:** Exquisite double ikat silk sarees from Patan. **Terracotta and Wooden Crafts:** Found in various rural areas, showcasing traditional craftsmanship.

Desert Safari in Kutch: Explore the vast salt flats on camel or jeep safaris.

Nalsarovar Bird Sanctuary: A haven for migratory birds, perfect for bird watching and boating.

Zarwani Waterfall (Kevadia): A scenic spot ideal for trekking and picnics.

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HIGHLIGHTS OF GUJARAT

(10 NIGHTS 11 Days)

(AMD 2N- JAMNAGAR 1N

(Ahmedabad – Bhuj 1 - Jamnagar - Dwarka - Porbandar - Somnath - Diu - Sasangir – Ahmedabad)

DAY 01 – BY ROAD – 425 KMS / 08 HRS – AHMEDABAD TO BHUJ

Arrive Ahmedabad and drive to Bhuj; Arrive Bhuj and transfer to your hotel.

Bhuj, the historic city named after Bhujiyo Dungar hill, is a quintessential desert town nestled between Bhujiyo Dungar to the east and Hamirsar Lake to the west. Established in 1510, this major town of Kutch showcases a medieval character with its surrounding wall, atmospheric bazaars, crenelated gateways, old palaces, and striking temples **Overnight at hotel**

DAY 02 – IN BHUJ

Today after breakfast proceed for day excursion to Banni villages. (North Bhuj)

Amidst the infinite desert landscape, you'll find quaint villages near the India-Pakistan border showcasing traditional crafts and lifestyles. Bhirandiyara, a popular tea stop en route to Khavda, is known for its delicious Maavo. The Meghwal community here is famous for their exquisite embroidery and colorful Mud Bhungas.

Ludia Village, consisting of hamlets belonging to the Meghwal and Samma communities, features beautifully painted Bhungas and colorful Kanjaris. Khavda pottery, an art form unique to North Kutch, involves men shaping terracotta and women decorating it with clay-based paints. The pots, made from Rann ka mitti, are distinct due to their red color from Geru and unique community-specific designs..

White Rann: the spectacular sight of boundless white desert is the stunning creation of nature, unique to this world.

Overnight at hotel

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DAY 03 – BY ROAD – 250 KMS / 05 HRS – BHUJ TO JAMNAGAR

After breakfast drive to Jamnagar, Arrive Jamnagar, and transfer to your hotel.

Jamnagar or the city of Jams was one of the most important princely states of Saurashtra. Today, the 200km long Jamnagar coast is dotted with several industries run by corporate giants in the region. Jamnagar itself is a centre for the brass industry, bandhani fabrics and zari work. But it's the princely past that attracts visitors-the Pratap Vilas Palace in a renaissance style, the 16th century Darbargarh Palace with a festival of stone sculptures, the impressive Willingdon Crescent, the museum at Lakota Island Palace of Jamsarovar Lake and statues of famous cricketing prince Ranjit Singhji. Also, worth seeing are the Maqbaras, the colorful sculpture of Sonapuri and the Jain temples in the city centre. Later Visit Bala Hanuman Temple: Bala Hanuman Temple is a pilgrim place venerated by the devotees of Lord Rama. It is a world-famous temple, known for the continuous chanting of Jai Ram, Shri Ram. The chanting is going on since 1964 and has found a place for it in the Guinness Book of World Records. People chant the name of the Lord in shifts, 24hours a day. **Overnight at hotel**

DAY 04 – BY ROAD – 145 KMS / 03 HRS – JAMNAGAR TO DWARKA

After breakfast drive to Dwarka, Arrive Dwarka and transfer to your hotel.

The small coastal town of Dwarka is one of the four most holy Hindu pilgrimage sites in India. It is here that Krishna founded his capital after leaving Mathura. Excavations have revealed 5 earlier cities at the site, all submerged. The present town dates largely to the 19th century and attracts thousands of pilgrims to celebrate the Holi, Diwali and Janmashtami festivals. The must visit Dwarkadhish Temple is the main crowd drawer here. The multi pillared Sabha Mandapa in this temple leads to a 60-pillared sanctum sanctorum that dates back 2500 years according to the scriptures.

Later visit Bet Dwarka, Nageshwar Temple, Rukmani Temple, and Gomati Talav. The visit of Dwarka is not complete without a visit to Bet Dwarka, an island at 30 Kms. Off the coast of Okha port, At Bet, there are temples of Vishnu (in the form of 'matsya'), Radha, Lakshmi, Satyabhama, Jambuvanti and Devaki. A ferry ride from Dwarka to the island of Bet near Okha makes a pleasant outing. Nageshwar temple is situated towards Okha dedicated to Lord Shiva and houses one of the 12 Jyotirlingas in an underground chamber. Then visit Gomati Village, Gomati Talav and Gomati Mandir. **Overnight at hotel**

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DAY 05 – BY ROAD – 250 KMS / 05 HRS – DWARKA TO SOMNATH

Early morning visits the Dwarkadhish Temple and witness the Aarti. After breakfast drive to Somnath visiting Porbandar enroute.

Porbandar, located on the Saurashtra peninsula along the Arabian Sea, is known for its historical significance and vibrant trade history. Once described as Sudamapuri in Skanda Purana, it flourished through trade with Africa and Arabia. The city, established by Rana Sartanji in 1785, was the capital of the Jethwa Rajput princely state and features impressive city planning with stone buildings and rich carvings. Porbandar, the birthplace of Mahatma Gandhi, is also known for its fine silk and cotton, along with chemical factories and cement works.

Kirti Mandir, the house of Mahatma Gandhi and his wife Kasturba, now serves as a small museum with a Gandhian library and prayer hall. Bharat Mandir features a relief map of India and historical figures.

Somnath, with its rugged sea and legendary shore temple dedicated to Lord Shiva, is a symbol of resilience, having been destroyed and rebuilt multiple times. The temple, one of the twelve Jyotirlingas, was originally built in gold by the Moon God, later in silver by Ravana, in wood by Krishna, and finally in stone by Bhim Dev. Mahmud of Ghazni plundered the temple in 1024 AD, but it was rebuilt in 1950 with support from Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

Bhalka Tirth, located between Veraval and Somnath, is where Lord Krishna was mistakenly wounded by an arrow and left his human form.

Overnight at hotel

DAY 06 – BY ROAD – 100 KMS / 02 HRS – SOMNATH TO DIU

After breakfast drive to Diu, Arrive Diu and transfer to your hotel.

A beautiful blend of sun, sand and sea, Diu is a God's gift to those in quest of a blessed land where the weary weight of this unintelligible world can, for a while, be lightened and the waking soul can hear the music of the nature. This tiny island of breeze, beauty and serenity situated off the southern tip of the Saurashtra (Kathiawad) peninsula of Gujarat, lapped by the Arabian Sea, is a picture of calmness with superb beaches and fascinating history.

St. Paul's church: The Church adorned with curiously treated volutes & shell-like motifs and the magnificent wood carving is the most elaborate of all the Portuguese churches in India.

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St. Thomas Church Museum: A huge edifice in gothic architecture was built in 1598. A part of it has been converted into a museum an Archaeological treasure house.

Diu Fort: This majestic structure stands on the coast of Diu sentinel. Once inside, you are overwhelmed by the gaunt majesty of the ancient stonework which transports you to a bygone era of gallant soldiers where time stands still.

Nagoa beach: The Nagoa beach is incredibly beautiful & quiet. It is an exceptionally beautiful horseshoe (semi-circular) shaped beach. **Overnight at hotel**

DAY 07 – IN DIU

Day is at leisure.

Overnight at hotel

DAY 08 – BY ROAD – 120 KMS / 02 HRS – DIU TO SASANGIR

After breakfast drive to Sasan Gir, popularly known as Gir, the most famous lion sanctuary in India. And the one place in the subcontinent where Asiatic Lions can be found in the wild.

Sasan Gir is on the south-western border of Saurashtra peninsula in Gujarat and is home to nearly 400 Asiatic lions. The Sanctuary was created in 1913 to provide protection to the largest surviving groups of the Asiatic lions and was given the status of the sanctuary

The lion safaris are popular among tourists & jeeps are freely available for touring the forest. Though the most famous inhabitants of the park are Asiatic lions, but it also provides natural habitat to lot of other species like Chital, Chinkara (Gazelle) Four-horned antelope, Leopard, Nilgai, Spotted deer, Wild boar, Wild ass, Monkeys, Parrots and Peacocks, many other birds etc **Overnight at hotel**

DAY 09 – BY ROAD – 375 KMS / 07 HRS – SASANGIR TO AHMEDABAD

After breakfast drive to Ahmedabad. If interested, visit the Sidi Tribal villages on your way out of the Gir jungle. These tribals came to India from Africa as slaves to the emperors and made India their home. African by looks, Indian by clothes and Gujarati by language - a unique blend, interaction with whom must not be skipped.

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Arrive Ahmedabad and transfer to your hotel. Ahmedabad- the world heritage city is Located on the banks of the river Sabarmati; the city was founded by Sultan Ahmad Shah in 1411.

The old city of Ahmedabad is dotted with labyrinthine by-lanes guarded by huge gates called 'polls'. The exquisite carved wooden mansions and havelis are marvellous. The city also offers a rich architectural legacy that blends Hindu and Muslim schools of architecture, stone and brick with arches, domes and vaults, carved pillars, trefoil designs besides the modern buildings designed by the famous French architect, Le Corbusier, and Louis Kahn.

Overnight at hotel

DAY 10 – IN AHMEDABAD

After breakfast proceed for city tour of Ahmedabad.

Gandhi Ashram: Set up by Mahatma Gandhi in 1915 along the Sabarmati River, this peaceful retreat was the center of India's freedom movement. The Dandi March began here in 1930. The simple cottage, Hridaya Kunj, is now a national monument. Visitors can buy souvenirs and enjoy the serene environment.

Sidi Sayed Mosque: Famous for its intricate stone window tracery, this mosque features exquisite carvings that transform stone into filigree.

Hutheesingh Jain Temple: Built in 1850, this temple is the best-known of Ahmedabad's ornate Jain temples, located outside the Delhi Gate. **Adalaj Step-well:** Situated 17km north of Ahmedabad, this richly carved step-well serves as a prime example of rainwater harvesting and resting place for travelers.

Akshardham: Located in Gandhinagar, this modern Swaminarayan temple is built from pink Rajasthan sandstone and features intricate sculptures and beautiful interiors. It is set in a multi-acre garden called Sahajanand Van and is closed on Mondays

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DAY 11 – BY AIR / TRAIN – DEPART AHMEDABAD

Today in time transfer to Ahmedabad Airport / Railway Station to board flight / train for your onward journey to your next destination.

****** TOUR ENDS ******

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