

Gujarat at a glance...

Mumbai - Ahmedabad – Diu – Gir – (Junagarh) – Rajkot – Bhuj – Jamnagar - Mumbai

DAY 1 ARRIVE MUMBAI

Arrive Mumbai & you will be received and taken to the hotel

Once a "Portuguese princess" dowry and later an adornment of Neo Gothic British architecture, Mumbai today, is more than just a metropolis. It is in fact an enigma of mud huts and skyscrapers, age old traditions and high fashions, the industrialist's haven and Indian movie makers' Hollywood. The city is constantly changing whilst also standing still in the past -the city's name was changed in recent times to Mumbai, derived from Mumbadevi, the patron goddess of the Koli fishermen, its oldest inhabitants.

Meals included: None

Overnight:

DAY 2 MUMBAI



This morning you will be taken for an excursion to visit the Elephanta Caves -reached by a one hour boat ride from the Gateway of India. This early 8th-century religious sanctuary is a shrine dedicated to Shiva, the Hindu god of destruction and regeneration. The Portuguese named the island because of large stone elephant sculptures they discovered on the island, and which were

moved to Bombay's Jijamata Udyan (Victoria Gardens).

After visiting Elephanta Caves you will return to Mumbai to explore the city visiting the Gateway of India, The Prince of Wales Museum, the Victoria Terminus and Dhobi ghats. The Gateway of India was built during 1924-1927 to commemorate the visit to India of King George V of England in 1911. It is the most enduring symbol of the city. Next to the Gateway of India is the Prince of Wales Museum built in 1911 -one of the biggest museums in the country. The Victoria Terminus, popularly known as VT is the major railway station

and is considered the most beautiful edifice in the city. Dhobi Ghat or washer man's enclave provides a very interesting insight into Bombay's local culture.

Meals included:

Breakfast Overnight:

DAY 3 MUMBAI - AHMEDABAD

Morning you will be transferred to the airport for your flight to Ahmedabad. On arrival transfer to your hotel

Meals included: Breakfast

Overnight:

DAY 4 AHMEDABAD

Situated on the banks of Sabarmati River, the city of Ahmedabad has a large number of tourist attractions to lure travellers. From mosques to temples, monuments and museums, there is a lot to explore while on a trip to this walled city. The city has a combination of Hindu, Muslim and Jain places of worship. These places of worship are adorned with magnificent traditional architecture and attract hordes of tourists across the globe. During your sightseeing you will visit Siddhi Sayad Masjid, Swaminarayan Temple. In the afternoon visit Gandhinagar – Akshardam Temples and Adalaj Stepwell on the way back visit return to your Hotel.



Meals included: Breakfast

Overnight:

DAY 5 AHMEDABAD - BHAVNAGAR



After an early breakfast, drive to Bhavnagar (approx 5 hours drive), visiting Lothal en-route. On arrival check –in at your resort

Lothal is an ancient dock belonging to the Indus Valley Civilization when it moved down from Sindh to the Saurashtra coast to establish trading zones and was among the first places where the

remains of Indus valley civilisation was discovered in India.

On arrival you will check-in at your hotel. Later in the evening enjoy a short visit to the city

Meals included: Breakfast

Overnight:

DAY 6 BHAVNAGAR -DIU

Early morning drive to Diu (approx 4 hour 30 minutes drive), en-route visit the temple at Palitana

Palitana is a gateway to Shatrunjaya, the Place of Victory. It is famous as one of Jainism's holiest pilgrimage places. The climb up 2 kms (Palanquins can be arranged for those unable to climb) to the hill will lead you into 863 different Jain temples built over a period of 900 years. The most important temple is dedicated to Sri Adhiswara, the first tirthankar a Jain Founder) nearby is the Muslim shrine of Angar pir. Childless women come here and make offering of miniature cradles at this shrine to become mothers.

On arrival in Diu, check in at your resort

Meals included: Breakfast

Overnight:



DAY 7 DIU

The day is at leisure. You can choose to explore the city or take a stroll around the beach.

Meals included: Breakfast

Overnight:

DAY 8 DIU – GIR NATIONAL PARK

After a leisurely breakfast, you will be driven to Gir (approx 3 hours drive)

Located in southwest Saurashtra, the Gir forest extends across an area of 1,412 sq. km. and is clothed by a combination of grassland, scrub and forests of teak that grow on lateritic soils. An aerial view reveals low undulating hills rising from a height of 225 to 648 m. Apart

from being the last and only home to the asiatic lions, Sasan Gir is also a great place to see leopards, or panthers as they are also called. Sambar, chital (now abundant), nilgai (the largest Indian antelope), four horned antelope and chinkara, langur and wild boar. Porcupine, hare and jackal are also found in Gir. Other carnivores such as wildcats, jackals, foxes, hyenas and ratels are found in the park. There are abundant species of reptiles in Gir, the most visible of which are the marsh crocodile, which can be seen in the rivers and the Kamleshwar dam reservoir. Monitor lizards are also possible to see. Pythons, cobras, the fish-eating keelbacks and whipsnakes are some of the other snakes that inhabit the park.

There are more than 200 species of birds have been listed from Gir, including raptors such as Ospreys, Perigrine Falcons, Fish Owls, Crested Serpent Eagles, Bonelli's Eagles, Goshawks and Pale and Montagu's Harriers. Some of the water birds include Redshanks, Jacanas, Plovers, Marsh Sandpipers, Ruddy Shelduck, Spotbills, Shovellers, Nakta, Little



Grebes, Lesser Whistling Teal, Ibis and Painted Storks. Other avians that might keep birdwatchers busy are Wrynecks, Nightjars, Pygmy Woodpeckers, Indian Pittas, Shrikes, Drongos, Barbets, Indian Rollers, Grey Partridge, Jungle Bush Quail, Painted Sandgrouse, Green Pigeons, Paradise Flycatchers, Bush Larks, Bee Eaters, Minivets and Warblers.

Enjoy evening safari in the park.

Meals included: All meals

Overnight:

DAY 9 GIR NATIONAL PARK

Morning enjoy a game in the National Park. Midday is free to relax or walk in and around the Lodge. Afternoon enjoy a game drive in the National Park.

Meals included: All meals

Overnight:

DAY 10 GIR NATIONAL PARK – JUNAGARH -RAJKOT

Morning drive to Rajkot (approx 5 hour 30 minutes drive), en-route visiting Junagarh.



Junagadh, an ancient city, is situated in erstwhile Saurashtra, at the foot of Mount Girnar on the northern fringes of the Gir forest . Through various phases of history, Junagadh is described with equal importance and for many centuries it was the capital of the western region of Gujarat. Stippled with hills, the medieval city of Junagadh derives its name from an old fort called by the same name.

On arrival in Rajkot, check in at your hotel

Meals included: Breakfast

Overnight:

DAY 11 RAJKOT - BHUJ

After breakfast drive to Bhuj (approx 2 hour 30 minutes drive) where you will check in at your hotel

In the evening enjoy visit to the Bhuj city and local markets.

Meals included: Breakfast

Overnight:

DAY 12 BHUJ

Enjoy a full day excursion to Bunny tribal villages like Tunda Vandha is a unique Rabari village in this village most of the male population is generally away from the village. You will have the opportunity to see their art and culture (*Special permit are required to visit Bunny villages- Cannot be arranged on Sundays, 2nd and 4th Saturdays and public holidays*)

Meals included: Breakfast

Overnight:

DAY 12 BHUJ –JAMNAGAR

Morning drive to Jamnagar (approx 5 hours drive)

Evening enjoy visit to the market to see the tie and dye work on textiles

Meals included: Breakfast

Overnight:

DAY 13 JAMNAGAR

Enjoy full day excursion to Dwarka (approx 2 hours 30 minutes drive each way)

As a city that is result of archeological excavations there are plenty of places to see in Dwarka. It is the city where Lord Krishna established his kingdom to spread peace and happiness and purge the world of all things evil. Among the places to visit in Dwarka the Jagat Mandir is the most important one. Then there are some other Dwarka tourist attractions such as the Sharada Peetha and Bet Dawrka.

Meals included: Breakfast

Overnight:



DAY 14 JAMNAGAR – MUMBAI – ONWARD DESTINATION

In the late afternoon you will be transferred to the Jamnagar airport for your flight to Mumbai around noon. You will be met on arrival and taken to a hotel near airport where you have **day use room for wash and change**. Later in the evening, you will be transferred to the International Airport for your onward flight back home

Meals included: Breakfast

*****End of the Arrangements*****