





# Glimpses of Gujarat & Mumbai (09 Days/08 Nights) ITINERARY

India is a land of diverse culture and ethnics. Blessed with holy rivers, lush greenery, beautiful temples with exquisite architectural style draws the attention of the travelers. This tour covers The beautiful Indo-Saracenic architecture of Ahmedabad, The world's tallest 'Statue of Unity' at Kevadia, Sasan Gir the only habitat of the 'Asiatic Lions'. A desert ride at the 'Wild Ass' Sanctuary, as well as Mumbai the Bollywood town. A vibrant and rich experience of India...

# 05 Dec 25 Fri – Pune / Ahmedabad by Air

Today make your own way to Pune airport for your flight to Ahmedabad

Depart Goa by Akasa Air Flight QP-1510 ETD 1755 hrs Arrive Kochi "Economy Class" ETA 1930 hrs

Upon arrival at Airport of Ahmedabad – **The Manchester of East**, you will get a warm welcome and will be escorted by representative to the hotel. After the check-in process, the representative will introduce the tour and hand over the documents to you. Relax in the hotel for the rest of the day.

Overnight: 3 star level Hotel Le Grande Residency, Ahmedabad or similar https://www.legranderesidency.in/

#### 06 Dec 25 Sat Ahmedabad Tour

After breakfast, we start tour of from Gandhi Ashram, it is from here that Gandhi started his struggle for the Untouchables in 1917 and where he lived for 15 years. To-day, they manufacture spinning wheels, handmade paper and other craft products. The unadorned rooms where Gandhi lived have been turned into a museum. Next, learn about the Jain religion, which is particularly strong in Gujarat at the Hathi Singh Temple. The graceful Rani Sipri Mosque showcases some lovely minarets and the Jama Masjid, the biggest in the city, ranks as one of India's most stunning. We also take you on a Bazaar Walk in the Old City. On one side are the crowded streets leading to Manek Chowk Bazaar surrounded by historical structures. This Bazaar is a Bullion Market in daytime and Food Market by night. Witness rows of traders dealing in silver jewellery to printed local fabrics. As you walk past the Old Havelis (family homes), look up and see the exquisitely carved wooden balconies, windows and doorways. Next we visit Sidi Sayed mosque, built in 1573, is one of the most famous mosques of Ahmedabad. The mosque is entirely actuated. The mosque has ten screen windows (jails) on the side and rear arches. We also visit **Dada Hari Vav** which was built in 1499 by a woman of Sultan Begara's harem. This way has steps to lower platforms, terminating at a small, octagonal well. The depths are cool, even on a hottest day. Neglected and often borne dry, it is a fascinating place. Later drive to Adalaj, visit step well is an architectural wonder built by Queen Rudabai and is certainly one of the finest monuments of Gujarat. It is a seven-storied structure in the form of a well with chambers one behind the other. The 'Vav' or stepped wells of Gujarat were used as meeting and resting-places during summer since their cool interiors offered unbelievable respite from the scorching sun outside. In the winter people warmed themselves on the spacious sunny corridors while wide verandahs offered shelter during the rains. After tour return to Hotel and relax.

Overnight: 3 star level Hotel Le Grande Residency, Ahmedabad or similar https://www.legranderesidency.in/

### 07 Dec 25 Sun – Ahmedabad / Kavedia (200km, 4hrs drive)

After breakfast we drive to Kavedia famous for statue of unity, Sadhu Bet (Sou) and check in at Hotel

Afternoon visit Statue of Unity the **world's tallest statue** with a height of 182 metres (597 ft) located on a river island facing the Sardar Sarovar Dam on the river Narmada in Kevadiya colony. It is a colossal statue of Indian statesman and independence activist Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel (1875–1950) who was the first deputy prime minister of India and the chief adherent of Mahatma Gandhi during the non-violent Indian Independence movement; highly respected for his leadership in uniting the 562 princely states of India to form the single large Union of India without any bloodshed. Evening we take you for **Sound and Light Show** at Statue of Unity.

Enjoy **Dinner** at your Hotel.

Overnight: 3 star level Hotel Grand Unity, Kavedia or similar https://www.thegrandunityhotel.com/

# 08 Dec 25 Mon -Kavedia / Bhavnagar (200km, 4hrs drive)

After breakfast we drive to Bhavnagar and check in at Hotel

Afternoon we take you for tour of **Gandhi Smriti** inaugurated in the year 1955, the complex situated in the central part city is attached to a clock tower. The Smriti has a gallery showcasing books, rare photos and memorabilia associated with the life of Mahatma Gandhi. Next we visit **Barton Museum** - the 19th century Barton Library is one of the oldest libraries of the city. Later return back to Hotel.

Overnight: 3 star level Hotel Top3 Lords, Bhavnagar or similar <a href="https://www.lordshotels.com/hotels/top3-lords-resort-bhavnagar">https://www.lordshotels.com/hotels/top3-lords-resort-bhavnagar</a>

## 09 Dec 25 Tue – Bhavnagar / Sasangir (230km, 5hrs drive)

After breakfast we drive to Sasangir National Park has been the only habitat of the **Asiatic lion**. During the British Raj, lions were hunted mercilessly by the British officers assisted by the obliging Maharajas and Nawabs. Every Maharaja was proud of the number of lions or tigers he killed during his lifetime. In the year 1899 the famine decreased the lion population so badly that Lord Curzon cancelled his shoot in Gir where he had been invited by the Nawab for a 'Shikaar'. The Lord Curzon also advised the ruler to protect the remaining lions. By the time India achieved independence, the number of lions gets increased, but they were once again hunted by the Maharajas. The Government of India banned the hunting of lion in the mid 1960 and now this park is open only for the photo safaris. The Gir National Park later became a major tourist attraction in India. About 300 lions are found in this park. Upon arrival we check in at Hotel.

Rest of the day Free to relax or do your own activities.

Enjoy **Dinner** at your Hotel.

Overnight: 3 star level Hotel Anantam Resort, Sasangir or similar https://www.anantamresort.com/

#### 10 Dec 25 Wed –Sasangir Jungle Safari

Wake up to a golden dawn and we take you to **shared jeep safari** inside Sasan Gir - The Gir Forest National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary. A guide will accompany you for your morning game drive into the Gir forest; keep your fingers crossed for a sighting of the majestic and extremely rare **Asiatic lion!** Experience the magic of the wild all around you as you venture deep into this natural habitat, with everything from tiny wild birds, not easily seen, but heard, singing in the forest canopy, to crocodiles sunning themselves in marshy waters.

Afternoon again we take you to **shared jeep safari** inside Sasan Gir - The Gir Forest National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary. A guide will accompany you for your morning game drive into the Gir forest; keep your fingers crossed for a sighting of the majestic and extremely rare **Asiatic lion!** Experience the magic of the wild all around you as you venture deep into this natural habitat, with everything from tiny wild birds, not easily seen, but heard, singing in the forest canopy, to crocodiles sunning themselves in marshy waters.

**Travel Note:** Lion safaris traditionally take place at dawn and dusk when the big cats are on the move, hunting. In the morning, after tea or coffee and biscuits, you depart on your first Lion safari of the day. On your return, take breakfast and a few hours of leisure walking the grounds, or napping. In the late afternoon embark on a second safari to catch the best time of the evening to view Lions and photograph the park. Your naturalist will speculate where you can likely see the Lions emerge from the forest. On your return, a few hours of leisure and take Dinner before sound Sleep.

Enjoy **Dinner** at your Hotel.

Overnight: 3 star level Hotel Anantam Resort, Sasangir or similar https://www.anantamresort.com/

# 11 Dec 25 Thu – Sasangir / Bajana (309km, 6hrs drive)

After breakfast we drive to Bajana and check in at Hotel

Later, drive out for a **village safari** to meet the varied communities that call the Rann their home. You will find the Agarias, salt-panners, hard at work drying out the salt. Visit the homes of the Rabari tribe and experience their way of life. After tour return back to hotel.

Enjoy **Dinner** at your Hotel.

Overnight: 3 star level Royal Safari Camp, Bajajan or similar <a href="https://www.theroyalsafaricamp.com/">https://www.theroyalsafaricamp.com/</a>

#### 12 Dec 25 Fri – Bajana / Ahmedabad (110km, 2.5hrs drive) / Mumbai by train

Morning we take you for **shared jeep safari** into the deceptively named Little Rann of Kutch, explore the Wild Ass Sanctuary here is one of the few places to spot the **Indian ghudkar**, or **Asiatic wild ass**. Other species here include the desert fox, jungle cat, jackal and several birds. Since there is virtually no vegetation for animals to hide behind, they are easy to spot while driving around.

After your visit to the sanctuary, we drive to Ahmedabad train Station to board train to Mumbai.

Depart Ahmedabad **20209 Vande Bharat Express** ETD 1500 hrs Arrive Mumbai CSTM "AC Chair Car" ETA 2025 hrs

Upon arrival you will be met and transferred to your Hotel for Checkin. Rest of the day free to relax.

Overnight: 3 star Level Hotel Juhu Plaza, Mumbai or similar https://www.juhuplazahotel.com/

## 13 Dec 25 Sat – Mumbai City Tour / Pune by train

After breakfast in morning we proceed for city tour of Mumbai visiting a well-known 140 year old Washermen's Colony in an Openair Laundromat locally called **Mahalaxmi Dhobi Ghat** and the biggest human-powered washing machine. You might just spot your own Hotel clothes here. Next we visit **Mani Bhawan** that was the political activity headquarters for father of India 'Mahatma Gandhi'. Afterwards, we take you to the Mumbai Harbor waterfront located bold arch **Gateway of India** that was built to welcome 'King George V' and 'Queen Mary' into India. Here we enjoy a photo-stop outside the popular Taj Mahal Palace Hotel and then explore the **wealth of colonial era buildings** present around, including Bombay High Court, Bombay University and **Prince of Wales Museum** that showcase a world-class collection of ancient artifacts. Later we visit UNESCO world heritage site **Victoria Terminus Train Station** built in 1888 showcasing finest Victorian-Gothic architecture and famed location for film 'Slumdog Millionaire'. Visit few sights of Bollywood film City. Our tour ends at the famed bazaar of British Bombay called Crawford Market operating since 1869 as the oldest flea market in the world. If time permits we take a stroll at Chowpatty Beach area to enjoy the sunset and return to Hotel via a drive past the popular Marine Drive that illuminates at night and resembles a Queens Necklace when viewed from above. After tour we transfer you to Mumbai train station to board your train to **Pune**.

Depart Mumbai CSTM by 12123 Deccan Express

ETD 1710 hrs ETA 2025 hrs

Arrive Pune "AC Chair Car"

Upon arrival in Pune make your own way to Sangam.







\*\* Namaste, Bon Voyage and see you again \*\*

#### **Travel Notes:**

- Domestic flight pick up transfer timing ranges from 2-3 Hours prior to flight departure timing.
- India Hotel Check-in time at 1400 hrs / Checkout time 1100 hrs at hotels.

\*\* End of our services \*\*

# Package Inclusions:

- ➤ <u>8 Night's Accommodation of Twin/Double room inclusive of daily Breakfast, Dinner & taxes except in Ahmedabad and Bhavnagar where only breakfast will be provided.</u>
- Transfers, Tours, Excursion by Aircond. Vehicle throughout the Itinerary.
- ➤ All Entrance fees/tickets/permits at monuments/Guides as per itinerary
- > 02 shared jeep rides in Sasan Gir; 01 Shared Jeep Ride in Bajana; Sound and Light Show at Kavedia.
- ➤ 02 Bottle of Mineral Water Per Person Per Day in Vehicle during excursion
- ➤ Current Government of India Goods & Service Tax (GST)

## **Package Exclusions:**

- ➤ India Tourist Visa
- > Travel Insurance (if any)
- ➤ Lunches throughtout the Itinerary & Dinners at Ahmedabad & Bhavnagar
- Gratuities/Tipping (this is not mandatory and a prerogative of the guest)
- ➤ Items of personal nature use such as Porterage, laundry, phone bills, drinks etc.
- Video Camera fees at monuments and parks
- Early check-in and Late check-out at hotels, if not mentioned in inclusions
- Any item not mentioned in cost includes column





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