

CULTURAL GUJARAT

16 Nights / 17 Days

Hodka-2, Mandvi-2, Bhuj-1, Dasada-2, Sasangir-2, Diu-2, Ahemdabad-5

Day 1

Hodka >>Hodka Village/Nakhtrana Village



Today, arrive at Bhuj proceed to Shaam E Sarhad Resort at Hodka Village/Nakhtrana Village where you have the pleasure to stay in Traditional Bhungas (Mud houses) or Family tent. The day ends with a traditional dinner at the resort and a folk music performance around a bonfire Overnight stay at the resort.

Day 2

Hodka - Banni & Pachcham Region - Hodka



Today, get ready to explore the Banni and Pachcham regions and the edge of the Great Rann of Kutch. Visit Dhordo village, Bhirandiyara village, Ludiya village and Khavda village. Later visit Kalo Dungar (Black Hill) and Dattatray Temple, which provides the view of the Great Rann & sunset. Return to the resort. Overnight stay at the resort.

Day 3

Hodka >> Mandvi



Today, proceed to the coastal town Mandvi. Visit Vijay Villas Palace –summer retreat of the royal family. Enjoy balance day at the beach. Overnight stay at the hotel.

Day 4
Mandvi



The day free for many activities based on your interest like, Visit to Organic Farm; 72 Jain Temple Complex; Shipping Yard at Mandvi Port or spend the balance day at the Beach. Overnight stay at the resort.

Day 5
Mandvi >> Bhuj



Today, proceed to Bhuj visit places like Aina Mahal Museum, Pragmahal Museum, Bhartiya Sanskriti Darshan Exhibition & Cenotaphs of Royal Family. In the evening back to Hotel.

Day 6
Bhuj >> Dasada



Today, proceed to Dasada (Rann Riders Camp). Check in to the hotel. Rest of the day is free for leisure & wild life safari & enjoyment. Overnight stay at the hotel.

Day 7
Dasada



Rest day is free for leisure . Overnight stay at the hotel

Day 8

Dasada >> Sasangir



Today, proceed to Sasangir. Sasangir, is the home of the Asiatic Lion. In the afternoon Visit Gir Interpretation Zone at Devaliya. Crocodile breeding farm, Gir Information centre. Watch movie on lion at Gir Information centre in the evening. Overnight stay at the hotel.

Day 9

Sasangir



Today, enjoy the morning and evening game drives in Gir National Park. A tapestry of dry deciduous forests, acacia scrub and grassland, fed by rivers and reservoirs. Overnight stay at the hotel.

Day 10

Sasangir >> Diu



Today, Proceed to beach town Diu. The day is at leisure to laze and relax on the beach. Overnight stay at the hotel.

Day 11

Diu



The morning is at leisure to enjoy the wide variety of water sports facilities available at Nagoa Beach. Later, visit St. Paul's Church, Diu Museum and Diu Fort. Overnight stay at the hotel.

Day 12

Diu >> Ahmedabad



Today, proceed to Ahmedabad, Check In to the hotel. Day is Leisure.

Day 13-17

Ahmedabad



AHMEDABAD

Ahmedabad was founded by sultan ahmad shah in the year 1411 a.d with Blessings of his spiritual adviser shaikh ahmad khattu ganj baksha of Sarkhej at the site of an old town of ashawal and karnavati. Ahmedabad grew In wealth and splendour for a hundered years and became the centre of Skilled craftsmen and merchants. The ancient monuments in and around the City of ahmedabad may be broadly grouped under two main periods, the first That of ahmad shah - 1 datable to the first half of the 15th century a.d. , And the second , the period of mahmud begada, datable to the second half of 15th century a.d.

Major Attractions in Ahmedabad

Ahmad Shah Mosque

Dating from 1414, this was one of the earliest mosques In the city and was probably built on the site of a hindu temple, using Parts of that temple in its construction. It is in the south - west of the Bhadra. The front of the mosque is now a garden. Apart from the traces of a Sanskrit inscription dated in samvat 1307 (a.d 1250) on one of the Pillars, there is an arabic inscription over the central mihrab which Assigns the erection of the mosque on the 4th shawwal a.h. 817 (1414 a.d) To ahmad shah 1.

Jami Masjid (Jumma Mosque)

It is built by city founder sultan ahmad Shah in 1423 near three gates (tran darwaja) the architecture of the Mosque are hindu and muslim. It as 260 pillars supporting domes arranged Symmetrically. Pleasent illumination without glare is achieved from the External roof into the dome and admitted through clerestory windows. The Special feature of the mosque is the muluk khana or the royal gallery, Which is a platform standing on pillars and enclosed upto the roof with Beautifull stone work.

Calico Museum of Textiles

It is situated in the aristocratic premises of The sarabhai family in shahibag, is the finest museum of textiles. From a Modest beginning in 1940, it has blossomed into one of the richest Collection of indian textiles covering textiles picked from all regions of India and from all periods of history. Exhibits include a wide range of Embroidered shamianas, wall hangings, costumes, saris and embroidered Known as phulkaris, kalamkaris, juxtaposed artistically. However, the Emphasis is on religion and religious textiles as one enters the vaishnava Section. Exhibits of a pustimarga shrine which leads to galleries with Pichhwais and patchitras (painting on cloth) of immense historical

value And intrinsic beauty leaves one spellbound. The jain gallery recreates the Atmosphere of a derasar (jain temple) with its domed wooden ceiling in Maratha style. There are numerous other exhibits of which mention must be Made of the palanquin of the maharaja of holkar, 17th century patola from Patan exported to bali, kalamkaris made for the british market in the same Period, 18th century tie and dye karuppar saris, 12th century block Printing exported of bali, window curtains for the portuguese market, Gujarati chintz made for the east india company, 18th century tie and dye From bhuj and patan patolas.

Gandhi Ashram (Sabarmati Ashram)

Situated on peaceful stretch of the River sabarmati, gandhiji set up a simple retreat in 1918. Laying down the Objectives of the ashram, gandhiji wrote " to take training for the National service which is not contrary to universal well being and Constantly endeavouring for such national service, is the aim of this Ashram. " gandhiji first stayed in vanatshala a place where handlooms were Installed, but later on moved to ' hridaykunj ' the pulse of the ashram. This spartan accomdation was to witness gandhiji's evolution from mohandas To mahatma, who rose to be the ' father of nation ' . The first struggle That gandhiji spearheaded from sabarmati ashram was that of textile mill Workers. Soon after, there was a kheda satyagraha. Directed by his inner Voice babu gave a call to break the salt law and embarked on a 385 km march With his 79 followers. On 12th march 1930 babu commenced on this trail, Setting the nation blaze with the spirit of defiance.

Sidi Sayyad Mosque

Situated near lal darwaja, it has earned world wide Fame for its magnificent stone tracery. In this tracery , three trees and Four palms have been equally spaced and the pattern is spread over the Whole surface evenly. It is a fine example of indo - saracenic architecture And its models in minature are best known soveniers of the city.

Hatheesingh Jain Temple

Built outside delhi gate in 1848 by a rich jain Merchant sheth hatheesingh, it was designed by premchand salat and is Dedicated to dharmanath, the fifteenth tirthankar. Built in pure white Marble and profusely decorated with rich carvings. It is surrounded by an Imposing row of cloisters containing 52 shrines, each with an image of a Tirthankar

Shreyas Folk And Art Museum

It is run by a priavate trust, is a living Repository of folk objects which attempt at documenting on the spot study Of traditional crafts and technology. The communities whose culture had Been studied are kathi, rabari, charan, ahir, bharvad, kanbi, koli, mer, Bhansali, rajputs, brahmins, banias, meghvals, khojas, vohras, memons, Miyanas etc. The exhibits pertain to costumes and handmade articles by These communities.

Sarkhej Ka Roza

Mausoleum of mahmud begara and beside the tank and Connected to his tomb, that of his queen, rajabai (1460). Also by the Tank is the tomb of ahmad khattu gaj baksh, a renowned muslim saint and Spiritual adviser to ahmad shah. The saint is said to have died in fine Mosque - the perfection of

elegant simplicity. It is notable for the Complete absence of arches, a feature of muslim architecture, the palace With pavilions and a harem is also around the tank.

Museum Of Tribal Research And Training Institute

Situated at the gujarat Vidyapith, clay figures, ornaments and musical instruments are the medium Of statement for the tribals and a vast array of these are catalogued and Presented in this museum. The clay figure of tigers, elephants, the Drawings of ' pithora dev ' and his kinsmen are displayed besides the masks Worn by the kokna tirbe of south gujarat. The range of tribal musical Instrument includes dhol (drum) , nagara (small drum) , flutes, tali (Cymbals) , temro (like sitar) , dobru and tadpu (saxophone type) etc.

Adalaj Step Well

Located on outskirts of ahmedabad, buitl in 1499 a.d. by Ruda rani, wife of raja virsingh a vaghela rajput. It has a entrance from Three sides with open colonnades on increasing height and complexity over The staircase landings. The decoration of the columns, curved brackets and Lintels is highly elaborate with repeated freizes and ornamentation of Animal motifs and deities.

Nalsarovar

From November to February this 116 square km lake is a home for vast flocks of indigenous and migratory birds-ducks, geese, pelicans, and flamingoes.

Akshardham

It is a unique cultural complex built in Gandhinagar in memory of Lord Swaminarayan. Is is an intricately carved, majestic monument built of 6000 tons of pink sand stones. The entire monument was built without the use of steel and consist of a 7 feet gold leafed idol of Lord Swaminarayan and his holy relics.

Gandhinagar

Is Gujarat's new capital city which rises on the west bank of the Sabarmati river, about 32 kms north east of Ahmedabad. Occupying an area of 57 sq. kms Gandhinagar presents a spacious, well designed look of an architecturally integrated city. Extensive planting of trees and large recreational areas along the river give the city a fresh, green garden city atmosphere. The famous temple of Swaminarayan is also built in Gandhinagar.

Kankaria Lake

It is a circular lake constructed in 1451 by Sultan Qutub-ud-Din. In the center of the lake is an island garden with a summer palace known as Nagina Wadi. A zoo is also established over there. A mini train, boating and other various types of games and activites are being held in Kankaria Lake.

Day 17
Ahmedabad Dep



After breakfast, depart for airport drop