

## Colors of Gujarat 09 Days / 08 Nights



\* Ex - Ahmedabad

Ahmedabad, Bhavnagar, Sasan Gir & Diu

### **Tour Itinerary**

#### **Day 1 : ARRIVE AHMEDABAD**

Welcome to Ahmedabad, the largest city in Gujarat. On arrival at airport / railway station in Ahmedabad in Ahmedabad, begin your '**Colors of Gujarat**' tour. You will be met and transferred to your hotel. Later, proceed on a half day city tour of Ahmedabad visiting Gandhi Ashram, Calico Museum, Utensils Museum, the Jami Mosque and finally Akshardham which is dedicated to Lord Swaminarayan. The rest of the evening is at leisure. Overnight in Ahmedabad - None (Meals on your own).

#### **Day 2 : AHMEDABAD \* EXCURSION TO MODHERA SUN TEMPLE AND PATAN (102 KMS / APPROX. 3 HOUR DRIVE)**

This morning, proceed on an excursion to the Sun Temple at Modhera that dates back to the early 11th century. This temple has been designed in such a way that the Sun's rays illuminate the sanctum at dawn, during the time of the equinoxes. En route visit Patan that has over 100 Jain temples; the most important being the Mahavir Swami Derasar in Dhandherwad with an exquisitely carved wooden dome and the other being the Rani ki Vav, an excellent example of subterranean architecture of Gujarat. The rest of the evening is at leisure. Overnight in Ahmedabad (B).

#### **Day 3 : ON TO BHAVNAGAR VIA LOTHAL (235 KMS / APPROX. 6 HOUR DRIVE)**

This morning, drive to Bhavnagar via Lothal visiting the Lothal Harappan archaeological site. On arrival in Bhavnagar, check-in into your hotel. Lothal is one of the most prominent cities of the ancient Indus valley civilization. Lothal's dock-the world's earliest known, connected the city to an ancient course of the Sabarmati river on the trade route between Harappan cities in Sindh and the peninsula of Saurashtra when the surrounding Kutch desert of today was a part of the Arabian Sea. It was a vital and thriving

trade center in ancient times, with its trade of beads, gems and valuable ornaments reaching the far corners of West Asia and Africa. Bhavnagar, located at the Southern tip of Peninsula Gujarat with its principle port Gogha as the entrance to the Gulf of Cambay, has been a predominant city for trade and commerce. The rest of the evening is at leisure. Overnight in Bhavnagar (B).

**Day 4 : BHAVNAGAR \* EXCURSION TO PALITANA (60 KMS / APPROX. 1 HOUR DRIVE)**

This morning, visit the Palitana temples located atop Shatrunjaya and crowned with over 900 temples. The peak is a 3 km climb of over 3500 steps from the town and on each temple one can see detailed carvings. The rest of the day is at leisure. Overnight in Bhavnagar .(B)

**Day 5 : ON TO SASANGIR (300 KMS / APPROX. 7 HOUR DRIVE)**

This morning, proceed to Sasangir, home to the Asiatic Lion. On arrival, check-in to your hotel. Sasan Gir Forest is today the only place in the world outside Africa, where the lion can be seen in his natural habitat. The forest also harbors a variety of smaller animals and birds. Other predators are the Panther and the Hyena. The Indian Deer, Sambar, Chital (spotted deer), Nilgai (blue bull), Chinkara and the Chowsingha (four horned antelope) are found here, along with the bear and the long tailed langur. The rest of the day is at leisure for independent activities. Overnight in Sasangir (B, L, D).

**Day 6 : SASANGIR**

Today, you will visit the Gir Wildlife Sanctuary, a hilly tract of mixed dry deciduous and teak forests interspersed with grasslands. Visit the Kamleshwar Dam Reservoir; habitat to the crocodiles. A water reservoir created by a dam on the river Hiren. Kamleshwar presents a panoramic view of Gir hills and forest. The water body also harbors large population of crocodiles and is a good spot to observe water birds.

**Note: The park is closed from 15th June to 15th October.**

The rest of the day is at leisure for independent activities.(Safari Booking - on your own).Overnight in Sasangir (B, L, D)

**Day 7: ON TO DIU (130 KMS / APPROX. 3 HOUR DRIVE)**

Today, your journey takes you to the beach town of Diu. On arrival, check-in to your hotel. The rest of the day is at leisure to laze and relax on the beach. Overnight in Diu (B).

**Day 8: DIU**

This morning, enjoy the Nagoa Beach located in the Nagoa hamlet. The horseshoe beach is exceptionally beautiful and quiet. Proceed on a city tour visiting St. Paul's Church, its construction was completed in the 17th century. A curious thing about the St. Paul's church is the frontage which has been decorated with intriguingly indulgenced volutes and ornamentation strikingly similar to shells. Also visit the Diu Museum, it proudly displays idols, wooden carvings, shadow clocks, statues and various other artifacts acquired from numerous sources. The museum also plays host to a wide collection of Catholic statues.

Later visit Diu Fort, right at the shoreline, with a magnificent view of the seashore and the sea. The rest of the day is at leisure. Overnight in Diu (B).

**Day 9 : ON TO VERAVAL (90 KMS / APPROX. 2 1/2 HOUR DRIVE)**

Today, bid farewell to '**Colors of Gujarat**' tour, as you are transferred to the railway station in Veraval for your onward journey. (B)