

# PRAVEG'S TOURISM ONE

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A high-end monthly magazine

**7 Indian Travel Web Series**

**14 Unbelievable  
Places on Earth**

**Night Sky Photography  
in the Himalayas**

PRAVEG'S TOURISM ONE | October-2018





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# MUST-STAY

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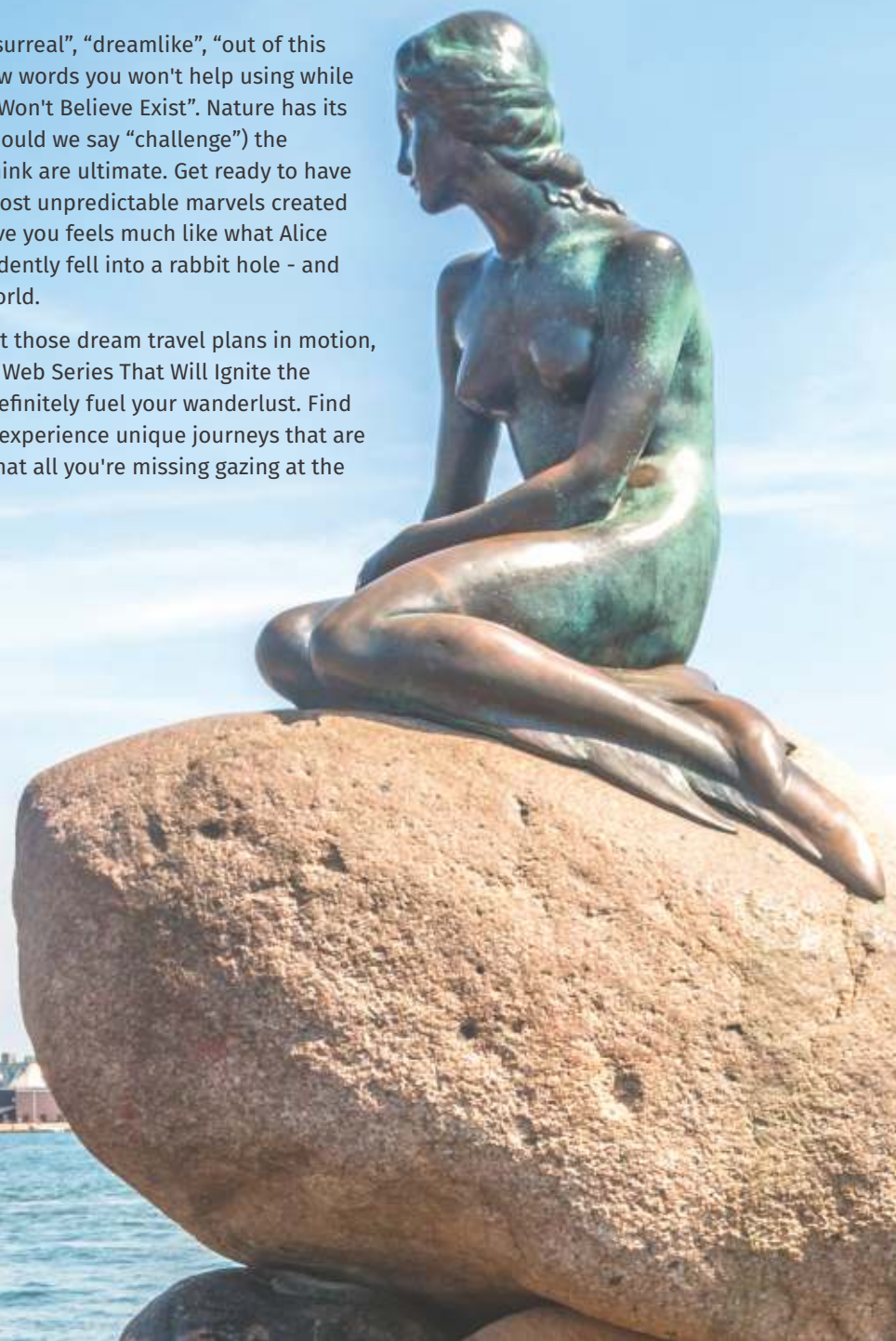
## *Tourism for All*

A lot of things go in planning a vacation - you read, research and process lots of information available about your choice of destination. No matter if you're planning to go solo or in a group, for leisure or adventure, all you have to do is to find a suitable destination, plan your trip and go. But is it that easy for our gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender counterparts? They have an additional layer to consider: acceptance. With a historic judgement decriminalizing section 377 followed by a lot of ripple effects, here we look at some of the most happening and LGBT friendly places for the couples in love.

"Unbelievable", "bizarre", "surreal", "dreamlike", "out of this world"... These are just a few words you won't help using while reading our "15 Places You Won't Believe Exist". Nature has its own ways to surprise (or should we say "challenge") the beliefs and rules that we think are ultimate. Get ready to have a glimpse of some of the most unpredictable marvels created by the Almighty that will give you feels much like what Alice experienced when she accidentally fell into a rabbit hole - and emerged into a different world.

And if you're not able to put those dream travel plans in motion, we present "7 Indian Travel Web Series That Will Ignite the Traveller in You!" and will definitely fuel your wanderlust. Find tons of inspirations as you experience unique journeys that are sure to make you realize what all you're missing gazing at the laptop screen.

Read on!



# PRAVEG'S TOURISM ONE

October 2018

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### Have some suggestions for us?

Go ahead and send us your ideas, valuable opinions or topics you would like to see more coverage on.

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# Contents



Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

## Far Far Away

**LGBT Beats**

...pg 4

**14 places you won't believe  
exist on earth until  
you see them yourself**

...pg 12

## Incredible India

**The Many Faces of Dusshera**

...pg 20

**7 Indian travel web series that  
will ignite the traveller in you!**

...pg 24

**Lens Magic - Comment & Win**

...pg 26

**Princely Porbandar**

...pg 30

**Of Valley of Flowers and Yetis**

...pg 34

**A guide to night sky  
photography in the Himalayas**

...pg 36

**Aravalli Hills**

...pg 38

Far Far away

# LGBT beats



As India recognizes rights of LGBT Community, Praveg's Tourism One looks at some of the world's most popular places for the couples in love.



## Copenhagen

October is a beautiful month to visit Copenhagen. In the city's many gardens and parks, the leaves change colours and you feel the refreshing Autumn breeze. For those interested in heritage, Copenhagen has a history that dates back to 1043, and you can see many historic land-



Kronborg Castle



Carlsberg Glyptotek

marks, architecturally interesting buildings and museums. The Kronborg Castle is one of the most impressive forts of Denmark and Christiansborg Palace is still partly occupied by the Royal Family of Denmark. Amalienborg Palace is another must-visit for anyone with a taste for royal history. National Museum of Denmark in Copenhagen has exhibitions from the Stone Age, Viking Age, Middle Ages, Renaissance and the Modern Danish History. The art lovers must visit The National Gallery of Denmark, Louisiana Museum of Modern Art and Carlsberg Glyptotek. The Open Air Museum, north of Copenhagen, is one of the largest and oldest in the world. Spread across 86 acres of land, it has mills and houses built between 1650 and 1940. This is the land of Lego and the home of superb food, including New Nordic Cuisine.

The popularity of Copenhagen for LGBT travellers is that in 1989, Denmark



Christiansborg Palace



Amalienborg Palace



The National Art Gallery

Open Air Museum



became the first nation in the world to officially register same-sex partnerships. Visit Europe's oldest gay-friendly bar Centralhjørnet and explore the fashion scene, nightlife and gay events. There is a good choice of gay-friendly accommodation. Climb the 105.6m City Hall Tower for superb views of the cobblestoned city, and visit the 'Rainbow Square' next door. Copenhagen is hosting the WorldPride and the EuroGames in 2021.

# Auckland

Each year, Auckland hosts a week of Pride events, one of which is called The Big Gay Out. Auckland is New Zealand's largest city and main transport hub to explore the myriad natural attractions of this beautiful country. The city has lush rainforests in the west, golden sand beaches fringed with red-flowering pohutukawa trees in the east, vineyards in the north and gardens and tranquil bays in the south. Rangitoto Island is the region's most famous volcano and just a half-hour ferry ride from Auckland city centre.

For LGBT Travellers, a special attraction is that in 1998, New Zealand was the first nation to adopt the label of 'Gay/Lesbian Friendly'. Gays and Lesbians can explore restaurants and bars in popular Karangahape Road and Ponsonby Road areas, and stay in one of the gay-friendly homestays or gay-run B&B.



Skyscrapers, Auckland City



Rangitoto Island



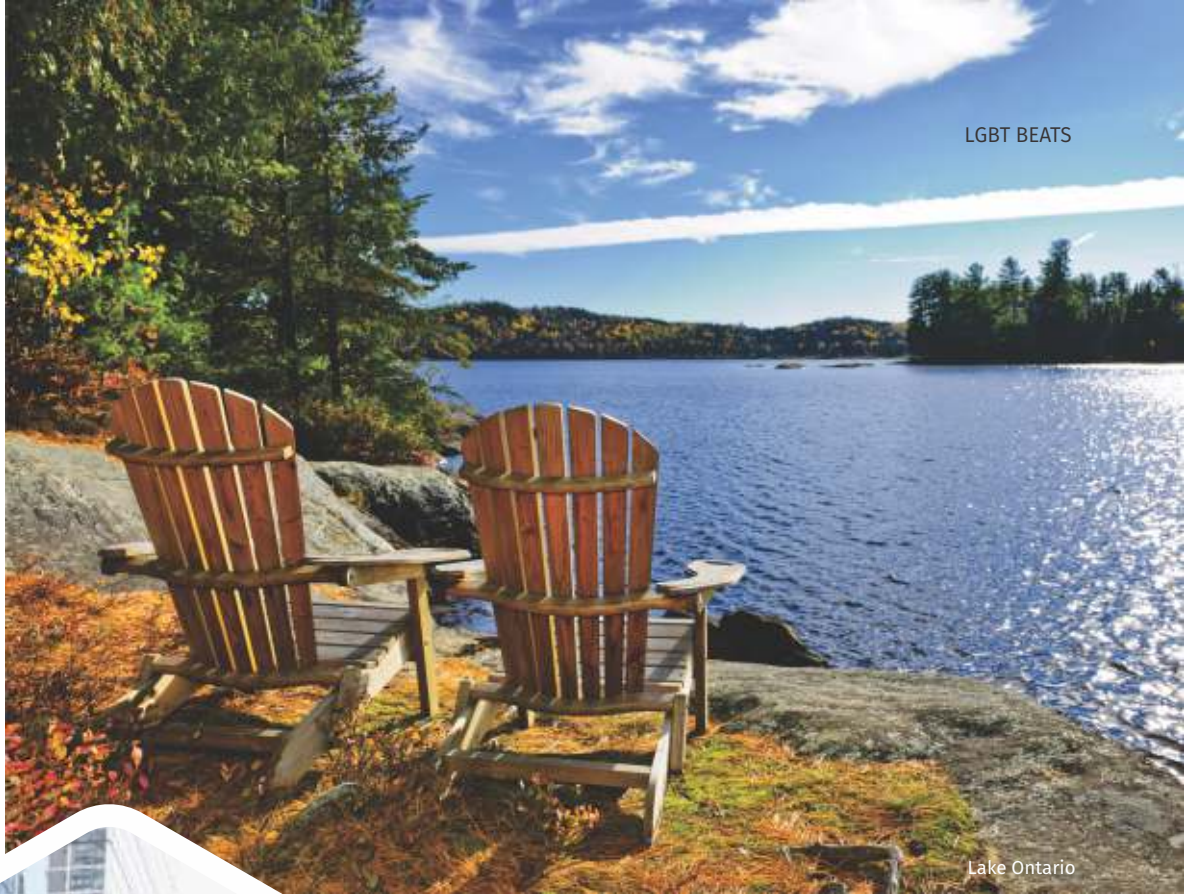
Piha Beach





# Toronto

Toronto is one of Canada's top tourist destinations with more than 25 excellent museums, CN Tower, Lake Ontario boat trips and Niagara excursions. This city is also a big draw for the LGBTQ traveller known for its progressive attitude for gays and lesbians. Visit Toronto's The Village, which has galleries, theatres and gay-friendly business units and hosts Pride Week Celebrations, Pride March and Dyke March. An LGBTQ community centre is another attraction.

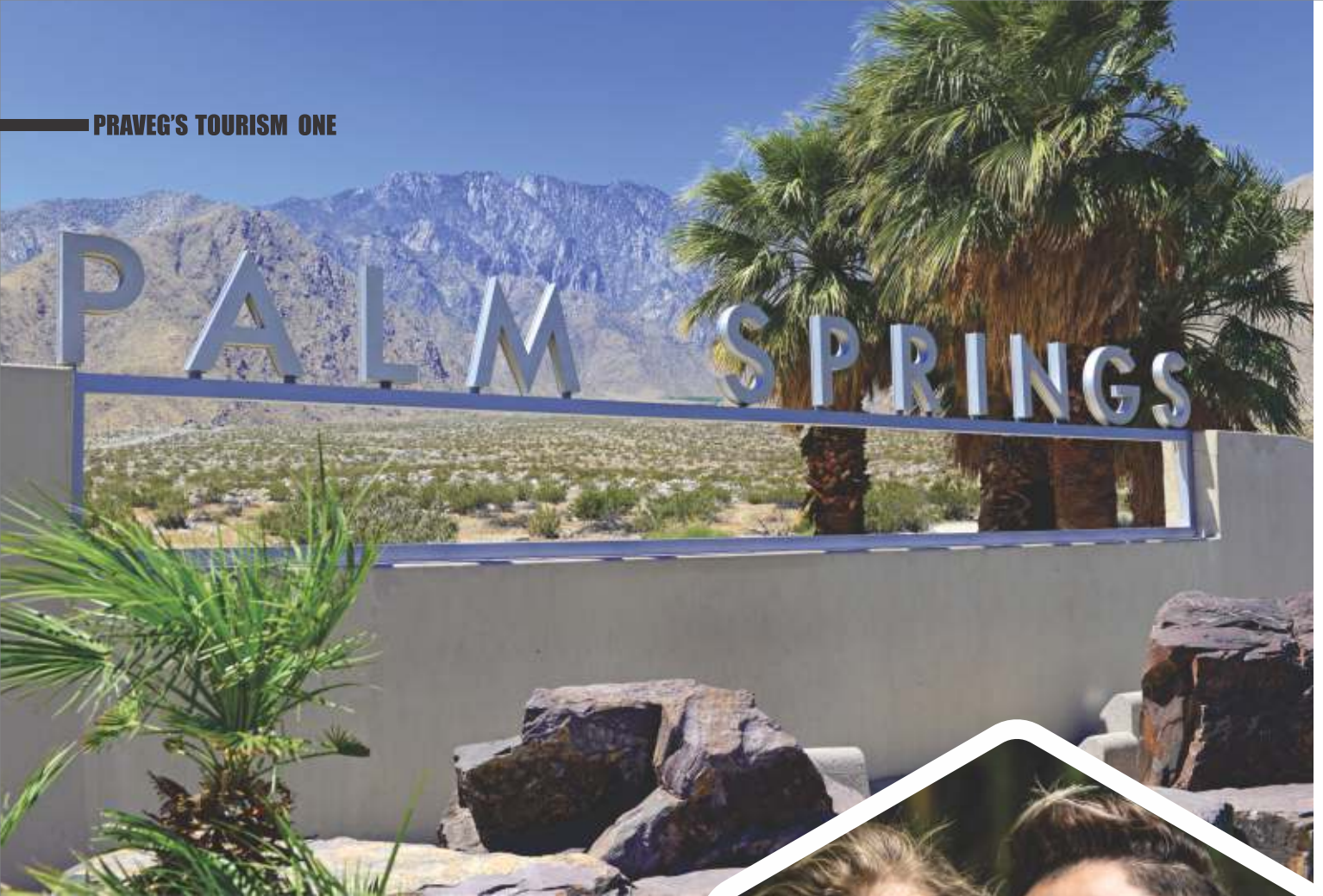


Lake Ontario



Niagara Falls





## *Palm Springs*

Palm Springs is a desert resort city in Riverside County, California, United States, within the Coachella Valley. The city is known for modern architecture, design elements, arts and cultural scene, biking, horseback riding, golf courses, tennis courts, excellent shopping and dining and the world's best poolside lounging. Palm Springs also offers the largest volume of male and female-only accommodation anywhere in the world, gay bars and events. The 1950s-style Escape Resort is one of the most popular clothing optional resorts in the world. In April, The Dinah is the world's largest girl party music festival organized here.





## *Mediterranean Cruises*

Sitges, Mykonos, Gran Canaria and Ibiza have been established LGBTQ favourite party cities since the 1970s. Sitges is a home to Spain's first ever gay disco, which opened back in the 1980s. Gays can enjoy the clothing-optional beaches as such events are happening all the time. You can take a Mediterranean Cruise that covers these gay friendly coastal cities.



## *Berlin*

Berlin is the capital and largest city of Germany. Its main geographical features are the many lakes formed by the Spree, Havel and Dahme rivers - Lake Müggelsee is the most spectacular. Berlin is also a popular gay destination with a vibrant gay history from the 1920s. There are many gay friendly clubs, bars and restaurants.





## *New York City*

One of the most exciting cities, New York is often called the City that Never Sleeps. It has magnificent museums, sprawling parks, a vibrant cultural scene and a multitude of restaurants, featuring cuisine from across the world. New York City is also one of the ultimate LGBT travel destinations – gays hang out at Hell's Kitchen and lesbians at Henrietta Hudson in the Village. Wednesday nights at The Woods in Brooklyn are vibrant for LGBT travellers. West Village, Chelsea and Hell's Kitchen provide a fabulous array of gay-friendly accommodation options, and you can have dinner at an LGBT-owned restaurant such as Elmo or Cafeteria. Don't forget to check out the Leslie-Lohman Museum of Gay and Lesbian Art or join an LGBT history walking tour. The Stonewall Inn is like an LGBT traveller's pilgrimage. The Stonewall riots that occurred in the late '60s in Greenwich Village are synonymous with the birth of the modern gay-rights movement.





## Brighton

The seaside resort of England, Brighton has many notable churches and significant buildings. Brighton is best known for its long shingle beach. The city is famed for its nightlife enjoyed by the LGBT and straight communities together. Brighton offers some of the best lesbian and gay bars in the country and has a choice of LGBT friendly places to stay.

## Tel Aviv

Tel Aviv is one of the most vibrant cities in the world. Here you can enjoy sandy Mediterranean beaches, nightlife, a throbbing cultural scene, heritage sites and great food. It is also considered the queer capital of the Middle-east with infinite gay bars and night clubs. Events include the Gay Pride Week, Pride Expo (Gay Culture Fair), LGBT Theater Festival, LGBT Film Festival and the famous Pride Parade, which is one of the most colorful gay parades in the world.



## Sydney

Sydney is a beautiful city with unspoilt beaches, the stunningly attractive harbor and parks. The world's largest natural harbor boasts landmarks like Sydney Opera and Sydney Bridge. It is also known for its food and nightlife. This city is especially known for its lesbian scene. The lesbian friendly bars of Newtown are legendary. 🏳️‍🌈

# 14 places you won't believe exist on earth until you see them yourself

There is no end to how unpredictable nature can be. It goes beyond our imagination. There are mysterious places that have put science in trouble and the most stunning places that make you question the creativity of the maker. But, it all comes down to one thing - they exist and you have got just one lifetime to explore them.

Here are a few places in the world that will make you question their existence until you see them in real.

1

## The Pink Lake of Australia- Lake Hillier

The water is always blue, right? You'd believe so until you see this pink lake that exists in Western Australia. The large saline lake is spread across the area of 37 acres and is separated from the Southern Ocean by a thin shoreline. The exact cause of Lake Hillier's distinctive bubblegum or strawberry milkshake colour is not known for sure. Most scientists do agree it has something to do with the presence of specific species of micro-algae - *Dunaliella Salina*.





2

## The mirror effect at Salar de Uyuni

Salar de Uyuni is the largest salt desert in the world located in Bolivia and it's so crystal clear that it will put your dressing table to the shame. The place calls for some magical photographs.





3

### Desert meets the sea, it's hot and cool!

Just visualize the golden dunes of desert meeting the blue waters of the sea. Quite a geographical paradox, isn't it? The Namib Desert, which is a home to the world's tallest dunes, meets the Atlantic Ocean in South Africa. Interestingly enough, the colour of the sand changes across the desert; closer to the sea in the west, the sand appears whiter, whereas moving inland, the sand becomes pinker in colour.





4

**Rainbows aren't just for the sky:  
Vinicunca  
Rainbow Mountains**

Ever wished to touch the rainbows? Well, if you're so fond of colours, visit Ausangate ranges of the Andes in Peru. Though it requires 6 days of hiking, just remember good things don't come easy. Do they?



5

**What's shining there? -  
The Diamond Beach  
in Iceland**

How would you feel if you are surrounded by diamonds? Incredible, right? What if we tell you that this could be a reality? Yes, it is Diamond Beach in Iceland where you can see the crystal shining on the black beach. The diamond-like structures are formed by the presence of ice on the beach. Yes, ice on the beach! Well, you can never have enough of nature.



6

## Emeralds treasure at Lake Baikal

You'd forget about owning emeralds if you once see these emerald-like structures at Lake Baikal in Russia. The largest freshwater lake in the world is famous for its spectacular landscape of snow and shimmering stones. It happens because the water is so clear that when it freezes at sub-zero temperatures, they look like gigantic 150ft-tall emerald stones.



7

## The fascinating Mendenhall Ice Caves

Have you ever come across surreal photos of Alaska in which people walk inside a fascinating blue ice cave? Yes, the location is Mendenhall Ice Caves. The gigantic caves are formed by melting glaciers, giving it an effect that the water flows through the walls of the caves. If you are awestruck by it, visit them soon before global warming kills them.



8

## Stars under your feet at Glowing Beach in Maldives

Do you know there's a beach in Mudhdhoo Island (also known as Vaadhoo Island) of Maldives that glows at night? Yes, you read that right! This glow-in-the-dark is basically a natural phenomenon called 'Bioluminescence' wherein light is emitted or created by a living organism.



9

## The effect of Red Beach

White, golden or black sand beaches would all look trivial once you set your eyes on the Red Beach in China. The interesting part is, this beach has no sand at all. It is located in the biggest wetland and reed marsh in the world and the colour Red that you see is created by the seaweed called Sueda. The beach turns vividly red in August, and blue and red can never go wrong together. The beach is located in Panjin, Liaoning, China.





10

## The blue burning Volcano in Indonesia

The Kawah Ijen Volcano emits blue lava instead of red. The mind-blowing phenomenon gives effect to the lava appearing electric blue. This effect was captured by French photographer Olivier Grunewald and it is amazing. Apparently, it is due to the combustion of sulphuric acid that gives the lava this colour.



11

## Let the Ruby Falls in the USA

44m high underground waterfalls located in Tennessee, USA is the deepest cave in the country. But, that's not even the best part. The underground caves and the cliffs that surround the Ruby Falls are illuminated to make the water appear purplish blue.



12

### Painting the sand pink - The Pink Beach

Harbour Island is most renowned for its Pink Sand Beach, located along its eastern Atlantic Ocean side, and considered one of the best beaches of the Bahamas. The pink colour of the sand comes from microscopic coral insects, known as Foraminifera, which have a bright pink or red shell full of holes through which it extends a footing, called pseudopodia, that it uses to attach itself and feed.



13

### The Avatar landscapes of Tianzi Mountain

All I can think about is Avatar movie and imagine the giant birds flying when I see these mountains. The huge mountains that stand vertically and reach until the clouds are located in the Hunan province in the Suoxi valley in China. The beauty of mountains goes beyond the imagination.



Words by: **ShoesOnLoose**  
- A travel company offering unforgettable travel experiences

14

### The hidden crater beach Playa del Amor

It is located in Puerto Vallarta and takes a boat ride and a swim through the tunnel to reach this hidden beach. This exotic "Hidden Beach" is invisible from the outside since its sandy cavern sits inside uninhabited Marieta Islands. Playa del Amor has become a popular tourist spot for romantic adventurers. 📍





# *The Many Faces of Dusshera*

## *The Dusshera Fair of Kullu*

One of India's most popular hill destinations, the Kullu Valley in Himachal is widely visited by travellers for its superb vistas of snowcapped peaks, green valleys watered by the Beas River, and the pleasant weather of Manali. During the Dusshera period, Kullu hosts a mega fair at Dhalpur Maidan that brings countless people to the valley. This tradition originated in the 17th century when the ruler Jagat Singh repented for a sin by installing an image of Raghunath or Lord Rama from Ayodhya on his throne, vowing that from then on, his dynasty would be regents of Lord Rama on the throne. Locals believe that Raghunath invites Hadimba - wife of Bhima, Goddess Jamlu and about 360 other deities to celebrate Dusshera in the Kullu Valley. The images of the deities are carried in processions of bedecked palanquins and chariots, accompanied by chanting, beating drums and trumpeting. Their arrival is the main focus of the fairground and the deities are made to dance before being settled on the ground. After this event, the fair begins with music, dance, rituals and a market where visitors can buy shawls and crafts. The Kullu Natti dance is one of the prime attractions.

**D**usshera in October is one of the most celebrated of Hindu festivals. Starting with nine nights of Navratri in Autumn, the 10th day is Vijayadakshami. This festival marks the advent of Autumn and the new harvest.

Like many Hindu festivals, Dusshera is differently celebrated in various regions. Many consider it the period of Lord Rama's victory over Ravana in the Ramayana. Another belief is that this day celebrates the victory of Mahabharata hero Arjuna over the Kuru army earning him the title of Vijaya (ever victorious) and giving the

name Vijayadasami to the festival. The third belief says that Vijayadashami marks the Goddess Durga's victory over the buffalo demon Mahishasura, which helped restore dharma. The typical image evoked by Dusshera is that of the towering effigies of Ravana, burnt with fireworks marking evil's destruction and commemorating Lord Rama's victory over the demon. In other places, processions carry clay statues of Durga, Lakshmi, Saraswati, Ganesha and Kartikeya, accompanied by music and chants, for immersion in the sea or river.

We look at some of the most exciting places for Dusshera.



## ***Durga Puja Pandals of Kolkata***

Durga Puja is one of the most widely celebrated festivals of Eastern India, where everyone participates. A popular festival in West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand, Assam and Odisha, Durga Puja is especially spectacular in the city of Kolkata. The markets throng with people as Durga Puja is a major gift-giving and shopping season in Bengal, with people buying new clothes and gifts. The city is decked up in festive lights, songs, chanting and devotional music and pandals (usually bamboo structures). Almost every locality in the city has its own puja committee, which holds the celebrations with public subscription, making elaborate pandals with richly decorated images/idols of Goddess Durga, organizing great feasts and prayer rituals around the brightly illuminated pandals. There are also big public fairs.

On the day of Bijoya Dashomi, the images/idols are carried out of the pandals to the cries of Jai Maa Durga accompanied by frantic beating of drums as they head to the Hooghly River for immersion in the water. Some devotees mark their faces with vermilion (sindoor) or wear some red clothing, and emotional goodbye songs are sung. Durga is believed to return to Mount Kailasha with Shiva and to the cosmos in general.

## ***Mysuru Dasada Celebrations***

Mysuru Dasara is considered the state festival of Karnataka because of its grand scale, pomp and ceremony. Mysuru or Mysore is known for its palaces. For the nine nights of Navratri and the night of Vijayadashami, the magnificent palace of Mysuru is illuminated daily with nearly 100,000 light bulbs. The beautifully illumined palace becomes the backdrop of cultural shows and religious rituals. On





Vrindavan in Uttar Pradesh, Almora in Uttarakhand and Madhubani in Bihar are some of the places known for Dusshera performances inscribed by UNESCO as one of the "Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity" in 2008.

One of the best places to see the Ramalila performances is Varanasi where the entire story is freely acted out by performance-artists before the public every evening. Ramnagar across the river from Varanasi has a palace of the Maharajas. From 1830, the ruling family and the main priestly family started Ramalila in Ramnagar, which rose in popularity under successive rulers to become a participatory theatre on a grand scale, with a huge audience. Attendees even carry the Ramachitra Manas with them and follow the play through the stanzas. The festival is inaugurated by the erstwhile Maharaja who leads the cavalcade on a decorated elephant. Each enacted episode is followed by aarti and puja.

Vijayadashami, the Dasara procession can be seen on the city streets. The star attraction is the idol of the Goddess Chamundeshwari, which is placed on a golden mandapa set on a decorated elephant. After the royal family performs the prayers, the idol goes out in the procession, which has tableaux, dancers, musicians, decorated elephants, horses and camels. From the palace, the procession reaches at a place called Bannimantap where the banni tree is worshipped.

The tradition of celebrating Dasara is said to date back from the Vijaynagara kings who held sway over much of Karnataka in medieval times. The tradition was restarted by the Wodeyars of Mysore Princely State. A Dasara exhibition started by the Maharaja of Mysore Chamaraja Wodeyar X in 1880 as a way to gather people and raise their awareness still occurs.



### **Ramlila in Varanasi**

In cities of Uttar Pradesh, during the Navratri period, you can see drama-dance-music plays based on the Ramayana and Ramcharitmanas. The Rama Lila capturing episodes from the story of Rama, Sita and Lakshmana is enacted over the nine days preceding Vijaydashami. Ayodhya, Varanasi and

### **Dusshera in Jagdalpur**

In the Bastar region of Chhattisgarh, the festival celebrates the supreme power of Goddess Danteswari. You can see pandals and prayer gatherings in various places of Bastar, and the centre of focus is the Danteswari temple of Jagadalpur. One of the inherent traits of Bastar is that a girl who is believed to have possessed the spiritual powers stands in a martial posture with a wooden sword, and gives permission for



the transfer of ruling rights from zamindars to divans. The second day of Dusshera is called pratipada, which is followed by aarti and salami. On the ninth day, the Raja of Bastar welcomes Goddess Danteswari who comes to the entrance of Jagdalpur in a palanquin. The tenth day of the festival is when the Raja organizes a darbar where people come and present their requests, and there are huge aartis. A folk fair is often organised at Jagdalpur.

### *Navratri in Ahmedabad*

During the nine nights of Navratri, Gujarat is a blaze of colours. Women dress in beautiful chaniya cholis, and bedeck themselves in jewellery. Even the male dancer is quite a peacock from his colourful turban to his embroidered shoes, embroidered jackets called kediyas, jabba kurtas and brightly coloured lahengas or pyjamas.

Come Ashwin Sud, the first night of the Hindu month of Ashwin, and the costumed boys and girls, men and women, are on the streets dancing at street corners, in their residential

localities, at clubs, in their schools and colleges, or on stage at theatres. The whole atmosphere is one of revelry and celebration for the nine nights leading to the eve of Dusshera when Durga is said to have defeated the demon, Mahisura, and Rama is believed to have defeated Ravana who abducted his wife, Sita. The dances are usually centred around a mandvi, a structure erected for the purpose of holding diyas (wick-lamps) in niches. The best known is the Garba of the women and Garbi of the men performed in a circle with the dancers clapping hands, snapping fingers or striking small sticks to the tal or beat.

On Vijaydakshami morning, it is customary to enjoy a breakfast of fafda and jalebi. This is an auspicious day when prayers are held and inaugurations are scheduled.

### *Dashian in Kathmandu*

In Nepal, the festival of Dashain is the time when youngsters visit the elders in their family and students visit their school teachers. The elders and teachers welcome the youngsters, mark their foreheads with Tilak and bless them. The family reveres the Hindu goddess of wealth - Lakshmi, hoping for virtuous success and prosperity in the year ahead. 📖





# 7 Indian travel web series that will ignite the traveller in you!



*What inspires you to travel? A great movie you saw the other day? Or the book you picked just randomly and fell in love with? The story of a friend you made some crazy trips? We may not have your answer to this question, but there is one thing we can promise you that after you are done reading this article, you will definitely realize what all you have been missing spending time gazing at your mobile and laptop screens. Here is the list of the most amazing travel series that would definitely give you tons of reasons to travel and of places to travel to!*



## Way Back Home

We just can't emphasize enough on this one! Way Back Home is a Himalayan travelogue that takes you to the prettiest places of Himachal, Leh and Ladakh that you would definitely miss if you don't travel right. If you think love gives you butterflies in your stomach, you definitely haven't seen or been to the places that are beyond the definition of beauty. This series does exactly that. Rohan Thakur, the traveller, to whom this marvelous piece of art belong to, will make you feel just there at the place with him and will make you travel there so desperately at the same time. At the end of the series, you will have a different perspective about your way of travelling. He has explored some of the hidden treasures of Himalayan villages that you will easily miss. All we can say is watch this series, so the next time when you are amidst the Himalayas, you earn more than just pretty photographs.





## The Trip

A set of episodes by Bindass featuring Lisa Hayden is a story of an adventurous trip of four best friends who decide to drive all the way to Bangkok in their cars for a bachelorette of one of her friends. Can any bachelorette be any more exciting than this one? We guess not.

The series is also a clear message that travelling is much more than visiting fancy places. Somehow, the beautiful landscapes, the skylines of the city, the serenity of nature give you the clarity you need for your life! This series is giving this message just right!



## TVF Tripling

How do you think a road trip with your siblings would be like? Disastrous? Your views will change after watching TVF Tripling. It is an amazing story of three siblings who decide to go for a road trip just out of the blue. Aren't the random plans best? The heartwarming story of three lovable and lively siblings whose life is up and down, learn new lessons.

The funny jokes, the humorous incidents and the super-awesome characters just come in handy! The story will not only inspire you to travel but will also teach you a life lesson of how to live each moment to the fullest.



## Mumbiker Nikhil

This one is for all the adventure buffs out there! This is not a series but a YouTube channel by a biker Nikhil who travels to the different terrains on his beloved bike. His road trips from Mumbai to Ladakh, Rameshwaram, Kolkata and to the different parts of India are the perfect guide for the bikers who have been planning a road trip for long but can't put the pieces of puzzle together. With the adventure, comes the risk. The series of high and low events along with the speechless beauty of Indian land will definitely induce you to start your bikes for the crazy adventure rides on your bikes!



## Away From Home

This one is a short series of eight episodes that takes you deep into the islets of Andaman and Nicobar. This series is a story about a girl who falls in love with the Andaman Islands and decides to settle with the sea and beaches instead of perfect married life. And that truly is an inspiration! Her explorations into the hidden corners of the Andaman Islands, the beauty of islands above the Port Blair and her life by the beach is truly an inspiration for the travellers who are looking to explore each and every corner of the destination.



## Under The Rupee

An answer for those who think travelling to Europe require huge bucks. This series is again by the Indian traveller Rohan Thakur, who is travelling all the way to Hungary to explore the beauty of Budapest and hamlets around. The currency value of Hungary is less than that of Indian rupee, and hence the luxuries of places don't really hurt your budget. But, this is not just about money. The series can teach you how to travel right, how to hit the right places and how to explore the hidden even in the foreign land. No less than a travelling lesson you have been waiting to learn for long!



## GottadoIndia

GottadoIndia is again a YouTube channel by Scherezade Shroff, who is exploring the beautiful places of India and capturing in her frames for you to enjoy back at home. From her tales of adventure sports, wildlife excursion, cultural rendezvous, everything will make you get up from your bed and follow your bucket list! 📺



Words by: ShoesOnLoose  
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An initiative of  
**icait**  
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INDIAN TOURISM

**LensMagic**  
The Photography Club

presents

**COMMENT & WIN PHOTO CONTEST**  
**Theme: Heritage**

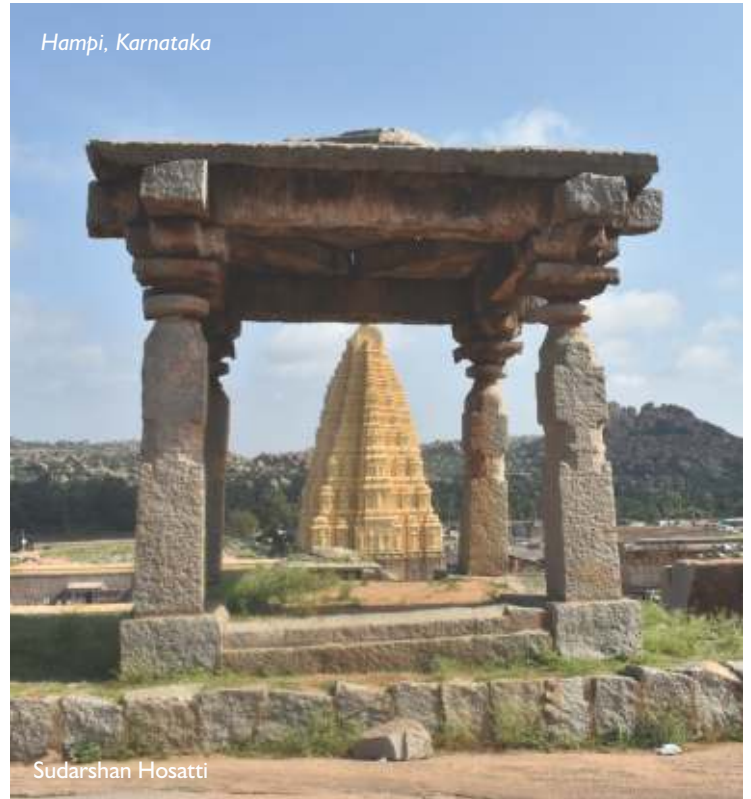
**19<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER - 19<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER, 2018**

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*Hampi, Karnataka*



Sudarshan Hosatti

*Shash Bahu Temple, Gwalior*



Raju kumar Singh



*Chowmahalla Palace, Hyderabad*

Raj Pandey



*Victoria Memorial, Kolkata*

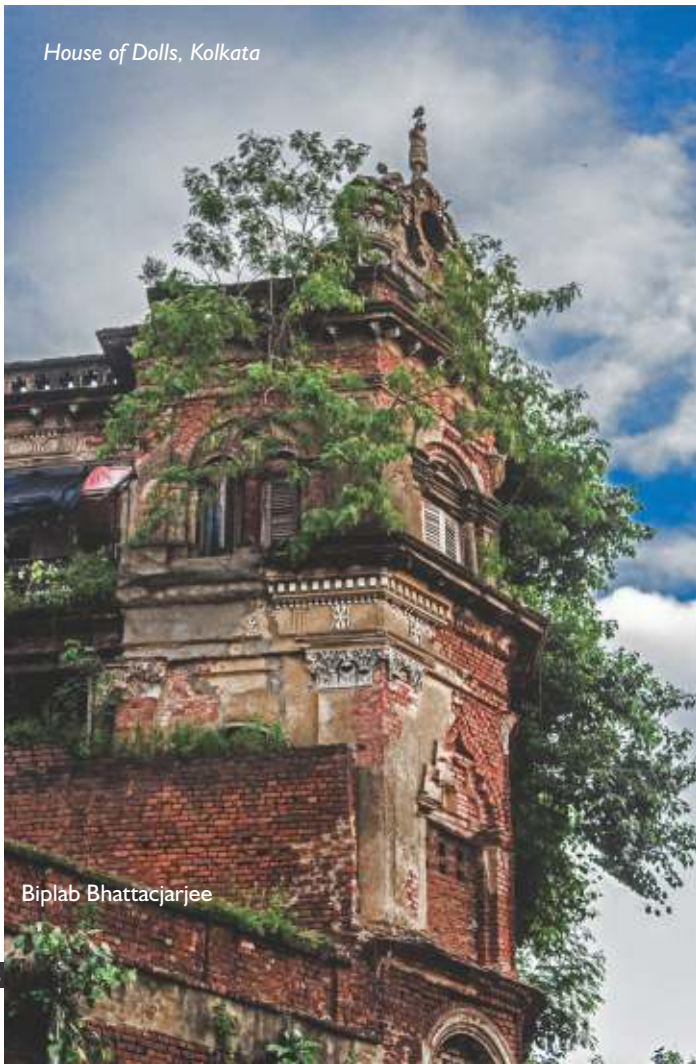
Chandranath Chatterjee

Public Durbar Hall, Mysore Palace, Mysore



Debaditya Das

House of Dolls, Kolkata



Biplab Bhattacharjee

Mahabat Maqbara Palace, Junagadh



Dhagash A Sonpal

*Sun Temple Modhera, Gujarat*



Tushar Tripathi

*Kalna, Burdwan, West Bengal*



Subir Mukherjee

# Princely PORBANDAR

*Porbandar is a tourist destination popular as Mahatma Gandhi's birthplace. Mahatma was born here on 2nd October, 1869 to a family of local prominence as his father was the Diwan (minister) to the Maharaja of Porbandar Princely State. Besides the Gandhi family's historic haveli in the heart of town, Porbandar has other attractions like the pretty coastline with pleasant beaches, palaces and other impressive buildings, temples of religious importance, picturesque harbours where dhows are hand-built and a number of lakes and creeks, where birds gather in numbers beyond comprehension.*





## History

For pilgrims, Porbandar is the Sudamapuri mentioned in the epics as the town given by Lord Krishna to his needy friend Sudama who came to visit him at his kingdom of Dwarka.

Historians believe that Porbandar is the port referred to as Pauravelakul in ninth and tenth century inscriptions at nearby Ghumli. It was the historic port of the Jethwa Rajputs, a clan that ruled this part of the Kathiawad peninsula (Saurashtra) for centuries. Holding onto a prime coastal kingdom for centuries was not easy for the Jethwa dynasty and they had to face skirmishes and battles with neighbouring rulers. The capital of the Jethwa kingdom kept changing according to the military strategies of the rulers, from Ghumli in the Barda Hills to Ranpur. Finally in the 18th century, Porbandar became their seat of power. As the British brought peace to Saurashtra with the Walker Treaty in the 19th century, Porbandar prospered as a port located on the western-most coast of Gujarat trading with the middle-east and African countries. Porbandar had agricultural produce like mangoes for export and its cream-coloured stone that is used in Victorian-period buildings of Karachi. The artisans of Porbandar built dhows and this gave birth to an industry of ocean-going vessels at harbours. The prosperity of Porbandar is reflected by a number of palaces, pavilions, Parsi mansions and grand public buildings in the town.

## Birthplace of Mahatma Gandhi

Gandhiji's birthplace commemorated by a huge monument called Kirti Mandir built in 1950 by Nanjibhai Kalidas with the support of national figures like Sardar Patal. The monument has paintings of Mahatma Gandhi and Kasturba, whom he married at the age of 13 and with whom he spent 62 years of his life, a moving photographic and pictorial display on the life of Mahatma and his struggle for India's freedom and

Kirti Mandir



a library of books related to the Mahatma's life and philosophies. As the name suggests, Kirti Mandir is designed like a temple with huge domes and carved façade looming over an open

forecourt. The Kirti Mandir is next to the Gandhi family home, a blue-toned haveli containing 17 rooms around an open courtyard. Inside the rooms are some simple belongings and a wooden shrine.

**Chowpatty**

A short drive from the walled city, Chowpatty is the recreational hub of Porbandar where people come to catch the sea breeze, watch the sunset, walk and jog.

Near Chowpatty, Daria Rajmahal was a sea-view palace of the Maharajas probably built in the late-19th or early-20th century with a huge Gothic archway surmounted by a tower that would have given the Maharajas an unending view of the seascape. In the centre of the palace is an open courtyard with the formal garden and three storeys of façade rising around it embellished with stone carvings. Mainly in the Gothic and Renaissance architectural-styles popular with the Maharajas at the time, the palace has carvings that reflect Indian and Arabic influences. It is now a college and no longer has the great chandelier-lit interiors described in old books about Princely India. Near the Daria Rajmahal is a lighthouse and there are some picturesque old buildings that can be seen in the vicinity.

The Huzoor Palace can also be seen looming up next to the beach.



*Huzoor Palace*

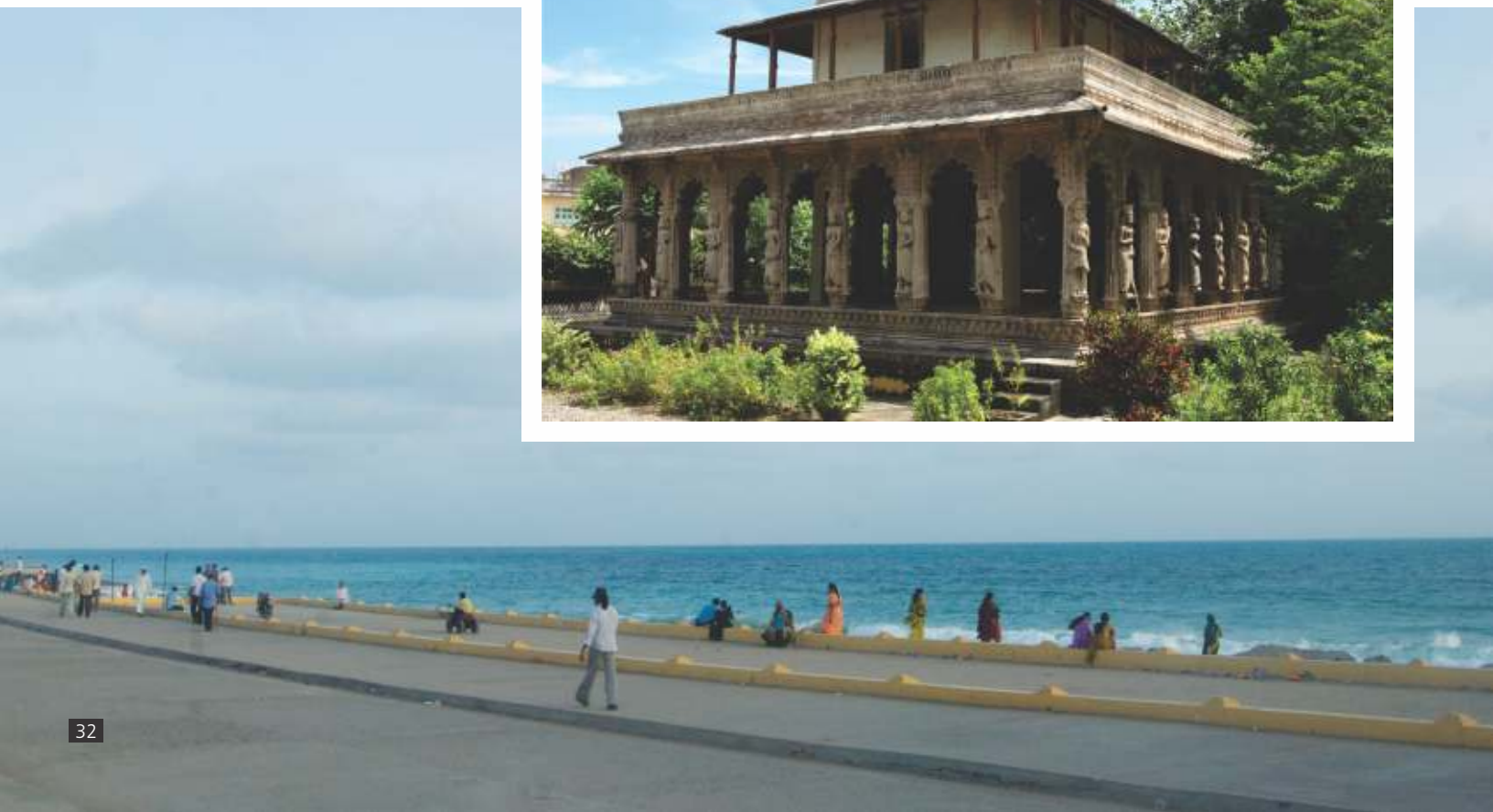
**Sartanji's Choro**

Porbandar town too has many buildings erected by the Maharanas. Sartanji's Choro, called Grishma Bhavan, was built by Maharaja Sartanji in the 18th century. It is an imposing monument with exquisitely-carved columns with ornate capitals, delicately-carved arches,

impressive domes and a formal garden. Sartanji was a learned man and probably retired to this pavilion to write poetry and read away from the activity of the town. In those days, these multi-tiered pavilions would have had good views of the sea. Though now buildings have blocked the scenery and the breezes.



*Sartanji's Choro*



## The creeks

Continue from the town to the creeks along the coast where master artisans work on converting piles of wood into superbly proportioned sea-worthy 50 footer dhows using simple tools and a measuring tape - no modern equipment, mechanical, electrical or electronic, is used to build these wooden vessels.

## Birdwatching

Porbandar has a bird sanctuary and there are also many lakes and creeks where you can see huge flock of birds. Some of the flock of flamingos are accustomed to human beings so that they allow us to approach closer for photography and scan the mangrove swamps for other birds with binoculars. Spoonbills, black-headed and black ibises, godwits, black-winged stilts, sandpipers and other smaller birds abound along the shores. Get here at sunset to see the magnificently-coloured birds silhouetted by the last of the day's sunlight.

## Excursions

Porbandar is the base to visit many temples of architectural interest. Kuchdi to the north on the Porbandar-Dwarka Highway has a historic temple, largely ruined but renovated. Near a beautiful stretch of beach, you can find crabs and other marine lives. Green Sea Turtles also come to nest. The water bodies near Kuchdi are a birdwatchers' paradise attracting large flocks of demossile and common cranes, ducks like the shovellor and pintail and other winter migrating birds. Just over 100 km north of Porbandar is Dwarka, one of the four dhams and also one of the seven holiest towns for Hindus with its Dwarkadish or Jagat Temple by the sea that is the main pilgrimage site and an exquisitely carved 13th century Rukmani Temple. Dwarka has a pleasant beach and there are other beautiful beaches nearby like Shivrajpur.



*Naulakha Temple*

To the south of Porbandar is the Amipura Dam, where great congregations of birds can be seen. Madhavpur is a pretty beach-side location. Here you can find Krishna Temple, the place where Lord Krishna married Rukmini Devi. The colourful village is worth a visit. This road continues to the fishing port of Veraval and the shore temple of Somnath, worshipped as one of the 12 jyotirlingas.

Especially interesting for architecture buffs are the temples along the Porbandar-Lalpur- Jamnagar Highway. Ghumli has remarkable architectural monuments of the 10th – 12th century period. The Naulakha Temple here is a showpiece of early Hindu architecture and the Vikia Vav is one of the largest stepwells of Saurashtra with the staircase leading to the water-level string-coursed with carvings and decorated pavilions. The road continues to Gope, with Sun Temple that is one of the earliest examples of Hindu temple architecture in Gujarat probably dating to the 17th century Maitraka period. This

temple is raised on a podium called 'jagati', which has projections and niches housing sculpture. The steps rise from semi-circular moonstone effect of the kind seen in southern states of India and lead to a passage circling around the inner sanctum. The wedge-shaped roof called a phamsana that became a feature of so many temples in India is seen at Gop. On both sides of the roof are arches called chaityas or gavaskas. A frieze of ganas or minor gods is a feature of this period of temple architecture. There are also a few remaining sculptures depicting Lord Vishnu, Lord Ram and other deities. For a view of the Barda Hills Sanctuary, visit Khambala Dam, a scenically-situated reservoir surrounded by forests with mangroves nearby. The Maharana's art deco Anant Niwas bungalow with exquisite marble sculpture of cupids on a dolphin and Italianette figures outside, art deco objects, Victorian furniture, colourful courtyard, old gramophone and paintings, is situated on a hill with views of the lake. ☐

### PLACES TO STAY

Hotel Toran Tourist Bungalow is superbly situated along the Porbandar beachfront. To book the hotel, you may call: 0286 -2245476 or 9925232423 or visit [www.booking.gujarattourism.com](http://www.booking.gujarattourism.com)

### GETTING THERE

There are regular flights from other major cities of the country to Porbandar. The city is well connected to other major cities of the country via regular trains and buses.

# Of Valley of Flowers and Yetis



I recently struck off one item from my bucket list - the trek to the Valley of Flowers.

Though much has been written about the Valley of flowers, beginning with Frank Smythe's eponymous book, my trek to the valley was much like what Alice experienced when she accidentally fell into a rabbit hole - and emerged into a different world. From Ghangaria, the trail passed through a narrow gorge that had a river of glacial waters raging through it. As I climbed the narrow trail through the gorge, I could see the space opening up before me and I could sense my excitement mounting. As I submitted a high ridge, I finally could see for the

first time, the panoramic view of the internationally acclaimed The Valley of Flowers.

Even though I had visited the place in mid September, the fag end of the flowering season, it's tranquil bewitching beauty with its multiple waterfalls, towering ridges sharply etched against the deepest of the blue skies, the cascading rivulets that cut through the valley, was a place incomparable to any that I had seen anywhere in India. The valley stretched before me like a meticulously manicured garden.

There were no power line cables stretching across the valley. The quietude of the place was almost

absolute except for the chirping of the insects. At the far distance, I could see a sliver of water noiselessly plunging in slow motion onto the rocks below. Enormous white cumulus clouds as if freshly spun from a giant candy floss machine lay suspended in the sky. The scene was magical.

The discovery of the valley is generally credited to Frank Smythe. However, the valley was first spotted by his climbing partner R. L. Holdsworth. Smythe writes in his book, "Dense mist shrouded the mountain-side and we had paused, uncertain as to the route, when I heard R. L. Holdsworth exclaim: "Look!" I followed the direction of his out-

stretched hand. At first, I could see nothing but rocks, then suddenly my wandering gaze was arrested by a little splash of blue and beyond it were other splashes of blue, a blue so intense it seemed to light the hillside.” The blue that they saw was the Primulas plant that grew in abundance in the valley. Subsequently, it was through Smythe’s book that the valley near Bhyundur Pass became known to the world by its present name.

Frank Smythe was a mountaineer par excellence. He had explored the entire length and breadth of the Himalayas. When Irving Mallory and Sandy Irving died during the attempt to climb the Everest, it was left to Frank Smythe to complete the conquest. He made three aborted attempts, but died young of food poisoning and malarial fever in Delhi.

In his peregrinations across this region, Smythe came across giant footprints of the then unknown entity - the Yeti. He immediately took photographs of the footprints and sent them to England for confirmation of a newly found species. Several weeks later, the Zoology Department confirmed that the footprints belonged to the Himalayan bear and not to any unknown entity. Smythe in his book confesses to being disappointed at the result, for he was looking forward to seeing a baby Yeti! But despite the confirmation, the legend of Yeti has refused to die down. It was given a permanent lease of life by Herge in his inimitable comic strip ‘Tintin in Tibet’. Capt Haddock would vehemently vouch for its existence!

The Valley of Flowers for its entire mystical connotation is by no means an easy place to trek through. It is a harsh land. The valley, which is at an elevation of 3500 meters above sea level, the rarefied atmosphere makes any physical movement an arduous activity. Nor is the path, which is pebble strewn, on a straight level. The undulating land that



stretches across 8 km makes walking a far more strenuous exercise than walking on the plains.

At the far end of the Valley is the Tipra Glacier, easily visible from the valley. Also visible are the Ratawan, Gauri Shankar and the Chaukhamba peaks - all above 6200 meters.

The grave of Lady Joan Margaret Legge, a botanist from England who slipped and fell to her death in 1939 while collecting samples there, lay buried at the far end of the valley. A lonesome internment set in the serene wilderness amidst the flowers, wind and snow.

Dusk was gathering, so it was time for me to head back. Much before I reached the gorge, I could hear the thunderous roar of the water because of increase in the volume of water cascading down. The afternoon sun had melted the glacier in the upper reaches of the mountains. The trail lay very close to the raging waters. The white fanged fury was at its merciless best.

I began this article with the striking off the Valley of Flowers from my bucket list. Would I not want to visit this place again? Hmm.... I think I would. It is a place well worth a second visit. I reached for an eraser. ■



## A guide to night sky photography in the

# Himalayas



The gigantic mountains of Himalayas attract many travellers for a lot of reasons. Some come here for a breath of fresh air, others like to find a way to boost up their adrenaline and indulge in adventurous activities. Trekking is a common activity for the adrenaline junkies. Climbing a high mountain to see the world below you is one thing but there is something above that equally makes you fall in love with the Himalayas.

Social media is filled with night sky shots from different regions of the Himalayas. From Himachal Pradesh to Uttarakhand and even remote regions of

Ladakh and Sikkim prove really friendly for the photography enthusiasts to test their shooting skills.

Let's look at the essential requirements for best night sky shots of Himalayas:

### Patience

Yes, patience is the key to any kind of photography. When shooting night sky, you need to understand that your spot of shooting is an open area. And as night arrives, temperature goes down in the

mountains. However, it is advisable to be prepared mentally that the best shot doesn't happen after 10th or even 20th attempt. So gather a lot of patience because you will need it.

### A good DSLR camera

DSRL camera is perfect for night sky shots because of the manual feature. Since it provides the facility to adjust the shutter speed and ISO as per shooting conditions, star photography becomes easy.



### Tripod

Now that your camera is sorted, you need to keep a tripod to make sure that your equipment is stable in the outdoor conditions. You will be exposed to wind, cold and your hands will probably be shivering because of the weather. With the help of a tripod, sturdy enough to handle the load of the camera, capturing star trails becomes way convenient.



## Blanket

Yes, don't let your passion for photography turn into an episode of frostbite and running nose. Carry a blanket and if possible a thermo-flask full of tea. Let the winters not bother you in your tryst with stars.

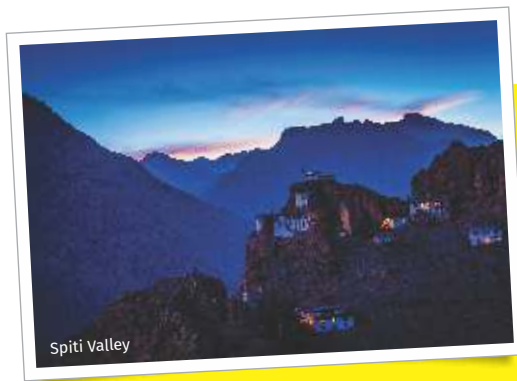
## Additional equipment

Depending on your vision and understanding of photography, you can also carry a few more equipment. Keep in mind, more equipment means more load addition to your camera bag.

**Remote:** Camera remote helps in operating camera from a distance. This gives you freedom of not touching the equipment.

**Intervalometer:** This attachment helps you in clicking photographs at regular intervals. It is often used by photographers who like to capture movement of stars.

**Filters:** Neutral density filters are perfect in reducing light and making the environment around the subject darker. You can choose from ND2, ND4, ND8 and ND16 filters, depending on the amount of available light while you are shooting. A place like Ladakh will not require an ND filter at all, while upper hills of Dharamshala or Manali will require ND4 filter at least.



# Best destinations in Himalayas for star photography

### Spiti Valley

Undoubtedly, the best region for capturing star trails will be Spiti Valley. Vast empty landscapes with small villages give you ample space to click the best shots of sky in its full glory during the night.

### Nubra Valley, Ladakh

Nubra Valley's unique landscape makes it the best place to click the stars in the night. Desert on a side and green plains on another, the place provides amazing opportunity to click stars and the Milky Way on most of the days.

### Upper Mcleodganj, Himachal Pradesh

Mcleodganj's height makes it a perfect region to capture stars in the night without going through the pain of travelling all the way up high in the mountains. Upper Mcleodganj's weather is really unpredictable. Rain is really common, so your chances of clicking stars may get ruined due to constant weather changes.

### Valley of Flowers, Uttarakhand

What else can be more beautiful than a valley filled with thousands of varieties of flowers? Valley of Flowers doesn't allow you to

stay for the night but its base at Ghangaria is not disappointing either. Post September, when the chances of rain go down, the sky becomes clear and you will enjoy clicking the best night shots. Make sure that you choose a guesthouse at the edge of the settlement in order to get more space.

### Cherrapunjee, Meghalaya

Located on the edge of Himalayas, Cherrapunjee becomes the perfect location to click star photographs. The monsoon season ends by early October. Post that, the clouds are almost gone. The open fields of lower Sohra provide the best landscape to capture stars. This is one of the few spots where you'll get to capture stars at 7 pm.



*Hope these tips will help you find amazing star photos the next time you are in Himalayas. The ideal shooting conditions are in a night devoid of moon. Full moon will ruin your chances of seeing stars. Monsoon is also a spoilsport in star photography.*

*Remember, it takes a lot of patience and time to get a perfect shot. Most of the times, the moment happens out of nowhere. And when it happens, it is just too beautiful. 📸*



Aru Valley



Himalayan range at batal



Mcleodganj

Incredible India



# Aravalli Hills

“

*In Banaskantha and Aravalli districts of North Gujarat are picturesque hills that shelter interesting heritage sites and wildlife reserves. A heritage homestay at Danta makes an ideal base to tour these two scenic districts.*

”



Banaskantha is located in the northeast of Gujarat and is probably named after the West Banas River, which runs through the valleys of Aravalli Range, before running through the district and ending in the Rann of Kutch. Adjoining Banaskantha, Aravalli district has been named for the Arasur branch of Aravallis, which passes through the regions of Danta, Modasa and Shamlaji in North Gujarat.

Banaskantha district is well-known for its dairy and food processing industry. Banaskantha District Cooperative Milk Producers' Union Ltd. (Banas Dairy) is the largest dairy of its kind in India. Limestone, china clay, marble and granite are mined in the district,

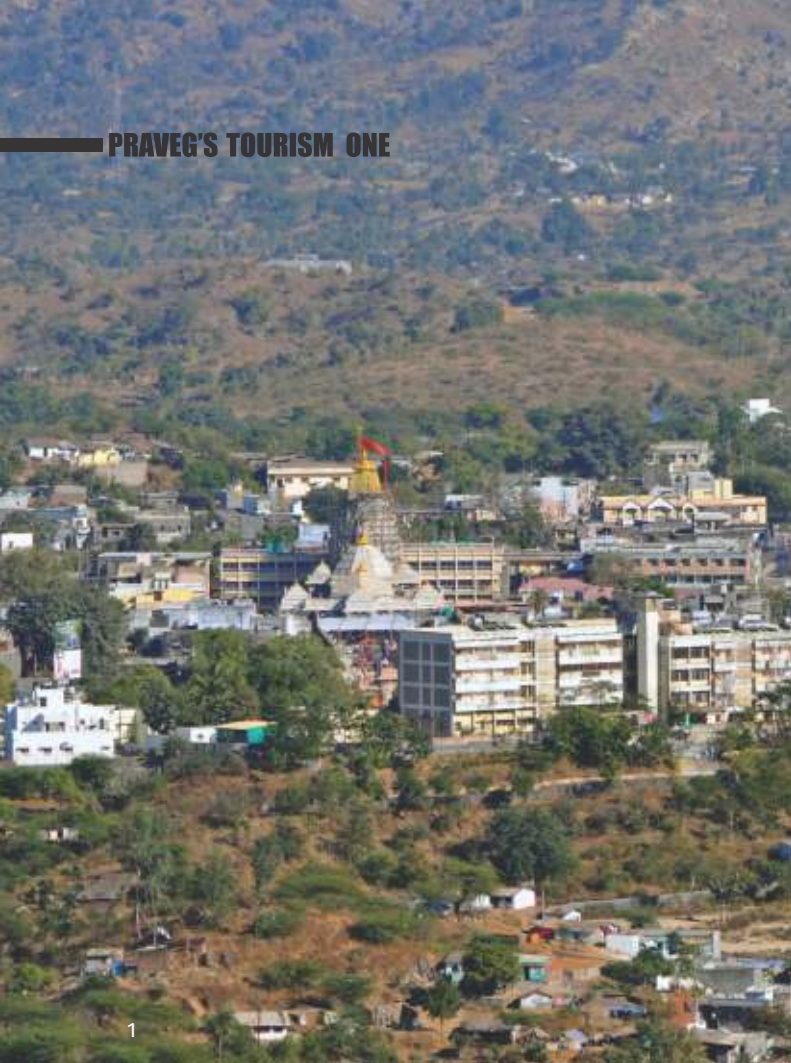
including the famous Ambaji White Marble.

### **The Princely Town of Palanpur**

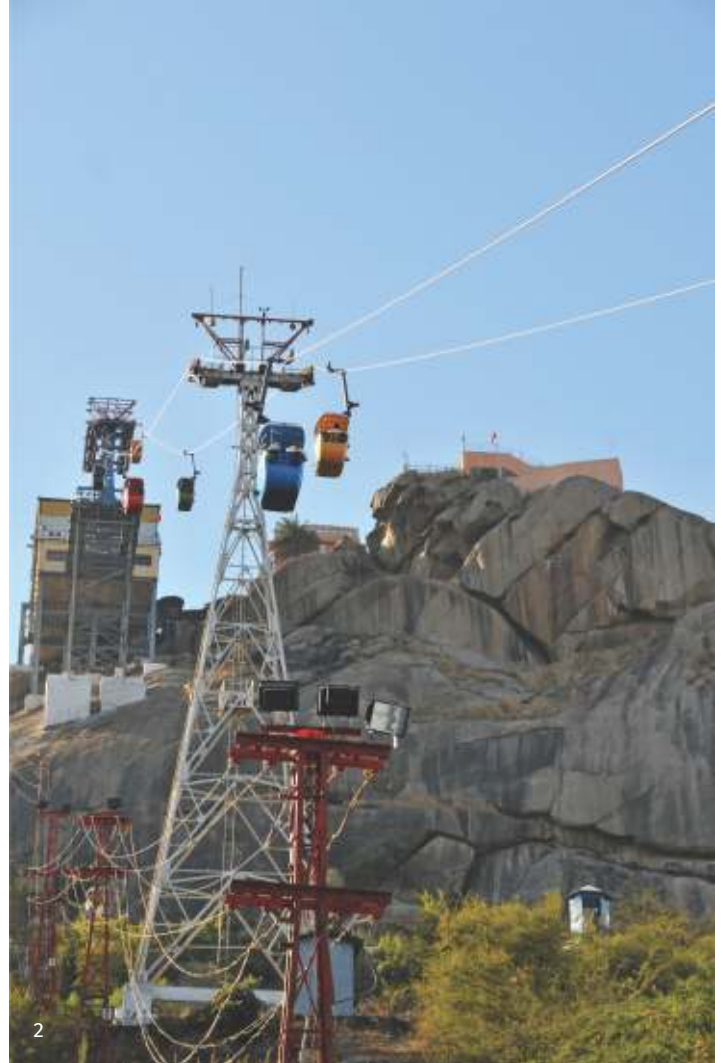
The historical city of Palanpur is said to be Prahladanapur founded by Prahladana, brother of Parmara Dharavarsha of Abu with the Prahladana-vihara dedicated to Pallaviya Parshwanatha. It was once a Chauhan stronghold. During the Mughal period, the Pashtun Lohani rulers who had ruled Jalore in Western Rajasthan from the 14th century began to move towards the Gujarat hills as the Mughals

awarded the Jalore area to the Rathores of Jodhpur. The Lohanis eventually made Palanpur their capital, and in the 1800s carved out a prominent state for themselves on the decline of the Mughal Empire. Lt. Col. HH Diwan Mahakhan Nawab Sahib Sir Taley Muhammed Khan Lohani was a progressive ruler of Palanpur Princely State who introduced social and economic reforms, built schools and hospitals and improved the local infrastructure. The Nawab was entitled to a 13-gun salute.

Palanpur has many historical temples like the Pallaviya Parshwanath Temple and the Solanki



1



2

period Pataleshwar Temple. The Kirti Stambha is one of the city's major landmarks. The Mithi Vav is a stepwell believed to have been built in the 8th century, with sculpture from later periods. The Zoravar Palace of the Nawabs in Palanpur is now a district court, but if you can visit the interiors, don't miss a chance to see the beautiful ceiling paintings, antique fireplace and carved sandalwood staircase. The royal memorials of the Nawabs are neglected and ruined but worth seeing for the architectural work.

About 14km from Palanpur, Chitrasani is a popular place of pilgrimage and a well-known picnic spot. The river here is overlooked by the majestic Balam Palace Resort. This palace was built in the 1920s and '30s by Nawab Taley Muhammad Khan as a weekend retreat with his Australian wife Joan Falkiner who was later titled Jahanara Begum. This is where he entertained many British dignitaries and Indian

princes. This palace is now a luxurious resort.

Don't miss buying the famous Thabdi Penda of Palanpur. Madhvi is a well-known brand for sweets, and there are other famous sweet shops here like Sukhadia Sweet Mart and Royal Dairy.

### **The Temple Town of Ambaji**

Picturesquely situated in the Aravalli hills of Northern Gujarat, Ambaji Temple is a major Shakti Peeth of India where the Goddess Amba is worshipped. The original seat of Ambaji Mata is on the summit of Gabbar Hill. According to the Mahapithapurana, there are 52 sites where the body of Sati fell across the Indian subcontinent. It is believed that the Heart of Sati Devi had fallen at Ambaji. Apart from the Amba Mata Temple, the Gabbar Hill is a part of the Ambaji pilgrim circuit. About 1,600 feet above sea level, the hill has a shrine, reached by about 999 steps. A large

number of devotees visit the temple and the Gabbar summit every year, especially on Purnima (full moon) days. The mela on the day of the full moon night of Bhadarvi Poornima is especially auspicious. Navratri is also hugely celebrated.

### **The Jain Complex of Kumbhariya**

Adjacent to the temple town of Ambaji, Kumbhariya has an array of finely carved marble Jain temples. The five temples of Kumbhariya vary in size and detail, but all except the Shambavnath Mandir have a similar mandapa-and-shrine ground plan featuring protective wall, an imposing pillared portico, subsidiary cell-like shrines set along columned galleries surrounding the central sanctuary, and an assembly hall or mandapa. The temples are crowned by turrets and shikaras, while the interior dome



3

ceilings have eight concentric circles with an imposing central pendant. The oldest of the temple, dedicated to Lord Mahavir, was built in 1062 AD. The temple has an assembly hall with an octagonal pillar arrangement, surmounted by a corbelled ceiling exquisitely carved with dancers, horses and the tirthankars. Shantinatha Temple of 1082 AD depicts Jain tirthankars preaching the doctrines of the Jain faith. The largest of the five temples is the Parshwanath Mandir, built in 1105 AD, with great attention to proportions and detailed carving. The mandapa is lit by sunlight entering through the hall door. The Neminath Temple of 1134 AD is very similar to Dilwara's Vimal Vasahi Temple at Mt. Abu and the Adinatha Temple of Ranakpur in style and decoration. It has an elevated dome, which allows the hall to be flooded with light. The Shambavnath Temple is a little different from the others in not having subsidiary shrines.



4

- 1 *Ambaji in the Aravalli hills of Banaskantha district*
- 2 *Gabbar Hill*
- 3 *Jain temples of Kumbhariya*
- 4 *Stunningly beautiful interiors of a marble Jain temple at Kumbhariya*



5

## **The Heritage Homestay at Danta**

The Danta Princely State was ruled by the Parmar Rajput dynasty, descendants of the great King Vikramaditya of Ujjain. The Parmars ruled from Chandravati and then Tarsang, before settling at Danta. From Danta, they ruled a princely state covering 895 sq.km. The Maharanas of Danta were entitled to an 11-gun salute. The present head of the family is Mahipendra Singh, former Maharana of Danta. Together with his wife Chandra Kumari of Karauli, erstwhile Maharani of Danta, he runs his ancestral property as a homestay called Bhavani Villa Heritage Homestay. Set on



6



7




8

a hill with a superb view of the grand old Danta Darbargadh Palace in the valley, the Danta village and the Aravalli hills, the main building is still the residence of the family and the annex has five large rooms with imposing wooden furniture and spacious attached baths. Some of the rooms have their own verandas. The owners entertain guests in their residential block for meals. A few minutes' drive from Bhavani Villa, the family's 108 acre farm has forests, agricultural land, dairy cattle and a stable of Marwari horses. Mahipendra Singh and his son are both accomplished horsemen and experts on the Marwari horse breeds. They are official



- 5 View from Bhavani Villa Heritage Homestay
- 6 The drawing room of the royal family of Danta
- 7 Room with a view at Bhavani Villa Heritage Homestay
- 8 Old palace at Danta
- 9 Bhavani Villa Heritage Homestay
- 10 Shamlaji temple in Aravalli district
- 11 Buddhist finds from Devni Mori

Devnimori in some maps. This village has come into limelight because of the excavations in the area that has revealed the presence of a substantial Buddhist site with a stupa where a relic casket was found, and is currently housed in Vadodara. According to the inscription on the copper casket, it contained relics of Buddha, gold bottles, burnt sandalwood, beads, gold & silver foil and silk. A replica of the casket and a model of the stupa with its elongated dome have been exhibited at the nearby Shamlaji Museum, as also some of the Buddhist sculptures found in Sabarkanta district. 

judges for horse shows of indigenous Indian horse breeds. For those interested in horses, dogs or aviary birds, it is delightful to spend an evening with Mahipendra Singh, Chandra Kumari and Riddhiraj Singh discussing pets and livestock. They are also keen cricketers. **To book this royal homestay, you may call: 8980980003**

## The Hindu Temple of Shamlaji

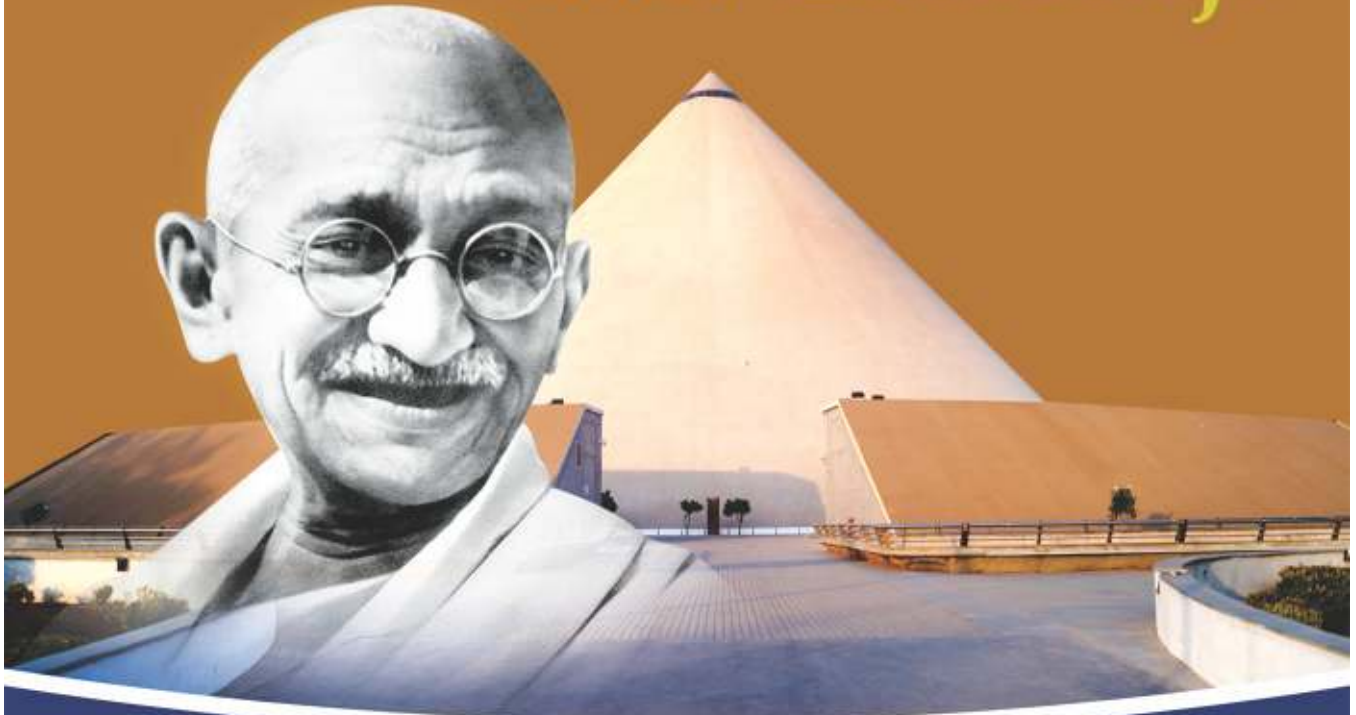
Shamlaji town on the banks of the Meshvo River is best known for its Vishnu temple, built in the 11th century Solanki Rajput style. An important place of Vaishnava pilgrimage, the temple has a white flag fluttering atop. The temple is architecturally interesting with splendid carvings, domes and arches. Shamlaji hosts a huge fair during Kartik Poornima, which attracts tribal people in large numbers to the river.

## The Buddhist Site of Devni Mori

Just south of Shamlaji, a bridge leads off National Highway-8 across the Mesho River to a path leading to the village of Devni Mori, spelt Devani Mori or



'There is Something  
about **Gandhiji**'



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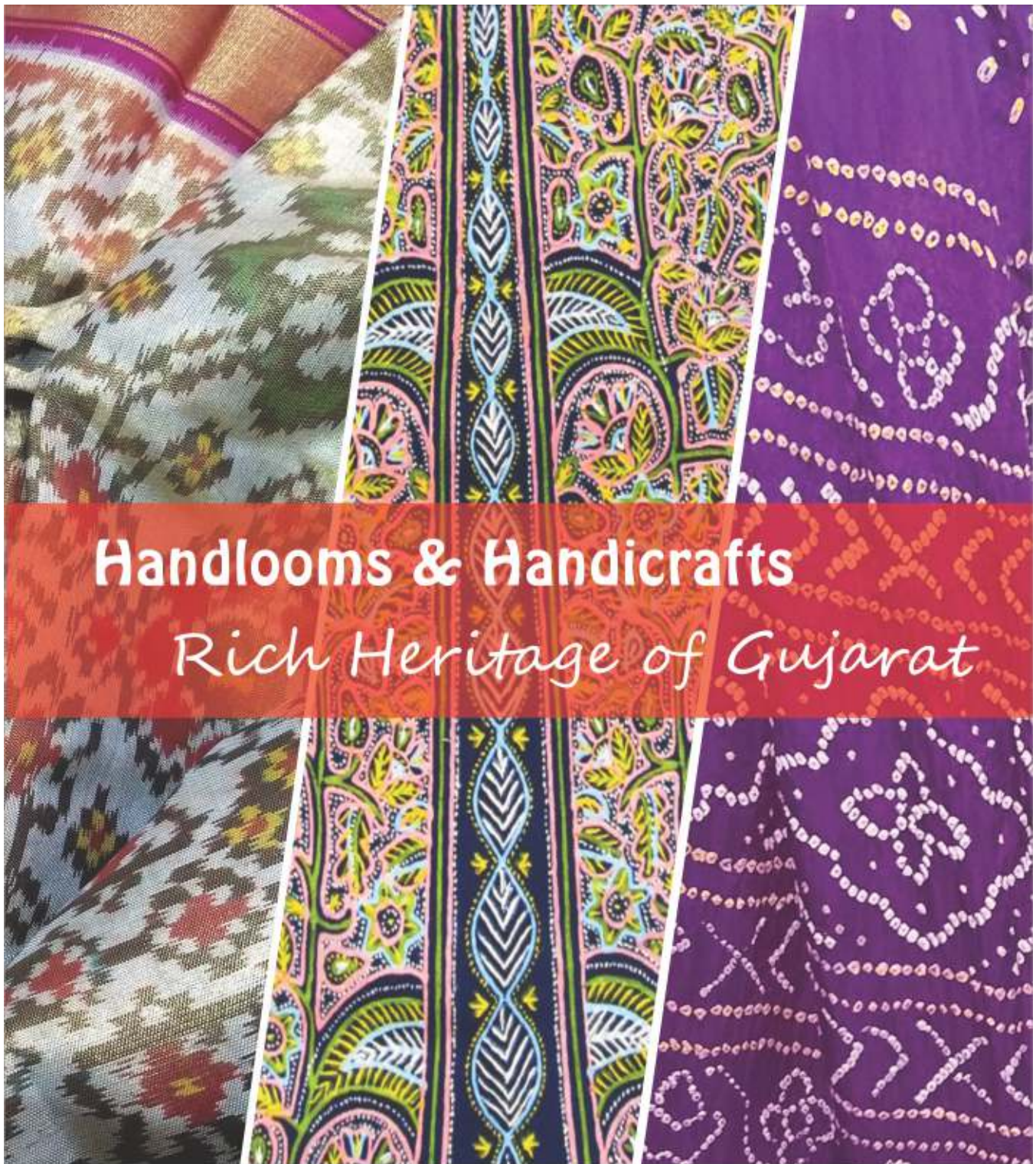
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# Rann Utsav

1st November 2018 to 28th February 2019



**Booking is  
now open!**

Call 74 40 40 40 40  
or visit  
[www.RannUtsav2018.com](http://www.RannUtsav2018.com)

An Initiative of



Operated by



## Key Attractions

- Accommodation in Premium AC Tents / Rajwadi AC Bhunga
- Visit to wonderful "White Rann"
- Thrilling adventure park with outdoor fun - Para Motoring, ATV Rides, etc.
- Engaging indoor activities - Pool, Board Games, Library, etc.
- Shopping delight at Craft Village with Kutch's colorful handloom & handicraft
- Delectable Gujarati and Kutchi Cuisines by Courtyard by Marriott
- Soul-stirring folk music of Kutch

Official Operator for Rann Utsav

**White Rann Resort**

[www.whiterannresort.com](http://www.whiterannresort.com) | Dhordo, Kutch



# PRAVEG'S TOURISM ONE

www.tourismone.in

## THE NETWORKING SHOW

# Meet 100+ leading travel agents at one place



### Features

- An exclusive 2-day Networking Event for Travel & Tourism trade
- Guaranteed attendance of the Leading Travel Agents
- Dedicated Cubicle space for Networking sessions
- Opportunity to promote tourism products among travel-savvy population
- 100% Relevant Format, 100% Relevant Participants



### Schedule

 <b>DELHI</b> <small>TNS-05</small> 3-4 December, 2018 Piccadilly Hotel	 <b>SURAT</b> <small>TNS-07</small> 10-11 December, 2018 Hotel Lords Plaza	 <b>INDORE</b> <small>TNS-09</small> 17-18 December, 2018 Brilliant Convention Centre
 <b>JAIPUR</b> <small>TNS-06</small> 6-7 December, 2018 Ramada Hotel	 <b>AHMEDABAD</b> <small>TNS-08</small> 12-13 December, 2018 Hotel Novotel	 <b>PUNE</b> <small>TNS-10</small> 20-21 December, 2018 St Lurn Hotel



### Benefits

- Business networking opportunities with Travel Trade
- Robust platform to create brand awareness and enhance brand image
- Excellent opportunity to collect business leads, make sales and build relationships
- Scope for long term lucrative business partnerships
- Comprehensive understanding and strategic insights into the market and its requirements
- Knowledge on the latest trends of the industry and new ideas for business development

### Participants

**Hotels & Resorts | Tourist Attraction Properties**  
**Destination Management Companies**  
**Tour Operators | Transport Companies**  
**Government Tourism Boards**



### FOR PARTICIPATION, CONTACT

#### PRAVEG COMMUNICATIONS LIMITED

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