

PRAVEG'S TOURISM ONE

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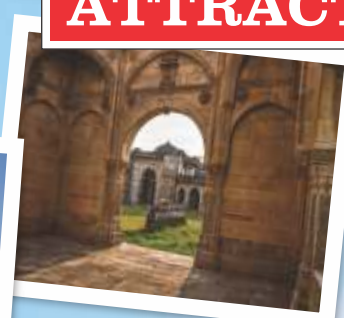
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A high-end monthly magazine

TOP
20

GUJARAT

ATTRACTIONS



PRAVEG'S TOURISM ONE | May 2020

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Vibrant and Glorious

World's largest white desert, India's longest coastline, shore temples, the habitat of Asiatic Lions, country's first marine national park, ancient Buddhist caves, 4000 years old Harappan citadels and handicrafts and handlooms... Sounds like a tourist paradise?

Gujarat – a sole home of the pure Asiatic Lions, also offers splendid views of the scenic beauty ranging from the Great Rann of Kutch to the hills of Satpura. Apart from the picturesque landscapes and more than 1600km long coastline, Gujarat also offers its tourists with some magnificent ancient cave paintings, historic murals, holy temples, wildlife sanctuaries, beaches, hill resorts and fascinating handicrafts.

As a tribute to this beautiful land of legends, we bring to you a special edition focused on Gujarat's Top-20 Attractions.

Read on!

Contents

Glorious Gujarat



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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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Statue of Unity,
Kevadia

Pg4



Dwarkadhish
Temple

Pg12



Rann of Kutch

Pg14



Rani Ki Vav, Patan

Pg8



Somnath Temple

Pg18



Gir National Park,
Junagarh

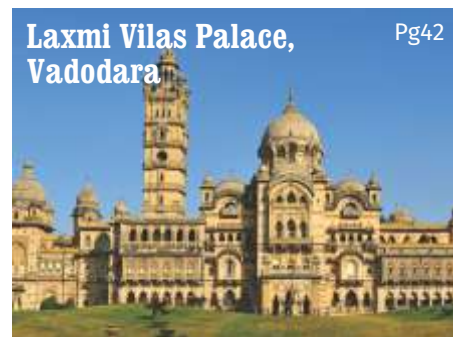
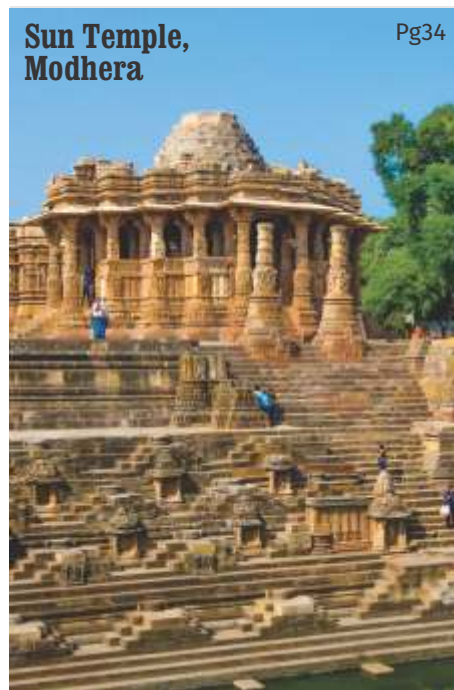
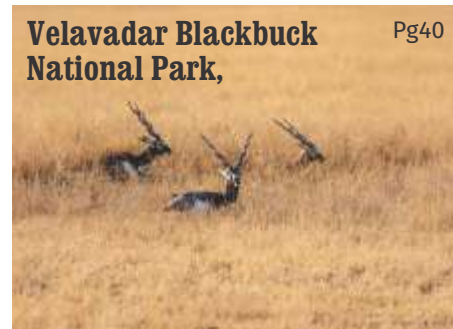
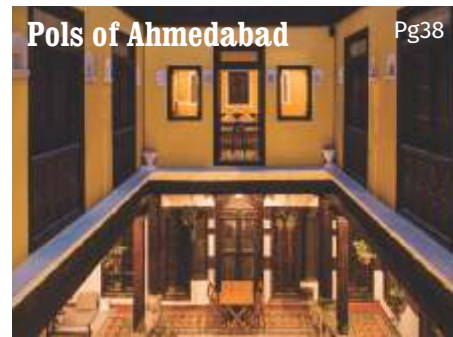
Pg10



Polo Monument and
Vijaynagar Forest

Pg20

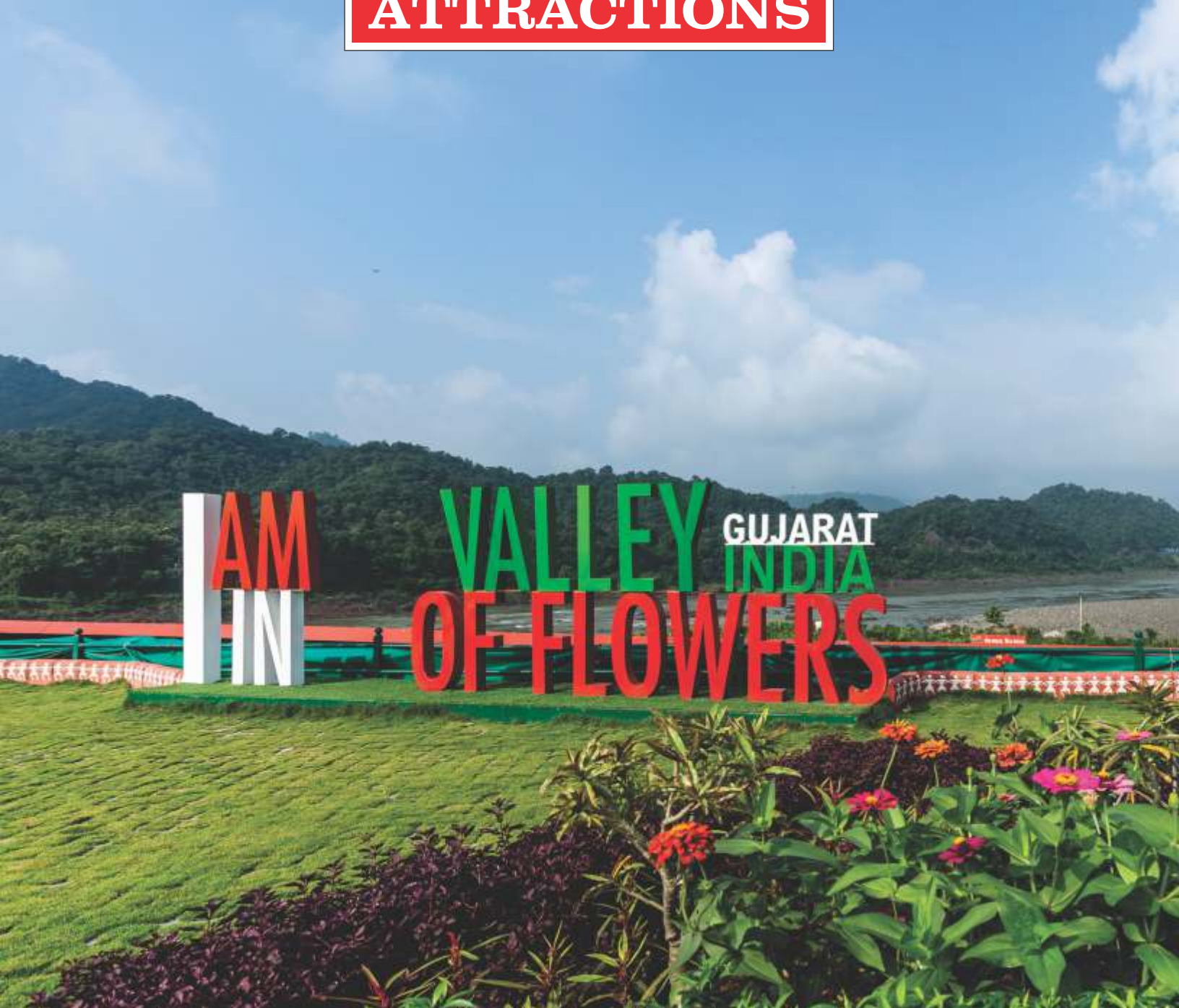




TOP
20

GUJARAT

ATTRACTIONS



1 Statue of Unity, Kevadia

The World's Tallest Statue

Statue of Unity is a memorial to the iron man of India, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. The Statue has been erected to propagate Sardar Patel's vision of India and to inspire the citizens of India through his patriotism and freedom struggle. The bronze statue stands tall at 182 metres, grabbing the attention of the whole world as the "Tallest Statue in the World". The Statue of Unity is located in Gujarat on the river island of Sadhu Bet overlooking the Sardar Sarovar Dam from 3.2 km.

Tent City Narmada, located beneath the shadow of Statue of Unity is another attraction to stay back in nature to explore the region and its unfathomable beauty. The Luxury Nature Resort offers tented stay accommodation surrounded by hills and valleys, greenery and pure air.



Museum & Audio Visual Gallery



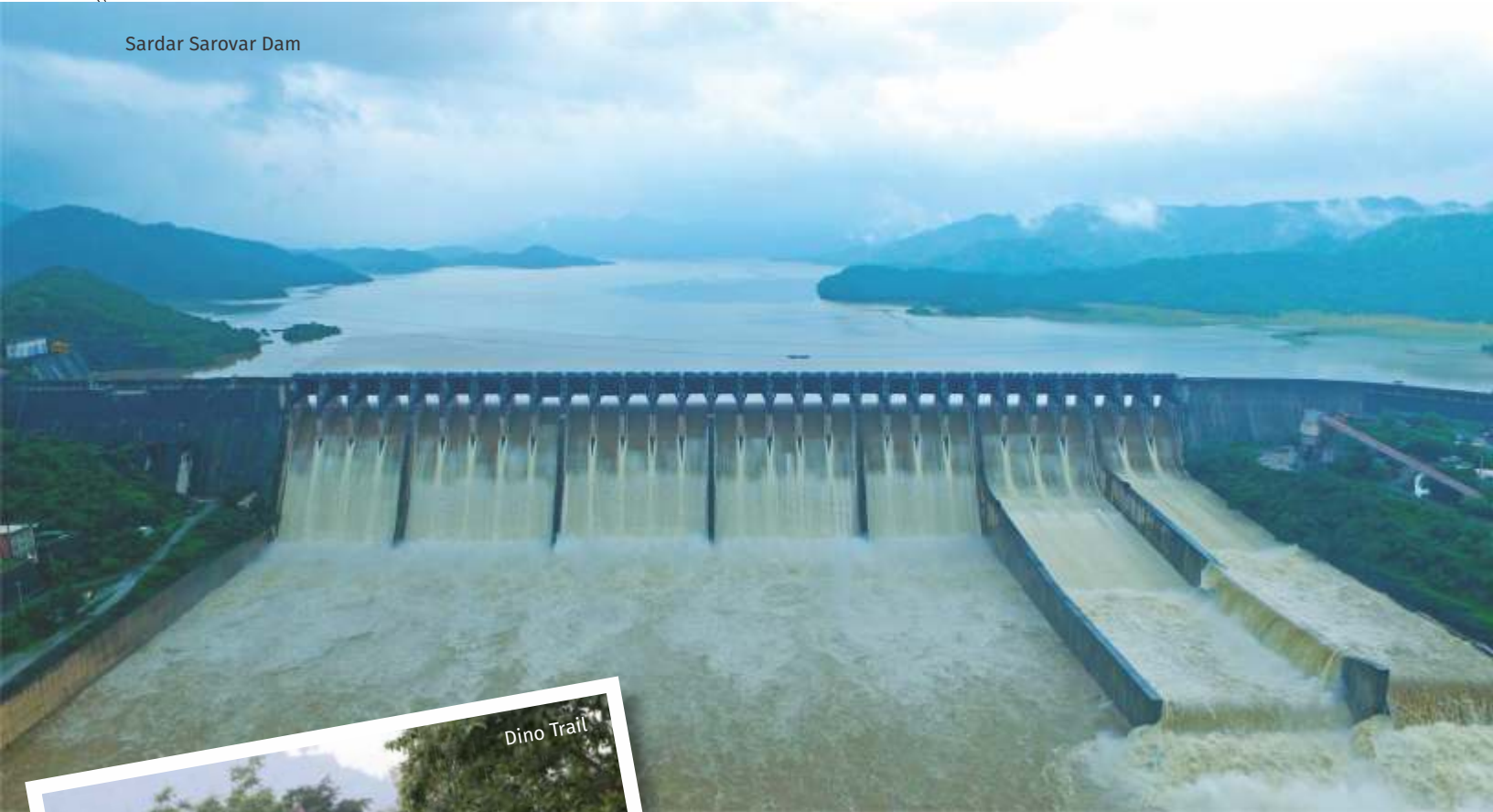
Viewing Gallery



Museum & Audio Visual Gallery



Sardar Sarovar Dam



Dino Trail



River Rafting





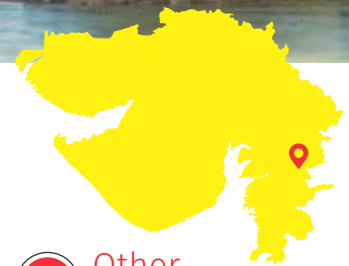
Ekta Nursery



Statue of Unity



Cactus Garden



! Other Attractions

- Boating & Helicopter Ride
- Valley of Flowers
- Riverfront Cycling
- Sardar Patel Zoological Park and Safari
- Sardar Sarovar Dam
- Tent City Narmada

? How to Reach

It is about two hours southeast of Vadodara, which is well-connected by rail, road and air with major cities of Gujarat and India.



Tent City Narmada



Interior - Darbari Tent



Jungle Safari



2

Rani Ki Vav, Patan

An Archaeological Wonder



Rani ki Vav or Ranki vav is a stepwell situated in the town of Patan in Gujarat state of India. Its construction is attributed to Udayamati, daughter of Khengara of Saurashtra, queen of the 11th-century Chaulukya dynasty and spouse of Bhima I. Silted over, it was rediscovered in 1940s and restored in 1980s by the Archaeological Survey of India. It has been listed as one of UNESCO's World Heritage Sites since 2014.

Rani ki vav is considered as the finest and one of the largest example of stepwell architecture in Gujarat. It was built at the

height of craftsmens' ability in stepwell construction and the Maru-Gurjara architecture style, reflecting mastery of this complex technique and beauty of detail and proportions. The architecture and sculptures is similar to the Vimalavasahi temple on Mount Abu and Sun temple at Modhera.

The stepwell is divided into seven levels of stairs with sculptural panels; more than 500 principle sculptures and over a thousand minor ones combine religious, mythological and secular imagery.



Carving and Sculpture



Sahastralinga Talav



Sahastralinga Talav



Patola Saree



Patola Weaver



Other Attractions

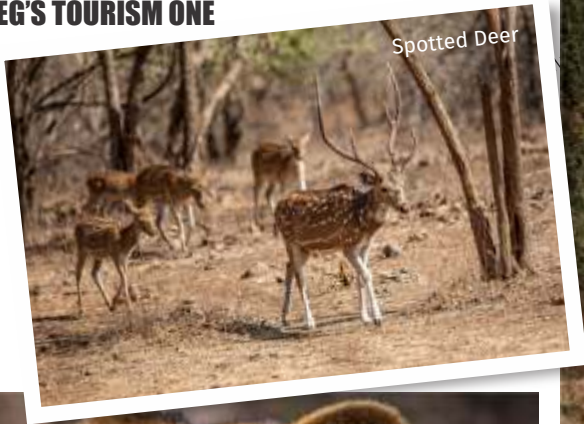
- Sahastralinga Talav/Lake
- Patan Patola Heritage Museum
- Sri Panchasara Parshwanath Mandir
- Patan City Museum
- Bindu Sarovar

How to Reach

The best way to reach Rani ki Vav in Patan is by taking a bus from Ahmedabad which will take around 3.5 hours to cover the distance.



Carving and Sculpture



Spotted Deer



3



Asiatic Lion

Gir National Park, Junagarh

Popular for its Fauna

Gir Forest National Park is an ultimate destination for nature and wildlife enthusiasts. Excess hunting of lion made them the most endangered species of the 1900. Gir National Park was established to protect Asiatic lions who frequent the fences-off Devalia Safari Park, along with leopards and antelopes. Gir Jungle Trail, outside the fenced area, traverses deciduous forest and is home to wildlife including vultures and pythons. The Kamleshwar Dam has marsh crocodiles and birds, such as Indian skimmers and pelicans.

With the wildlife decreasing all around the world, Gir is the only place which has the existence of Asiatic Lion. For online booking, visit www.girlion.in/



Green Bee Eater



Other Attractions

- Forest Safari
- Bird Watching
- Shopping Local Handi-craft Items
- Tribal Festivals
- Crocodile Breeding Centre
- Nature Walk

How to Reach

The best way to reach Gir is by landing at the airport in Keshod or by taking a train till Junagadh or Veraval. Following this, take a taxi to reach your destination.



Scenic view of Gir National Park



Owl



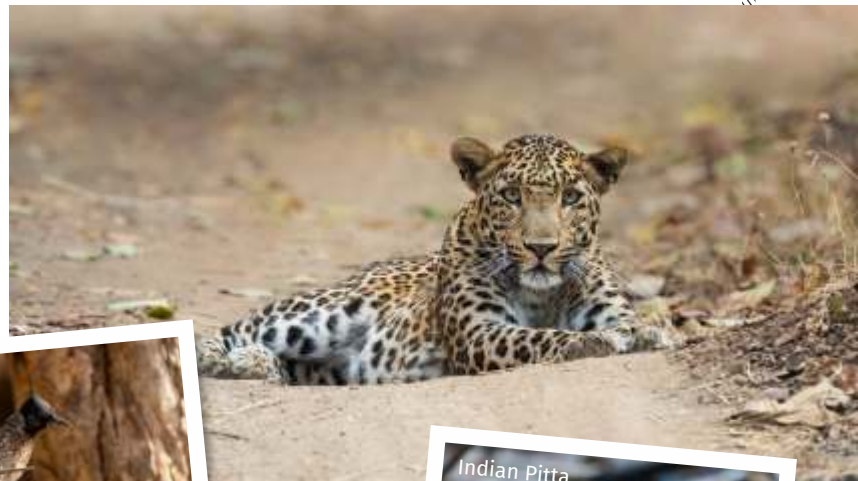
Long-Billed Vulture



Indian Python



Indian pangolin



Sambar



Red Vented Bulbul



Indian Pitta



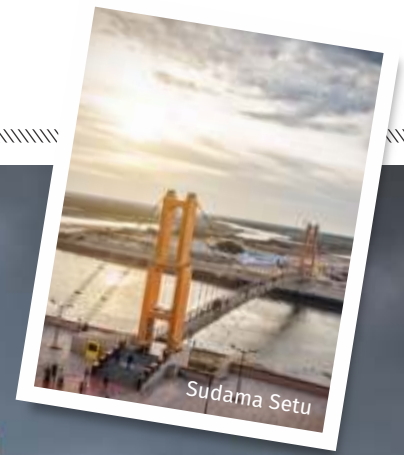
Jungle Safari

4

Dwarkadhish Temple

For A Beachy Vacation

Dwarka, a holy pilgrimage town of Gujarat is steeped in the legendary aura and religious significance. The religious significance is focused on the famous Dwarkadheesh Temple that makes the focal point of interest for pilgrims from every nook and corner of the country. The temple of Dwarkadheesh has been built in honor of Lord Krishna who according to legends had been the 'King of Dwarka'. The original temple of Dwarkadheesh is believed to have been constructed by Vajranabha who was the grandson of the Lord. Dwarka dham is one of the Chardham of the All-India Hindu Chardham Circuit (Badrinath, Rameshwar, Puri) and is also one among the 108 divya desams of the Vaishnavites.





! Other Attractions

- Nageshwar Jyotirlinga
- Bet Dwarka
- Dwarka Beach
- Rukmini Devi Temple
- Dwarka Lighthouse

? How to Reach

If you want to reach Dwarka in the fastest way then you must take a flight till Jamnagar Airport which is located at a distance of 45 kilometers only. You can take a bus or taxi from there to reach Dwarka easily.



Dwarka Beach



Nageshwar Temple



Ghat



Rukmini Temple

5

Rann of Kutch

Not-To-Be-Missed Gujarat Destination

On the westernmost tip of Gujarat, lies India's most scenic view, the White Rann. The largest salt marshland of India, it is located in Kutch district, and is just 15 meters above the sea level. The expansive desert is nothing but crystals of white salt shimmering on a full moon night. The white rann experience is known for its mesmerising beauty and is shared with the world through Rann Utsav, a 3-month long festival during November to March every year. What others thought of as a barren land is brought to life with

the celebration of culture, tradition, food and its people.

White Rann Resort, the official operator of Rann Utsav, offers stay in traditional bhungas, a rounded mud-huts with beautiful wall crafts as well as tents along with other attractions, providing an authentic kutchi experience to the tourists.





Rogan Art



Kalo Dungar



Rann Safari



Bird-eye View - White Rann Resort



Bird-eye View - White Rann Resort

Cultural Performance



Outdoor Activity



Statue of Unity

Outdoor Activity





Rann Safari



Mandvi Beach



! Other Attractions

- Handicraft Shopping at Dhordo
- Rogan art-in-the-making at Nirona Village
- Kalo Dungar
- Topansar Lake
- Kandla Port
- Mandvi Beach
- Kutch Museum

? How to Reach

The nearest railway station or airport is located in Bhuj from where one has to take a taxi to reach Rann of Kutch.



Kutch Museum



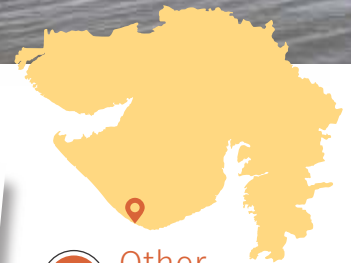
6 Somnath Temple

Pay A Visit With Your Family

The Somnath temple, located in Prabhas Patan near Junagadh in Saurashtra, is believed to be the first among the first among the twelve jyotirlinga shrines of Shiva. It is an important pilgrimage and tourist spot of Gujarat. Reconstructed several times in the past after repeated destruction by several invaders and rulers, the present temple was reconstructed in Chalukya style of Hindu temple architecture and completed in 1951.

The temple's shikhara or main spire, is 15 metres in height. The temple's imposing architecture includes intricate carvings, silver doors, an impressive Nandi idol and the central shivalinga. In the vast courtyard stand the massive mandapa as well as the main shrine, whose gently curved pyramidal forms tower over the whole complex.





! Other Attractions

- Somnath Beach
- Paanch Pandav Gufa
- Bhalka Tirth
- Laxminarayan Temple
- Triveni Sangam Temple

? How to Reach

Take a flight from any of the major cities of Delhi to Diu Airport which is located at a distance of 65 kilometers from the temple or take a ride in the train till Veraval which is just 6 km away.

7

Polo Monument and Vijaynagar Forest

Into the Lush Greenery

Polo Forest, situated in Vijaynagar taluka of the Sabarkantha district, is a world unto itself with ancient temples and lush greenery. A rendezvous with birds, nature and remains of ancient Jain temples, Polo Forest is all these and more. The River Harnav outlines the forest which is also home to a dam and is starting point of the Aravalli Range.

Nature lovers and birdwatchers would find themselves amused with over 200 species of birds found here. A visit to the Jain temples of Abhapur, dating back to the 15th century, is an immersive experience to have, with the feeling of travelling back in time. With exquisite architecture and remains of the sculptures of apsaras in the premises of the temple, the heritage of Jain architecture is strongly reflected here.

For those looking for a relaxed getaway close to the capital city of Gujarat, or the other popular city, Ahmedabad, Polo Forest is a great place.





Shiva Shakti Temple



Sharneshwar Temple



Antashumba Jain Temple



Panchayat Shiva Temple



! Other Attractions

- Harnav River and Dam
- Shiv Temple at Sarneshwar
- Sadevant Savlings Deras
- Polo Jain Nagri
- Lakhena Temple
- Bhim Hill

? How to Reach

The location is about an hour northeast of Idar, near Vijaynagar. It can be reached in three hours from Ahmedabad.

8 Champaner-Pavagadh Archaeological Park

Explore at Your Pace



Pavagadh

Champaner-Pavagadh Archaeological Park, a UNESCO World Heritage, is located in Panchmahal district. It is located around the historical city of Champaner, a city which was founded by Vanraj Chavda, the most prominent kind of the Chavda Dynasty, in the 8th century.

The heritage site is studded with forts with bastions starting from the hills of Pavagadh, and extending into the city of Champaner. The park's landscape includes archaeological, historical and living cultural heritage monuments such as chalcolithic sites, a hill fortress of an early Hindu capital, and remains of the 16th-century capital of the state of Gujarat. There are palaces, entrance gates and arches, mosques, tombs and temples, residential complexes, agricultural structures and water installations such as stepwell and tanks, dating back from 8th to the 14th centuries.



Kevda Masjid



Jama Masjid



Nagina Masjid



Jama Masjid



Jama Masjid



Saat Kaman



Vada Lake



! Other Attractions

- Jami Masjid
- Lila Gumbaj ki Masjid
- Kevada Masjid
- Maa Mahakalika Temple
- Pavagadh Hill and Fort
- Nagina Masjid

? How to Reach

Nearest railhead (48 km) to this park is Vadodara railway station and the nearest airport is Vadodara Airport (42 km). After reaching one of these places, you will have to hire a taxi to reach the destination.

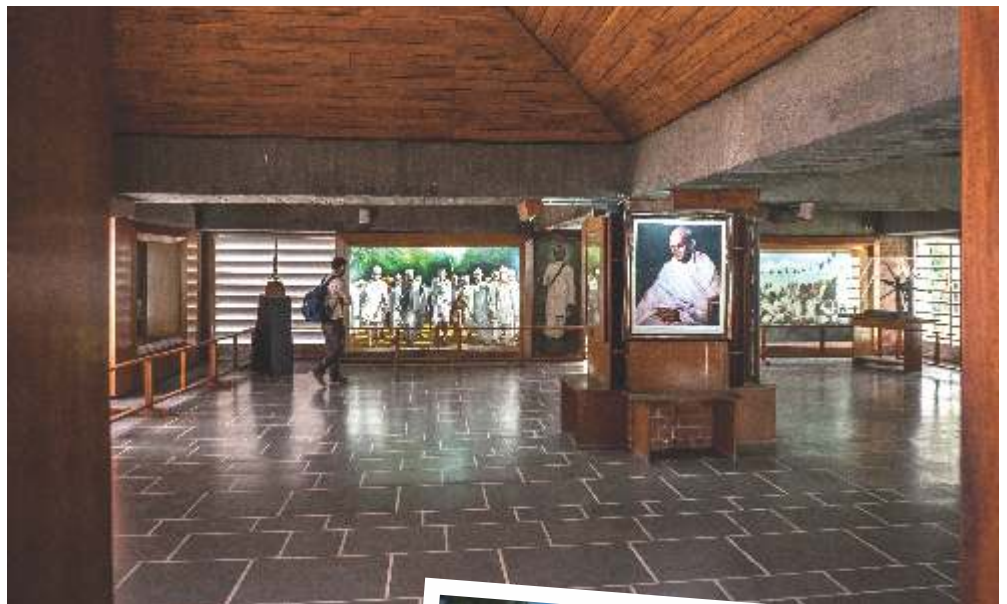
9

Sabarmati Ashram, Ahmedabad

Tales of Mahatma

Sabarmati Ashram, formerly known as Satyagraha Ashram, is located on the banks of River Sabarmati in Ahmedabad. This was one of the main residences of Mahatma Gandhi who lived at Sabarmati and Sevagram (Maharashtra) when he was not travelling across India. Gandhiji stayed at the ashram from 1915 to 1933 later on the ashram was disbanded. The ashram is a witness to many important historical events.

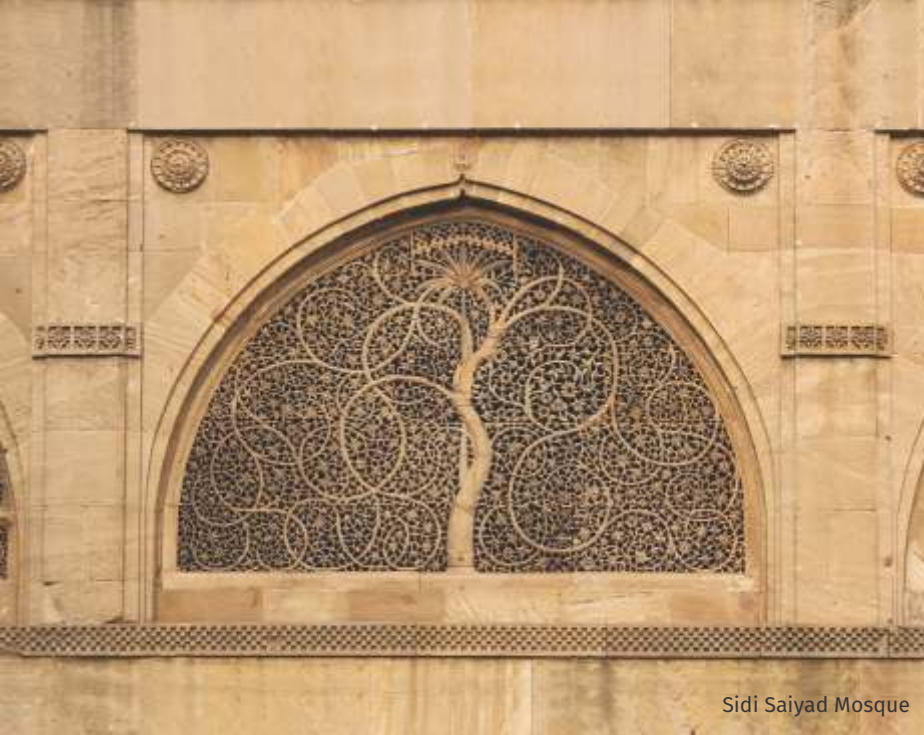
An important feature of the ashram is Gandhi Sangrahalaya, a museum inaugurated by Jawaharlal Nehru in 1963. It has five units and a library, two photo galleries and an auditorium.



Bhadra Fort



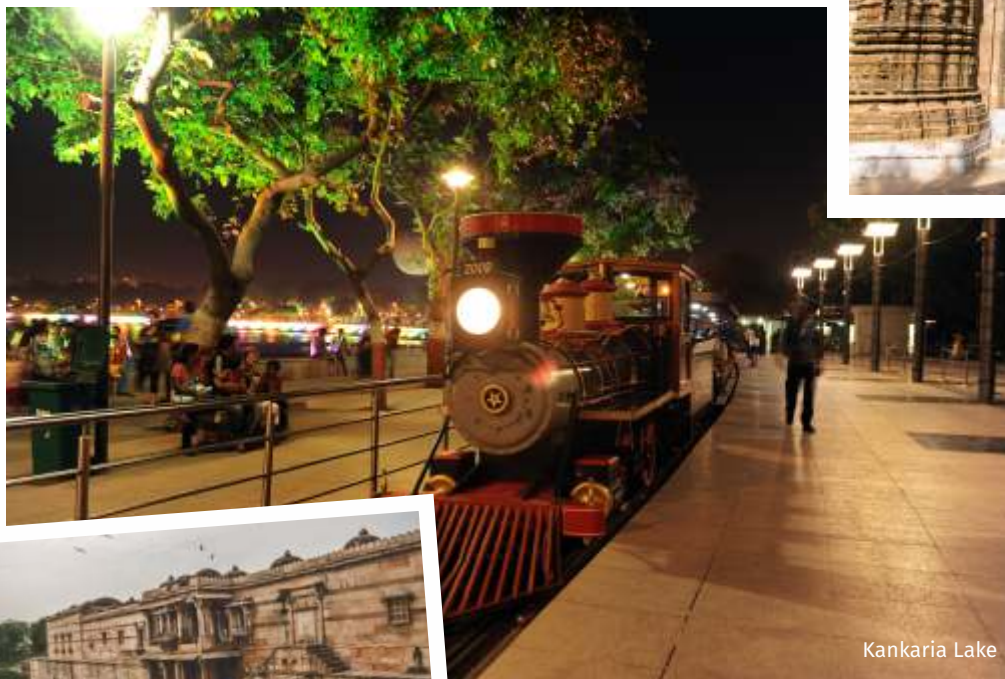
Adalaj Stepwell



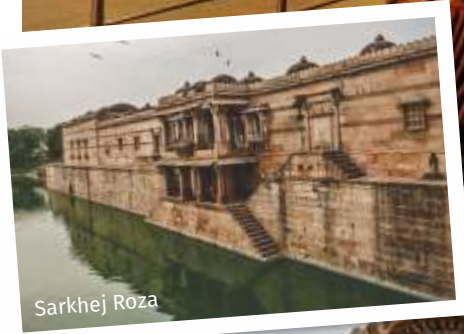
Sidi Saiyad Mosque



The Shakin Minarets



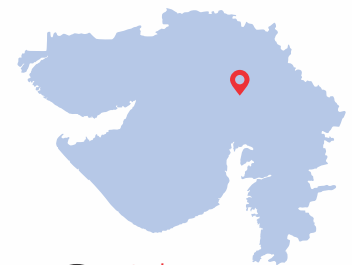
Kankaria Lake



Sarkhej Roza



Jama Masjid



! Other Attractions

- Adalaj Stepwell
- Kankaria Lake
- Bhadra Fort
- Jama Masjid
- The Shakin Minarets
- Sidi Saiyad Mosque
- Sarkhej Roza

? How to Reach

There are several trains that ply between the major cities of India and Ahmedabad. So, take a train ride from your city to Kalupur Railway Station and then hire a taxi to reach your destination.

10 Marine National Park, Jamnagar

The Fascinating Underwater World



Marine National Park



Khijadiya Bird Sanctuary

Marine National Park in the Gulf of Kutch at Jamnagar offers exotic sightings for people willing to go on an adventure trip. There are 42 islands on the Jamnagar coast in the Marine National Park, most of them surrounded by reefs. The best known island is Pirotan. The Marine National Park & Sanctuary has coral reefs, mangroves, sea-grass beds, mudflats, network of creeks and other ecosystems which support rich marine life & bird life.

Here one has a chance to spot octopus, puffer fish, sea turtles, lobsters, crabs, dolphins, ray fishes, jelly fish, star fish, sea anemones, colourful corals, exotic marine flowering plants, etc.



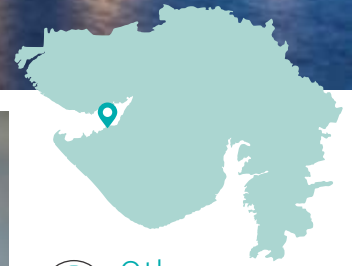
Lakhota Lake



Pratap Vilas Palace



Jamnagar City



! Other Attractions

- Lakhota Lake
- Ranmal Lake Park
- Khijadiya Bird Sanctuary
- Lakhota Fort, Palace and Museum
- Pratap Vilas Palace

? How to Reach

The nearest airport is Jamnagar Airport which is just 7 kilometers away from this national park. Apart from this, you can also opt for a train journey till Rajkot and Jamnagar railway stations.

11

Saputara

Snuggled in the Sahyadris or the Western Ghats, Saputara is a quaint little hill station in the Dang District of Gujarat. Popular for lush green forests, undulating mountains, dazzling waterfalls, dreamy winding roads, livid landscapes and plenty of charming cubbyholes to spend time with your loved ones, the town is located at a height of 875 metres above sea level and is a perfect getaway for eco-lovers, wildlife enthusiasts and people who love adventure sports.

The Only Hill Station



Paragliding



Boating





Pavri Player

! Other Attractions

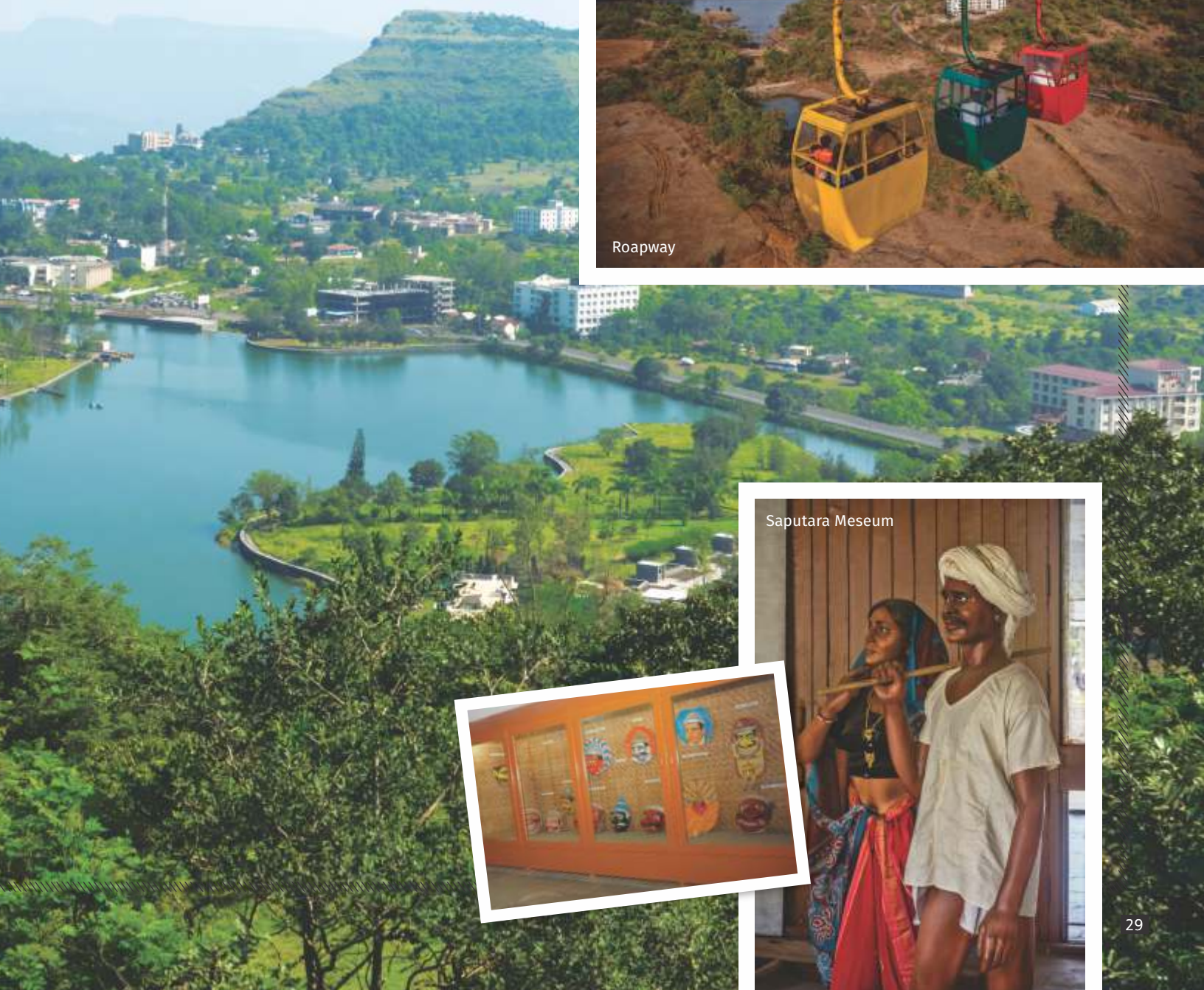
- Saputara Lake
- Sunset Point
- Step Garden
- Lake Garden
- Saputara Museum
- Hatgadth Fort

? How to Reach

To reach Saputara, you will have to reach Bilimora Railway Station first which is connected to the major cities of India. From there, you can hire a taxi to cover a distance of 50 kilometers to reach Saputara.



Roapway



Saputara Meseum



12

Dholavira

Know More About Indus Valley

Dholavira is the larger of the two remarkable excavations of the Indus Valley Civilization or Harappan Culture, dating back to 4500 years ago. Surrounded by the Great Rann of Kutch, it offers a unique insight into the pioneering Harappan mind, with one of the world's earliest and best planned water conservation systems and what might be the

world's first signboards, written in ancient Indus script.

The excavation also tells the story of the 7 stages of the civilization, from development to maturity to decay, the last of which hints at a strange piece of history. After the peak of the civilization, Dholavira was temporarily abandoned, after which it seems that the settlers returned with a markedly de-urbanized culture.



! Other Attractions

- Archaeological Museum
- The Kutch Desert Wildlife Sanctuary
- The Great Rann of Kutch

? How to Reach

The best way to reach Dholavira is by opting for a road trip from Bhuj. You can either take a taxi or a bus to reach the destination which takes around 5 hours to complete the journey.





13

Lothal

Dig Into The Ancient Era

Lothal was excavated during 1954-1960 by the Archaeological Survey of India. Situated near the village of Saragwala in the Dholka Taluka of Ahmedabad district, Lothal was a vital and thriving trade centre in ancient times, with its trade of beads, gems and valuable ornaments reaching the far corners of west Asia and Africa. The techniques and

tools they pioneered for bead-making and in metallurgy have stood the test of time for over 4000 years.

The excavation of this site was resumed in 1961 which unearthed trenches sunk on the northern, eastern, and western flanks of the mound, bringing to light the inlet channels and nullah connecting the dock with the river. The findings consist of a mound, a township, a marketplace, and the dock. Adjacent to excavated areas stand the Archaeological Museum, where some of the most prominent collections of Indus-era antiquities in India are displayed.



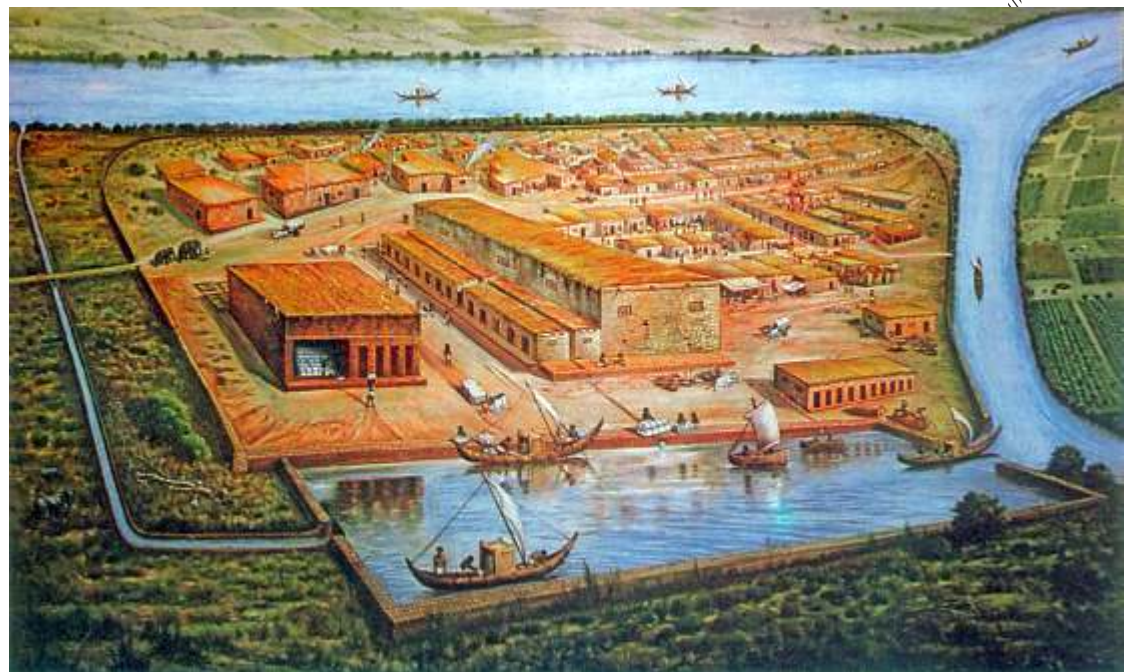


! Other Attractions

- Archaeological Museum
- Ancient Dockyard
- The Bead Factory
- Drainage System
- Warehouses

? How to Reach

Lothal can be reached by a simple train or bus journey. You can get down at the Bhurkhi station that comes in the Ahmedabad to Bhavnagar railway line. From here, take a local transport to reach Lothal.



14

Sun Temple, Modhera

Count Your Steps

The Somanth temple, located in Prabhas Patan near Junagadh in Saurashtra, is believed to be the first among the first among the twelve jyotirlinga shrines of Shiva. It is an important pilgrimage and tourist spot of Gujarat. Reconstructed several times in the past after repeated destruction by several invaders and rulers, the present temple was reconstructed in Chalukya style of Hindu temple architecture and completed in 1951.

The temple's shikhara or main spire, is 15 metres in height. The temple's imposing architecture includes intricate carvings, silver doors, an impressive Nandi idol and the central shivalinga. In the vast courtyard stand the massive mandapa as well as the main shrine, whose gently curved pyramidal forms tower over the whole complex.



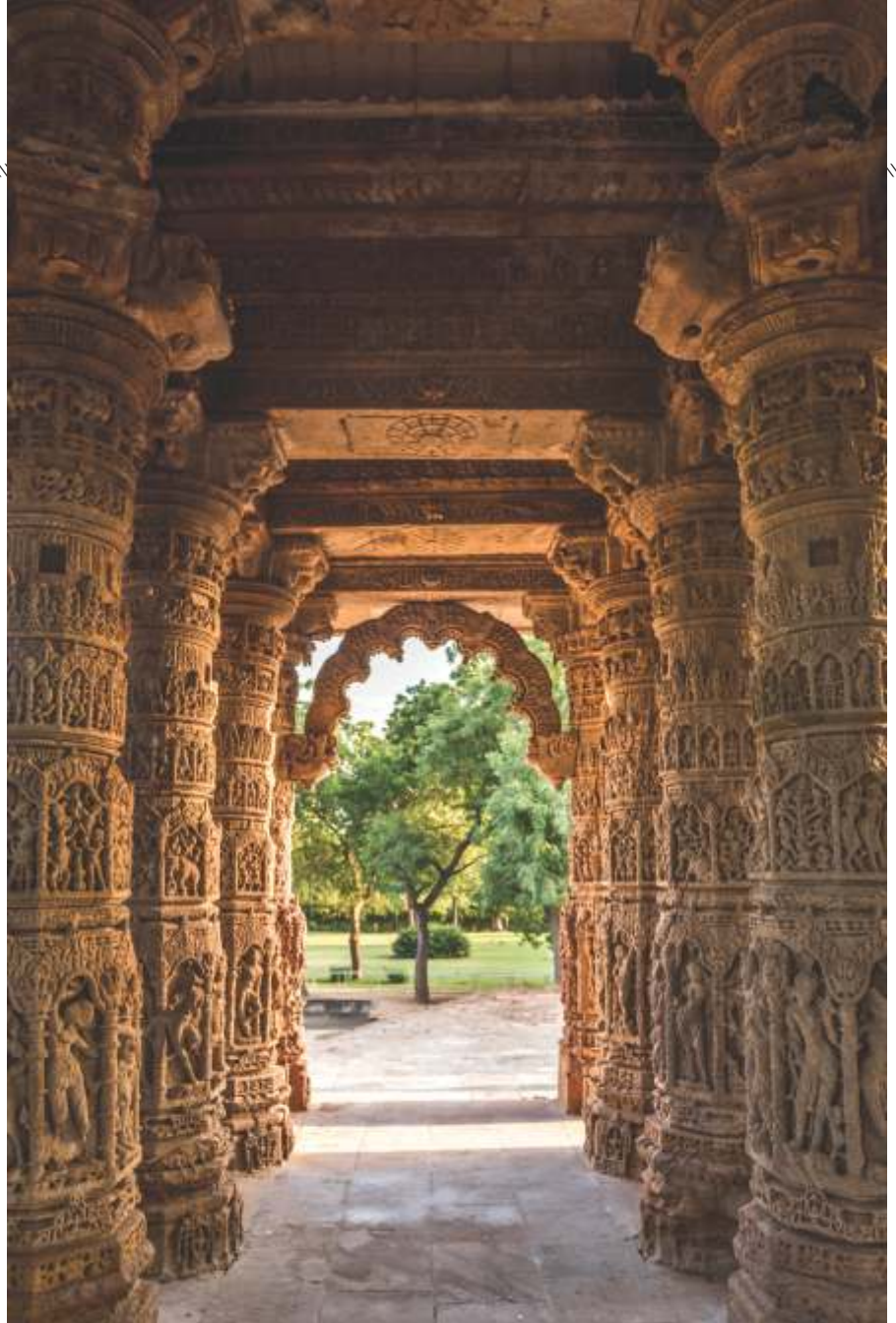
Other Attractions

- Surya Kund
- Modhshwari Mata Mandir



How to Reach

You will first have to reach Ahmendabad to reach Modhera. You can either opt for a train or a flight till Ahmedabad from where you can take a taxi till Modhera.





15

Shri Arasuri Ambaji Mata Temple

Famous Pilgrimage Site



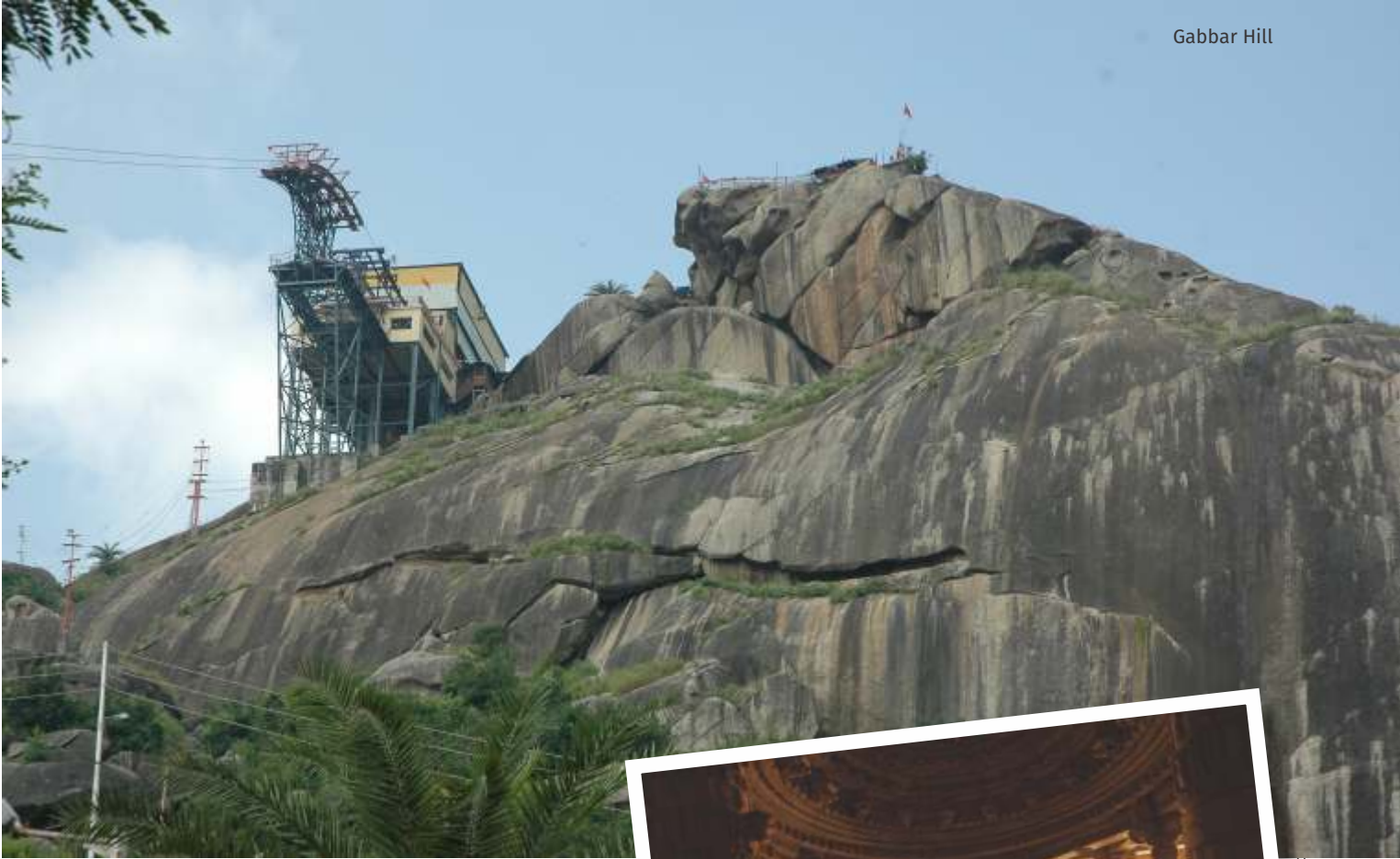
Ambaji, a famous pilgrimage place of Gujarat in India is situated on the border of States of Gujarat and Rajasthan near Abu Road, in the Danta Taluka of Banaskantha District. The Temple is in fact one of the Fifty One (51) ancient Shakti Piths, the main Centre of Cosmic Power in India.

The original seat of Ambaji mata is on Gabbar hilltop in the town. A large number of devotees visit the temple every year especially on Purnima days. A large mela on Bhadarvi poornima (full moon day) is held. Every Year from all over the country people come here walking all over from their native place just to worship MAA AMBE in September. The whole Ambaji town is lit up as the nation celebrates the festive time of Diwali.



Mangalya Van

Gabbar Hill



Kumbhariya Jain Mandir

Kamakshi Temple



! Other Attractions

- Gabbar Hill
- Kailash Tekri Mahadev Temple
- Kumbhariya Jain Mandir
- Mangalya Van
- Mansarovar Shiv Temple

? How to Reach

The nearest railway station is located in Palanpur at a distance of 40 kilometers. You can take a train from nearby cities to reach Danta Ambaji.

16

Pols of Ahmedabad

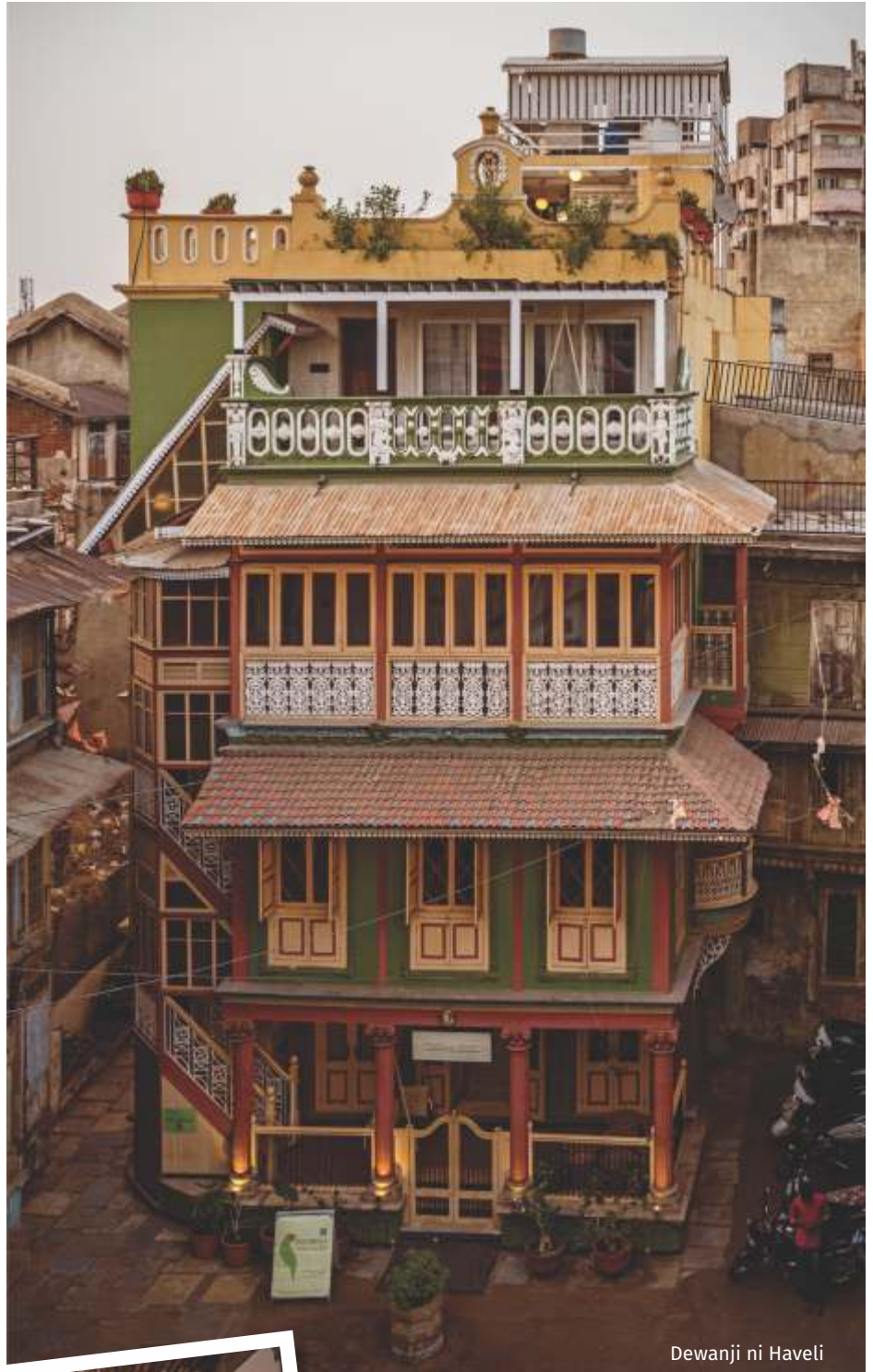
UNESCO World Heritage City

The walled city of Ahmadabad, founded by Sultan Ahmad Shah in the 15th century, on the eastern bank of the Sabarmati river, presents a rich architectural heritage from the sultanate period, notably the Bhadra citadel, the walls and gates of the Fort city and numerous mosques and tombs as well as important Hindu and Jain temples of later periods. The city continued to flourish as the capital of the the city to expand, a short section of the wall along the Sabarmati River and the original 12 gates bearing State of Gujarat for six centuries, up to the present.

Although much of the late 15th century wall built to fortify the city had to be later dismantled to allow carvings and calligraphy, some with balconies, still exist.

Attractions like Jhulta Minars (Shaking Minarets) stand as examples of India's engineering feat. If one minaret of the pair is shaken, the other one shakes too.

Some of the key attractions that reveal the Indo-Islamic architecture are the Jama Masjid, Teen Darwaja, the Bhadra Gate, the King's and the Queen's tombs, etc. Buildings from the Maratha period and the colonial era also survive in the walled city.



Dewanji ni Haveli



Dewanji ni Haveli



Mahurat Pole



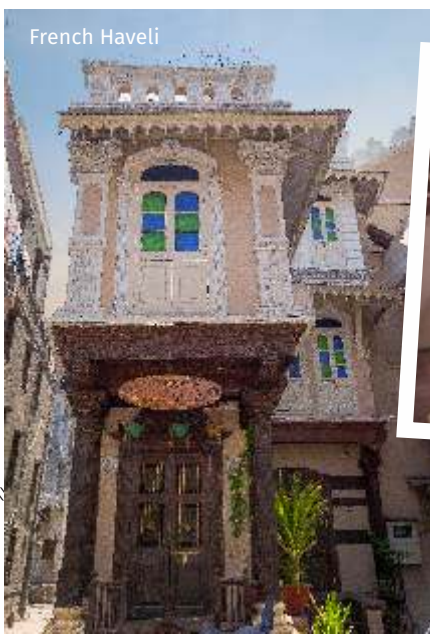
Akha Bhagat Chowk



Baronet ni Haveli



Deshai ni Pole



French Haveli



French Haveli



Other Attractions

- Adalaj Stepwell
- Kankaria Lake
- Sabarmati Ashram
- Riverfront
- Law Garden
- Manek Chawk
- Nal Sarovar Bird Sanctuary
- Akshardham Mandir, Gandhinagar
- Indroda Dinosaur and Fossil Park, Gandhinagar

How to Reach

There are several trains that ply between the major cities of India and Ahmedabad. So, take a train ride from your city to Kalupur Railway Station and then hire a taxi to reach your destination.

17

Velavadar Blackbuck National Park, Velavadar, Bhavnagar

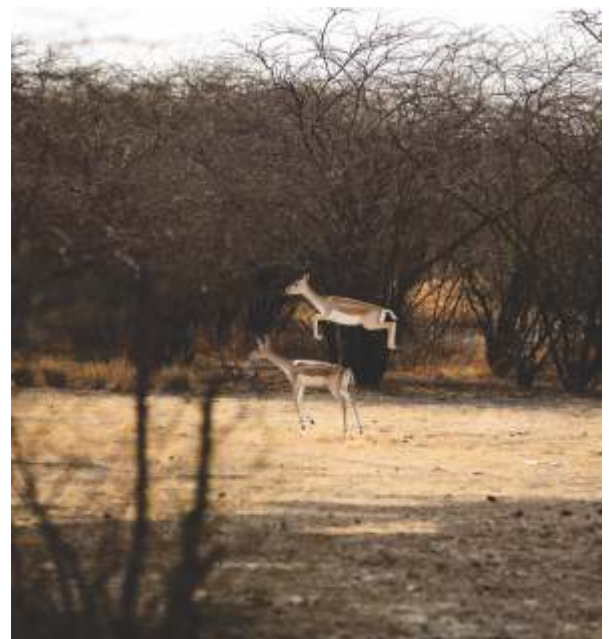
The Wild Side



At a distance of 45 km from Bhavnagar, Blackbuck National Park is a national park located at Velavadar. Also known as Velavadar Blackbuck National Park, it is one of the famous places of wildlife in Gujarat.

The park has been established for the protection of the blackbucks and has the highest number of blackbucks in India. More than 3,000 blackbucks exist on the open grasslands of Velavadar. The sanctuary is also home to other animals like nilgai, jackal, wolf, jungle cat, and fox. Besides, one can also spot many bird species which include pelicans, flamingos, white and painted storks, three kinds of cranes, many birds of prey, and the rare Stolizca's Bushchat in the southern part of the park, where all the wetlands lie. The extremely rare Lesser Florican, one of the 50 rarest birds in the world, breeds here. In the winter, thousands of migratory birds from Central Asia, Siberia and Europe land here to escape the extreme weather conditions.

A wildlife safari to this National Park is sure to prove a lifetime memory for its visitors as it allows you to watch the abundant wildlife of the region very closely.





! Other Attractions

- Shree Takhteshwar Temple, Bhavnagar
- Bortalav Lake, Bhavnagar
- Gandhi Smriti, Bhavnagar
- Ganga Deri, Bhavnagar
- Kashtabhanjan Hanuman Temple, Sarangpur

? How to Reach

Bhavnagar Airport is connected with Mumbai by daily flights. The closest railway station is at the town of Dhola, 50 km away.



18

Laxmi Vilas Palace, Vadodara

Majestic Royal Residence

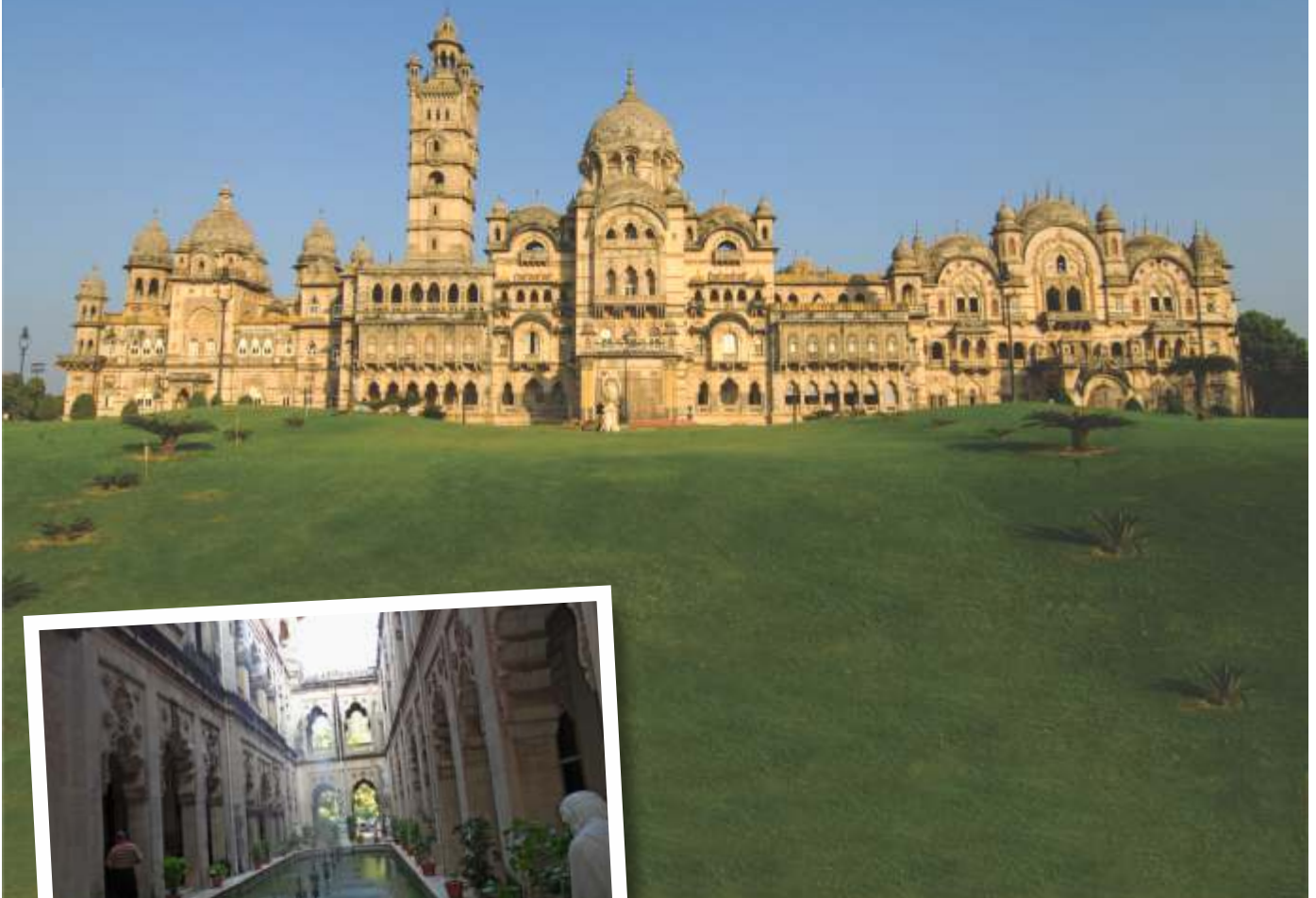
Laxmi Vilas Palace is one of the most majestic structures in India and was the private residence of Maharaja Sayajirao Gaekwad III. Known to be the largest private dwelling of the size equivalent to four times of the Buckingham Palace, this magnificent palace is a must-visit when in Vadodara.

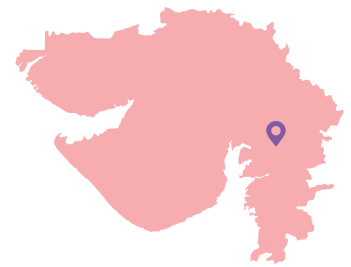
The striking Laxmi Vilas Palace was constructed in 1890 and took nearly twelve years to complete.

Sprawling across an area of about 700 acres, it is still home to the royal family of Vadodara, the Gaekwads. It is built in the Indo-Saracenic style which is a hybrid of the Hindu, Gothic and Mughal architectural forms with the presence of domes, minarets and arches.

The Laxmi Vilas Palace incorporates several other buildings within its complex including the LVP Banquets and

Conventions, Moti Baug Palace and the Maharaja Fateh Singh Museum building. The museum building was mainly constructed as a school for the Maharaja's children. Today, it houses an extraordinary collection of paintings by Raja Ravi Verma and various other artefacts gathered from all around the world. An excellent audio tour with free drink and snack are included in the ticket price.





! Other Attractions

- Sayaji Baug
- Baroda Museum & Picture Gallery
- EME Temple
- Maharaja Fateh Singh Museum
- Kirti Mandir

? How to Reach

Vadodara is well-connected by air, rail and road to major cities of Gujarat and India. Laxmi Vilas Palace can be reached by taking a taxi or auto-rickshaw from Vadodara Railway Station.

19

Junagadh Buddhist Cave Groups

Unique and Historic

The “Buddhist Caves” around Uparkot are not actually caves, but three separate sites of rooms carved out of stone to be used as monks' quarters, hence the name. They are all a little over 2000 years old, give or take a couple of centuries.

The oldest, the Khapara Kodia caves belong to 3rd-4th century AD and are plainest of all cave groups. These caves are along the edge of the ancient Sudarshan Lake (which no longer exists) and the northern side of Uparkot. They were carved into living rock during the reign of Emperor Ashoka and are considered the earliest monastic settlement in the area. After many years of use, they were abandoned because cracks above them allowed water to seep into living quarters, rendering them unusable. Khapara Kodia was damaged by later quarrying, and now only the highest story remains.

Across Uparkot from Khapara Kodia are the caves of Baba Pyara. Baba Pyara caves are lying close to the Modhimath, which has four caves in its northern group. The next set of south group caves has a unified plan with a spacious court and a chaitya hall. The art tradition of Satavahanas period has influence over these cave pillars and door jambs of the caves.



Buddhist Cave





Girnar



! Other Attractions

- Girnar
- Sakkarbaug Zoological Garden
- Mahabat Maqbara
- Uparkot Fort
- Damodar Kund
- Darbar Hall Museum

? How to Reach

Junagadh is 327km away from Ahmedabad, 102 km from Rajkot and 113 km from Porbandar and is accessible by ST Bus from each of these places.



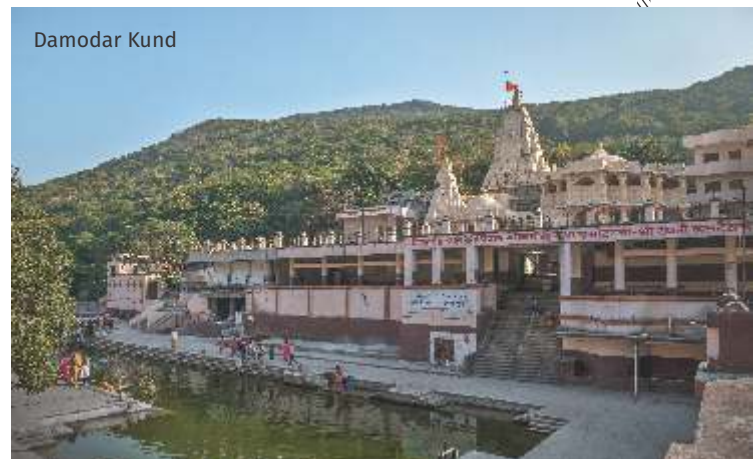
Jain Temples, Girnar



Mahabat Maqbara



Darbar Hall Museum



Damodar Kund

20

Palitana

A Holy Place

Palitana is one of the holiest places for followers of Jainism. The Palitana temple lies atop the Shatrunjaya Mountain, much in accordance with Jain philosophy which believes that the holiest places are to be found in the skies rather than on land. Reaching the temple, however, requires one to undertake an arduous climb involving over 3,000 stairs.

It is believed that the construction of Palitana Temples spanned over a period of 900 years and was completed in two phases. The idols in the temple are bathed around 9.30 pm, and prayers are offered around noon. It would be better if you began your climb in the morning, when the heat is moderate and gives you plenty of time to explore the mountains.



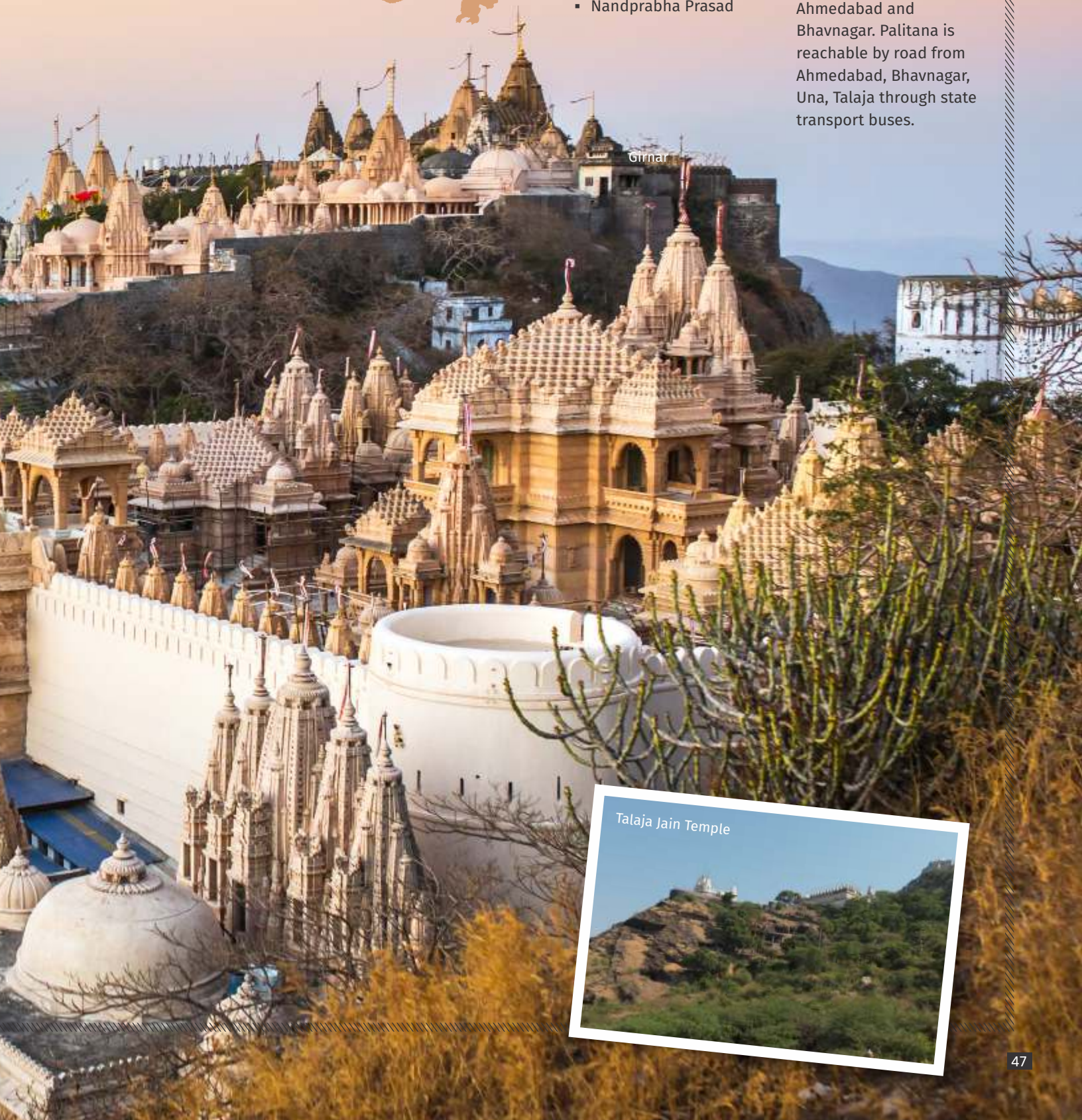


! Other Attractions

- Hastagiri Jain Tirth
- Kumarpal Temple
- Talaja Jain Temple
- Shri Vishal Jain Museum
- Nandprabha Prasad

? How to Reach

The nearest airport is Bhavnagar, 51km away. Palitana Railway Station is connected from Ahmedabad and Bhavnagar. Palitana is reachable by road from Ahmedabad, Bhavnagar, Una, Talaja through state transport buses.



Girnar



Talaja Jain Temple

Gujarat Homestays

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- Selection of homes based on thorough scrutiny and inspection
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- Categorization of the establishment as Silver or Gold category
- Additional income and enjoyable business activity for home owners
- Payment by tourists towards boarding and lodging services
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