

## **PANCH DWARKA TOUR (08 DAYS)**

### **DAY 01 - BY AIR / BY TRAIN - ARRIVE AHMEDABAD**

Today arrived in Ahmedabad and transfer to hotel.

Ahmedabad is Located on the banks of the river Sabarmati. The city was founded by Sultan Ahmad Shah in 1411. Today it is one of the fastest-growing cities of India and an immense repository of tradition, history & culture. Its famous walled area is one of the finest examples of community living, & the city thrived as the textile capital & was nicknamed "Manchester of the East' in 1888. This multicultural city is home to some of the finest Indo-Saracenic mosques & Jain temples.

The old city of Ahmedabad is dotted with labyrinthine by-lanes called 'polls'. The exquisitely carved wooden mansions and havelis are marvelous. The city also offers a rich architectural legacy that blends Hindu and Muslim schools of architecture, stone and brick with arches, domes and vaults, carved pillars, and trefoil designs, besides the modern buildings designed by the famous French architects Le Corbusier and Louis Kahn.

Later, visit Dakor Temple.

The main temple, enclosed by a fort wall, is situated near the bank of the holy lake Gomti in the midst of the main bazaar of Dakor. The temple is covered with 8 domes and 24 turrets, with the central dome reaching a height of 27m. Crowned with a golden kalash and a white silken flag, this temple is the tallest in the district. Though not very rich in carving, the main cupola derives its influence from the Maharashtrian style of temple architecture. The main hall features paintings depicting events in Lord Krishna's life.

It is believed that Ranched, a name for Lord Krishna meaning "he who left the battlefield", inspired Gopal Jagannath Ambekar, a shroff of a Peshwa's court in Poona, in a dream to build a vast and magnificent temple. The temple was built in 1772 A.D. The main Rancheria idol is a black touchstone, 1 meter tall and 45 cm in breadth, richly adorned with gold, jewels and expensive clothes. Its throne, an ornate masterpiece of woodcarving plated in silver and gold, was presented by the Gaekwads of Baroda.

Later, drive back to Ahmedabad.

The evening market at Law Garden displays beautiful textile handicrafts of Gujarat. Must visit to experience the local culture and cuisine and also shop for hand-embroidered garments.

### **Overnight at hotel**

## **DAY 02 - BY ROAD - 453 KMS / 09 HRS - AHMEDABAD TO DWARKA**

After breakfast drive to Dwarka enroute visiting Swaminarayan Temple in Rajkot.

Later continue to drive to Dwarka and transfer to your hotel.

The small coastal town of Dwarka is one of the four most holy Hindu pilgrimage sites in India. It is here that Krishna founded his capital after leaving Mathura. Excavations have revealed 5 earlier cities at the site, all submerged. The present town dates largely to the 19th century and attracts thousands of pilgrims to celebrate the Holi, Diwali, and Janmashtami festivals. The temple is mainly known for the Hindu pilgrimage site of Dwarkadhish Temple. There is also a multi-pillared Sabha Mandapa that leads to a 60-pillared sanctum sanctorum that dates back 2500 years, according to the scriptures.

### **Overnight at hotel**

## **DAY 03 - IN DWARKA**

After breakfast, visit Dwarkadhish Temple. Dwarka is known all over the world for the Dwarkadhish temple, the 'Lord of Dwarka'. This temple is also known as the Jagat Mandir, or the temple of the world. This temple was constructed over 1400 years ago and houses the image of Lord Krishna. This temple is one of the most famous pilgrimage places for Hindus and attracts pilgrims from all over the world. This temple is magnificently built on traditional lines and has five floors supported by 60 columns. The temple is profusely carved, from the base to the pinnacle. The temple is built of sandstone. The interior is simple, while the exterior is covered with elaborate carvings. Some of the major festivals of Janmashtami and Navratri are celebrated with great enthusiasm and rejoice in the Dwarka.

Visit Bet Dwarka & Nageshwar temples. Bet Dwarka: Bet is situated 30 km from Dwarka and is surrounded by sea from all sides. One can reach Bet from Dwarka through Okha by road. On reaching Okha port jetty, one can reach Bet through a little sea journey by small boat.

Nageshwar Temple or Nagnath Temple, is located on the route between Gomati Dwarka and Bait Dwarka Island on the coast of Saurashtra, Gujarat. The Jyotirlinga enshrined in the Temple of Nagnath is known as Nageshwar Mahadev and attracts thousands of pilgrims all year. This powerful Jyotirlinga symbolizes protection from all poisons. It is said that those who pray to the Nageshwar Lingaa become free of poison. The Rudra Samhita shloka refers to Nageshwar with the phrase 'Daarukaavane Naagesham.'

The Rukmini temple, dating from 12 to 13 centuries, was built in honor of Rani Rukmani, princess of Vidharba, who was to be married to Sishupala but fled with Lord Krishna. This small temple, 1.5 kilometers north of the city, is an architectural masterpiece. The temple walls are decorated with beautiful paintings and sculptures.

Gopi Talav: This is the place where Lord Krishna used to play with his gopikas. There is a small pond where it is said that Lord Krishna used to play with the Gopika stress (Gopika women).

### **Overnight at hotel**

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## **DAY 04 - BY ROAD - 250 KMS / 05 HRS - DWARKA TO SOMNATH**

Early morning visits the Dwarkadhish Temple and witness the Aarti.

After breakfast, drive to Somnath, visiting Porbandar end route. Porbandar, the coastal heritage town of Gujarat, is located on the Saurashtra peninsula, on the Arabian Sea. This city is described in the Skanda Purana as Sudamapuri and Ashmavati and had a flourishing trade with Africa and Arabia. To date, the spice market in Porbandar draws a huge crowd. According to the legends, this city was the main link in the great friendship between Lord Krishna and Sudama. Porbandar was established as a capital by Rana Sartanji in 1785 AD. Porbandar was the former capital of the Jethwa Rajput petty princely state. The most impressive feature of Porbandar is the city planning, the stone buildings with ashlar masonry and rich carving, and the facades of the houses on either side of the streets, with windows and carved gateways. Porbandar is also associated with Mahatma Gandhi, the father of the nation, as he was born here. Today, fine-quality silk and cotton are manufactured here. There are also chemical factories and cement works.

Later, visit Kirti Mandir. Kirti Mandir was the house of Mahatma Gandhi and Kasturba, his wife. This place is situated near the place where the Mahatma was born. This place is now a small museum and also has a Gandhian library and a prayer hall. Bharat Mandir is another place to visit, which houses a relief map of India and reliefs of great historical personalities who shaped India's future.

Visit Sudama Dwarka Temple; this temple is dedicated to Sudama, who was the childhood friend of Lord Krishna. Located in the center of Porbandar, it is an exceptional temple in India that is dedicated to this great devotee of Lord Krishna. Built with white marble, this temple has a number of carved pillars that decorate the temple. Open from all sides, this temple has a shikhara, which is decorated with splendid architecture and carvings. These carvings are also visible above the pillars and the arches that adjoin the pillars. With such architecture, this temple is dedicated to the shrine of Sudama, which is built in a simple structure.

Later, continue to drive to Somnath; arrive at Somnath and transfer to your hotel. Somnath consists of a few streets leading away from its phoenix-like temple. The rugged sea below gives it a lonely, wistful charm. Somnath is mainly known for the legendary shore temple of Somnath, which is dedicated to the Lord Shiva. The temple is an example of grit and determination and how to rise out of downfall, as the temple has been plundered and destroyed many times and re-erected again in all its glory. To be precise, it was destroyed seven times and built eight!

The legendary shore temple of Somnath is one of the twelve most sacred shrines dedicated to Lord Shiva. The temple contains the Jyotirlinga of Lord Shiva. According to the legends, the Somnath temple is incredibly old and was originally built in gold by Somraj, the Moon God. Later, it was rebuilt by Ravana in silver, then by Krishna in wood and Bhim Dev in stone. Mahmud of Ghazni, upon hearing the description of the richness of the Somnath temple by Al Biruni, an Arab traveler, visited this temple in 1024 AD. At that time, this temple had about 300 musicians, 500 dancing girls, and 300 barbers to shave off the heads of pilgrims. After a two-day battle, Mahmud destroyed the temple and carried away jewels and gold to his homeland. In all, the Somnath

temple was rebuilt and destroyed eight times. This temple was finally rebuilt in 1950 with the support of Sardar Vallabhabhai Patel. The current temple was built as per the traditional designs on the original site by the sea and is a serene, symmetrical, and sinuous structure. Today, this majestic temple is a replica of the earlier temple.

Later Bhalka Tirth: Bhalka Tirth is situated halfway between Veraval and Somnath. At this place, Lord Krishna was mistaken for a deer and wounded by an arrow. It is here that Lord Krishna decided to leave his human form and proceed to the eternal world.

### **Overnight at hotel**

#### **DAY 05 - BY ROAD - 406 KMS / 08 HRS - SOMNATH TO AHMEDABAD**

After breakfast drive to Ahmedabad. Enroute visit Akshardham Temple.

Akshardham: Lord Swaminarayan, born in Chapaya in Uttar Pradesh, took a seven-year pilgrimage in Gujarat to preach his religion. He built six temples, the first being at Kalupur in Ahmedabad. Akshardham, the Swaminarayan temple of Gandhinagar, is a modern complex built in traditional Indian architectural style from 6,000 metric tons of pink Rajasthan sandstone, carved by expert artisans from Bansipahadpur. The temple is set in a multi-acre garden called Sahajanand Van, with intricate sculptures of Hindu gods. There is a gold leaf copper sculpture of Lord Swaminarayan that faces similar sculptures of Gunatinand Swami. The interiors have beautiful columns in rosewood that rise up to a high dome. Akshardham remains closed on Mondays.

### **Overnight at hotel**

#### **DAY 06 - BY ROAD - 240 KMS / 05 HRS - AHMEDABAD TO MOUNT ABU**

After breakfast drive to Mount Abu visiting Modhera – Sun temple enroute.

Modhera: The Sun Temple of Modhera is one of the finest examples of Indian architecture of its period. Built in 1026 A.D., the temple is dedicated to the Sun-God, Surya, and stands high on a plinth overlooking a deep stone-steeped tank. Every inch of the edifice, both inside and outside, is magnificently carved with gods and goddesses, birds, beasts, and flowers. The Sun Temple of Modhera was built by King Bhimdev I (1026-27) and bears some resemblance to the later and far better-known Sun Temple of Konark in the state of Orissa, which it predates by some 200 years. Like that temple, it was designed so that the dawn sun shone on the image of Surya, the sun god, at the time of the equinoxes. The main hall and shrine are reached through a pillared porch, and the temple exterior is intricately and delicately carved. As with the temple of Somnath, this fine temple was ruined by Mohamed of Ghazni.

Later, continue to drive and visit Siddhpur.

**Siddhpur** is a sacred town in the north of Ahmedabad. It is situated on the left bank of the river Saraswati, around 24 kilometers upstream of Anhilwad Patan, the old capital of Gujarat. The town is a revered destination, flanked by temples, kinds, ashrams, and other sacred structures. In the Vedas, this modern-day Sidhpur is mentioned as 'Shrithal' or a 'pious place'. One of the five most

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holy and ancient lakes in India is the Bindu Sarovar, which lies here in Siddhpur. According to the Hindu religion, it is said that the obsequies offerings to the paternal ancestors must be made at Gaya, so corresponding offerings to the maternal ancestors must be performed at Sidhpur. Thus, Sidhpur has the importance of 'Matru Gaya' or 'Matru Shraddh', a place where people come annually to perform the rituals for their mothers who are in heavenly abode.

The town also holds importance for the Bohra Muslims, an affluent Muslim community spread all over the world. They have contributed significantly to the development of Sidhpur. Their old havelis and mansions, some over 100 years old, have a markedly European flavor, and a walk through the 'Bohra Vad' is like a stroll through England.

Later, continue to drive and visit Ambaji Temple.

Ambaji Temple contains no idol but an inscribed Yantra in the niche. Ambaji is essentially a temple town, with a temple dedicated to Goddess Ambaji at the center. The Ambaji Temple and the front court 'Chachar no Chowk' are aligned on the same axis as the cave at Gabbar Hill, the original abode of Goddess Ambaji. 22 km from Danta is one of the major Shakti piths of India, situated in the Arasur hills. The present temple was constructed a few years ago, maintaining the original architectural style. Millions of pilgrims visit the temple every year, especially during Navratri, to seek the blessing of Goddess Ambaji.

Later, continue to drive and arrive at Mount Abu; arrive and transfer to your hotel.

At 1200 meters, Mt. Abu is the highest point of the Aravalli Range passing through Rajasthan. The only hill resort in Rajasthan, it is built around a lake and is surrounded by forested hills. According to a legend, the place derives its name from Arbuda, a serpent who descended to the spot to rescue Shiva's bull, Nandi. Besides having all the features of a pleasant hill resort, Mount Abu is also a center of pilgrimage for Jains on account of the famous Dilwara Temples. There are interesting treks and picnic spots, romantic royal retreats of various erstwhile royal families, and some relics of the Raj period.

Also visit Nikki Lake and see the strange rock formations around it, including Toad Rock. The Achalgarh fort has the famous Achaleswar temple and provides superb views of the area.

### **Overnight at hotel**

## DAY 07 - BY ROAD - 200 KMS / 04 HRS - MOUNT ABU TO NATHDWARA

After breakfast, proceed for the city tour of Mount Abu. Visit the breathtaking Dilwara temples, among the finest examples of Jain architecture, with their superb marble carving. The complex consists of five temples built between the eleventh and thirteenth centuries. The intricate ornamental carvings here represent the great heights reached in stone decoration.

Later, drive to Nathdwara. Arrive in Nathdwara and transfer to your hotel.

Nathdwara is located on the right bank of the Banas River. Nathdwara is famous for its 17th-century temple that is dedicated to Lord Shrinath ji (Lord Krishna). The term 'Nathdwara' suggests the 'gate of the lord'. Shrinath ji Temple is also known as 'Haveli of Shrinath ji' and makes a prominent pilgrimage for Hindus and Vaishnavas. The temple has a story behind its establishment. According to the legend, the image of Lord Shrinath ji was enshrined in Vrindavan (the land of Lord Krishna), but to protect the idol from the destructive rage of Aurangzeb. In 1672, Rana Raj Singh was the only gallant who tried to rescue the idol from the domain of Aurangzeb. It is said that when the image was being shifted to an impervious place, the wheel of the vehicle sank deep down in mud. The image refused to move further, so the escorting priest apprehended that this was the Lord's chosen spot. Thus, a temple was built on the same spot.

Later, visit Nathdwara and Shrinath ji. See the 18th-century Shrinath ji temple, one of the most important shrines for devotees of Krishna. This simple shrine houses a black stone image of Vishnu brought from Mathura in 1669 to protect it from Aurangzeb's destructive forces. Non-Hindus are not allowed inside. The outside has interesting paintings. The 400-year-old tradition of Pichwai painting (cloth paintings with religious themes) originated here.

Later, visit Dwarkadhish Temple in Kankroli.

Kankroli Temple is popularly called the temple of Dwarkadhish. Dwarkadhish is one of the names of Lord Krishna. This temple is the most significant temple of the Vaishnava and Vallabh Acharya sects. The chief deity of Kankroli temple is believed to have been imported from Mathura, the hometown of Lord Krishna. Kankroli temple is the biggest temple of Lord Dwarkadhish in Kankroli and ranks very high among all the temples of Vallabh Acharya. Dwarkadhish Temple offers a tranquil view of the cool and calm Rajsamand Lake.

### **Overnight at hotel**

**DAY 08 - BY ROAD - 350 KMS / 07 HRS - NATHDWARA TO AHMEDABAD FOLLOWED BY AIR / TRAIN - DEPART AHMEDABAD**

After breakfast drive to Ahmedabad enroute visit Shamlaji temple.

There is a small shrine on the way from the Shamlaji Temple to the Meshwo river, where an image of a standing Ganesha idol from the Late-Gupta period is still worshiped. The temple at Harishchandra in choir probably dates to the 10th century A.D. It has a rectangular sanctum with a large pavilion in front. The whole structure is enclosed within the courtyard. The walls of this courtyard have fallen but the ornamental gateway (toran) still stands.

Numerous temples in ruins, ancient brick-, and scattered idols found at Shamlaji show that since ancient times it has been a popular and important center of pilgrimage on the highway between Gujarat and Rajasthan. Devin Mori, a place about two kilometers from Shamlaji, has the remains of a Buddhist monastery from around the 3rd-4th century AD. The stupa, which is considered as a sharer stupa, has proved the presence of Buddhists in Vadnagar. Excavating of the stupa brought to light an inscribed casket which contained relics of Buddha. It is quite clear that the bodily relics found in this casket were of Buddha.

Being a place of pilgrimage established at a picturesque spot, there are several other ancient shrines scattered all over this place. Amongst them is the small temple of Trilokeshwer, just opposite Shamlaji, which has a beautiful and unusual idol of Shiva with the trident. The Kashi-Vishwanath Mahadev is a simple but ancient temple which is about seven feet below ground level. The temple of Ranched is on the opposite bank. There is also the tomb of Navgaja Pir, a maulvi (Muslim cleric) close by, visited by many Adivasis.

Later in the day, transfer to Ahmedabad Airport / Railway Station to board a flight / train for your onward journey to your next destination.

**\*\*\*\* TOUR ENDS \*\*\*\***





## QUOTE SHEET

### COST SHEET FOR ITINERARY – PANCH DWARKA TOUR - 08 DAYS

**VALIDITY TILL 30<sup>TH</sup> SEP 2024 {EXCEPT 25 AUG TO 30 AUG (JANMASHTAMI)}.**

#### STANDARD PACKAGE

CITY	HOTEL OPTION	ROOM CATEGORY	NIGHT	MEAL PLAN
Ahmedabad	Le Grand Residency	Executive	01	CP
Dwarka	The Grand Dwarika	Executive Deluxe	02	CP
Somnath	Marigold	Executive Deluxe	01	CP
Ahmedabad	Le Grand Residency	Executive	01	CP
Mount Abu	Rising Sun	Deluxe	01	CP
Nathdwara	Crimson Park	Standard	01	CP
TOUR COST BASED			TOUR COST	
Accommodation cost Per Double Room for 07 Nights (for 02 pax)			Rs. 20,355/- NETT	
Extra Bed for Adult / Child			Rs. 8,395/- NETT.	
Child Without Bed (COMPLIMENTARY FOR CHILD UPTO 5 YEARS SHARING BED WITH PARENTS)			Rs. 7,475/- NETT.	
Per Person Dinner Supplement for 07 Nights			Rs. 4,128/- NETT.	
Transportation cost based on <b>AC Swift Dzire / Etios car</b> as per the program			Rs. 43,901/- NETT.	
Transportation cost based on <b>AC Toyota Crysta car</b> as per the program			Rs. 64,601/- NETT.	

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## DELUXE PACKAGE

CITY	HOTEL OPTION	ROOM CATEGORY	NIGHT	MEAL PLAN
Ahmedabad	Le Grand Residency	Executive	01	CP
Dwarka	Madhuvan Suites	Superior	02	CP
Somnath	Lords Inn	Deluxe	01	CP
Ahmedabad	Le Grand Residency	Executive	01	CP
Mount Abu	HG Grandiose	Deluxe	01	CP
Nathdwara	Justa Brij Bhumi	Deluxe	01	CP
TOUR COST BASED			TOUR COST	
Accommodation cost Per Double Room for 07 Nights (for 02 pax)			Rs. 28,980/- NETT.	
Extra Bed for Adult / Child			Rs. 9,918/- NETT.	
Child Without Bed (COMPLIMENTARY FOR CHILD UPTO 5 YEARS SHARING BED WITH PARENTS)			Rs. 9,039/- NETT.	
Per Person Dinner Supplement for 07 Nights			Rs. 4,916/- NETT.	
Transportation cost based on <b>AC Swift Dzire / Etios car</b> as per the program			Rs. 43,901/- NETT.	
Transportation cost based on <b>AC Toyota Crysta car</b> as per the program			Rs. 64,601/- NETT.	

## SUPER DELUXE PACKAGE

CITY	HOTEL OPTION	ROOM CATEGORY	NIGHT	MEAL PLAN
Ahmedabad	Fairfield by Marriott	Superior	01	CP
Dwarka	VITS Devbhumi	Executive	02	CP
Somnath	Sarovar Portico	Superior	01	CP
Ahmedabad	Fairfield by Marriott	Superior	01	CP
Mount Abu	Bikaner Palace	Standard	01	CP
Nathdwara	Justa Brijbhumi	Deluxe	01	CP

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TOUR COST BASED	TOUR COST
Accommodation cost Per Double Room for 07 Nights (for 02 pax)	Rs. 43,671/- NETT.
Extra Bed for Adult / Child	Rs. 12,880/- NETT.
Child Without Bed (COMPLIMENTARY FOR CHILD UPTO 5 YEARS SHARING BED WITH PARENTS)	Rs. 10,200/- NETT.
Per Person Dinner Supplement for 07 Nights	Rs. 6,279/- NETT.
Transportation cost based on <b>AC Swift Dzire / Etios car</b> as per the program	Rs. 43,901/- NETT.
Transportation cost based on <b>AC Toyota Crysta car</b> as per the program	Rs. 64,601/- NETT.

**Note: Rooms will be subject to availability**

**OUR QUOTE INCLUDES:**

- **07 Night** accommodation at the hôtel mentioned above or similar category of alternate hôtels.
- Mael Plan – As Mentioned above.
- All curent applicable taxes.
- All transferts, city tours and transport services by air-conditioned All India Tourist permit Vehicle as per the above itinerary.
- Road taxes, parking fée, fuel charges, interstate taxes.

**OUR QUOTE DOES NOT INCLUDE / THE ABOVE PRICE EXCLUDES:**

- Monument Entrance Fée.
- Services of English-Speaking Local Guide.
- Game Drive at Sasangir National Park or any other national park.
- Expense of personal nature like tipping, laundry, telephone / fax calls, alcoholic beverages, camera/video camera fee at monuments, medical expenses, airport departure tax etc. Any other services not mentioned in the inclusions.
- International or Domestic airfare / Train Fare.
- Any expenses caused by reasons beyond our control such as roadblocks, accidents & any medical evacuations. Any train delays, or re-scheduling etc. Any Visa fees, insurance fees, etc. Any tips to hotel staff, local guides, drivers etc. Any meals apart from the ones mentioned above. Any expenses apart from the ones above.

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**SPECIAL NOTES:**

- Check-In time is 1400 hrs. & Check-out time 1200 NOON at all hotels.
- Sasangir National Park Will be close from 15<sup>th</sup> June to 15<sup>th</sup> October Every year.
- 100% bookings for Sasangir safaris are done online through the website [www.girlion.gujarat.gov.in/](http://www.girlion.gujarat.gov.in/). We would not be in a position to help if the safari is not booked in advance. Guests' ID proof is required for safari bookings.
- In the event on any amendment in local Government taxes, or any fuel hike, we reserve the right to adjust the tour price accordingly.
- Kindly note, the names of hotels mentioned above only indicate that our rates have been based on usage of these hotels. It is not to be construed that accommodation is confirmed at these hotels until and unless we convey the confirmations to you on receipt of your acceptance. However, in the event of any of the above-mentioned hotels not becoming available at the time of initiating the reservations, we shall book alternate accommodation at a similar or next best available hotel and shall pass on the difference of rates (supplement/reduction whatever applicable) to you.
- Also, kindly note - Do not treat quotation mail as confirmation of booking, as we are not holding any booking at the time of quotation, price and services can be changed at the time of confirmation. Confirmation of bookings is only based on written communications.
- **The above rates are not valid during Janmashtami, Diwali, Christmas, New Year and Holi period.**