



## **2N/3D Package of Dwarka**

### **Day 1: Ahmedabad – Dwarka**

Arrival in Ahmedabad – a World Heritage City. Proceed towards Dwarka (450 kms/ 9 Hours). Reach Dwarka – one of the four Chardhams and the Saptarishis as per Hindu Religion. Visit:

#### **Dwarkadhish Temple:**

The famous Dwarkadhish Temple is located in the pilgrim district of Dwarka. The temple is dedicated to Hindu God Krishna and is also known as the Jagat Mandir. The Dwarkadhish Temple has two entrances on the north and south called the Moksha Dwar and SwargaDwar respectively. The various Aartis and Poojas that are done on a timely basis are very spiritual to watch. The temple structure is also a very important feature with its giant pillars and the 56 steps that leads to the Gomti River Banks on the face of the Arabian Sea. The Dwarkadhish Temple is a must visit tourist location in Gujarat worth a memorable trip. The temple receives great patrons of religious disciples and one can surely get allured by the grand reception around. It has a flag at the top which shows both the sun and the moon. The flag gets changed 5 times every day having the same symbol. The main temple is hugely built with 72 pillars supporting it.

Overnight at Dwarka.

### **Day 2: Dwarka**

Today morning, visit:

#### **Bet Dwarka:**

Bet Dwarka is famously associated with ancient Vedas dating back to the Mahabharata. The small island also signifies proof in the ancient Indus Valley civilization. The Sri Krishna Temple here is known to feed Brahmins as the old belief continues of Lord Krishna being fed with rice at this spot by his friend Sudama. The devotees here follow the same practice by offering rice to Brahmins present there. The Lord Krishna idol that is worshipped here is considered to be crafted by Rukmini. Hindu sage Sri Vallabhacharya is credited with the establishment of the temple near to 500 years ago. Beyt Dwarka has been featured in the Mahabharata as well as SkandaPurana. As per Umashankar Joshi, Antardvipa who has been referred to as SabhaParva in Mahabharata identified as Yadava of Dwarka who used to travel by boats. . Beyt Dwarka derives its name from Shankhodhar which is an island full of conch shells. The archeological remains that are found below the sea also suggest that there was a settlement that existed during the times of Late Harrappan era. The period can be dated to the times of Maurya Empire and a part of the Okha Mandal or Kishdwip. In the inscription by Simhaditya in the 574 AD, Dwarka has also been mentioned.

#### **Nageshwar Temple:**

The Nageshwar Jyotirling temple of Dwarka is one of the 12 Jyotirlingas and a mentionable religious shrine that is marked in the Shiva Purana. The temple complex is compact and built to accommodate a fair share of pilgrims. The main idol of Shiva is worshipped with daily Aradhanas and Aartis and the idol and the idol is 25m in height. The self-existence of the Nageshwar Jyotirling goes back to the stories of how the temple got its name Darakavana from the deoghar trees. The followers believe that Lord Shiva appeared here from the ray of light giving it the name. Early religious sages believed that there are 64 Shiv Jyotirling among which the Nageshwar Jyoti is one. In the Hindu Purana of the Shiva the Nageshwar Jyotirlinga is one of the 12Jyoti religious shrines. The Nageshwar Jyotirlinga Temple also is believed to be about the evil sprite called Daruka. Daruka attacked a follower of Shiva

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named Supriya and trapped him under the sea in Darukavana, where snakes and many other demons resided. Many other humans were also taken captive in the underwater demon land. Legends say the imprisoned people led by Supriya started praying to Lord Shiva chanting his name and the Lord actually appeared to free him off their plight.

#### **Rukmani Temple:**

The **Rukmini Devi Temple** is a temple in Dwarka, 2 kilometres (1.2 mi) away from Dwarka, India. It is dedicated to Rukmini, Krishna's chief queen. The temple is said to be 2,500 years old but in its present form it is inferred to belong to the 12th century. It is a richly carved temple decorated with sculptures of gods and goddesses on the exterior with the sanctum housing the main image of Rukmini. Carved naratharas (human figures) and carved gajatharas (elephants) are depicted in panels at the base of the tower. An interesting legend is narrated to justify separate dwelling temples, far away from each other, for Rukmini and her husband Krishna. It is said that at the request of sage Durvasa (who was renowned for his short temper and bestowing curses) Krishna and Rukmini pulled a chariot taking sage Durvasa to their house for dinner. On the way, when Rukmini asked for water to quench her thirst, Krishna drew Ganges water, by prodding the ground with his toe, for her to drink. Rukmini quenched her thirst with the Ganges water. But Durvasa felt insulted as Rukmini did not have the courtesy to offer him water to drink. He, therefore, cursed her that she would live separately from her husband.

Overnight at Dwarka.

#### **Day 3 : Drop**

Today morning, check out and proceed towards Ahmedabad and drop as per schedule.