

THE BEST OF WEST INDIA

DAY 01

Arrive Mumbai by International Flight



Welcome to India

country's foremost sea port, commercial center and home to the worlds largest film industry, has been nothing short of meteoric. Mumbai, the economic powerhouse of India.

WELCOME TO INDIA – One Nation, countless destinations. A land of rich heritage that's ancient. The mystique of India, its history of 5000 years, philosophy, religions, fabulous historical monuments all add to its bewildering diversity to create a unique and colorful mosaic. This is the wonder that is India, come, enjoy and experience it.

Reception upon arrival at the International airport and transfer to **HOTEL TRIDENT *******

Mumbai : India's western gateway is Mumbai ,the capital of Maharashtra. The island of Mumbai defines itself straight from the dictionary –vibrant, vivid and electrifying. The city's rise from the dowry of a Portuguese queen (when Catherine of Braganza married England's Charles II in 1661) to the

Overnight stay at Hotel.

DAY 02

MUMBAI-AURANGABAD

Breakfast at the hotel.

Transfer from hotel to the airport in time for:

Leave: Mumbai at 0715 hours by 9W-2014
Arrive: Aurangabad at 0800 hours

Reception upon arrival at the airport and transfer to **HOTEL TAJ RESIDENCY ******

Aurangabad derived from Persian word meaning "Built by the Throne", named after Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb, is a city in Maharashtra, India. The city is a tourist hub, surrounded with many historical monuments.

Afternoon, visit the extraordinary cave temples of Ellora (Closed on Tuesday), which are about 30 kms from Aurangabad. The sculptures are remarkable and the main feature of interest is the Kailasa Temple. Chronologically, the Ellora caves start where the Ajanta caves finish. In all there 34 caves at Ellora: 12 Buddhist, 17 Hindu and 5 Jain.

Overnight stay at Hotel.



DAY 03 AURANGABAD

Breakfast at the hotel.

Full day excursion to Ajanta Caves (Closed on Mondays) where you will visit most of the thirty temples, which have been carved out of a cliff by Buddhist monks between the 2nd century BC and 7th century AD. Although the Ajanta paintings are particularly notable, there are many interesting sculptures as well. As many of the caves are dark and without a light, the paintings are hard to see.

Overnight stay at Hotel.

DAY 04 AURANGABAD-MUMBAI-AHMEDABAD

Breakfast at the hotel.

Transfer from hotel to the airport in time for:

Leave: Aurangabad	at 0835 hours	by 9W-2015
Arrive: Mumbai	at 0920 hours	

Connect flight for Ahmedabad

Leave: Mumbai	at 1030 hours	by 9W-327
Arrive: Ahmedabad	at 1130 hours	

Reception upon arrival at the airport and transfer to **HOTEL TAJ RESIDENCY ******



Ahemdabad: Known as the Manchester of the East, this city was founded by the Muslim Ruler Sultan Ahmed Shah – I, in 1411 A.D. on the banks of Sabarmati river. The city is rich in monuments of the Gujrat style of architecture, which was in vogue during the 15th Century. Today a modern city, Ahmedabad is believed to have been built over the ruins of the legendary city of Karnavati.

Afternoon, sightseeing tour of Ahemdabad: The tour begins with a visit to the “Jamma Mosque”, built in 1423 by Sultan Ahmed Shah. Built with yellow sandstone, this mosque reflects a synthesis of Hindu and Islamic architectural styles as it stands on 260 pillars, which support 15 domes at staggered elevations. Later visit the Sabarmati Ashram, which was set up by Mahatma Gandhi in 1915 for his famous salt satyagraha “The Dandi March” and is now a National Museum (Hriday Kunj).

Finally visit the Calico Museum which is celebrated for its rare collections of textiles from the 17th Century onwards and also displays old weaving machines, exquisite fabrics, brocades and embroidery.

Overnight stay at Hotel.

DAY 05
AHMEDABAD-RAJKOT

Breakfast at the hotel.

Drive from Ahmedabad to Rajkot (225 kms/6 hours).



On arrival check-in at : **HOTEL IMPERIAL PALACE *****

Afternoon visit this pleasant town was once the capital of the princely state of Saurashtra and was also a former British government headquarter. Mahatma Gandhi spent the early years of his life here, during the time when his father was the chief minister to the Raja of Saurashtra. Visit the Watson Museum, where there are interesting exhibits from the ruins of Mohenjodaro - carvings, silverware, textiles, costumes etc.

Overnight stay at Hotel.

DAY 06
RAJKOT-JUNAGADH

Breakfast at the hotel.

Drive from Rajkot to Junagadh (102 kms/3 hours).

On arrival check-in at : **HOTEL LEO RESORT *****

Afternoon visit Junagadh.

Overnight stay at Hotel.

DAY 07
JUNAGADH-SASANGIR

Breakfast at the hotel.

Drive from Junagadh to Sasangir (58 kms/2 hours).

On arrival check-in at : **HOTEL GIR BIRDING LODGE**

Afternoon game viewing in the park.

The last home of the Asiatic lion and spreads into an area of 1400sq km. It is a home to bears, hyenas, foxes, deers and antelopes. This sanctuary was set up to protect the lion and its habitat. In this sense it has been a success.

Meals & overnight stay at Hotel.



DAY 08
SASANGIR

Early morning and afternoon game viewing in the park.

Meals & overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 09
SASANGIR-SOMNATH VERAVAL

Breakfast at the hotel.

Drive from Sasangir to Somnath (40 kms/1 hour).



On arrival check-in at: **HOTEL PARK SOMNATH****+**

Afternoon visit Somnath Temple located in the Prabhas Kshetra near Veraval in Saurashtra, on the western coast of Gujarat, India is the most sacred of the twelve Jyotirlingas (lingas of light) symbols of the God Shiva. It is mentioned in the Rig Veda[1]. Somnath means "The Protector of Moon God". The Somnath Temple is known as 'the Shrine Eternal', as although the temple has been destroyed six times it has been rebuilt every single time.

Overnight stay at Hotel.

DAY 10
SOMNATH VERAVAL-BHAVNAGAR

Breakfast at the hotel.

Drive from Somnath Veravbal to Bhavnagar (277 kms/7 hours).

On arrival check-in at : **HOTEL NILAMBAGH PALACE(HERITAGE)**

Overnight stay at Hotel.

DAY 11
BHAVNAGAR

Breakfast at the hotel.

Morning sightseeing tour of Bhavnagar. Here you will visit many modern buildings, factories, hospitals, and educational institutions. Saurashtra University is also worth visiting, which houses the Gandhi Picture Gallery Museum, Village Industrial Store etc.

Afternoon, excursion to Palitana. It lies at the foot of the Shatrunjaya Hill, with the Shatrunjaya river flowing to its south. There is a 600m ascent from the base of the hill to the



MERCURY TRAVELS

863-temples. The hilltop is dedicated only to the Gods and so after sunset, even the priests depart from the temples, leaving them deserted. The temples were built over a span of 900 years, with each generation of pilgrims making their contribution to the shrines of Shatrunjaya.

Overnight stay at Hotel.

DAY 12 **BHAVNAGAR-MUMBAI**

Breakfast at the hotel.

Transfer from hotel to the airport in time for:

Leave: Bhavnagar at 1520 hours by IT-4124
Arrive: Mumbai at 1625 hours

Reception upon arrival at the airport and transfer to **HOTEL TRIDENT *******

Overnight stay at Hotel.

DAY 13 **MUMBAI**

Breakfast at the hotel.



Morning, sightseeing tour of Mumbai. The tour begins at "The Gateway of India" Mumbai's foremost landmark overlooking the harbor, was conceived following the visit of King George V in 1911 and officially opened in 1924. A drive up to the Malabar Hill, to the hanging gardens, gives a panoramic view of the city and the Queens Necklace – the Marine Drive. The tour concludes with a drive through the Flora Fountain and Fort area and view the Gothic and Victorian style buildings. Visit the Victoria Terminus (now known as Chatrapati Shivaji Terminus) India's finest Gothic building and a bustling Railway Station. Continue drive around the Horniman Circle and visit the Town Hall, right besides the docks. . . **Also visit the Mumbai residential**

complex of Freddie Mercury -- Cushrow Baug, in Colaba Causeway.

Afternoon at leisure.

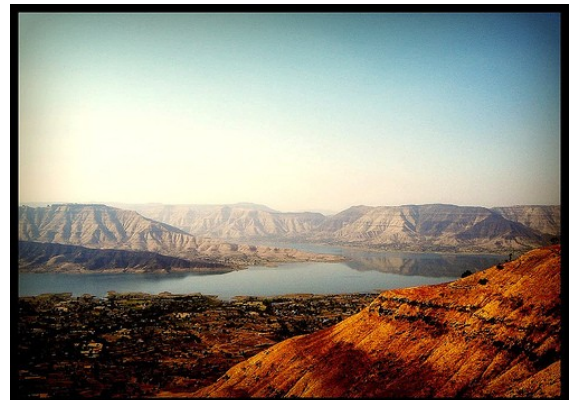
Overnight stay at Hotel.

DAY 14 **MUMBAI-PUNE-PANCHGANI**

Breakfast at the hotel.

Morning drive to Panchgani (310 kms/7 hours) **enroute lunch at Farhang Irani's (Freddie's best friend and band member in school) 'Bounty Sizzler' Restaurant.**

Panchgani, the town in the midst of five hills, is an eternally beautiful hill station, a favourite escape clause for the Mumbai-weary. Panchgani is perennially fresh and inviting;



MERCURY TRAVELS

its bracing climate complements the verdant surroundings. Flanked by tableland and craggy cliffs, Panchgani is 1334 m, just 38 m lower than Mahabaleshwar.

On arrival check-in at: **HOTEL IL PALAZZO (HERITAGE)**

Afternoon visit Table Land and Bazaar.

Overnight stay at Hotel.

DAY 15 **PANCHGANI-MUMBAI-ABROAD**

Breakfast at the hotel.

St.Peter's School Tour Schedule. Duration 4.5 hours:

0730 hrs : The school tour guide will join the fans at the hotel to partake of breakfast at 7.30am.

0830 hrs :The tour transport leaves for school to commence the tour at 8.45 am.

Through an interesting commentary the fans will be conducted around the following places on the school's 60 acre lush campus.

Assembly Hall - St.Peter's Church - 'Hectics' Band Room - Music Room - Gymnasium - Art Room - Barber Shop - Tuck Shop - School Playgrounds (3 levels - Upper field - Middle Field - Lower field , which is overlooking the Sayadri mountain valley with a breathtaking view) - Classroom - Dormitories (Rhodesia House - Albert House - Flora House - Lawrence Villa) - Hospital - Library - Computer Room (although not around Freddie's time).

Fans go back to the Assembly Hall for a photo opportunity with Freddie's piano and take a look at the school merchandise on sale display. Also on display will be items from the 50's thru to early '60's.

1215 hrs - Fans assemble with the school boys in the porch outside the dining hall and go in single file into the dining hall for lunch with the boys & school staff - to the accompaniment of 'Queen' recorded music in the background and later , after lunch a 'live' performance of a Freddie song by the school band.

After lunch drive from Panchgani to Mumbai (240 kms/5 hours)

Same night or early morning take the International Flight back home hopefully taking back cherished memories of Freddie's school & India.

Leave: Mumbai by International Flight

Validity : 01 Apr 2011 – 30 Sep 2011

(No tours accepted during St Peter's School Winter break for Christmas and New year between 05th December 2011 to 09th Jan 2012)

Cost per person (on DOB) : USD \$ 2490

Single room supplement : USD \$ 1280

Discounts may apply for Groups of 4 or more.

**Air fare supplement for Mumbai/Aurangabad/Mumbai/Ahmedabad ,
Bhavnagar/Mumbai :USD \$ 625 per person**

Cost includes:

- Accommodation for 14 Nights on the basis of Continental Plan (Room + Breakfast) at all places as per the itinerary mentioned above except at Panchgani which is on Breakfast and Dinner basis.
- Continental Lunch at **Farhang Irani's (Freddie's best friend and band member in school) 'Bounty Sizzler ' Restaurant.**
- Lunch at St Peter's School in Panchgani.
- Please note the check-in time at all the hotels is 1400 Hours and check –out time is 1200 Hours.
- Arrival /departure transfer, sightseeing tours and surface journey by AC Indigo car for (02 pax),
- Services of Local English speaking Guide as per the itinerary mentioned above.
- Entrance Fees to the Monuments at all places as per the itinerary mentioned above.
- Assistance at the airport & hotels at the time of check-in & check –out
- All applicable taxes as on date

Cost Excludes

- Air Fare (Supplement given separately)
- Any meals apart from the one mentioned in the itinerary.
- Tips at the hotels /restaurants during the stay
- Nature of personal expenses such as telephone calls, laundry etc.
- Travel or Medical Insurance.
- Portages at the Airports and at the hotels at the time of Check – in & Check –out
- Tips to the local guide or Camera Fees at the monuments wherever applicable
- **Any services not mentioned in the inclusion**

Important Notes:

- Please take into account closure day(s) of monument(s) before you decide on a tour start date that will ensure viewing of all monument(s).
- Please advise full names of the clients along with the room configuration as same will be required by the hotel at the time of booking the accommodation.
- The above mentioned quotes are based on (Base Category) of room at all places, incase the clients wish to stay in higher category of room the same can be provided with additional supplement.
- The air fare mentioned above are based on the present rates floated by the airlines, once we receive go ahead from your end we will try to secure seats in NON REFUNDABLE fare which are quite lower than the rate of the day and published tariff. Please note the NON REFUNDABLE seats are subject to availability.

Terms & Conditions:

TOUR PAYMENT REQUIREMENTS: A non-refundable deposit of \$500 per person is required to confirm your booking. Final payment is due 60 days prior to departure.

CANCELLATION POLICY: If you must cancel for any reason, prior to the commencement of the tour the following cancellation penalties will apply:

- Upto 60 days \$500 per person.
- 59-46 days \$800 per person.
- 45-16 days prior to departure 50% non-refundable
- 15 days or less NON-REFUNDABLE.
- There will be no refund for no-shows.

The logo for Mercury Travels features the company name in a bold, red, sans-serif font. Above the text is a thin, grey, curved line that arches over the letters, resembling a stylized horizon or a wing.

DOCUMENTATION:

All non Indian passport holders need a valid Indian Visa from country of Origin. Passport must be valid for six months from the date of entry

INSURANCE:

We highly recommend Optional Comprehensive Insurance. This insurance covers hospital and medical insurance as well as baggage, flight and accident insurance. It also covers cancellation penalties if cancellation is due to medical reasons. Some limitations and exclusions may exist.