

ANANT ANADI VADNAGAR

AN ETERNAL CITY.
A TIMELESS LEGACY.

ANANT ANADI VADNAGAR

A JOURNEY THROUGH 2,500 YEARS OF LIVING HERITAGE

Vadnagar is one of India's oldest continuously inhabited towns, with a history spanning over 2,500 years. Across seven cultural phases, it evolved as a centre of trade, education, craftsmanship, architecture, music and religion. Known historically as Chamatkarpur, Anandapur and Anartapur, Vadnagar flourished under various dynasties and emerged as a prominent cultural centre of western India.

Often referred to as the "Kashi of Gujarat," Vadnagar nurtured Buddhist, Jain, Shaiva and Vaishnava traditions while attracting merchants, scholars and travellers from distant regions.

Its rich archaeological remains, historic monuments, sacred water bodies and vibrant cultural traditions reflect an unbroken legacy stretching from ancient times to the present day.

Today, visitors can explore the Ancient Buddhist Monastery, Kirti Toran, Sharmishtha Lake, Hatkeshwar Temple, Tana-Riri memorial park, traditional neighbourhoods, historic gates, and various museums, including the Archaeological Experiential Museum, each revealing a unique chapter of Vadnagar's remarkable story.





SHRI HATKESHWAR TEMPLE

Shri Hatkeshwar Mahadev Temple is one of Vadnagar's most revered religious landmarks and the Kuldevata (family deity) of the Nagar Brahmin community. Dedicated to Lord Shiva, the temple has been an important centre of worship for centuries.

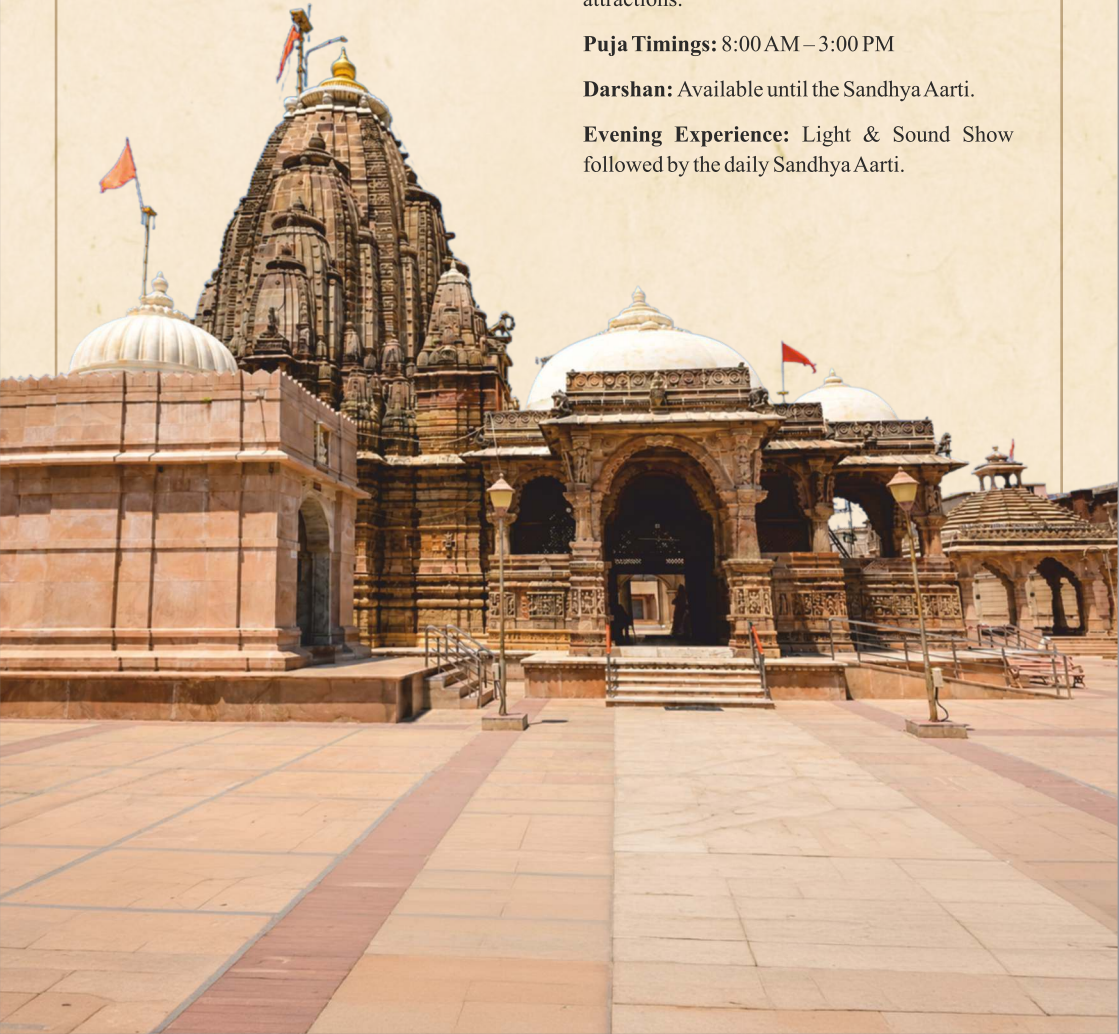
Built in the Nagara style of architecture, the temple is renowned for its beautifully carved pillars, entrances and exquisite stone sculptures. Intricate carvings of deities, floral motifs, dancers and scenes from Hindu mythology reflect the rich artistic heritage of Gujarat.

Today, Shri Hatkeshwar Temple remains a vibrant centre of faith and one of Vadnagar's most significant cultural and architectural attractions.

Puja Timings: 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Darshan: Available until the Sandhya Aarti.

Evening Experience: Light & Sound Show followed by the daily Sandhya Aarti.



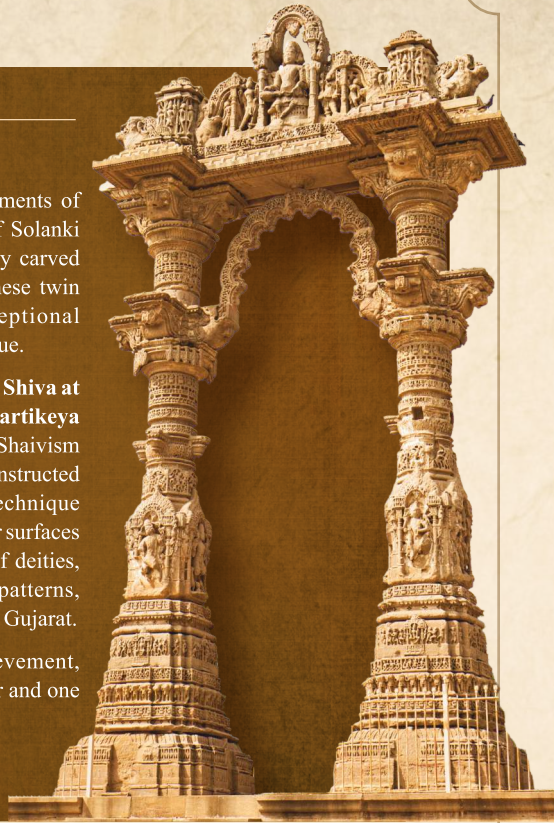
KIRTI TORANS

The Kirti Torans are the most iconic monuments of Vadnagar and among the finest examples of Solanki period architecture in Gujarat. Built of finely carved sandstone and rising nearly 40 feet high, these twin structures are renowned for their exceptional craftsmanship and Stone-Interlocking technique.

The upper portion of the Torans features **Lord Shiva at the centre, with Lord Ganesha and Lord Kartikeya on either side**, reflecting the prominence of Shaivism during the period. The monuments were constructed using an ingenious interlocking stone technique without the use of any binding materials. Their surfaces are further adorned with intricate carvings of deities, elephants, lotus motifs and ornamental patterns, showcasing the artistic excellence of medieval Gujarat.

Standing as symbols of glory and achievement, the Kirti Torans remain the pride of Vadnagar and one of its most celebrated landmarks.

Entry: Free for all visitors until sunset.



TANA-RIRI MEMORIAL GARDEN

The Tana-Riri Memorial Garden honours the legendary sisters Tana and Riri of Vadnagar, celebrated for their contribution to Indian classical music. According to tradition, they sang Raga Malhar to relieve the great musician Tansen from the effects of Raga Deepak.

Located near Amdu Lake, the garden features two votive temples dedicated to Tana and Riri set within landscaped grounds. It serves as a peaceful tribute to Vadnagar's rich musical legacy.

Entry: Free for all visitors until sunset.



ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXPERIENTIAL MUSEUM

The Archaeological Experiential Museum is one of Vadnagar's premier attractions and India's first archaeological experiential museum. Showcasing over 2,500 years of continuous history, the museum brings Vadnagar's remarkable past to life through immersive galleries, interactive exhibits and archaeological discoveries.

Spread across four floors, the museum displays thousands of artefacts recovered from excavations and presents the story of Vadnagar's evolution through seven cultural periods. A unique skywalk connects the museum to the nearby Amba Ghat Excavation Site, where visitors can view archaeological remains preserved in situ.



Timings:

10:00 AM – 6:00 PM
(Last Entry: 4:30 PM)

Closed:

Wednesdays and Public Holidays

Entry Fee:

Adult ₹50 | Child (5–18 years) &
Senior Citizen ₹10 | Foreign Visitor ₹300 |
Below 5 Years Free



Tickets booking
for Vadnagar
Archaeological
Museum

Scan QR Code



SHARMISHTHA LAKE

Sharmishtha Lake is the heart of Vadnagar and one of the town's most popular attractions. With a scenic 2.1 km walkway around its periphery, the historic lake is surrounded by ghats (Aaros), a central shrine known as Sati Ni Deri, and a picturesque island.

Part of Vadnagar's ancient water management system, the lake remains a vibrant gathering place for residents and visitors. Nearby water bodies such as **Vishwamitra Lake, Ambaji Kotha Lake, Vishnupuri Lake (Vishnu Paduka), and Amdu Lake** add to the town's natural and cultural landscape. During winter, these lakes attract a variety of migratory birds, making them popular destinations for nature lovers and birdwatchers.

Visitors can enjoy the serene surroundings, attend the daily **Sandhya Aarti** held on the lakefront, and experience the evening **Aqua Screen Projection Show**, which brings Vadnagar's rich history and heritage to life.

Entry: free for all

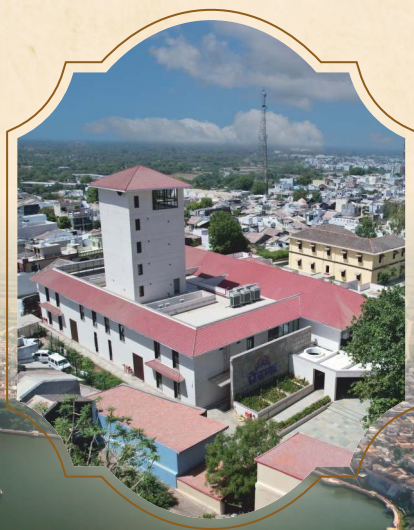
The ticket for Screen projection show is ₹ 30/-

PRERANA SANKUL

Located in the historic Darbargarh area of Vadnagar, Prerana Sankul celebrates the town's long tradition of learning and education. At its heart stands the historic Vernacular School, established in 1888 under the patronage of Maharaja Sayajirao Gackwad III of Baroda State.

This school is notable for being the place where the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi

received his early education. Today, the restored campus has been transformed into Prerana Sankul, a national centre for experiential learning that welcomes students from across India. By blending heritage with modern education, it continues to inspire young minds while preserving an important chapter of Vadnagar's history.



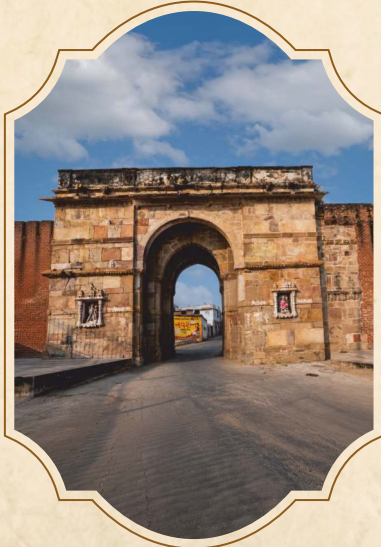
HISTORIC MARKETS AND TRADITIONAL NEIGHBOURHOODS

Vadnagar has been a thriving centre of trade and commerce for centuries. Its historic markets, including Baroti Bazaar, Soni Bazaar, Cloth Bazaar, Mochi Bazaar, Gheekanta Bazaar and Kansara Bazaar, reflect the town's rich commercial heritage.

The traditional Pol and Ol neighbourhoods, such as Chipa Ol, Mochi Ol and Gandhi Ol, preserve the unique character of Vadnagar's artisan and merchant communities, offering visitors a glimpse into the town's living heritage and vibrant local culture.

HISTORIC GATES OF VADNAGAR

Vadnagar was once a fortified town protected by a massive defensive wall and six historic gateways: Arjunbari stands in the north and Nadiol towards south, Amtol Darwaja in the west, Ghaskol and Pithori Darwaja in the south, and Amarthol Darwaja in the east. These gateways controlled access to the town and played an important role in its security and trade.



Among them, Arjunbari Gate is particularly significant as it houses the famous Vadnagar Prashasti inscription. Dated to 1152 CE during the reign of King Kumarpala, the inscription records the construction of the fortification wall around Vadnagar. Another inscription dated 1633 CE documents repairs to the fort wall, highlighting the continued importance of the town's defences. Today, these historic gateways stand as reminders of Vadnagar's rich urban and architectural heritage.

CHABUTRO (BIRD FEEDER)

Chabutras are traditional bird-feeding structures that reflect Gujarat's culture of caring for nature and wildlife. Built in stone or wood and often decorated with intricate carvings, they are a unique feature of the region's heritage.

Several historic Chabutras can still be seen in Vadnagar, including those at Choksi Bazaar, near Pithori Darwaza and close to Kirti Toran.



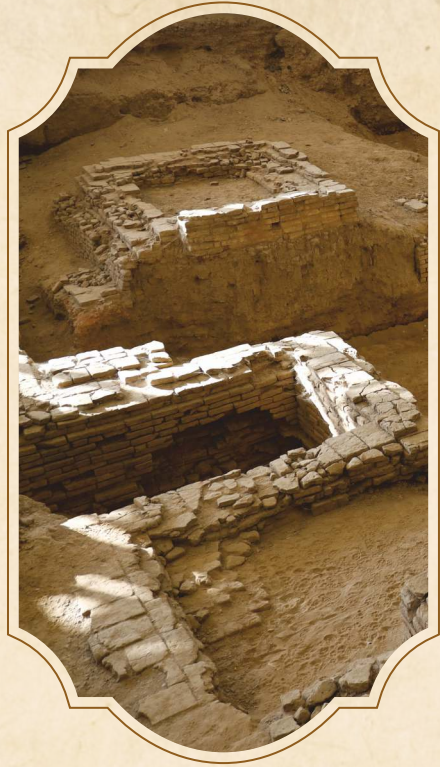
ANCIENT BUDDHIST MONASTERY

The Ancient Buddhist Monastery at Vadnagar is one of Gujarat's most significant Buddhist heritage sites. Dating from the 2nd to 8th century CE, it served as a centre for learning, meditation and religious activities.

Excavations have revealed monastic structures, stupas and residential cells arranged around a large central courtyard, confirming Vadnagar's importance as a flourishing Buddhist centre. The discoveries also support the account of the Chinese traveller **Xuanzang (Hiuen Tsang)**, who visited Vadnagar in the 7th century CE and described it as an important centre of Buddhist learning.

Today, visitors can explore the remains of this remarkable monastery and experience a glimpse of Vadnagar's rich spiritual and archaeological heritage.

Entry: Free for all visitors until sunset.





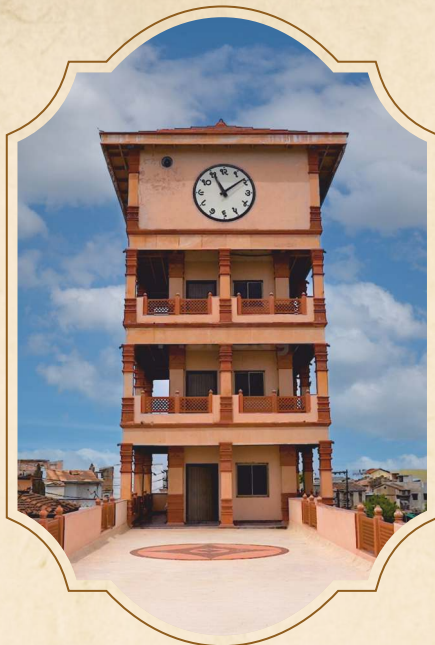
CLOCK TOWER ART GALLERY

Located in the heart of Vadnagar's Main Bazaar, the historic Clock Tower has been restored and transformed into an Art Gallery by Gujarat Tourism. Through exhibits, artworks and audio-visual presentations, the gallery introduces visitors to Vadnagar's rich history, culture and heritage.

A VR experience showcasing the town's major attractions and panoramic views from the upper level makes it a popular destination for visitors.

Timings: 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM

Entry Fee: Child ₹20 | Adult ₹50 |
Foreign Visitor ₹200



THEME PARK

Vadnagar has a rich tradition of music and performing arts and is closely associated with the legendary sisters Tana and Riri, celebrated figures in Indian classical music.

Developed on the banks of Sharmishtha Lake, the Musical Theme Park celebrates ten important ragas of Indian classical music- Kedar, Vrindavani, Yaman, Bahar, Basant, Pahadi, Darbari, Deepak, Bhairavi and Malhar. Through artistic installations and immersive experiences, the park offers visitors a unique opportunity to explore Vadnagar's enduring musical heritage.

Entry: Free for all visitors until sunset.





CHAUTAVALU DERASAR

Chautavalu Derasar, also known as the Main Bazaar Derasar, is one of Vadnagar's prominent Jain temples. Dedicated to Lord Rishabhdev (Adinath), the first Jain Tirthankara, the temple is admired for its elegant architecture and spiritual significance.

Located in the heart of the town, it reflects Vadnagar's long-standing Jain heritage and continues to attract devotees and visitors alike.



LATERI VAAV (STEPWELL)

Lateri Vaav is a historic stepwell located about 2 km north-west of Vadnagar. Known for its traditional architecture and water management design, it reflects the region's rich heritage and craftsmanship. The stepwell remains an important example of Gujarat's historic water conservation systems.

Entry: Free for all visitors until sunset.



HATHIVALU DERASAR

Hathivalu Derasar is one of Vadnagar's most important Jain temples and a significant pilgrimage site for the Jain community. Dedicated to Lord Mahavira, the temple is renowned for its exquisite carvings and distinctive elephant sculptures that adorn its architecture.

A remarkable stone elephant in the Rangmandap adds to the temple's artistic charm, making it a fine example of Vadnagar's rich religious and architectural heritage.



OTHER ATTRACTION

Gauri Kund / Ajpal Kund

Janjaniyo Kuvo

Pancham Mehta Ni Vav

Shitala Mata Temple

Ambaji Kotha Lake

Saptarishi Aaro (Vishwamitra lake)

Somnath Mahadev Temple

HOW TO REACH



111 km by Road from Ahmedabad

361 km by Road from Surat

285 km by Road from Rajkot



Nearest Airport Ahmedabad



Udyog Bhavan, Block No. 16, 4th Floor, Sector-11,
Gandhinagar - 382 010.

Toll Free Number - 1800 203 1111

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