



eyho tours

# Gujarat-Kutch

## Textiles and Stepwells

January 20 – February 3, 2026

*Optional: Off beaten path Rajasthan*  
February 3 – 9, 2026

*"There are some parts of the world that, once visited, get into your heart and won't let go. India is such a place....I had been seeing the world in black & white and, when brought face-to-face with India, experienced everything re-rendered in brilliant technicolour." - Keith Bellows, National Geographic Society*



Photo: © Victoria Lautmann,  
*Vanishing Stepwells*

## One tour, two spectacular hits

### Textiles, Arts & Crafts

**Handmade textiles** are the warp and weft of India's historical, social, and economic fabric, enhanced by a **vibrant culture of arts and crafts**. On this sensitively conceived tour, immerse yourself in the **5000-year-old culture** of rural Gujarat-Kutch. Visit **artisanal villages**, meet **award-winning artisans**, and engage in celebrated **weaving, embroidery, dyeing, and printing techniques** that have distinguished India over millennia. Enjoy **renowned textile museums** alongside curators. Explore **centuries-old arts and crafts**. Traverse a **hidden India** from desert to buzzing cities. Optional: **Off Beaten Rajasthan** and **block printing heaven** in Jaipur.

### Stepwells

Fascinating, yet largely unknown, **subterranean stepwells** once supplied communities with water, and served as **refuges, gathering places, and sacred sites**. Strung along ancient Silk Road stops, stepwells were at the confluence of fresh ideas, trends, and trade. As magnificent as any of India's palaces – except underground up to nine storeys deep, **lovingly ornamented** with sculptures and carvings. Many stepwells feature patterns seen today on handwoven textiles. Trace the **history and architecture** of stepwells, beginning with the **oldest 2000 BCE** and culminating in the grandest **11<sup>th</sup> CE UNESCO** Rani ki Vav. **NEW: Dholavira** – an ancient Harappan city!



Meghwal tribeswoman

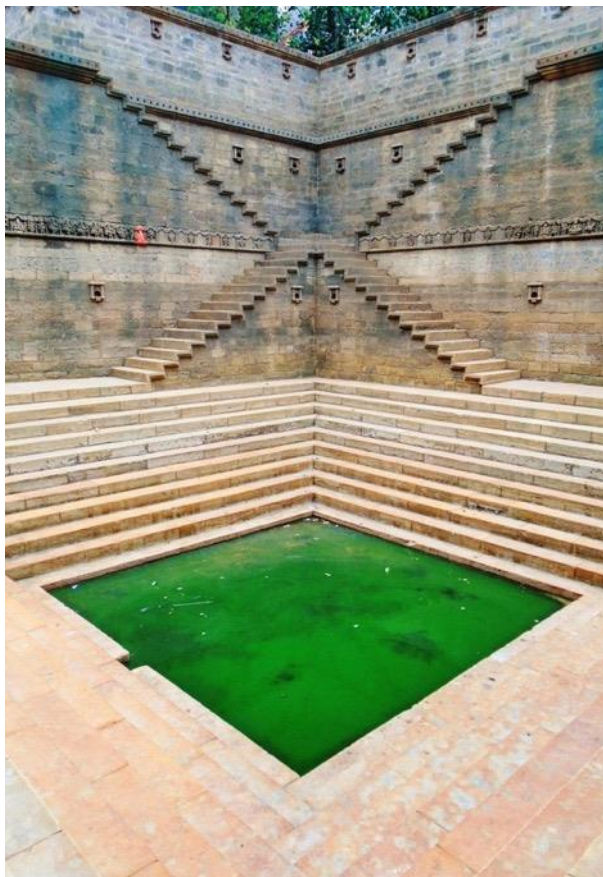


Madha Vav. Photo: © Victoria Lautmann, *Vanishing Stepwells*



Learning the lexicon of embroidery stitches





## Why go? Why with us?

- Relatively unexplored part of India
- Stunning diversity of artisanal skills
- Stepwells are only just registering on tourist radars. Go before the crowds
- Rural communities living as they have for centuries
- Conceptualised by Shila Desai, Canadian-based with Gujarati ancestry
- Co-led by beloved (by eyho travellers!) textile/stepwell expert Nirav, and textile expert Anvi Shah
- Deep knowledge and passion for this region . . . we decipher inside stories and societal context as only people who have grown up in this culture can!



## Past Travellers speak . . .

*Thank you again for the trip of a lifetime. I can't even imagine the hours you spent to make such an incredible journey possible. **The window that you opened to India for us was not the stuff of the usual tourist circuit.** – Webb Naas, Washington.*

*Very well organized with a good balance of non-textile visits, which gave a fascinating insight to an amazing country plus the extra add-ons like the film in Jaipur, brilliant! **There are so many fabulous memories it would take too long to list but just want to say thank you for an amazing introduction to India.***

*– Anne Alldread, Derbyshire, U.K.*

*One of the **top events of my life**, exceeding my fondest expectations. – Marylou S. Washington D.C.*

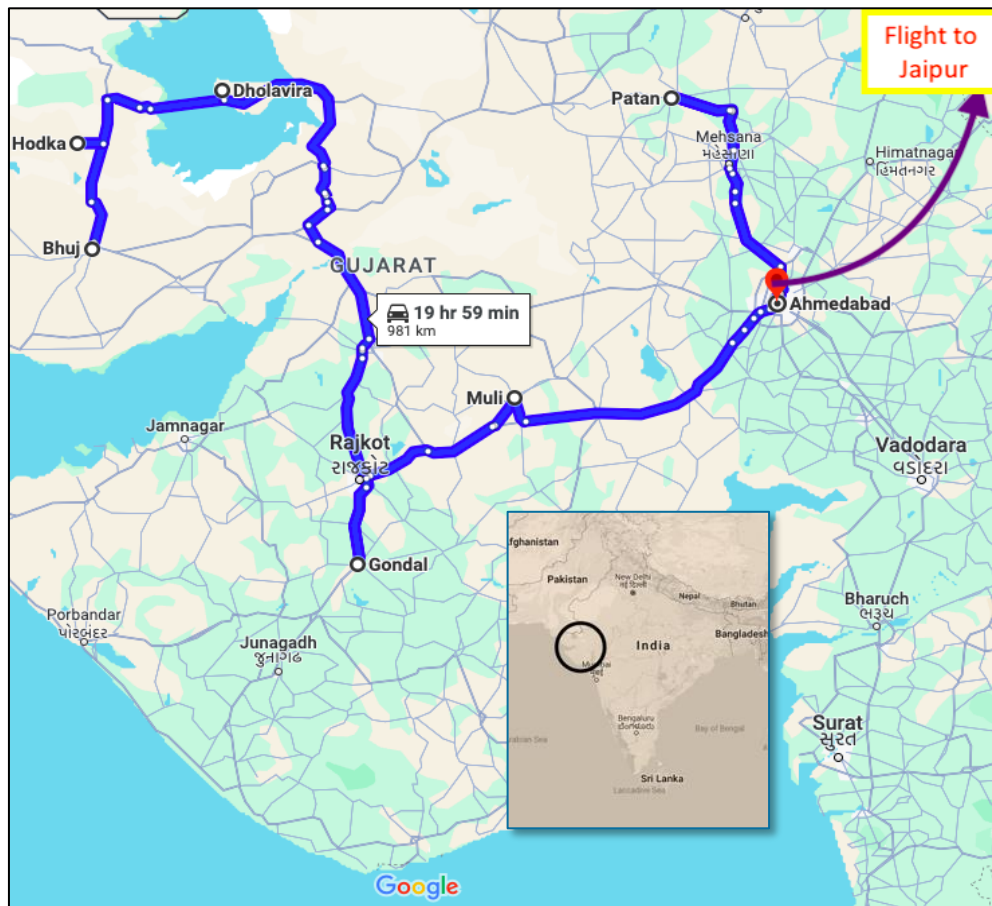
*This was **a trip of a lifetime**, and **I am moved beyond words** that I got to experience all we did through your eyes. To so clearly see and have you share your love for India. – Susan Oher, New York City*

*The sights I have seen, the experiences I was honoured to have undertaken will **stay with me forever.***

*– Jodie Watkins, Western Australia*







## Gujarat – Kutch

15 Days (14 nights)

- 2 nights Bhuj – Bandhni, Ajrakh, LLDC Museum, Bhujodi weaving
- 1 night Hodko, Salt Desert – Banni villages, tribal embroidery
- 1 night Dholavira – oldest stepwell 2000 BCE in recently excavated Harappan city
- 1 night Patan – UNESCO stepwell, Patan double-ikat weaving
- 4 nights Ahmedabad – Gandhi Ashram, Calico Museum, UNESCO Old City; 2 stepwells, Mata ni Pachedi,
- 2 nights Muli – Tangalia weaving and Wadhvan stepwells
- 2 nights Gondal – Navlakha Palace, villages, stepwells of Dhank
- 1 night Rajkot – gateway to culture-rich Kathiawad

Optional 7 days (6 nights) off beaten path Rajasthan: Udaipur, Kumbalgarh, Chittorgarh, Bundi, Jaipur.

Continue exploring medieval forts, stepwells, textiles, arts and crafts before ending in Jaipur.

While we make every effort to stay within the itinerary, occasionally we may offer substitutions according to local conditions and desires of the group



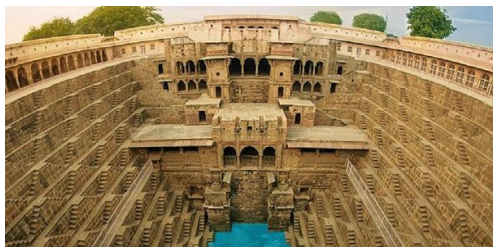
### *“What I love about this itinerary*

Combines the seminal features of this unique land: textiles AND stepwells. Since cotton was domesticated here 5000 years ago, and one of the first looms was tied, an incredibly rich culture has sprung up around the region’s exquisite textiles, arts, and crafts. To sustain the population and rich trade routes, spectacular engineering feats gave rise to monumental water architecture. Interest in reclaiming stepwells is rising as a solution to impending water scarcity. This tour explores a fast-changing India, from ancient to contemporary times

*~ Shila Desai, conceptualizer*

# Rajasthan

## Optional



### Optional 7 days in enchanting Rajasthan Feb 3-9, 2026

- 2 nights Udaipur – lakeside playground of the Rajput royals
- 1 night Kumbalgarh – the might of invincible Kumbalgarh Fort, the world's second longest wall
- 1 night Chittorgarh. Romantic fort. Deepest stepwell.
- 2 nights Bundi – Bundi gallery with frescos, painted rooms, old town, exquisite Rani ki Baori stepwell
- Transfer to Jaipur – additional nights can be arranged \$
- Possible to visit the Taj Mahal and transfer to Delhi for international flight.

Please [enquire](#).

While every effort will be made to stay within the itinerary, we may substitute according to local conditions and desires of the group. Minimum 6 pax. Maximum 10 pax.

### Inclusions – Rajasthan

- Flight Rajkot to Udaipur via Bombay
- All road transfers by private a/c vehicle
- Excellent English-speaking tour leader
- All entrance fees and excursions
- Accommodation with daily breakfast in 3-4\* boutique heritage hotels
- Not included: tips, meals not indicated, alcoholic beverages. Please add USD 120 for tipping.

### Optional Blockprint Immersion Jaipur 4nights/5 days

- Hands-on Sangneri block print workshop with instruction and materials
- Day trip to Bagru, visit blockprint artisanal studio and block makers quarters
- Full day resist hands-on block print workshop, all instructions and materials
- Anokhi blockprint museum, and Amer Fort guided sightseeing.
- All road transfers by private a/c vehicle
- Accommodation with daily breakfast in 3\* boutique hotel
- Taj Mahal visit possible + transfer to Delhi for international flight. Please [enquire](#).

## Costs

USD Gujarat-Kutch Jan 20-Feb 3, 2026 (min 8 pax) pp double occ	<u>8-9 pax</u> \$5300	<u>10-11 pax</u> \$4980	<u>12+ pax</u> \$4750	\$1200 single supplement
Rajasthan extension Feb 3 – 9 (min 6 pax) pp dbl occ		<u>6-8 pax</u> \$2490	<u>9-10 pax</u> \$ 2400	\$850 single supplement
Taj Mahal extension Feb 9 - 10 (min 4 pax) pp dbl occ	<u>4-5pax</u> \$520			\$200 single supplement

## Accommodations

*Sample accommodations - heritage boutique/ community-run*



Hodko | [Sham E Sharhad](#)



Muli | [Ambika Niwas Palace](#)



Ahmedabad | [House of MG](#)

*"I was so fortunate to have selected E.Y.H.O. Tours"*

*-Tina Crabtree, Healdsburg, CA*





Enquire  
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TICO (Travel Industry Council of Ontario)  
Accredited

[Terms and Conditions](#)

#### INCLUDES – main tour Gujarat-Kutch

- # Led by textile expert of native Gujarati descent, fluent in English and Gujarati
- # Superb English-speaking guides
- # All group transfers, tours and excursions in private air-conditioned transportation
- # Accommodation on twin sharing basis or single as applicable
- # All breakfasts
- # Lunch or dinner daily
- # Hands on workshops in tie-dye bandhni, blockprinting, and embroidery including materials and instruction. Many demos
- # All monument entrance fees
- # Internal flight Rajkot-Udaipur for optional extension

#### EXCLUDES

- # Travel insurance
- # International flights/ all internal flights other than mentioned above
- # Gratuities - \$ 180 pp Gujarat and \$120 pp Rajasthan tipping kitty for guides, drivers, hotel staff etc.