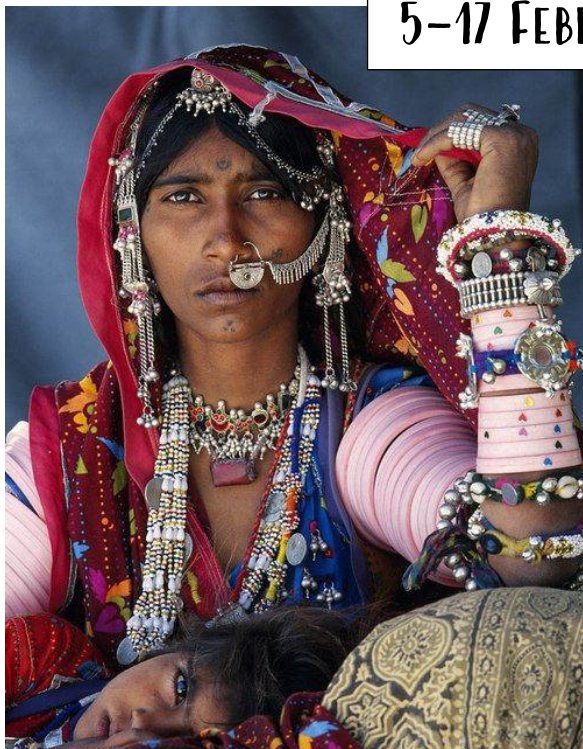


BOOKINGS CLOSE 30 SEPTEMBER 2026

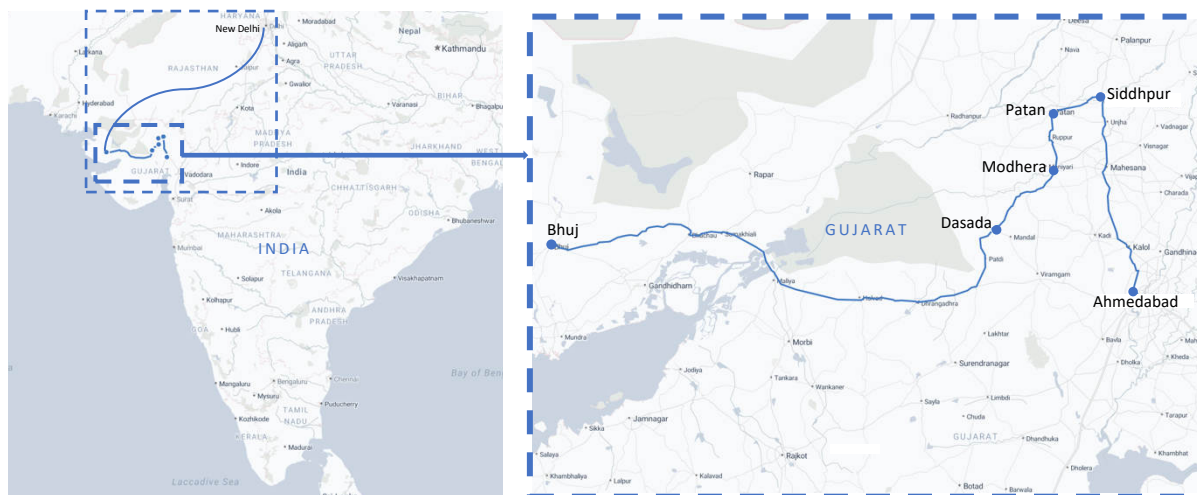


NEW DATES
5-17 FEBRUARY 2027



A Design and Textile Journey to Gujarat and Delhi

Where ancient textile traditions, extraordinary craftsmanship and desert landscapes come together in one of India's most fascinating regions



AT A GLANCE

A Design and Textile Journey to Gujarat and Delhi

5–17 February 2027

Tour Price

- AUD \$12,950 per person, twin share
- AUD \$4,500 single supplement

Bookings

- A deposit of AUD \$1,000 is required to secure your place on the journey (see Tour Details on page 22 for the payment schedule)

Accommodation

- From the 5-star heritage luxury of The Imperial in Delhi, to Gujarat's finest heritage and boutique properties, each hotel has been carefully selected for its character, comfort, warm hospitality and proximity to the remarkable places we explore

Meals

- Breakfast daily
- Selected lunches, dinners and special dining experiences

Transport

- Air-conditioned private vehicles throughout
- Private airport transfers
- Economy-class airfare from Bhuj to Delhi (including 25kg checked baggage)

Your Hosts

- Nicole Court – Designer and Tour Host (Sydney-based)
- Specialist local guide and textile experts throughout (India-based)

Group Size

- 6–11 guests

Tour Confirmation

- Tour confirmation is subject to a minimum of six bookings by 30 September 2026

Best time of year to visit?

February is one of the loveliest months to explore Gujarat and Delhi. Expect warm, sunny days (24–30°C), low humidity and cool evenings (10–14°C) – ideal for exploring villages, architectural sites and markets in comfort

SIGNATURE EXPERIENCES

The Calico Museum of Textiles

Visit one of the world's finest textile museums and a true pilgrimage site for textile lovers, housing an unparalleled collection of Indian textiles spanning five centuries.

Rani Ki Vav Stepwell

Discover one of the Indian subcontinent's greatest architectural treasures. Buried beneath sand for centuries, rediscovered in the 1940s and painstakingly excavated over subsequent decades, this UNESCO World Heritage-listed 11th-century stepwell is a masterpiece of engineering, sculpture and design.

Sun Temple, Modhera

Explore one of India's most beautiful temple complexes, renowned for its exquisite carvings, harmonious proportions and remarkable architectural sophistication.

Little Rann of Kutch Wildlife Sanctuary

Traverse shimmering salt flats in search of the endangered Indian wild ass, found nowhere else on earth, while experiencing one of India's most haunting desert landscapes.

The Living Textile Traditions of Kutch

Spend a week immersed in one of the world's most remarkable textile regions, where embroidery, *bandhani* tie-dye, appliqué, weaving and dyeing traditions remain deeply woven into daily life.

Unpack Once, Explore Deeply

Unlike many tours of India, this journey allows you to slow down. Enjoy six nights based in the Kutch region, exploring its villages, landscapes and textile traditions from carefully chosen accommodation, rather than packing and moving every day. It's a more relaxed, immersive and rewarding way to travel.

Remote Artisan Villages

Journey into communities where generations of artisans continue to create extraordinary textiles by hand. These encounters offer a rare opportunity to experience cultural traditions that are rapidly disappearing as younger generations move towards urban life.

Learn Traditional Techniques

Participate in hands-on workshops with master artisans, exploring block printing, *bandhani* tie-dye and natural indigo dyeing traditions that have been practised for centuries.

Private Textile Collection

Enjoy exclusive access to an extraordinary private collection and the rare opportunity to acquire museum-quality textiles from one of India's foremost collectors.

Delhi's Creative Insiders

Gain privileged access to some of India's most exciting contemporary designers, textile studios and creative spaces, offering a rare glimpse into the country's dynamic design scene.



BANDHANI AND INDIGO DYEING WORKSHOPS

MEET YOUR HOST: NICOLE COURT

For more than three decades, I have explored the intersection of art, craft, culture and place. As a designer, curator and lifelong traveller, I have been fortunate to build a career that has taken me throughout Asia and beyond, always guided by a deep appreciation for craftsmanship, beauty and the stories embedded within handmade objects.

As a multi-disciplinary designer, my work has spanned textiles, interiors, homewares, publishing and landscape design. For more than a decade, I designed and produced textile and homeware collections handcrafted in India, which were sold through leading boutiques across Australia and New Zealand and featured regularly in *Belle*, *Vogue Living*, *House & Garden*, *Gourmet Traveller*, *Marie Claire* and *Inside Out*.

My connection with India is both professional and deeply personal. My aunt, Robin Duffecy, lived in Delhi for many years and developed close friendships with many of India's leading artists, designers, writers and creative families. Over time, those friendships became mine as well, providing me with a unique window into India's extraordinary creative world.

Over the past thirty years, I have continued to cultivate my own long-standing relationships with artisans, collectors, curators, designers and local experts throughout India. These friendships – and the generosity with which they have shared their knowledge, traditions and lives – form the foundation of every journey I create.

Travelling with me is about much more than visiting beautiful places. It is about learning to see them differently. Drawing on my design background and deep understanding of material culture, I love sharing the details, stories and connections that often remain hidden to the casual observer.

I believe the most memorable journeys are shaped by meaningful encounters – with remarkable people, beautiful objects and places that reveal themselves slowly. My hope is that these experiences leave you not only inspired, but with a richer understanding of the cultures and communities we are privileged to visit.

I design every itinerary as though I were travelling with close friends. Small groups, thoughtful pacing and exceptional access allow us to experience each destination in a way that is immersive, personal and genuinely enriching.

I would be delighted to share this extraordinary journey with you.



Instagram: @nicolecourtdesign

AN ARTISTIC JOURNEY THROUGH GUJARAT AND DELHI

SOME JOURNEYS REVEAL BEAUTIFUL PLACES. OTHERS REVEAL ENTIRE WORLDS. This carefully curated 12-day Design and Textile Journey takes you deep into one of India's most culturally rich regions, where ancient textile traditions, dramatic desert landscapes, remarkable architecture and contemporary design converge in ways found nowhere else.

Our journey begins in Ahmedabad, India's first UNESCO World Heritage City and long regarded as the country's textile capital. From here, we travel west into Gujarat – a land of extraordinary contrasts. Vast white salt deserts stretch to the horizon. Ancient trade routes cross landscapes that appear almost untouched by time. Villages emerge from the dust, their homes adorned with intricate mud relief work and tiny mirrors that catch the desert light.

If Bhuj and Kutch have long been on your travel wish list, there has never been a better time to visit. Once considered one of India's most remote regions, today's direct flights have made this remarkable part of the country far more accessible, allowing us to spend several days immersed in its landscapes, villages and extraordinary textile traditions.

In Kutch, where the landscape is painted in quiet earth tones and endless white salt flats, textiles become the colour of life. It is often said that the more austere the landscape, the more colourful the textiles, and nowhere is that more beautifully expressed than here. For generations, artisans have created some of the world's most vibrant embroideries, exquisite bandhani tie-dye, intricate appliqué and finely woven textiles. Every community has developed its own distinctive aesthetic language, with patterns, colours and motifs that tell stories of identity, family and belonging, transforming cloth into a living expression of culture and tradition.

What makes Kutch so extraordinary is that these traditions are still alive. Rather than being confined to museums, textiles remain woven into everyday life, created by hand, worn with pride and passed from one generation to the next.

Along the way, we meet artisans, designers, curators and collectors whose knowledge offers rare insight into India's rich creative heritage. We learn through hands-on workshops in block printing, bandhani tie-dye and natural indigo dyeing. We visit the legendary Calico Museum, home to one of the world's most important textile collections, and enjoy the opportunity to view and acquire museum-quality pieces from a private collection assembled over a lifetime.

Yet perhaps the greatest privilege of this journey lies in what cannot be preserved in museums. Across Gujarat, traditional ways of life are evolving rapidly. Younger generations are increasingly drawn towards cities and new opportunities, and many centuries-old practices are gradually disappearing. To visit these communities today is to witness a cultural landscape at a remarkable moment in its history – vibrant, resilient and still deeply connected to its traditions.

Our journey concludes in Delhi, where we step inside the studios, workshops and showrooms of some of India's most exciting contemporary designers, gaining privileged insight into the country's creative future. Having experienced the traditional skills of Gujarat firsthand, we come away with a deeper appreciation of how these living craft traditions continue to inspire contemporary fashion, textiles and design. Here, centuries-old craftsmanship finds new expression through innovation, creating a compelling dialogue between tradition and modernity.

This is a journey through one of India's last great living textile landscapes, where centuries-old skills continue to flourish, creativity is woven into everyday life and every village reveals another layer of the region's rich cultural tapestry.

It is more than a tour. It is an invitation into a world of creativity, craftsmanship, beauty and human connection, where culture, history and design have evolved together over thousands of years.



SHOPPING AND DESIGNERS' STUDIO VISITS IN DELHI

WHY THIS JOURNEY IS DIFFERENT

Unlike many tours of India, this journey has been designed to slow the pace and deepen the experience.

Six nights in Kutch

Rather than packing and moving every day, we spend six nights based in one lovely property, allowing time to explore villages, artisans and desert landscapes at a relaxed pace.

Small group

With just 6–11 guests, our size allows genuine conversations, meaningful encounters and access that larger groups simply cannot achieve.

Designer-led

Drawing on more than three decades of travelling, designing and working throughout India, I share the people, places and stories that have inspired me for years.

Privileged access

Meet designers, collectors and artisans whose homes, studios and workshops are rarely included on conventional itineraries.

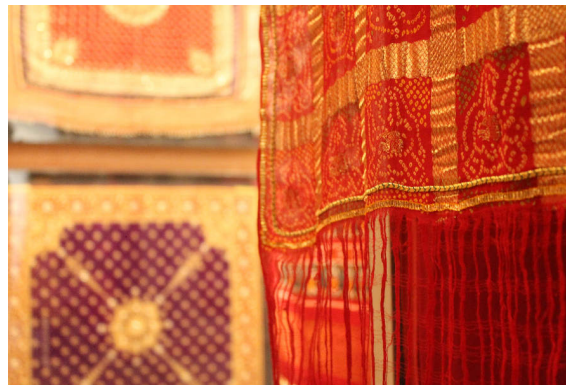
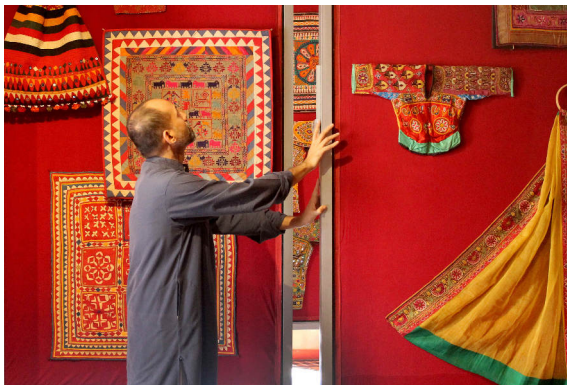
Meaningful encounters

Rather than simply observing craft traditions, we learn directly from master artisans through demonstrations and hands-on workshops.

Thoughtfully curated

Every hotel, meal and experience has been personally selected for its authenticity, comfort and quality.





AHMEDABAD

ITINERARY

A 14-day Insider Journey with Nicole Court

Textiles | Design | Desert Landscapes | Architecture | Fashion

DAY 1 • Arrival in Ahmedabad

Upon arrival at Ahmedabad's Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport, my representative will be there to greet you with a warm smile and a placard displaying your name. You will then be privately transferred in your chauffeur-driven car to The House of MG (20 mins drive). Check in from 2 pm onwards.

Welcome afternoon tea to meet your fellow travellers and your host, Nicole Court.

Stay: *The House of MG, Ahmedabad (Modern Heritage Grand Room)* | *Meals included: Afternoon Tea*

The House of MG

Experience old-world charm at this delightfully rambling hotel, with its canopied beds and antiques. The city's premiere boutique hotel, the House of MG was the family mansion of textile baron, Mangaldas Girdhardas (MG). Well-located, it is a short walk to the city's old quarter. The family's collections are displayed throughout the hotel (it even has its own textile museum), offering an interesting glimpse of the craft, art and textile heritage of Gujarat. And there is an indoor swimming pool with a dreamy ceiling painted with lotus flowers.

AHMEDABAD

Ahmedabad is one of India's centres of art, architecture and design. A UNESCO World Heritage City, it is home to medieval monuments, the National Institute of Design (the most prestigious design school in India), Mahatma Gandhi's Sabarmati Ashram and landmark works by Le Corbusier, Louis Kahn and Pritzker Prize-winning architect B. V. Doshi. Most importantly for us, Ahmedabad is home to the Calico Museum of Textiles – a mecca for lovers of textiles.

DAY 2 • Ahmedabad – Calico Museum of Textiles and the Indigo Museum

Calico Museum of Textiles: This morning we visit the Calico Museum of Textiles, widely regarded as one of the world's finest textile museums. Housed within the historic Sarabhai family estate, its collection presents an unparalleled overview of Indian textile history, from royal garments and ceremonial silks to Patola and *mashru* weaves, *bandhani* tie-dyes, tribal dress and intricately embroidered textiles, many dating back several centuries.

Nicole's Note

*The first time I visited the Calico Museum, I knew I would return again and again.
Every visit reveals something new.*

Many of the techniques, materials and traditions we have encountered throughout our week in Kutch are represented here in their most refined and historically significant forms. The museum brings together the threads of our journey, offering a deeper understanding of the artistry, innovation and cultural significance of India's textile traditions. It stands as a remarkable gift from the Sarabhai family to the nation.

Please note: If you visited the Calico Museum with me in 2025, this visit will feature a different collection, giving you the opportunity to discover new pieces and exhibitions.



SIDDHPUR

Indigo Museum – Kasturbhai Lalbhai Museum: This afternoon we visit the Arvind Indigo Museum which is part of the Kasturbhai Lalbhai Museum. Located in the beautifully restored 1905 residence of industrialist Kasturbhai Lalbhai, founder of one of India's most important textile and denim enterprises, the Indigo Museum is dedicated to the artistic and cultural significance of indigo, exploring its deep historical, aesthetic and economic importance across India. The collection of the Kasturbhai Lalbhai Museum includes a rich range of works, from Bihari and Rajasthani paintings to hand-painted colonial-era postcards, offering a layered insight into the visual culture of pre-Independence India.

Please note: The Calico Museum and the Indigo museum accepts bookings only a short time before each visit, so confirmation is not possible until closer to our departure. In the unlikely event that the museum visits are unavailable, I will arrange alternative touring.

The Lalbhai family were influential industrialists and cultural patrons with close ties to figures such as Rabindranath Tagore and Mahatma Gandhi, and the house itself reflects this legacy of intellectual and cultural engagement. As both a private home and a museum, it offers a fascinating final perspective on the interconnected stories of craft, industry, art and nation-building in India.

Stay: *The House of MG, Ahmedabad (Modern Heritage Grand Room) | Meals included: Breakfast*

DAY 3 • The Bohra havelis of Siddhpur, Rani Ki Vav Stepwell, double ikat weaving at Patan and the Sun Temple

Siddhpur: Renowned for its surreal streets of European-inspired merchant mansions built between 1870 and 1930 by the prosperous Dawoodi Bohra Muslim community, many of the merchants amassed their fortunes through overseas trade before returning home to commission these orate residences. Their Baroque and Art Deco façades, painted in soft pastel hues, create one of Gujarat's most unexpected architectural landscapes. (2 hr 20 min drive)

Rani Ki Vav Stepwell, Patan: Widely regarded as India's finest stepwell, Rani ki Vav (The Queen's Stepwell) is one of the masterpieces of medieval Indian architecture. Commissioned in the 11th century and buried beneath sand for centuries, it was rediscovered in the 1960s and carefully restored before reopening to the public in the 1980s. Today it is recognised as a UNESCO World Heritage Site and is so highly regarded that it is featured on India's ₹100 banknote. Its scale, intricate carvings and architectural ingenuity make it one of the highlights of our journey through Gujarat. (45 min drive)

Double ikat weaving, Patan: Treasured ("more precious than gold") Patan Patola saris are often kept as prized heirlooms to be passed down through generations of Indian households. Historically reserved for royalty, they were a major symbol of status and wealth in India. We will visit one of the families who have been practicing this laborious double-ikat method since the 11th century.

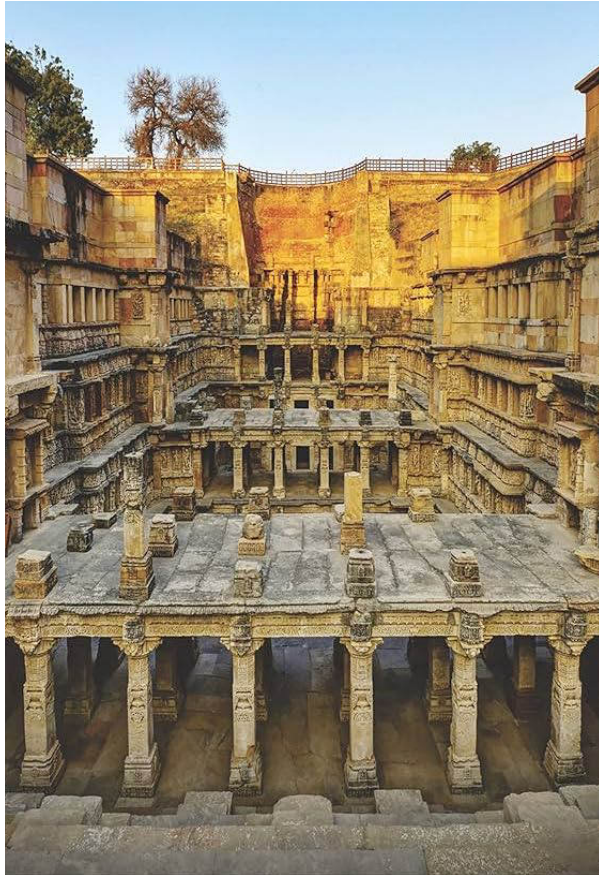
Sun Temple: Built in 1026, this is one of India's finest temples. Elaborately carved figures of gods, goddesses, flowers, dancers, animals and mythical beasts adorn the red sandstone surfaces. (45 min drive)

Dasada: Following our visits, we continue to Dasada, arriving in the late afternoon.

Stay: *Rann Riders, Dasada | Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

Rann Riders, Dasada

Rann Riders is one of Gujarat's most distinctive eco-lodges, designed to reflect the vernacular architecture of the region's Bajania and Rabari communities. Traditional building techniques,



TOP LEFT: RANI KI VAV STEPWELL, TOP RIGHT AND BOTTOM LEFT: PATAN'S DOUBLE IKAT WEAVING,
BOTTOM RIGHT: MODHERA SUN TEMPLE

local materials and handcrafted details have been incorporated throughout the property, creating a strong sense of place while ensuring the buildings remain naturally cool during the day and comfortable in the evenings. Organic gardens supply fresh produce to the kitchen and rainwater harvesting systems help conserve precious resources. Surrounded by wetlands, grasslands and agricultural landscapes, the property provides an ideal base from which to explore the unique ecology and culture of the Little Rann.

DAY 4 • Dasada: The wild landscapes of the Little Rann of Kutch

Today we explore the landscapes of the Little Rann of Kutch, a vast seasonal salt desert unlike anywhere else in India. This seemingly stark environment supports a surprising diversity of wildlife, with salt flats, grasslands, scrublands and seasonal wetlands providing habitat for mammals, raptors and migratory birds.

Morning private jeep ride: Accompanied by expert local naturalists, we venture deep into the Rann in search of its unique wildlife. The landscape may initially appear empty but experienced guides are adept at reading subtle signs in the terrain, spotting wildlife that would otherwise go unnoticed. We may encounter nilgai and desert foxes, while birdlife can include imperial eagles, peregrine falcons, harriers and a variety of migratory species. During the winter months, the wetlands attract flocks of cranes, waterbirds and other visitors from Central Asia.

Nicole's Note ~

Sunset across the salt flats is one of those moments that photographs never quite capture. It is the silence, the changing light and the sense of space that stays with you.

Afternoon private jeep ride – Wild Ass Sanctuary: This afternoon we venture across the shimmering salt flats of the Wild Ass Sanctuary, home to the world's last population of the endangered Indian wild ass. Conservation efforts have helped the species recover, making the sanctuary one of India's great wildlife success stories. Travelling by jeep, we experience the haunting beauty of this vast landscape while discovering the wildlife that has adapted to survive in this desert ecosystem.

Stay: Rann Riders, Dasada | *Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

DAY 5 • Dasada to Bhuj: village life, Ahir embroidery and Tangaliya weaving

As we journey west from Dasada towards Bhuj, we will explore Gujarat's textile traditions and the communities that sustain them.

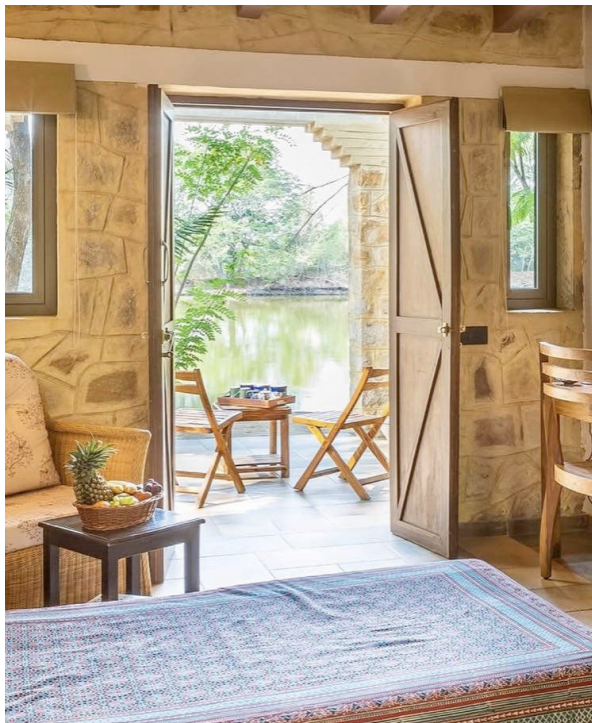
Nicole's Note ~

As a designer, I am endlessly fascinated by the relationship between landscape and creativity. In Kutch, where the colours of the land are so restrained – think earth, salt and sky – the textiles become an expression of identity, celebration and joy.

Tangaliya weavers: Our first visit is to the Tangaliya weavers, custodians of a weaving tradition found only in a small area of Gujarat. Tangaliya textiles are created using an intricate technique in which small dots of extra weft are twisted into the fabric during the weaving process, producing richly textured geometric patterns. Traditionally woven for pastoral communities, Tangaliya is recognised today as one of India's most specialised textile traditions, requiring remarkable skill and patience to produce.

Nicole's Note ~

By the end of the week, you'll be recognising different embroidery styles and identifying communities simply by the stitches and colours.



LITTLE RANN OF KUTCHH

Ahir embroidery: We will then spend time in a village renowned for Ahir embroidery, one of Kutch's most colourful and recognisable embroidery styles. Practised primarily by women of the Ahir community, these textiles are distinguished by their intricate stitching, brightly coloured threads and sparkling mirror work. The designs often draw inspiration from nature, everyday life and local traditions, creating richly decorative textiles that have become emblematic of the region's artistic heritage.

Bhuj: Following our visits, we continue to Bhuj, arriving in the late afternoon.

Stay: *The Kutchh Courtyard (exclusively booked for our tour) | Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

The Kutchh Courtyard, Bhuj

We have exclusively booked the Kutchh Courtyard for our stay. Located in the renowned weaving village of Bhujodi, the design of the Kutchh Courtyard was inspired by traditional Indian architecture, with a central open courtyard, thick stone walls, long shaded corridors and soaring wooden ceilings. Created by Abhinav and Smita – founders of WAMA, a social enterprise supporting hundreds of women artisans across Kutch – the house blends refined design with deep respect for local craft and rural life. Filled with antique furniture and handcrafted details, it offers a peaceful base for experiencing the artistry of Kutch. It is located near Bhuj's leading craft institutions and museums.

BHUI

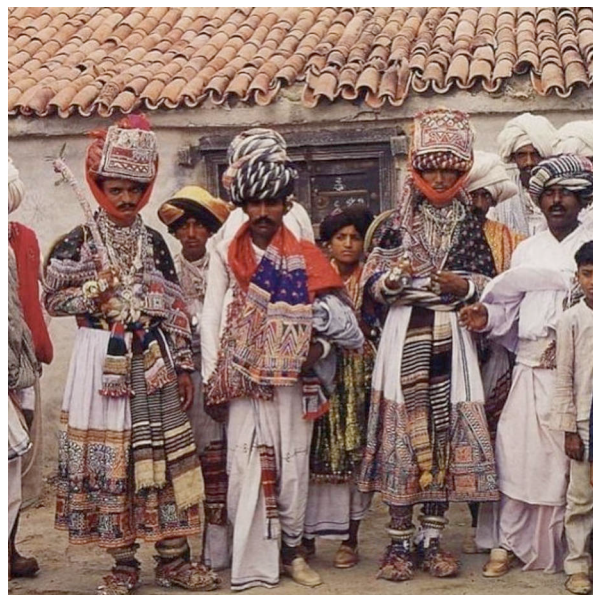
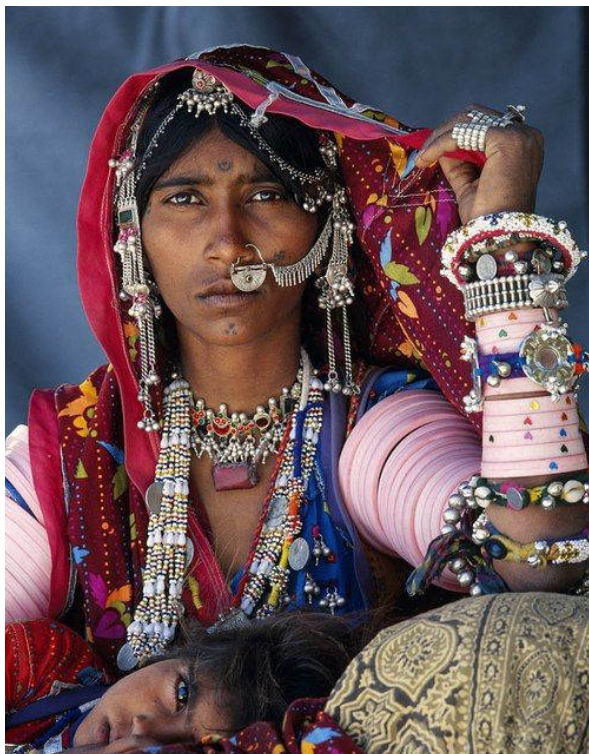
Bhuj is the gateway to the vast landscapes of Kutch, a region spanning more than 45,000 km² of salt deserts, grasslands, wildlife sanctuaries and traditional villages. It is also home to some of the world's most celebrated textile traditions, where generations of artisans have perfected techniques that continue to inspire designers, collectors and museums around the globe.

Within the old walled city, a splendid tangle of dilapidated but grand palaces, historic havelis and excellent museums offer fascinating insights into the history, culture and artistic heritage of Kutch. Kutch's beautiful, colourful embroidery work, weaving, tie-dyeing and block printing are coveted the world over.

Beyond the city, we will venture into the villages of Kutch, where many of India's most accomplished artisans continue to live and work. Visits to family homes, workshops, weaving studios and dyeing facilities will provide the opportunity to meet the makers themselves, gain insight into their creative processes and experience first-hand the textile traditions that have made this region famous throughout the world.

DAY 6 • Exploring Bhuj; and a hands-on textile workshop

Bhuj: This morning we explore the historic walled city of Bhuj, the cultural heart of Kutch. At its centre stands the Prag Mahal, whose Victorian Gothic clock tower seems more suited to the English countryside than the edge of the Great Rann. As we wander through the old city and its bustling bazaars, we will encounter a rich tapestry of communities whose distinctive textiles and dress traditions remain an integral part of daily life. Silver merchants, textile traders and market stalls overflow with embroidered garments, *bandhani* shawls, *ajrakh* prints and handwoven fabrics. The streets are shared by Rabari and Ahir pastoralists, Kanbi farming communities, Jat Muslim herders and others, each identifiable by their unique styles of dress, jewellery and embroidery. Few places illustrate more vividly the way textiles can express cultural identity, tradition and belonging.



KUTCH

Bandhani Tie-Dye Workshop: We will also enjoy a hands-on introduction to one of Kutch's most celebrated textile traditions. Under the guidance of skilled artisans, you will create your own dyed scarf using traditional *bandhani* techniques, carefully pinching and tying tiny sections of fabric to create intricate patterns. There will also be an opportunity to experiment with clamp-dyeing using the Japanese *itajime* shibori method. A selection of both traditional and contemporary textiles will be available to purchase directly from the craftspeople who make them.

Kutch Museum and Old City Market: This afternoon we visit the Kutch Museum, home to an outstanding collection of regional textiles, embroidery, costumes and artefacts that provide valuable context for the traditions we encounter throughout the region. We then return to the old city to explore its markets, where local artisans and craftspeople gather to sell their work, offering a wonderful opportunity to browse and perhaps acquire a special piece to take home.

Stay: *The Kutchb Courtyard (exclusively booked for our tour) | Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner*

DAY 7 • Bhujodi: weaving traditions and a visit to the atelier of Madame Hall

Bhujodi – a visit to the weavers: Home to the Vankar weaving community, Bhujodi has long been celebrated for its finely woven shawls and textiles. During our visit, we will gain insight into the weaving process and see traditional handlooms in operation. Many of the textiles feature supplementary-weft techniques and motifs drawn from the region's rich cultural heritage, including geometric forms, stylised flora and fauna, and patterns passed down through generations. The weavers also combine traditional craftsmanship with contemporary design, helping to ensure the survival of this textile tradition.

Nicole's Note ~

One of the reasons I designed this itinerary around six nights in Kutch is that this region deserves to be experienced slowly. Every village has its own character, embroidery style and stories.

Bhujodi – a visit to the atelier of an Australian fashion designer living in Bhuj: This afternoon we will meet Lisa Hall, an Australian fashion designer who has been living in Bhuj for the past 14 years. Her handcrafted pieces reflect her background in costume design and her appreciation and love for the textile traditions of Kutch.

Stay: *The Kutchb Courtyard (exclusively booked for our tour) | Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner*

DAY 8 • Ajrakhpur and the Living and Learning Design Centre

Ajrakhpur: After breakfast, we travel to Ajrakhpur, a village established by the Khatri community of master dyers and printers, where we will enjoy a hands-on introduction to the art of *ajrakh*. There will also be an opportunity to purchase textiles directly from the artisans who create them.

Ajrakh is one of the most sophisticated textile traditions in South Asia, combining hand block-printing, resist dyeing and natural dyes in a labour-intensive process that can involve more than a dozen separate stages of printing, dyeing, washing and drying. The name is thought to derive from the Arabic word for "blue", reflecting the deep indigo that characterises many *ajrakh* textiles. Designs are instantly recognisable for their intricate geometric patterns, symmetrical layouts and rich palette of indigo blue, madder red, black and white.

The tradition originated in the Indus region and is closely associated with the cultural landscape surrounding the Rann of Kutch, Lower Sindh and the western edge of the Thar Desert. Long before the partition of India and Pakistan in 1947, this region was connected by trade, migration and shared cultural traditions centred on the Indus River. Today, authentic *ajrakh* production



BHUJODI WEAVING

survives in only a handful of locations in Gujarat, Rajasthan and Sindh, making it one of the world's most distinctive and endangered textile traditions.

Ajrakh textiles have travelled far beyond their place of origin for centuries. Archaeological discoveries suggest that Indian cotton textiles, including fabrics believed to have been produced using early resist-dyeing techniques, reached Ancient Egypt, where they were prized luxury goods and used for garments, trade and burial textiles. The enduring appeal of these fabrics is a testament to the extraordinary skill of the artisans who continue this tradition today.

Nicole's Note ~

Some memories linger long the after a journey ends. For me, it's the rhythmic tap of wooden printing blocks and the quiet concentration of the artisans at work. Trying block printing yourself offers a wonderful insight into the precision and craftsmanship behind a tradition that has been practised for centuries.

Living and Learning Design Centre (LLDC Museum): This afternoon we visit the Living and Learning Design Centre, one of India's finest museums dedicated to traditional craft. Through its exceptional displays of embroidery, weaving, block printing and other textile traditions, the museum provides a comprehensive introduction to the artistic heritage of Kutch. Beautifully curated and thoughtfully interpreted, the collection offers invaluable context for the villages, artisans and textile traditions we encounter throughout our time in the region, while also highlighting the role contemporary organisations are playing in preserving these skills for future generations.

Stay: *The Kutchb Courtyard, Bhuj (exclusively booked for our tour) | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

DAY 9 • Banni villages and Nirona

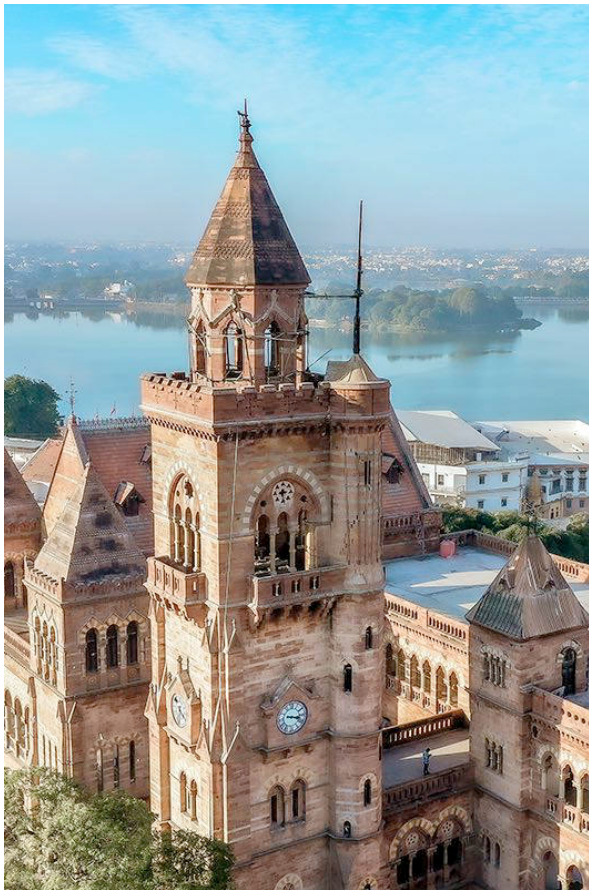
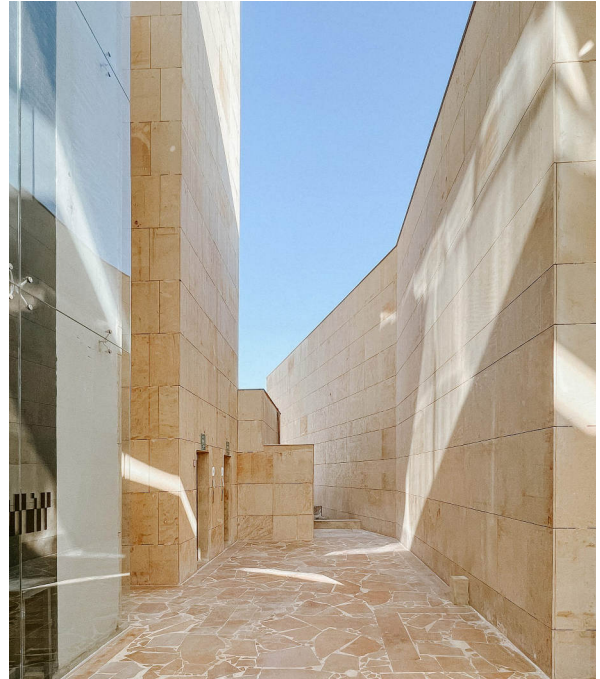
Banni villages: Today we venture into the Banni grasslands, one of the most culturally rich regions of Kutch, where we will spend time with artisans from several of the area's distinctive communities, including the Rabari, Meghwal, Harijan and Mutwa peoples. Each community has developed its own artistic traditions, techniques and visual language, expressed through embroidery, mirror work, weaving, leatherwork, wood carving and other crafts. As we travel between villages, we will see how differences in architecture, dress, religious practice and decorative arts reflect the unique identity of each community. Few places in India offer such a vivid demonstration of the way craft, culture and daily life remain deeply intertwined.

Nirona: Our exploration continues to Nirona, a village renowned for three traditional crafts: lacquer work, copper bell making and the art of rogan painting. Rogan is created by painting intricate designs onto fabric using a thick castor-oil-based pigment applied with a metal stylus. The craft is practised by only a handful of artisans and is closely associated with the Khatri family of Nirona, whose ancestors are believed to have migrated from Persia more than 300 years ago.

Stay: *The Kutchb Courtyard (exclusively booked for our tour) | Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

DAY 10 • Smritivan Earthquake Memorial Museum and a private visit to the home of renowned textile collector

Smritivan Earthquake Memorial Museum: This morning is devoted to the Smritivan Earthquake Memorial and Museum which opened in 2023. Created in memory of those who lost their lives in the 2001 Gujarat earthquake, the museum combines storytelling, innovative exhibition design and striking contemporary architecture. Set atop Bhujiyo Hill overlooking the city of Bhuj, it has become one of India's most acclaimed new museums and offers a moving reflection on resilience, recovery and renewal.



BHUJ

Private visit to the home of renowned textile collector, Salim Wazir: This afternoon we are welcomed into the home of renowned textile collector Salim Wazir, whose collection of more than 3,000 pieces showcases some of Kutch's finest embroidery, *bandhani*, *ajrak* and Rabari textiles. Many are of museum quality and we will have the opportunity to acquire selected pieces for our own collections.

Nicole's Note ~

Wazir's collection isn't simply about beautiful textiles. His stories reveal the lives of the people who made them, transforming each piece from an object into a record of culture, identity and tradition.

A visit to Salim's home is like stepping into a private museum. Unlike a conventional museum, however, we have the opportunity to examine the textiles at close range, appreciating the subtle variations in stitch, motif, weave and dye that reveal the hand of the maker. Through his deep knowledge of Kutch's artisan communities, Salim shares fascinating insights into the traditions, techniques and cultural significance behind the collection.

Stay: *The Kutchb Courtyard (exclusively booked for our tour) | Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner*

DAY 11 • A visit to the kharad weavers, fly to Delhi

We will enjoy a morning at leisure.

Kukma: This afternoon takes us to Kukma, one of the few remaining centres of *kharad* weaving, a highly specialised rug-making tradition practised by pastoral communities. Using wool and hair from sheep, goats and camels, artisans create durable flat-woven rugs distinguished by their bold geometric patterns and vibrant colours. Once widespread across Kutch, *kharad* weaving has become increasingly rare, making this a valuable opportunity to witness a craft that is now at risk of disappearing. Our visit also offers a glimpse into the traditions, culture and way of life of the nomadic and semi-nomadic communities who have sustained these skills for generations.

Bhuj to Delhi: Late this afternoon we fly to Delhi. Upon arrival, we will be transferred to The Imperial (approximately 30 mins drive).

Stay: *The Imperial, New Delhi (Heritage Room) | Meals included: Breakfast*

The Imperial

Staying at this *grande dame* is an immersion in nostalgic old-world elegance. Lush gardens, wide verandas, vintage rattan furniture, gently turning ceiling fans and an impressive art collection evoke the romance of another era. It is one of Delhi's great social crossroads, frequented by royalty, diplomats, business leaders, visiting dignitaries and the city's elegant social set.

The Imperial remains an oasis of calm in the heart of Delhi. With its beautiful gardens, serene swimming pool and impeccable service, it is, in my opinion, the city's most enchanting hotel.

DELHI

Delhi is a city of layers – imperial, poetic, intellectual and deeply creative – and on this journey you will experience it through my long-standing relationships and favourite places. Beyond the grand monuments lies a world of private studios, elegant hotels and fascinating neighbourhoods. We will explore where Delhi insiders shop, wander and soak up culture: from contemporary design spaces to historic precincts where past and present exist side by side.

DAY 12 • Delhi: Visits to India's most interesting designers

We begin with a visit to the studio of Pero, an intimate introduction to one of Delhi's most thoughtful and quietly influential fashion houses. Founded by Aneeth Arora, the label is celebrated for its poetic reinterpretation of traditional Indian textiles – handwoven khadi, delicate embroideries and artisanal techniques transformed into garments of effortless modernity. Here we experience the brand at its source: meeting the team, understanding the craftsmanship behind each piece and exploring collections that honour rural makers while feeling entirely contemporary. It is less a shopping stop and more a conversation about textile heritage, sustainability and design integrity – a rare opportunity to engage with a label that embodies the creative spirit of modern India.

From here, our exploration continues through a carefully curated selection of retail experiences and design studios where India's most refined textiles and handcrafted luxuries take shape. These visits are about far more than acquisition; they are conversations about heritage, materiality and the evolution of craft in contemporary India.

Between these design encounters, we move through Delhi's layered landscape – wandering historic precincts, pausing in atmospheric cafés and discovering neighbourhoods where creativity flourishes quietly behind unassuming facades. Throughout, the city reveals itself not as a checklist of sights but as a living, creative capital experienced through personal connections – a Delhi of depth, beauty and culture, shared as only an insider can.

Stay: *The Imperial, New Delhi (Heritage Room)* | **Meals included:** *Breakfast*

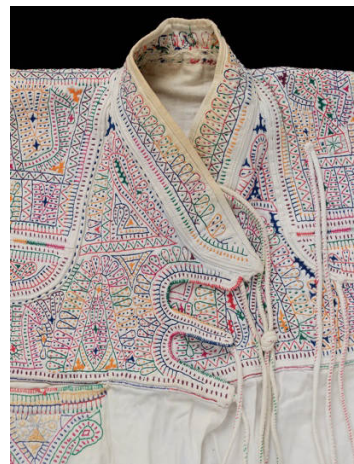
DAY 13 • Departure

Enjoy a relaxed morning before we check out of the hotel by 12 noon, marking the end of our tour. You will then be transferred in an air-conditioned car to the airport for your departure flight home.

Meals: *Breakfast*

Staying a Little Longer

Should you wish to extend your stay, I would be delighted to arrange additional nights at The Imperial, allowing you time to further explore Delhi at your own pace.



TOUR DETAILS

How to Reserve Your Place

To reserve your place on this journey, please request a Booking Form (including Terms & Conditions) by emailing:

nicole@nicolecourt.com.au

To confirm your booking:

- Complete and return your Booking Form.
- Pay the AUD \$1,000 deposit.

To enable this journey to proceed, a minimum of six bookings must be received by 20 July 2026. Once confirmed, bookings will remain open, subject to availability.

Payment Schedule

At the time of booking

- AUD \$1,000 deposit

5 August 2026

- Additional payment due, bringing your total payments to 25% of the tour price

11 August 2026

- Final balance (75%) due

Later Bookings

Bookings received after 5 August 2026

- 25% of the tour price is payable at the time of booking.

Bookings received after 11 August 2026

- Full payment is required at the time of booking.

Tour Dates

A Design and Textile Journey to Delhi and Gujarat

16–27 November 2026

What's Included

Your journey has been thoughtfully designed for comfort, ease and enrichment. Included in your tour are:

- 11 nights' accommodation in carefully selected hotels
- All meals as outlined in the itinerary
- Private airport arrival and departure transfers
- Ground transport in air-conditioned vehicles with experienced drivers
- Economy airfare from Delhi to Bhuj (including 25kg checked baggage)
- Complimentary bottled or filtered water throughout the journey
- Specialist local guides at key destinations

What's Included (continued)

- Tour leadership by Nicole Court, together with full support from your accompanying Indian tour manager
 - Entrance fees, monument charges, taxes and gratuities
 - 24-hour support from our experienced Indian travel team
-

What's Not Included

- International airfares
 - Meals not specified in the itinerary
 - Alcoholic beverages
 - Visa costs
 - Comprehensive travel and health insurance (mandatory)
 - Medical expenses
 - Costs arising from voluntary or unavoidable itinerary changes
 - Personal expenses (including laundry, snacks, telephone calls and internet)
 - Video camera fees at certain museums and heritage sites
-

Cancellation Policy

Should you need to cancel your booking, please notify me by email.

- Before 5 August 2026 – the AUD \$1,000 deposit is non-refundable.
 - Between 5 and 10 August 2026 – 25% of the tour price is payable.
 - From 11 August 2026 – 100% cancellation applies.
-

Tour Confirmation

This journey requires a minimum of six guests to proceed.

Please wait until you receive written confirmation before booking your international flights (or ensure your flights are fully refundable).

Should minimum numbers not be reached by 5 August 2026, you will be advised on 6 August 2026. At that time, the tour may either:

- proceed at a revised cost; or
- be cancelled.

Should the tour be re-costed, you may either accept the revised price or cancel your booking within one day of notification.

If the tour is cancelled – or you choose not to proceed with a revised price – you may elect to receive either:

- a full refund of all monies paid (including your deposit), or
- a credit towards a future journey.

Refunds will be processed within five business days.

Medical Assistance

All hotels have access to on-call medical assistance should it be required.

Dietary Requirements

Dietary requirements can usually be accommodated. Please advise me at the time of booking so arrangements can be made in advance.

Alcohol in Gujarat

Gujarat is a “dry state”, meaning the sale and consumption of alcohol is regulated.

International visitors may legally purchase and consume alcohol by obtaining a complimentary temporary Tourist/Visitor Liquor Permit. This can be obtained online before departure or arranged through authorised hotel counters.

The permit allows you to purchase alcohol from licensed outlets; however, it may only be consumed within the privacy of your hotel room and is not served in restaurants or public areas.

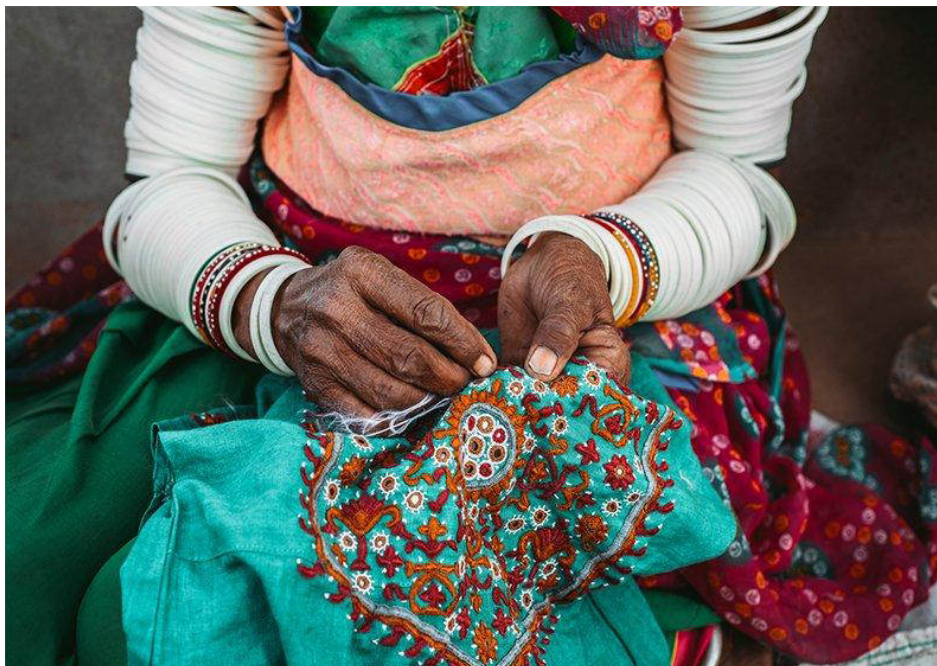
Further information will be provided before departure.

Accommodation

Unlike Rajasthan, Gujarat is not known for grand palace hotels. Instead, I have chosen what I believe are the finest heritage and boutique properties available in each destination. While generally 3- and 4-star in classification, each has been selected for its character, comfort, warm hospitality and excellent location. The emphasis throughout this journey is on immersive experiences and exceptional access, rather than lavish accommodation.

Flexibility

Every effort has been made to deliver the itinerary exactly as described. However, travel in India occasionally requires minor adjustments. Should an activity need to move to another day, or a site unexpectedly close, an alternative experience of equal interest and quality will be arranged.



BEFORE YOU GO

Nicole's Packing & Travel Tips

After many years of travelling throughout India, I have found that packing simply – and packing well – makes all the difference. Here are a few things I always take with me.

Personal Medication

Our coach carries a basic first aid kit and all hotels have access to an on-call doctor. However, illness has an uncanny habit of appearing late at night, so I always travel with a small personal medicine kit. Before departure, I recommend speaking with your GP or pharmacist about any medications you may need while travelling.

Refillable Water Bottle

Please bring a reusable water bottle. Filtered drinking water is available throughout the journey, and using a refillable bottle helps reduce single-use plastic. I refill mine each morning before we leave the hotel and carry a small bottle brush so I can give it a thorough clean every few days.

Clothing

November is one of the loveliest times to visit Gujarat and Delhi, with warm sunny days (around 27–32°C), cool evenings (11–14°C), low humidity and virtually no rain.

Lightweight natural fabrics such as linen and cotton are ideal. I recommend dressing modestly throughout the journey, with shoulders and knees covered when visiting temples and other religious sites. A light scarf or shawl is invaluable – for sun protection, cooler evenings, temple visits and air-conditioned flights. A warm jacket will also be good for our open-sided jeep drives.

Bring your swimmers too – there are some lovely hotel pools. I generally wear a kaftan or sarong when walking between the pool and my room.

Shoes

Comfortable walking shoes are essential. I usually pack lightweight walking sandals together with one pair of closed shoes. If you are planning to bring white trainers, leather is a better choice than canvas, which tends to hold India's dust.

A Few Small Essentials

I always carry a small packet of tissues, a packet of wet wipes and an old toothbrush (surprisingly useful for cleaning dusty shoe soles!). A hat and good-quality mosquito repellent are also worth packing.

Shopping Space

If you are hoping to purchase textiles, shawls, homewares or other treasures along the way (and I suspect many of you will!), I'd recommend leaving a little space in your suitcase – or packing a lightweight foldable bag for the journey home. One of the pleasures of travelling through Gujarat is discovering beautiful, handcrafted pieces that simply can't be found anywhere else.

Power Adaptors

India uses Type C, D and M power sockets. I usually buy my travel adaptors from JB Hi-Fi before departure – just make sure they are suitable for India.

FURTHER INSPIRATION

A Suggested Reading List

If you would like to immerse yourself in India's extraordinary textile traditions before we depart, I highly recommend the following books:

- **Indian Textiles** – John Gillow & Nicholas Barnard
 - **Textiles of the Banjara: Cloth and Culture of a Wandering Tribe** – Charlotte Kwon & Tim McLaughlin
 - **Ajrakh – Patterns and Borders** – Anokhi Museum of Hand Printing
 - **The Fabric of Civilisation: How Textiles Made the World** – Virginia Postrel
-

Shopping Along the Way

One of the delights of travelling through Delhi and Gujarat is discovering beautiful objects with a genuine sense of place. Throughout our journey there will be opportunities to purchase directly from designers, artisans, specialist textile galleries and private collections.

You may wish to leave a little space in your suitcase for treasures such as:

- Museum-quality vintage textiles
- Hand-embroidered textiles from Kutch's artisan communities
- Fine *bandhani* tie-and-dye scarves and shawls
- *Ajrakh* hand block-printed textiles
- Butter-soft pashmina shawls
- Beautiful saris
- Clothing by some of Delhi's most interesting contemporary designers
- Handwoven rugs and dhurries
- Contemporary and traditional jewellery
- Handmade homewares and decorative objects
- Beautiful books on Indian art, architecture, textiles and design

Perhaps the greatest reward of this journey is meeting many of the makers themselves. Whether purchasing directly from an artisan, discovering a beautifully crafted piece in a designer's studio, or finding a museum-quality textile in a private collection, each object carries with it a story of place, tradition and the hands that created it. Long after the journey has ended, these pieces become lasting reminders of your time in India.



TESTIMONIALS

I HAVE NOW DONE TWO TOURS WITH NICKY. Two unforgettable, wow every single day, in fact, often multiple times a day, wow! moments. It was evident from the moment I landed in Delhi, warmly greeted, walked through the airport, onto a waiting bus and into the comfort of the first of many beautiful hotels. All the way through to the moment I flew out again, filled to the brim with awe and delight.

Every single detail of the tour was thoughtfully curated. Nicky is a natural curator. Her attention to detail. Her love of all things India. Her passion for authentic human experiences all shine through with grace and love. Yes, love. I feel spoilt by my two incredible tours through India with Nicky. I'm not sure there is any other way to do it now!

Sally, Sydney

NICOLE COURT'S DESIGN TOUR WAS A LUXURY TRAVEL EXPERIENCE THAT CANNOT BE MATCHED. Travelling with my sister, for my 50th birthday present, this tour was a complete success for me; the places we travelled to, the experiences that were curated and timed perfectly to build up our understanding of this complex and wonderful and diverse culture and place. I experienced utter beauty and fulfillment in many forms, be it the world class hotels, food or seamlessly planned activities.

Mostly it was a wonderful human experience, feeling safe and totally cared for, allowed me to confidently explore this foreign country, supported and connected to both Nicky and our guides, and finding new connections with a fantastic tour group that have ensured I have some wonderful new friends for life. I cannot recommend Nicole Court's Design Tours highly enough.

Jacqui Williams, Perth

THE METICULOUS PLANNING OF THE DESIGN TOUR TO INDIA, the attention to detail, lovely surprises along the way, and our extremely knowledgeable guides all made this experience incredibly enlightening, where history, creativity and spirituality entwine, an unforgettable adventure for anyone passionate about design, textiles and architecture.

Spice scents, tiles, saris, hand-painted walls, incense, etched glass, hand-blocked prints, and temple bells have left an indelible mark on my soul. I feel completely spoilt and privileged to have been. It far exceeded all my expectations. I would go again in a heartbeat with Nicole and the team. Highly recommended. A huge thank you. Heart open.

Suzanne Maher, Bellingen NSW

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR THE MOST MAGICAL AND AMAZING TRIP. We were so well looked after at every moment and felt so safe, secure and well supported. Mum is still buzzing from the trip and her face lights up when people ask her about it. I've made us a photo book and she's showing everyone. Such great memories for us both to treasure.

It was also really special to spend time with you and watch you work and weave your magic. You have a real gift for what you do and you always operate with such grace, authenticity and a real sense of ease and calm. And fun!! So many giggles and so much fun. I can really feel the love in what you do - even though I know it's not always as easy as you make it look.

Lara Esden, Sydney

TESTIMONIALS (CONTINUED)

I'VE BEEN TO NORTH INDIA TWICE BEFORE, but doing a tour with Nicky Court on her Design Tour is by FAR the best way to see India. You see the best of the best along with the chaos, but knowing you are safe and well taken care of. Just sit back and trust! There was something wonderful in every day along with pleasant surprises. We saw the most unique places, beautiful palaces, tombs, and ruins along with how the masses live on the streets, compatibly with cows, dogs, elephants, camels, donkeys, goats, sheep, bicycles, rickshaws, tuk-tuks, motor bikes, cars, buses, and trucks. The two most challenging components are the air and water quality but that faded as we basked in the glow of all that was so wonderful!!

MJ, Sydney

FROM THE EXTRAORDINARY STEPWELLS IN AHMEDABAD, to the spotted leopard spotting, the textile exhibitions and the fabulous palaces of Rajasthan, the India tour was full of surprises and “wow” moments. Along the way the accommodation was superb and the company great fun. Nicky and her team went to no end of trouble to ensure everything went smoothly and that we got the most out of all our visits. Grateful for the opportunity to learn so much about Indian architecture and culture from our expert guides. Highly recommended!

Anne W, Sydney

- What would you do again: All of it
- Funniest moment: Hooning around in tuk-tuks wherever we were
- Favourite hotels: RAAS Jodhpur, RAAS Chhatrasagar and Samode Haveli, Jaipur
- Best meal: The food everywhere was amazing, but it was also about the gin and tonic
- Most enjoyable experience: The colours and the textiles (especially the Calico Museum and the Anokhi Museum), architecture in Ahmedabad, the leopard adventure, the stepwell dinner, bird watching on the lake, palace visits, and the shopping in Jaipur!!

Sarah Ogilvie, Melbourne

IT WAS AN AMAZING TRIP and I would recommend it to other Kiwis and Aussies – I feel that it was the right balance for us and Nicky knows what we want. Going in the winter is highly recommended. The trip was well run and organised. All the hotels were good. Highly recommend this trip to anyone wanting an informative trip to India with no hassles.

Michelle, New Zealand

NICKY TOOK US ALL ON A MAGIC CARPET RIDE through Calcutta and India's North-East on her Design Tour. I have been to India many times, and I have been on a lot of group tours – this was one of the best I have experienced. Nicky was a great host and showed us things we would never have discovered ourselves, in a less travelled part of India.

Susan B, Sydney

TRAVELLING WITH “DIETARY REQUIREMENTS” was not a problem with Nicky as our leader. She ensured that all our accommodation chefs were warned in advance and I never ever had an upset stomach. This is a small example of the attention to detail and care Nicky takes in planning her tours. Not to mention the wonderful places and people we saw, and accommodation we stayed in. I highly recommend Nicky's Design Tour.

Karen Robinson, Sydney

TESTIMONIALS (CONTINUED)

I'VE RECENTLY RETURNED FROM INDIA and was fortunate enough to be part of Nicky Court's Design Tour. As I was travelling alone, I did have some reservations about how I would manage, never having been to India before and being a little nervous in unfamiliar places. Fortunately, everything was taken care of with thoughtfulness and care. From the moment I alighted the plane until the moment I boarded to return home everything was looked after. The detail of what we did down to where the next clean bathroom would be, were all taken care of. I enjoyed hearing about the history of beautiful buildings. We experienced delicious meals in beautiful locations, from a Mughal-inspired garden to a step well, lit with hundreds of candles. The timing of our glamping in the beautiful wilderness park was impeccable. After a week of taking in so much history, culture and horns beeping it was lovely to enjoy the solitude and see the stars. Nicky is a kind and gracious woman whose care for others made the trip what it was. Her humbleness and willingness to help with any issue made everything seamless and stress free for the guests. Her knowledge and cultural insight was fantastic and we were well informed throughout the trip, much has stayed with me as I've settled back into life at home. Thank you for everything, I would highly recommend any trip to India that Nicky would organise.

Carla M, Sydney

MY TRIP TO INDIA with Nicole Court was just magical. Her knowledge and care and kindness for us all was outstanding. I have been to India many times but never like this. A small group of like-minded travellers, some were travelling to India for the first time. Everything was organised so it was hassle free. At times India can overwhelm but there was a great mix of excursions and relaxation. We stayed in luxury small hotels and palaces which were divine. I cannot recommend this trip highly enough or India. India's people, culture, customs are intoxicating and with Nicole you are immersed fully. Thank you so much.

Denise Wright, Melbourne

NICOLE'S INTRICATE DETAILED ITINERARY allowed us the privilege of experiencing unique insights into the personal lives of those connected to art and culture. Traversing through the backstreets, inhaling the flower market scenes, witnessing artisans at work... Nicole certainly gets the balance right: exploring and seeing the essence of each place, as well as having some peaceful times in nature. Nicole and her "on-ground" experienced network gave us a sense of inclusiveness and fine hospitality. Indeed, trust is the word to have as one's mantra, allowing the serendipitous adventure to unfold.

Jane Grossberg, Sydney

I HAVE COME BACK TO EARTH AFTER THE WONDERFUL TRIP YOU ORGANISED FOR US. I feel privileged to have travelled with you in such an understated and interesting way, just how I like it. We could never have envisaged an itinerary like that so thank you.

You did it all with calm efficiency. Aditya was very kind and helpful to us. And the driver, what a man, not a worrying moment as he weaved his way amongst all that life along the roads.

Sophie Wilson, Sydney

TESTIMONIALS (CONTINUED)

THANK YOU FOR A MEMORABLE HOLIDAY. I was conscious (but not too) of the hard work that you put in to make it so. On reflection it is hard to pinpoint single events as all the days were so individually rewarding, rather like a colossal film set on a Cecile B. DeMille scale.

Just riding on the coach with kaleidoscopic images of village and road life was fascinating enough to say nothing of the set pieces which will live in both our memories. To cap it all my scepticism about seeing tigers in the wild (a private childhood fantasy bound up with Jim Corbett) was fully bowled at Panna.

We have done a lot of travel in our lives, at coffee today we both reflected that this trip was right up there and gave some insight into Robin and your fascination with the place.

It is no surprise after absorbing *The Golden Road* that India was a very major influence of cultures East and West well before the birth of Christ and will continue to be. We eschewed our hippy peers all those years ago who left to pay homage and I take all that back.

I acknowledge how much personal insight, attention to detail, romance and good taste that endowed this trip, thank you for allowing us to share it.

Tim Wilson, Sydney

IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR A SOFT INTRODUCTION TO INDIA THIS MAY BE THE TRIP FOR YOU! Nicole Court's Design Tour to South India is perfectly curated to cover all aspects of the sub-continent with an itinerary that is flexible enough to include spontaneous experiences if they present themselves. Traversing the bottom of India from East to West provides enormous variety of cultures, landscapes and excursions all carefully chosen by Nicky. On our trip, her Operations Manager, Aditya, kept everything running smoothly along with Nicole, both keeping their cool and never ruffled by the occasional hiccup which would present itself...it is India after all!!

Thanks to Nicky and her team you will love everything and come away enlightened. Highly recommended.

Kathie Bridge, Adelaide

ALL I CAN THINK ABOUT IS THE NEXT TOUR I WILL DO WITH NICOLE COURT. I don't think there is any better recommendation for a travel experience than that. I have just returned from her Design & Architectural Tour of Southern India and am still processing all the amazing places and experiences, and, of course, the several thousand photographs I took along the way.

As a first timer in India, it was incredibly reassuring to be guided by Nicole and her outstanding team of local experts. Every detail was thoughtfully handled, from the beautiful hotels, delicious meals, seamless transportation, unforgettable excursions and visits with remarkable artisans. She also shared tips on shopping, spa treatments, and much more. But as Nicole says, you do have to leave room for the unexpected in India, and those were the magical things that can't be pre-planned but give such joy.

Each day was a completely new experience and feast for the senses. I totally fell under India's spell and that is entirely due to Nicole's ability to lead us to the best southern India has to offer. People keep asking me for my top three highlights, but that's impossible – every single day was full of them.

Laura Reid, Sydney



KUTCH