



**THE BISHOP'S CO-ED SCHOOL, UNDRI**  
**REPORT ON EDUCATIONAL TOUR TO GUJARAT**  
**4<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER TO 8<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023**

**VENUE: - VADODARA AND AHMEDABAD**

**“The best adventures are the ones that make your heart race and your soul sing.”**

Vadodara is known around the world as a heady mix of stunning art, interesting sights and vibrant street life making it the cultural capital of Gujarat whereas Ahmedabad is believed to be the centre of Gujarati cultural activities and is quite famous for its diversified traditions. These two cities were chosen as an Adventure Educational Tour by The Bishops Co-Ed School, Undri for the students of classes VI to X.

We started our much-awaited journey on the 4th of September 2023 when the children were asked to assemble at the Pune airport at 12:30 p.m. The Adventure Team provided the students with refreshments at the Airport and throughout the journey. All students accompanied by Mr. Santosh Javheri boarded the flight from Pune at 3.30 p.m. and reached Ahmedabad at 4.45 p.m. After arriving at the Ahmedabad International Airport, we boarded a bus to Vadodara and arrived at The Fern - An Ecotel Hotel, Vadodara where they allotted us spacious rooms. The Team Adventure had organised DJ music where the students had fun dancing to their favourite songs followed by a delicious dinner.

The next morning on 5<sup>th</sup> September the children had breakfast and boarded the bus for our first tourist place called Baroda Museum. Established in the year 1887 by Maharaja Sayajirao Gaekwad III, Baroda Museum and Art Gallery is a known repository of artifacts, sculptures, ancient manuscripts in Gujarat. In the museum on display are antiques from foreign countries like Japan, China, and Nepal. Apart from antiques, one can see a collection of Mughal miniatures, original paintings, masterpieces, and sculptures in the museum. The one that captured the eyes of many students was the Egyptian mummy. There is also a zoological section that houses a blue-whale skeleton, which is 22m long.

After Baroda Museum we headed towards Statue of Unity. On our way we stopped for lunch at Hotel Stature Inn after which students visited The Valley of Flowers also known as Bharat Van. It is spread across 24 acres of land and is a haven for colourful flowering plants along the banks of river Narmada. Students had a wonderful time exploring diverse types of flowers after which students also visited Sardar Patel Zoological Park. One of the interesting facts about this zoological park is that you get to see almost 170 species of animals from America, Asia, Africa and Australia in their natural habitat. In this park children got to see large Indian Aviary, which is also the largest geodesic dome in the world. At 5p.m. we headed towards the world's tallest statue, the Statue of Unity which has been created as a tribute to the 'Iron Man of India', Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. This statue is 182 m tall. Over 3,000

workers, including 300 engineers from Larsen & Toubro (L&T), built the statue within three-and-a-half years. All students were taken up at the height of 153 m through lifts which are fitted inside the legs of the statue where they enjoyed a nice panoramic view of the Sardar Sarovar Dam, the Satpura and Vindhya mountain ranges. After this exhilarating experience children visited the museum and got to know about the construction of Statue and history of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel through an amazing laser show. The show uses statue as a canvas with a beautiful mixture of laser lights, sound, graphics, and storytelling. The students were spellbound by the 30-minute show which started at 7.30 pm and ended at 8 pm.

After a restful night, we had an early rise on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023, as our next stop was the famous Laxmi Vilas Palace, which is sprawled over an area of 700 acres. The palace is believed to be four times the size of Buckingham Palace. We were guided by a tourist guide who enlightened us with the history of the palace. The Darbar hall is one of the most majestic features of the palace with Venetian mosaic flooring, Belgian stained-glass windows for music concerts and cultural events. Students had an exciting time taking wonderful photographs and were totally immersed in the beauty of the Palace. We returned to the hotel for an early lunch after which we boarded the bus to Ahmedabad.

On our way students visited Amul Milk Factory at Anand. Dairy museum was the first stop for students where they got a guided walk-through history of Amul in the backdrop of visually attractive collage walls. An employee then took students around some of the departments like Quality Control, Packaging and showed the operations unit where skimmed milk powder is prepared. Students saw huge machinery at work through large glass windows. During the visit, the guide also threw light on interesting facts like: The factory runs 24 hours and employees work on rotational shifts. The entire factory is machine-run and can produce and package up to thousands of standard products in a minute.

After reaching Ahmedabad we checked in the hotel Regenta Inn Ranip, students were taken to Law Garden Fashion Street to shop for some interesting souvenirs from the local market. We headed back to the hotel for DJ music followed by a scrumptious dinner.

The 7<sup>th</sup> September 2023, started with an early breakfast after which we headed for Sabarmati Ashram located on the banks of Sabarmati River. Students explored the premises and peeked into the simple yet inspiring life of Mahatma Gandhi.

Our next stop was Hall of space and Science Museum where students saw different exhibits, interactive modules, and fun activities. They enjoyed visiting various sections like Nature Park, Energy Park, Hall of Science and Planet Earth. After lunch at the hotel, students visited Adalaj Step Well which is a beautiful structure descending five stories deep. The fifth floor was especially stunning, and from there we could see the deep turquoise waters of the well itself, which had a slight glow with the inner light, surrounded by astonishing beauty captured forever in stone.

The last stop was Akshardham Temple and spectacular Sound and Light Water-Show. The Water Show is a breathtaking 45-minute presentation, which brings to life an age-old tale from the Kathopanishad. The Show instantly captivated students with its 80ft wide x 60ft high water screen, multi-colour lasers, video and light projections, fireballs and underwater flames, water jets, and surround sound symphony.

At last, on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2023 after breakfast we checked out of hotel for the airport at 10 a.m. in the morning and reached Pune by 2.30 p.m. The students were happily greeted by their parents at the airport and headed back home with fond memories to cherish for a lifetime.

We would like to thank team Adventure for being so well organised throughout the trip considering all the necessary safety requirements and the needs of the students. We also appreciate the unwavering support and thank our Principal Mr. J. Luke and our Headmaster Mr. R. Russell for organising such an adventurous trip for the students who surely had a memorable time.



**Report by Mr. Santosh Javheri**









