



Ahmedabad

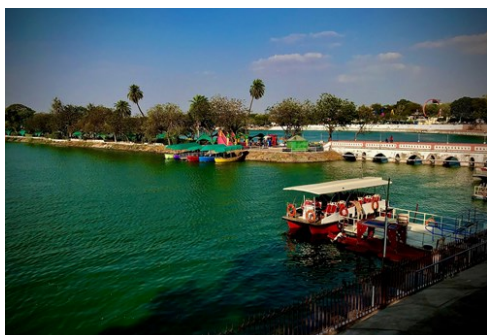
Photo: Kunal Mehta/Shutterstock.com



Sonika Agarwal/Unsplash



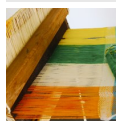
tantrik71/Shutterstock.com



Harsh Mangukiya/Unsplash

The beating heart of the Indian state of Gujarat, Ahmedabad has managed to preserve its cultural integrity through the centuries, remaining relatively unaffected by British colonial rule. Little developed by the tourism industry, the city remains a true hidden gem inhabited by remarkably hospitable Gurajatis, teeming with exquisite historic temples, renowned universities, and world-class vegetarian eateries able to convert diners of the most carnivorous persuasion.

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THE CITY



Sira Anamwong/Shutterstock.com

Modern Ahmedabad is an industrial and financial hub packed with historical buildings, temples, and monuments. The city takes pride in being the starting point of Mahatma Gandhi's non-violent resistance movement, with Gandhi's Sabarmati Ashram now transformed into a museum and open to visitors.

While Ahmedabad did experience British colonial rule, it has maintained its rich cultural heritage. Gujarati is the local language, but most inhabitants are proficient in English. The Gujarati people are known for their friendliness and hospitality, so travellers should feel comfortable asking for help or directions when needed.

DO & SEE



methi lai/Shutterstock.com

Ahmedabad boasts an incredible number of historic religious temples and is home to Mahatma Gandhi's famous Sabarmati Ashram. Among the city's many museums, one that stands out the most is the Calico Museum of Textiles, which holds an incredible collection of rare fabrics and is an absolute must-visit. Ahmedabad and the surrounding area offer a few nature getaways, with Kankaria Lake topping the list.

Sabarmati Ashram



The Sabarmati Ashram, also known as Mahatma Gandhi's home, is where the Father of the Nation lived from 1917 to 1930. It was from this location that Gandhi, accompanied by 78 followers, embarked on the historic Salt March to the coast of Gujarat in 1930, in a symbolic act of defiance against British salt taxes. Today, the Ashram is a serene place housing a museum dedicated to Gandhi, with adjacent gardens offering a peaceful oasis by the Sabarmati River.

Photo: Harshit Trivedi/Shutterstock.com

Address: Gandhi Smarak Sangrahalaya, Ashram Road, Ahmedabad

Opening hours: Daily 10am-6pm

Phone: +91 79 2755 7277

Internet: <https://gandhiashramsabarmati.org/en>

Akshardham Temple



Akshardham, in Gandhinagar, is a large Hindu temple complex, renowned for its intricate architectural details and expansive grounds. The

main temple is part of a larger complex that includes beautifully landscaped gardens, a light and water show in the evening, and various exhibitions.

Photo: imagedb.com/Shutterstock.com

Address: J Road, Sector 20, Gandhinagar

Opening hours: Tue-Sun 10am-7:30pm, Mon closed

Phone: +91 99989 99700

Internet: <https://akshardham.com/gujarat>

Jama Masjid



One of India's most beautiful mosques, the Jama Masjid is an impressive example of Indo-Islamic architecture.

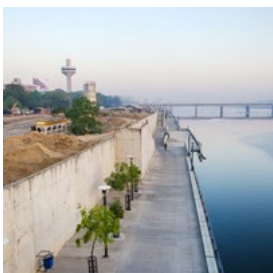
Built in the early 15th

century by the city's founder, Sultan Ahmed Shah I, it remains an important religious monument and is still frequently visited by worshippers and tourists today.

Photo: Waj/Shutterstock.com

Address: Manek Chowk, Gandhi Road, Danapidth, Khadia, Ahmedabad

Sabarmati Riverfront



The Sabarmati Riverfront is a unique and ambitious urban development project designed to revitalise the banks of the Sabarmati River. It

features a 10-kilometre-long walkway, providing

access to a range of recreational areas, parks, and public spaces. While the number of sports facilities is relatively modest, the riverfront is set to expand with new attractions and amenities in the coming years, enhancing its appeal as a vibrant public destination.

Photo: Sira Anamwong/Shutterstock.com

Address: Sabarmati River, Ahmedabad

Kankaria Lake



Kankaria Lake is a beloved local spot for weekend getaways, offering a range of activities for the entire family. Set in a

picturesque environment, the lake area includes the Kankaria Zoo, an amusement park with various rides, and the Numismatic Museum, which features a remarkable collection of coins. At night, the lake gets beautifully lit up.

Photo: Harsh Mangukiya/Unsplash

Address: Kankaria Lake, Kankaria, Ahmedabad

Adalaj Stepwell



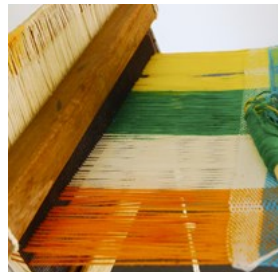
The Adalaj Stepwell is a stunning example of Indo-Islamic architecture, located about 20 kilometres from Ahmedabad's central

train station. This five-storey well has historically provided both physical relief and social space for travelling pilgrims and locals. Its beautifully carved walls and intricate design make it a significant historical site where people gathered to escape the heat and engage in community interactions

Photo: Rafal Cichawa/Shutterstock.com

Address: Adalaj Road, Adalaj
Opening hours: Daily 8am-6pm

Calico Museum of Textiles



The Calico Museum of Textiles houses a remarkable and unique collection of exquisite Indian textiles, with some pieces dating back as far as five centuries. Visitors are often astounded by the intricate craftsmanship and the historical value of these textiles. The museum offers guided tours, and booking in advance is essential as visits are typically scheduled by appointment only.

Photo: dani3315/Shutterstock.com

Address: Jain Colony, Shahibag, Ahmedabad
Opening hours: Tue-Sun 10:30am-5pm, Mon closed
Phone: +91 79 2286 5995
Internet: www.calicomuseum.org

DINING



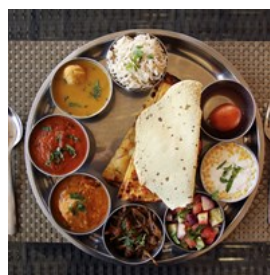
grey color/Shutterstock.com

A meal not to miss when in Ahmedabad is the Gujarati 'thali', which usually consists of several medium-sized servings of various dishes - appetisers, breads, salads, curries and (sometimes) non-savoury treats.

Cuisine in the state of Gurajat is primarily vegetarian, so expect to find only meat-free

dishes in most traditional dining halls and authentic local restaurants. However, with more and more Western-style eateries popping up all around, it will hardly be difficult to find nearly any type of food in the busy city (SG Road in the western part of town, for example, is lined with cafés and restaurants fit for any taste).

Vishala



Dining at Vishala is truly an experience - a lantern-lit walkway leads guests to the reception area of the village and further into the magical outdoor seating area. Dinner meals are usually accompanied by cultural shows and dance performances. Food served centres around local Gujarati flavours, with various 'thalis' being a very popular menu item.

Photo: Sergii Rudiuk/Shutterstock.com

Address: Circle, Rehnuma Society, Vasna, Ahmedabad
Opening hours: Daily 10am-11pm
Phone: +91 82005 43694
Internet: www.vishalla.com

Agashiye



Located at a historic luxury hotel dating back to the beginning of the last century, Agashiye boasts a charming ambiance that takes diners back in time, and offers authentic floor seating as well as open-terrace dining. Serves Gujarati cuisine and traditional thalis, vegetarian only.

Photo: JD Phote/Shutterstock.com

Address: Lal Darwaja, Ahmedabad
Phone: +91 99099 70113
More Info: The House of MG, Opposite Sidi Saiyad Jali

Tomato's



Tomato's boasts a unique American sixties ambience forged by Rock 'n' Roll memorabilia, Hollywood movie-themed artefacts, a jukebox, bubble gum machines, and Paul McCartney's very own guitar. The diner serves international (Mexican, Chinese, Thai, etc.) vegetarian and meat-based dishes.

Photo: Tatiana Volgutova/Shutterstock.com

Address: Mardia Plaza, Ground Floor, 1-3, Chimanlal Girdharlal Road, Near Associated Petrol Pump, Ellisbridge, Ahmedabad

Opening hours: Daily noon-3pm / 7pm-11pm

Phone: +91 79 2646 1998

Internet: www.tomatos.co.in

Mirch Masala



Mirch Masala became Ahmedabad's first themed restaurant, opting for the Bollywood theme in its interior. The food served is North Indian, both vegetarian and meat-based. Desserts are not to be missed.

Photo: hlphoto/Shutterstock.com

Address: 11, Chimanlal Girdharlal Road, Swastik Society, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad

Opening hours: Daily noon-3pm / 7pm-11pm

Phone: +91 82380 10875

Internet: <https://mirchmasala.co.in>

CAFÉS



Africa Studio/Shutterstock.com

To break up the string of restaurant meals, try some of Ahmedabad's cosy cafés and explore the variety of options on offer. From local, traditional eateries to Western-style cafés and coffee houses - the city has it all.

Gopi Dining Hall



This laid-back eatery serves Gujarati cuisine and is known for its legendary 'thali' - a meal made up of various dishes all served in separate bowls on one large platter, accompanied with naan bread and/or rice.

Photo: india click/Shutterstock.com

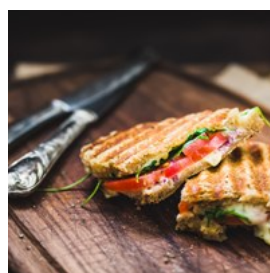
Address: Avadhesh Huse, Ground Floor, Off, Ashram Road, Pritam Nagar, Ellisbridge, Ahmedabad

Opening hours: Daily 10:30am-3pm / 6:30pm-10:30pm

Phone: +91 98795 14277

Internet: www.instagram.com/gopidininghall

New FreezeLand



This classy fast-food joint specialises in sandwiches and is a darling favourite of both local and visiting sandwich lovers. The place also serves a selection of dishes like panini and pizza, along

with excellent shakes - all items are vegetarian only.

Photo: locrifa/Shutterstock.com

Address: Silicon Tower, Law Garden, Samartheshwar Mahadev Road, Ellisbridge, Ahmedabad
Opening hours: Daily 10:30am-11pm
Phone: +91 77780 7090
Internet: www.newfreezeland.in

The Green House



Located at the The House Of MG hotel, this informal restaurant offers, of course, a variety of savory vegetarian dishes, but desserts are the true star of the show here - a large variety is on offer, including ice cream made in-house. Guests are free to observe the chefs at work in the open kitchen.

Photo: Prostock-studio/Shutterstock.com

Address: The House Of MG Hotel Lal Darwaja, Ahmedabad
Opening hours: 7am-11pm
Phone: +91 79 25506946

Zen Cafe



Located on the University campus right next to an underground art gallery (Amdavad ni Gufa), the cafe is often frequented by students and artsy types enjoying a snack and/or coffee in the green outside seating area. The concise menu packs a smart selection of vegetarian items.

Photo: Rawpixel.com/Shutterstock.com

Address: University Road, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad
Opening hours: Daily 3pm-8:30pm
Phone: +91 96625 04013
Internet: www.zencafe.co/in/index.html

BARS & NIGHTLIFE



India Picture/Shutterstock.com

Gujarat, the state in which Ahmedabad is located, is known for its strict regulations on alcohol due to prohibition laws. While it is indeed a 'dry' state, it is not completely devoid of alcohol. There are licensed liquor shops where alcohol can be purchased with a permit, but the availability is restricted compared to other states in India. Foreign tourists and out-of-state Indian visitors can obtain an 'alcohol permit', but this process can vary. It is often easier to get these permits at designated places like airport lounges or specific liquor stores. It's a good idea to check the latest regulations before travelling.

A great place to head to after sundown is Khau Galli (Eatery Street). This area is known for its vibrant street food scene, and it remains busy with food stalls into the late evening. Manek Chowk, in Old Ahmedabad, is another bustling nightlife spot, with plenty of food and shopping opportunities in the area.

SHOPPING



Nishta Sharma/Unsplash

Ahmedabad is a city of vibrant street life, which includes an abundance of day- and nighttime markets. Some of the most popular shopping areas to be after sundown are, of course, the Manek Chowk square in Old Ahmedabad and the Law Garden area. Vendors sell a huge variety of items, ranging from traditional clothing to handicrafts to food. Haggling is welcome at markets, but fixed-price craft stores (many government-run) provide a great alternative for those looking for a more relaxed experience.

Plenty of air-conditioned malls with international brand boutiques operate in Ahmedabad along with a large variety of small shops scattered throughout the city.

Manek Chowk Road



Manek Chowk Road is a bustling market square in Old Ahmedabad. In the morning, vegetable vendors set up their stalls, which are later replaced by jewellery stands in the afternoon and food stalls in the evening. The square and its surroundings feature a diverse array of shops and are frequently crowded with people.

Photo: Don Agnello/Unsplash

Address: Manek Chowk Road, Ahmedabad

Law Garden Night Market



The Law Garden Night Market is a shopping paradise for female travellers in particular - endless stalls selling traditional garments, dresses, shawls, jewellery, bags (and more) are concentrated in the area. Business here usually starts after 7pm, and haggling is well-expected.

Photo: Mikadun/Shutterstock.com

Address: Law Garden, Ahmedabad

Alpha One Mall



Alpha One Mall is a great alternative to Ahmedabad's many busy markets - it is, perhaps, the one that provides the best selection of international brand shops and boutiques in the city. There is a food court with a decent selection of eateries, as well as a family entertainment centre and cinema inside the shopping centre.

Photo: India Picture/Shutterstock.com

Address: 261, Sarkari Vasahat Road, Vastrapur, Ahmedabad

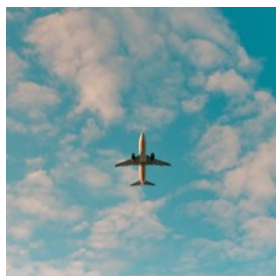
Internet: www.alphacorp.in

TOURIST INFORMATION



Sira Anamwong/Shutterstock.com

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport (AMD)



Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport is located approximately 15 kilometres north of Ahmedabad's city centre, with a travel time of

around 30 minutes by car. Travellers can conveniently reach the city via taxis, ride-sharing services, or the airport's shuttle bus, which connects to key city locations.

Photo: Philip Myrtoorp/Unsplash

Address: Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport

Internet: www.adani.com/svpia-ahmedabad-airport

Passport/Visa



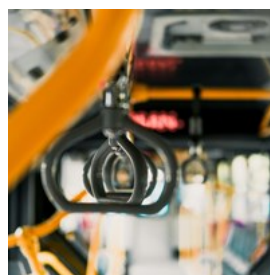
All foreign nationals entering India are required to possess a valid international travel document with a valid visa. A visa is required for most nationalities, except for Bhutan, Nepal, and the Maldives (if not arriving from mainland China).

The visa can be requested through an online

application process. This process is straightforward and must be done through the official Indian government visa application website. Travellers should not hire agents who claim they can expedite the process or guarantee a speedy/express grant of an e-visa.

Photo: ConvertKit/Unsplash

Public Transport



The Ahmedabad Municipal Transport Service (AMTS) provides public bus services around the city. While AMTS buses can get overcrowded and stops are often not announced, passengers are advised to inquire with the driver about their destination and request to be notified when their stop is approaching.

The Bus Rapid Transit System (BRTS) is a more modern alternative to the AMTS bus system and offers a faster and more efficient way to navigate central parts of the city. BRTS buses run on dedicated lanes, and modern bus stops are equipped for ticket purchase.

Photo: Reinaldo Kevin/Unsplash

Internet: www.amts.co.in

Taxi



In Ahmedabad, finding a taxi is a breeze, with numerous options available throughout the city. However, traditional taxis might not always use meters, so it's wise to negotiate the fare before setting off. Alternatively, you might consider booking a ride through apps like Ola and Uber for a more convenient way to navigate

the city. For a local flavour, why not hop on a rickshaw and weave through Ahmedabad's lively streets?

Photo: Gustavo/Unsplash

Post



In Ahmedabad, most post offices typically operate from around 10am to 5pm, Monday through Saturday. They offer a range of services including mail and parcel delivery, money transfer, and various postal products.

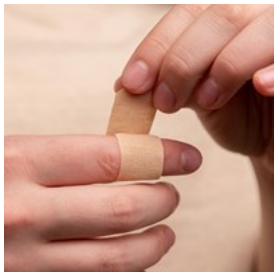
Photo: Ali Bakhtiari/Unsplash

Address: Ahmedabad General Post Office - Ashram Road, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun closed

Phone: +91 79 2550 2653

Pharmacy



Some of the main pharmacy chains you'll come across in Ahmedabad include Apollo Pharmacy, MedPlus, and Netmeds.

Photo: Diana Polekhina/Unsplash

Address: Apollo Pharmacy Memnagar - 33, Akshar Arcade, Sarvottam Nagar Society, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad,

Opening hours: Daily 7am-11pm

Phone: +91 76000 41623

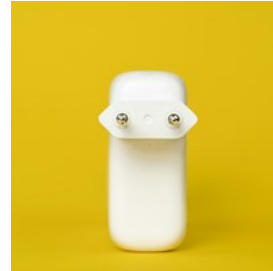
Telephone



Country code: +91 Area code: 79

Photo: Annie Spratt/Unsplash

Electricity



In India, power plugs and sockets are of types C, D, and M, with a standard voltage of 230V and a frequency of 50Hz.

Photo: Mika Baumeister/Unsplash

Population

Metro area: 8.8 million (2024)

Currency

Indian rupee (INR)

Opening hours

Most businesses open between 9am and around 6pm. Shops, restaurants and other commercial establishments often have longer working hours. Night markets start setting up at dusk (around 7pm) and operate till around midnight.

Newspapers

Ahmedabad Mirror: www.ahmedabadmirror.com

The Times Of India: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com>

The Indian Express: <https://indianexpress.com>

Emergency numbers

Police: 100

Fire Station: 101

Ambulance: 108

Tourist information

Tourist Information Centre

HK House, Ashram Road, Ahmedabad

+91 79 2657 8046

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 10:30am-6pm, Sun closed