

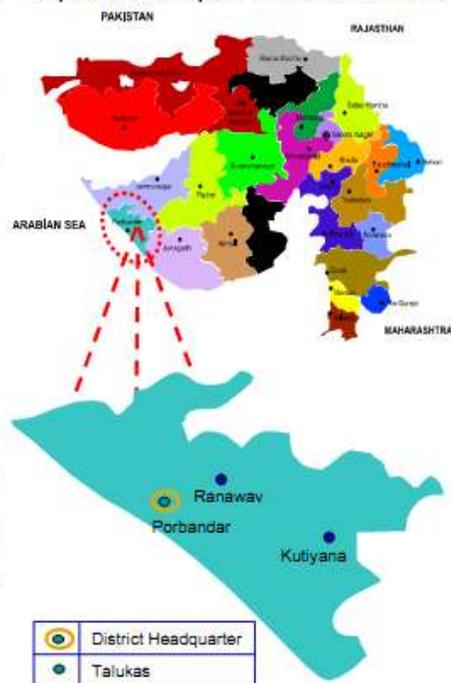
# PORBANDAR : DISTRICT PROFILE



## GENERAL OUTLINE

- Porbandar forms a part of the erstwhile Kathiawar peninsula located in the western part of Gujarat
- The district comprises of 3 talukas viz. Porbandar, Ranawav, and Kutiyana
- It is famous for the birthplace of Mahatma Gandhi – the Father of the Nation
- **Focus industry sectors**
  - Port and Ship Building
  - Cement industry
  - Mineral-based Industries
- Over 90% of chalk is being produced in the district, which is the highest in Gujarat (Source: Commissioner of Geology and Mining, Government of Gujarat, 2002-03)
- Some of the major tourist destinations in the district are *Kirti Mandir* (birthplace of Mahatma Gandhi), *Vijay Vilas*, *Sheetla Mata Mandir*, *Haroon Mahal* and *Bhidiya Mansion*.

Map1: District Map of Porbandar with Talukas



## STATISTICAL INFORMATION

Geographical Location	69.55° to 70.25°E (Longitude)
	21.15° to 21.5°N (Latitude)
Temperature	36.2° Centigrade (Maximum)
	13.2° Centigrade (Minimum)
Avg. Rainfall	660 mm
Rivers	4 (Bhadar, Ozat, Minsaar and Khari)
Area	2,295.35 sq. km.
District Headquarter	Porbandar
Talukas	3
Population	5,36,835 (As per 2001 Census)
Population density	234 persons per sq. km
Sex ratio	946 Females per 1000 Males
Literacy rate	68.62%
Languages	Gujarati, Hindi and English
Seismic Zone	Zone III

Latitude	21.04 North.
Longitude	69.03 East
Location	North – Jamnagar district East – Arabian sea West – Junagadh district South – Arabian sea
Weather	District weather except winter remains medium hot. In sea belt weather remains humid. Minimum temperature is 10 c (in the month of January) and maximum temperature is 42 c (in the month of may)
Lakes	In this district, totally there are 69 lakes. (1) 68 in rural area. (2) 1 in urban area.
Forest products	In forests situated in this district, bamboo, babul, etc are main wood products. Besides this fruits, grass, etc, are produced in forest.
Type of land	Considering type of land, district can be distributed in 4 divisions
Black soil	Porbandar, Raanavaav, Kutiyana. These three talukas have black soil
Chundedar soil	Porbandar, Raanavaav, Kutiyana talukas certain area is located in saline area. Which is known as “Ghed” area. This land is Salty, fruitful and filled with water. In monsoon contact with this areas is lost many a times.
Costal area	Porbandar district's large area is located here
Rivers	This district has 2 major rivers. Viz Bhadar, Minsar.
Rain	In this district south west monsoon brings rain during June- September. The average rainfall of last 3 years is 800mm.

## EDUCATION

- Porbandar has a literacy rate of 68.62% as per 2001 Census
- There are 372 primary schools and 71 secondary and higher secondary schools in the district.
- One Government Polytechnic college in Porbandar is offering diploma courses in disciplines like electronics, mechanical and civil engineering with an intake capacity of 420 persons
- The Industrial Training Institute in the district trains 272 persons annually into industrial fields such as, electronics and computers and professions such as diesel mechanic, autoparts and motor vehicle mechanics etc.

**Table 3: List of Educational Institutes**

Educational Institutes	Total
Primary Schools	372
Secondary Schools	49
Higher Secondary Schools	22
ITI	1
Polytechnic College	1
Other Colleges*	8

\*: Arts, Science, Law and Commerce Colleges

### Institutional Information / Other Colleges

Sr. No.	Institute	Total no.
1.	Private colleges-granted (Arts/Science/Commerce)	5
2.	Primary Teacher Training Institutes (PTTIs)	1
3.	Bachelor of Education (B.Ed) Colleges	2
4.	Art Teacher Diploma (ATD) Institutes	0
5.	Government Basic Training Certificate (GBTC) Institutes	-
6.	Certificate for Physical Education (C.P.Ed) Institutes	-
7.	Non Government Organization (NGOs)	-

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## ROAD LINES

### Road

- National highway 8 B and 8E (Ext.) passes through the district, connecting Porbandar with Rajkot (187 km) and Jamnagar ( 275 km)
- **Distance to major districts in Gujarat:**  
Ahmedabad (412 km), Surat (648 km), Vadodara (481 km), Gandhinagar (440 km), Vapi (715 km), Ankaleshwar (565 km) and Mehsana (491 km)

### Rail

- Porbandar is connected with Rajkot, Surat, Vadodara, Surendranagar, Jamnagar, Ahmedabad, Mumbai and Delhi by western railways.
- Four broad gauge rail lines of total length of 33 km are present in Ranawav, Rana Bordi, Sakhpur and Tarsi.

**Map 5 :**  
**Road & Rail Network of Porbandar**



**Table 2: Distance of Porbandar from Major Industrial Cities**

Locations	Distance (in km)
Delhi	1229
Hyderabad	1446
Kolkata	2277
Chennai	1993

## History

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The name Porbandar itself conjures a picture of massive port, a city connected with the two names – **Sudama**, the childhood friend of Lord Krishna and **Mahatma Gandhi**, the father of Nation. This impressive city was first called as Sudamapuri with Sanskrit name of PAURVELAKUL. The Port City dates back to AD 1045 and records state that the city was founded on Shraavan Purnima (Raksha Bandhan). Till to date the Kharvas (Fishermen Community) first offer their prayers to their reigning deity, Paurva Mataji (The Port Goddess) before beginning their fishing in New Year from Raksha Bandhan day. The present port of Porbandar which is more than thousand years old is one of the oldest ports in Western India, The actual habited area was called Sudamapuri, while PAURVELAKUL was the port established by for trading with South Africa, Middle East and other places. The name of Sudamapuri was used along with Porbandar by the Indian Railways for the Railways Station of Porbandar till as late as 1960.

Sudamapuri, as most of the Rajasthanis call this City, is very important in the life of the Kshatriyas of Rajasthan who believe that Sudama and Mirabai were of the same clan and so even today most Rajasthanis come to take the blessing of Sudama after their marriage.

The **Jethwa Dynasty** which ruled over Porbandar was founded by **H. H. Baskaldev Jethwa** and is one of the oldest dynasties to have ruled over any particular state. The Last Rana (king) **H. H. Natwarsinhji** was the 162<sup>nd</sup> generation of the Jethwa clan.

It is noticeable aspect of Porbandar that the usage of stone in Porbandar is more than that of wood. It is but natural when the area is blessed with

abundance of very high quality sand stone and hence, the most of buildings of the bygone era are full of building stone carving.

The city of Porbandar, being a very prosperous trading port, naturally had plenty of millionaires to boast of. The most famous personality was Shri Narottam Morarji, who owned the first Steamer in India in the year 1920 on 5<sup>th</sup> April. Shri Morarji has also been given the designation of The of Indian Shipping and therefore every year 5<sup>th</sup> April is celebrated as The Maritime Day all over India in his honor. Another Famous personality was Manek Bai Bhatia, after whom the Manek Chowk near Kirti Mandir is named. Further, how can one forget the affiliation of legendry Shri Swamy Vivekananda with Porbandar. Swamy Vivekananda had stayed in Porbandar for a short period of time during his tour of India. The guest house where he had stayed has been now converted into Ramkrishna Mission famous for popularizing his ideology and principles. Another district personality to of Porbandar was Shri Nanjibhai Mehata who had established many temples and developed many places in the city. He went to South Africa for earning name and fame. After getting back to Porbandar he donated to various temples generously. Major temples Porbandar like Kirti Mandir, Bharat Mandir, and Tara Mandir etc. were constructed by the donations from Shri Nanjibhai. This Aryasmji had started Ary Kanya Gurukul in Porbandar. The founder of Dena Bank, Shri Devkaran Nanji, and the famous Madhwani family also belong to Porbandar. And how can one forget to name **Mahatma Gandhi** as well as his wife **Kasturba Gandhi** when we talk of Porbandar.

## Historical Places

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### Sudama Mandir



**Krishna Sakha Sudama** was a needy **Brahmin** (Bramin is a very Honorable Cast for Hindus and each individual from the cast are known as Brahmin). He was one of the close friends of **Shri Kirshna**. They studied together and also took part in different activities during their training at **Ashram** – the training campus. Once they were suggested by their master to bring the wood cuttings from forest. They forced to be their in the forest due to havy rain. During that period due to heavy eager **Sudamaji** ate down all the ‘**Tandul-Pauha**’ (A lightweight and cheap product of rice) given by the **Guruji** – the Master as a tiffin for both of them. Once **Sudamaji** had paid a visit to **Dwarika** to say **Krishna** about his needy situations due to his own nature he was not able to say anything to the Lord **Shri Krishna**. But by observing the ‘**Tandul**’ **Krishna** understood the matter and when **Sudamaji** came back to his home he found that its structure is converted in golden.

## Chaupati



Porbandar Chawpati is a very pleasurable place in the district. Every Sunday people and often during any holidays people use to pay visit at chawpaty. This is very nicely developed and still the development is going on. The sea shore at here is very peaceful. People wish to listen the sounds of the sea as refreshment music.

There are facilities for morning and evening walk, seating, fast food, tourist bungalow, morning swimming class. For the security of coastal area the Porbandar district has great Gujarat Police, Indian Coast Guard, Indian Navy and Gujarat Maritime Board.

Chawpati is one of the matters of attraction for the visitors and tourists at Porbandar.

## Bharat Mandir & Tara Mandir



This two sculptures are developed by Shri Nanji Kalidas Maheta. He was one of the great political leader from Porbandar.

In Bharat Mandir there are statues of great personalities, saints and lords and one or two great sentences of them are bannered above those.

In Tara Mandir there is a Planetarium which is used to show the shows to provide introduction about the Astronomy, Star Gazing and Star Watching.

## Hajur Palace

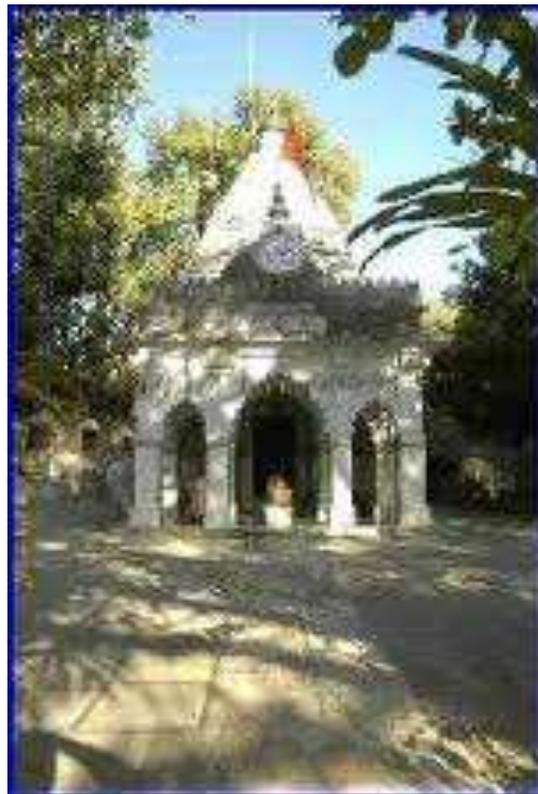


## **Bardo Dungar – a Natural Heritage of Porbandar District**



### **Kileshware**

**[A holy and famous temple of Lord Mahadevji]**



**Ghumli – Navlakho**  
[ A heritage memorial ]



**Bileshwar**

[A temple Holy and Famous of the Lord Mahadevji]



**Jambunati's Cave**



Madhavpur  
[ A religious place where Lord Krishna got Married ]



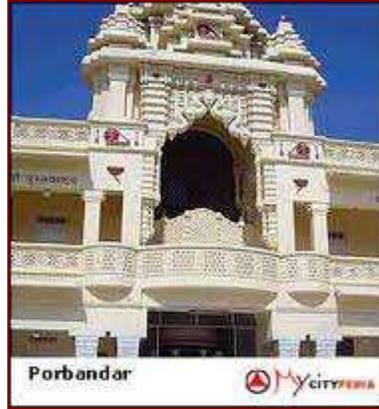
Visavda (Mul Dwarka)



RGT College



Kirti Mandir  
(Honorable Mahatma Gandhiji's birth place)



Other Places to Visit

- 1) Bhaveshwar Mandir
- 2) Jadeshwar Mandir
- 3) Satyanarayan Mandir
- 4) Sartanji No Choro
- 5) Suadama Chowk
- 6) Khadi Bhandar
- 7) Diva dandi
- 8) Air Port
- 9) Andhjan Gurukul – Ashram
- 10) Dulip Cricket Ground
- 11) Jetty – Bandar - Port
- 12) Omkareshwar Mandir
- 13) Shrinathji Mandir – Haveli
- 14) Split Flyover (Under Construction)