

POLO FOREST



About Polo Forest



Polo forest, also known as Vijaynagar forest, is a dry mixed deciduous forest near Abhapur village in Vijaynagar Taluka, Sabarkantha district, Gujarat, India. It is located at the foothills of the Aravalli range and on the banks of perennial Harnav river, spread over the area of 400 square kilometres (99,000 acres).

There was a town established by the Parihar kings of Idar around the Harnav river probably in the 10th century. It was conquered by the Rathores of Marwar in 15th century and came under Idar State. The town was located between two high hills, Kalaliyo and Mamrehchi, which blocks sunlight for the most days which probably resulted in the abandonment of the town.

The name Polo is derived from pol which literally means a gate in Marwari language.

Polo monuments



The forest has ruins of several 15th-century Hindu and Jain temples such as Sharneshwar Shiva temple, Sadevant Savlinga na Dera, Surya Mandir and Lakhena na Dera. These temples are restored and managed by the state archaeology department.

Sharaneshwar Shiva temple



The 15th-century Sharaneshwar temple dedicated to Shiva is located in Abhapur. It is a three-storeyed temple with fortified wall around it having gates in east and west. It is in dilapidated condition. It has a grabhgriha, antarala, gudhamandpa (central shrine), nandi-mandapa/sabhamandpa in front and pradakshina (ambulatory) around the central shrine. There are two porches on the sides. There is a yagnakunda with well carved vedi in front of the temple. The mandovara, pitha (base) and vedika are adorned with post-Chaulukya styled carvings. The round pillars differ from this style and are plain with intervals of ringlets on the shaft and inverted lotus patterned capital and base. The shikhara and roofs of porches and mandapa are destroyed. The carvings on exterior walls include double jangha adorned with images of Yama, Bhairava, Brahma, Vishnu, Shiva, Indra, Parvati, Indrani, Ganesha; social life scenes; bands of humans, elephants, swans and plants.

Jain Temple 1



The large sandstone temple had well carved ceiling and perforated stone screens in the mandapa which have various natural and geometric patterns. It is two storeyed temple with gudhamandapa and antarala. The trika - mandapa connects two mandapas at different levels. The antarala ceiling has a beautiful sculpture. The pillars are profusely carved and look similar to the temples on Mount Abu. On the lintel of the doorframe of the sanctum, there is an image of Jain Tirthankara Parshwanatha with his attendant deity Padmavati on the sides. It is approximately 150 feet by 70 feet in area and has turned black due to exposure to the sun and rain. The temple seem enclosed in a fortification and formerly surrounded by 52 devkulika shrines.

Covid-19 Measures



GUIDELINES TO THE PARTICIPANTS FOR SAFE CAMPING.

1. Using Face Mask/Face Cover is compulsory
2. Aarogya Setu App on your mobile phone is mandatory, before commencing Bus journey & during the camping duration.
3. Maintain Social Distancing and Wash Hands Frequently, Avoid handshakes with other participants and staff members.
4. Must Carry personal hand sanitizers to use during activities/camping
5. The Participants are advised to Carry personal items for safe camping like Plate/lunch box for meals, mug, spoons, water bottle.
6. Try to avoid touching at any place like handlebars, supporting bars in a bus, automated water taps sanitizer machines, etc.
7. Use dustbins for garbage and mask disposal.

GUIDELINES TO THE RESPECTIVE MANAGERS/VOLUNTEERS /INSTRUCTORS FOR SAFE CAMPING.



BUS TRANSPORTATION

1. The bus should be fully sanitized in 3 hours before the departure.
2. The operators should be medically fit and should be using the Aarogya Setu App
3. Clean and sanitize the bus twice a day.
4. There should be compartment/divider between driver and passenger seats.
5. Handlebars of the entrance and doors should be sanitized frequently.
6. There should be a temperature check before the passengers board the bus.
7. The seat allotment should be done considering the social distancing rules.

Every alternate seat should be left vacant.

CAMPSITE & WASHROOM AREA

1. The whole campsite to be cleaned and sanitized daily.
2. Close fall ins, campfire, Musical Evenings to be avoided.
3. Every participant would pass through a temperature test to ensure the safety and spread of infection.

KITCHEN & DINING

1. Masks and Hand gloves are compulsory for the cooking staff.
2. Kitchen and Dining area to be cleaned and sanitized frequently, at least thrice a day.
3. Participants will be advised carrying personal plates/lunchboxes, spoon & mug to stay contact-free.
4. Participants are encouraged to enjoy meals in open areas and if the dining area is used, then keep a minimum of 6 feet distance between 2 people.
5. Watertanks and RO plants are out of reach for all the ranks (participants, instructors, and staff members)

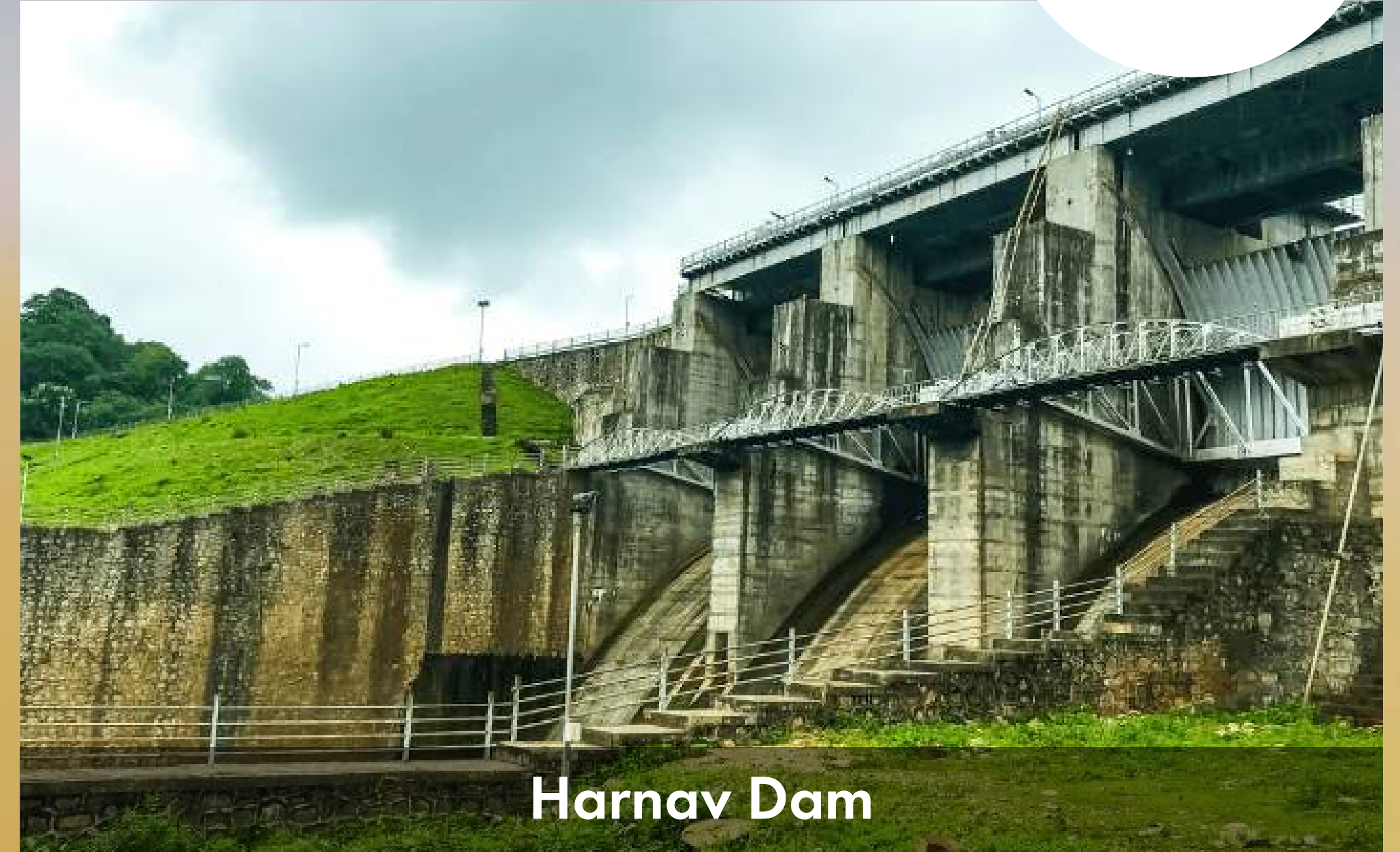
Place to Visite



Mango Mountain



Sharneshwar Temple



Harnav Dam



Botanical Garden

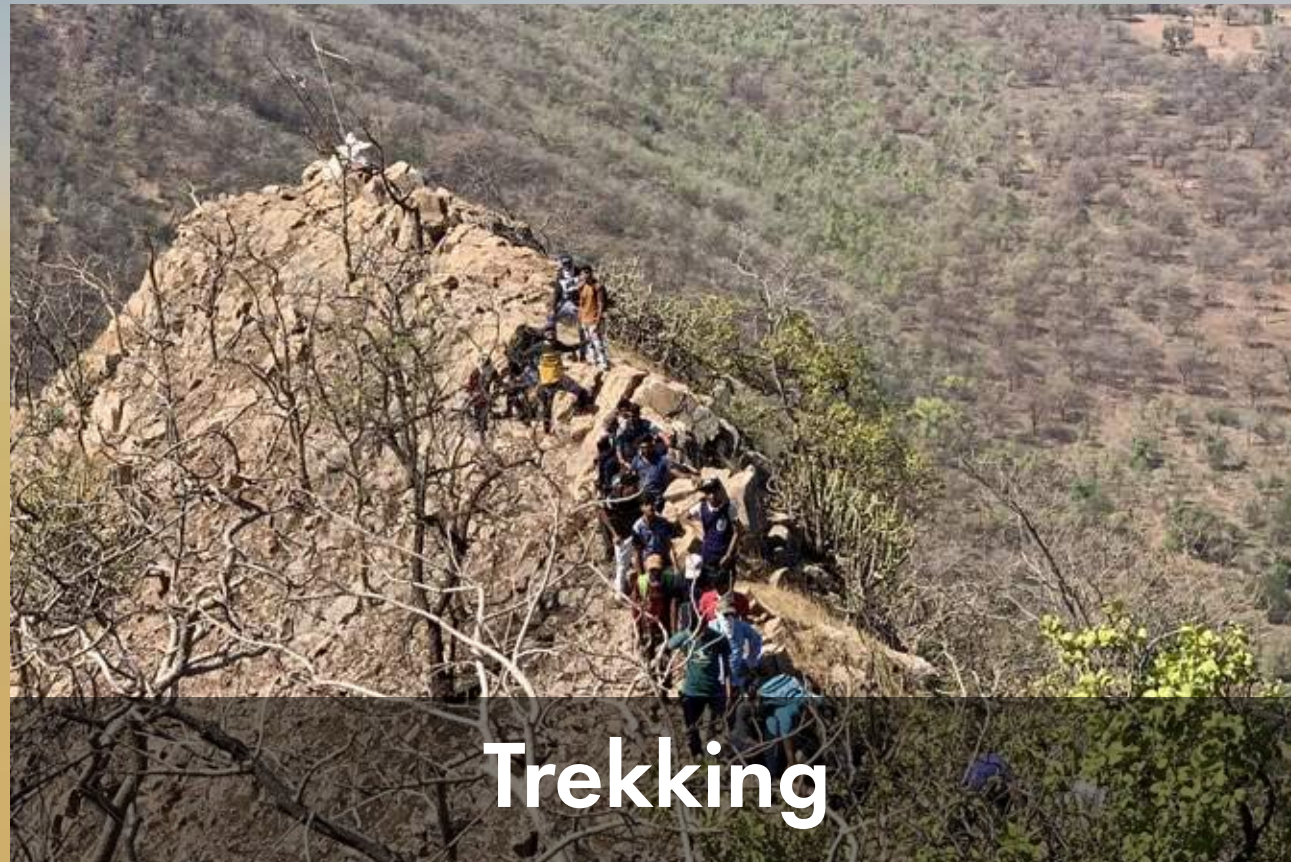


Jain Temples



Polo Forest

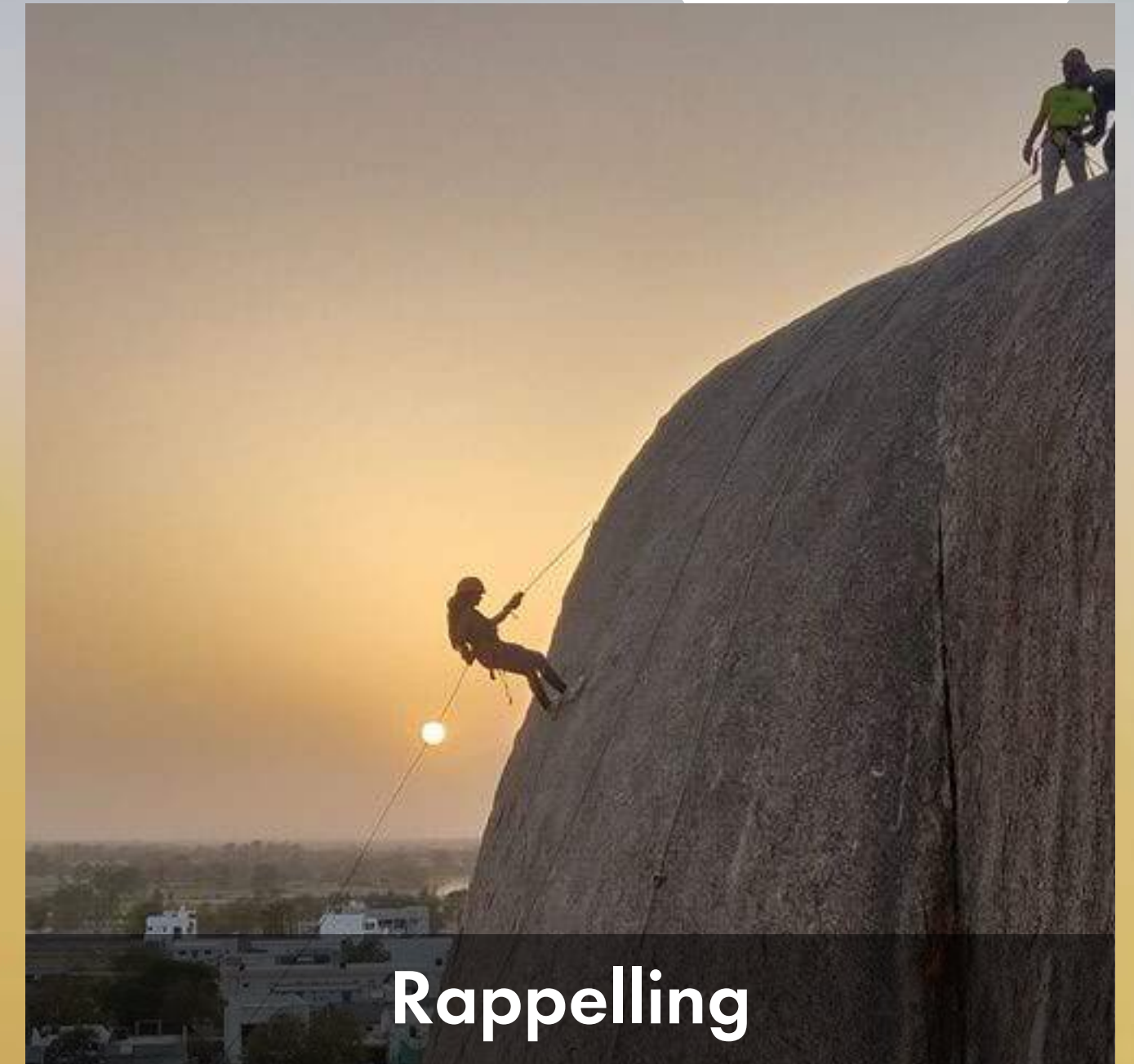
Adventure Activities



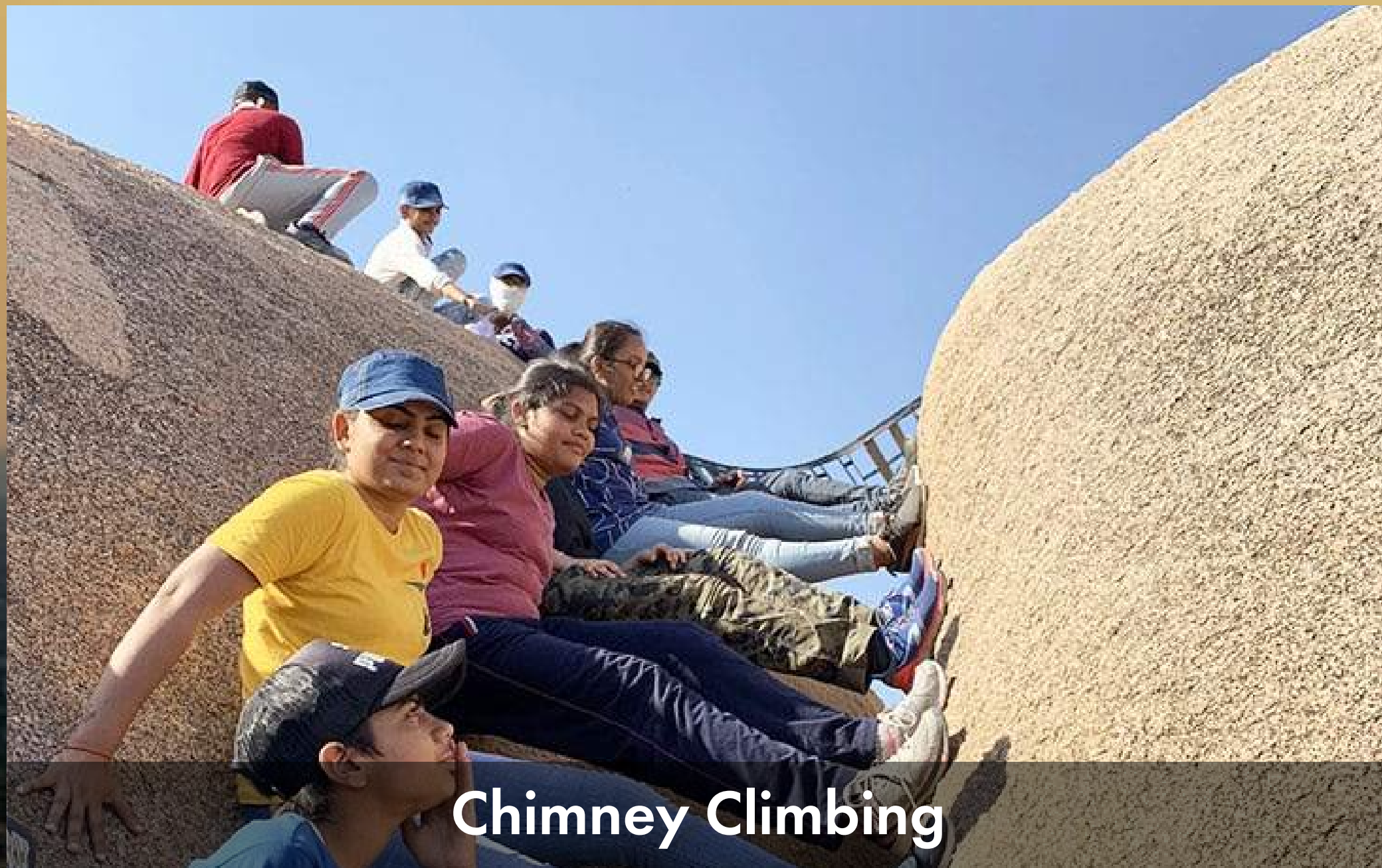
Trekking



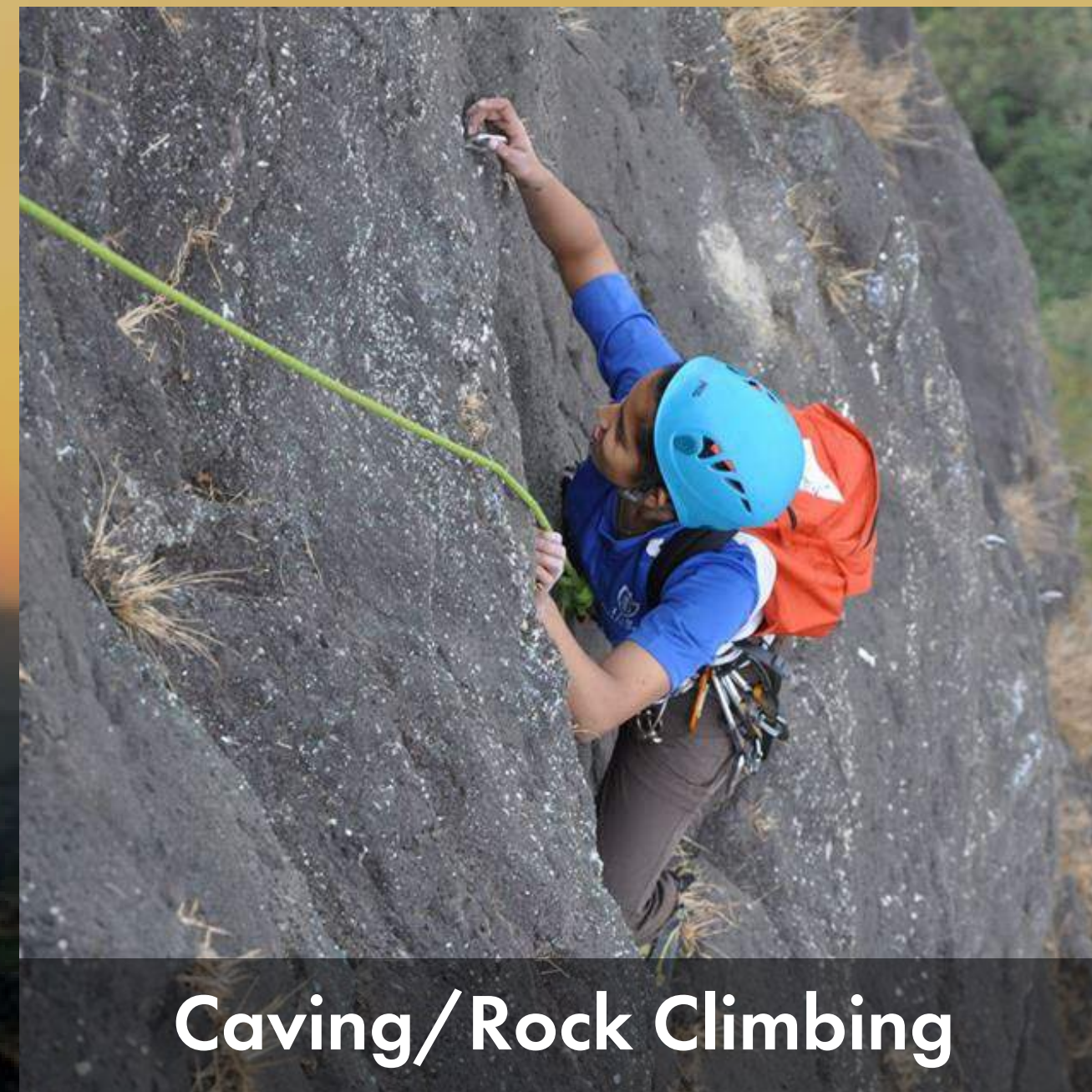
Campfire



Rappelling



Chimney Climbing

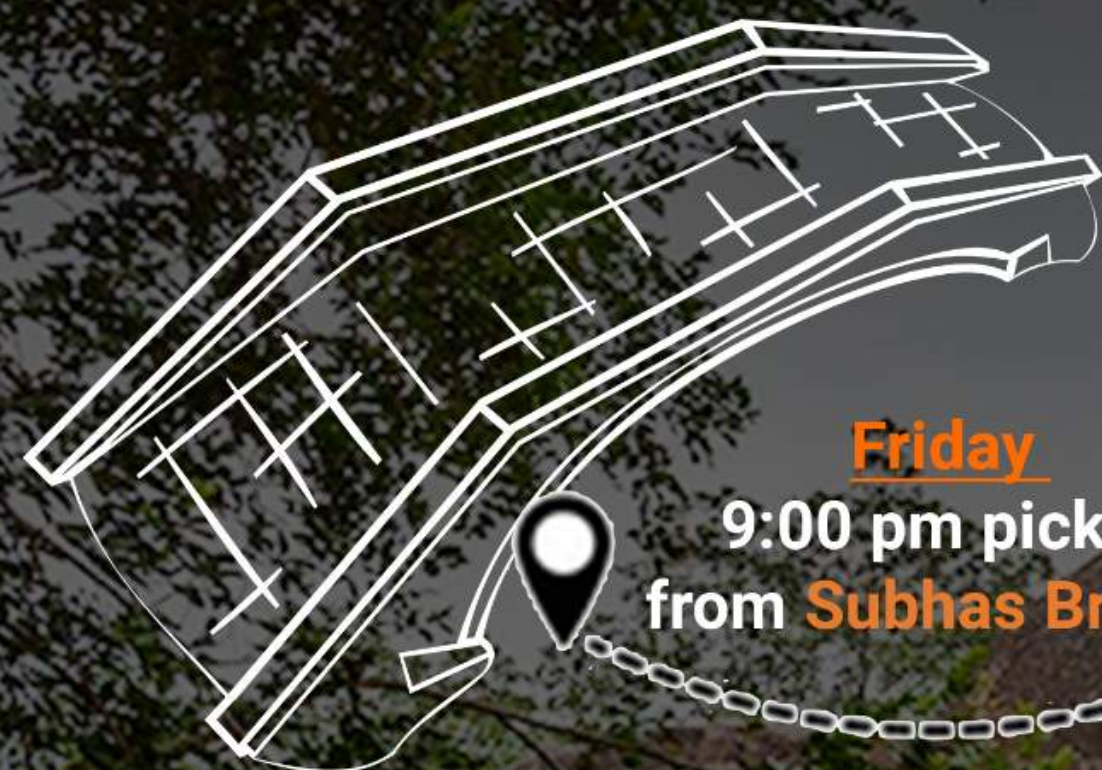


Caving/Rock Climbing



Camping

Schedule/Itinerary



Friday
9:00 pm pickup
from **Subhas Bridge**



Saturday
4:30 am start night trek
and enjoy **sunrise** - Ider




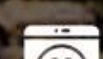





Saturday
9:00 am reach at our
campsite - **Polo Forest**

SATURDAY SCHEDULE:-

- After that few time for refreshments & breakfast
- Sightseeing near our campsite
- Lunch
- After lunch will go for adventures activities:-
 - Rapping
 - Chimney Climbing
 - Caving
 - Bouldering
- 8:00 return our campsite
- Dinner
- Campfire

SUNDAY SCHEDULE:-

-  Breakfast
-  7:00 am - start forest trek in polo forest
-  12:30 - lunch
-  After lunch sightseeing
-  3:30 pm packup and return from polo forest
-  4:30 rock garden - ider
-  8:30 reached ahmedabad

Term & Conditions



DISCIPLINE

- * This is an Adventure Camp and not a leisure tour, so we expect a high level of discipline
- * Participants will have to follow the instructions clearly given by the volunteer/guide, Misbehave/Arguing with the volunteers/guide/instructors will be considered as disciplinary issues
- * Smoking, Alcohol, Tobacco & Abusive Language are strictly prohibited and if anyone found suspect in such cases, the participation will be terminated and no further service/return ticket/refund will be offered then after
- * Accommodation & Sanitary Facilities for Girls & Boys are separate
- * Punctuality is taken as serious matter



CANCELLATION POLICY

Cancellation would be granted by the Project Manager or Higher Authorities on receiving cancellation request through registered mail ID only. The cancellation amount will be counted on total fees only.

The refund amount will be paid in 7 to 12 working days through an AC payee cheque.

1	Before More Than 40 days of expedition	10%
2	Before 21 to 40 days of expedition	25%
3	Before 11 to 20 days of expedition	40%
4	Before 1 to 10 days of expedition	60%
5	In last 24 hours of Departure	90%

CHANGE OF SCHEDULE

In case of unforeseen conditions, the schedule /itinerary can be modified/cancelled
“Soundaryasafar ” reserves all rights to cancel/ shorten/modify the itinerary, and the final decision is authorized with the trustee team



NOTE :

Kindly take a humble note that this is adventurous camping exploration. Please do not consider this as a tour and “Soundaryasafar” as a tour operator. Our idea is purely to serve adventure with a heritage touch.

The schedule is subject to change as per the weather conditions. Any change in schedule or cancellation of the trek can be done without giving any prior information.