

dresses of the rural communities most colourful. Local fairs, festivals and ceremonies are about the most spectacular any where. Even their breeds of domestic animals are considered the finest in India.

PLACES OF INTEREST; The location of Wankaner is such that it is ideally suited as a base for touring the Peninsula of Saurashtra and the Island of Kutch, which offer; **Beaches** - Of Southern Saurashtra and Kutch are among the best.

Gir Forest - Only place in the world where Asiatic Lions are found and can be photographed from only a few yards away. Leopards, Deer, Antelopes and Gazelles are also seen

Temples - The two most sacred Hindu Temples in India are at Somnath and Dwarka. The holiest Jain Temples are atop Shetrunjaya Hill (Palitana), Girnar Mountain (Junagadh), Bhadrashwar (Kutch) and Jamnagar.

Junagadh - Best inscribed Edict of Emperor Ashoka from 250 B.C., Uparkot Fort and Mosques

Porbandar - Birth place of Mahatma Gandhi, the 'Father of the Nation' and for the ruins of Ghumli.

Rann of Kutch - The last remaining abode of the Asiatic Wild Ass and the largest flamingo breeding colony in the world.

Kandla - The Only free trade zone in India and the site of the world's largest fertilizer plant in the Co-operative sector.

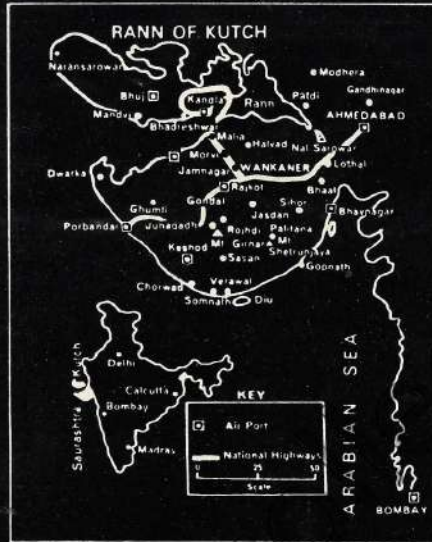
Halvad - Exquisitely carved 300 year old palace built on a lake with hundreds of cenotaphs and monuments of kings and warriors with their "suttees", all inscribed and depicted.

Jamnagar - Seat of the Ayurved University, Palace Art Gallery, Pearl fisheries and Balachadi.

Lothal and Rohadi - Pre-historic excavations dating back to 3000 B.C. of the Greater Indus Valley Civilisation.

Game Preserves - The Bhaal Black Buck Antelope Preserve near Bhavnagar and the Nalsarovar migratory Bird Sanctuary.

Princely Palaces - Negotiations are in progress with the Princes of Kutch, Saurashtra and Gujarat for opening their Palaces to tourism.



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A Princely Invitation
 to

WANKANER



FROM

E. P. M. P. R. I. E.

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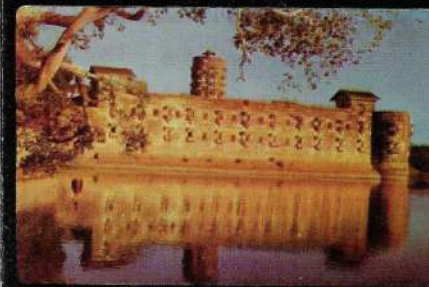
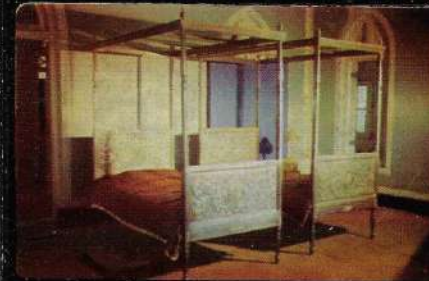
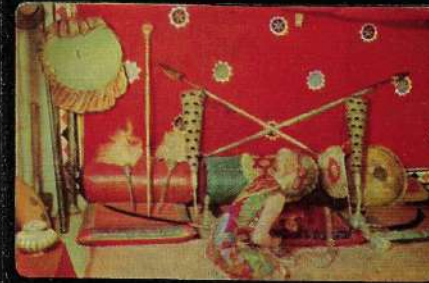
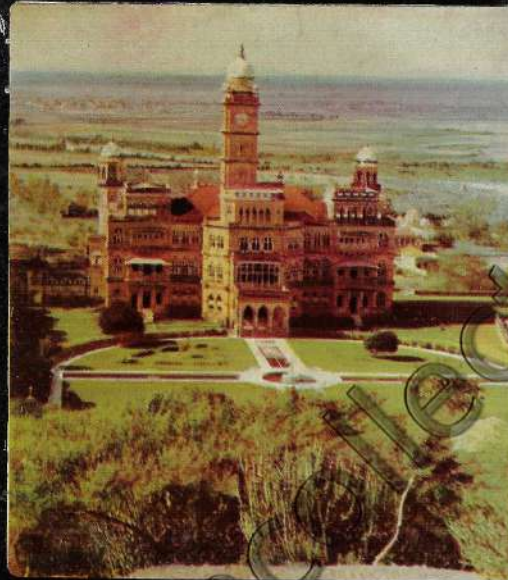
AIR-INDIA

Half way up a hill, overlooking the township of Wankaner on the river Machhu is the Palace of the Maharana Raj Saheb, 14th successive ruler of the Jhala Rajput Clan, who ruled over Wankaner for the past 375 years, and before then from Patdi and Halvad since A.D. 1105. Many a tale of romance and chivalry is woven round the history of the dynasty. Efficient and benevolent rulers in feudal days, with the advent of democracy, the people have popularly elected first their ruler and again his prince, to the State Legislature.

SITUATION; In the heart of an Island and a Peninsula, Wankaner is only 30 miles from Rajkot which is connected by a regular air service. Closeby and visible from the Palace are the National Highway and Railway Junction. Few Palaces in India equal Wankaner from the point of view of scenic beauty, climate, communications, accommodation and recreation. It was therefore decided to open it for exclusive invitees who could stay not like hotel clients but as princely house guests receiving personal attention and reliving a bygone era of splendour.

PALACE; Among the attractions at the Palace are the private museum of ensigns, relics and antique weapons used by chivalrous warriors of the Maharana's Clan, beautifully carved beds and chairs of silver, old chariots and vintage cars. A step-well serves as an airconditioning system and then of course there is the Royal swimming pool. The Palace has the finest collection of big game trophies from all over the world (about 95 species, which keep on increasing). At the private reserve of the Maharana and in lakes nearby, one can hunt antelope and migratory small game. There is vigorous folk dancing in the evening and one can collect souvenirs of local handloom and handicrafts, and also visit the rural communities to appreciate their way of life and genius.

PEOPLE; In this land of Lord Krishna, the people are thrifty in trade and industry. They have settled all over the world and brought economic prosperity with their keen business acumen. Their art and culture is enriched with customs which are quite distinct from the mainland of India. Their handicrafts are exquisite and the



1. Palace of the Maharana of Wankaner
2. Royal swimming pool
3. Village belle
4. Court Hall with trophies and antique weapons
5. Museum of ensigns, relics
6. Silver beds in the Palace
7. Exquisitely carved 300 year old Halvad Palace, about 45 miles from Wankaner

