

BANGLADESH: A UNIQUE DESTINATION FOR TOURISTS

Blessed with scenic beauty, low hills, forest, large lakes, beautiful rivers in deltaic plains, the longest beach on earth, and a rich and diversified culture, Bangladesh is an ideal place for tourists. It has the world's longest unbroken sandy sea beach and some archaeological sites representing ancient Buddhist civilization. In recent times, with the gradual development or infrastructure facilities and increasing exposition, Bangladesh is fast emerging as an attractive tourist spot on the global map. Our tourist attractions are widely spread throughout the country. There are 8 divisions



A tiger in Sundarbans Tiger Reserve

and 64 districts in Bangladesh. The major tourist spots of Bangladesh are in Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi, Cox's Bazar, Khulna, Cornilla, Barisal

and Sylhet. There are many tourist packages which offer different kinds of sightseeing opportunities.

The National Museum

houses an excellent collection of archaeological finds, sculptures and paintings. Architectural trends, both traditional and contemporary, are reflected in Curzon Hall, High Court and new Supreme Court Building. The National Memorial at Savar commemorating the martyrs of the Liberation War of 1971 and Martyred Intellectuals' Memorial at Rayerbazar in memory of the martyred intellectuals of Liberation War stands out with their own unique architectural designs constantly reminding the visitors of the greatest sons of the soil.

Miles of golden sands, towering cliffs, surfing waves, rare conch shells, colourful pagodas, delightful sea food - this is Cox's Bazar, the tourist capital of Bangladesh. Here the world's longest unbroken straight 120 km long clean sandy beach slopes gently down to the blue waters of the Bay of Bengal with a background of chain hills covered with deep green Forests.

The amazing beauty of the golden sun setting behind the waves of the sea is very charming. The attractive local variety of handloom products of the Rakhyne tribal families are good buys. Their unique way of life and costumes attract visitors. Cox's Bazar tourist resort has a Golf course in addition to varied other tourist facilities.

Kuakata in Patuakhali district is one of the few tourist spots in Bangladesh where nature survives in pristine, unspoiled grace. With its unspoiled vast sea shore along groves of coconut trees, colourful Rakhyne tribal life, Shima Temple having 70 feet high statue of Buddha, the highest in Asia, thousands of varieties of fish and holy yearly Hindu Rush festival are added attractions in Kuakata for the

visitors.

The three hill districts of Rangamati, Banderban and Khagrachari are inhabited by a number of distinctive enterprising tribal people like the Chakmas, the Tripuras, the Murang and Marmas - all preserving their age old cultures, colourful rituals, dances and music. Here the glistening greenery sits on the purple hills around lakes-manmade and natural.

Nilgiri is one of the tallest peaks and popular tourist destination in Bandarban, Bangladesh. Nilgiri is about 2200 feet above the sea level and situated at Thanci Upazilla, just 47 kilometer south-east from Baridarban town. Nilgiri is the most attractive place for those who love adventure, hills and clouds. In winter, the entire area is covered with the dense of fog. It is a nice place for campfire in winter season.

Srimongol is known as the tea capital of Bangladesh. For miles and miles in all directions, the visitor can see the tea gardens spread like a green carpet over low lying land and slopping hills. A visit to the tea plantation in Sylhet, especially in Srimongol is a memorable experience.

Situated amidst splendid panorama, Tamabil is a border outpost on the Sylhet-Shilong Road, about 55 km away from Sylhet town. Besides enchanting views of the area, one can also catch a glimpse of rolling stones across the border from Tarnabil. Jaflong is a scenic spot nearby with tea

gardens and beautiful rolling hills.

Located about 320 kms south-west of Dhaka, Khulna is the country's third biggest city. It serves as the gateway to the port of Mongla and Sundarbans, A journey by paddle steamer from Dhaka to Khulna along the southern river system running through the green countryside is an unforgettable experience. About 32 kms from Khulna are the popular tourist attractions of Khan Jahan All's 60 domed ancient Mosque (1459 AD) and his mausoleum at Bagerhat. The area is dotted with many ancient Mosques giving it the name of Mosque City. This is one of the UNESCO world heritage sites.

The Sundarbans is a natural region in southern Bangladesh and extreme southern part of the Indian state of West Bengal in the vast river delta on the Bay of Bengal. It is the largest single block of tidal halophytic mangrove forest in the world. The Sundarbans covers approximately 10,000 square kilometres most of which is in Bangladesh. The Sundarbans is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Sundarbans South, East and West are three protected forests in Bangladesh. This region is densely covered by mangrove forests, and is the largest reserves for the Bengal tiger. The Sundarbans National Park is a National Park, Tiger Reserve, and a Biosphere Reserve located in the Sundarbans delta in the Indian state of West Bengal.

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