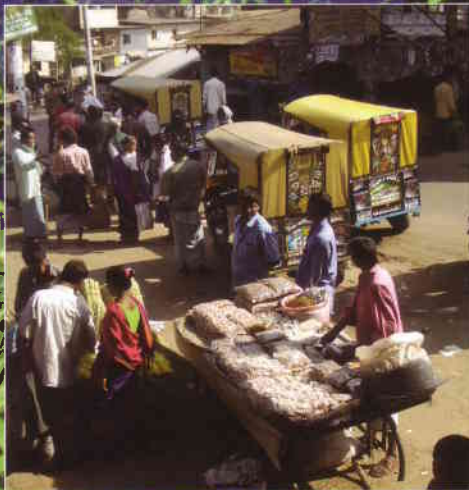


Bangladesh

Bangladesh is said to be a place of few conventional tourist sights. The fascination of the country lies more in observing life going on around you



Bangladesh is a stunning land of flaming sunsets, abundant wildlife, historically significant sights and a unique and varied culture. Most of the country's attractions are largely unknown and rarely feature in the travel media. For example, few have heard of the Sundarbans – a natural UNESCO World Heritage site. It is the world's largest mangrove forest and home of the elusive Bengal tiger, as well as species of birds, reptiles and mammals.

To the south can be found Cox's Bazaar, situated on the world's longest natural sea beach on the Bay of Bengal. In the Bay travellers can visit St Martin's Island known for its coral. In the same area it is easy to make a visit to one of the colonial hill resorts such as Bandarban, in the Chittagong Hill Tracts

A visit to one of Bangladesh's 40 different tribal communities is highly recommended and can easily be arranged from the town of Srimangal, located in Sylhet Division. The town is surrounded by lush tea estates and fruit gardens. It is an area of the country to get away from the masses and to find some solitude and tranquillity. It is an ideal spot to explore by bicycle, perhaps staying at one of the local tea estates. For British visitors travelling in Sylhet you will soon begin to appreciate the close colonial links between the two countries. Many local people emigrated to the UK from this corner of Bangladesh. It was these immigrants that opened the 'Indian' curry house found on every UK high street.

Our Bangladesh Discovery small group tour is a unique opportunity to take in some of the highlights of the country. The journey begins in bustling Dhaka, followed by a leisurely cruise on the famous 'Rocket' paddle steamer south to the Sundarbans. A short flight will bring you back to Dhaka, from where you will head north to the country's tea growing capital, Srimangal. Enjoy an oasis of a hotel, with a distinct colonial feel, before heading back south to Cox's Bazaar, where you will experience beach life, Bangladeshi style. Relax at our 5 star hotel or take time to explore nearby Maheshkhali Island by rickshaw. Finally, we fly back to Dhaka where the tour ends. Alternatively contact us for details of our exciting optional extension, which offers the rare opportunity to discover St Martin's Island, before exploring the Chittagong Hill Tracts.

One of the most exciting events to be part of in Dhaka is the annual festival of Durga Puja. We have organised a special tour to be in Dhaka for the culmination of the festival when devotees parade their colourful clay and bamboo effigies through the streets. At nightfall the statues of Durga, a mighty warrior goddess, are immersed in the Buriganga River, ending the festivities and marking a fabulous end to this remarkable tour.

In addition to our small group tours we can arrange quality tailor-made itineraries to any area of the country.

Sample Itinerary: Bangladesh Discovery

Group Size: Min 4, max 12

Also available as a private journey for individual travellers - contact us for details

Rating: **T**

Transport: Paddle steamer, private car, rickshaw, private boat, train, ferry

- Day 1** Depart UK
- Day 2** Arrive Dhaka
- Day 3** Dhaka city tour before joining the 'Rocket' paddle steamer for journey south
- Day 4** Arrival Mongla and join privately chartered boat for Sundarbans tour
- Day 5** Sundarbans
- Day 6** Sundarbans
- Day 7** Arrival in Mongla, transfer by road to Jessore, for a flight to Dhaka
- Day 8** Transfer by road north to Srimangal, the tea centre of Bangladesh
- Day 9** Tour of the local area, visiting some of the tea estates
- Day 10** Transfer to Cox's Bazar, overnight stop enroute
- Day 11** Cox's Bazar
- Day 12** Maheshkhali Island
- Day 13** Cox's Bazar to Dhaka by plane via Chittagong
- Day 14** Transfer to Dhaka airport for your departure
- Day 15** Arrive UK

Guide Price: £1,140

(Including flights from £1,890)

Journey Ideas: Contact us for details of our luxury options or why not combine Bangladesh with neighbouring Myanmar

For detailed itineraries, prices and dates please visit www.bangladesh-undiscovered.com or call our well-travelled team

