

# **Bangladesh Cultural Tour**

One of the most lively & culturally vibrant destinations, this city is a treat for adventure lovers



# Overview

Dhaka, the capital of **Bangladesh**, is also one of the major cities in **South Asia**. One of the most lively and culturally vibrant <u>destinations in Asia</u>, this city is a treat for adventure lovers all around the world. Bangladesh Cultural Tour is composed of multiple other beautiful towns around Dhaka mainly **Rajshahi**, **Paharpur**, **and Bogra**. Each of these cities gives you the unique shades of Bengal, the culture, and religious monuments aging centuries-long influenced by the Mughal and British Empire.

Dhaka was a major commercial center for a long period so we can experience the traditional and modern side of the city. A vacation here will get you a complete package of nature, culture, and adventure with the bliss of local cuisine and lifestyle in the Sub-urban areas surrounding Dhaka. Rajshahi, the silk city, is a beautiful city located in the north bank of **Padma River** near the Indian border. Home to some of the most decorated universities of Bangladesh; this city was one of the major silk production areas of the world. This city translates literally as the city of Kings, and one can experience royal hospitality as a guest here. Paharpur is one of the most significant <u>archeological sites in Bangladesh</u>. The ruins in the **Somapura Mahavihara (a Buddhist Vihara)** here holds sculptures, copper plates, inscriptions, coins, and stucco images aging many centuries ago. The city of Bogra is one of the oldest cities in Bengal. **Bogra** gives you the best historical sites in Bangladesh. The archeological destinations here reflect the transition of rulers and people living in these areas throughout the time. Doing this Bangladesh Cultural Tour, you will come closer to the history, culture, tradition, and the lifestyle of the people of Bengal. With our experienced local guides and hassle-free services from **Asia Experiences**, you can make the



most of this fantastic tour.

# **Highlights**

- Tour Type: Private Tour, flexible and customized
- Guide & Driver: English-speaking guide, experienced driver & air-conditioned vehicle
- Accommodation: 3 to 5-star well-selected hotels, also your own choice
- Meals: A mix choice of local cuisines and western-style food
- **Dhaka:** 3 Nights with a colorful flower market, Dhaka University, the temple of Dakeshwari, Parliament House, Lalbagh Fort, Pink Palace (Ahsan Manzil),
- Bogra: 1 Night with Paharpur, and UNESCO world heritage site of Somapura Mahavihara
- **Rajshahi:** 1 Night with Govinda Bhita Hindu Temple, Gokul Medh or the Behula Lakshindar Bashor Ghor and visit the Puthia temple

#### **Outline**

- 1. Choose your own departure date
- 2. Select the comfort level of accommodation
- 3. Adjust activities to cater to special interests
- 4. Modify tour duration and any aspect of the tour as needed
- 5. Flexible travel route (start from Dhaka and end to Dhaka)

# Your Journey day by day

# Day 01: Arrival at Dhaka and transfer to Hotel

Asia Experiences representatives will meet you at the arrival section of Dhaka Airport and transfer you to your hotel in Dhaka. Our representatives will give you a brief orientation of this tour. Taking the period of time you have in hand, we will visit some of the nearby city attractions of Dhaka. The colorful flower market, Dhaka University, the temple of Dakeshwari and Parliament House are the shortlisted major places to visit here today. Try some local style dinner and rest for the day at your hotel here. Overnight at Dhaka.

# Day 02: Dhaka to Sonargaon and back, Dhaka tour

We will pick you up early and take a drive to Sonargaon as the first thing today. Starting at the marvelous Folk art and craft museum, we will explore the place with some boat riding in the lakes constituting it. One can experience a complete art and cultural delights here in the Museum. We will visit the lost Panam city next which has an old history and many stories of existence to offer you. In the city, we will visit the Bara Sadar Bari of the ancient ruler Isa Khan and then head to the Goaldi Mosque. This Mosque is one of the best surviving monuments from the medieval Bengal era and ages back to 1519 AD. From the Goaldi mosque, we will take a boat to cruise the Megna River leading to some of the local island villages here. After the tour, we will return to Dhaka and resume our trip here. Visit the Lalbagh Fort, Pink Palace (Ahsan Manzil), and try traveling in a Rikshaw to the old town of Dhaka. We will walk in the town here visiting the Armenian Church and Ornamental star mosque before returning back to Dhaka. You will rest



for the day in your hotel. Overnight at Dhaka.

#### Day 03: Flight to Rajshahi, Drive to Paharpur via Kusumba Mosque and to Bogra

We will start our day trying some Bengali breakfast before the drive to the airport. From here, we will fly to the second major city of our tour, ie. Rajshahi. After landing rest for a while and we'll drive to the historical Paharpur. We will make a brief stop to visit Kusumba Mosque in the way. This mosque reflects the architecture and stone-carved arts from the period of 14th to the 16th century here. We will continue our drive to Paharpur next focusing mainly on the UNESCO world heritage site of Somapura Mahavihara. This area is one of the most significant archeological sites in Bangladesh with the remains of walls surrounding a traditional Buddhist stupa in its center. Many statues, inscriptions, coins, ceramics, and terracotta Plaques were recovered from this area some of which aging back to the 4th century or older. We will also visit the tribal villages and explore the local lifestyle here. We will continue our drive to the Bogra city and rest for the day there. Overnight at a hotel in Bogra.

Note: We also have an option to take a 6-hour drive to Rajshahi; however, flights are suggested for better site visit results.

#### Day 04: Bogra Tour, Drive to Rajshahi and visit Puthiya temple

We will visit the archeological site of Mahasthangrah in Bogra, which is also the oldest archeological site in Bangladesh. The area consists of a prominent Citadel walled in all sides with many remains of the buildings and temples surrounding it. We will also pay a visit then to the Govinda Bhita Hindu Temple in the northern end from the citadel here. Located a few kilometers from the Mahasthangarh is another important archeological site of Gokul Medh or the Behula Lakshindar Bashor Ghor.

Our next destination Basu Bihar is one of the ancient Buddhist heritage of Bangladesh and an equally crucial archeological site too. These destinations show us the architecture, art and the lifestyle of the people from the era of the 3rd century to 12th and till now. After your Bogra visit, we will take a drive back to Rajshahi. After a brief rest, we will visit the Puthia temple. It is one of the largest historic Hindu temples in Bangladesh with beautiful wood/stone carvings and architecture inspired by Jor-Bangla and Jaipuri style. After a brief exploration of the temples here we will continue our drive to Rajshahi. Overnight at a hotel in Rajshahi.

#### Day 05: Rajshahi tour and flight to Dhaka

We will start the tour of today visiting the central park of Rajshahi. We can try some local cuisine and visit the local bazaar areas here. Rajshahi Silk from here is a pristine quality silk famous all over the world. The city of Rajshahi is also the educational hub of Bangladesh with many prestigious universities.

We can get some cultural bonus in the festive season here. After our tour, we will board a flight taking us back to Dhaka. In our spare time today, we will visit some of the other sites left in Dhaka. You can also revisit your favorite destinations, restaurants, etc. and return to your hotel. Overnight at Dhaka.

#### Day 06: Flight back to your next destination.

You can involve in some souvenir shopping in spare time today. <u>Asia Experiences</u> will connect with you throughout the trip and later too for your feedback and suggestions. We will drive you to the airport with



some time before your departure flight. Return home with some wonderful memories and experiences from this beautiful tour of Bangladesh.

# **Cost & Inclusion**

# **Bangladesh:**

- Airport pickups and drops service.
- Private ground transportation with A/C.
- Breakfast in Bangladesh.
- Twin-sharing hotel accommodation.
- Local cultural tour guide with English speaking.
- Sightseeing entrance fees for museums and monuments.