

# Golden Triangle of Bangladesh

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## Day 1

### Day 01: Arrival Dhaka

Welcome to Bangladesh – a country where hospitality is a way of life; to a culture in tradition, a land where history lives in music and dance. You will be received at the airport in a traditional manner with garlands and proceed to your designated hotel for stay overnight.

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## Day 2

### Day 02: Dhaka city tour

After breakfast full day sightseeing to cover the old part of the city bearing the heritage of Mughal Era (1608) which has a charm of its own. Ornamented mosques, covered markets, bustling streets overflow with Rickshaws and vendors are the charm of the old city which is popularly known as the city of mosque and rickshaw. Visit the attractive Sadarghat River port crowded with different type of boats and crafts. Every day hundreds & thousands of passengers are transported by motor launches to and from this river port. You will enjoy the busy & simple life style of people. You can find here the heritage paddle wheel Rocket steamer built during British colonial period still in service and playing very important role for safe transport. Visit the fascinating fruits market including Banana Market, Coconut, Pine apple, Papaya, Jujube (Boroy) and many others seasonal fruits. Visit the wonderful historical & Majestic Pink Palace (Ahsan Manjil) - the palace of Muslim Nawab, (Thursday & first half of Friday closed) Walk through the Shakhari Bazaar Hindu streets and experience with the special flavor of typical Hindu culture through this narrow historical passage and old building, works of Shell Bracelet and ornaments- very much used to by Hindu community. A Rickshaw riding will be organized towards Lokkhi Bazar to enjoy the Rickshaw riding in the city of Rickshaw Capital, Central Shahid Minar - the symbol of sacrifice for mother language, historical Curzon Hall of Dhaka University, Visit Shahbaz Khan Mosque & Tomb (1679) – an Islamic architecture. Then visit nearby Tin Neter Mazar - a modern architecture. A short drive to Shahbag to visit National Museum (Thursday & first half of Friday closed) with rich and rare collections, National Mosque of Baitul Mukorrom, Evening free for shopping. Transfer to designate Hotel.

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## Day 3

### Day 03: Dhaka – Bogra (229 km)

After breakfast check-out and drive (229 KM/ 6 hrs.) to Bogra (Bogra was the gate way of North Bengal. It was the part of Pundravardhana which was the capital of ancient Mahasthangorh). En-route visit the weaving village of Tangail which is famous worldwide for handloom sari called Tangail sari. We will pass the 11th world largest Jamuna Multi- Purpose Bridge, 5th largest in the world in terms of volumetric discharge. You will be amused to see the modern technology and natural beauty of surrounding area. A short stoppage will be given on the way to Bogra to visit the tranquil village to observe the life style of local community who are still maintaining their living pattern with their cultural heritage. Upon arrival, check-in at your Hotel. Stay overnight at hotel.

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## Day 4

### Day 04: Bogra –Paharpur –Bogra (120 km)

Yet another day viewing another Bangladesh's heritage to the world—the UNESCO World Heritage Site of SomapuraMahavihara at Paharpur. At this Budsdhist Monastery we see the Buddhist Vihara dating back to the 8th century – the largest monastery south of the Himalayas. Its layout perfectly adapted to its religious function, this monastery-city represents a unique artistic achievement. With its simple, harmonious lines and its profusion of carved decoration, it influenced Buddhist architecture as far away as Cambodia. From here we continue to Mahasthan— an old fortress dating back to the 3rd Century B.C. Our explorations here include the archeological site of Hindu temple, GovindaBitha, Palace of parasurama, well of life, Mazar area. Evening, we visit the local market and have not only bargains but a cultural experience.

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## Day 5

### Day 05: Bogra – Khulna (300 km)

Another day into the heritage of this unique country as we proceed to Khulna, visiting first the Putia Temple city known for housing the Temples of Shiva and Govinda. After visiting the temples and admiring its artistic designs and architecture, we will experience today seeing the rural and village life of Bangladesh. We stop at various villages, School and the local bazaars to get a feel of the lifestyle. Upon arrival at Bogra we are transferred to our hotel.

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## Day 6

### Day 06: Khulna–Mongla–Sundarbans (Fiber Boat) –Mongla –Khulna

A very interesting day ahead as we take an excursion to the world famous Sundarbans Forest - a UNESCO World heritage Site. Part of this excursion will be done by boat in the Sundarbans mangrove forest, the single largest forest in the world (140,000 ha), lies on the delta of the Ganges, Brahmaputra and Meghna rivers on the Bay of Bengal. The site is intersected by a complex network of tidal waterways, mudflats and small islands of salt-tolerant mangrove forests, and presents an excellent example of ongoing ecological processes. We visit the world's largest mangrove belt – a popular habitat of the Royal Bengal tiger. The forest treasures 330 plant species, 35 reptiles, 400 fishes, birds and 42 mammals are recorded.

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## Day 7

### Day 07: Khulna- Pottery village – Barisal (150 km)

After breakfast drive to Maheshpur to visit the pottery village - A great insight into the lives of potters - an entirely different world composed of potters and their families still practicing a very traditional mode of life. Every home, every rooftop, pathway and courtyard is stacked with pottery items of different shapes, sizes and designs. There is no greater way to gain an insight into this unique lifestyle than come to Barisal where you can see a side of Bangladesh you could never experience otherwise. Here you have opportunity to observe single largest potter community, their customs and traditions. By visit in and around the village, introduce with the artisans and their families and they will cordially allow you to mingle with them to understand their lives better thus you will realize a whole new meaning to what pottery is all about and will

make you appreciate the craft even more. There are four big remote village including 300 pottery houses and 800 regular pottery workers involve onto these pottery activities. In these area you have an very rare opportunity to observe the whole pottery circle program like bringing the pottery clay from the river bank by traditional wooden boat - convert it for clay from raw soil - making the shape and dice by manual wheel - keeping these into the woven for burn to absorbed the hardness - painting onto the burn shape - loading onto the cargo boat for supply to the different parts of the country. Hopefully this is a golden opportunity for you to meet country's largest pottery community. Afternoon reach to Barisal and stay overnight at Hotel.

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## **Day 8**

### **Day 08: Back Water Trip, Eco Tour and River Cruise**

Wake up early in the morning and start journey for the desired river port by reserve AC transport. Start BACK WATER TRIP by a traditional motor boat, where you will enjoy a Gorgeous Back Water Cruise. By a 01.30 hours boat cruise you will reach country's single largest Floating Vegetable Markets. There are two to three hundred wooden canoe boats with full of vegetables involve with these floating trade activities. Beside this here you will watch floating sugarcane gardens and hog palm gardens and so on. Miles after miles you will enjoy this Back Water Cruise. Villagers carrying Guava, Sugarcane, Water Lilies and Vegetables etc onto the floating market and Buyers are collecting these to sale in the city market for high price. In here you will see the natural beauty everywhere. Sometime you will watch 2/3 canal junction. You will be pass lots of canals in a day. Shadow of many big trees falling on these canals like a Swamp Forest. In the midst of this landscape there are number of villages and full of village activities. There are 40 plus villages including these floating orchards. This Back Water are a network of inter connected canals, rivers, a labyrinthine system formed by a long water ways and sometime compared to the Indian Kerala. Many unique species of aquatic life including crabs, frogs and mud-skippers, water birds such astern, kingfishers and cormorants and animals such as otters and turtles live in and alongside the backwaters. Palm trees, Sugarcane and Hog Palm orchards, various leafy plants and bushes grow alongside the backwaters, providing a green hue to surrounding landscape. Take lunch in a village restaurant and start for the HUB for Sunderban Timber and Nipa Palm Leaves, name Swarupkathi. Return back to Barisal and stay overnight at Hotel.

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## **Day 9**

### **DAY 09: Barisal – DHAKA (220 KM)**

After breakfast drive to Dhaka through the Asian Highway will be comfortable and attractive with wonderful natural view of country side, village markets and crossing several long concrete bridges and Ferry over the wide rivers. The road Journey may take 6-7 hrs (300 km). Arrive Dhaka and transfer to Hotel for overnight stay.

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## **Day 10**

### **Day 10: Dhaka-Sonargaon-Sylhet**

After breakfast drive to Sonargaon (29 km) the ancient capital of golden Bangal Where the world famous and finest "Muslin" was produced. The city was under Turkish sultanate during 1280 AD. The main attractions of Sonargaon of today the Panam deed city, Goaldi mosque of Sultanate period & the attractive and rich folk art museum (Wed & Thursday closed) with the panoramic lake and gardens. Continue drive to Sylhet (317 KM) the road journey to Sylhet passing through the Asian highway will be comfortable and attractive with wonderful natural view of countryside, village markets and crossing several long concrete bridges over the

wide rivers. Upon arrival, sylhet transfer to hotel. Afternoon city sightseeing nearby Tea garden or Free option to pass leisure at the your onw and stay overnight.

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## **Day 11**

### **Day 11: Sylhet – Srimongal**

After breakfast visit the Holly shrine of Hazrat Shah Jalal (R) and Hazrat Shah Paran (R). visit the Lalkhal (red canal), a beautiful location where the Sharee river enters Bangladesh from the Jaintia Hills of Meghalaya. The dry season, the river bed resembles a white sandy beach with crystal clear water. It is ideal water for swimming, boating (Canoes and Kayaks are available). In the Monsoon the river is a torrent on to which the clouds (Megh) of Meghalay decent. The sight of the Jaintia Hills rising from the green foliage and forests foLalkhal is indeed a unique experience. After Lunch drive to Srimangal (158 KM), the Tea capital fo Bangladesh. En route vist the attractive Madhobkundo waterfall and Eco Park. Continue drive to Srimongal. Overnight stay at hotel.

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## **Day 12**

### **Day 12: Srimongal – Dhaka**

Early Morning explore the Lawachara rain forest which is reserved forest for conservation of wildlife. In this beautiful rain forest you can walk through the majestic standing trees which are undisturbed for centuries. One can easily find out wild animals like cape Languor, Slow Loris, Yellow throated Martin, HoolockGibons, Asian Black bear, Rock Python. The attractive birds like oriol, Barbet, Hornbills, fork tails, Laughin Thrasher With the high profile symphony of small insects will absolutely absorb you in serene atmosphere. Enthusiastic Travelers have got the opportunity to undertake long walk through the forest's trail for few kilometers leading to a KhasiaPunjee at the outskirts of the forest. Visit the Khasia tribes and take a deep look at their lifestyle by exploring interior tribal village inside the forest. Drive to Dhaka through the High way will be attractive with wonderful natural view of countryside. Reach Dhaka and transfer to hotel for stay overnight.

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## **Day 13**

### **Day 13: Dhaka**

Full day free Day in Dhaka. Overnight at hotel.

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## **Day 14**

### **Day 14: Dhaka Departure**

After an interesting journey into the heritage sites and the lifestyle of Bangladesh We bid a farewell as well as transfer to the airport for onward destination.

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