

Tourism in Pakistan





www.tourism.gov.pk

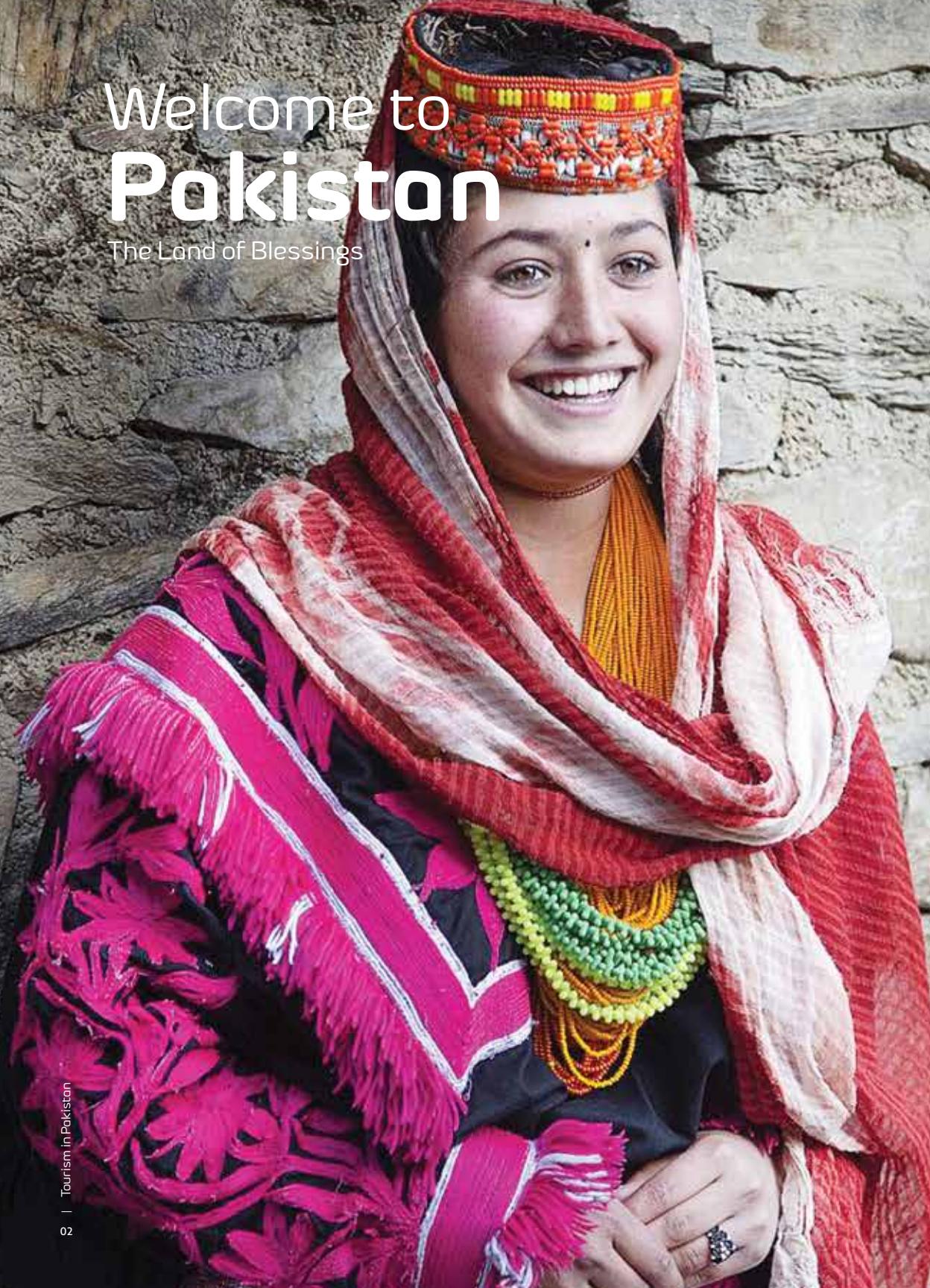
An Initiative of the Government of Pakistan
Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation

Contents

02	Pakistan	06	Islamabad Capital Territory
10	Punjab	20	Sindh
28	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	38	Balochistan
46	Gilgit-Baltistan	54	Azad Jamu and Kashmir

Welcome to Pakistan

The Land of Blessings





Pakistan, is located in South Asia and is bordered by India to the east, Afghanistan to the west, Iran to the southwest and China in the northeast; together with a 1,048 kilometres long coastline along the Arabian Sea and the Gulf of Oman in the South. It is home to a number of civilizations of which the Indus Valley is the most famous where; Buddhism has flourished in present days in different geographical areas of Pakistan.

There are the oldest and most vulnerable Buddhist sites in the sub-continent. After the decline of Buddhism and the revival of Hinduism, the areas became the theatre of Hindu monuments. The Indus Valley civilization provides a very large source of religious attractions that are extremely useful in the development of religious tourism, it is probably the most notable religious asset of the country. Pakistan's culture is a melting pot of Indian, Persian, Afghan, Central Asian, South Asian, and Western Asian influences. Pakistan encompasses a rich variety of landscapes. It is home to a multitude of beautiful plains, deserts, forests, hills, mountains, plateaus, and coastal lines.



Pakistan is the only country in the world where three famous mountain ranges meet: the Himalayas, the Karakoram, and the Hindukush range. As a result, a multitude of breath-taking peaks including K2, the second highest mountain in the world, offer the possibility of adventure for mountain climbers and trekkers alike. And for a bargain hunter, Pakistan is a shopper's paradise, noted for luxurious hand knotted carpets, brassware, onyx, copperware, and a range of cultural handicrafts.

Pakistan's tourism potential was recently featured on CNN and in Forbes Magazine while the award-winning travel magazine Conde Nast Traveller declared Pakistan as one of the "Best Holiday Destinations" and British Backpacker's Society described Pakistan as one of the 'friendliest countries on earth with mountain scenery that is beyond anyone's wildest imagination'. Geographically, Pakistan is divided into four provinces: Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Punjab, and Sindh; along with two autonomous territories of Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) and Gilgit-Baltistan (GB), and one federal territory known as Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT). Each province and territory are unique; with its own brand, people and culture. Thus, attracting visitors from all walks of life.

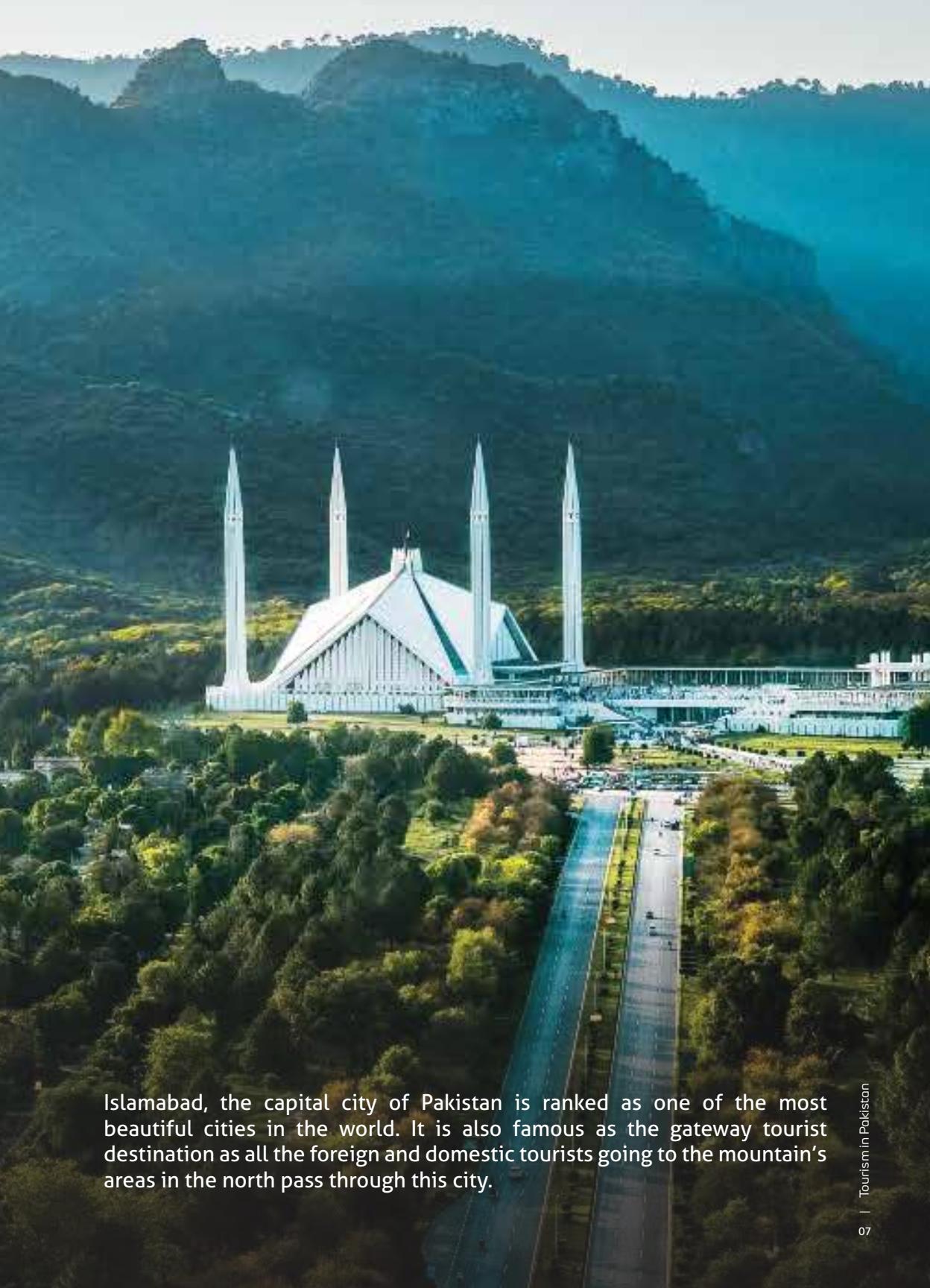
Map of Pakistan



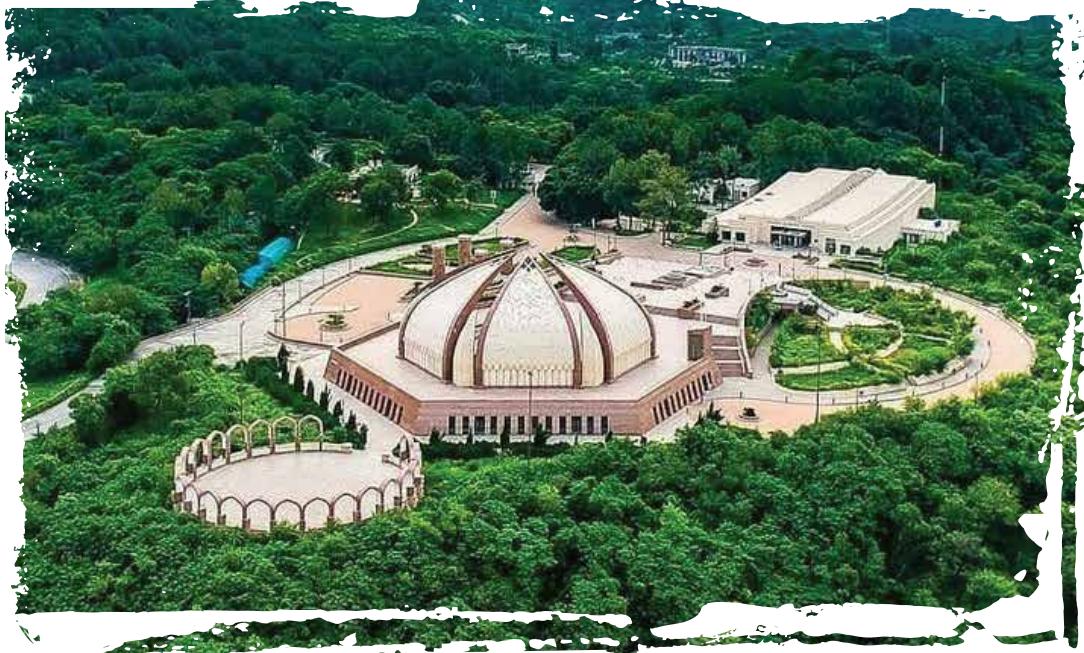
Capital Territory **Islamabad**

The Second Most Beautiful Capital in the world
and The Second Most Safest City in South Asia





Islamabad, the capital city of Pakistan is ranked as one of the most beautiful cities in the world. It is also famous as the gateway tourist destination as all the foreign and domestic tourists going to the mountain's areas in the north pass through this city.



The city of Islamabad was built in 1960 to replace Karachi as the new capital of Pakistan, which it has been since 1963. Due to Islamabad's proximity to Rawalpindi, they are considered sister cities. The area where Islamabad is located has a history going back to the earliest human habitations in Asia. The city is famous for its lush green landscape and is often referred to by its nickname 'The Green City'. It includes number of city parks, green belts and walkways. The city of Islamabad is also home to several landmarks, including the Faisal Mosque, which is one of the largest mosques in South Asia, and the fourth largest in the world. Other landmarks include the Pakistan Monument and Democracy Square. There are many other sites of tourist interest and outdoor activities to enjoy in the city, such as Lok Virsa, Museum of Natural History, Damn-e-Koh, Pir Sohawa, Rawal Lake, Simli Dam Lake, Japanese Garden, F9- Park, Rose and Jasmine Garden, Sports Complex, Shah Allah Ditta Cave, Saidpur village, Shahdara, Bari Imam, Lake View Park and different hiking trails in Margalla Hills National Park (MHNP).



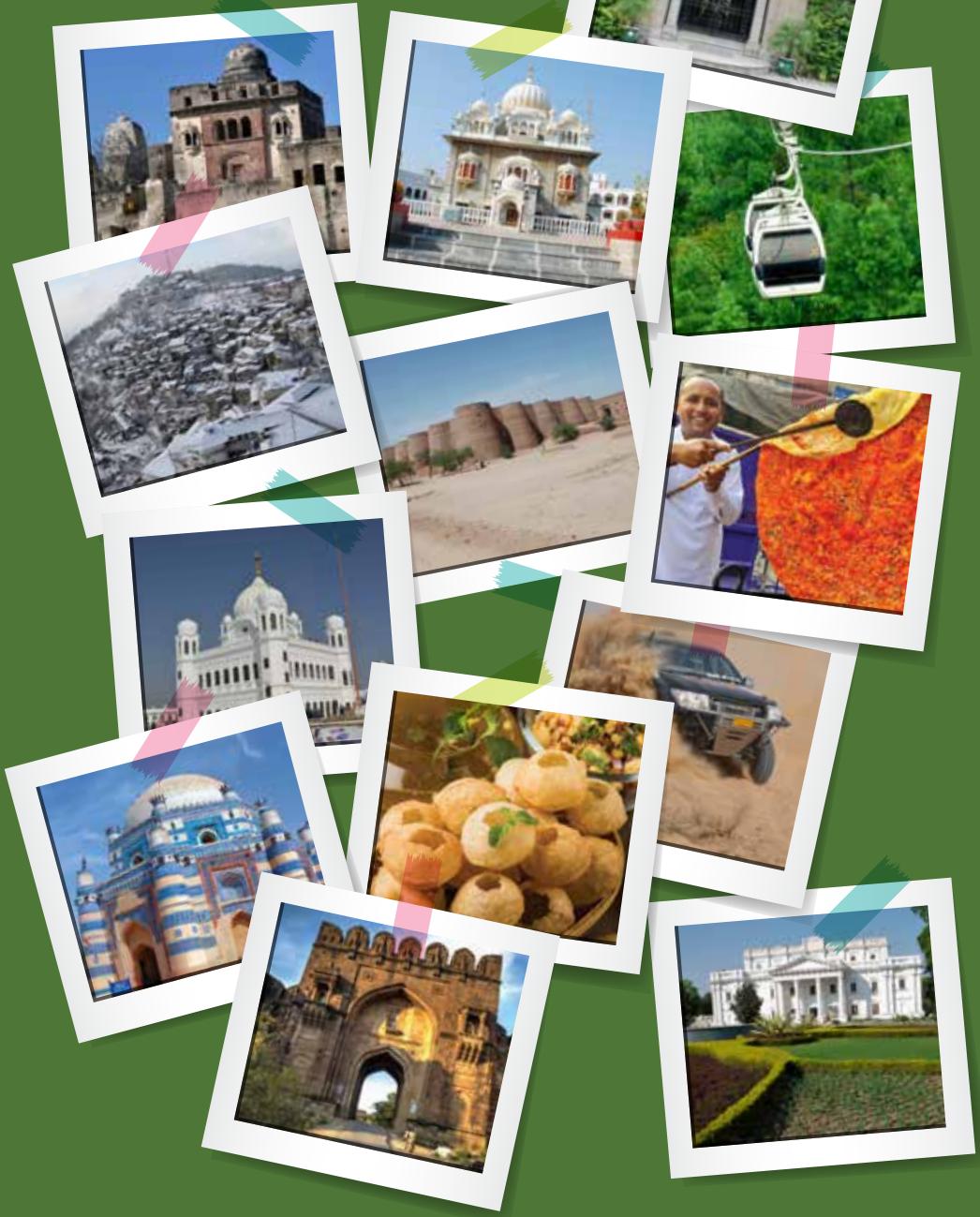
MHNP provides a beautiful backdrop to the landscape of this city. The park includes the Margalla Hills, which form's the foothills of the Himalayas, along with Shakarparian Park and Rawal Lake. Tilla Charouni with a height of 1604m is highest point in the park. Margalla Hills are a popular tourist destination, with Daman-e-Koh and Pir Sohawa serving as popular hill stations, while Shakarparian Cultural Complex and Lake View Park are popular picnic spots. The park is rich in biodiversity, especially rich in Sino-Himalayan fauna, most notably grey goral, barking deer and the Leopard. The MHNP is home to around 600 plant species, 402 bird varieties, 38 mammals and 27 species of reptiles.

Islamabad is the gateway to many popular tourist destinations in the northern areas of Pakistan. There are many tourist destinations around Islamabad within few hours' drive. Famous hill stations of Murree, Nathiagali, Ayubia, Bhurban and Lehtrar Valley are within the reach of one and half hour drive. Historical sites of Taxila, Rohtas Fort, Rawat Fort, Tilla Jogian, Wah Garden, Katas Raj, Khewra, Malot, Hund, Attock, Hassanabdal and some other sites are also within the range of few hours' drive.



Province **Punjab**

The Land of Five Rivers



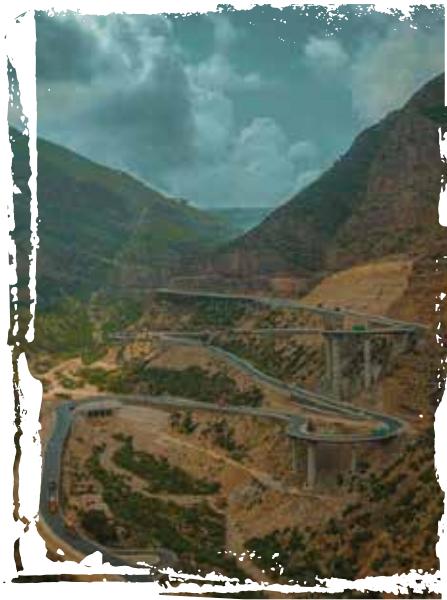


One of the most industrialised and populous provinces of Pakistan, Punjab encapsulates both, the old and the new. While preserving cultural heritage and folklore that lay deeply embedded in ancient cities, monuments, and structures, built during the reign of the Mughals, Sikhs and the East India Company. Punjab is the poster child for post-colonial modernisation, and what it means to live a fast life of convenience and luxury.



The name of Pakistan's most densely populated province is an amalgamation of the Persian words panj (five) and āb (water). Making it known as 'The Land of Five Rivers'. The name signifies the five rivers, Jhelum, Chenab, Ravi, Beas, and Sutlej that serve as lifelines of the land, making Punjab highly fertile and rich.

Geographically, it is a land of contrasts. From the fertile plains of the Indus River and its tributaries to the sand dunes of the Cholistan Desert; from the verdant beauty of pine covered Murree Hills in the foothills of Himalayas to the amazing lunar landscape of Salt Range. It also includes the mountainous areas in the west, like the Koh-e-Suliman Range in the southwestern part of the province. Fort Munro is also a popular hill station among the people of south Punjab.



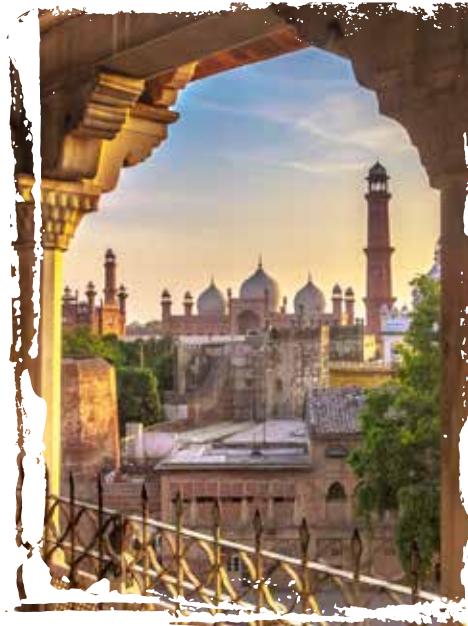


Moreover, Punjab is the time capsule of the subcontinent. The history of Punjab dates to the Indus Valley Civilisation, which was the bronze age of South Asia, when the fertile plains of Indus were inhabited circa 5500 BCE. The region has been conquered and ruled by many different empires since. Therefore, it has pieces from different time periods, regions, cultures, and ruling empires. It is also home to Taxila, the site which is considered by many as the world's oldest university.





Punjab is home to many different religious and archaeological sites. Gurdwara Darbar Sahib Kartarpur is also a main attraction point for Sikhs and tourists alike; for it is the world's largest Gurdwara. Gurdwara Janam Asthan is another notable site as the founder of Sikhism, Guru Nanak, was believed to be born there. The province also is the site for numerous tombs and shrines. One of the most famous shrines includes the Shrine of Shah Yusuf Gardezi in Multan. Therefore, the history, culture and complexity of this region is vast.



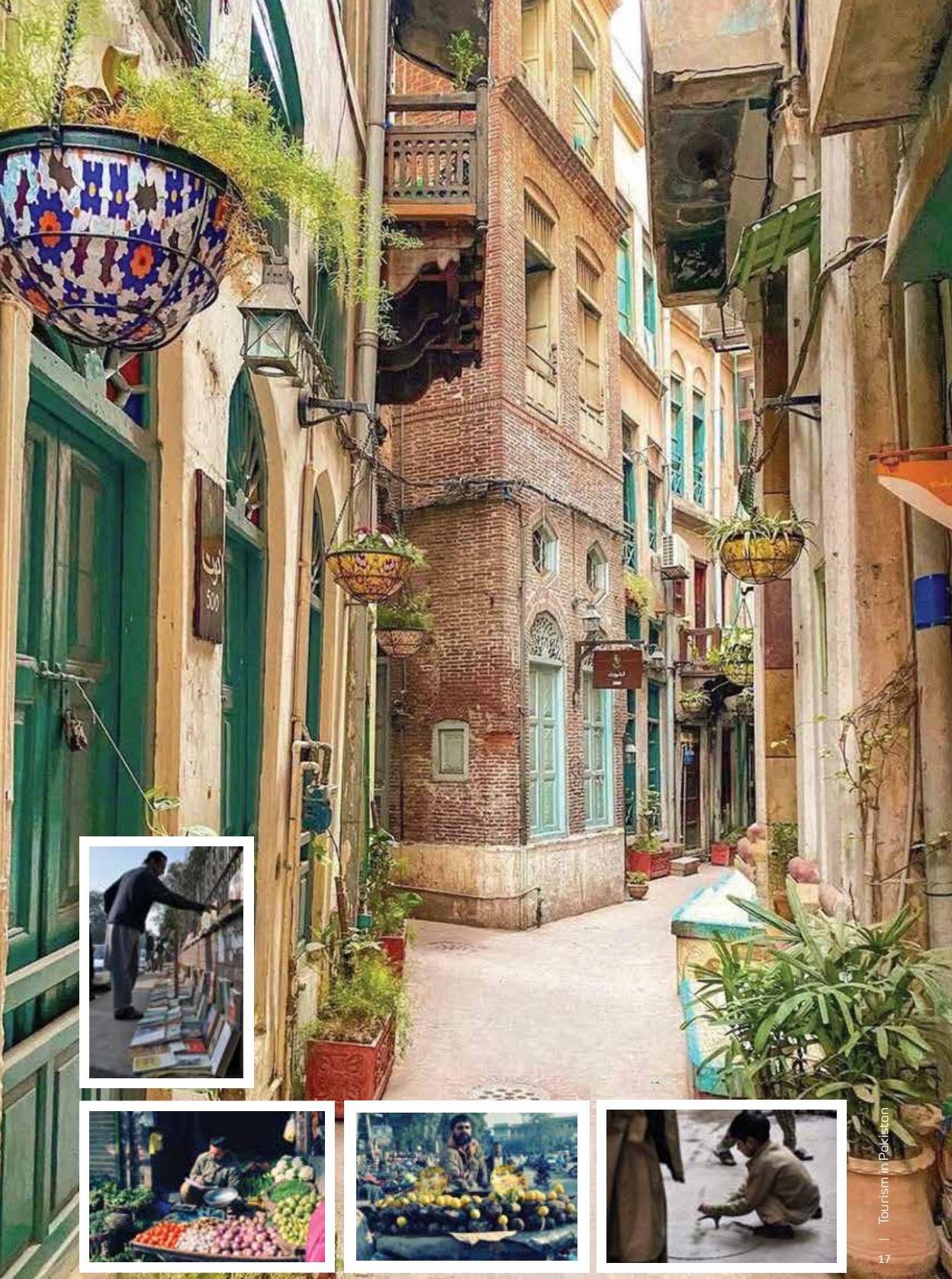


Lahore is the historic capital of the province and its largest city. The city is a cultural and economic cosmopolitan centre of Pakistan and is known for its vibrant and lively atmosphere. It is also known as the 'City of Gardens' because of its lush parks and gardens. It possesses several old sites including famous Anarkali Bazar, Sheesh Mahal, Shalimar Bagh, Minar-e-Pakistan, Wazir Khan Mosque, Tomb of Jahangir, Lahore museum, building of Lahore High Court, Government College, National College of Arts, Montgomery Hall, Railway station, Punjab University, Provincial Assembly, etc.



One of the many gems of Punjab lies deep within Lahore. Lahore has an old city area, known as the 'Walled City' or simply, 'old Lahore'. This area is home to important and world famous historical and heritage sites such as Wazir Khan mosque, Shahi Qila (Lahore fort) and Shahi Hammam; two recognised UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

Other major tourist attractions of Punjab include Patriata (New Murree) Bhurban, Upper Topa and Lower Topa Murree, Raja Bazar and Saddar Bazar Rawalpindi, Hussain Agahi Bazar Multan, Tomb of Shah Rukn-e-Alam, Shah Shams Sabzwari, Bahauddin Zakariya and Fort Kohna Qasim Multan, the various sites at Taxila, spread over a large area including Bhir Mound (The oldest city of Taxila) Dharmarajika Buddhist Stupa and Monastery. Harappa represents the other key city of Indus Valley Civilization. Fort. Al-Biruni mentioned Nandana as a great centre of learning in a hill fortress on the eastern most part of the Salt Range. Lal Sohanra National Park, Uchh Sharif, Desert Branch canal, Noor Mahal, Darbar Mahal, Gulzar Mahal, A historic Darawar Fort in Bahawalpur. Kzewra Salt Mines, the ancient Hindu Katas Raj temples, Mausoleum of Sheikh Rukn-e-Alam in Multan and Data Darbar, the largest Sufi shrine in South Asia, etc.

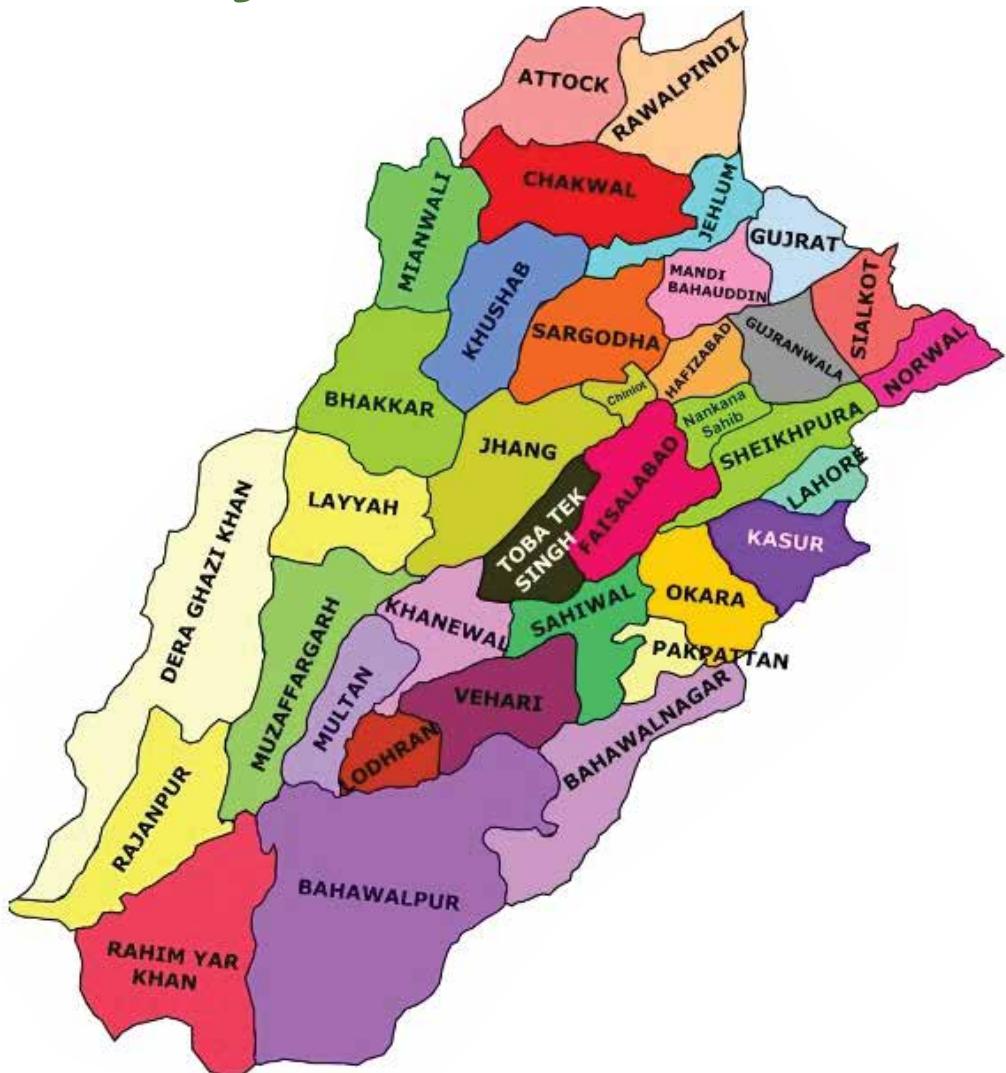


Major Attractions

Punjab

- 01- Ancient Temple - Sialkot
- 02- Attock Bridge - Attock
- 03- Attock Fort - Attock
- 04- Badshahi Mosque - Lahore
- 05- Bhumman Shah - Okara
- 06- Bullay Shah Shrine - Kasur
- 07- Changa Manga Forest - Kasur
- 08- Cholistan Desert - South Punjab
- 09- Chakwal Canyons - Chakwal
- 10- Clock Tower - Multan
- 11- Clock Tower - Faisalabad
- 12- Darbar Mahal - Bahawalpur
- 13- Derawer Fort - Derawar
- 14- Fort Munro Steel Bridges - DGK
- 15- Ganda Sighwala Border - Kasur
- 16- GPO - Murree
- 17- Gulzar Mahal - Bahawalpur
- 18- Gurudwara Sacha Sauda - Faroqabad
- 19- Gurudwara Chakki Sahib - Eminabad
- 20- Gurudwara Rori Sahib - Eminabad
- 21- Gurudwara Kartarpur Sahib
- 22- Gurdwara Janam Asthan - N.S.
- 23- Gurudwara Guru Ramdas - Lahore
- 24- Gurdwara Nankana Sahib -N.S.
- 25- Harrappa Ruins - Sahiwal
- 26- Hiran Minar - Sheikhupura
- 27- Kallar kahar - Chakwal
- 28- Kala Bagh dam - Mianwali
- 29- Katas Raj Temple - Chakwal
- 30- Khewra Salt Mine - Pind dadan khan
- 31- Lahore Fort - Lahore
- 32- Lal Suhanra Park - Bahawalpur
- 33- Minar-e-Pakistan - Lahore
- 34- Namal University - Mianwali
- 35- Namal Lake - Mianwali
- 36- Nawab of Kala bagh House
- 37- Neela Sand- Kotli Sattian
- 38- Noor Mahal - Bahawalpur
- 39- Old Fort - Multan
- 40- Patriata Chairlift & Cable Car
- 41- Panjnad - South Punjab
- 42- Panja Sahib - Hasan abdal
- 43- Rohtas Fort - Jehlum
- 44- Safari Train - Murree
- 45- Samadhi of Ranjit Singh - Lhr
- 46- Shalamar Garden - Lahore
- 47- Sadiq Garh Mahal - Bahawalpur
- 48- Shah Rukn e Alam -Multan
- 49- Shrine of Baba Farid Gunj - PP
- 50- Sher Shah Suri Mosque - Bhera
- 51- Shrine of Sultan Bahu - Jhang
- 52- Swaik Lake - Chakwal
- 53- Taxila Museum - Taxila
- 54- Tomb of Ghazi Khan - DGK
- 55- Tomb of Heer Ranjha - Jhang
- 56- Tilla Jogian - Jhelum
- 57- Uch Sharif - Bahawalpur
- 58- Uchali Lake - Khushab
- 59- Wagha Border - Lahore

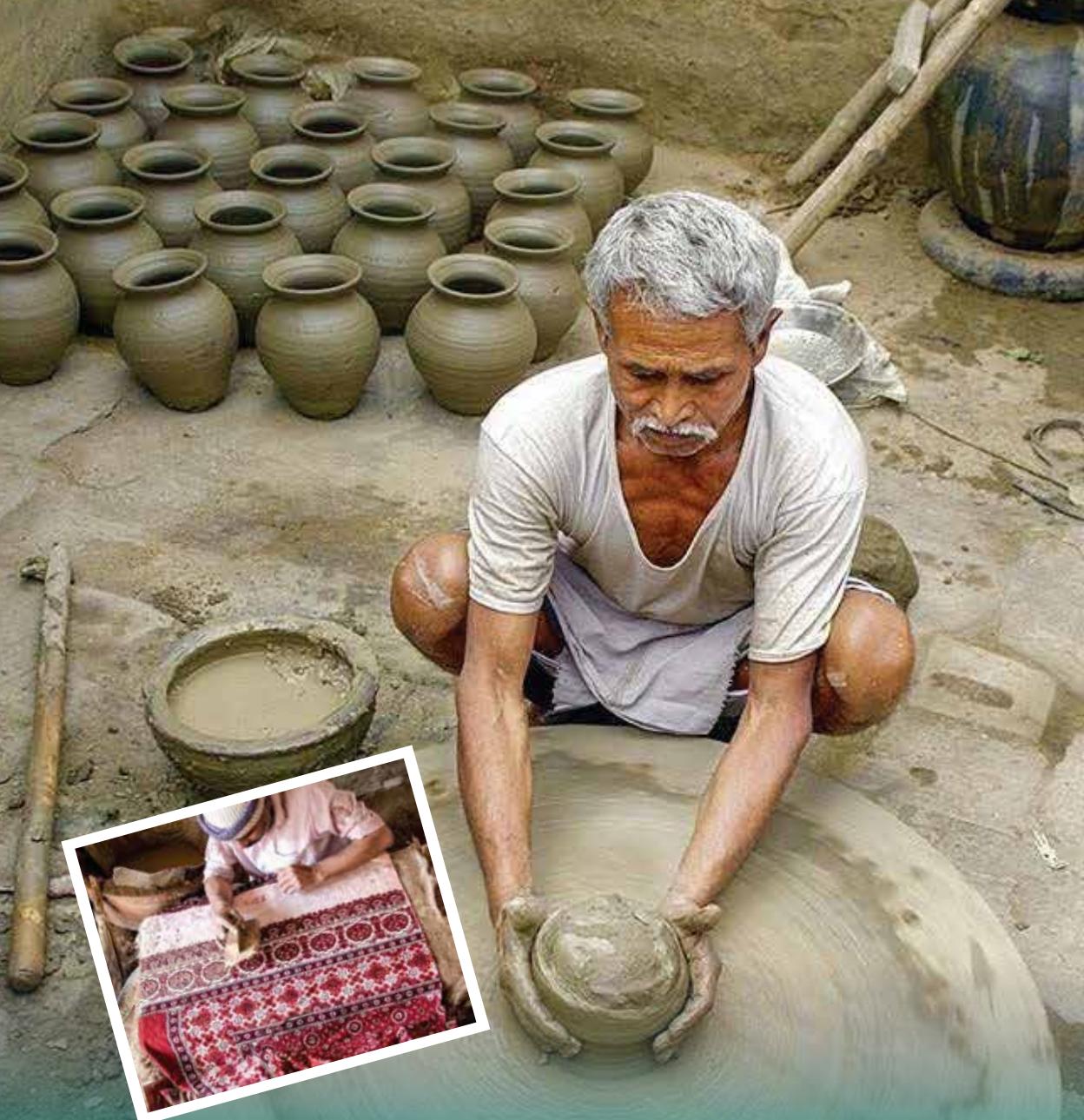
Map of **Punjab**



Province **Sindh**

The Cradle of Civilizations

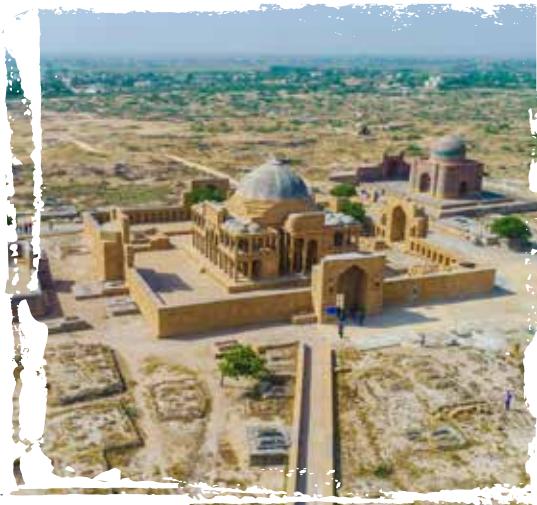




Located in the southeast of the country and bordered by Balochistan, Punjab, the Arabian Sea and the Indian states of Gujarat and Rajasthan lies the province of Sindh - the historical home to the Sindhi people. As second most populous province of Pakistan, it is known as Bab-ul-Islam which translates to the 'Gateway of Islam'. This name found itself fused to Sindh because it saw the first spread of Islam into South Asia. As a result, Sindh became known for its distinct culture which is heavily influenced by Sufism an important part of the Sindhi identity, for both Muslims and Hindus.



Sindh has several important and world-famous Sufi shrines located throughout the province which attract millions of devotees each year. A few of which include: the shrines of Abdullah Shah Ghazi, Sufi Lal Shahbaz Qalandar, and Shah Abdul Latif Bhittai. Moreover, Sindh is also home to the largest number of Hindu residents in Pakistan, along with a number of Hindu temples.



Shri Laxmi Narayan Mandir, a Hindu temple, was constructed around 200 years ago and is an important worshiping site for the Hindus of the local community. Other famous temples include Shri Swaminarayan Mandir and Shri Varun Dev Mandir, all of which attract Hindu pilgrims and tourists alike,



exemplifying the religious diversity in the province. Sindh has its own distinct culture and traditions, stemming from one of the world's oldest civilisations, the Indus Valley Civilisation. It is home to some of the most prominent historical tourist spots: the ruins of Mohenjo-daro near the city of Larkana, which is also a UNESCO world heritage site. Another renowned UNESCO world heritage site is 'Makli Necropolis, known as one of the world's largest funerary sites, housing 500,000 to a million tombs over a course of 400 years. Islamic architecture is also quite prominent in the province with the Shahjahan Mosque in Thatta built by the Mughal emperor Shahjahan.



Karachi

Any conversation regarding the diversity of Pakistan is incomplete without mentioning

Karachi, the former capital of Pakistan and the current capital of Sindh. Karachi is the most populous and modern city of Pakistan. A large chunk of the population is descendants of those who migrated to Pakistan from India after 1947. Known as the "City of Lights", it is the cosmopolitan hub of Pakistan. It lives and breathes with a style of its own. Thriving at the edge of the famous 90km coastline, it operates the largest and busiest ports in the country. The coastline is known for its beautiful public and private beaches, fresh seafood and the coastal highway drive. Mohatta Palace museum provides the opportunity to immerse yourself in the Indo-Saracenic architecture, while Frere Hall hosts several festivals and exhibitions portraying the history, culture and traditions of the region. The beautiful mausoleum of Muhammad Ali Jinnah – the founding father of Pakistan is the most prominent tourist site of Karachi. Karachi is a great place for shopping, number of shopping malls and colourful bazars offer great opportunity to the people who love shopping. Karachi has a tropical and mild climate almost all year round. A trip to Pakistan is incomplete without experiencing the fast paced and rejuvenating atmosphere of Karachi.

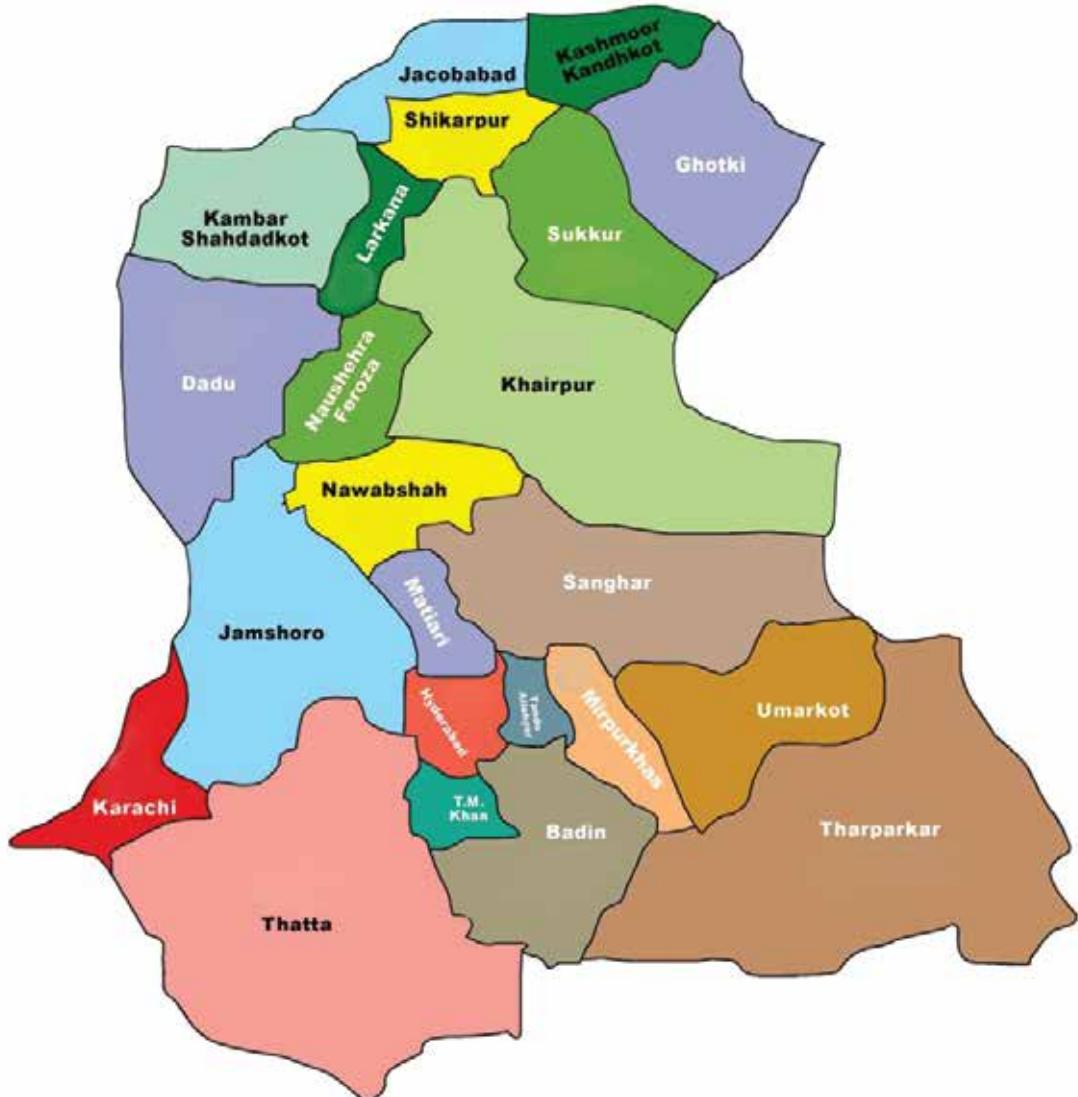


Major Attractions

Sindh

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 01- Buddhist Stupa Thul Mir Rukan | 20- Quid-e-Azam House Museum |
| 02- Diji ji Takri | 21- RaniKot (Fort) |
| 03- Faiz Mahal | 22- Sadh belo (island of indus) |
| 04- Fort of Kotdiji | 23- Sehwan Fort |
| 05- Frere Hall | 24- Shrine of Laki Shah Sadar |
| 06- Ghazi Shah Mound | 25- Shrine of Lal Shahbaz Qalandar |
| 07- Gori Temple | 26- Sindh Provincial Museum |
| 08- Historical Tower Pacca Fort | 27- Square Tower Larkana |
| 09- Hingorani Mariyoon | 28- Soonda Graveyard |
| 10- Jamia Masjid Khudabad | 29- Thar Desert |
| 11- Jain Temple Virwah | 30- Tomb of Mian Noor M. Kalhoro |
| 12- Karoonjhar Mountains | 31- Tomb of Quaid-e-Azam |
| 13- Kirthar Mountains | 32- Umerkot Fort Umerkot |
| 14- Makli Graveyard | 33- Wazir Mansion Museum |
| 15- Manchar Lake | |
| 16- Mohenjo Daro | |
| 17- Mohatta Palace | |
| 18- National Museum of Pakistan | |
| 19- Naukot Fort | |

Map of Sindh



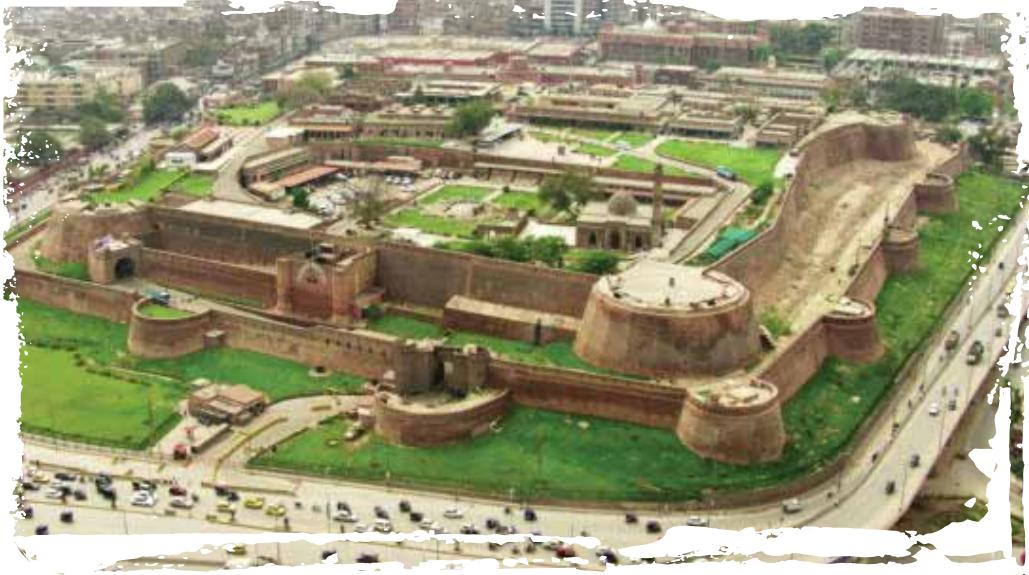
Province **Khyber** **Pakhtunkhwa**

Mesmerizing Khyber Pakhtunkhwa





Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, formerly the North-West Frontier Province, or NWFP, runs for over 110 kilometres along the border with Afghanistan. It is the third-largest province of Pakistan in terms of population and economy. Peshawar is the provincial capital, and the heart of the province is the fertile Vale of Peshawar, which is watered by the Kabul and Swat rivers. The Gandhara civilization, which reached its zenith between the first and fifth centuries AD, had one of its cores over the modern KP province. Peshawar is rich with historic and archaeological sites.



The Khyber Pass linking Pakistan to Afghanistan is perhaps the province's best-known feature, though it was little used in prehistoric times, and even centuries later was considered too narrow and easily ambushed a route. It was not until the 1st Century AD when the powerful Kushans invaded

Gandhara and pacified the area, that the Khyber, the most direct route from Kabul to Peshawar, became popular as a safe trade route. Peshawar (pronounced Pe-SHAH-wur), the capital of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, is a frontier town, the meeting place of the subcontinent and Central Asia. It is among the oldest living cities in this part of Asia—the place where ancient traditions jostle with those of today, and



where the bazaar in the old city has changed little in the last hundred years. Peshawar is known for historic and archaeological sites including Islamia College, Peshawar Museum, Bala Hisar Fort, Gor Khatri, Sethi houses, Cunningham Clock tower, Khyber Bazar, The British Cantonment, Mahabat Khan Mosque, Tomb of Nawab Said Khan & Kotla Mohsin Khan.

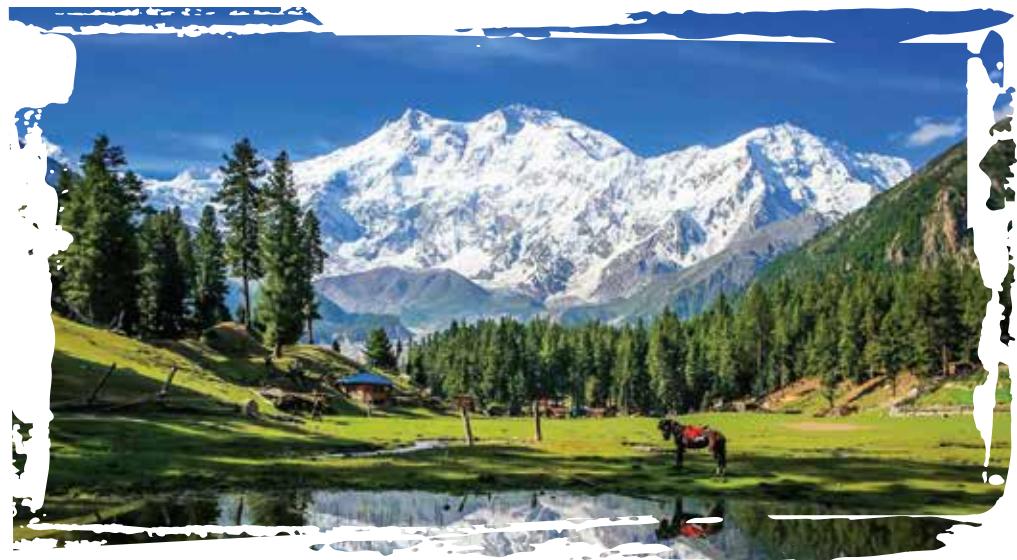
The legendary Khyber Pass, the most famous pass in the world, guards the entrance to the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. No other pass in the world has possessed such strategic importance or retains so many historic associations and romance as this gateway. In this rugged terrain of slate and rock, the actual strategies of the 19th century 'Great Game' of imperial conquest between Britain and Russia were played out. On this fabled route, 'every rock, every hill' has its story. Sipping tea in the ancient bazaars of Peshawar is a unique experience.





The ruins of Takht-e-Bahi, put on UNESCO's World Heritage List, are remains of an ancient Buddhist monastery dating back to the 1st century AD.

The enigmatic Kalash tribe is a dweller of the last mountain enclave of pagan tribal people in one of the remotest parts of Pakistan. The Shandur polo ground offers tabled mountain polo on the highest polo field on earth.





In the southern region of the province, the oldest city of Dera Ismail Khan is located which is known to be the entrance to the province from Punjab and Balochistan. The city is famous for its Hindu ruins at Kafir Kot. The region also offers exquisite pieces of local handicrafts to be made by the hands of skilful artists. The landscape of the region is what it is largely praised for. The terrain consists of mountain ranges, undulating sub montane areas, and plains surrounded by hills. In the north, the mountain ranges generally run north-south, The Hindu Kush region in the north has the highest mountains peaks such as Tirich Mir, which rises to 25,230 feet (7,890 meters). To the south lie the rugged basins of the Panjkora, Swat,



and Kandia rivers. Swat possesses several tourist attractions like Malam Jabba Resort, Mahodhand Lake, Kundol Lake, White Palace, Swat Museum, Utror, Daral Lake, Shingardar Stupa, Amlukdara-Stupa,



Mehmood Ghaznavi Masjid, Madyan Bridge, Fort of Raja-Gera, etc. Located in the foothills of Lowari Pass and adjacent to Swat Valley, Dir is another destination filled with a number of tourist attractions Such as Kumrat Valley, Panjkora River, Katora Lake, Jahaz Banda, Badgoi





Major Attractions

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Peshawar

1. Bala Hisar Fort
2. Islamia College
3. Peshawar Museum
4. Gor Khatri
5. Sehti House
6. Cunningham Clock Tower
7. Khyber Bazar
8. The British Cantonment
9. Mahabat Khan Mosque
10. Tomb of Nawab Sayid
11. Kotla Monsin Khan
12. Qissa Khwani Bazar (Market)

Khyber (newly merged district)

1. Bab-e-Khyber
2. Jamrud Fort
3. Khyber Pass
4. Ali Masjid
5. Khyber Rifle Mess

Swat Valley

1. Gabin Jabba
2. Malam Jabba Ski Resoprt
3. Behrain
4. Mankial
5. Kalam
6. Mahodand Lake
7. Kundol Lake
8. White Palace
9. Swat Museum
10. Utror, Daral Lake
11. Shingardar Stupa
12. Amlukdara-Stupa
13. Mahmood Ghaznavi Masjid
14. Madyan Bridge
15. Fort of Raja-Gera
16. Chukail Banda
17. Mastij Lake

Upper Dir

1. Kumrat Valley
2. Panjkora River
3. Thal Mosque
4. Katora Lake
5. Jahaz Banda
6. Badgoi Pass
7. Lowarl Pass

Chitral Valley

1. Kalash Valley
2. Kalash Museum
3. Chitral Gol National Park
4. Madaklasht
5. Golain Gol
6. Terichmir Peak
7. Qaqlasht Meadows
8. Broghil Valley
9. Karambar Lake
10. Shandur Polo ground
11. Shandur Lake
12. Snowghar Valley
13. Garam Chishma (Hot water springs)

Kaghan Valley

1. Thanddiani
2. Shogran
3. Sharan
4. Lake Saif ul Maluk
5. Ansoo Lake
6. Batakundi
7. Jalkhad
8. Babusar

9. Dudipatsar Lake
10. Dana Meadows
11. Satsiri Mala
12. Supat Valley
13. Maheen Lake

Galiyat

1. Nathiagali
2. Changlagali
3. Dongagali
4. Khanspur
5. Baragali
6. Thandiani



Map of **Khyber Pakhtunkhwa**



Province **Balochistan**

The Land of Beauty





In the south west of the country lies a sprawl of over 347,000 square kilometres. A sparsely populated, mineral rich land gifted with some of the most unique landscapes in Pakistan, this largely undiscovered region beckons to people at home and abroad to come and unveil its many mysteries. This is the province of Balochistan.

The name of Pakistan's largest province, by area, literally translates to "Land of the Baloch", being home to the proud Baloch, Pashtoon and Hazara. From the mountains of Suleman range of Zhob to the beaches of Gwadar, the native people connection to this land has withstood several conquests and onslaughts, hence preserving much of the native culture of the Baloch and Pashtoon culture and tradition from outside influence. In the north of province are the proud Pashtoon areas adjoining the Pakhtoonkhwa province.

Many marvels lie across and deep beneath this land. Discovered here was the skeleton of the Balochitherium or the 'Beast of Balochistan', the largest land mammal in the world that once roamed the then green fields. In addition to fossils, lie many rich minerals and gems like copper, chromite and iron, to name a few.



Balochistan prides of being the land of 'Mehrgarh', the second most ancient civilisation of the world, nearly 7000 years old. It is widely believed to be the forerunner to the Indus Valley civilisation. Nearby lies the Bolan Pass, once a gateway to the Indian subcontinent used by traders, travelling from southern and eastern Iran to Hindustan of that time. These sites serve as a living testament to the history of this region. The Hinglaj temple



Quetta, lying at the mouth of the Bolan Pass, is the capital of the province and its largest city. Here in the North, one finds a stark contrast to the heat and barrenness that dominates much of the province. Blessed with large swathes of junipers lie cities such as Ziarat, a beautiful retreat. The juniper forests here are considered among the oldest in the world.

While largely Sunni Muslim, Balochistan also hosts religious minorities such as the Hazaras, Zikris and a small number of Hindus that annually convene for the largest Hindu pilgrimage in Pakistan, the Hinglaj Yatra. The Hinglaj temple, nestled in the canyons of Hingol National Park, hosts nearly 250,000 Hindu pilgrims every spring.





On its coast, Balochistan offers a plethora of natural wonders. The landscape includes 750km of pristine beaches, sand dunes, rock pools, waterfalls, date forests, mud volcanoes and more untouched tourist places. The Makran Coastal Highway has opened this coast for investors and tourists alike. It takes one across stunning wind sculpted rock formations near the Hingol National Park, including Pakistan's natural mud 'Sphinx' and a huge elegant sculpture dubbed the Princess of Hope by Angelina Jolie. This follows pristine beaches including Kund Malir, Spat, Daran and other hidden, untouched coves of splendour. Gwadar, the jewel in the Balochistan coast, is a hammerhead jutting into the Arabian Sea.





Another flawless gem lies a few hours off the coast. Pakistan's first protected marine area, the Astola Island, is home to several interesting species, including the endangered green turtle, which nests on Astola's stunning beaches. En-route, one can gaze at schools of dolphin swimming across the turquoise waters.

Balochistan being the largest province possesses the largest and most diverse tourists attraction places as Pir Ghaib Falls, in Bolan Pass near Mehargarh, the archaeological site; Moola Chitok, in village Moola in Khuzdar; Quaid-e-Azam Residency, Ziarat, near Quetta to the north; the Hannah Jheel, Quetta; Hingol National Park; Kund Malir Beach; Pir Chattal Noorani, Gandhawa, Jhal Magsi; Astola Island, Gwadar/Pasni, Jhal Magsi; the Kharan Desert; newly established Gwadar Cricket Stadium, etc.

Nearby coast is the Bela ancient caves of Gondrani, which according to local folklore date back to the Buddhist period or even from the time of Solomon.

From the famous festival of Sibi to relishing the sajji meat and rock bread, Balochistan keeps one engaged and truly mesmerised.

Major Attractions

Balochistan

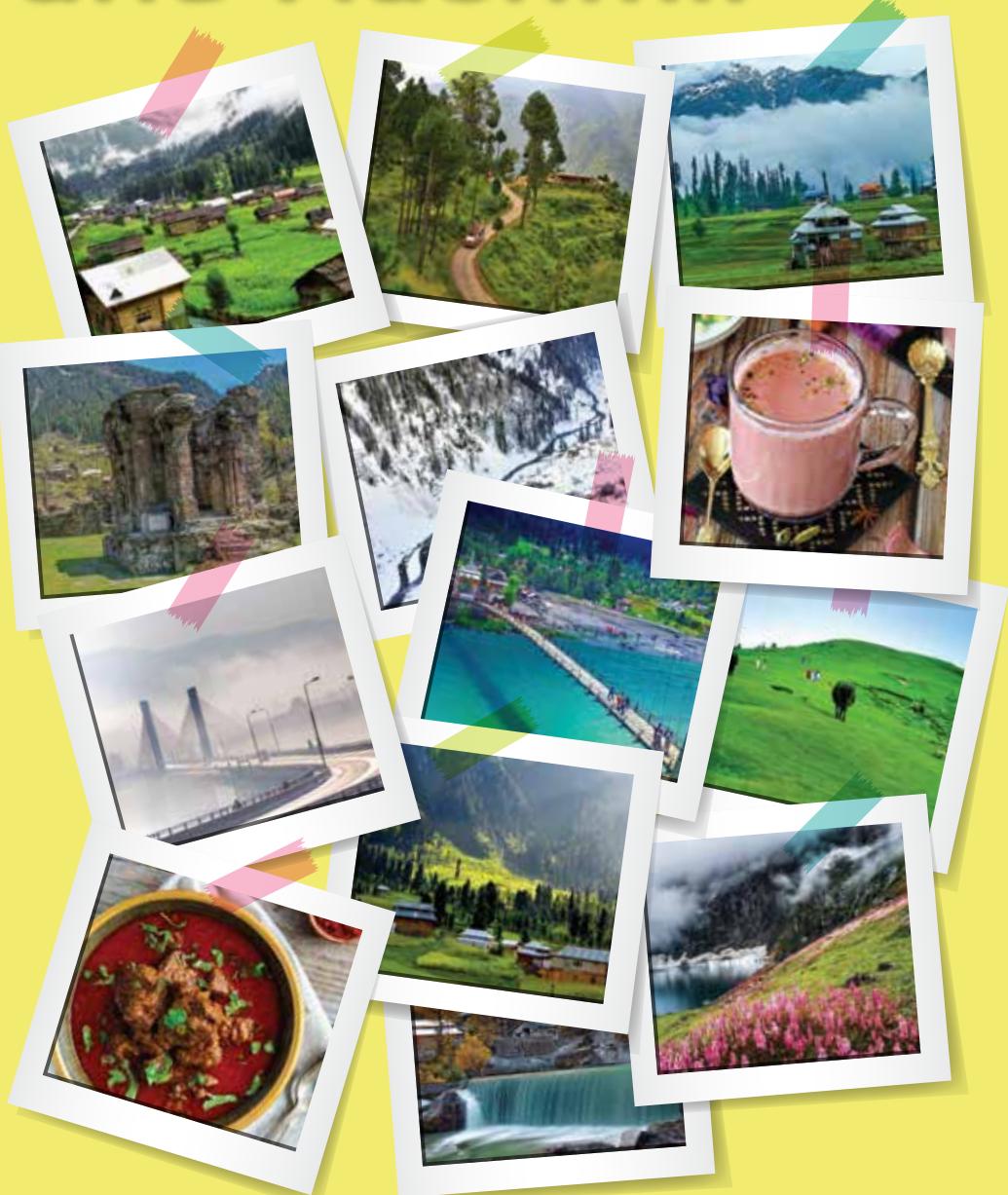
- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 01- Astola Island | 20- Ormara |
| 02- Chotok Waterfalls | 21- Hinglaj Mata Mandir |
| 03- Gwadar/Pasni | 22- Bolan Pass |
| 04- Gwadar Cricket Stadium | 23- Chiltan Hazarganj National Park |
| 05- Hingol National Park | 24- Mehar Garh |
| 06- Kund Malir Beach | 25- Sibi |
| 07- Khuzdar | 26- Panjgur |
| 08- Magsi | |
| 09- Moola Chotok | |
| 10- Pir Chattal Noorani Gandhawa | |
| 11- Phir Ghaib Falls | |
| 12- Quaid-e-Azam Residency, Ziarat | |
| 13- The Bolan Pass | |
| 14- The Princess of Hope | |
| 15- The Kharan Desert | |
| 16- The Hannah Jheel | |
| 17- Waadi-e-Bolan | |
| 18- Quetta | |
| 19- Jiwani | |

Map of **Balochistan**



Voice of Mountains

Azad Jammu and Kashmir





Bordering Punjab province to the south and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to the west, lies the mesmerising, scenic region of Azad Jammu and Kashmir, abbreviated as AJK. It is a self-governing jurisdiction that spans across an area of 13,297 square kilometres and is the Pakistani-administered portion of Kashmir, lying west of Indian-occupied Jammu and Kashmir.



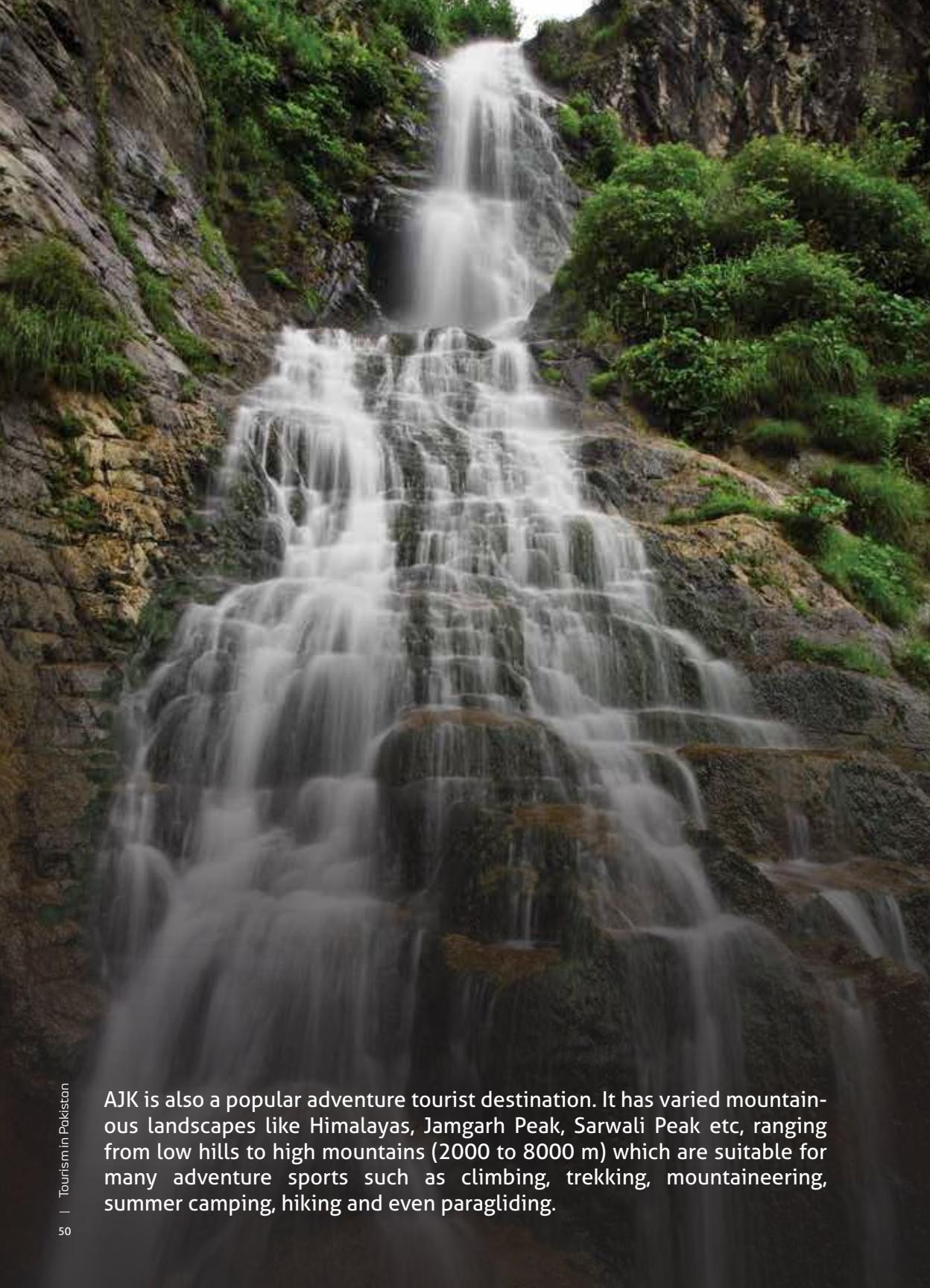
AJK modern, mineral rich, lush green city is located within the mountains, at the confluence of Jhelum and Neelum river. It is close to many tourist attractions such as Peer Chinasi, the Red Fort, and the Kohala Bridge etc.

AJK is famous for beautiful lakes such as Ratti Gali, Shounter and Chitta Khata etc, making AJK a popular leisure and adventure tourist destination.



Moreover, AJK is known for its valleys, plateaus, forests, streams, snow-capped peaks, and lush green mountain ranges. Often dubbed as 'Heaven on Earth', it is one of the most popular tourist and leisure destinations. Hari Parbat and Toli Peer are among the eminent mountain peaks.





AJK is also a popular adventure tourist destination. It has varied mountainous landscapes like Himalayas, Jamgarh Peak, Sarwali Peak etc, ranging from low hills to high mountains (2000 to 8000 m) which are suitable for many adventure sports such as climbing, trekking, mountaineering, summer camping, hiking and even paragliding.

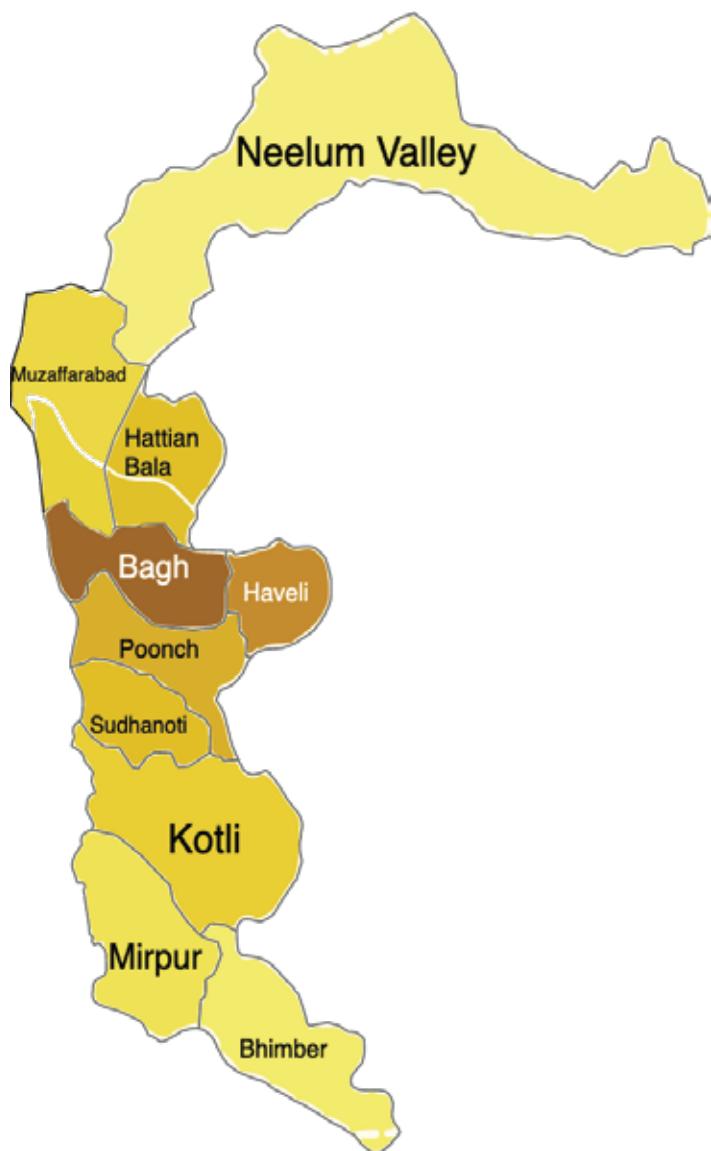


Major Attractions

Azad Jammu and Kashmir

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| 01- Banjosa | 20- Baboom Valley |
| 02- Chattar, Muzaffarabad | 21- Sudhan Gali |
| 03- Jogran Nullah, Neelum Valley | 22- Ganga Choti |
| 04- Kel, Neelum Valley | 23- Bagh |
| 05- Kharigaam | 24- Lasdana |
| 06- Kutton | 25- Tatla Pani |
| 07- Leepa Valley | 26- Kotli |
| 08- Mangla Fort Mirpur | 27- Mirpur |
| 09- Neelum Valley | 28- Pir Chanasi |
| 10- Nakot, Leepa Valley | 29- Mangla Lake |
| 11- Old Hindu Temple, Sharda | 30- Saurahi |
| 12- Palandri | 31- Ramkot Fort |
| 13- Ratti Gali Lake | 32- Baghsar Fort |
| 14- Shaunter Valley | |
| 15- Sehnsa Valley, District Kotli | |
| 16- Taabut, Neelum Valley | |
| 17- Arang Kel | |
| 18- Toli pir | |
| 19 - Chita Katha Lake | |

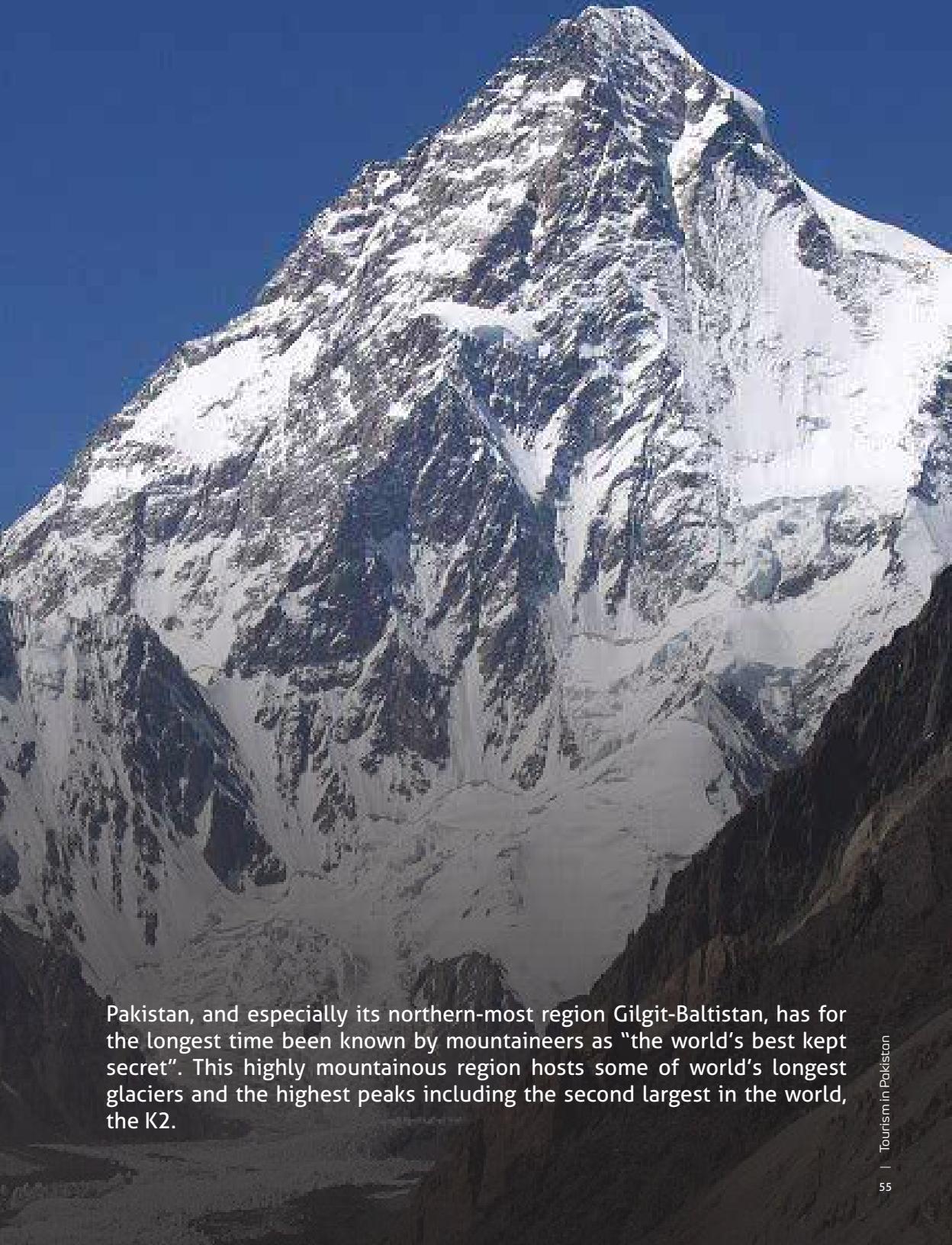
Map of Azad Jammu and Kashmir



North Pakistan Gilgit Baltistan

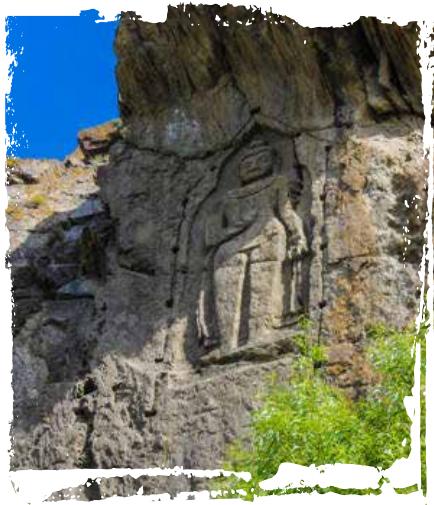
Jewel of Pakistan





Pakistan, and especially its northern-most region Gilgit-Baltistan, has for the longest time been known by mountaineers as "the world's best kept secret". This highly mountainous region hosts some of world's longest glaciers and the highest peaks including the second largest in the world, the K2.

From the 1970s onwards, the Karakoram Highway, yet another wonder, gave new life to the region. An adventure in its own right, the ride along this impressive highway takes travellers on a journey starting in the plains of the Punjab, crossing Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, following the Indus River and leading up to



the northern border with China and beyond. Dotted with heritage of universal significance and included in the UNESCO World Heritage Sites tentative list, the valleys of Gilgit-Baltistan possess places that demonstrate and preserve the magnificence of past rulers and serve as reminders of the traditions and culture that once dominated these lands.

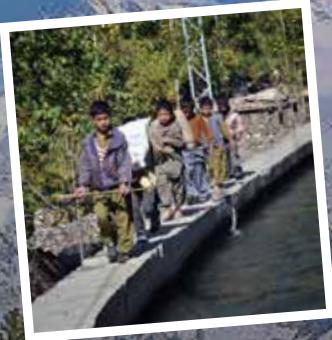






Ambitious climbers attempt to summit the five eight-thousanders, out of fourteen worldwide, every year. Deosai, the "Land of the Giants", is the second highest plateau on earth and a surreal sight plucked straight out of a camper's dream. There, Sheosar Lake is just one of the many spellbinding lakes of the region, along with Upper and Lower Kachura Lakes in Skardu, Khalti Lake in Ghizer and the famously turquoise Attaabad Lake in Upper Hunza – the former two, beautiful aftermaths of recent devastating landslides.





The attractions of Gilgit-Baltistan are not just built around scenic landscapes. A popular tradition of Gilgit-Baltistan includes the "king of games": the world's highest, annual freestyle mountain polo event in Shandur, where Gilgit-Baltistan competes against the traditional sporting arch-rival Chitral (KPK).

Home to several ethnic groups, sects and languages, Gilgit-Baltistan is also one of the most diverse regions in the country, in which each community kept their specific traditions intact for the longest time. With a literacy rate of 72%, Gilgit-Baltistan's population is also highly educated. Women in Gilgit-Baltistan partake in embroidery, carpet-weaving, craftsmanship, agriculture and are seen running small enterprises. Crafts that use natural dyes, wool and gems that sit in silver rings present ample opportunity for tourist to take home beautiful and valuable local souvenirs.

As the evenings come alive with the sound of local music, tourists can feast on Chapshoro, a meat-filled bread specialty of Nager, Dawdo, a local noodle soup popular all over the region, or buckwheat pancakes dipped in apricot oil. This land and its richly flavoured cuisine offer more than just food for consumption, it offers food for the soul.

Major Attractions

Gilgit Baltistan

- 01. Andra Poyega Hunza
- 02. Basho Forest Skardu
- 03. Bagrote Valley Gilgit
- 04. Bilamik Skardu
- 05. Chitrong Hot Spring Shigar
- 06. Donsa Valley Skardu
- 07. Deosai National Park
- 08. Derlay Lake Astore
- 09. Dainter Bar valley nagar
- 10. Gulkin Village Hunza
- 11. Hushy Valley Ghanche
- 12. Hoper Valley Nagar
- 13. Husani Suspension Bridge Hunza
- 14. Iskoman Valley Ghizer.
- 15. Jhabazo Lake Shigar
- 16. Jutial Nalah Gilgit
- 17. Karamber lake Ghizer
- 18. Khukush lake Ghizer
- 19. Kahmosh Absar Kaharmang
- 20. Khalti Lake Ghizer
- 21. Katpana Desert Skardu
- 22. Kargaha Buddha Gilgit
- 23. Kachali Lake Minapin Nagar
- 24. Lamsa Rock Carvings Shigar
- 25. Musbrum Valley Ghanche
- 26. Montokaha Water fall Karmang
- 27. Manthal Budah Rocks Skardu
- 28. Mamobar Nagar
- 29. Parishing Astore
- 30. Phander Valley Ghizer
- 31. Puol Road Gilgit
- 32. Passu Coens Hunza
- 33. Rakaposhi Vase Camp Nagar
- 34. Rama Meadows Astore
- 35. Shiosar Lake
- 36. Shimshal Valley Hunza
- 37. Sailing Ghanche
- 38. Tarishing Astore
- 39. Twin Bridges Gilgit
- 40. Ultar Meadows Hunza
- 41. Upper Kachura Skardu
- 42. Central Karakoram National Park
- 43. Nanga Parbat National Park
- 44. Khunjerab National Park

Map of Gilgit Baltistan



Impressum

Produced by:



PTDC (Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation)
Islamabad.
www.tourism.gov.pk

Special Thanks



TDCP (Tourism Development Corporation of Punjab).
www.tdcp.gop.pk



Sindh Tourism Development Corporation
www.stdct.gov.pk



KPCTA (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Culture and Tourism Authority).
www.kptourism.com



Balochistan Culture, Tourism and Archives Department
www.balochistan.gov.pk



Gilgit Baltistan Tourism, Sports, Culture, Archaeology & Museum Dpt.
www.visitgilgitbaltistan.gov.pk



AJ&K Tourism & Archaeology Department
www.ajktourism.gov.pk



Directorate of Archaeology and Museums.
Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa



Assam Artist (SMC) Private Limited. (Map & Design)
www.assamartist.com

Photo Credits

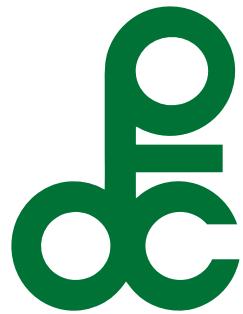
Assam Altaf - Pg. 3,4,5,6, 17, 57, 59
Luke Martin - Pg. 12 (c)
Obaid chawla - Pg. 24
mhtoori
AFP - Pg. 34 (b)
Muhammad Usman Pg. 09

Faizan Bhatti - Pg.17 (Surjan Singh Street)
Moiz - Pg - 16
Taha - Pg. 28
Maqsood - Pg. 46 (ratti gali)
Migrationology - Pg.54

Useful Contacts

- Tourism Development Corporation Punjab (TDCP)
- Sindh Tourism Development Corporation (STDCT)
- Department of Culture, Tourism & Youth Affairs Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
- Department of Culture, Tourism and Archives Balochistan
- Tourism, Sports, Culture, Archaeology & Museums Department Gilgit Baltistan
- Azad Jammu & Kashmir Tourism & Archaeology Department

+92 (42) 111-111-042
+92 (21) 99332658-9
+92 (91) 9211091
+92 (81) 9202905
+92 5811-920173
+92 5822-921317



www.tourism.gov.pk



Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation
Kohsar Block (Ground Floor), Pak Secretariat, Islamabad.
 (+92) 51 9212827  (+92) 51 9212853
www.tourism.gov.pk

