

## ASSESMENT REPORT: TRAVELLING TO BUNDAL ISLAND

To: Manager Gulf Travel & Tourism

From: Travel Agent

Subject : Assessment Report of Bundal Island

Date: 6<sup>th</sup> September, 2023

**Purpose:** The aim of this report is to evaluate/assess the suitability of Bundal Island as a destination for package holidays. A brief description, including positive as well as negative aspects, of Island is provided to support reaching an ultimate conclusion.

**Description of the Island**: Bundal, also known as Bhandar by the local fishermen is a small island, located in the Arabian Sea off the coast of Karachi, Pakistan. It is considered to be a twin island of Buddo island & lies to its west. It is an incredibly calm place, dominated by nature.

Journey towards the Island: Bundal Island is located near Pakistan Airforce Base, Korangi, Karachi. Therefore, to reach Bundal Island, one need to travel to Pakistan Airforce first and from there, boats service like Abrahim Hydri Ferry Line is used to reach the Island. It is around 1 hour 20 minutes journey via boat. Sometimes, occasional trips are conducted of the island for which special permits is required.

### **Facilities Available:**

Since it is a small Island, therefore accommodation possibilities doesn't include resorts, but a few medium quality hotels and some traditional huts near Beach. One can camp as well. Although accommodation limitation doesn't reduce the overall charm of Bundal Island as there are other attractions. It is near to Do Dorya which is located at DHA Phase 8, Karachi, therefore a few water-based sports are quite a charm of this Island. Scuba diving, Pedal boating, Kayaking, Canoeing, Swimming, Snorkeling and sunbathing are most popular activities. Lifeguards are also always available to avoid the possibility of any unwanted occurrence. Furthermore, picking up coral is a punishable crime in Bundal Island.

#### Food:

There are few restaurants which offer food similar to that in Karachi, including sea foods, Biryani and other local cuisine, which though is not much impressive taste and quality-wise. However, there is a facility to tent therefore tourists can enjoy Barbeque themselves in a nice, open air environment.

### **Cost and Fare:**

There are many travel agencies currently who take regular trips to the Bundal Island. Occasionally like in summer, weekends etc., it is crowded, and the cost varies a little. But an average cost of a per day trip costs Rs. 4000 to Rs. 5000, including boat fare to go & return, accommodation, food, activities, lifeguards and tour guides. However, some activities like Scuba Diving and Snorkeling costs a little extra. Overall required budget for a one-day trip to Bundal Island is around Rs. 6000, but the experience truly worth it.

# **Positive Aspects:**

Bundal Island is a decent place where one can have a really good time with family or friends, out of the busy life of city. Though small, but it has many of the activities even huge island don't offer which gives tourist a wholesome experience within a reasonable budget. One can choose activities amongst Scuba diving, Pedal boating, Kayaking, Canoeing, Swimming, Snorkeling and sunbathing to spend their day in a best possible way. Overall it is a very delightful yet economical destination to visit.

## **Negative Aspects:**

Apart from its numerous favorable aspects, some aspects are not so promising, that need special considered while reaching to the conclusion. There are issues with permit to be granted as the route to reach Bundal Island includes passing by Pakistan Airforce Base which can be critical sometimes. Apart from that since it is a small island and prey of Government disinterest, so there is a lack of infrastructure to support tourism like good quality hotels, restaurants, hospitals, public transport, mobile network etc. Condition of available infrastructure is also below the belt.

#### **Conclusion:**

Based on the above points, it is recommended to take initiative on this destination and exploit this opportunity as soon as possible. By improving the quality of service, major share of visitors can be attracted towards this destination. All that need to be done is to provide better quality of service by acquiring good transportation facilities including boats to minimize the discomfort for clients, to deal with local restaurants to upgrade their food quality. So overall it would be a productive endeavor for our company if we go for it.