

# Tourism in Pakistan



An Initiative of the Government of Pakistan  
Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation

TM  
**ghlawn**  
pakistan



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# Welcome to Pakistan





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 had flourished in present days geographical areas of Pakistan.

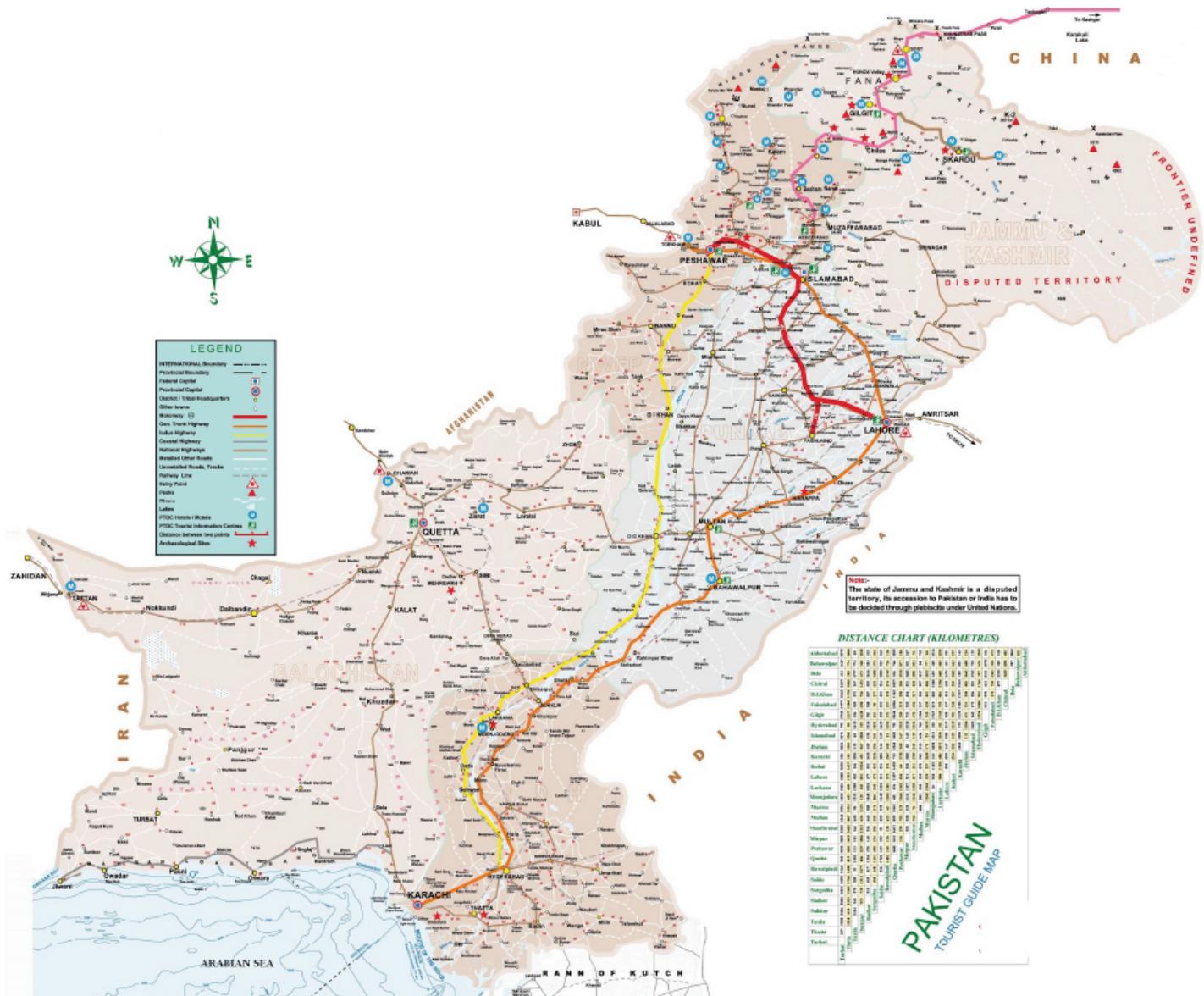
There are the oldest and most venerable Buddhist sites in the sub-continent. After the decline of Buddhism and the revival of Hinduism, the areas became the theatre of Hindu monuments. The Indus Valley civilization provides a very large source of religious attractions that are extremely useful in the 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 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.

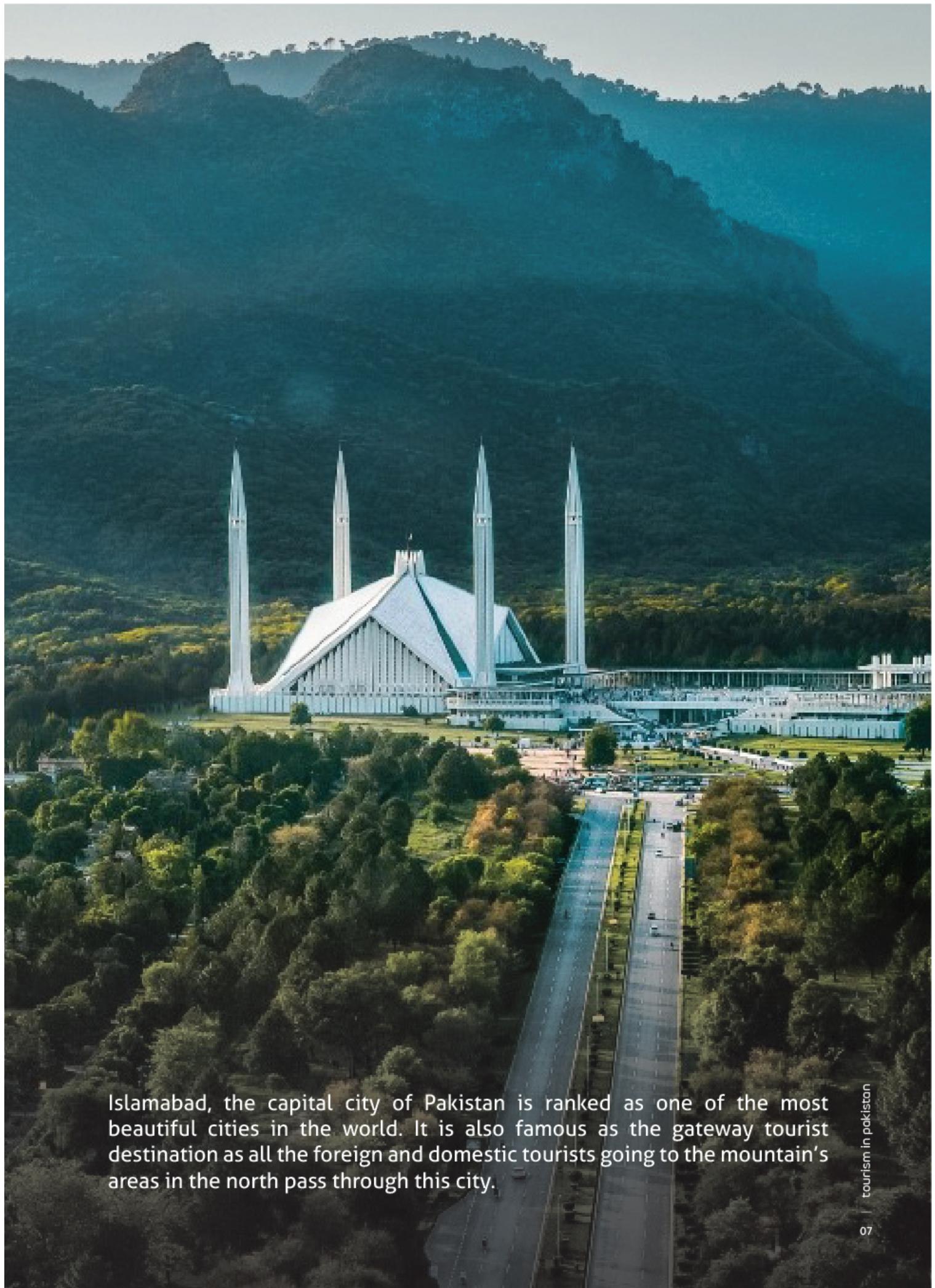
# Geography of Pakistan



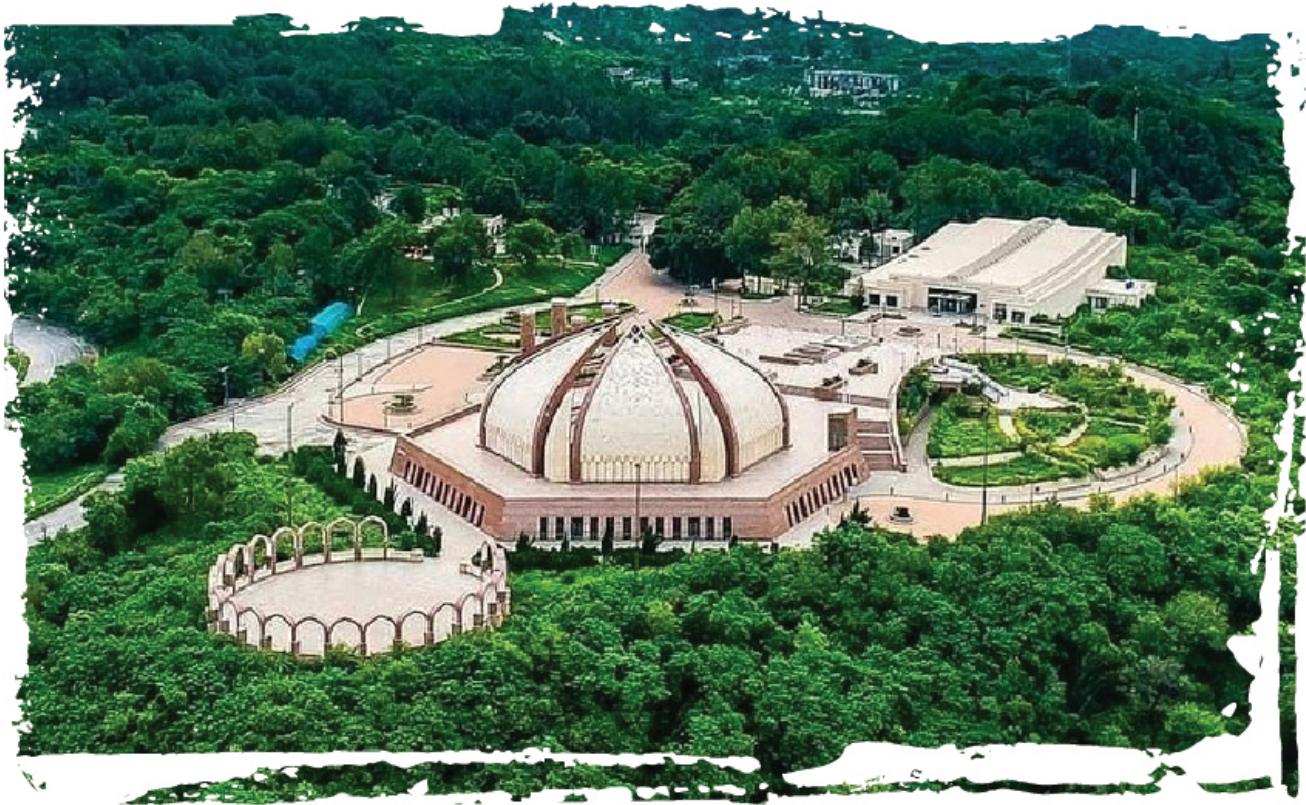
# Capital Territory **Islamabad**



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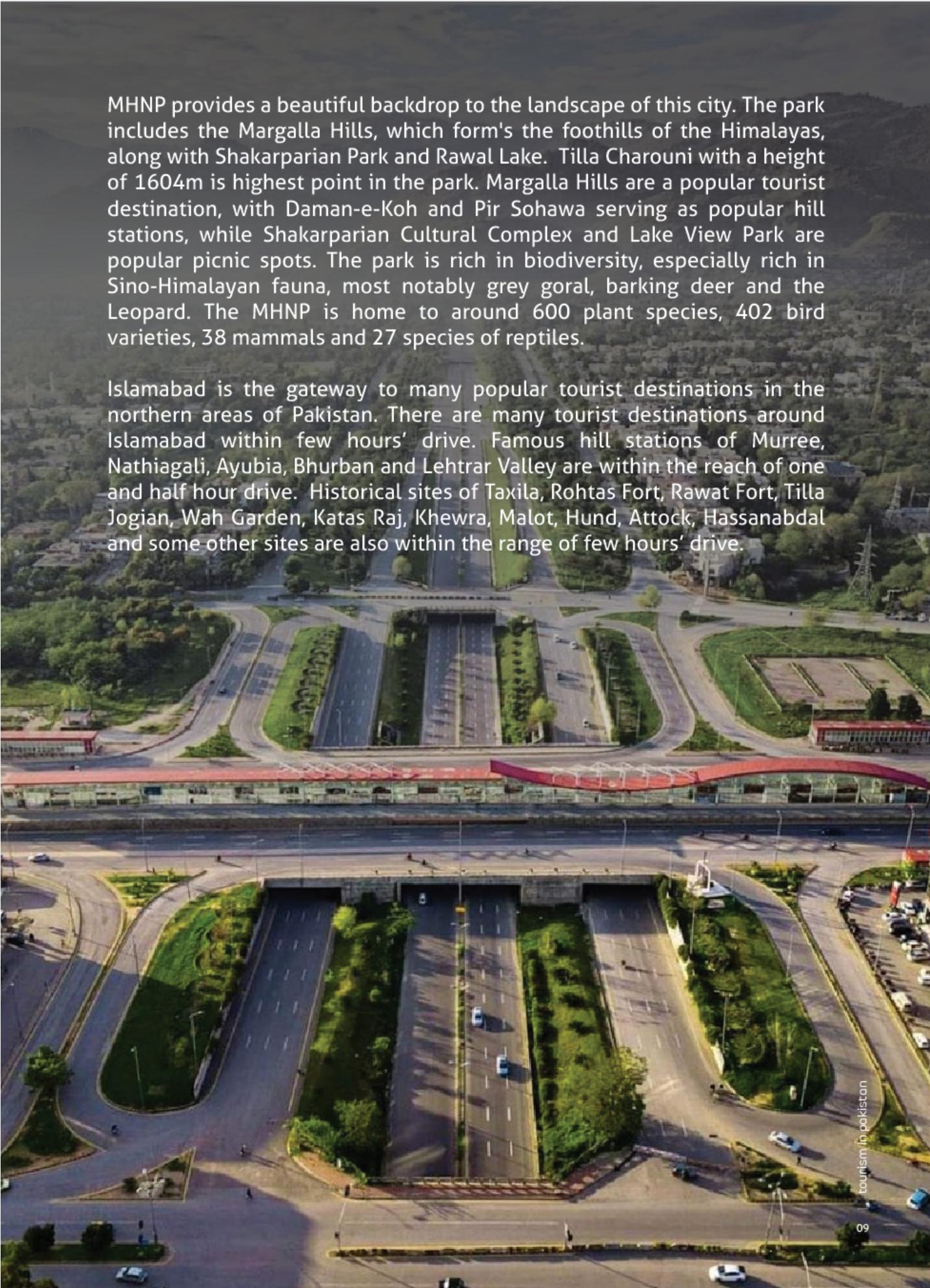


Islamabad, the capital city of Pakistan is ranked as one of the most beautiful cities in the world. It is also famous as the gateway tourist destination as all the foreign and domestic tourists going to the mountain's areas in the north pass through this city.



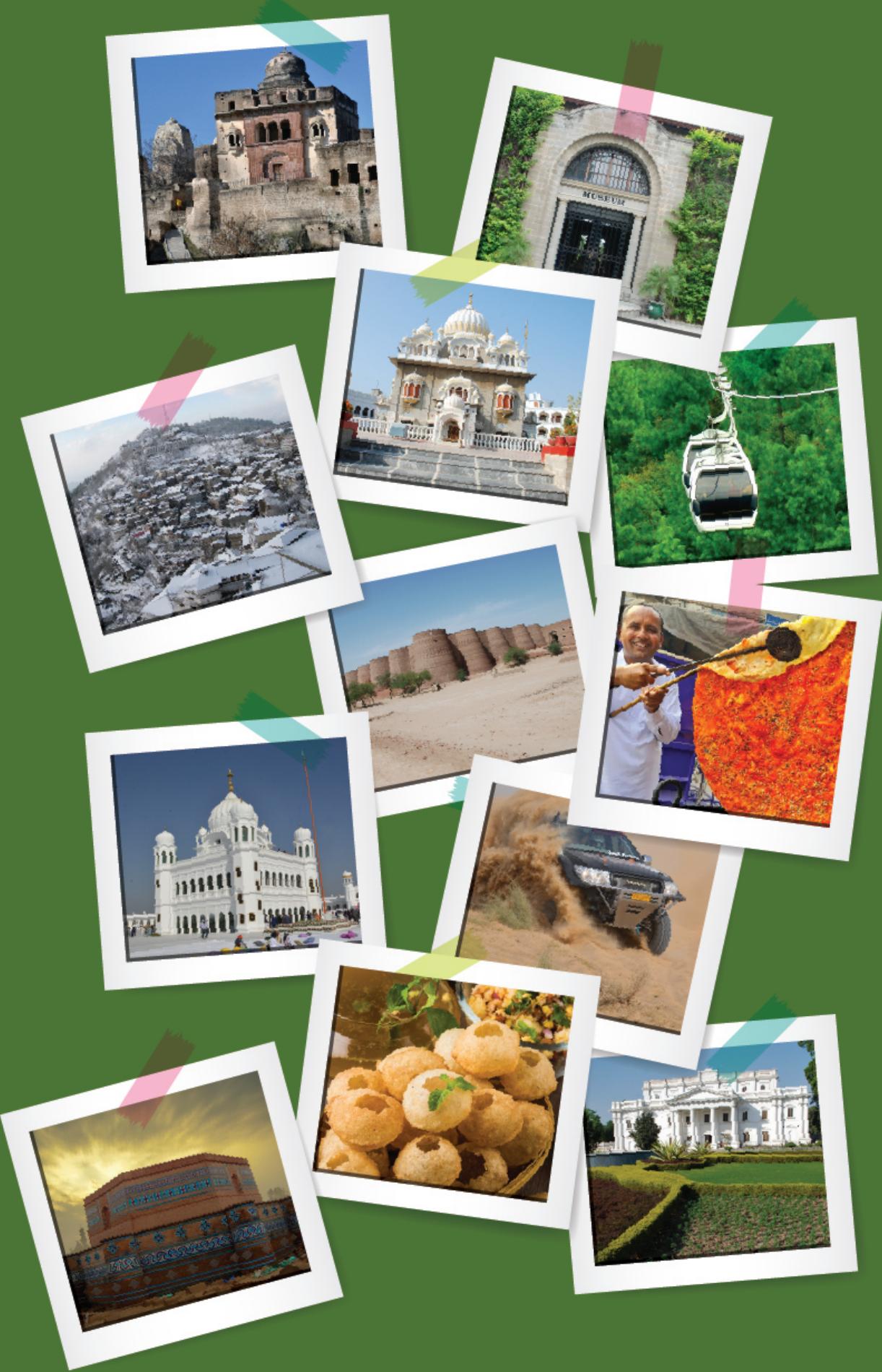
The city of Islamabad was built in 1960 to replace Karachi as the new capital of Pakistan, which it has been since 1963. Due to Islamabad's proximity to Rawalpindi, they are considered sister cities. The area where Islamabad is located has a history going back to the earliest human habitations in Asia. The city is famous for its lush green landscape and is often referred to by its nickname 'The Green City'. It includes number 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).



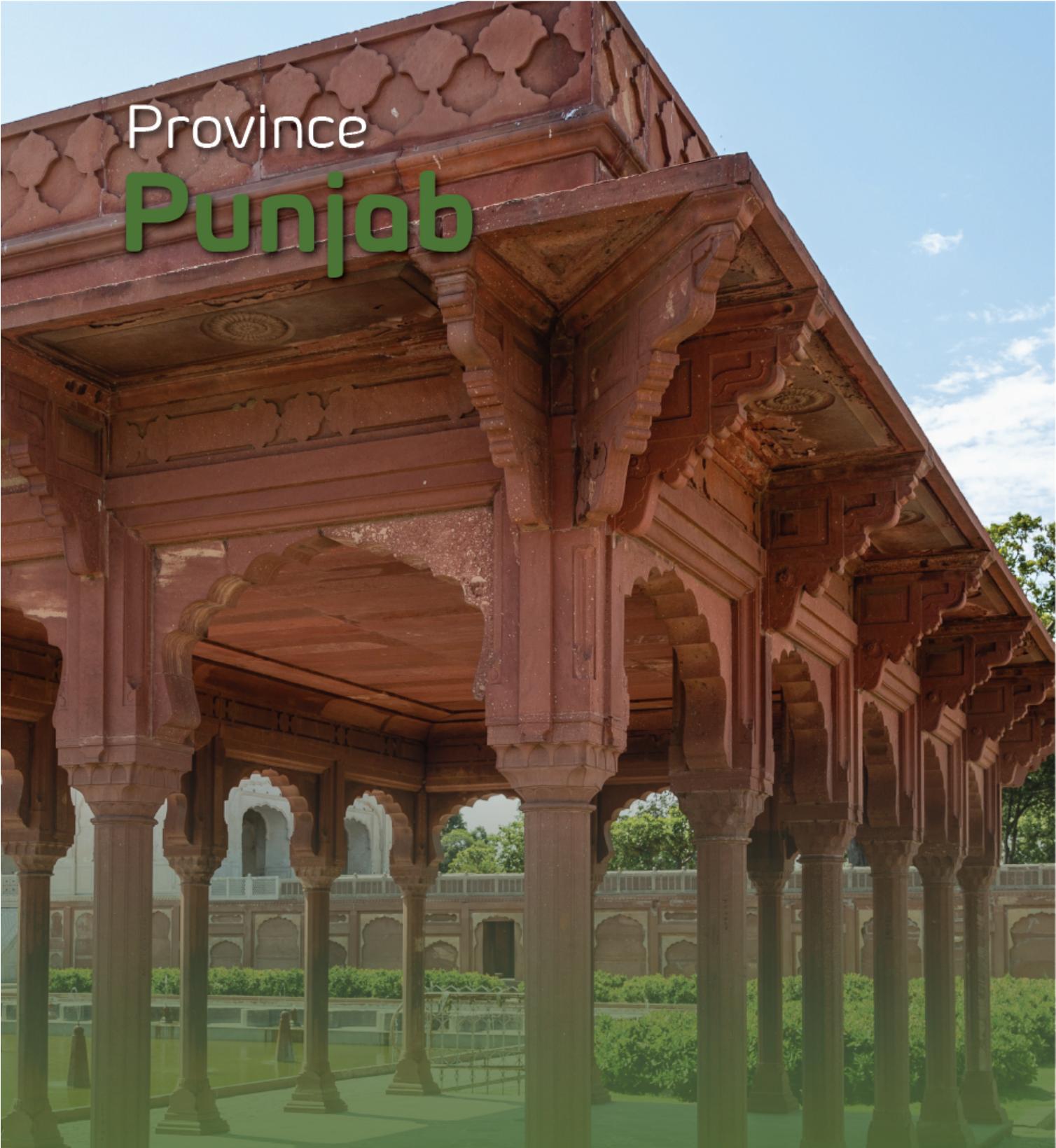


MHNP provides a beautiful backdrop to the landscape of this city. The park includes the Margalla Hills, which form's the foothills of the Himalayas, along with Shakarparian Park and Rawal Lake. Tilla Charouni with a height of 1604m is highest point in the park. Margalla Hills are a popular tourist destination, 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**



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.



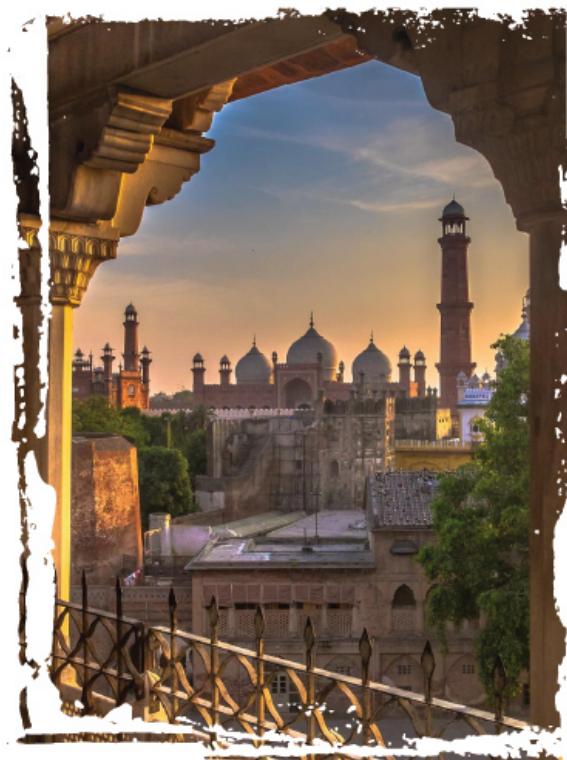


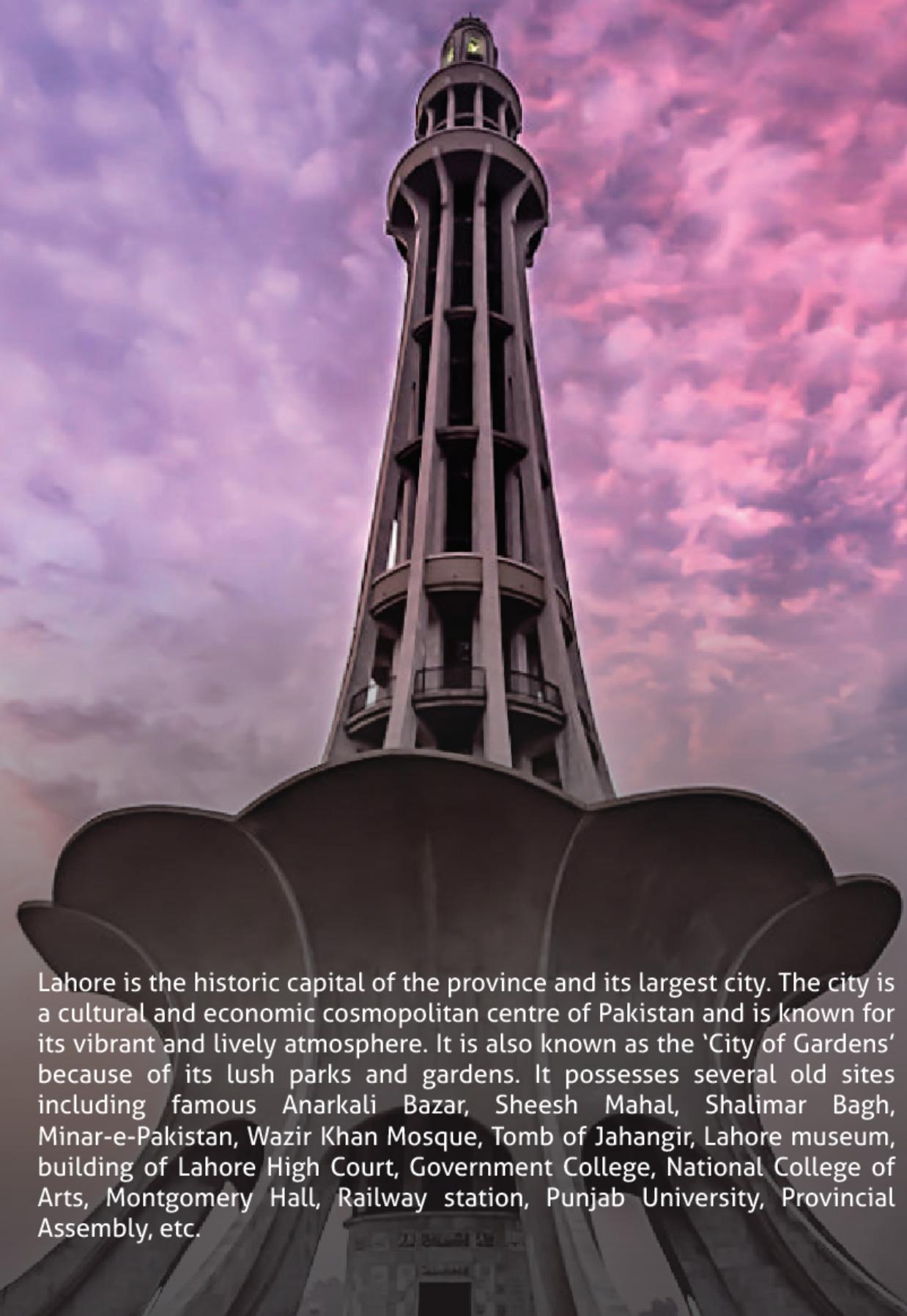
Moreover, Punjab is the time capsule of the subcontinent. The history of Punjab dates to the Indus Valley Civilisation, which was the bronze age of South Asia, when the fertile plains of Indus were inhabited circa 5500 BCE. The region has been conquered and ruled by many different empires since. Therefore, 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.



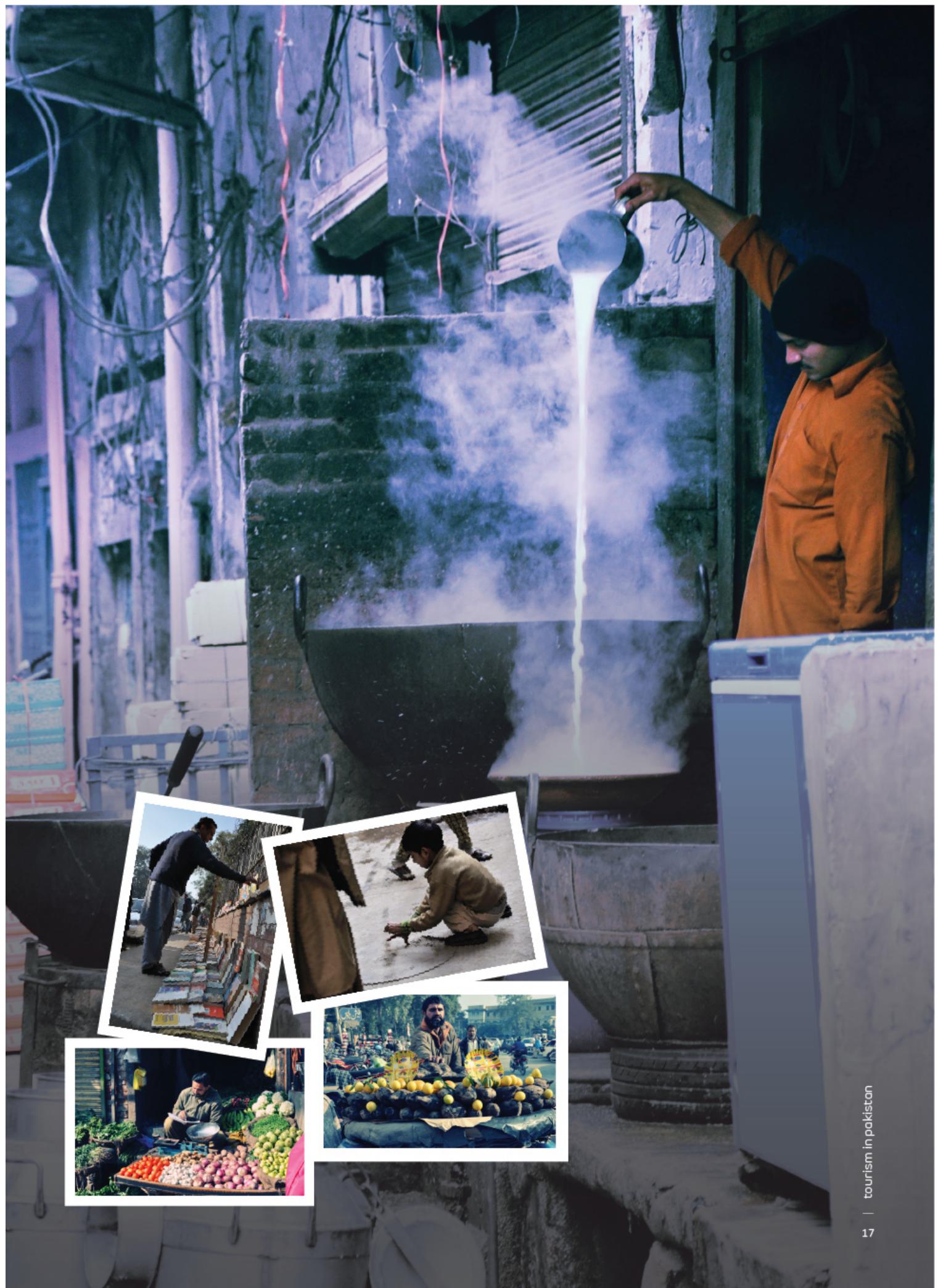


Lahore is the historic capital of the province and its largest city. The city is a cultural and economic cosmopolitan centre of Pakistan and is known for its vibrant and lively atmosphere. It is also known as the 'City of Gardens' because of its lush parks and gardens. It possesses several old sites 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, Sham Shams Sabzwari, Bahauddin Zakriya and Fort Kahna 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. Khewra Salt Mines, the ancient Hindu Katas Raj temples, Mausoleum of Sheikh Rukh-e-Alam in Multan and Data Darbar, the largest Sufi shrine in South Asia, etc.



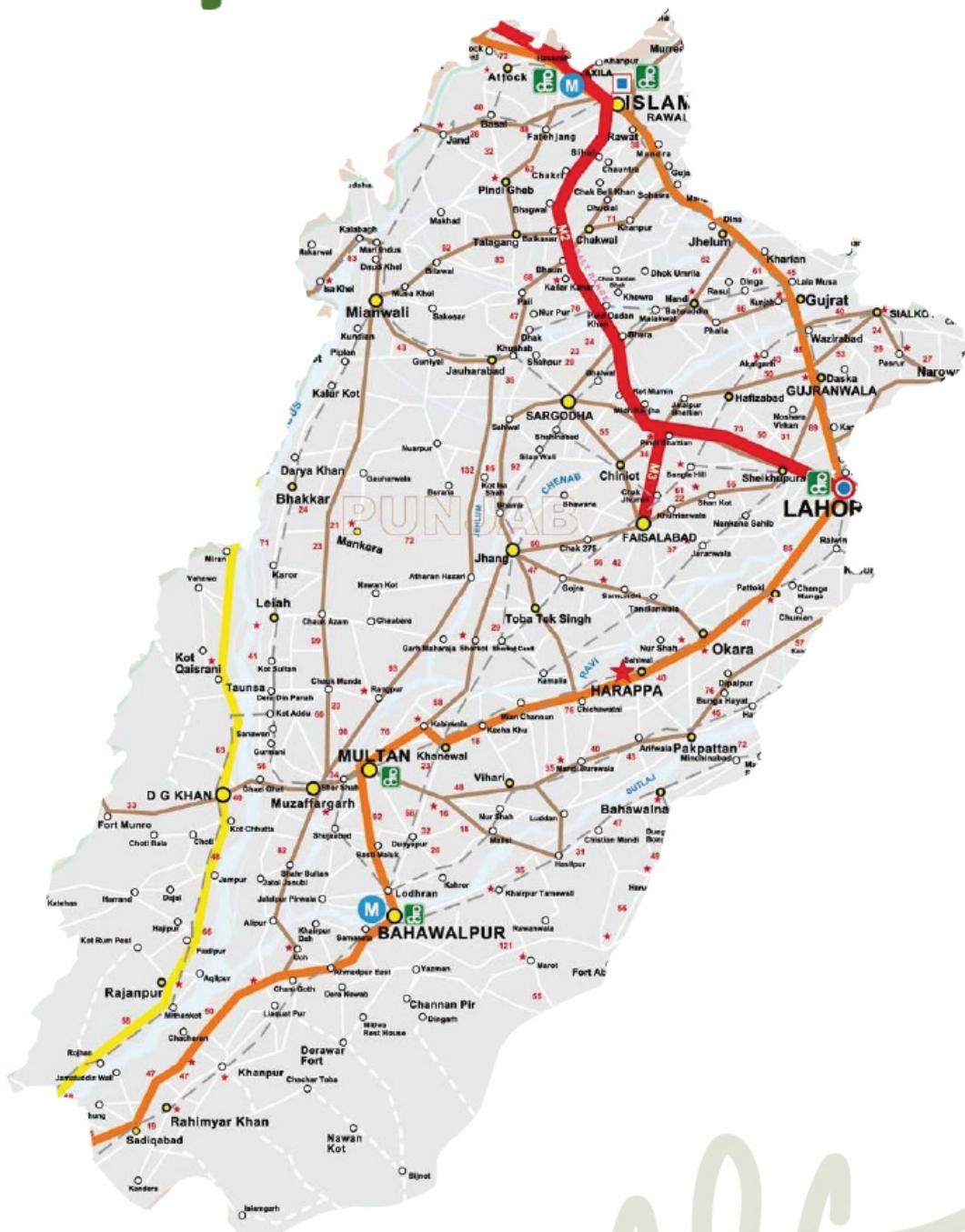
# Major Attractions

# 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

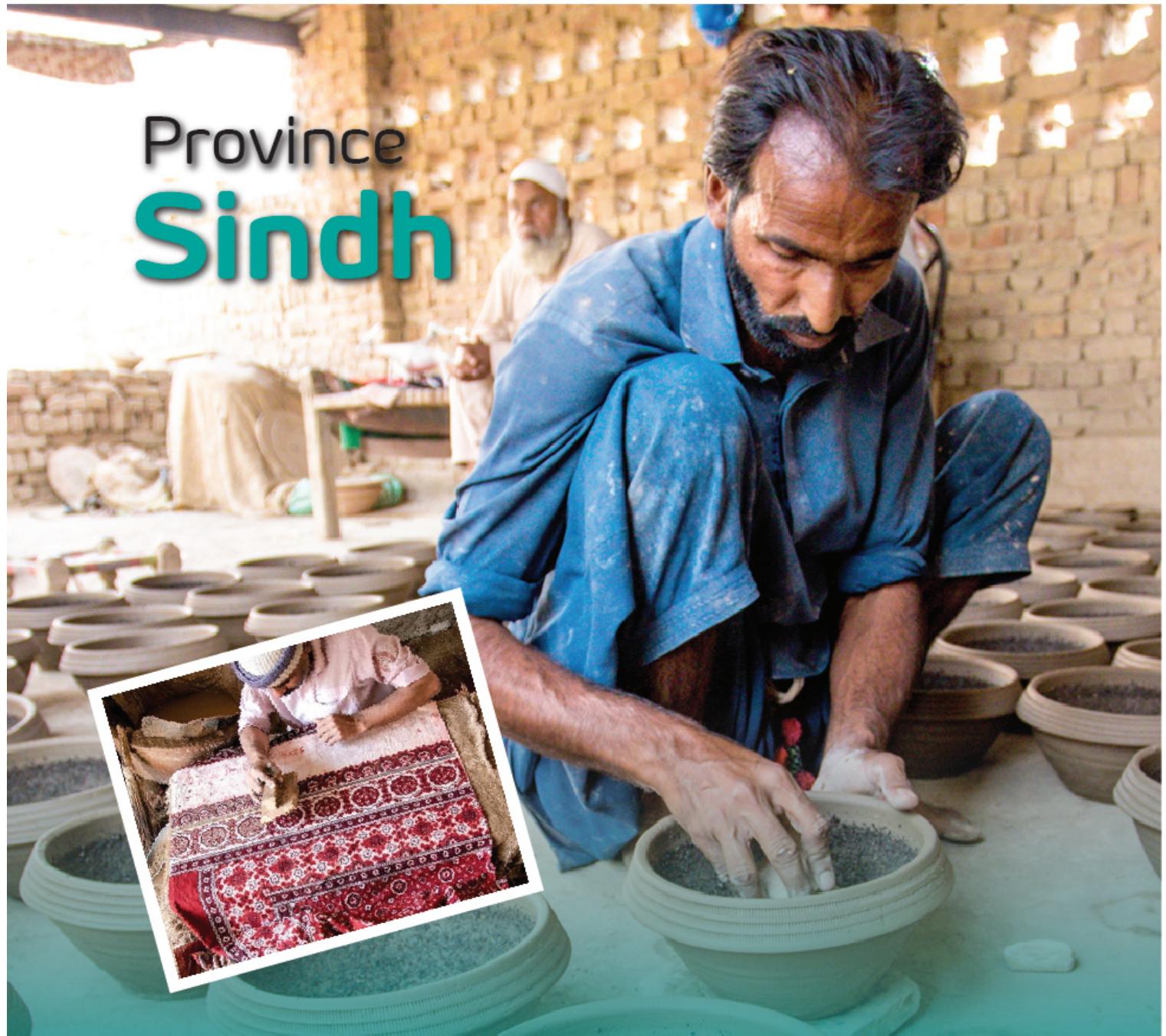
# Geography of **Punjab**



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# Province **Sindh**



Sindh, the southern province of Pakistan, is steeped in history. Millions of years ago, the landmass of the entire province was under Sea. One comes across evidence of it again and again in the mountains of Kirthar range. The fossils of millions of years old marine life, fish, sea urchins and little-known forms of life are still found in the Kirthar. In the folds of the mountains, there are rich deposits of the natural gas. also. Here, one of the biggest fossils of a mammoth too was discovered in the Kirthar, a remnant of the Ice Age when the whole world was covered with ice.

The Sindh has its history, heritage, language, culture, art, craft, performances, rituals, music, sports, festivals and agricultural lands, River, mountains, desert, coastline, Sea and ports. The people of Sindh are peaceful, loving and caring in nature. Sindh is a land of Sufi Saints. The archaeological excavations in the region proves that the people of Sindh are pioneers of the human development in the world.



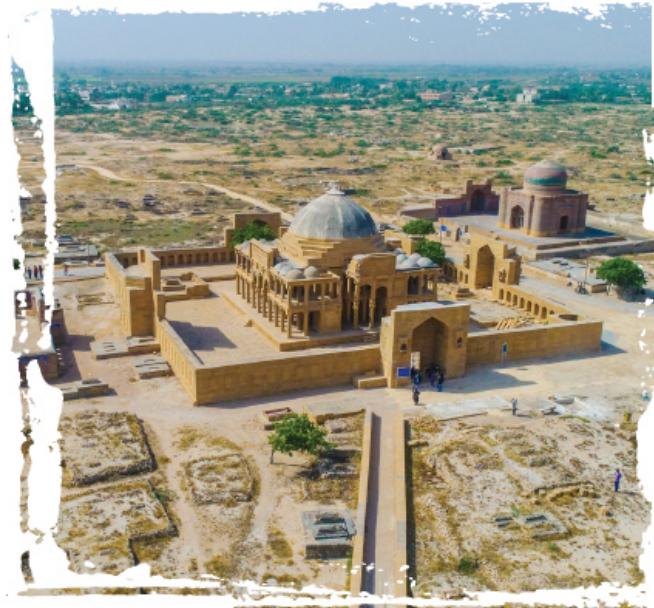
Sindh is home to the largest number of Hindu residents in Pakistan, along with a number of Hindu temples. Shri Laxmi Narayan Mandir, a Hindu temple, was constructed around 200 years ago and is an important worshiping site for the Hindus of the local community. Other famous temples include Shri Swaminarayan Mandir and Shri Varun Dev Mandir, all of which attract Hindu pilgrims and tourists alike, exemplifying the religious diversity in the province. Moreover, Sindh also 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.





Nearly 169 kilometres from Karachi, there is a biggest National Parks of the country upon 1192 square miles of area; where a combined population of nearly 11.000 Sindh ibex, gazelles and wild sheep survive. The Indus River in Sindh is home to the only surviving blind dolphins in the world. More than one hundred lakes are in Sindh. Indus delta is a bird watcher's paradise in winter. The lakes have a population of nearly

200.000 migratory birds that fly all the way from Siberia and other countries to hibernate in the golden sunshine of Pakistan. The Karachi today is claimed to be the love-bird provincial capital of the world. One of the most interesting facts of the history is that the coastline of Sindh, thousands of years ago, has many tiny ports as the forerunners of the present-day port of Karachi.



# Karachi

In Karachi, there were discovered old graves of the ancient carriers who braved

these rigours of the sea to carry the faraway lands. The steatite seals of the Mohenjo Daro carry a wealth of information regarding the trading houses and export practices in ancient Pakistan four to five thousand years ago.

Islamic architecture is also quite prominent in the province with the Shahjahan Mosque in Thatta built by the Mughal emperor Shahjahan and an array of mausoleums dot the province including the beautiful mausoleum of Muhammad Ali Jinnah – the founding father of Pakistan - known as the Mazar-e- Quaid in Karachi. Karachi city is also remembered as the City of Lights and the City of Quaid and the city that never sleeps. Karachi is an enormous city and gets hands on many attractive sites to amuse one, such as museums, colonial buildings, landmarks, beeches, islands, parks, wildlife clubs, shopping malls and many other mesmerizing tourist points. Karachi is a city of never-ending festivity. Karachi possesses Quaid-e-Azam House Museum, Baloch Graveyard, Tomb of Quaid-e-Azam, Wazir Mansion Museum, etc. Dadu is a remarkable district of Sindh. The eminent tourist attractions in Dadu include, appraised as the "Murree of Sindh", Jamia Masjid Khudabad and Kirthar Mountains.





Hyderabad possesses several tourists' attractions including Sindh Provincial Museum, Historical Tower inside Pacca Fort, Boundary wall of Pucca Fort, Hingorani Mariyon, etc. A very large area of Tharparkar constitutes of the Thar Desert. Karoonjhar Mountains, Gori Temple, Jain Temple Virwah, Naukot Fort, etc. are the famous tourist attraction in Tharparkar. here are several other tourist attractions in different other cities of Sindh like Umerkot Fort, Umerkot, Tomb of Mian Noor Muhammad Kalhoro, Nawabshah, Manchar Lake, Jamshoro, Fort of Kotdiji, District Khairpur, Rani Kot (Fort) Jamshoro.

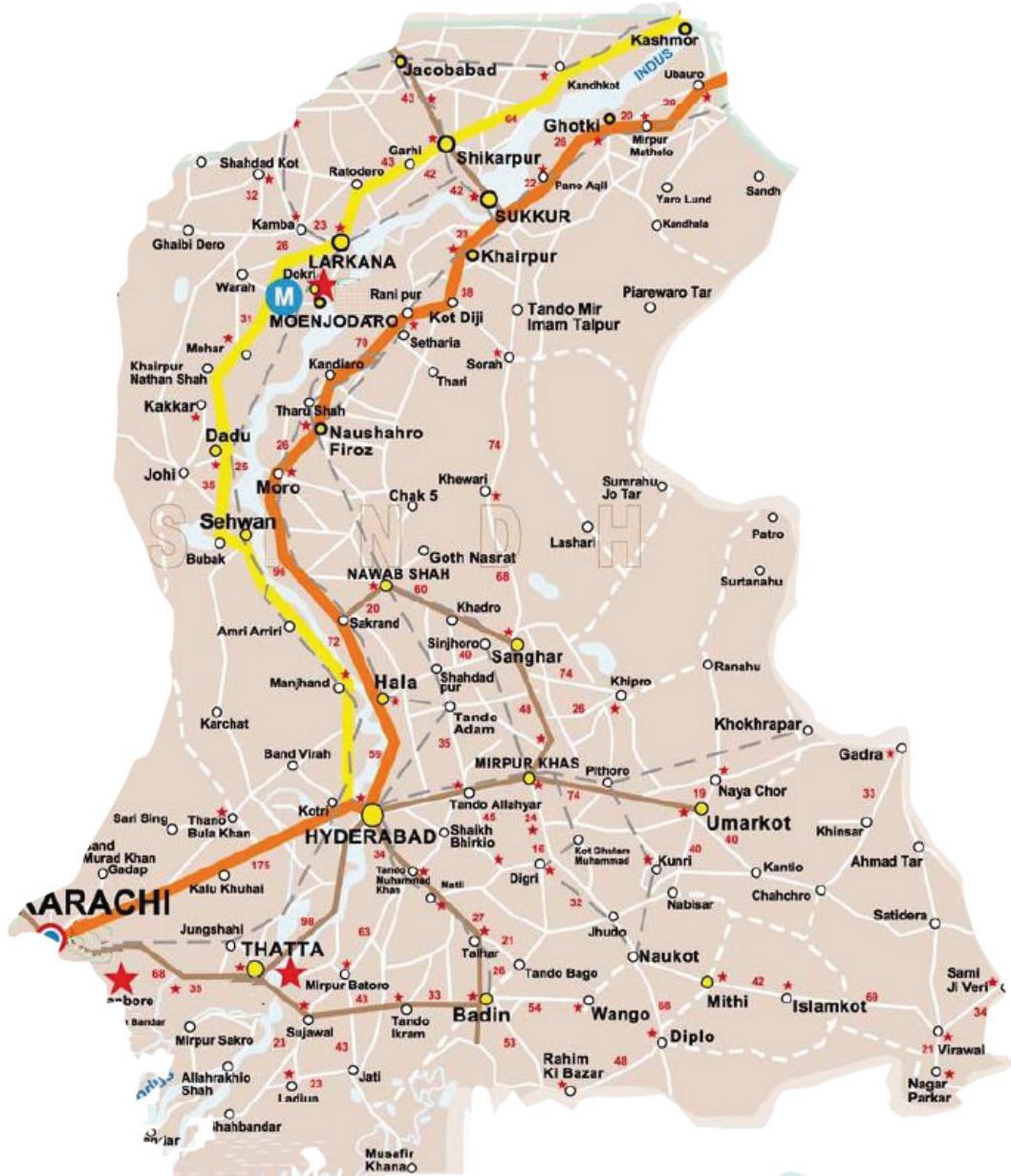
# Major Attractions

# 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- Khirthar 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                   |                                    |

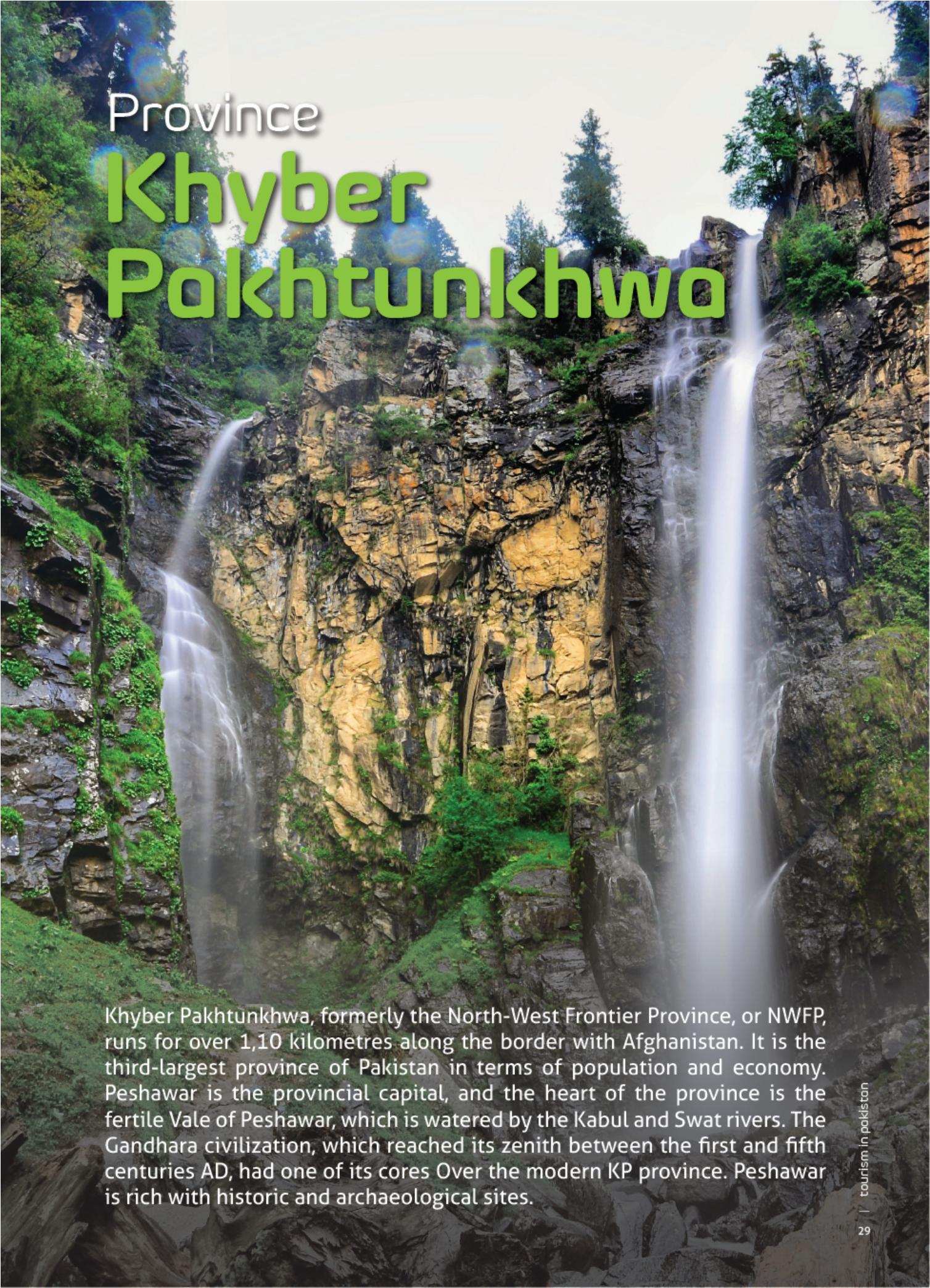


# Geography of Sindh



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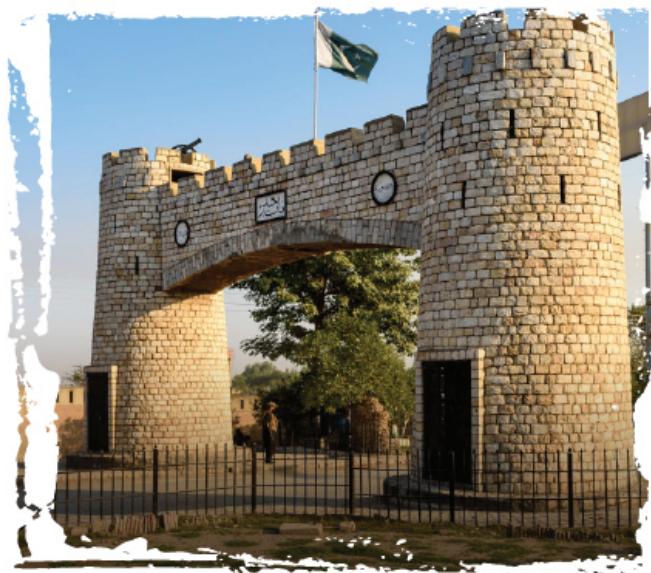
# Province **Khyber** **Pakhtunkhwa**

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, formerly the North-West Frontier Province, or NWFP, runs for over 1,10 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

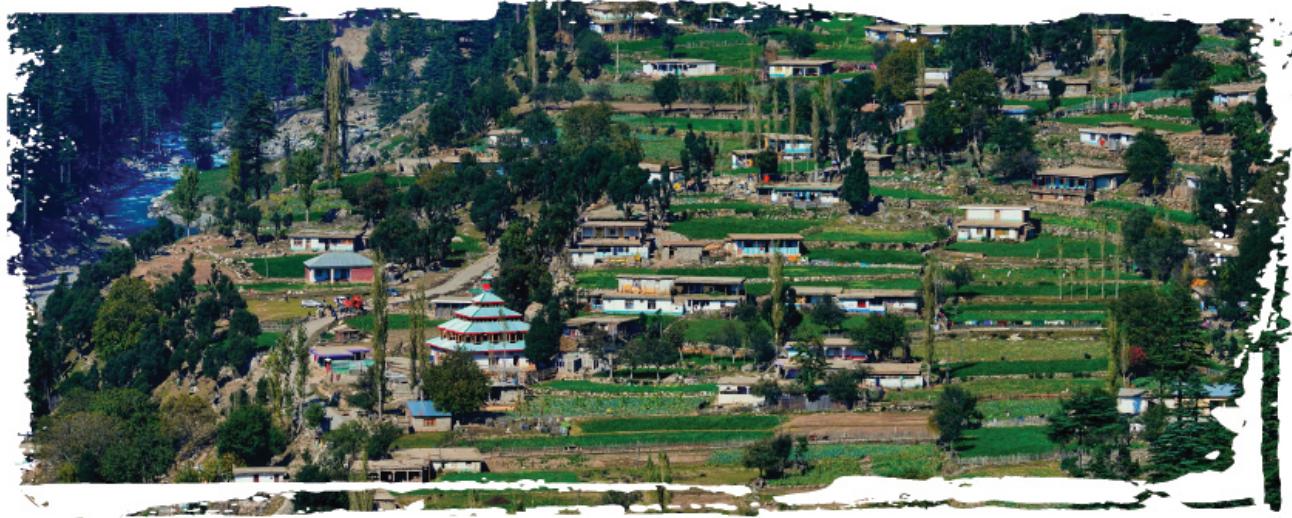
Gandhara and pacified the area, that the Khyber, the most direct route from Kabul to Peshawar, became popular as a safe trade route. Peshawar (pronounced Pe-SHAH-wur), the capital of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, is a frontier town, the meeting place of the subcontinent and Central Asia. It is among the oldest 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 Baza, 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 Bhai, 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,

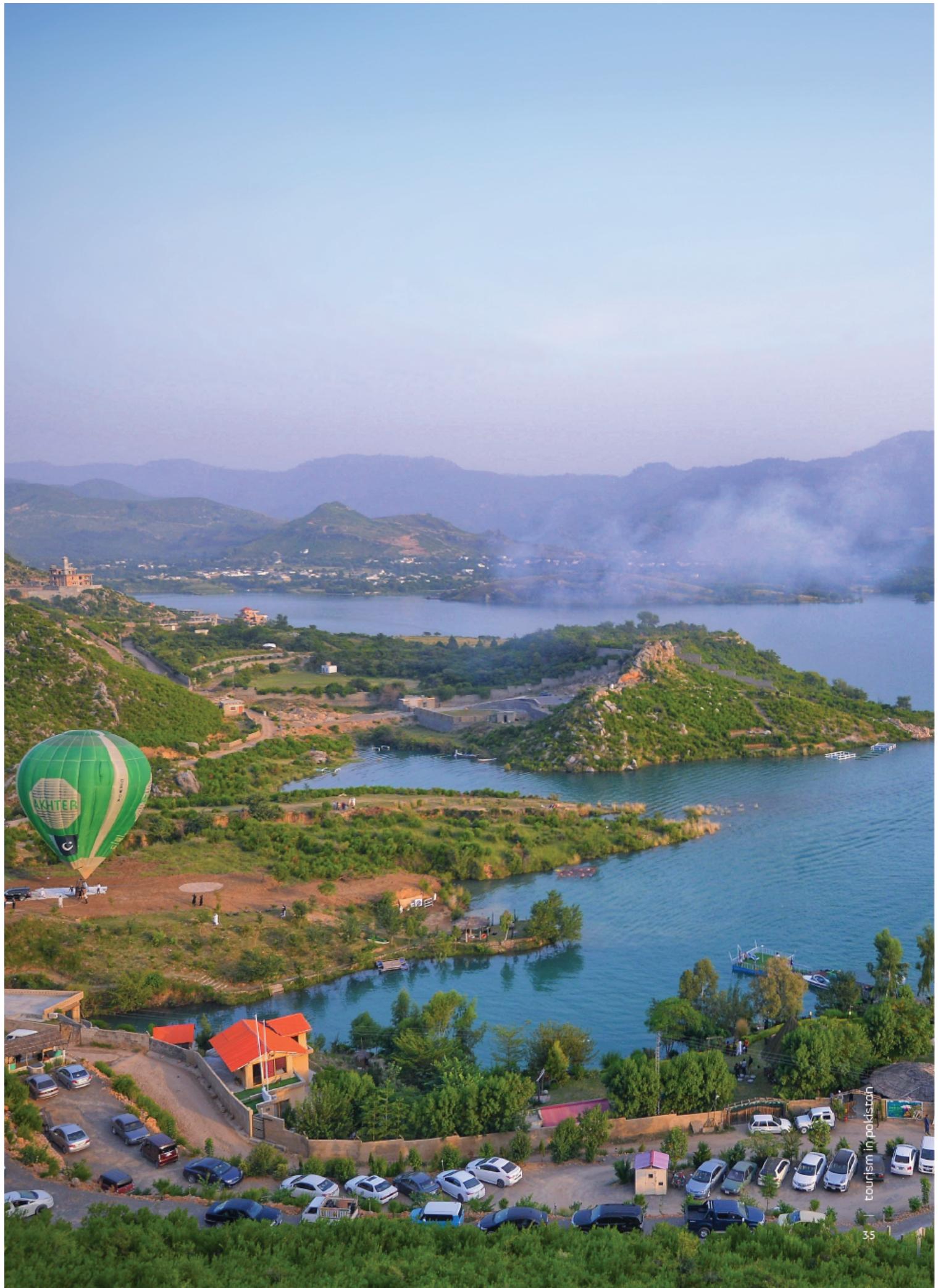


and Kandia rivers. Swat possesses several tourist attractions like Malam Jabba Resort, Mahodhand Lake, Kundol Lake, White Palace, Swat Museum, Utror, Daral Lake, Shingardar Stupa, Amlukdara-Stupa,



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 Khattri
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. Mehmood 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

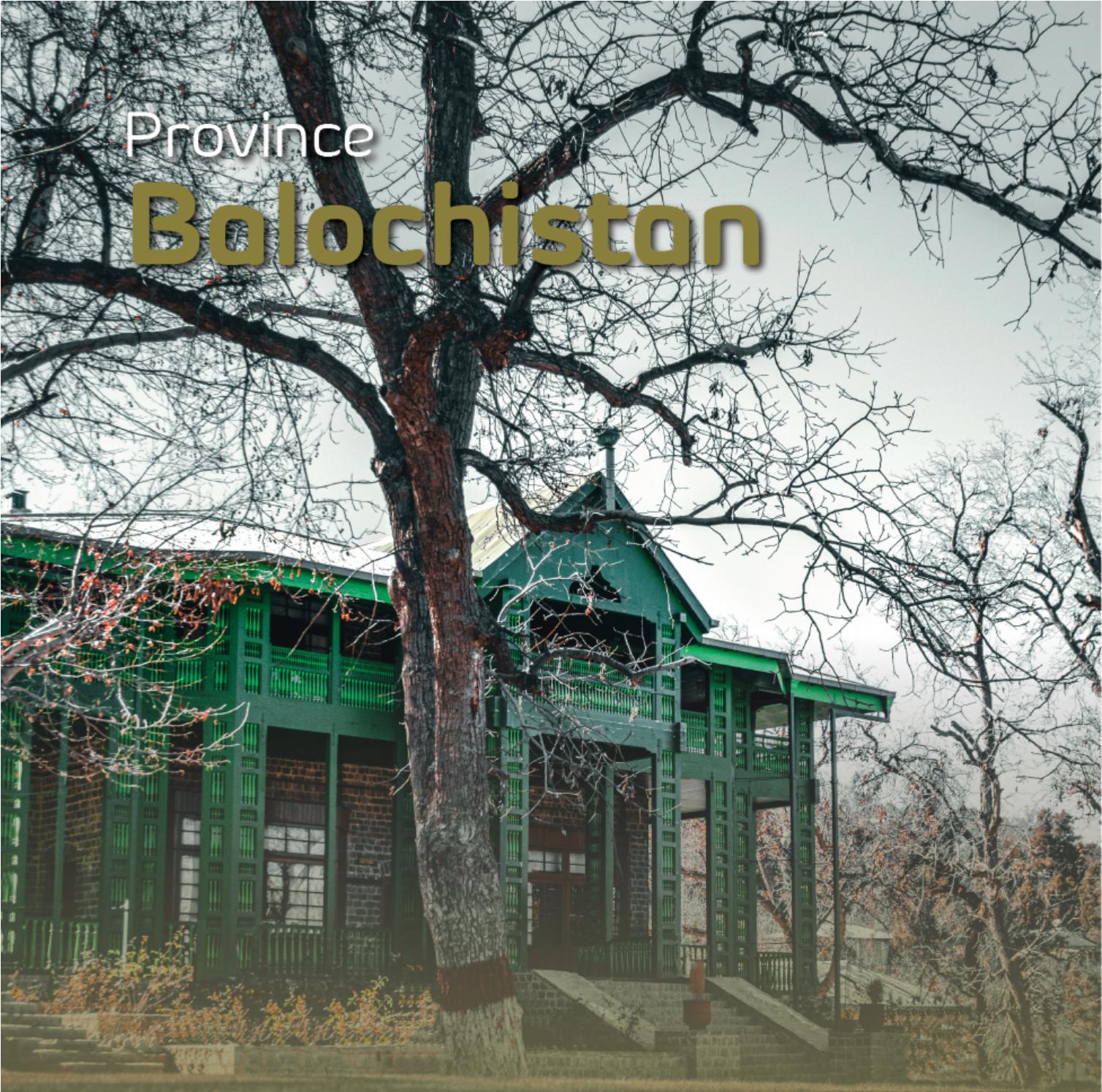


# Geography of **Khyber Pakhtunkhwa**



Saloon



A photograph of a large, leafless tree with many branches, standing in front of a two-story green building with a balcony. The building appears to be made of brick and has a traditional architectural style. The sky is overcast.

# Province **Balochistan**

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.

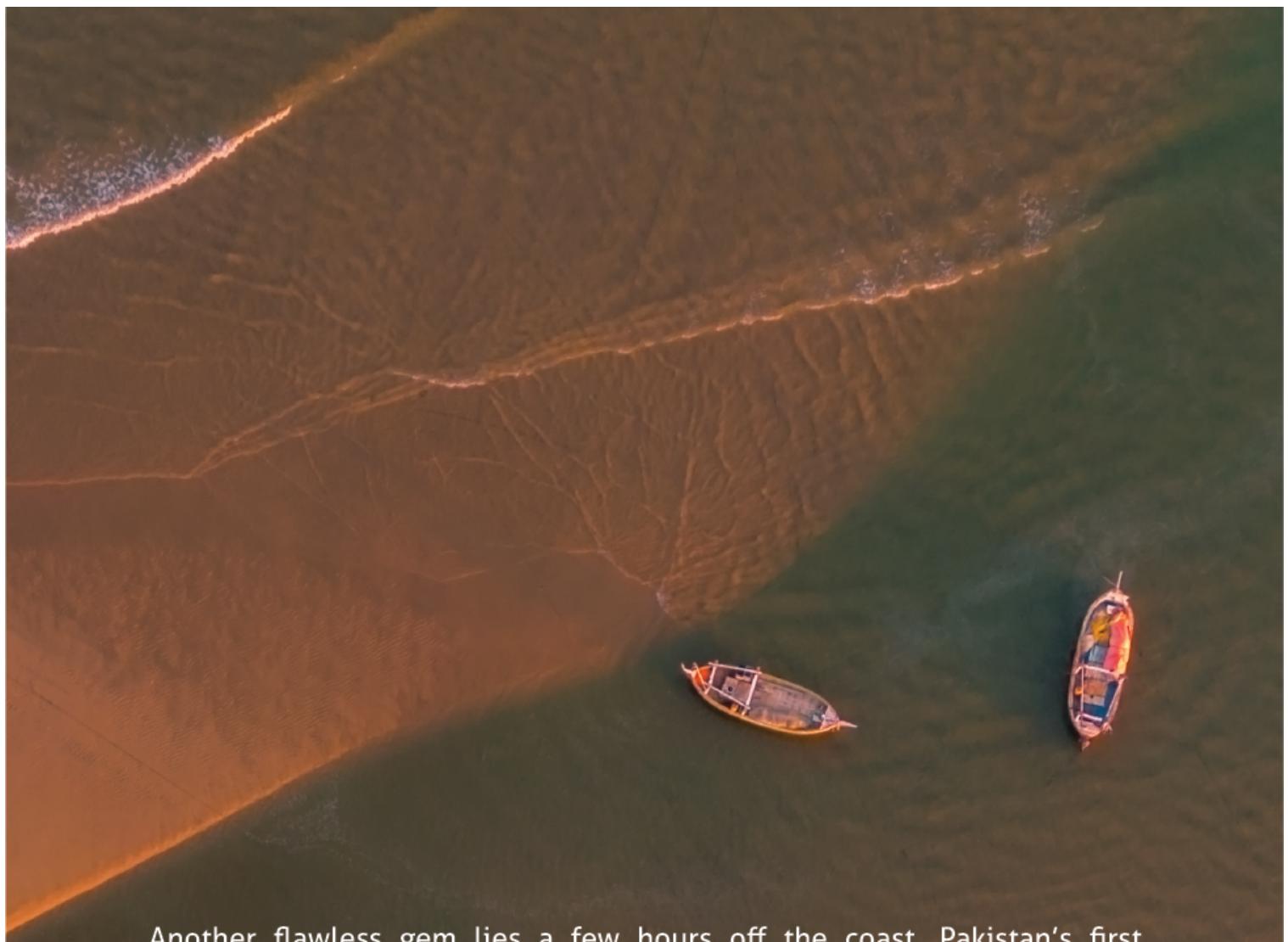




On its coast, Balochistan offers a plethora of natural wonders. The landscape includes 750km of pristine beaches, sand dunes, rock pools, waterfalls, date forests, mud volcanoes and more untouched tourist places. The Makran Coastal Highway has opened this coast for investors and tourists alike. It takes 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                         |                                     |

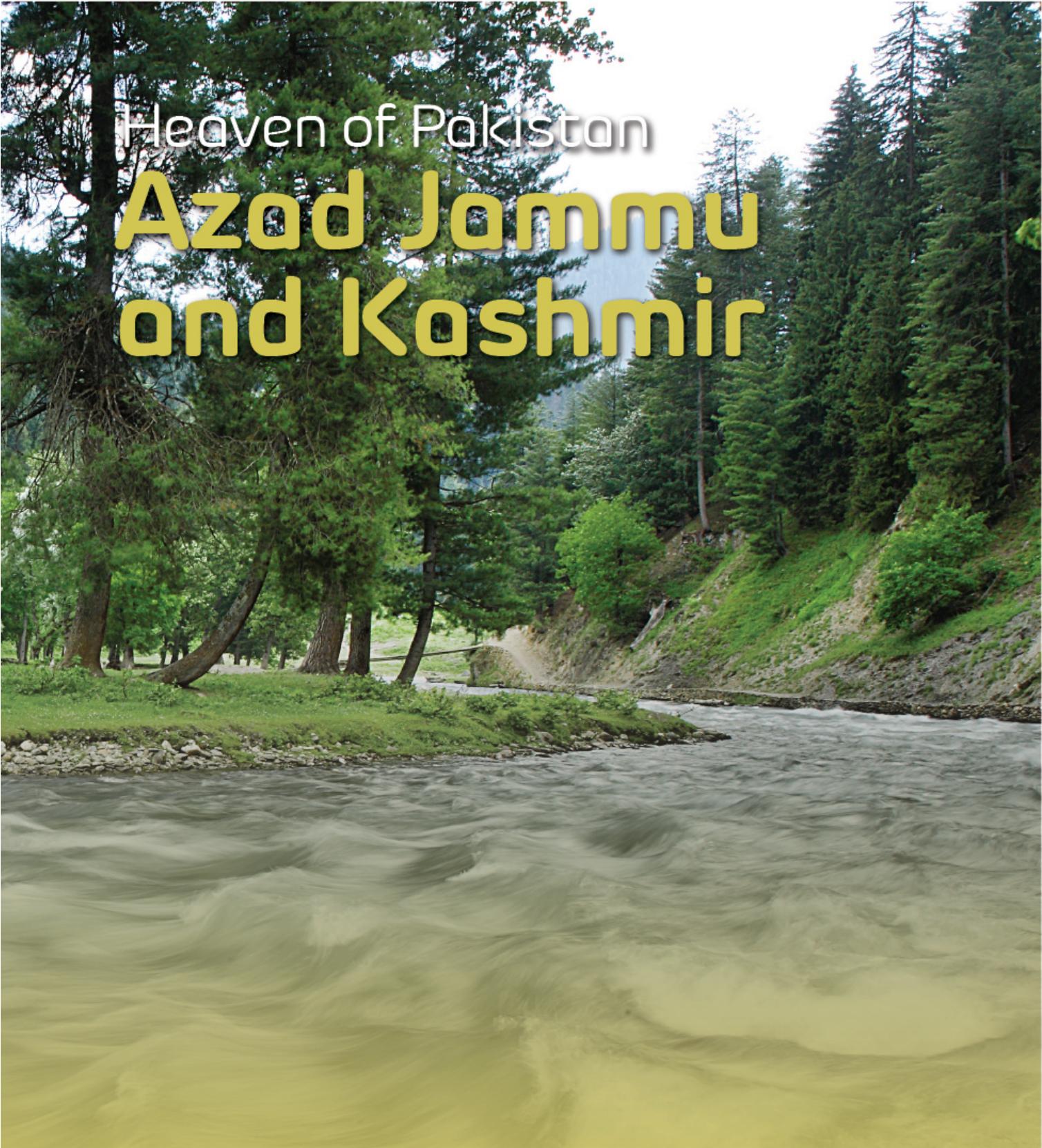


# Geography of Balochistan



سکھنی





Heaven of Pakistan  
**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.



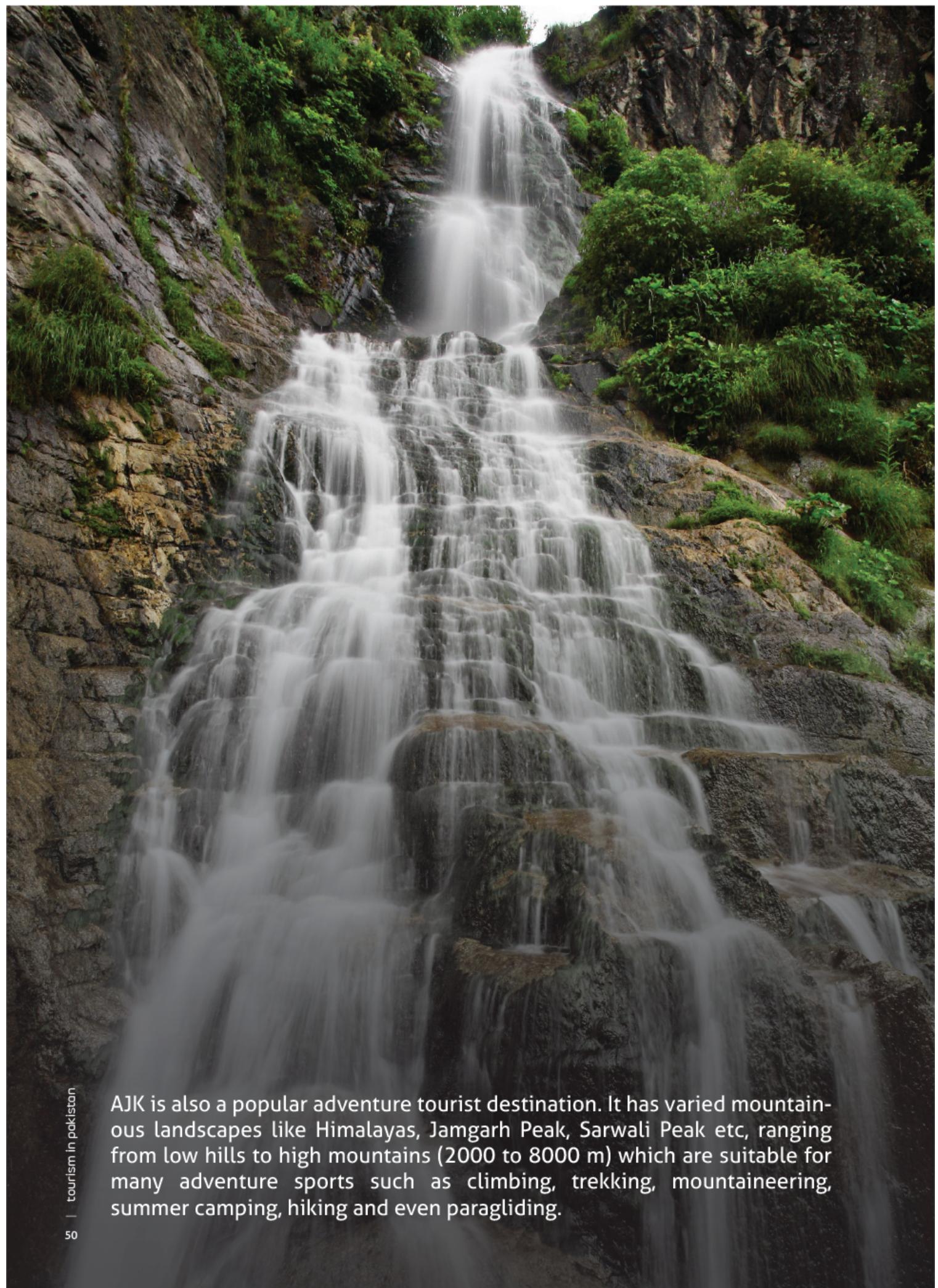
AJK modern, mineral rich, lush green city is located within the mountains, at the confluence of Jhelum and Neelum river. It is close to many tourist attractions such as Peer Chinasi, the Red Fort, and the Kohala Bridge etc.

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.



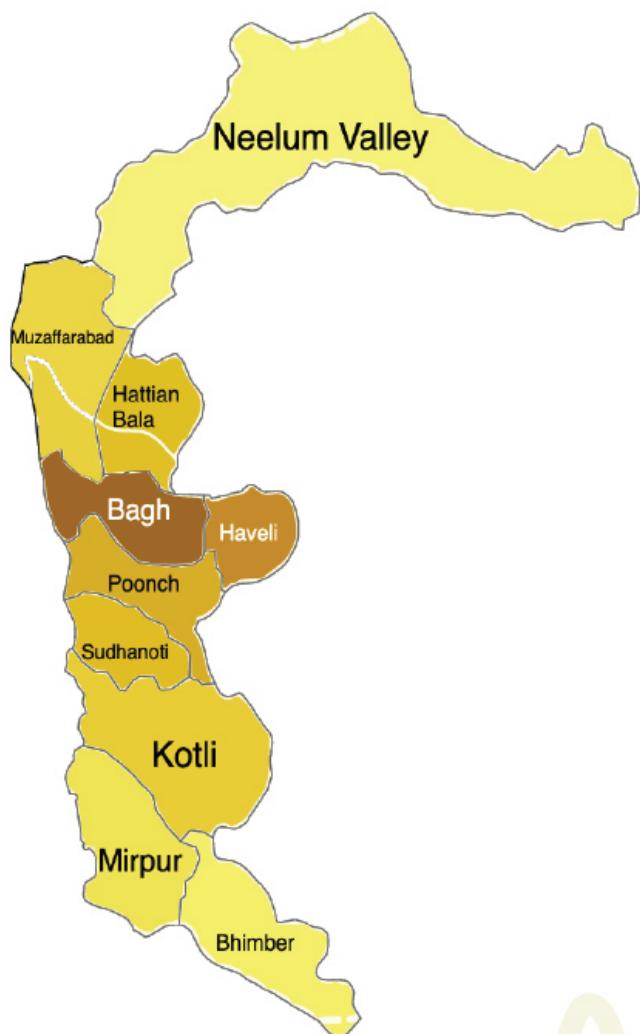
# Major Attractions

# 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             |                   |

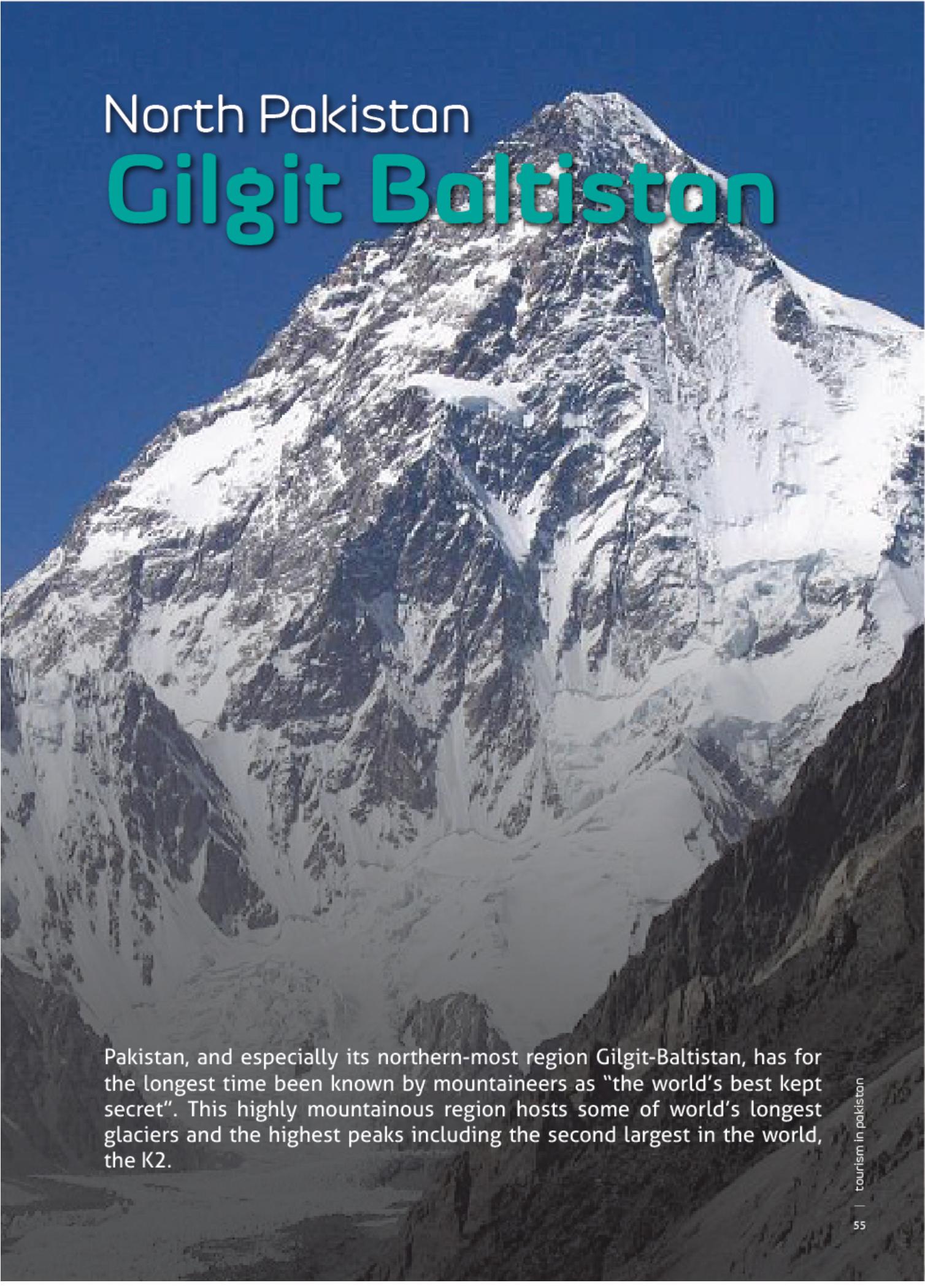


# Geography of **Azad Jammu and Kashmir**



Salir

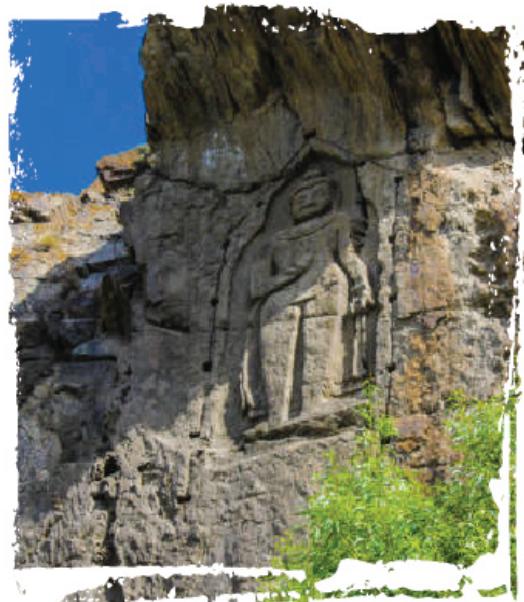




# North Pakistan **Gilgit Baltistan**

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             | 24. Lamsa Rock carvings Shigar   |
| 02. Basho Forest Skardu            | 25. Musbrum valley Ghanche       |
| 03. Bagrote valley Gilgit          | 26. Montokaha water fall karmang |
| 04. Bilamik Skardu                 | 27. Manthal Budah Rocks Skardu   |
| 05. Chitrong Hot Spring Shigar     | 28. Mamobar Nagar                |
| 06. Donsa valley Skardu            | 29. Parishing Astore             |
| 07. Deosai plains                  | 30. Phander valley Ghizer        |
| 08. Derlay lake Astore             | 31. Puol Road Gilgit             |
| 09. Dainter Bar valley nagar       | 32. Passu Coens Hunza            |
| 10. Gulkin village Hunza           | 33. Rakaposhi base camp Nagar    |
| 11. Hushy Valley Ghanche           | 34. Rama meadows Astore          |
| 12. Hoper valley Nagar             | 35. Shiosar Lake                 |
| 13. Husani Suspension Bridge Hunza | 36. Shimshal valley Hunza        |
| 14. Iskoman valley Ghizer.         | 37. Sailing Ghanche              |
| 15. Jhabazo lake Shigar            | 38. Tarishing Astore             |
| 16. Jutial Nalah Gilgit            | 39. Twin Bridges Gilgit          |
| 17. Karamber lake Ghizer           | 40. Ultar meadows Hunza          |
| 18. Khukush lake Ghizer            | 41. Upper kachura Skardu         |
| 19. Kahmosh Absar Kaharmang        |                                  |
| 20. Khalti lake Ghizer             |                                  |
| 21. Katpana desert Skardu          |                                  |
| 22. Kargaha buddha Gilgit          |                                  |
| 23. Kachali lake Minapin Nagar     |                                  |



# Geography of **Gilgit Baltistan**



tourism in pakistan

# Impressum

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Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa



**Gilgit Baltistan Tourism.**  
[www.visitgilgitbaltistan.gov.pk](http://www.visitgilgitbaltistan.gov.pk)



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