



**Cox's Bazar** (Bengali: কক্সবাজার, pronounced [kɔksbadʒar]) is a city, fishing port, tourism centre and district headquarters in southeastern Bangladesh. It is famous mostly for its long natural sandy beach, and it is infamous for the largest refugee camp in the world. It is located 150 km (93 mi) south of the divisional headquarter city of Chittagong. Cox's Bazar is also known by the name *Panowa*, which translates literally as "yellow flower". Another old name was "Palongkee".

The modern Cox's Bazar derives its name from Captain Hiram Cox, an officer of the British East India Company, a Superintendent of Palongkee outpost. To commemorate his role in refugee rehabilitation work, a market was established and named after him.

The municipality covers an area of 6.85 km<sup>2</sup> (2.64 sq mi) with 27 mahallas and 9 wards and as of 2012 had a population of 51,918.<sup>[2]</sup> Cox's Bazar is connected by road and air with Chittagong.



Cox's Bazar is located 150 km (93 mi) south of the divisional headquarter city of Chittagong. Cox's Bazar town has an area of 6.85 km<sup>2</sup> (2.64 sq mi), and is bounded by Bakkhali River on the north and East, Bay of Bengal in the West, and Jhilwanj Union in the south.<sup>[12]</sup>

The beach in Cox's Bazar has a gentle slope and with an unbroken length of 155 km (96 mi) it is often termed the "longest natural unbroken sea beach" in the world.

Cox's Bazar lies on a coastal plain in the southeastern corner of Bangladesh. From above, the plain appears to bulge out into the Bay of Bengal. Along the shore is an extensive area of beach and dunes. Most of the city is built on a floodplain that is lower in elevation than the dunes, making it more susceptible to flooding due to cyclones and storm surges. The Cox's Bazar coastal plain was formed after the sea reached its present level around 6,500 years ago, with the area of the current floodplain originally forming a sediment sink that has since been gradually filled in by the Bakkhali river as well as smaller streams coming down from the hills.<sup>[13]</sup>

The climate of Bangladesh is mostly determined by its location in the tropical monsoon region: high temperature, heavy rainfall, and generally excessive humidity, with distinct seasonal variations.<sup>[14]</sup> The climate of Cox's Bazar is mostly similar to the rest of the country. It is further characterised by the location in the coastal area. The annual average temperature in Cox's Bazar is a maximum of 34.8 °C (94.6 °F) and a minimum of 16.1 °C (61.0 °F). The average amount of rainfall is 3,524 mm (138.7 in).

#### Attractions:

Surfing Cox's Bazar town though a small one, yet the same is a town of heritage. The sailor 'Captain Cox' explored the locality to name it on his own name. The local people both domiciled Burmese and Chittagonian lives in harmony. The major people are moderate Muslims but 'Buddhists' also live there. Be aware that at the local Buddhist temple, local non-Buddhist Bangladeshis will follow you around giving you a 'tour,' then demand money. This money of course goes in their pocket and not to the temple in any way.



Sunset at Cox's Bazar

Miles of golden sand, towering cliffs, surfing waves, colorful pagodas, Buddhist temples and tribes, delightful seafood — this is Cox's Bazar, the tourist capital of Bangladesh. Visit [\[9\]](#) to know details.

There are also a few very old wooden Buddhist temples at Ramu, a few kilometers from Cox's Bazar, well worth visiting.

A drive to Teknaf, which is the southernmost tip of the mainland of Bangladesh, is a memorable journey. A day trip to either Moheshkhali or Sonadia, the deltaic islands nestled among the gentle waves of the Bay of Bengal, will also be really interesting.

Other attractions for visitors are conch shell market, tribal handicraft, salt and prawn cultivation.



- **Himchari:** It is about 32 km south of Cox's Bazar along the beach, a nice place for a picnic and photo-shooting. The famous "Broken Hills" and waterfalls here are rare sights.
- **Inani Beach:** It is about 32 km south of Cox's Bazar and just on the beach, with the sea to the west and a background of steep hills to the east. Inani casts a magic spell on those who step into that dreamland. It is only half an hour's drive from Cox's Bazar and an ideal place for sea-bathing and a picnic.
- **Maheskhali:** An island off the coast of Cox's Bazar. It has an area of 268 square kilometers. Through the centre of the island and along the eastern coast line rises a range of low hills, 300 feet high; but the coast to the west and north is a low-lying tract, fringed by mangrove

jungle. In the hills on the coast is built the shrine of Adinath, dedicated to Shiva. By its side on the same hill is a Buddhist Pagoda.

- **Ramu:** This is a typical Buddhist village, about 16 km from Cox's Bazar, on the main road to Chittagong. There are monasteries, khyangs and pagodas containing images of Buddha in gold, bronze and other metals inlaid with precious stones.

The village has a charm of its own. Weavers ply their trade in open workshops and craftsmen

make handmade cigars in their pagoda like houses.

- **Sonadia Island:** It is about seven kilometers from Cox's Bazar and about nine square kilometer in area. The western side of the island is sandy and different kinds of shells are found on the beach. Off the northern part of the island there are beds of window pane oysters. During winter fisherman set up temporary camps on the island and dry their catches of sea fish.
- **Teknaf:** Southernmost tip of Bangladesh, Teknaf situated on the Naaf river and just at the end of the hilly regions of the district. Myanmar is on the opposite bank of Naaf river. Wild animals and birds can be seen but the most interesting thing is a journey on the river. Wide sandy beach with a backdrop of high hills with green forests is an enchanting scene never to be forgotten.
- **Laboni Beach:**  
Laboni beach is the longest and main beach of Cox's Bazar. It is the closest sea beach to the town. At here a traveler can easily enjoy the scenic beauty of Bay of Bengal Sea. Its a place for enjoyment, many people come here around the year including the foreigners. You can enjoy sunbathe, surfing, jogging, cycling and swimming in this beach.



It is best place for swimming and relaxation. Not only in day time, you can enjoy beauty of sea at night from this beach as it is totally safe place for tourist. The beach is well appreciated during sunsets and sunrise, where people can witness the sea as it changes its colors twice in a day. It is best for swimming and relaxation. Close to the beach, there are a lot of small shops selling souvenirs, locally made cigars & beauty products (sandal wood based), handmade clothes, bed sheets, dresses, shoes and beach accessories to the tourists. It is a nice place for our tourism. So, come & let's enjoy the beauty of Laboni Beach.



How to go:

You may come to Cox's Bazar by bus or air directly. There are several bus services available from Dhaka to Cox's Bazar. Bus fare is around BDT 650-900 non-A/C and BDT 1200-1800 A/C . The journey is near about 8-10 hours. As well as Bangladesh Biman, United Air, Regent Air has domestic flights for Dhaka to Cox's Bazar.

From Cox's Bazar you can easily reach to the Laboni, Kolatoli and Inani point by Rickshaw or Auto Rickshaw.

Eat and Drink:


There's a lot of restaurants along Sea Beach Rd and in the Hotel Motel Zone, most serving Bangladeshi standards.

- **Jhawban Restaurant** and **Poushee Restaurant**, next door to each other on Hotel Sayeman Rd just south of Sea Beach Rd, serve similarly excellent Bangladeshi food including fried fish, a Cox's Bazar speciality. Both restaurants are wildly popular, especially at lunch time - go with the flow. Jhabwan has an English menu. Poushee is probably one of the best restaurants in Cox's Bazar, so don't miss the chance to try their delicious seafood. Meals Tk 60-130.
- **Mermaid Café**, Marine Drive Road, +880184141 6468-9, [10]. Open until 11PM. This newer cafe is super friendly and laidback and probably one of the coolest place to hang out in the area. With its natural-ish vibe of wood and bamboo, it hints at the direction that Cox's Bazar coulda shoulda woulda taken way back when. It has several sitting areas and hammocks, and a creative menu including crepes and savory pancakes, and seafood-heavy mains like shrimp salad, pastas and fish pizza for Tk 450-800. The music is occasionally dubious but they're very open to requests.
- **Handi**, Beside Hotel Sea Palace is a typical Indian food serving restaurant. Besides, it serves all kind of Bengali food. Tourist can taste biriyani for BDT 350 here.
- **Nilima Cafe Restaurant** Phone: 8801750160048. Beside the Double giraffe sculpture at the Sughandha point beach, this restaurant situates, attached with the 'Nilima Beach Resort'[11] catering



moderate charged authentic Bangladeshi & Chinese cuisine. It has also Bar-B-Q facility at the rear, fronting the Sea wave with Hammock & beach Chair Facility.

- **Beach Planet Cafe**, Marine drive road, Kolatoli, Cox's Bazar,

 +8801757540421.

- This is a wonderful Eco friendly restaurant. Excellent interior with wood and bamboo. It has several open air sitting spaces. The main attraction is the two storied hut from where the sea is visible with a panoramic view. It serves mainly local and sea food dishes. This is the only eco restaurant in Cox's Bazar located right on the beach. This place is ideal for any private party or beach party.

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Alcohol is not easy drinks in Cox's Bazar alike elsewhere in Bangladesh as the country is a moderate Muslim country, but available in a few locations in Cox's Bazar, especially in 3 & 5 star hotels. The following hotels have bars which generally open from 7 pm: Seagull Hotel, Hotel Sayeman, Hotel Shaibal, Renaissance Hotel. Don't expect the prices to be cheap, rather higher than you might expect.

