



The Lonesome Traveler

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LOCKED AND LOADED *Bangladesh in the viewfinder. (14 days)*

A tour not only for (hobby) photographers! The focus is on scenes with motifs such as those of Kawran Bazar, Sadarghat, country life or life with otters, ethnic minorities in Lawachara that stone fishermen or tea pickers will provide, but in fact the whole country is a complete scene, as professional photographers have already determined. In addition, there is the carefree attitude of the residents, who like to be photographed almost without exception and almost prefer to laugh at the photo afterwards. When it comes to getting around, we also choose the most motif-rich one: among other things, we'll be traveling by train and the legendary river boats. You are not only visiting an original and fascinatingly different country, you will (have to) conquer the plump, colorful life that often happens on the street.

Apart from the motif-rich scenes, you will gain an intensive insight into the life of the people here and thus also have numerous opportunities to take pictures of their life circumstances and maybe after the tour you can counter the common stereotypes such as the sewing chamber and poor house of the world, crowds of people, hunger, environmental problems, natural disasters and corruption. Because the country is more, much more! Bangladesh is full of life, contrasts, diversity and love, lots of love!

You will encounter silent witnesses to history as lively and lively the present. Scenic highlights are paired with religious traditions, the everyday life of the village communities with that of the megacities. Everywhere you can still find traditional agriculture and fishing, in the Cities are still as public as trade and commerce as they were at the time when the British conquered the country. In other words, there are a myriad of impressions and experiences that are waiting for you and that cannot replace a newspaper report or a television program.

Sure, it is exhausting to travel away from touristically developed regions, but Bangladesh will reward you with priceless impressions and experiences!

Highlights

- bubbling juggernaut Old Dhaka
- Ship passage on the Meghna, the largest river in Asia
- UNESCO World Heritage Site Bagerhat - the forgotten Kalifatabad
- the last otter fishermen in the world
- the *City of Silk* Rajshahi
- Puthia, the splendor of the Hindu feudal empires
- the tea capital Srimangal
- the last rainforest in the country - Lawachara National Park
- the stone fishermen from Jaflon
- cosmopolitan Sylhet - the extravagance in the north
- Dhaka City, a 20 million metropolis

Itinerary

day/date	stage/services	transport	overnight stay
1 Sunday	arrival Dhaka hotel transfer, Kawran Bazar	bus 15km	Marino Hotel ***

2	Monday	Dhaka → Hularhat Old Dhaka, river trip hand luggage!	bus 20km ferry 300km/15h	ferry 1 st class cabin
3	Tuesday	Hularhat → Bagerhat → Jessore river trip, Bagerhat	bus 100km/4h	Iqbal Manzil Apartments ***
4	Wednesday	Jessore → Narail → Jessore otter fisherman	bus 80km/3h	
5	Thursday	Jessore → Rajshahi Naldanga, Bhaga	bus 200km/7h	Warisan Hotel ***
6	Friday	Rajshahi → Puthia → Rajshahi Puthia, Rajshahi	bus 60km/2h	
7	Saturday	Rajshahi → Dhaka Rajshahi City hand luggage!	plane 200km/1h	Marino Hotel ***
8	Sunday	Dhaka → Srimangal train trip hand luggage!	train 200km/5h	Amar Bari Hotel ***
9	Monday	Srimangal Lawachara and surroundings	-	
10	Tuesday	Srimangal → Sylhet adventure on the go...	bus 80km/3h	Noorjahan Grand ****
11	Wednesday	Sylhet → Jaflon → Sylhet stone fisherman	bus 50km/2h	
12	Thursday	Sylhet → Dhaka Sylhet City hand luggage!	plane 200km/1h	Marino Hotel ***
13	Friday	Dhaka Dhaka City	bus 30km	
14	Saturday	departure Dhaka airport transfer	bus 5km	-

travel day	itinerary
1 Sunday	<p>Welcome to Dhaka! Crowds and markets</p> <p>Day of arrival! After the transfer to your hotel, first steps in Dhaka. We visit the largest and most traditional market in Dhaka (Kawran Bazar) with handicrafts and trade, sometimes as publicly as when the British ruled the country.</p> <p>Good night in the fastest growing metropolis in Asia, Dhaka.</p>
2 Monday	<p>In the heart of the juggernaut, Old Dhaka</p> <p>In the morning we go straight to the heart of Dhaka, the old town. Dhaka is not a city, it is rather a juggernaut, an alluring and devouring black hole, and Old Dhaka is its center. We stroll through Hindu Street and roam through the impenetrable tangle of alleys around the Sadarghat, always accompanied by a sea of 600,000 colorful, deafening rickshaws. At the end of the day, we embark here from the world's largest river port to Hularhat.</p> <p><i>In Dhaka, please switch to hand luggage. You will have your main luggage at the hotel in Jessore on the evening of the 3rd day.</i></p> <p>Good night in your 1st class cabin.</p>
3 & 4 Tuesday & Wednesday	<p>UNESCO World Heritage Bagerhat and about Otter and it's accomplices</p> <p>In the late morning we reach Hularhat on our tranquil voyage, enough time to observe rural life on board. On the way to Jessore we cross Bagerhat. This is considered <i>an excellent example of an architectural ensemble that illustrates an important stage in human history</i> and is therefore part of the world cultural heritage. In the evening we reach Jessore.</p> <p>On day 4, a unique spectacle awaits us at Narail, in the last foothills of the Sundarbans: Otter fisherman. Fish don't have it easy either, at least around here. Their predator no.1 the human being has entered into an ominous alliance with another, for them not exactly more pleasant contemporaries, with the smooth-coated otter. The fishermen breed and raise them, train them and with a lot of patience the otters grow to be excellent accomplices of the fishermen...</p> <p>Good night in Jessore.</p>
5 - 7 Thursday - Saturday	<p>The city of silk and the pearl of the Hindu empires</p> <p>On the long way to Rajshahi we pass the Naldanga Temple Complex, it could hardly be more idyllic. Seven out of formerly eight temples over 350 years old are still standing and were built from the reign of Maharaj Indranarayan Debroyim. The first temple was built on the Begobati River in 1656, and later, temple by temple followed by other rulers.</p> <p>At Bhaga we visit the mosque built in 1523, which is considered an excellent example of the mosque architecture of the Mughal era.</p>

	<p>We spend day 6 in the small village of Puthia, which offers you the largest number of historically valuable Hindu buildings in Bangladesh and literally at all seams through the abundance of palaces and temples. We end the day with a boat trip on the Ganges. Night's rest in Rajshahi. <i>In Rajshahi, please switch to hand luggage. You have your main luggage in the evening of the 7th day in the hotel in Dhaka.</i></p> <p>We use the 7th day to explore the city, which was once the epicenter of strong Buddhist and Hindu empires. Today, largely detached from the pulse of Bangladesh, its former strength and meaning is still reflected in its name: <i>Raj</i> (sanskrit) and <i>Shahi</i> (Persian) both mean <i>Royal</i>. In the late afternoon a plane takes us back to Dhaka. <i>In Dhaka, please switch to hand luggage. You have your main luggage in the evening of the 8th day in the hotel in Srimangal.</i> Sleep well in the capital!</p>
<p>8 - 10 Sunday - Tuesday</p>	<p>About rainforest, ethnic groups and tea - and the railroad Today's train journey is one of the most beautiful routes in the country. The State Railways has approximately 34,000 employees and reports to the Ministry of Railways. The train is the perfect means of transport to get in touch with the locals and watch the busy activities at the various stops while rural Bangladesh moves past you... On day 9 we visit Lawachara, the last rainforest in the country, before we look around in the enchanting surroundings. Pleasant dreams in the country's tea capital. In the morning of the next day we travel north to Sylhet, the city of shrines. Good night here.</p>
<p>11 & 12 Wednesday & Thursday</p>	<p>About tea, holy men and stone fishermen Day 11 is a very different experience: a day trip to the stone fishermen of Jaflon. We dedicate day 12 to Sylhet. The most cosmopolitan of all cities is different and is said to have the most pleasant flair in all of South Asia (at least that's what travelers say). More than 500,000 people live in the city. It lies on the banks of the Surma in northeastern Bangladesh and is surrounded by tea plantations, subtropical hills, rainforest and river valleys. Sylhet describes <i>worldly ambitions meets religious contentment</i> quite well. The Shrine of Hajrat Shah Jalal has a magical appeal to pilgrims across the country. In the late afternoon we fly back to Dhaka. <i>In Sylhet, please switch to hand luggage. You will have your main luggage at the hotel in Dhaka on the evening of the 12th day.</i> Pleasant dreams in the capital.</p>
<p>13 & 14 Friday & Saturday</p>	<p>Back on "Go!" On day 13 we look around the capital. Dhaka's history dates back to 1000, but it became famous as the capital of Bengal. Pura Dhaka denotes the historic old town of Dhaka. The first settlement here dates from the 7th century. The urban area was ruled by Buddhist kingdoms before the Hindu Sena dynasty ruled from the 11th century. The name <i>Dhaka</i> can be traced back to the foundation of a temple in honor of the goddess Dhakeshvari. There is so much to discover, if it weren't for the terrible traffic. But even this will not prevent us from visiting various (distinctive) parts of the city. You can expect a cross-section from old to new and poor to visibly wealthy ... After the final dinner together, a good last night here in Bangladesh.</p> <p>The airport transfer takes place on the 14th day depending on the departure time. Farewell and end of the tour.</p> <p>Thank you and good trip home!</p>

Travel route



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