

# Pakistan

Crossroads of Asia



The modern state of Pakistan was established in 1947, however the region that it encompasses has a history that dates back more than five millennia. It was the crossroads of ancient trade routes, including the Silk Road and was settled over thousands of years by many people, including Dravidians, Indo-Aryans, Persians, Greeks, Scythians, Parthians, Kushans, White Huns, Afghans, Arabs, Turks, Mongols and British, all of whom brought new cultures and ideas that have been absorbed into the lifestyle of today's Pakistanis.

History is everywhere in Pakistan. You can explore the excavated sites at Mohenjodaro, Harappa and Taxila – seats of the ancient Indus Valley and Gandhara civilisations; the architectural splendours of the Moghuls; the Khyber Pass, for centuries a conduit through which flowed invading armies and new cultures; and the Chitral Valley, where the Kafir Kalash maintain their ancient unchanging traditions.

The attractions of Pakistan are not confined to the hills and valleys of the north. Visitors will be pleasantly surprised to discover the country's cities – Islamabad, a well-planned, modern capital with broad roads and fine parks; Rawalpindi, an ancient, traditional, happy bustle of old buildings and bazaars; Lahore, Pakistan's cultural, artistic and intellectual centre, with its astounding collection of Mughal palaces, mosques and gardens; Peshawar, commanding the Khyber Pass, where the bazaars are full of gold and silversmiths, carpets, pottery and artwork in wood, brass or semi-precious stones; and busy, progressive Karachi, a major seaport and the country's economic hub.

**Sightseeing**

Snow-capped mountains; bustling bazaars; Mughal monuments and palaces; Islamabad Museum features interesting archaeological finds; and the marbled Shah Faisal Mosque, is one of the world's largest.

**Accommodation**

City centre hotels, budget resorts in the mountains and smaller towns.

**Shopping**

What you can buy – Handicrafts, pottery, hand-woven carpets, marble pieces, copper and brass, leather goods, pashminas, shawls and intricately-carved furniture.

Where you can buy – Rawalpindi's Mall; Islamabad's shopping centres and hotel arcades; Moti, Rajah, Juma and Saddar Bazaar in Karachi.

**Entertainment**

Eating out is an adventure – from charcoal-grilled frontier dishes to the fruity, creamy Mughlai cuisine.

**Sports and leisure**

Spectator sports – Cricket, hockey, squash, horse racing and polo. Active sports – Fishing, hunting, birdwatching, white water rafting, mountaineering and trekking.

**Events**

Basant, Kite Flying Festival (March); Sibi Mela, Shandur Polo Festival (July); Silk Route Festival (September); Lok Virsa Mela, Folk Music Festival in Islamabad (first week of October); National Horse and Cattle Show, Lahore (November – December).



Average climate in Northern Pakistan													
		J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
🌡️	MAX °C	19	21	26	32	32	33	39	34	29	24	27	21
	MIN °C	4	7	12	17	22	25	26	25	22	16	9	5
☀️	HRS	7	9	8	9	8	6	6	6	7	9	10	8
☁️	MM	22	18	13	8	13	74	180	173	117	10	2	9

Daily maximum and minimum averages are guides only and may vary.

# Highlights of Pakistan

6 days/5 nights • Air and chauffeur-driven private car tour



**Lahore • Islamabad**

- Historical Lahore and the Border Flag ceremony
- Twin cities of Islamabad and Rawalpindi
- Ancient oriental centre of Taxila
- Murree Hills and Bhurban en route visiting Patriata

This tour takes you to the three main cities in northern Pakistan with sightseeing tours of each – from Lahore, famous for its Mughal architecture, to the twin cities of Islamabad and Rawalpindi and ending with a drive to the Murree Hills – Bhurban en route Patriata. Discover Islamabad and Rawalpindi – an opportunity to see two faces of Pakistan, the modern and the ancient. Taxila, the site of the golden civilisation from the 6th century, is a half-hour drive from Islamabad. The museum there houses Gandharan art and a display detailing the daily life of ancient Taxila. Murree Hills, known as “Queen of the Hills” is about 64 kilometres from Islamabad, an hour’s drive north-east of Islamabad. The hills are an offshoot of the Himalayan range of mountains. It was built during the time of the British Raj, for officials to escape the summer heat and humidity of Rawalpindi.

**Day 1: Lahore**

Arrive at Lahore and transfer to your hotel.

**Day 2: Lahore**

Sightseeing tour of Lahore in the morning to Lahore Fort, Badshahi Mosque



Lahore Fort

and the Shalimar Gardens. This is followed by a visit to the Anarkali Bazaar and a museum. Attend the Border Flag ceremony in the evening. Overnight in Lahore.

**Day 3: Lahore – Islamabad**

Transfer to the airport for your one-hour flight to Islamabad and check in to the hotel. Visit the twin cities of Rawalpindi and Islamabad to browse through the bazaars and shops. Overnight in Islamabad.

**Day 4: Islamabad**

Visit Taxila to see the historical sights and the museum. Spend the evening at your leisure. Overnight in Islamabad.

**Day 5: Islamabad**

Visit the Murree Hills – Bhurban en route visiting Patriata. Overnight in Bhurban.

**Day 6: Islamabad**

Transfer to the airport for your return flight.



**Tour available as:**

- Chauffeur-drive and air tour – Includes flights, car, driver and pre-booked accommodation.

# Islamabad/Lahore/Karachi

Pakistan's main cities



## Islamabad

### Pakistan's green capital

Islamabad was built during the 1960s to replace Karachi as Pakistan's capital and presents a modern face in complete contrast to Pakistan's older cities.

The most outstanding building in the city is the King Faisal Mosque, with its 88-metre high minarets and 40-metre high main prayer hall.

Islamabad serves as an excellent base from which to explore the valleys of the north.

## Lahore

### Mughal masterpiece

Lahore has been the capital of Punjab for nearly 1,000 years. Besides being the Mughal show-window, Lahore is the cultural, academic and intellectual centre of Pakistan. The city owes much to the Mughal princes, for it was here that Shah Jehan built the Shalimar Gardens and Aurangzeb constructed the world-famous Badshahi Mosque. Lahore is also the city where Emperor Jehangir and his beloved wife Nur Jehan are buried.



## Karachi

### Commercial capital on the Arabian Sea

Karachi, the largest city in Pakistan, was originally a small fishing settlement, the modern port-city of Karachi was developed by the British in the 19th century. The everyday lifestyle of Karachi differs substantially from that of other Pakistani towns and is characterised by the blending of Middle Eastern, South Asian and Western influences.

**Places of interest:** Islamabad – Rose and Jasmine Garden, with 250 different varieties of roses and dozens of types of jasmine; Shakarparian Hills, Fatima Jinnah Park; Chattar Bagh (Park); Pnca Art Gallery; Lok Virsa Heritage Museum and Library, presenting the history and living traditions of the people of Pakistan; **Pakistan Museum of Natural History**; Islamabad Museum.

**Lahore** – Wagah Border; 13 gates of Lahore; Lahore Museum; Mughal Museum; Jehangir's Tomb; Nur Jehan's tomb; **Badshahi Mosque**; Golden Mosque or Sunehri Masjid; and **Shalimar Gardens**.

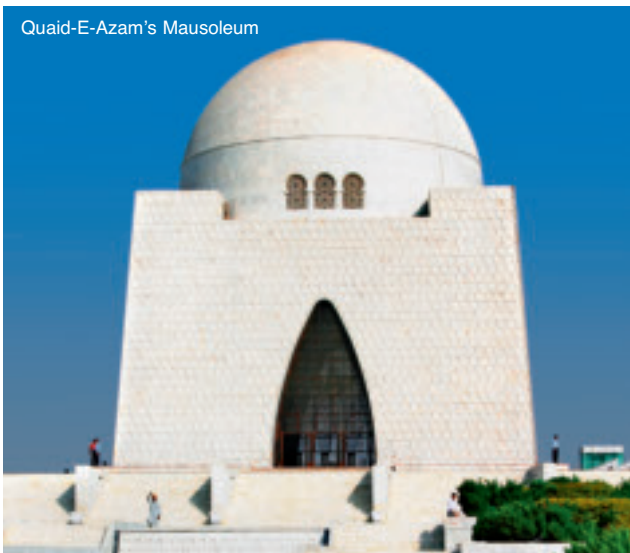
**Karachi** – Wazir Mansion (Birthplace of Mohd Ali Jinnah, the founder of modern Pakistan); **Quaid-E-Azam's Mausoleum**; Liaquat Hall/Bagh-E-Jinnah; **Mereweather Tower**; Empress Market.


**For the family:** Islamabad – Daman-e-Koh with its panoramic view of Islamabad; Murghzar Mini Zoo and Children's Park.

**Lahore** – Lahore Zoo; Hiran Minar Garden; Bagh-e-Jinnah Garden and Model Town Park.

**Karachi** – Clifton Beach and Funland.

Quaid-E-Azam's Mausoleum



Islamabad Serena Hotel 



**Location:** Opposite the convention centre.

The Islamabad Serena Hotel stands at the foot of the northern hills in a landscaped garden of the city centre. Positioned right next to the Diplomatic Enclave and surrounded by tranquil jasmine gardens, the hotel is an architectural masterpiece and the city's hallmark. Islamabad International Airport is 18 kilometres away.

**Facilities:** 197 rooms and suites. Four restaurants, 24-hour room service, shopping arcade, hairdresser, beauty salon, safety deposit boxes, business centre, babysitting, interconnecting and non-smoking rooms.

**Deluxe Rooms:** These rooms offer a lake or mountain view. Air-conditioning, hairdryer, bathrobe, TV, data ports, minibar and safe.

**Sports and leisure:** Outdoor pool, fitness centre, sauna, steam bath and massage.

**Check-in:** 1400 hours

**Check-out:** 1200 hours



Deluxe Room



Pearl-Continental Hotel Lahore 

**Location:** Downtown.

This hotel is located on the most prestigious shopping, entertainment and commercial avenues of Lahore, a city of mosques, imposing fortresses and historic bazaars. Lahore Fort, Mughal Badshahi Mosque, Mughal Shalimar Gardens and Lahore Museum are all within close proximity to the hotel. All guest rooms are decorated with sumptuous antiques and artwork and have luxurious marble bathrooms with separate shower and bathtub. Allama Iqbal International Airport is 20 kilometres away.

**Facilities:** 485 rooms and suites. Six restaurants, two bars, 24-hour room service, shops, beauty salon, safety deposit boxes, business centre, babysitting, interconnecting and non-smoking rooms.

**Business Standard Rooms:** Air-conditioning, hairdryer, bathrobe, TV, data ports, minibar and safe.

**Sports and leisure:** Outdoor pool, fitness centre, spa, sauna, steam bath, massage, aerobics and tennis court.

**Check-in:** 1400 hours/**Check-out:** 1200 hours.



Business Standard Room

Sheraton Karachi Hotel 



**Location:** Downtown.

This hotel with its Mughal-inspired décor is conveniently located in the downtown business district of Karachi, a few minutes away from all the sightseeing areas. It provides comfortable accommodation, excellent dining options and impeccable guest facilities. Quaid-e-Azam International Airport is 17 kilometres away.

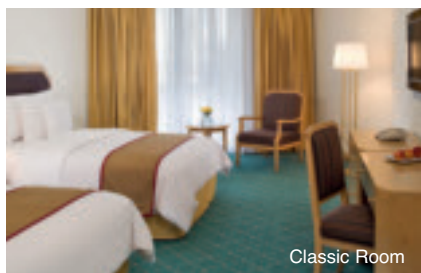
**Facilities:** 407 rooms, four restaurants, 24-hour room service, shopping arcade, hairdresser, beauty salon, safety deposit boxes, business centre, interconnecting and non-smoking rooms.

**Classic Rooms:** Air-conditioning, hairdryer, TV, DVD, data ports, wireless connectivity, minibar, tea and coffee and safe.

**Sports and leisure:** Outdoor pool, fitness centre, sauna, massage, outdoor tennis court, table tennis, aerobics and jogging track.

**Check-in:** 1500 hours

**Check-out:** 1200 hours.



Classic Room

