



Dhaka Division

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Best Places for History

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Best Landscapes

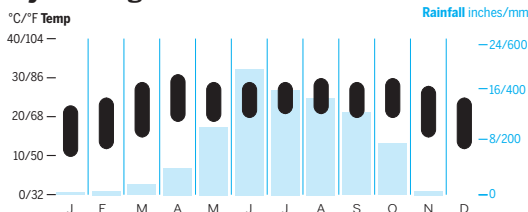
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Why Go?

Enveloping the city of Dhaka, and including some destinations that make great day trips from the capital, Dhaka division stretches for more than 250km from south to north, reaching right up to the border with the Garo Hills in India.

It's a rural wonderland, comprising some 25,000 villages, and much of the region is given over to radiant rice paddies, filling your vision with more hues of green than you ever knew existed. A smattering of wonderfully romantic, slowly decaying ruins also lends a historic air to the region, but it's the land in the far north of Dhaka division that has perhaps the greatest pull. This is where glistening paddy fields give way to dappled forests, great rivers and hilly panoramas, and where the indigenous culture of the Garo people awaits the more adventurous traveller.

When to Go Mymensingh



Oct-Mar

The dry season means off-the-beaten-track trips in the far north.

Jun/Jul

Dhamrai has chariot-pulling during the Rath Jatra festival.

Jun-Sep

Monsoon brings boggy roads, but the landscape is a sight in itself.



Dhaka Division Highlights

- 1 Explore charmingly dilapidated ruined mansions, little-visited ancient mosques and a stunning rajbari-turned-museum in Bangladesh's one-time capital of **Sonargaon** (p59)
- 2 Plug yourself into the Adivasi way of life at the

remote forested village of **Birisiri** (p64)

- 3 Hike, boat or ride a rickshaw to the small but stunning turquoise lake at the **China Clay Hills** (p65)

- 4 Wander the old-town market streets and enjoy tree-shaded riverside walks in the

laidback town of **Mymensingh** (p61)

- 5 Meet the craftspeople at the unusual metalcraft workshops in the Hindu village of **Dhamrai** (p60)

- 6 Examine the crumbling 300-year-old ruins of the once-magnificent rajbari at **Muktagacha** (p63)