



Dhaka Division

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Best Places for History

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Best Landscapes

- ➔ China Clay Hills (p62)
- ➔ Someswari River by Birisiri (p62)
- ➔ Sonargaon (p57)

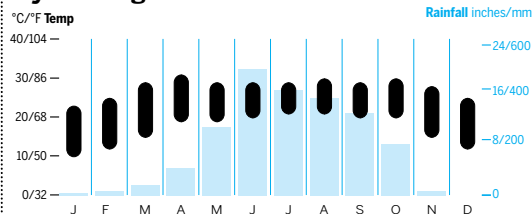
Why Go?

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. Here, the green carpet of paddy fields gives way to dappled forests, great rivers and hilly panoramas, and the indigenous culture of the Garo people awaits the more adventurous traveller.

When to Go

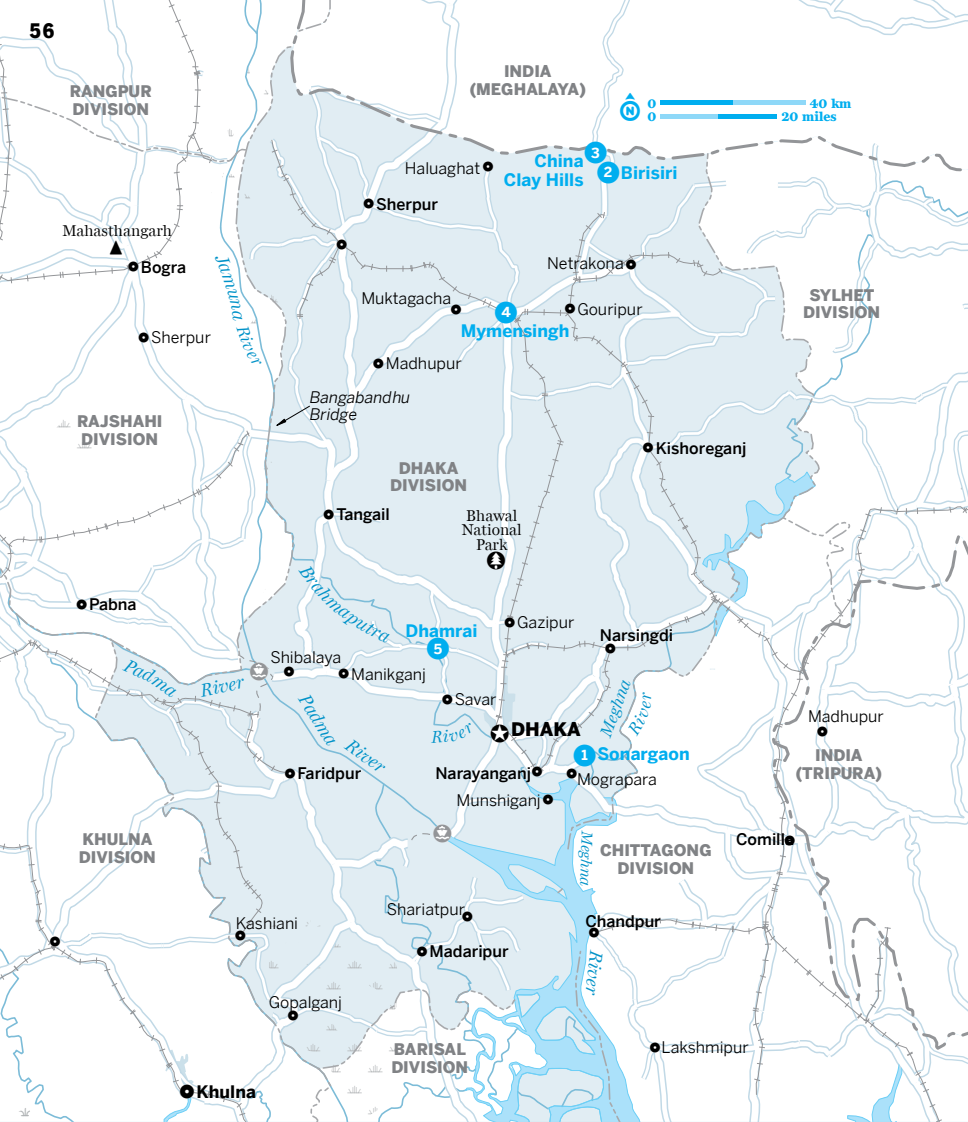
Mymensingh



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 Sonargaon (p57)
Exploring charmingly dilapidated ruined mansions, little-visited ancient mosques and a stunning rajbari-turned-museum in Bangladesh's one-time capital.

2 Birisiri (p62) Plugging yourself into the Adivasi way

of life at this remote forested village.

3 China Clay Hills (p62)
Hiking, boating or riding a rickshaw to the small but stunning turquoise lake by the hills.

4 Mymensingh (p59)
Wandering the old-town

market streets and enjoying tree-shaded riverside walks in this laidback town.

5 Dhamrai (p58)
Meeting the craftspeople at the unusual metalcraft workshops of this Hindu village.