

Explore Pakistan

RIVER INDUS & CHOLISTAN DESERT



The Travel Explorers

www.thetravelexplorers.com

River Indus & Cholistan Desert



The mighty river is also called **Lion River**, the Indus river is **the longest river** of Pakistan and it shows its different facets while flowing through Pakistan. Its upper portion where it runs swiftly through narrow gorges is ideal for rafting, while in the southern plain region it becomes smooth and flows in a wide span, where we will make an unforgettable adventure using old wooden boats. The second part of this adventure is going to be an another unique experience, where we will cross the **Cholistan Desert** riding on a camel-back for stargazing and spending nights under the open sky.



Day 01 - Arrival in Pakistan



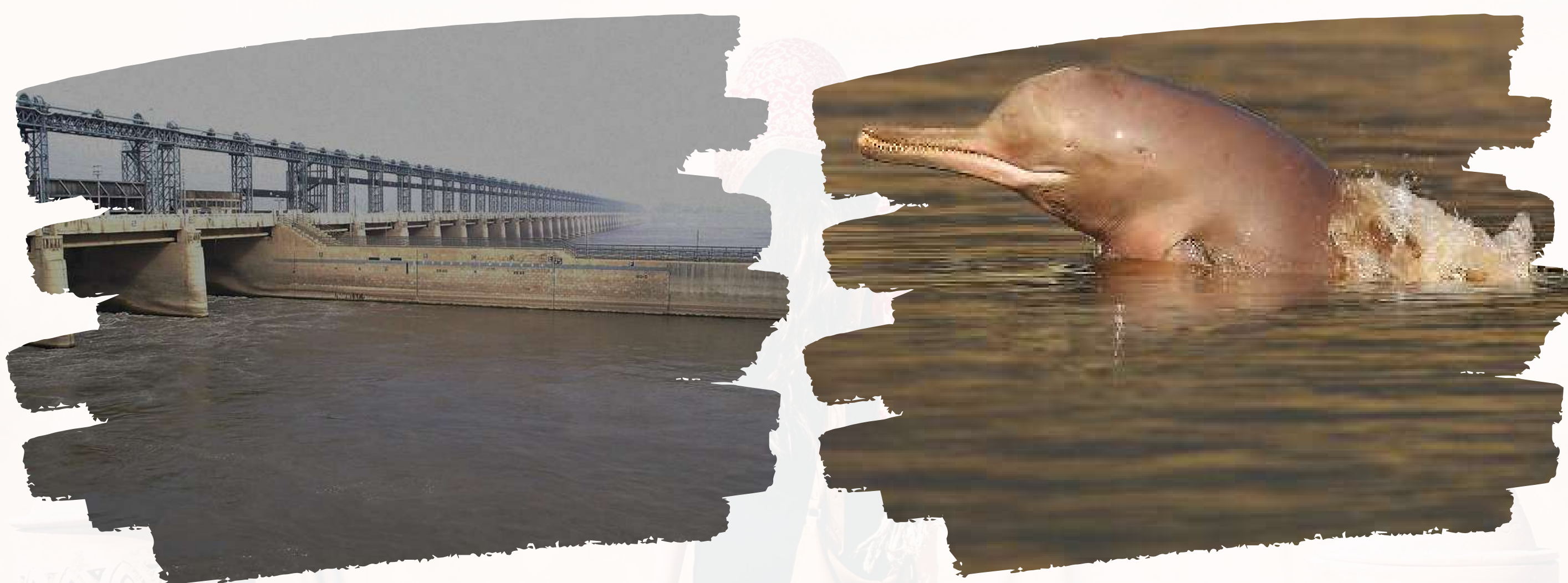
Welcome to Pakistan at **Islamabad** and transfer to hotel. In the afternoon we will make a city sightseeing tour to **Rawalpindi** and Islamabad, which offers a great contrast of culture, archaeology and planning. Together Rawalpindi and Islamabad are known as the twin cities. Rawalpindi is an old city with narrow lanes and bustling bazaars while Islamabad is a modern and the only planned city of Pakistan serving as the capital of the state. According to population Rawalpindi is the 4th largest city of Pakistan. Islamabad has noise-free atmosphere which attracts not only the locals but the foreigners as well. Islamabad has a subtropical climate and one can enjoy all four seasons in this city. Following are the places of tourist interest included in the tour: **Raja Bazaar** is located near Fawara Chowk where you can find variety of traditional and non-traditional clothes, jewelry, antique items, food, spices, etc. **Lok Virsa Museum** depicts the art, culture and history of our country. **Shah Faisal Mosque** is located near Margalla Hills which is one of the major tourist attractions in Pakistan. Saidpur Village is a recreational site for the locals and the tourists alike. There is a Hindu temple and a Gurudwara at Saidpur Village. Later transfer to Monal Resturant for Dinner. **Monal** provides a great view of the city with an amazing quality of food. Overnight in Islamabad.



Day 02 Islamabad - Taunsa



We will make an early departure for **Taunsa**, a famous barrage on River Indus in Punjab province. **Indus Blind Dolphin** lives in the Indus River which is also the **National Aquatic Mammal** of Pakistan. There are various temples in Taunsa and it is also a center of art and culture. It is a beautiful city and an amazing tourist attraction. On arrival we will establish a campsite and stay for overnight in tents. A camp night along River Indus is an unforgettable experience as our staff will arrange a bonfire with camel dance and you can enjoy stargazing under the open skies. Overnight at Taunsa



Day 03 Boating - Taunsa - Jhanjhan Wali



We will start cruising through Indus river on **wooden boats** and **canoes** for sightseeing, manually driven by **long bamboos** and without any noise pollution of engines or a motor so that the voyage would be peaceful and relaxing. In the evening we will anchor our boats and we will do camping and stay in tents for overnight in Jhanjhan Wali.



Day 04 Boating - Jhanjhan Wali - Khar Gharbi



A leisure day on the deck to watch **Migratory Birds** and occasionally jumping Indus blind dolphins in the lower to mid sections of the Indus river which is an absolutely unique experience. Indus blind dolphins are also called the **Side Swimming Dolphins** because they are often seen swimming to their sides. They have an extremely poor eyesight. They feed on shrimps, clams and other small fishes. Without any newspaper or satellite, TV or cellular phones, we will cross the time limit and will enjoy an unforgettable time by connecting with nature



Day 05 Khar Gharbi - Ghazi Ghat - Bahawalpur



On this day, we will finish our boating adventure at **Ghazi Ghat** and will mount on our vehicles to drive to **Bahawalpur** for an overnight stay. Bahawalpur is the 11th largest city of Pakistan. This city is on the edge of the **Cholistan Desert**. The word Cholistan is taken from the **Turkish word "Cho"** which means Desert. The people of Cholistan are very good in art and craft, textile, leather work, jewelry and camel products. There are also ruins from the **Indus Valley Civilization** and **ancient Buddhists** in Bahawalpur.



Day 06 Bahawalpur - Channan Pir



Bahawalpur was the state capital in the old days before merging into Pakistan. It was founded by **Nawab Bahawal Khan I**. The buildings of the town are grand and they still reveal the glimpses of good old days. After making a brief visit of the town, we will drive to **Channan Pir**, which is a village and it is named after a Sufi Saint. We will be visiting **Lal Suhanra Park**, en route, where we will be camping and our stay will be in tents. Lal Suhanra Park has been declared Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO. There are many species of animals in this park such as **rabbits, deer, monitor lizard, Egyptian vulture, barn owl, Indian cobra** etc



Day 07 Camel Riding (Channan Pir - Hallo Rani)



Channan Pir is a shrine of the desert saint of the same name from where we will start our camel ride. The place is also known for its colorful annual festival i.e. **Channan Pir Mela** held in February when people from desert and from all parts of country come to visit the place for a lot of colorful activities. This Mela is celebrated in the **Cholistan desert** for seven Thursdays in a row. Amongst these Thursdays, the fifth Thursday is the most famous one and a local holiday is observed on this day. During the festival the people of Cholistan ties a piece of red cloth on the large tree and believe that by doing so their prayers will be accepted by God. During this colorful festival various events such as **Sufi dancing** and camel dancing take place. From Channan Pir, we will start our camel ride and will visit the heart of the desert. It will be a lifetime experience to explore the desert while riding a camel. Our overnight stay will be arranged at a small dwelling, called as **Hallo Rani**.



Day 08 Camel Riding (Halla Rani - Toba)



The town **Toba Tek Singh** is named after the name of the religious Sikh. According to the legend **Tek Singh** was a man with a kind heart who used to serve water to the travelers from a small pond named Toba and also used to provide shelter to them. The place with availability of water is called as Toba. On day 8 our camel ride will come to an end at **Toba** and we will camp in the desert under the open sky. Camping in the desert is an amazing adventure.



Day 09 Camel Riding (Toba - Derawar)



Our camel riding adventure will come to an end at Derawar Fort, a place known for its huge building of an impressive old fort, a marble mosque and tombs of royal family of Bahawalpur. There are 40 bastions of Derawar which can be seen in the Cholistan desert from many miles away. This fort was built by a Hindu ruler Rai Jajja Bhatti but later it was taken over by the Muslim Nawabs of Bahawalpur. It will be another colorful night to enjoy at Derawar Fort with our staff, as you will enjoy dance performances, songs and camel dance etc.



Day 10 Derawar - Multan



We will start our return journey and make a detour to pay a visit to elegantly designed tombs of **Uch Sharif**, a small town founded by **Alexander The Great**. It is an important historical site with famous tombs of saints. Shrines of **Bibi Jawindi**, **Baha'al-Halim** and **Jalaluddin Bukhari** are the famous shrines in Uch Sharif. It is 75km away from Bahawalpur. Later on we will drive to **Multan**, where we will make a city tour in the evening. It is located near **Chenab River**. It is the 7th largest city of Pakistan. Multan is known for ages and is famous for the tombs of Sufi saints. Rest of the city is also has a blend of rich culture and a different kind of ethnic group



Day 11 Multan - Islamabad



We will transfer to airport to catch a flight to **Islamabad** where evening will be free for packing and shopping of souvenirs. Our staff will provide transfer and assistance at departure and say bon voyage for your onward journey.

Tour Includes

- 10-Nights Hotel Stay & Camping (on different destinations as per itinerary)
- Air Ticket From Multan to Islamabad
- Accommodation on Twin Sharing Basis
- Sightseeing as per itinerary
- Meal Plan: Full Board (as per itinerary)
- Transport by Car/Jeeps/Boats/Camels
- Entrance fee, taxes and service charges
- English Speaking Guide Services

Package

USD 1450/per person
/based on twin sharing.

Book Now!

+92 51 22 78 333 - 666

info@thetravelexplorers.com

www.thetravelexplorers.com



The Travel Explorers

www.thetravelexplorers.com