

PAKISTAN



Country Dialing Code (Tel/Fax): ++92

Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation (PTDC): PO Box 1465 Markaz F-6 Agha Khan Road Islamabad 44000 Tel 51-9212760 Fax 51-9204027 E-mail tourism@isb.comsats.net.pk <http://www.tourism.gov.pk>

Capital: Islamabad **Time:** GMT + 5

Background: The separation in 1947 of British India into the Muslim state of Pakistan (with two sections West and East) and largely Hindu India was never satisfactorily resolved. A third war between these countries in 1971 resulted in East Pakistan seceding and becoming the separate nation of Bangladesh. A dispute over the state of Kashmir is ongoing. In response to Indian nuclear weapons testing, Pakistan conducted its own tests in 1998.

Location: Southern Asia, bordering the Arabian Sea, between India on the east and Iran and Afghanistan on the west and China in the north

Map References: Asia

Area: total: 803,940 sq km land: 778,720 sq km water: 25,220 sq km

Climate: mostly hot, dry desert; temperate in northwest; arctic in north

Terrain: flat Indus plain in east; mountains in north and northwest; Balochistan plateau in west

Natural Resources: land, extensive natural gas reserves, limited petroleum, poor quality coal, iron ore, copper, salt, limestone

Population: 141,553,775 (July 2000 est.)

Nationality: noun: Pakistani(s) adjective: Pakistani

Ethnic Groups: Punjabi, Sindhi, Pashtun (Pathan), Baloch, Muhajir (immigrants from India at the time of partition and their descendants)

Religions: Muslim 97% (Sunni 77%, Shi'a 20%), Christian, Hindu, and other 3%

Economy: Pakistan is a poor, heavily populated country, suffering from internal political disputes, lack of foreign investment, and a costly confrontation with neighboring India. Pakistan's economic outlook continues to be marred by its weak foreign exchange position, notably its continued reliance on international creditors for hard currency inflows. The MUSHARRAF government faces \$32 billion in external debt and has nearly completed rescheduling with Paris Club members and other bilateral creditors. Foreign loans and grants provide approximately 25% of government revenue, but debt service obligations total nearly 50% of government expenditure. The IMF has remained silent on future disbursements from its \$1.56 billion bailout package initiated in 1999, and other international financial institutions are gauging the current administration's resolve to implement necessary fiscal reforms. MUSHARRAF's ambitious economic agenda includes measures to widen the tax net, privatize public sector assets, and improve its balance of trade position. Pakistan has made privatization a cornerstone of economic revival, but may have difficulty attracting new investors until it receives positive endorsement from the World Bank. The Bank has withheld its approval pending resolution of the pricing dispute between the government and independent power producers.

Industries: textiles, food processing, beverages, construction materials, clothing, paper products, shrimp

Currency: 1 Pakistani rupee (PR) = 100 paise

Railways: total: 8,163 km broad gauge: 7,718 km 1.676-m gauge (293 km electrified; 1,037 km double track) narrow gauge: 445 km 1.000-m gauge (1996 est.)

Highways: total: 247,811 km paved: 141,252 km (including 339 km of expressways) unpaved: 106,559 km (1998 est.)

Ports and Harbors: Karachi, Port Muhammad bin Qasim

Airports: 118 (1999 est.) Airports - with paved runways: total: 82 over 3,047 m: 12 2,438 to 3,047 m: 21 1,524 to 2,437 m: 32 914 to 1,523 m: 14 under 914 m: 3 (1999 est.) Airports - with unpaved runways: total: 36 1,524 to 2,437 m: 7 914 to 1,523 m: 9 under 914 m: 20 (1999 est.) Heliports: 7 (1999 est.)

Visa: required by all

Duty Free: goods permitted: 200 cigarettes or 50 cigars or 500g of tobacco, 250ml of perfume and eau de toilette, gifts up to the value of PRs2000

Health: a yellow fever vaccination certificate is required from all travelers coming from infected areas. Malaria risk exists throughout the year. All water should be regarded as potentially contaminated

HOTELS•MOTELS•INNS

ISLAMABAD

AMBASSADOR HOTEL, Khayaban-E-Shuhrawardy, Sector G-6/1, Islamabad/Rawalpindi, Pakistan, Phone: 51-282-4011, Email: ambassadorhotels@hotmail.com

HOTEL DE PAPAE, 16-D West, Fazal-e-Haq Road, Blue Area, Islamabad, Phone: 051-2273427, 2273544, Fax: 92-51-2273182, info@hoteldepapae.com <http://www.hoteldepapae.com>

ISLAMABAD MARRIOTT HOTEL, Aga Khan Road, Shalimar 5-PO Box 1251, Islamabad, Pakistan, Phone: 92 51 2826121, Fax: 92 51 2825113 Sales: 92 51 2826121 ext. 2701, Sales fax: 92 51 2201071, <http://www.marriott.com>

ISLAMABAD SERENA HOTEL, RAMNA 5, Khayaban -e-Suhrawardy, Islamabad, Pakistan, Tel: 92 51 287 4000, Fax: 92 51 287 1092, <http://www.serenahotels.com>

KARACHI

BEACH LUXURY HOTEL, Moulvi Tamizuddin Khan Road, Karachi, Pakistan, Telephone: +92 21 561 1031, Fax: +92 21 561 1625, <http://www.avari.com>

GULF HOTEL, Daud Pota Rd, Saddar Karachi-2, Karachi, Pakistan, Phone: 21-566-1235, Web: <http://www.gulftel.cbi.pk>

HOTEL MEHRAN, Shahrah-e-Faisal, Karachi, 75530, Tel: 92 21 566 0851, Fax: 92 21 567 7019, info@hotelmehran.com, <http://www.hotelmehran.com>

HOTEL METROPOLE, Club Rd, Karachi, Pakistan, Phone: 21-566-0145, Web: <http://www.metropole.com.pk>, Email: metropole@cyber.net.pk

KARACHI MARRIOTT HOTEL, 9 Abdullah Haroon Road, Karachi, 10444 Pakistan, Phone: 92 21 568 0111, Fax: 92 21 5689510, Sales: 92 21 111223344 ext. 2103, Sales fax: 92 21 5670111, <http://www.marriott.com>

PEARL-CONTINENTAL HOTEL, Club Road, PO Box, 8513, Karachi, Tel: +92 (21) 568-5021 [50 lines], 111-505-505, Fax: +92 (21) 568-1835, 568-2655, Email: pchk@hashoogroup.com, <http://www.pchotels.com>

REGENT PLAZA HOTEL & CONVENTION CENTRE, Karachi, Telephone: 0092 - (0)21 - 11111774, Fax: 0092 - (0)21 - 5631523, rphcc@cyber.net.pk, info@rphcc.com, <http://www.rphcc.com>

SHERATON KARACHI HOTEL & TOWERS, Club Road, P.O. Box 3918, Karachi, Sind 75500, Pakistan, Phone: (92)(21) 5633333, Fax: (92)(21) 5633225, <http://www.starwoodhotels.com>

HOTEL METROPOLE, Club Road, 75520 Karachi, Pakistan, Tel: +92 (0)21 512051, Fax: +92 (0)21 514301

PEARL CONTINENTAL HOTEL Club Road. POB 8513 Karachi, Pakistan KARACHI PAKISTAN (92-21) 111-505-505 (92-21) 568-2655 hotelkhi@khi.comsats.net.pk

LAHORE

HOLIDAY INN CITY CENTRE, 25/26 EGERTON ROAD, LAHORE, 54000, PAKISTAN, <http://www.ichotelsgroup.com>

MIRAGE HOTEL, 21 lake road, old anarkali, Lahore. Pakistan. Ph: + 92 42 723 8126 ; + 92 42 723 8127, Fax: + 92 42 724 6344, Reservations@miragelahore.com, <http://www.miragelahore.com>

PEARL-CONTINENTAL HOTEL, Lahore. Shahrah-e-Quaid-e-Azam, P.O.Box#983, Lahore, Tel: +92(42) 636-0210, 111-505-505, Fax: +92(42)636-2760, 636-4362, Email: pchl@hashoogroup.com, <http://www.pchotels.com>

CRUISES AND SHIPPING LINES

PAKISTAN NATIONAL SHIPPING CORPORATION, P.N.S.C. Building, Moulvi Tamizuddin Road, P.O. Box 5350, Karachi, Pakistan Tel: 551081 Fax: 92-21 2412363

PAN-ISLAMIC STEAMSHIP CO LTD, Writer's Chambers, Mumtaz Hassan Road-Off Chundrigar Rd., Karachi 2 74000, Pakistan Tel: 2412110 Fax: 92 (21) 2412276

AIRLINES & HELIPORTS

PAKISTAN INTERNATIONAL AIRLINES CORPORATION, Region: Asia, Address: PIA Building Quaid-e-Azam International Airport Karachi 75200, Tel: 0092 21 457 20 11, Fax: 0092 21 457 22 25, Web site: www.piac.com.pk, Main Base: Karachi

3 Million Facts are listed on our Website