

DESIGN: CREATIVE WING - TCKP, PAKISTAN YEAR PRINTED 2018
NOT FOR SALE



KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA

TOURISM CORPORATION

KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA

TCKP-Tourist Information Centre,
Peshawar Museum, Peshawar, Pakistan

Contact:
Tel: +92-91-9213762
Fax: +92-91-9210009
E-Mail: info@kptourism.com
Website: www.kptourism.com



SUPPORTED BY ERKF - KP
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
Federally Administered Areas
and Balochistan
Multi-Donor Trust Fund

QR CODE
SCAN FOR
DETAILS



PESHAWAR:
**OLDEST
LIVING CITY IN
SOUTH-ASIA**

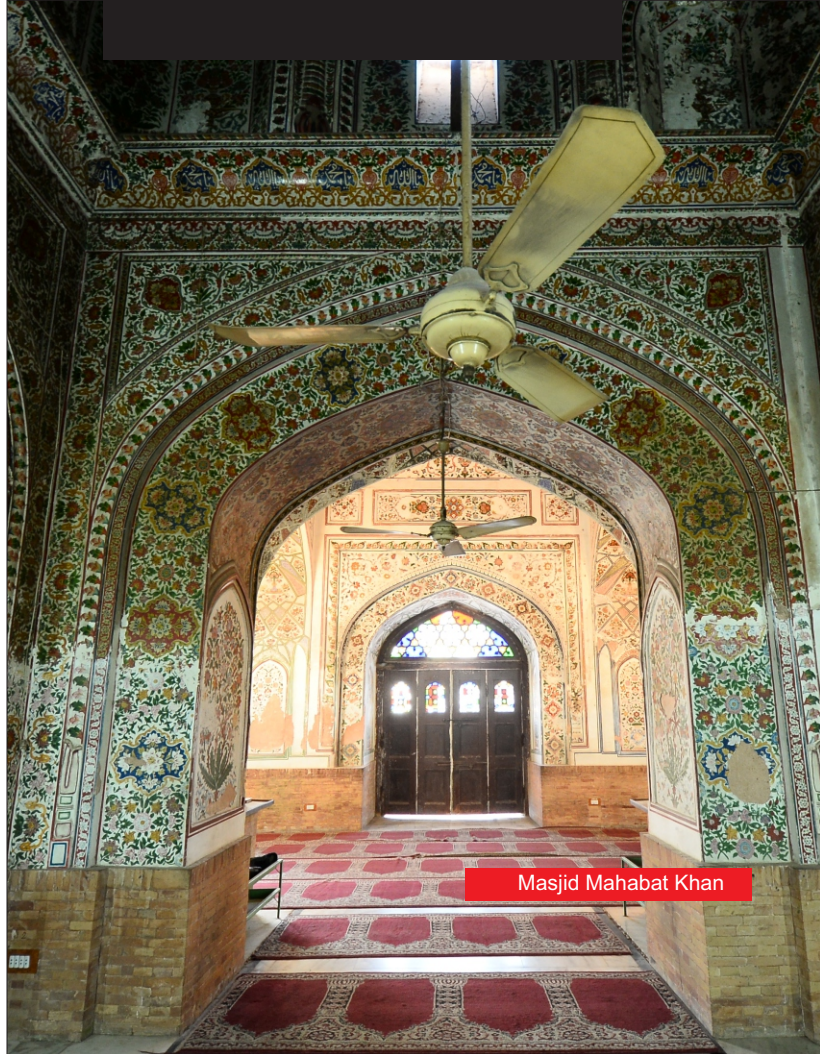
PESHAWAR

TRAVEL GUIDE

TOURISM CORPORATION
KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA

PHOTO:
Rishi Jadoon





Masjid Mahabat Khan

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

A major portion of this publication has been written exclusively for Tourism Corporation Khyber Pakhtunkhwa by Isobel Shaw

Born in Ireland, **Isobel Shaw** has lived in the Geneva area of Switzerland since 1981. She studied Archaeology, Anthropology and English at Cambridge University

She lived in Pakistan 1978-81. She has authored:

Pakistan Illustrated Guide (five editions)

Pakistan Handbook (two editions)

Pakistan Trekking Guide - being updated now

Also many articles on Pakistan and chapters in various books such as *Old Roads New Highways* which came out for 50th anniversary of Pakistan Independence.

Isobel Shaw works as travel writer and travel guide. She leads occasional trips to Pakistan and still enjoys gentle trekking. She has three children and 9 grandchildren.

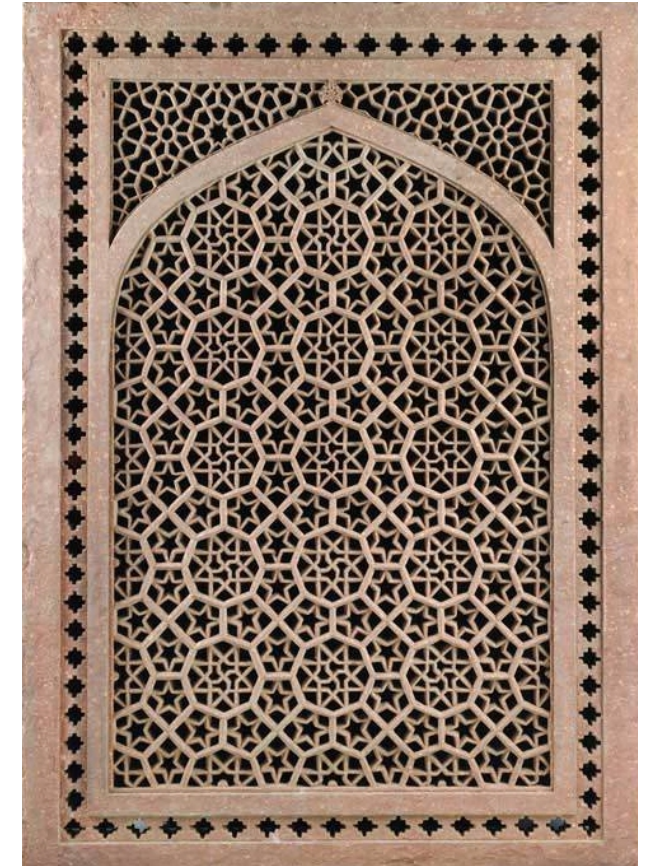
Cover: Sethi House, Peshawar.

Updates and Research: TIC, TCKP

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province

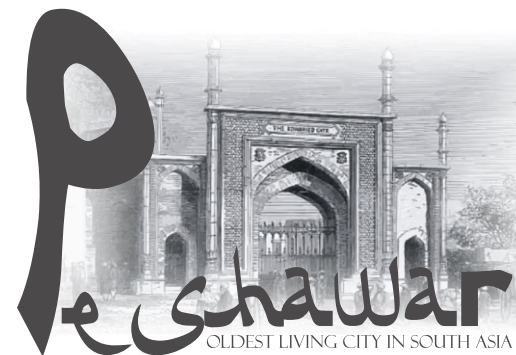
Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa formerly the North-West Frontier Province, or NWFP, runs for over 1,100 kilometres along the border with Afghanistan. Peshawar is the capital, and the heart of the province is the fertile Vale of Peshawar, which is watered by the Kabul and Swat rivers. This was the centre of the ancient kingdom of Gandhara and is rich in archaeological remains.

The Khyber Pass linking Pakistan to Afghanistan is perhaps the province's best-known feature, though it was little used in prehistoric times, and even centuries later was considered too narrow and easily ambushed a route. It was not until the 1st Century AD, when the powerful Kushans invaded Gandhara and pacified the area, that the Khyber, the most direct route from Kabul to Peshawar, became popular as a safe trade route.



PESHAWAR

Peshawar (pronounced Pe-SHAH-wur), the capital of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa (NWFP), is a frontier town, the meeting place of the subcontinent and Central Asia. It is perhaps the oldest living city in this part of Asia - a place where ancient traditions jostle with those of today, and where the bazaar in the **old city** has changed little in the last hundred years except to become the neighbour of a modern university, some modern hotels, some international banks and one of the best museums in Pakistan.



No other city is quite like old Peshawar. The bazaar within its walls is like an American Wild West movie costumed as a Bible epic. Pathan (Pukhtun or Pashtun) tribesmen stroll down the street, their hands hidden inside their shawls and their faces partly covered by the loose ends of their turbans (they have now been forbidden to walk armed in town). With his piercing eyes and finely chiselled nose, the Pathan must be the

handsomest man on earth. Overlooking all the crowded and narrow streets are the massive Balahisar Fort still used by the army, and the elegant Mahabat Khan Mosque.

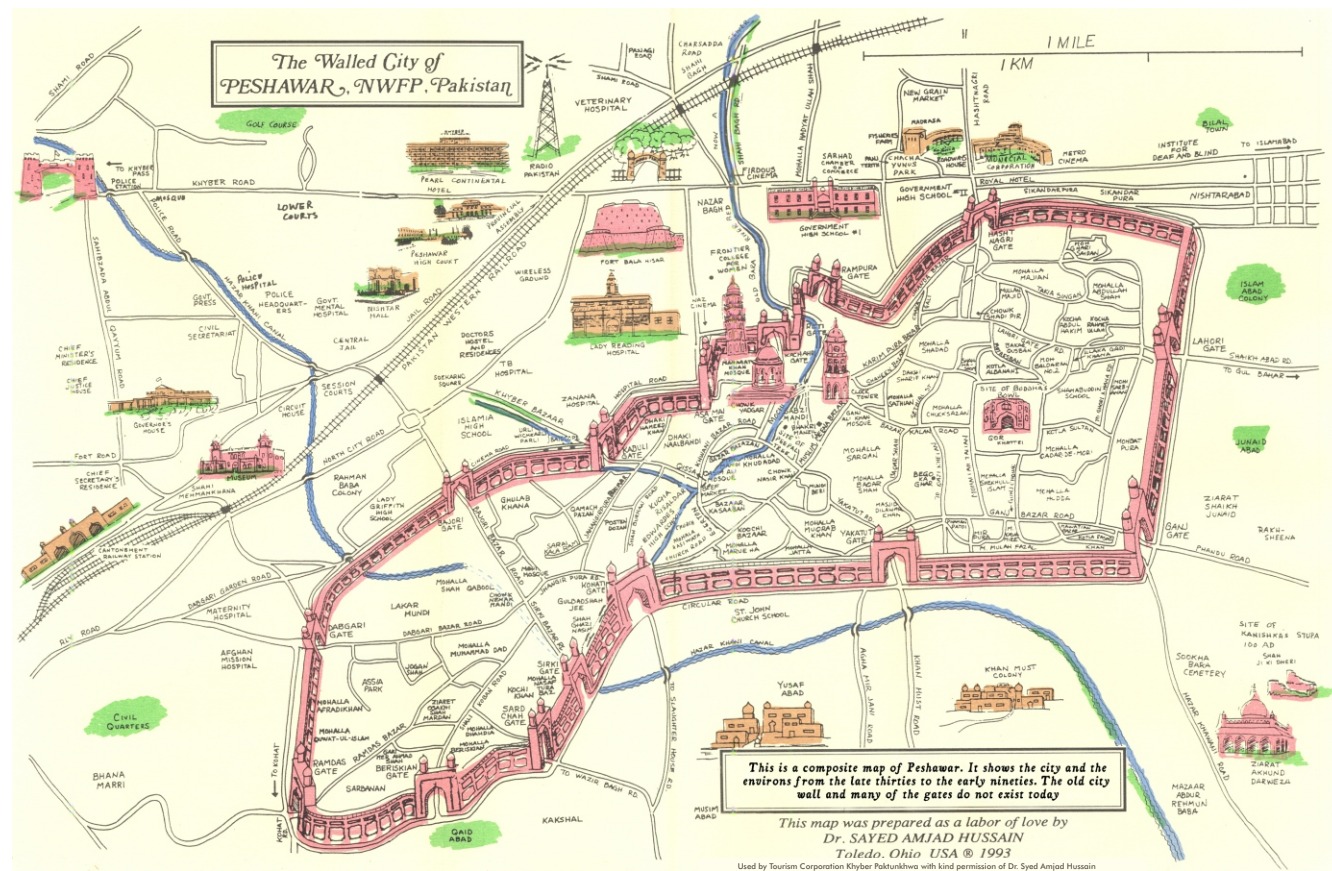


▲ Pathan Tribesman

(Photo by: Steve McCurry)

The railway, built by the British, divides Peshawar's old town from the **Cantonment**, laid out by the British after 1850, with wide tree-lined streets bordered by once gracious administrative buildings and spacious bungalows in large gardens. Clubs, churches, schools, The Mall, Saddar Bazaar and the airport are all part of the British contribution to modern Peshawar. Peshawar University, founded in 1950, and surrounded by **University Town**, lies to the west on the road to the Khyber Pass. **Hayatabad**, the newest suburb, is to the west of the **University** nearer the Khyber Pass.





Sights

Peshawar is divided into four sections:

- The old walled city
- The British cantonment
- University Town
- Hayatabad.

WALLED CITY OF PESHAWAR

Bazar Tour

The most exciting part of Peshawar is the **old city**, which dates from Buddhist, Mughal and Sikh times. It is a labyrinth of narrow lanes and colourful bazaars, a mosaic of traders, travellers, Pathan tribesmen and Afghans. Until the 20th century, it was surrounded by a wall. In typical Asiatic style, shops selling similar wares are found together; they are almost always open except during Jumma prayers on Friday afternoon. A tour taking in all the most interesting and picturesque bazaars, and some of the specialist shops and workshops, can be accomplished in two to three hours if you do not stop for the endless cups of tea offered by the shopkeepers.

Khyber Bazaar, **here** you will find many of Peshawar's cheaper hotels and, in the evening, food stalls selling excellent kebabs and fry-ups. Meat is sold by weight and then cooked while you watch. The main street, full of doctors, lawyers and dentists, features billboards depicting sets of false teeth of nightmarish proportions. Kabuli Gate, one of the walled city's 16 gates, is at the end of Khyber Bazaar. **The wall survived until the mid-1950s, and though the names remain. The gates had disappeared, but now they have been rebuilt.**



Photo by: Oldrich Miksik

Qissa Khawani (Story-tellers') Bazaar was described in the mid-19th century by the British Commissioner in Peshawar, Sir Herbert Edwardes, as 'the Piccadilly of Central Asia'. Towering over the street are tall, narrow buildings with intricately carved balconies and window frames.

Before the advent of radios and television, the art of professional story telling flourished in the traditional teahouses and *balakhanas* in the bazaar. The storyteller relied on his tongue and his imagination to earn his livelihood. The tales were partly narrated, partly sung to an audience of traders and travellers arriving with their caravans from distant corners of the world.

Chitrali Bazaar is in the street to the right (south) and a great place to shop for traditional woollen hats (*pakol*) and waist coats. Mochi Lara nearby offers traditional footwear (*chapl*)

Brass and copper shops are in the street to the left (northwest) at the end of Qissa Khawani. These sell a range of new and old wares. Ali Brothers on the left is the bestknown, and sells Gardner Russian china plus brass and copper.



Brass and copper shops are in the street to the left (northwest) at the end of Qissa Khawani. These sell a range of new and old wares. Ali Brothers on the left is the bestknown, and sells Gardner Russian china plus brass and copper. Back on the main street are the shops selling **blankets and shawls** from the valley of Swat. Made of handspun wool, they are predominantly red and black with brightly patterned borders. The lane to the right (**southeast**), **leads to** the **cloth bazaar**. Beyond that is the **basket bazaar**, where baskets from Dera Ismail Khan are sold. Here also is the **Banjara Bazaar**, which specialises in unusual decorative items such as bells, bone and wooden beads and hair braids. Ask here for the way to **Peepal Mandi**, the main grain wholesale market, where there is a Peepal tree believed to be the offspring of the tree under which the Buddha preached.

If you choose instead to continue on the main street towards Chowk Yadgar, you pass the **Bird market** and more cloth shops selling all types of *chadors* (multipurpose sheets) and blockprints.

Chowk Yadgar is the 'Speaker's Corner' and central square of old Peshawar. The monument at the centre commemorates the heroes of the 1965 Indo-Pakistan War and is the traditional town meeting place, where most political rallies and demonstrations take place.

On the left of the square the money-changers squat on their hand-knitted carpets with their safes behind them and their pocket calculators and mobile phones at the ready. They will change any currency, but only accept clean notes.

From Chowk Yadgar, there are two interesting walks, one to the west and the other to the east. Running off the square to the west is **Andershehr Bazaar**, a narrow street of **gold and silversmiths** selling jewellery (both tribal and modern), antique silver, old coins and military buttons and buckles. While you rummage through the boxes of treasures, trying on nomads' earrings, the shopkeeper plies you with cups of sweet green tea brewed in huge copper samovars. **Shinwari Plaza**, 70 metres beyond the Mahabat Khan Mosque on the right, is a plaza full of the best Afghan shops, happy hunting ground for jewellery and carpets, and all things Afghan.

▼ 'Buddha's tree' at Peepal Mundi



▲ Banyan tree & temple at Gor Khairi

Mahabat Khan Mosque is at the top of the hill on the right (north), its entrance a narrow gateway between the jewellery shops. Built in the 1670s, this beautifully proportioned Mughal mosque, named after a regional governor who served under both Emperors Shah Jahan and Aurangzeb, is orthodox in design.

Its open courtyard has an ablution pond in the middle and a single row of rooms around the sides. The prayer hall on the west is flanked by two tall minarets. According to the late 19th-century *Gazetteer*, the minarets were frequently used in Sikh times 'as a substitute for the gallows'. A fire that raged through the Andershehr Bazaar in 1895, (the *Gazetteer* continues) failed to destroy the **mosque**, thanks only to the 'unremitting efforts of the faithful'. The interior of the prayer hall is sheltered beneath three low fluted domes and is lavishly and colourfully painted with floral and geometric designs.

From Andershehr Bazaar, a street leads into Dhaki Munawar Shah where the famous Bollywood actor Raj Kapoor's ancestral house is located. Dilip Kumar's house is nearby too.

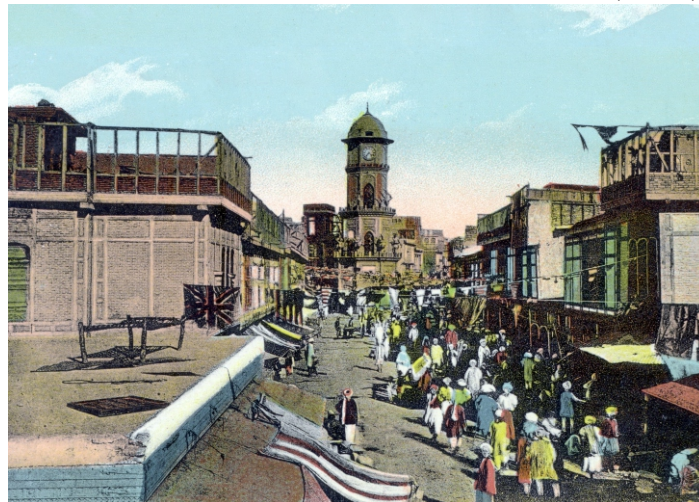


▲ Mahabat Khan Mosque



▲ Raj Kapoor's House

However, if you start again at Chowk Yadgar, but go east this time, you pass the ancient vegetable market on the right and an alley full of hardware shops on the left before coming to the **Cunningham Clock Tower**. It was built in 1900 'in commemoration of the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen Empress', but is named after **Commissioner** of Peshawar of that period. A marble tablet on one side of the monument calls one's attention to the sacrifices made by the people of the city in foreign lands: "From this city 200 men went to the Great War 1914-1919 of these 7 gave up their lives."



(c. 1910)

The **leather and skin market** around the clock tower features the skins of very young Karakul lambs, and many of the shops have tailors on hand to make astrakhan hats.

The **Meena Bazaar**, the Women's Bazaar, is down the alley to the right (south) from the clock tower. Groups of black-tented women flit like ravens between the stalls shopping for beads, trimmings, machine embroidery and trinkets. Visitors considering adopting purdah can buy their burqa (veil) here in a choice of colours.

Sethi Street continues up the hill to the Mughal Caravan Serai (Gor Khatri). Most of the old interconnected houses here belong to the Sethi family, one of the oldest merchant families in Peshawar.

They once had offices in Czarist Russia and Shanghai; they imported silks from China and exported cloth, indigo and tea. The tall houses with wooden balconies have intricately carved wooden doors leading into spacious courtyards. Cool cellars, 15 metres deep, provide a retreat from the heat in summer. Victorian glass chandeliers evoke 19th-century opulence. Hidden inside these houses, covering their ceilings and walls like a mantle, is decorative woodwork of exquisite quality. Through a galaxy of pre-Islamic, Mughal, Sikh and even British motifs, much of Peshawar's rich and varied cultural history can be traced.

Gor Khatri: The archaeological complex of **Gor Khatri** was once a Mughal Caravan Serai crowning the hill at the top end of Sethi Street. Huge Mughal gateways on either end lead into a large courtyard, over 200 metres square, that was once surrounded on all four sides by rooms for travellers. The site has been considered holy for more than 2,000 years. In the second century AD, it was a Buddhist shrine and monastery known as the Tower of the Buddha's Bowl.



▲ Banyan tree & temple at Gor Khatri

Remains of a temple to Gorakhnath, a yogi sect, stands in the south-eastern corner of the courtyard, with a shrine to Nandi beside it.

An archaeological dig in the north-eastern corner of Gor Khatri has established that Peshawar is one of the earliest living cities in this part of Asia, inhabited continuously from the 4-6th century BC, when it was a province of the Persian Achaemenian Empire. From then onwards, it was ruled in turn by the Mauryans, Greeks, Scythians, Kushans, Sasanians, White Huns, Hindu Shahis, Ghaznavids, Ghorids, Suri Afghans, Mughals, Durrani Afghans, Sikhs, and the British, before becoming Pakistan in 1947.



▼ Bird Eye view of Balahisar Fort Peshawar



Cultural Heritage Trail

A special project has been initiated by Tourism Department Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in old section of Peshawar Gor Khatri to Clock Tower. The old buildings are being renovated, painted with original design restored for the preservation of Peshawar Cultural heritage. (Work in Progress)



Interesting buildings in the Old City

Balahisar Fort

Balahisar Fort, is a massive structure built by the Sikhs in 1834 on the site of Babur's earlier fort. It has been the headquarters of the Frontier Corps since 1907 and is still used by the army. Most of the existing barracks and military installations date back from the British period. The fort houses an interesting military museum which is open to public **with** special permission. A ceremonial changing of guards takes place ten minutes before sunset daily.

The Koh-i-Noor diamond, which is now part of the British Crown Jewels, was taken from the former Afghan rulers by the Sikhs inside Balahisar. It was then acquired by The East India Company after the annexation of Peshawar in 1849 and later presented to Her Majesty Queen Victoria the following year.



Lady Reading Hospital

Lady Reading, the **Vicerine** who visited Peshawar in 1921, founded Lady Reading Hospital outside the old walled city in 1929. The hospital was built on the site of the Bullock, Elephant and Camel lines that once existed behind the Balahisar Fort. The famous Bolton Block is a historic building worth seeing. The typical ambience of hospital life of the Raj period is remarkably preserved here.

Another old hospital, formerly the Military Station Hospital and now Combined Military Hospital (or CMH) was **established** at the turn of the last century. It is located opposite Company *Bagh* on the Mall in the cantonment.



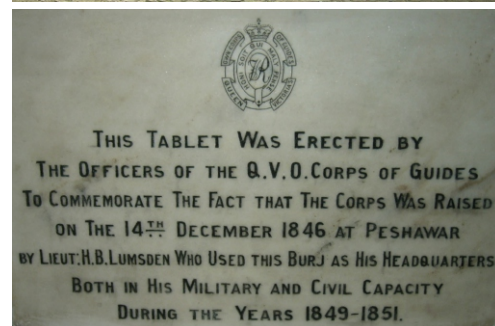
▼ Bolton Block

Tomb of Nawab Sayid Khan (inside the Mission Hospital)

Located inside the compound of the **Mission Hospital** in Dabgari stands a building or 'burj' with a colourful history. The domed structure is said to be the tomb of Nawab Sayid Khan, the 17th century Mughal governor during Emperor Shah Jahan's rule. Lt. Harry Lumsden who raised the elite Corps of Guides in Peshawar chose the burj as his headquarter in 1846.

In 1904, when the Church Mission Society founded its hospital in the premises the burj initially served as a small pox ward. Later, a chapel was established in 1926 which is still there to this day. It was in Peshawar that the British adopted the khaki (tan) uniform. The Guides regiment abandoned their scarlet coloured uniform in favour of khaki copying the colour of the clothes of the local tribesmen perfect camouflage for the Frontier warfare. This colour was adopted by armies all over the world.

A visit to this beautiful monument is a splendid evocation of Peshawar's rich past. A photograph of Sir Harry Lumsden hangs at the entrance. Old Victorian photos and names of the pioneer missionaries and many others adorn its walls. One can get a good view of the walled city from its rooftop.



All Saint Church

All Saint's Church, located inside the Kohati Gate of the old city, opened on 27 December 1883, is unique. It bears a striking resemblance to an Islamic saracenic mosque. In the words of one of its founding fathers Reverend Worthington Jukes, "Its architecture is a successful adaptation of mosque architecture to the purposes of Christian worship." An old Bible in Hebrew and English from 1806 has a brass latch engraved with the words "Peshawar City, Afghanistan" shows Peshawar's historical links with the Afghans. Peshawar was once the Afghan winter capital.

Nishtar Hall, Peshawar (Directorate of Culture)

Nishtar Hall is a cultural centre and music venue in Peshawar. It was established to promote the culture of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The Hall was established in 1985. It is the only large entertainment venue in Peshawar with a capacity of 600 people. It was named after a Pashtun freedom fighter Sardar Abdur Rab Nishtar.

For further detail please visit: <http://culture.kp.gov.pk/>



Edwardes Mission High School (Old City)

The Frontier's first school is located near All Saints Church **inside** Kohati Gate. After the British annexation of Peshawar in 184, this property was confiscated and handed over to one of the pioneer missionaries, Major Martin, to establish the first school on the Frontier in 1853. A marble plaque on a surviving gateway at the site reads: "This building was formerly the residence of the Governors of Peshawar Yar Muhammed Khan (1823-1829) Sultan Muhammed Khan (1831-1834) brother of Amir Dost Muhammed Khan (King of Afghanistan)"



Durrani Grave Yard

Located on the southern side outside the walled city on Wazir Bagh Road is a **Muslim** cemetery dating back to the time when Peshawar was the winter capital of Afghanistan. Here lies the tomb of Afghan **Prince** Ayub Khan of Maiwand fame. He was the son of Sher Ali, Amir of Afghanistan, and cousin of Amir Abdur Rahman. He confronted the British force commanded by General Burrows at Maiwand, On 27th July 1880, near the close of the Second Afghan war and was able to win one of the very few pitched battles that have been won by Asiatic leaders over an army under European direction.

The tablet at the cemetery gate reads: "The mausoleum of Maiwand's Victor Ghazi Sardar Mohammed Ayub Khan" (b.1855 d.1914). His mother, the wife of Amir Sher Ali, and other relatives are also buried nearby.

Two 18th century **mosques** also occupy the same compound. The smaller one is in a forlorn and dilapidated state and no longer used. Its walls still bear faint hand written Persian inscriptions in

Gurdwara Bhai Jogan Singh

An old Sikh temple is inside Mohallah Jogan Shah situated between Namak Mandi and Dabgari.

Gurdwara Bhai Biba Singh

Inside Chaka Gali area of Hashtnagri and Jogiwara lies a beautifully preserved Gurdwara which is an architectural jewel from the Sikh-Era.

Hindu Temple Karimpura

A street from Chowk Yadgar leads towards Karimpura Bazaar. The Hindu temple is located nearby in a historic quarter of the old city.

Kotla Mohsin Khan

This site boasts a historical gateway and tombs as well as links with many great personalities who once lived here. The last Mughal governor, Nawab Nasir Khan welcomed the Afghan King Nadir Shah Durrani and gifted him the key to Peshawar in 1741 when he visited the city. This signalled the end of the Mughal empire in Peshawar. According to an earlier legend, the foundation of the Kotla gate was



▲ Sikh boy from Mohallah Jogan Shah

laid down in the latter half of the 16th century in the presence of renowned personalities of the time, **Sheikh Kaka Sahib** and Akhund Derweza Baba.

It is also recorded that Arbab Mustajab Khan, being the representative of the Mughals, settled disputes amongst the Ghori Khel tribes in the balconies of the building. When the Mughals arrested Khushal Khan Khattak, Arbab Mustajab Khan, secured his release from the dungeon, and kept him as a guest in the castle.

The original name of this site was Kotla Mustajab Khan. It was renamed as Kotla Mohsin Khan due to the owner's close relationship with Mustajab Khan during the reign of **the** Afghan King Ahmad Shah Durrani.



During the siege of Peshawar in 1830s, the Sikhs also burnt this site and it was later refurbished. The gateway and minarets of Kotla Mohsin Khan are historical landmarks of the 16th and 17th century “Roshnai period”. Bayazid Ansari alias Pir Rokhan started his religious and political movement against the Mughal emperor Akbar from this site. Allah Dad Doshani alias Rashid Khan constructed minarets at this site to conduct judicial duties.

THE CANTONMENT

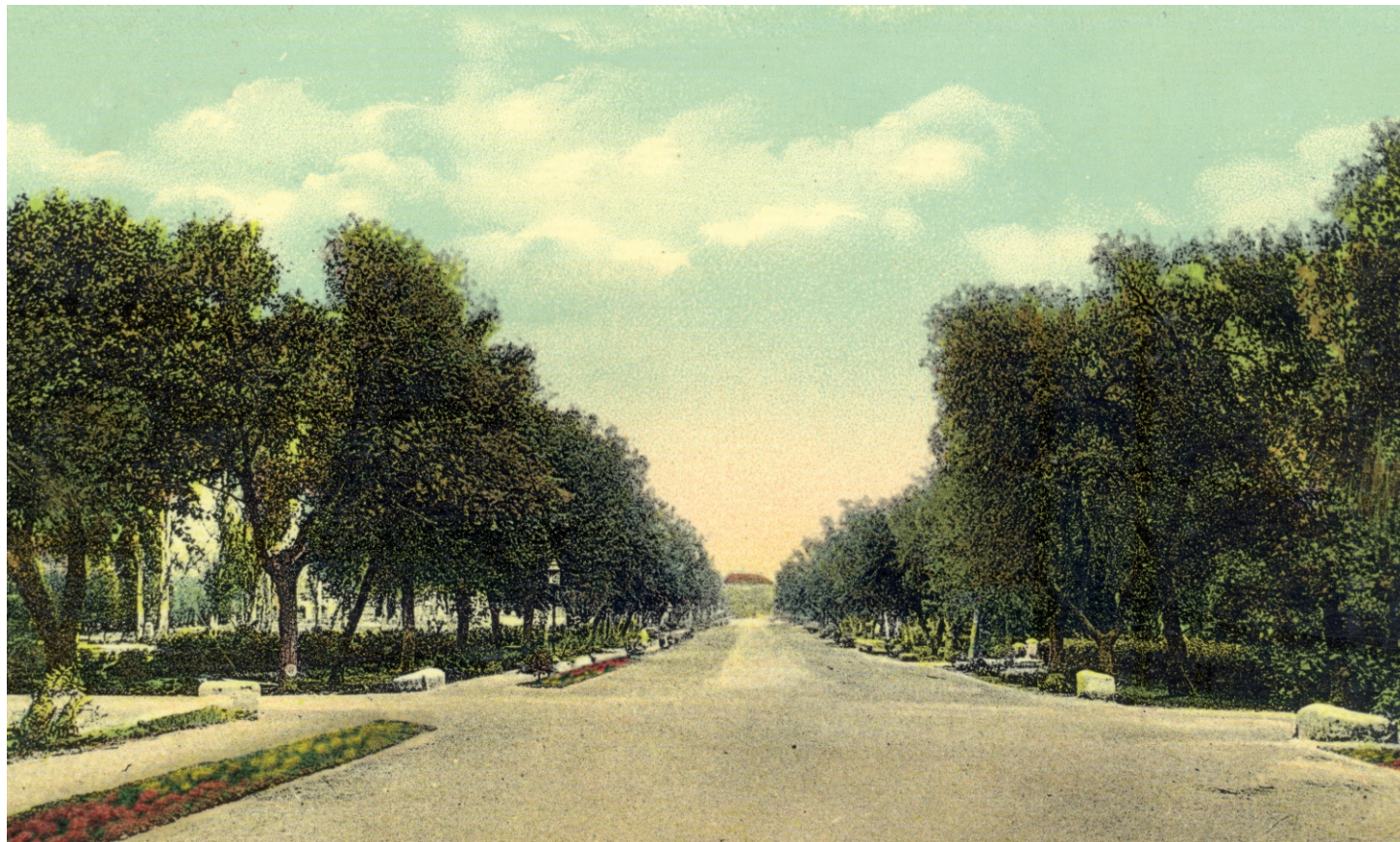
In British India, the term 'cantonment' meant a permanent military station or settlement where the soldiers lived, not in private houses, but in barracks. After occupying Peshawar in 1849, the British founded a new cantonment turning it into a boulevard city lined with trees. The extensive military infrastructure, built to suit their needs during that period is still in use.

Peshawar's cantonment sprawls along the west side of the railway line. It was laid out under the direction of Sir Colin Campbell in 1850, following the gracious British layout found all over the Indian subcontinent. Barracks, officers and civilian residences, churches, clubs, schools and other amenities line the wide streets shaded by huge trees.

Between the old city and the cantonment is **Saddar Bazaar**, an area full of hotels, offices, restaurants and shops stocked with carpets and antiques. The Cantonment Railway Station is here, and the later additions of a stadium and the airport.



▼ The Mall (c. 1910)



Peshawar Museum, formerly the Victoria Memorial Hall, was built near the east end of the Mall in 1905. Its long hall, flanked by side galleries and with a raised platform at the far end, was the ballroom. The museum has one of the best collections of Gandharan art in Pakistan, all well arranged and labelled. Sculptures illustrating the life of the Buddha are laid out in chronological order. The fasting Buddha here is even more haunting than the one in Lahore Museum. There is also an ethnological section, the Hall of Tribes, with wooden carvings from the Kalash people in Chitral, and a Muslim Gallery. (Museum guided tours by Gandhara experts are informative and highly recommended. They

can be easily arranged by the museum authorities upon special request. (Tel: 091-9211488, 9211194) The smaller Sir Sahibzada Abdul Qayyum Museum located inside the University of Peshawar also houses a fine collection of Gandhara Art)

Adjacent to the museum building is the **Shahi Mehmankhana**, or the Royal Guest House, formerly called Cunningham's Mehmankhana, which was built in 1942 and named after Sir George Cunningham. It serves as a government rest house.

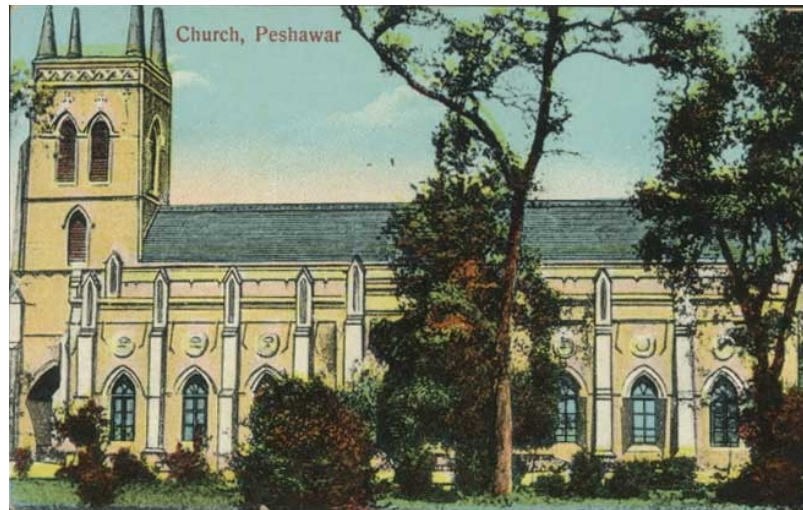
The government-run Archives Library is situated near the eastern end of the museum. It has a fair collection of old documents, books and other research material related to the region.



▲ Kanishka's casket

St John's Cathedral is the oldest church in Peshawar. The foundation stone was laid on 23 March 1851. Adorning its walls are numerous memorial plaques each telling a different story. The church bell was made at the 'Canal Foundry Roorkee 1864'.

There are a number of monuments outside chiselled in stone and marble. One memorial honours the great frontiersman, Sir Field-Marshal Claude Auchinleck. He had previously been the commander of the Peshawar Brigade from 1933-36.



▼ St. John's Cathedral (c. 1900)

“One Sunday evening we went to an evening service and concert in the English church. It was very beautiful, and rarely has Schubert's 'Unfinished Symphony' and Beethoven's 'Overture to Leonora' made such deep impression on me as in Peshawar.”
(Emil Trinkler in *Quer durch Afghanistan nach Indien* 1923)

Seventh Day Adventist Church

Built originally in 1885, this small chapel was formerly run by the Scottish Episcopal Mission and was handed over to the Adventists after 1947. It is located at the back of St John's Church.

St Michaels's Roman Catholic Church

This church is located on the Mall adjacent to the Presentation Convent School. A marble tablet records: “This church stands on the same place as the original St Michael's Church blessed by the Bishop of Agra Rt. Revd. N.N.D Carty D.D on 30 November 1851”

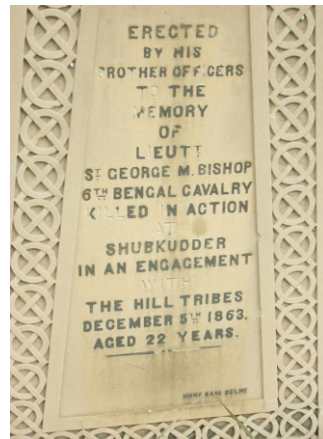
Photo by: Gulshan Azeez



“
Symbolising Unity: St. Michael's Church nestled between minarets of Darwesh Mosque
”

PESHAWAR CHRISTIAN CEMETERY

The Christian cemetery is not beside the church but, as is usual in Pakistan, lies outside the residential area in two different locations on the road to the Khyber Pass. The oldest graves are in the middle, and tell of death on the frontier: Lieutenant Colonel Walter Irvine, Chief Medical Officer, NWFP, 'lost his life in the Nagoman River when leading the Peshawar Vale Hunt, of which he was Master, 26 Jan 1919'; Reverend Isidor Loewenthal, 'Missionary of the American Presbyterian Mission who translated the New Testament into Pushtoo ... was shot by his Chokeydar, April 27 1864'. Donations for the upkeep of the cemetery are welcomed by the **Bishop** at St John's Cathedral.



"The romance of the North West Frontier of undivided British India is legendary. Peshawar was the forward base of the British for a little under one hundred years and by taking an hour or two to walk round the cemetery, it is possible to absorb the whole history of the border area without the need to plough through history books, or struggle with complicated military analyses. Here, engraved on stone and marble, the story unfolds in a poignant and vivid manner the soldiers who died in action in the confrontations with Afghanistan and the Tribal people, their wives and children who followed them to the heat and discomfort of what was then, and to a certain extent still is a classic "frontier town", civil administrators, businessmen, medical staff, clergy all are represented and are part of the jigsaw which makes up the Peshawar Cemetery." (Susan Maria Farrington, BACSA 1988)

PESHAWAR CLUB

The Peshawar Club, on Sir Syed Road near The Mall (officially Shahrah-e-Pehlavi, but no one calls it that), is for members and their guests only, but you can go in to look around and browse in the library. The **novel** *Far Pavilions*, paints a typical scene of the Peshawar society in Victorian times. In the novel, the dashing young Guides officer Ashton asks Belinda for a dance at the Club.

Established in 1864 as a small hut for the Peshawar Vale Hunt enthusiasts, the club became the focal hub of social life for British families in Peshawar. Meant exclusively for the Europeans, the garrison men used to fill the bars in the evenings or engage in club sports during the day if they were not riding with the hounds. It was a venue for memsahibs' afternoon garden tea parties and other social gatherings and the place to catch up on the latest gossip on the unpredictable Frontier scene. The style and panache of the Raj was more evident here than anywhere else.

After the creation of Pakistan, this institution retained many of its time-honoured club etiquette and traditions. A few years ago, however, the military took over the club administration and renamed it 'Garrison Club', and went about bringing swift alterations. The fresh renovation, albeit gives it a modern appearance but seems incongruous with the older mood of the surrounding air.

The club is the cradle of squash in the region. The famous 'Khan dynasty' of nearby village Nawe Killi that has dominated international squash for more than half a century began its modest beginnings here.

▼ Colonial-era Architecture



▲ Late Hashim Khan the founder of the Khan Squash clan with grandson

PESHAWAR GOLF CLUB

The sprawling 18-hole golf course is adjacent to the **Polo Ground** on Shami Road and dates back more than a century. It has tall shady trees and lovely greens. The charming surroundings are tended by the Pakistan Air Force. The club has living accommodation and guest rooms on its picturesque premises for members. Visitors and non-members can have a swing at the ball for a certain fee that covers the cost of hiring golfing equipment and a caddie. There is a circular walking track on the periphery, but watch out for the golf balls! (Club Secretary: 091-5613846)

EDWARDES COLLEGE

Edwardes College, another of Pakistan's prestigious boarding schools, was founded in 1855 as the Sir Herbert Edwardes Memorial School in the old city and elevated to college level in 1900 in its new cantonment premises. It has splendid Mughal-Gothic buildings with ornate cupolas, baubles and pillars.

NAU GAZA, GRAVE

Just across the road from Edwardes College is a unique grave that is nine yards long. It was perhaps a mass burial site at one time (most invading armies attacked

▼ Golf Club



▼ Polo Ground



▼ Edwardes College



▼ Nau Gaza Grave



▼ Khalid Bin Walid Park



the city from this direction) which was designated a Muslim 'shrine' at the turn of the last century. Many superstitions surround its origins. On Thursday evenings the shrine is illuminated with tiny earthen lamps.

KHALID BIN WALID BAGH (Formally Company Bagh)

is the narrow park on The Mall, full of beautiful *peepal* trees. It is all that remains of an old Mughal Shalimar Garden. It was renamed Mackeson Garden in memory of a famous Frontiersman, Lt Col Frederick Mackeson the first Commissioner at Peshawar who was assassinated whilst in office in 1853. Mackeson's Memorial, which was a tall obelisk built to his memory stood in the centre facing the main entrance, now no longer exists.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE

Built during the tenure of Harold Arthur Deane who was the first Chief Commissioner of North West Frontier Province between the years 1901-08, this elegant mansion is the Frontier's 'Viceregal palace'. Charming in every way, its architecture is a splendid example of a legacy from a bygone era. The imposing white structure with its tall columns and long verandas stands atop a high mound. Archaeological evidence suggests that the site was an Aryan burial ground in ancient times.

Magnificent fountains and lush green sprawling lawns surround the building on all sides. Smartly turned out waiters walk about delicately balancing china on their brass trays with upturned palms

Many important world statesmen and royalty from around the world have stayed here. Those lucky enough to be given a tour of the inside are treated to a fine display of items and souvenirs that symbolise the grandeur and lifestyle of the Raj. Portraits of Frontier administrators, vintage photographs, oil paintings, old furniture, animal furs and trophy-heads; almost everything here is reminiscent of the rich opulence of that period.

Darbar Hall inside is a spacious hall where important meetings and official balls took place. In the evenings, the fanciful illumination and playing fountains evoke enchanting visions of the fabled Shalimar Gardens surrounding Peshawar as described by Mounstuart Elphinstone in his memoir *Kingdom of Caubul* during his visit in 1809.



▼ Government House

UNIVERSITY TOWN

University Town lies about seven kilometres from the centre of Peshawar on the road to the Khyber Pass. Its oldest building is **Islamia College**, which was founded in 1913 to educate the sons of Pathan chiefs. If the elegant Mughal-Gothic hall looks familiar, you may have noticed it on the new One Thousand-rupee note. The main Roos-Keppel Hall is named after its founding father Sir George Roos-Keppel. The college formed the nucleus of the **University of Peshawar** when it was founded in 1950.



▼ University of Peshawar



▲ Students of the city's premier medical college celebrating 'Go Retro - the 70's Day'

HAYATABAD

Hayatabad, the new residential area and Karkhano Bazaar, or the new Bara Bazaar, are beyond University Town on the road to the Khyber Pass. The Bazaar is closed on Friday.

TRIPS FROM PESHAWAR

KHYBER PASS

The legendary Khyber Pass is one of the great attractions for visitors to Peshawar. Tourists need a permit and an armed escort from the Deputy Commissioner (Khyber) in Stadium Road to visit the Khyber Pass. The permits are free and often delivered immediately. Presently permits are suspended for visitors.

From Peshawar to the Afghan border at Torkham is 56 kilometres or a drive of about one hour. The road is open as far as Jamrud Fort, 18 kilometres from Peshawar, and leaves Peshawar past the University, Islamia College and Hayatabad.

*When springtime flushes the desert grass,
Our kafilas (caravans) wind through the Khyber Pass.
Lean are the camels but fat the frails,
Light are the purses but heavy the bales,
As the snowbound trade of the North comes down
To the market square of Peshawar town.*

Rudyard Kipling-The Ballad of the King's Jest (1890)



Jamrud Fort, made of rough stonework and faced with mud plaster, was built by the Sikhs in 1823 on the site of an older fort. The famous Sikh general Hari Singh was killed in battle with Afghans nearby and is buried here. The modern stone arch across the road (Bab-e-Khyber) dates from 1964.

At its mouth the pass is wide and flat, bounded on either side by low stony hills. Every small hillock in the area is capped with a picquet manned by the Frontier Corps. In the 19th century, the soldiers used heliographs and semaphore to maintain contact. The road zigzags up past two viewpoints. The second one has the better view back to **Peshawar**.

Shagai Fort, fort round the next corner, was built by the British in the 1920s and is now manned by the Frontier Corps. The road then descends down a small valley in which stand fortified Afridi houses and the Ali Masjid (Mosque). Perched high above the mosque on a commanding spur is the Ali Masjid Fort, which guards the narrowest point of the gorge and commands the entire length of the pass. The road through the gorge is one-way, and hugs a narrow ledge beside the riverbed, overshadowed by high cliffs. Before the way was widened, two laden camels could not squeeze past each other at this point. The return road, follows a **separate ledge** higher up on the opposite cliff and offer less exciting views of the gorge.



In the cemetery here are the graves of British soldiers killed in the Second Afghan War of 1879-80. Regimental insignia are carved and painted on the rockfaces at several places beside the road, with the Gordon Highlanders, the South Wales Borderers and the Royal Sussex, Cheshire and Dorset regiments standing in one doughty group.

After the gorge, the pass opens out into a wide fertile valley dotted with fortified Pathan villages and houses surrounded by high crenellated mud walls with watchtowers at the corners and pierced with narrow gun holes round the top.

Sphola Stupa, a Buddhist ruin 2nd to 5th centuries, stands on the right of the road at the village of Zarai, 25 kilometres from Jamrud. The stupa has a high hemispherical dome resting on a three-tiered square base. Many Gandharan sculptures were found here when the site was excavated at the beginning of the 20th century, some of which are now in the Peshawar Museum. The side of the stupa facing the road has been restored, but the rest of it is crumbling away.

The Khyber Rifles' Regimental Headquarters is up a road to the right shortly after the stupa. Official visitors are often given lunch here and treated to a



▲ Khyber Rifles Mess

display of tribal dancing and bagpipes. The old British mess traditions are still upheld and the mess silver and old photos are proudly displayed.

Landi Kotal, Eight kilometres from the border, is still a smugglers' town. Electrical goods, cloth and cigarettes are the main commodities in the bazaar below the road to the left, but since the Afghan war, most trade has moved down to Karkhano Bazaar in Hayatabad. The road forks in Landi Kotal: bear right to get back to the Khyber Rifles' Headquarters; bear left to descend to the Afghan border.

Michni Post, a fortified viewpoint just past Landi Kotal is the briefing point for visitors. Here there is a model of the pass and a panoramic view down across more triangular cement tank traps (built by the British to counter a supposed threat of a German or Russian invasion from the north) to the border post at Torkham. Everywhere you look you see camouflaged pillboxes.

On the hilltop directly south (to the left) of Torkham is a ruined, 9th century Kafir (Hindu) fort. On this ridge the British and the Afghans fought one of the last battles of the Third Afghan War in 1919. The top of the hill is in Afghanistan, with a commanding view down over the Pakistani installations and forts to the east.

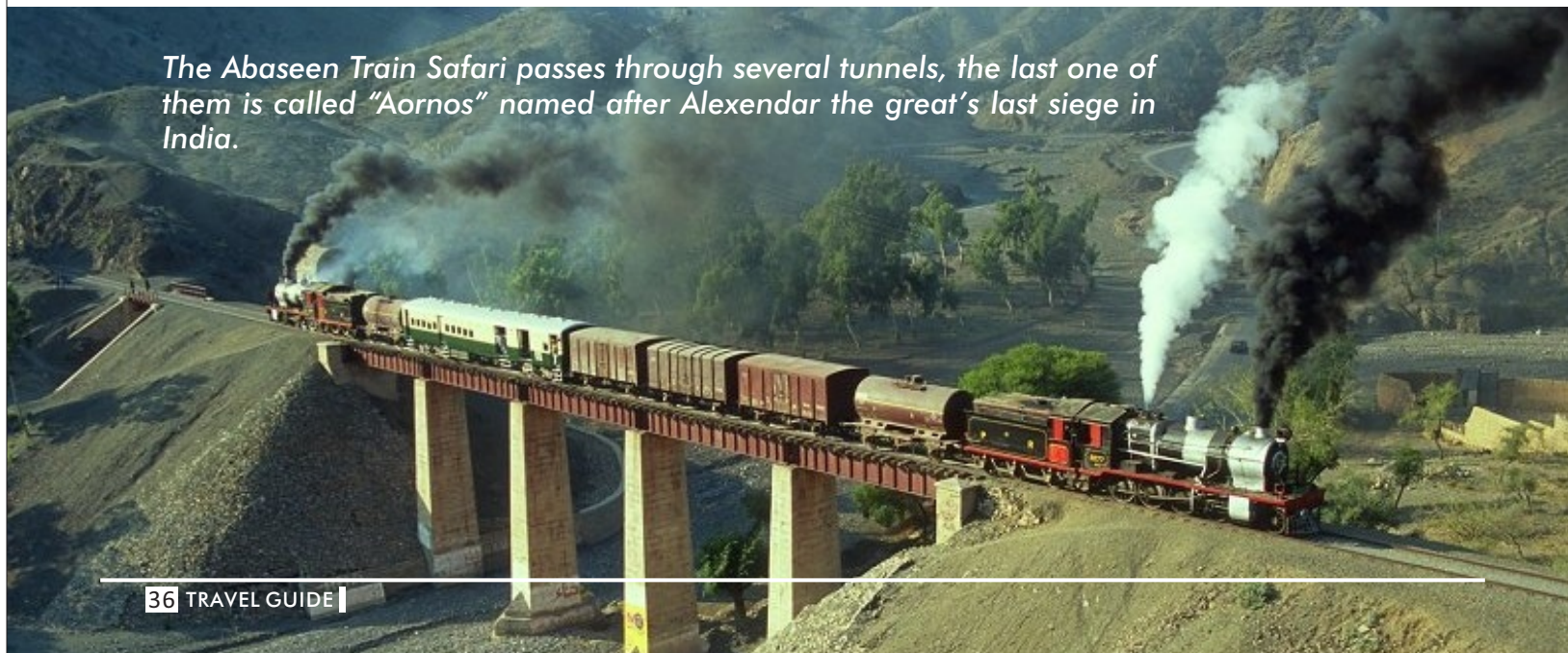
The Khyber Train (Presently the train is not operational)
For steam rail enthusiasts, the Khyber Railway from Peshawar to Landi Kotal is a world-famous attraction. The British built it in the 1920s at the then enormous cost of more than two million



pounds. It passes through 34 tunnels totalling five kilometres and crosses 92 bridges and culverts. The two or three carriages are pulled and pushed by two SG 060 oil-fired engines. At one point the track climbs 130 metres in little more than a kilometre by means of the heart-stopping Changai Spur. This is a W-shaped section of track, at which the train must twice shudder to a stop, wait for the points to be changed and then back up the next section.

KHYBER STEAM SAFARI

The Abaseen Train Safari passes through several tunnels, the last one of them is called "Aornos" named after Alexander the great's last siege in India.



The Khyber Train runs on an alternate route between Peshawar and Attock Khurd. TCKP's Abaseen Train Safari comes packed with many attractions! Attock Khurd has a rich historical significance. The old Victorian Railway station was built in around 1880. The train passes through several tunnels on an ancient route. Live narrations, on-board refreshments and excellent photography opportunities make this journey an unforgettable experience for tourists. The train crosses the mighty river over the old Attock Bridge and makes its final stop at Attock Khurd Railway Station. *Contact TCKP TIC for train schedule and details.*

DARRA ADAM KHEL

Darra is the arms manufacturing town of the Tribal Areas, located 40 kilometres south of Peshawar on the road to Kohat, a drive of about an hour. To visit the gun factories, foreigners need a government permit but you can drive through Darra by bus or car providing you do not stop. The permit is free and issued while you wait, but you should get it the day before you plan to visit.

Darra arms factories fired up in 1897. In return for turning a blind eye to this illegal Pathan enterprise, the British were guaranteed safe passage along the main roads. In any case, the British believed it better that the Pathans have inferior weapons of their own making than stolen British-made guns.



Darra's main street is lined on either side with small forges at which guns are made by hand. The tools are astonishingly primitive, yet the forges turn out accurate reproductions of every conceivable sort of weapon, from pen pistols and hand grenades to automatic rifles, Kalashnikov AK-47 and anti-aircraft guns.

GANDHARA REMAINS

There are many archaeological sites to see in the plains of Peshawar. The three most interesting for the general tourist are Takht-e-Bahi (a ruined Buddhist monastery), the Ashokan edicts (two inscribed boulders) and Charsadda (an excavated mound that was once the capital city). These three places can be visited in a one day outing from Peshawar, or en route between Peshawar and either Islamabad or Swat and Chitral. An interesting loop takes in Charsadda and Takht-e-Bahi on the way up to Swat via the Malakand Pass, and the Ashokan edicts on the way down from Swat via the Ambela Pass.

The Kingdom of Gandhara flourished on the fertile plain of Peshawar from the 6th century BC to the 11th century AD, and was at its height from the 1st to 5th century AD under the Buddhist Kushan kings. This was a time of great international activity, and Buddhist Gandhara, at the hub of Asia, traded with China, the Mediterranean and India. Gandhara is remembered chiefly for its Buddhist art. Museums all over the world display the fine stone and stucco sculptures that reflect a prosperous, advanced and gentle Buddhist society.

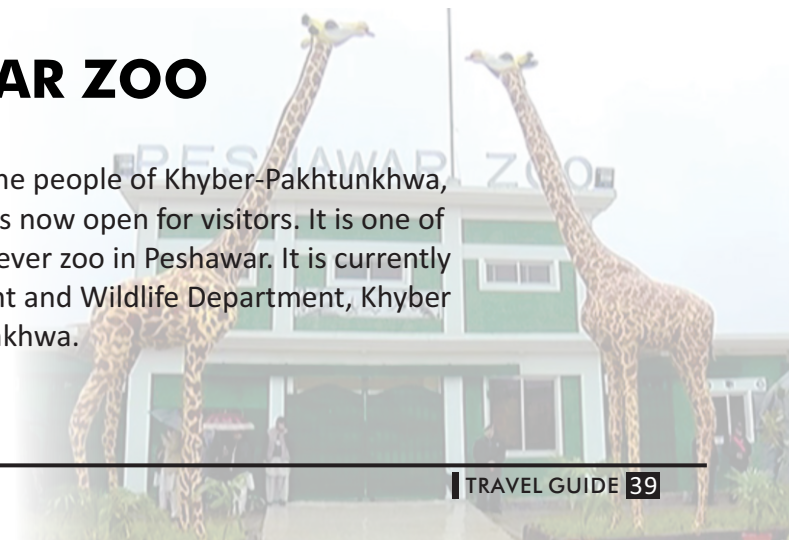


The first capital of Gandhara was Pushkalavati, the Lotus City, on the banks of the Swat River just north of its junction with Kabul, at a place now called Charsadda. Under the Kushans the capital moved to Peshawar, and then the Hindu Shahi kings (9th to 11th century) moved it to Hund, on the Indus. After Mahmud of Ghazni conquered the area and converted it to Islam in AD 1026, the name Gandhara disappeared. Only a few ruins and the civilisation's great art remain.

Though there is little to see, it is still exciting to stand on the mound where the Lotus City once flourished and to imagine Alexander the Great's army attacking in 327 BC, to read Ashoka's edicts of 260 BC at Shahbaz Garhi, and to visualise the life of a Buddhist monk at Takht-e-Bahi in the 3rd century AD. *These visits should only be made in cool weather from September to April.*

PESHAWAR ZOO

To provide recreational facilities to the people of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, the much awaited Zoo in Peshawar is now open for visitors. It is one of the largest zoos in Pakistan and first ever zoo in Peshawar. It is currently managed by the Forests, Environment and Wildlife Department, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.



▼ Sethi House Peshawar



▼ Islamia College Peshawar



CHARSADDA

The road to Charsadda, 28 kilometres from Peshawar, runs northeast from Peshawar Fort, crossing the productive, well-watered Peshawar Plain where enormous buffalo, known locally as 'black gold', work the land, and tropical sugarcane and cold-climate sugar-beet grow side by side.

River View is a private wayside family resort on the right hand side about 8 kilometres from Peshawar. Some of the attractions include fishing and boating.

Pushkalavati (the old name for Charsadda), on the banks of the Swat River, was the capital of Gandhara from about the 6th century BC to the 2nd century AD. Even after the capital moved to Peshawar, Pushkalavati remained a centre of pilgrimage until the 7th century, thanks to the presence of an important Buddhist shrine.

The **Balahisar** consists of two high mounds to the left of the road from Peshawar to Charsadda. About 27 kilometres from Peshawar Fort, just before you enter Charsadda, the road turns sharply right to cross a river over a double bridge. On this corner, just before the bridge, a dirt track leads straight on (north) for one kilometre. When this track forks, bear right. The Balahisar is to the right of the track.



The Bala Hisar was excavated twice, by Sir John Marshall in 1902 and by Sir Mortimer Wheeler in 1958; the latter cut a trench down through the many layers of mud, stone and pottery to the bottom of one of the mounds. Pottery shards and attractive round, coloured stones are scattered everywhere.

The Balahisar was occupied from the 6th century BC. Pushkalavati is first mentioned in the Hindu epic story the *Ramayana*-Bharata, the brother of Ramachandra, conquers Gandharvadesa (Gandhara) and founds two cities, Taksha (Taxila) and Pushkala (Pushkalavati), named after his two sons.

In about 516 BC, Gandhara became part of the seventh province of the Achaemenid Empire and paid tribute to Darius the Great of Persia. According to the Greek historian Herodotus, Darius sent the explorer Scylax of Caryanda down the Indus to find the sea probably from Pushkalavati, where the Kabul River becomes navigable. Herodotus describes the Gandharans as bearing bows of reed and short spears, and Wheeler's finds bear this out: the earliest layer of Pushkalavati shows evidence of an Iron Age civilisation.

Gandhara probably remained part of the Achaemenid Empire for the next 200 years, until its overthrow by Alexander the Great of Greece in the 4th century BC. Alexander captured Persia and Afghanistan and then in 327 BC divided his army in two, sending half of it under Hephaestion directly to Gandhara to capture the main towns before proceeding to the Indus to build a bridge. Hephaestion laid siege to Pushkalavati; 30 days later he overcame the city and killed its defender, Astes. He then built a bridge of boats across the Indus at Hund and negotiated the surrender of Taxila. By the time Alexander got to Gandhara, he owned it.

In 322 BC, Chandragupta Maurya rose to power and, some years later, brought Gandhara under his sway. No evidence of the

Mauryan occupation has actually been found at the Balahisar, perhaps because at this time Taxila, with its famous university, was the more important city. There is a popular tradition, however, that the Mauryan emperor Ashoka built a stupa containing the relics of the Lord Buddha at Pushkalavati, as described by Xuan Zang, the Chinese Buddhist pilgrim, in AD 630. However, the stupa has not yet been found.

The Bactrian Greeks were the next rulers of Gandhara. They arrived from Balkh, in Afghanistan, in about 185 BC and laid out the new cities of Shaikhan Dheri at Pushkalavati and Sirkap at Taxila. Shaikhan Dheri lies one kilometre to the northeast of the Balahisar on the other side of the river. You can see it from the top of the mound.

The Balahisar was occupied until the 18th century, when it was used as a fort (or *hisar*), but it was never of much importance after the second century BC.



▲ Sardaryab Picnic Spot

PUSKALAVATI MUSEUM

Houses a fine Gandhara Collection.

GHANI DHERI

A museum dedicated to Ghani Khan, the famed Pashto poet, artist and philosopher, is near the Pushkalavati Museum.



▲ Ghani Dheri Museum

TAKHT-E-BAHI

The Buddhist monastery of Takht-e-Bahi is 14 km northwest of Mardan on the road to Swat. A direct road runs from Charsadda to the village of Takht-e-Bahi. Turn left (north) at the crossroads in Charsadda, and after exactly two km turn right on the surfaced road, which leads through rich irrigated farmland. Keep to the main road and after 22 km you come to the main Mardan-Swat road. Turn left here and proceed one kilometre to Takht-e-Bahi.



To get to the ruins cross the level crossing in the centre of the village of Takht-e-Bahi, and after 500 metres turn right at a sign reading 'Archaeological ruins of Takht-e-Bahi 3 km' in English. Cross the railway, turn left at the gate of the sugar mill, and a little further on turn right down a dirt road. You will see the ruins of a large Hindu Shahi fort on top of the hill to the right. Continue on to the end of the track the ruins of the monastery are straight ahead. It is a steep walk 500 metres up the hill to the site, and a further 500 metres to the top of the hill.



Takht-e-Bahi is the most impressive and complete Buddhist monastery in Pakistan.

From the top of the hill behind the monastery you can see down across the plains as far as Peshawar on one side, and up to the Malakand Pass and the hills of Swat on the other.



The monastery and stupas at Takht-e-Bahi were founded in the 1st century AD and abandoned in the 6th or 7th centuries. Surrounding the monastery on the ridge above it to the south, and on the spurs to the east and west are the ruins of private houses, some three storeys high.

You approach the monastery from the east. On the right, just before you enter the main monastery, is a two-storey block of four monks' cells. In each cell are two niches for the monk's lamp and belongings.

The first court you enter is the **court of stupas**, which is surrounded on three sides by open alcoves or chapels. The excavators estimated that originally these all contained single plaster statues of the Buddha, either sitting or standing, dedicated in memory of holy men or donated by rich pilgrims. The largest statues must have stood ten metres high, and all would have been gilded or painted. Around the walls of the chapels, and on the partitions between them, were carved friezes in high relief showing scenes from the life of the Buddha; these were carved on slabs of stone and attached to the walls of the shrines with iron nails.

The remains of 38 votive stupas and some more chapels are scattered haphazardly round the centre of the court. These were also built as offerings by pilgrims, and were full of gilded and painted statues and reliefs depicting the life of the Buddha. One unusual stupa is octagonal.

The **monastery court** is to the north of the stupa court and up some steps. The monks' cells range round three sides. Originally there was a second storey containing 15 more cells. According to the Buddhist pilgrim Xuan Zang, the walls of the cells were plastered and painted in different colours and the wooden doorposts and lintels were decorated with carvings. In each cell are two niches for the monk's lamp and belongings, and a small window. A water tank in the southwestern corner of

the court was probably filled by rainwater draining off the roofs. The kitchen and dining room are to the east of the monastery court. Stairs lead up from the kitchen to the second floor. On the outer wall of the kitchen are two projecting buttresses, which may have been the latrine.

The **court of the main stupa** is to the south of the stupa court and up some steps. The main stupa stands in the centre. The excavators estimate that it was originally about ten metres high, with its umbrellas projecting higher. The square base was surmounted by a hemispherical dome, and all would have been decorated with gilded and painted statues of the Buddha and scenes from his life. This court is also surrounded on three sides by roofed alcoves or chapels that once contained statues of the Buddha.

The **assembly court** is on the northwestern corner of the complex, surrounded by high walls. This secluded court was the monks' meeting place. The two modern cemented water tanks in the centre of the court were built by the excavators to hold water for workers.

The **chapel** contains two tiers of ornamental trefoil panels divided by pilasters and may have housed a small stupa to commemorate some especially holy or rich person.

The ten **vaulted chambers** underneath the court were used either for meditation or storage. The entrances into the western underground chambers have arched doorways. Two more arched doorways lead west from these rooms out to a large open court; it is not known what this was used for.

In the covered area south of this court are two small, elaborately decorated stupas that were in perfect condition when they

were excavated in 1910. Today, little of the red and gold decoration remains despite the protective shed.

Private houses are scattered up the hill above the monastery and for more than a kilometre along the ridge. Some houses are built around a central court, but most are two storey with one small room set on top of the other. Each is entered by a low door and lit by one small sloping window. The staircases, flat slabs of stone protruding out of the wall, are located outside.

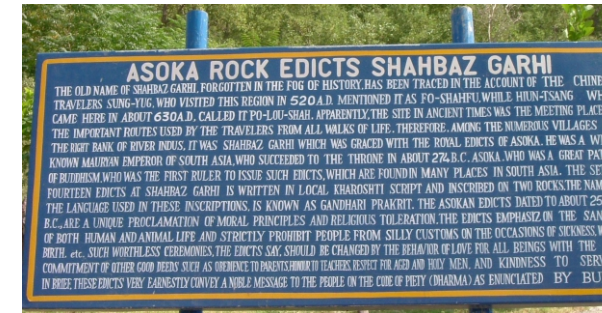
From Takht-e-Bahi you can either continue north up to Swat or turn south to Mardan, 14 km away, and continue east on the ancient trade route.

SHAHBAZ GARHI & ASHOKAN INSCRIPTION

Shahbaz Garhi is 13 km east of Mardan on the road to Swabi. Down a dirt track to the right, a few hundred metres before the left turn to Rustam, are the famous Ashokan inscriptions, carved on two rocks about 300 metres to the left of the track at the base of the hill. Look across the field before you reach the school for the cement pillars that once supported a corrugated iron roof over the rocks.

The Ashokan inscriptions date from the 3rd century BC and are the oldest surviving writings of any historical significance in the subcontinent. The Mauryan emperor Ashoka (reigned 272-231 BC) ruled over most of the Indian subcontinent from his capital at Pataliputra (now Patna) on the Ganges in India. He was a Buddhist and tolerant of all religions. Ashoka ordered a series of edicts to be inscribed on rocks all over his empire; two of these are in Pakistan, at Shahbaz Garhi and at Mansehra. At Shahbaz Garhi, 12 edicts are carved on one rock, two on another. Ashoka describes his remorse at the destruction and slaug-

hter that occurred when he overthrew Kalinga in eastern India. He says in future he will conquer only by righteousness and *dharma*, and that, wherever he may be, whether eating or in his lady's apartments, whether on horseback or in the pleasure orchards, he will always be available to hear the petitions of his people. He tells his subjects that it is their duty to honour their parents, relatives and friends, to give alms to the priests and poor, and not to be extravagant.



He forbids the slaughter of animals and suggests that instead of going on hunting trips people should go on pilgrimage. He points out that many religious rites are useless, and that showing self-control, respect and generosity are the best ways of gaining merit. And he commands everyone to show religious tolerance to people of other sects. He orders hospitals to be founded for the treatment of both humans and animals, and medicinal herbs to be planted to ensure a ready supply. He also commands that fruit trees be planted along the roadside and wells dug for the refreshment of travellers. The Shahbaz Garhi and Mansehra edicts were both inscribed in Kharoshthi, the local Gandharan script; those at Kandahar in Afghanistan were written in Greek and Aramaic; those further south were inscribed in Brahmi.



Shahbaz Garhi was once an important city at the junction of two major trade routes, the main road from Afghanistan to India via Pushkalavati and Hund, and the trade route from China via the Indus Valley and Swat, which connected to the more northern route from Afghanistan via Bajaur and Dir.

It is now difficult to trace the outline of the ancient city. Its centre was at the modern road junction, and the three modern roads now pass through what were its three main gates. Two Chinese Buddhist pilgrims, Sun Yung and Xuan Zang, visited it in AD 520 and 630 respectively and wrote of a thriving Buddhist centre surrounded by stupas and monasteries.

Shahbaz Garhi was important to the Buddhists because of its association with **Prince Sudana**, or the Buddha in one of his previous incarnations. Sudana means 'of noble charity'; the area is still popularly known as the Sudana Plain.

It is doubtful that Gautama Buddha ever visited this part of the world, but Buddhists believed that he lived here in previous incarnations. Old folk tales and pre-Buddhist holy places were woven into new legends focussing on the Buddha, and sites all over Gandhara were identified with these so that they became prosperous centres of pilgrimage.

From Shahbaz Garhi you can continue north on a surfaced road to Swat via the Ambela Pass. . The road east leads to **Swabi**, where it forks left to Tarbela and right to Attock. From Swabi to Islamabad is 119 km via Attock, 90 minutes, and 137 km via Tarbela, two hours, but you now need a permit to drive across the top of the Tarbela dam. A ford before Tarbela could prove difficult for cars during the monsoon.

MARDAN

Mardan cantonment was laid out in the British-era. It remained the permanent headquarter of the elite Queen Victoria's Own Corps of Guides. The Guides' Fort was built by Hodson in 1854. The Guides were originally raised at Peshawar in 1846 at the site of the present day Mission Hospital and later moved to their new premises in Mardan. It is now the headquarter and centre of the Punjab regiment of Pakistan Army. The former Guides Mess, Guides Cemetery and the Memorial Arch in memory of Major Louis Cavagnari, next to the Lutheran Church are main places of interest.

▼ Historic Corps of Guides Chapel, Mardan Cantonment



▲ Cavagnari Arch

AZAKHEL Botanical Park

This garden is located 35 kilometres from Peshawar on the Grand Trunk Road. The attractively landscaped and colourfully planted botanical garden of the Centre of Plant Biodiversity covers an area of 100 acres at Azakhel, Nowshera. It is a repository of rare and endangered species.



CHERAT

Cherat is a small cantonment and a former hill sanatorium a few miles South of Nowshera and Mardan on the other side of the Grand Trunk Road. It was discovered by Major Coke whilst exploring the area in 1853. It is 1,350 metres (4,500 feet) above sea-level and was first used as a sanatorium for British troops in 1861 and was declared a cantonment in 1886. There are many surviving British-era military installations, hospitals, cemeteries and a church here. A cliff side near the old parade ground has many regimental crests carved in rock. Presently, Cherat is the base of the commandos or the elite SSG and serves both as their headquarters and training school. It has a small military museum. The lofty location commands spectacular views of the Peshawar Valley on one side, and on the other of a portion of the Khwara Valley in Peshawar District, and of Kohat District as far as the Indus River. (Special permissions may be required to visit the cantonment areas)

Getting to and From Peshawar

By Air: Peshawar is linked by air to a dozen Pakistani towns and cities (including Karachi, Lahore and Islamabad Rawalpindi), and also to Europe via Dubai and Doha.

By Train: Peshawar is the last stop on the national rail system. For sleepers and air conditioned class you must book two weeks in advance to be sure of a place. Peshawar Cantonment railway station is more convenient for tourists than Peshawar City Station.

Daewoo luxury coach: from/to Islamabad (3 hours), Lahore (6.30 hours), air-conditioned, comfortable with hostess and food and drink served. Recommended. Tel Peshawar 091 111 007 008. Book one day in advance. Buses run every hour.

Many other bus and minibus services run between Peshawar and Islamabad, Lahore, the valleys of Swat, Dir and Chitral to the north and, for the adventurous, the desert towns to the south beyond Kohat. Ask TCKP or your hotel for information. When you get to the bus station, it is not difficult to find someone to help you find the right bus.

By private transport: There are four roads between Peshawar and Islamabad. The most direct and recommended route is the M1 Motorway (155 kilometres, two hours). Another is the old Grand Trunk Road route via Attock and Nowshera (167 kilometres, three hours). The most historically interesting is via Tarbela Dam, Swabi, Mardan and Charsadda (242 kilometres, five or six hours) Tarbela Dam may be off limits for security reasons check for the latest information. Finally, the most attractive drive is through Fatehjang, Kohat and Darra (232 kilometres, five or six hours). Darra which was a tribal territory now has been merged into KP and foreigners need a permit to stop there, though they are usually allowed to drive through.

When to visit

Peshawar is unpleasantly hot from May through August. Since this is the peak trekking time, trekkers may wish to head straight north to Chitral, Kaghan, Nathiagali or Swat either by air (where applicable), coach or private vehicle.

▼ Pearl Continental Hotel Room



APPENDIX

Accommodation in Peshawar

There are more than 70 hotels in Peshawar. TCKP has included only the popular ones for brevity. These are categorised as following:

High Range:

Pearl Continental Hotel: P.C is a hotel chain in Pakistan. The Hotels are operated by Hashoo Group. It is the only Five Star hotel in Peshawar.

▼ View of Pearl Continental Hotel



Hotel & Guest Houses:

Recommended by TCKP for the tourists:

S. No.	Name	Location	Phone
1.	Shelton Greens Hotel	Saddar Road Cantt.	091-5270182-5
2.	Shahi Mehman Khana	Back to Peshawar Museum	091-9210116
3.	Hotel Grand	University Road	091-5844353
4.	Rose Hotel	Khyber Bazar, Shuba Chowk	091-2550755
5.	Emaraat Hotel	Namak Mandi Chowk Peshawar City	091-2565050/2560130-1
6.	Amin Hotel	GT Road, Peshawar City	091-2218215-9
7.	Luxury Palace Guest House-1	Old Jamrud Road, Town	091-5846114/0300-4121224
8.	HEC Regional Center Guest House	Phase-5 PDA, Hayatabad	091-5810408/9217643
9.	VIP House	Old Bara Road University Town	091-5843392
10.	Shelton Rezidor	University Road	091- 5701201
11.	Fort Continental	GT Road, Peshawar City	091-111 505 505

For further information please browse: www.dts.gkp.pk
www.kparchaeology.com

S. No.	Name	Location	Phone
12.	Royat Lodge	Circular Road, Opp American Club University Town	091-5844661
13.	Shelton House	Old Jamrud Road, University Town	091-5842088
14.	Regent Guest House	Old Jamrud Road, University Town	091-58840670
15.	TM Group of Guest Houses	Old Jamrud Road, University Town	091-5842087
16.	Continental Guest House	Rehman Baba Road, University Town	091-5844932/5844878
17.	Decent Lodge	Circular Road, University Town	091-5840221/5843444
18.	Rivoli Guest House	Abdara Road, University Town	091-5843776
19.	The Executive's	Old Bara Road, University Town	091-5842594-5
20.	Exclusive Hotel	Old Bara Road, University Town	091-5842087
21.	The Lodge Guest House	Abdara Road, University Town	091- 551995
22.	Seven Sea Guest House	Rehman Baba Road, University Town	091-5841483

Where to Eat In Peshawar?

Combining the flavours of Central Asia, colours of the Indus and sweetness of Persia, Peshawar is famous for its cuisines. It has many specialties, which are peculiar in taste and aroma. The most famous is Chapli Kebab, which is the diet, made from beef, herb and corn flour. These taste best when served from a hot large frying pan. Safron Rice is another aromatic dish that is consumed for any meal including breakfast. A variety of

▼ Namak Mundi tikkas



grilled meats and freshly baked flat bread called 'Nan' is readily available. The favorite beverage of Peshawar is green tea that is always served with style and ceremony. It carries a faint aroma of cardamom.

Peshawar food is readily available in all restaurants, big or small. Chicken, mutton, beef, lentils, vegetables and a wide variety of freshly baked breads are on the menu. Most big hotels also serve international cuisine besides the Pakistani and regional dishes. Roadside food stalls serve freshly prepared hot food but care must be taken for hygienic reasons. There is plenty of fresh and dry fruits available almost everywhere in Peshawar. **Drinking water is not safe unless it is bottled and sealed.** Many other soft drinks are available but only the known brand names should be considered for consumption. Most hot beverages are boiled and pose no potential health concerns.

Some of the famous food outlets are also listed here:

S. No.	Name	Location	Phone
1.	Pear Continental Hotel (PC)	Khyber Road	091-5276360-6
2.	Shiraz Ronaq	Saddar Road	091-5702031
3.	Usmania Restaurant	University Road	091-5854846
4.	Hotel Grand Restaurant	University Road	091-5844353
5.	Habibi Restaurant	Garrison Park	091- 5613730
6.	Green Olive	Garrison Park	091-5272367
7.	Lasania Restaurant	University Road	091-5854400
8.	Habibi Restaurant	University Road	091-5701818
9.	Haleem Ghar	Mall Road Saddar	091-5273742
10.	Marco Polo	Phase-3 Chowk Jamrud Road	091-5842355
11.	University Tikka	Board, University Road	091-5701968

S. No.	Name	Location	Phone
12.	Charsi Tikka Shop	Board, University Road	0305-9122375
13.	Jalil Kabab House	Phase-3 Chowk	091-5853113
14.	Namak Mandi Tikka (Tasty Mehran Tikka)	Namak Mandi Near Shuba Bazar	091-2229949
15.	Zahid Habib Village Restaurant & Bar BQ	Ring Road, Peshawar	091-5822424
16.	Khandarbar	Namak Mandi, Peshawar	(091) 2565050

Café

Most local informal restaurants, offer a range of hot meals and snacks. Most popular among the youth. A brand new trend in the Peshawar society which is catching on.

S. No.	Name	Location	Phone
1.	Café Crunch	Old Jamrud Road	091-5440061
2.	Café De Milan	Jamrud Road	091-5844044
3.	Espresso Lounge	University Road	0321-9089877
4.	Chai Khana	University Road	091-5702482
5.	Jan's Deli	Bhittani Plaza University Road	091- 5701687
6.	Jeego's Café & Restaurant	Bagh-e-Naran	0300-5877977

Chinese Cuisine

The Chinese cuisine in Peshawar has a subtle 'Peshawari touch':

S. No.	Name	Location	Phone
1.	Ti-Pan (Pearl Continental)	Khyber Road	091-5276360-6
2.	Hong Kong	Mall Road	091-5284166
3.	Silver Dragon	University Road	091-5850854-5

Fast Foods In Peshawar the oldest of all fast food outlets is Chief. It is still very popular not only amongst the youth but in people from all age groups. It offers the best deals in price and quality.

S. No.	Name	Location	Phone
1.	KFC	University Road	091-111-532-532
2.	Pizza Hut	Shami Road	091-111-425-425
3.	Food Punch	Al-Haaj Tower University Road	091-5704222
4.	P2P1	Spogmay Plaza, University Road	091-7122171
5.	Mr. Cod	Bhittani Plaza	091-5843048-9
6.	Themes Burger	Spogmay Plaza, University Road	091-5702182

S. No	Name	Location	Phone
7.	Dunkin Dount's	City Tower	091-5844777
8.	Fosters Freeze	Bhittani Plaza, Town University	0340-9304454
9.	Italian Plaza	Warsak Road, Peshawar	091-5202822
10.	Cibo Caldo Italian Restaurant	Near Iqar University Phase-II Hayatabad	091- 5811179
11.	Four Season Fast Food	Arbab Road, Saddar	091-5275083
12.	Jani Cone	Arbab Road, Saddar	
13.	Taste in Train	Al-Haaj Tower University Road	091-5703883
14.	Chief	Fawad Plaza, University Road	091-5844788
15.	Mc Donalds	Col. Sher Khan Stadium	091-111 244 622
16.	Hardees	Khyber Road	091-5254684
17.	Burger King	University Road	091-585360.
18.	Golria Jean's	University Road	091-5700502
19.	Food District	Saddar Road	091-5284419

Where to Shop in Peshawar?

Peshawar offers an intensely interesting and varied shopping experience. The bazaars offer not only a wide range of merchandise but also a picturesque and entertaining arena to explore. These lively bazaars are representative of the everyday life and you can find an amazing number of people conversing in three to four languages at the same time. By far, the most interesting tour would be that of a bazaar in Peshawar. Most of these colourful bazaars are in the old city where you find a labyrinth of narrow lanes, a mosaic of traders, travelers, Pathan tribesmen and Afghans. Shops are generally open every day, except during Friday prayers between noon and 3:00pm. A detailed tour of these bazaars would take no less than a full day.

1. Saddar Bazaar
2. Kharkhano Bazaar (Hayatabad)
3. Qissa Khawani Bazaar
4. Deans Shopping Centre/ Cantonment (Pakistan's biggest shopping mall)
5. Wadud Home Store. It is a one-stop shop where everything is easily available. under one roof. It is located on University Road and in PDA Building in Hayatabad.
6. Jawad Towers
7. City Towers (DVDs and fashion clothes)
8. Spinzar Plaza
9. Fawad Plaza
10. Town Tower
11. Spogmai Plaza

Grocery Stores

1. CSD Shopping Mall, Sir Syed Road Peshawar Cantt
2. Enter Mart Warsak Road
3. Jan's Shopping Arcade Saddar
4. Need Super Store University Road

5. Insaaf Super Store Phase-3 Chowk
6. Avon Super Store Town University Road
7. Shakeel Super Store
8. Hyper Mall Ring Road

Book Stores

1. London Book Store. Located opposite Saeed Book Bank, Peshawar Saddar.
2. Shaheen Books. Located at Spogmai Plaza, University Road.
3. Prince Books Store. Located on Arbab Road, Peshawar Saddar.

Gift Stores

1. Avon Gift Shop, University Road
2. Akbar Gift Shop, Saddar Peshawar
3. Card Galley, Spinzer Plaza University Road
4. Wishes Gift Shop University Road

Gaming Zones

1. Jawan Markaz, Qayum Stadium, Peshawar
2. Galactic Space, University Road

Bakeries

1. Jan's Bakery
2. Pak-Bakers
3. Rahat Bakery
4. Shireen Mahal
5. Sugar Plum
6. Cake O'Clock

Ice-Cream Parlors

1. Chaman Ice-cream University Rd.
2. Peshawari Ice-cream University Rd.
3. Tutti Frutti Frozen Yogurt University Town
4. Alaska Ice-cream Parlor University Rd.

Mobile & IT Centers

1. Bilour Plaza (Mobile Zone ,United Mobiles)
2. Pak Bakers Plaza / Sada Gadai Plaza The Mall

Information Technology

1. Gul Haji Plaza(Mostly Computers/Laptops are repaired in this Plaza)
2. Silicon Valley (New computers/Laptops are sold in this plaza)

Family Parks

1. Bagh-e-Naran Park Hayatabad
2. Shalman Park Hayatabad Peshawar
3. Khyber Park Hayatabad Peshawar
4. Ghani Park Hayatabad Peshawar
5. Peshawar Services Club: Peshawar Cantt.
6. Khalid Bin Waleed Park Peshawar Cantt.
7. Tatara Park Hayatabad Peshawar
8. Garrison Park Shami Road
9. Ladies Club Park, University Town

What to buy in Peshawar?

- Jewelry.**
Ander Shehr (Inner City) is famous for Jewelry in Peshawar. There are many jewelers' shops, some specialising in silver jewelry, while others in gold. The shops sell tribal as well as modern jewelry. Even in the Sadder Bazaar there are many jewelers' shops.
- Antique and Second hand silver items and semi precious stones.**
Ander Shehr is the best place to shop in for antique , secondhand silver items and for semi precious stones. Old stones and an assortment of historical military memorabilia such as buttons, buckles, regiment badges, powder cases and bayonets.
- Afghan rugs, dresses and embroidery.**
These are available in the Shinwari Plaza in Ander Shehr.
- Brass and Copper metalwork.**
Available at Qissa Khwani Bazaar . The shops here sell a huge range of new and old wares. Finely worked plates and samovars, teapots and vases glitter in narrow recessed stalls. The smiths are proud and skilled men, many of them have achieved international acclaim. These metalworks have been presented to the Queen Elizabeth II also.
- Pottery**
The wide range of ornamentals and utilitarian pottery is glazed in earth's colours. The potters make China and earthenware goods to order and the services they provide are reliable.
- Blankets and Shawls**
Beyond the Copper Market, there are many shops which sell blankets and shawls made in Swat and Kaghan. Made of hand spun wool, these are predominantly in red or black colours with brightly patterned borders.

- Carpet, belts, holsters, and other leather goods.**
There are shops in the Chowk Yadgar that sell caps and hats which are cut and stitched from curly coated Karakul lambskins and the curled skins are directly bought from the tanners. Many shops have tailors at hand to make Astrakhan hats.
- Female Cloth (Chiffon, Silk, Lawn)**
The Shinwari Market in Saddar Bazaar has a wide range of clothes for females. Offers a rich variety at reasonable price. Peshawar is famous for the silks and chiffons. People from all parts of the country visit Peshawar for this reason. Every possible variety of cloth and dresses are available here.
- Baskets and ornaments.**
All kinds of baskets are available at the Basket Market. Just beyond the basket market there is a kuchi (gypsy) bazaar that sells all kinds of oddments: craved beads of bone and wood, cosmetics like Kajaal (black kohl), unique bells are found here also.
- Crockery**
A visit to the Karkhano Market is a must in Peshawar. All kinds of crockery is available here.
- Electronics**
Silicon Valley, the Karkhano Market and a few electronic shops in Sadder Bazaar have all the latest appliances (check warranty).
- Pets**
The Bird Market is on the main street towards Chowk Yadgar. Song Birds are sold as pets in small cages. Partridges, quails and doves are also available for purchase here.
- Furniture**
Wooden furniture inlaid with brass is found in the Saddar Bazaar and in the Walled City.
- Waxed Cloth**
The waxed cloth is a traditional specialty of Peshawar. Stylised designs of birds, goldfish and dragons in Chinese fashion are worked in brightly coloured wax on silk or satin cloth lengths. Little is known about its origin and the technique is a closely guarded secret.
- Dried fruits and Nuts**
The Fruit Bazaar in Chowk Yadgar, and shops in Namak Mandi offer a huge variety of dried fruits and nuts.
- Paintings of the famous artists**
- Peshawari Chappals (Traditional men's sandal with a cross-over of leather and a square peep-toe, fastened with a strap at the back of the heel thought to be in use here since the time of the ancient Greeks).**

Languages & Essential Phrases

The inhabitants of Peshawar mainly speak three languages namely Pashto, Hindko and Urdu - Pashto being understood by majority. However, English is also understood in urban areas. Stated below is a list of essential phrases along with their Pashto translations. These phrases will help you easily get understood and minimise the communication barrier.

Essential Phrases List

Sr. #	English	Pushto
1	Hello or Hi (Greeting)	Assala-mu-alaikum (In reply: Walaikum asalam)
2	Welcome	Pakhair raghlay or Staray mashay.
3	Thank you	Mehrabani
4	How are you?	Taso singa yai?
5	What is your name?	Staso sa noom dai?
6	My name is...	Zama noom ... dai
7	Where is the bathroom?	Bathroom charta dai?
8	Where is the market?	Market charta dai?
9	Where is the hospital?	Hospital charta dai?
10	I am not feeling well	Zama tabeeyat kharab dai
11	Rush me to the hospital	Ma hospital ta zar boza
12	What is the price of this?	Da dai sa keemat dai?
13	Help me	Zama madat ouka
14	Call the police	Police ta awaz ka
15	Get me a taxi	Mala taxi rawalay
16	I want to drink water	Ubo skal ghwaram
17	I want to eat	Khwarak kol ghwaram
18	Take me to a restaurant	Ma restaurant ta boza
19	I don't know	Mata pata nishta
20	What place is this?	Da kum zai dai?
21	Take this	Da wakhla
22	Give this	Da raka

Recommended Reading

1. *Peshawar, Historic City of Frontier* (Dr Ahmad Hasan Dani, 1995)
2. *Peshawar City on the Frontier* (S.M. Jaffar, 1945)
3. *The Frontier Town of Peshawar* (Sayed Amjad Hussain, 2009)
4. *Gazetteer of the Peshawar District 1897- 98*
5. *Kingdom of Caubul Vol 1* (Mounstuart Elphinstone, 1815)
6. *The Pathans* (Olaf Caroe, 1958)
7. *Frontier Facets* (M. Athar Tahir, 2007)

Transport Services

Daewoo Bus Service
111-007-008
Afridi Rent-A-Car
091-2263157/0300-5665585
Faisal Movers
0311-224488
Dilavar Travel
091-2262613/2262713

The Gateway to Central Asia
Casablanca of the East
The Historic City of the Frontier
Melting pot of Civilisations
Among all the ancient cities of the East, none possesses a more intense atmosphere of romance than does Peshawar
Paris of the Pathans
Birthplace of the 'Khaki'
Cradle and home of Squash
Where Caravans Meet
The City of Flowers & Gardens
A City steeped in the romance of history
The City of Storytellers & Artisans
The City of Caravans & Travellers
Winter capital of the early Afghan Kingdom
Queen of the Pathan cities
Where the ends of the world are met
A City from the Arabian Nights
City of a Thousand and One Sins
City of the Central Gandahara
Traditional terminus of caravans from Afghanistan and Central Asia
Goal of Asia's Caravans
Gateway to East and West
Lying at the Crossroads of History and Civilisations



S. No	Name of Department	Contact #
1	TCKP Tourist Information Center	091-9213762
2	Rescue 1122 Peshawar Head Quarters	091-2264224-25
3	Peshawar Museum	091-9211194
4	Telephone Enquiry	1217
5	Telephone Complaint	1218
6	Police Emergency	091-9212222/ 9213333
7	Fire Brigade	091-2566666/ 9216259
8	Edhi Ambulance Service	091-2214575/ 115
9	Airport Inquiry	114
10	PIA (Booking)	091-9212387-9/ 111-786-786 (UAN)
11	PIA (Exchange)	091-9212370-9
12	Railway (Reservation)	091-9212563
13	Khyber Teaching Hospital (KTH)	091-9216340/ 9216363
14	Hayatabad Medical Complex (HMC)	091-9217189
15	Commissioner	091-9211334
16	DCO Peshawar	091-9212302