

BANGLADESH PHOTOGRAPHY EXPEDITION

21-29 November 2027 | 9 days | £3,675

Documentary • Street • Industrial • Cultural



A NINE-DAY DOCUMENTARY PHOTOGRAPHY JOURNEY

Bangladesh is an extraordinary country to photograph: vibrant, chaotic, colourful and intensely human. Across nine days we work in the streets, brickfields, shipyards, fabric communities, river ports, fishing villages and rural communities, seeking out the moments, people and layers that reveal how the country really feels. Throughout the journey I work closely with you on composition, timing and visual storytelling, with the aim of returning home with a coherent body of work rather than simply a collection of individual photographs.

Led by Mark Seymour

Small-group expedition • local fixer support • coordinated access • photography guidance throughout

DAY 01

ARRIVAL IN DHAKA

After arriving in Dhaka, we'll transfer to the hotel and keep the first day deliberately relaxed, allowing time to settle in after the journey. Depending on arrival times, we'll head out later in the day to one of the city's large vegetable markets, where traders, porters and buyers create an immediate sense of movement and energy.

DAY 02

BRICKFIELDS OF BANGLADESH

On the outskirts of Dhaka, the landscape opens into vast brickfields, where towering kilns, long rows of drying bricks and teams of workers create an extraordinary working environment. It is a place of dust, heat, smoke and constant movement, but also of strong human stories.

We'll spend time working slowly through the brickfields, looking beyond the obvious industrial scale and concentrating on the people who work there. There are opportunities for environmental portraits, layered documentary images, graphic compositions and quieter moments that reveal the rhythm of daily labour.

For me, this is one of the strongest photographic locations in Bangladesh. The combination of texture, atmosphere, repetition and human interaction makes it a remarkable place to build images that feel both visually powerful and genuinely connected to everyday working life.





DAY 03

BURIGANGA RIVER & SHIPYARD

OLD DHAKA

We begin the day on the historic Buriganga River, photographing traditional wooden boats, floating hotels, busy crossings and the constant activity around Dhaka's port. The morning offers opportunities for layered street photography, river landscapes and human stories built around movement, gesture and daily life. In the afternoon, we move into the ship repair yards, where welding, propeller workshops and heavy engineering provide powerful settings for environmental portraiture, graphic compositions, industrial details and dramatic documentary images rich in texture, light, atmosphere and scale. Together, these contrasting environment offer the chance to create a varied and visually coherent body of work



DAY 04

COLORFUL FABRIC FIELDS & STREET LIFE

Narayanganj & Dhaka

We begin in Narayanganj, photographing dyeing factories, fabric processing areas and vast fields of brightly coloured cloth drying in the open air. The combination of colour, repetition, movement and working life creates strong opportunities for graphic compositions, environmental portraits and layered documentary images. Later, we return to Dhaka for street photography around New Market, concentrating on vendors, traffic, gesture, light and the energy of everyday city life. As daylight fades, we continue into the evening, working with artificial light, shopfronts, headlights and the changing atmosphere of the streets to create more cinematic and atmospheric documentary images.



DAY 05

FLIGHT TO COX'S BAZAR

We take a morning flight to Cox's Bazar before heading out to photograph the fishing communities that live and work along this remarkable stretch of coastline. The day focuses on dry-fish villages, fishermen at work, net repairing, coastal portraits and the rhythms of everyday life by the sea. There are strong opportunities for environmental portraiture, graphic compositions using nets and boats, layered documentary images, close observational details and wider scenes that show the relationship between people and place. As the light softens towards evening, we continue along the shoreline, using silhouettes, reflections, changing colour and the final activity of the day to create atmospheric coastal images with a strong sense of narrative and place.

As the light begins to fade, we'll move towards the railway and surrounding streets, photographing everyday life as the city shifts into evening. This first session is less about chasing pictures and more about beginning to understand Dhaka's rhythm, colour and visual complexity. It's an ideal introduction to the people, atmosphere and layered street life that will shape the days ahead.



DAY 06

FISHING HARBOR & COASTAL LIFE

We begin before sunrise, working along the harbour as the first fishing boats return from sea and the shoreline slowly comes to life. Nets are hauled ashore, catches are unloaded, fishermen call to one another and the harbour fills with movement, colour and texture. As the light changes, there are opportunities for silhouettes, reflections, layered compositions and intimate moments of working life. It is a superb environment for strong environmental portraits, graphic details and wider documentary scenes. Later, we move through nearby salt fields and shoreline villages, photographing quieter moments of coastal life and the close relationship between the people, their work and the sea.





DAY 07

COAL LOADING & STEEL PLATE FACTORY

DHAKA REGION - COAL WORKERS & STEEL FACTORY

Today takes us into the industrial heart of the Dhaka region, documenting the lives of people working in challenging conditions. Along the riverbanks, coal workers unload boats and carry heavy loads, offering opportunities for powerful environmental portraits and layered documentary compositions. Our approach is respectful and unobtrusive, taking time to observe, build trust and photograph people with dignity and authenticity. We will explore how light, gesture, timing and careful composition can bring depth to our photographs, revealing the quieter human moments within these busy working environments.

Later, we visit a working steel factory, where machinery, light, shadows and human movement create compelling visual narratives. Throughout the day, our focus is on honest storytelling, capturing the relationships, daily routines and human experiences behind Bangladesh's industrial landscape, while remaining sensitive to the people whose lives and livelihoods we are privileged to document.





DAY 08

RURAL BANGLADESH EXPERIENCE

BRAHMANBARIA

Today we explore the rural heart of Bangladesh, where traditional farming, rice drying fields and everyday village life provide wonderful opportunities for documentary photography. We will photograph farmers harvesting and tending their crops, workers spreading and turning rice to dry in the sun, and villagers going about their daily routines. Narrow village lanes, bustling courtyards, traditional homes and agricultural landscapes offer opportunities for layered compositions, environmental portraits and intimate moments of family life. We will look for natural gestures, beautiful light, interesting backgrounds and the relationships between people and their surroundings. Our approach will be thoughtful and respectful, taking time to observe and connect with local communities, creating authentic photographs that tell the stories of rural Bangladesh and the people whose lives are so closely connected to the land.



DAY 09

A FINAL MORNING IN OLD DHAKA

Our final morning takes us into Dholaikhal's metal and machinery markets, photographing craftsmen, motorcycle-parts stalls, workshops and the dense visual layers of Old Dhaka. We then continue to areas of heavy manual labour and coal loading, where dust, movement and strong graphic shapes create a very different photographic atmosphere. After the session, we return to the hotel before airport transfers for your international departure.



TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Brickfields and labour photography
- Buriganga River life
- Shipyards and industrial documentary
- Fabric fields and dyeing communities
- Fishing harbour and coastal life
- Rural Bangladesh storytelling
- Old Dhaka street photography
- Professional photography guidance throughout

INCLUDED

- 4-star FARS Hotel accommodation
- Daily buffet breakfast and lunch
- Dhaka-Cox's Bazar domestic flights
- Private air-conditioned Toyota Hiace
- Local fixer and photography assistance
- Airport transfers and ground transport
- Coordinated access to locations
- Regular photo critiques and one-to-ones with Mark Seymour

TOUR DETAILS

Dates: 21-29 November 2027

Duration: 9 days

Cost: £3,675 per person

Deposit: £850 - non-refundable

Balance due: 12 weeks before departure

NOT INCLUDED

- International flights
- Visa fees
- Dinner
- Travel insurance
- Personal expenses and equipment
- Medical and emergency expenses

Mark Seymour Photography

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