# MIDDLE EAST TRAVEL 'n' SHOP Arabian Resources Publishing LLC MARCH 2024

## Unveiling Hidden Gems for UAE Travelers

Northern Pakistan: Nature Lover's Paradise

Chitral: Land of Towering Peaks, Valleys, and Forts

Lake Bosumtwi: Serene Crater Lake

Pomorie: Secrets of Sea at Salt Museum



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# Exploring Pakistan: Unveiling Hidden Gems for UAE Travelers



Pakistan, a land steeped in rich history and diverse landscapes, offers a unique travel experience for tourists from the UAE. In a recent interview with His Excellency Mr. Hussain Muhammed CG for Pakistan in Dubai by Fatima Khalid, he mentioned the top destinations that cater to various interests, along with the efforts undertaken by the Consulate to promote tourism of Pakistan in the UAE.

#### **Top Tourist Destinations for UAE Travelers:**

Pakistan boasts a wide array of captivating destinations, catering to diverse travel preferences:

#### **Cultural Hubs:**

Bustling cities like Islamabad (the capital), Lahore (famous for its rich cultural heritage), and Karachi (the largest city) offer historical landmarks, vibrant traditions, and a glimpse into Pakistan's life.



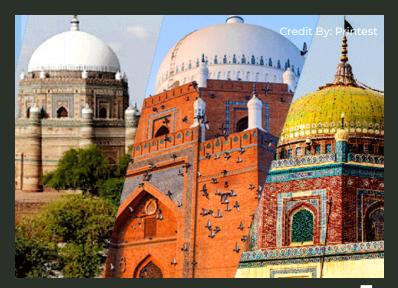
#### Natural Wonders:

The breathtaking Northern Areas, encompassing valleys like Hunza and Skardu, along with Fairy Meadows and Swat Valley, provide stunning scenery, adventure activities, and a serene escape.



#### **Historical Sites:**

Multan's historical mosques and shrines, Chitral's forts and valleys, and the coastal town of Gwadar offer a glimpse into Pakistan's diverse past and historical significance.



#### Promoting Pakistan's tourism in the UAE:

The Consulate actively implements various strategies to promote tourism of Pakistan among UAE residents:

#### Participation in Travel Expos and Events:

By showcasing Pakistan's destinations at travel expos and events, the Consulate generates interest and provides firsthand information to potential travellers.

#### Social Media Engagement:

Utilizing social media platforms allows the Consulate to share captivating visuals, highlight unique experiences, and reach a wider audience in the UAE.

# Cell By the Att



#### **Community Outreach:**

Engaging with the Pakistan's community in the UAE and leveraging their networks fosters word-of-mouth promotion and encourages them to share Pakistan's tourism potential within their social circles.



Pakistan offers an abundance of hidden gems waiting to be explored by UAE travellers. From bustling cultural hubs to breathtaking natural landscapes and historical sites, the country caters to diverse interests. The Consulate's dedicated efforts to promote Tourism of Pakistan through various channels pave the way for attracting more visitors from the UAE and fostering stronger cultural ties between the two nations.





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Petrofast Group is leading manufacturing company of Nuts, Bolts and fasteners. Petrofast is also leader in exporting premium quality products in notable projects of UAE, KSA, Qatar & Oman Northern Pakistan: An Adventurer's and Nature Lover's Paradise

Travelers are enticed to visit the Northern Areas of Pakistan, which promise a fantastic experience with their patchwork of stunning mountains, tranquil valleys, and lively cultures. This area has many fascinating places to visit, all with their own special scenery, cultural gems, and exciting things to do. As we explore some of the most well-liked tourist destinations in the article below:

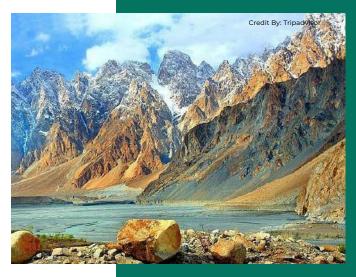
#### Hunza Valley: A Place of Peace and Eternity

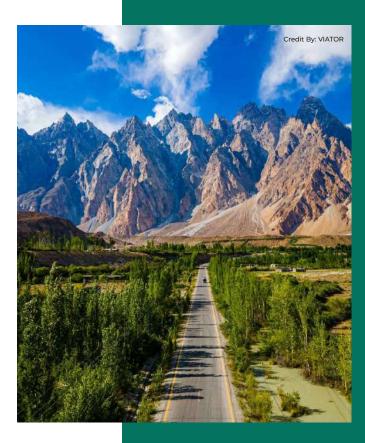
Hunza Valley, tucked away amid the massive Karakoram range, offers stunning beauty, an extensive history, and a distinctive culture renowned for its longevity and friendliness. The scene is picture-perfect, with verdant slopes dotted with apricot orchards and classic stone homes. Wander around the historic Altit and Baltit forts, ruins of a mighty past watching over the valley from hilltops. Now transformed into museums, these forts provide a window into the rich history of the area by showcasing interesting artifacts, weapons, and cultural relics.

Adventure seekers have the option of taking on strenuous hikes such as the Mulbekh Glacier trip, which offers breathtaking views of the nearby peaks. Jeep safaris can go over difficult terrain and give access to out-of-the-way towns and undiscovered treasures. As an alternative, Hunza River white water rafting provides an exciting experience in the middle of breathtaking surroundings.

Watch classic polo matches on a distinctive sand-based pitch for a taste of another culture. Take in the kindness of the locals, who are renowned for being outgoing and pleasant. Attend traditional music and dance performances that highlight the valley's rich cultural tapestry, or take part in







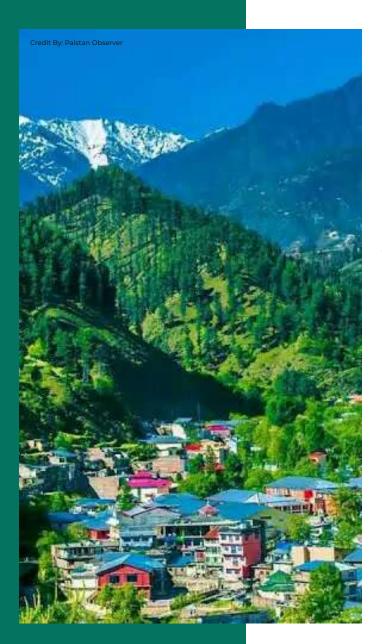


colorful cultural events like the Apricot Festival, which honors the area's agricultural legacy.

#### Swat Valley: A Place Where Adventure and History Collide

Known for its verdant meadows, snow-capped hills, and historical sites, Swat Valley was formerly a hub of Buddhist civilization. For those who enjoy history. Swat is a dream come true. The medieval city of Swat and the Buddhist stupa ruins, such as the Swat Museum and UNESCO World Heritage Site, provide a window into the rich history of the valley. See historic buildings such as the Kanju Mosque, a 16th-century architectural marvel, and the Mahaban Stupa, a Buddhist monument dating to the 2nd century.

Swat Valley is a thrilling place for adventure seekers. Take on strenuous hikes that offer amazing vistas of the surrounding countryside, such as the



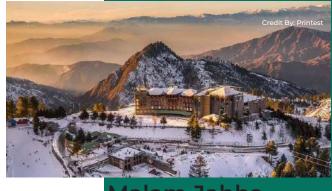


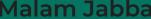
Malam Jabba - Mankial climb. White water rafting on the Swat River or camping amid peaceful meadows offer the ideal amount of excitement.

The only ski resort in Pakistan that provides opportunities for snowboarding and skiing in the winter is Malam Jabba Ski Resort. Don't pass up this chance to experience it. Stay at one of the numerous resorts tucked away in the valley for a hint of luxury. These establishments provide breathtaking views and cozy lodging.

#### Fairy Meadows: An Incredibly Magnificent Experience with Nature

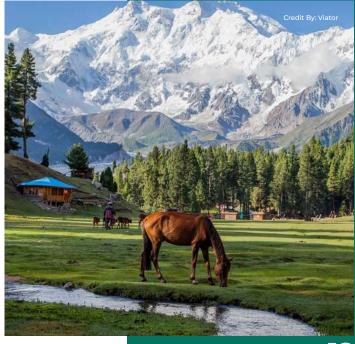
A high-altitude plateau tucked in the foothills of the Himalayas, Fairy Meadows gets its name from its ethereal beauty. The ninth-highest peak in the world, Nanga Parbat, is seen from this magnificent spot, which is reachable by a picturesque jeep ride. A picturesque scene is created by verdant meadows scattered with wildflowers







Malam Jabba Ski Resort







**Baintha** Lake



Horseback Riding

and snow-capped peaks.

Relax and take in the captivating scenery, nature lovers. Enjoy the peace of the surroundings by taking a leisurely stroll across the meadows and breathing in the clean mountain air. Take breathtaking pictures of the striking wildflowers that adorn the countryside and the imposing mountains.

Fairy Meadows is the starting point for the well-known trip to Nanga Parbat, which appeals to adventure seekers. This strenuous walk, which calls for adequate training and physical condition, rewards participants with breathtaking vistas of the surrounding peaks and glaciers. Alternatively, take on shorter hikes such as the Baintha Lake - Fairy Meadows excursion, which offers picturesque views and a cool plunge into the glacial lake.

Another well-liked pastime is horseback riding, which gives you the opportunity to quietly explore the meadows and take in the panoramic beauty from a different 13 angle. A one-of-a-kind and amazing experience can be had when camping beneath the stars.

#### Skardu: A Doorway to Adventure in the Himalayas

Situated amidst snow-capped hills, Skardu, the largest city in Gilgit-Baltistan, presents a distinctive amalgamation of cultural and adventurous activities. Renowned for its tranquil splendor and emerald-green waters, Shangri-La Lake is a popular destination. Take a lake boat ride for a chance to see the local wildlife and take in the stunning vistas of the surrounding mountains.

Adventure seekers have access to difficult hikes, such as the K2 base camp trip, which is regarded as one of the world's most difficult climbs. This trek, which takes careful preparation and experience, takes you past glaciers and beautiful scenery to the base camp



Snow-Capped Hills, Skardu



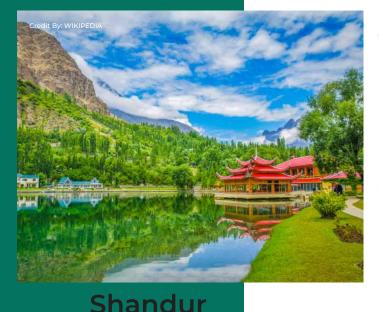
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Baltoro



Shandur Polo Festival



of the second-highest mountain peak in the world. Explore the Baltoro Glacier instead; it's one of the longest glaciers outside of the polar regions. Skilled climbers can go on expeditions to some of the highest peaks in the world, such as K2 and Gasherbrum I & II, with the assistance of knowledgeable local guides.

Visit the old Skardu Fort, which offers sweeping city views, for a chance to immerse yourself in the local culture. Take a look around the bazaars that are filled with locally produced goods and handicrafts. Experience the world's highest polo ground, situated at an elevation of over 12,000 feet, as it hosts a unique polo match every year at the Shandur Polo Festival.

Amazing scenery, a vibrant cultural history, and exhilarating adventure activities are all uniquely combined in Skardu. Skardu has something to offer any traveler, whether they are looking for an adrenaline rush, peace among the mountains, or a window into the past.



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# Chitral: A Land of Towering Peaks, Lush Valleys, and Ancient Forts

In northern Pakistan, Chitral is tucked away in the magnificent Hindu Kush mountain range. Here, towering peaks, lush valleys, and historic forts humbly murmuring a glorious past reveal a mesmerizing setting. Travelers looking for an off-the-beaten-path experience will find this region, well-known for its historical significance and natural beauty, to provide a unique combination of adventure and cultural exploration.

#### Unveiling Chitral's Enchanting Valleys

Chitral is home to several enchanted valleys, each with its unique qualities and stunning scenery:

#### Kalash Valleys:

The Bumburet, Rumbur, and Birir Valley cluster is home to the Kalasha people, an indigenous group distinguished by their language, dress, and cultural customs. Tourists may take in colorful festivals, traditional dances and



music, and a way of life that is closely entwined with the environment by touring these valleys.

#### Chitral Valley:

The central valley, sometimes called the "Valley of Swat Kohistan," is well-known for its verdant meadows, snow-capped peaks, and agricultural terrain. Trekking, horseback riding, and historical site exploration are all possible in this valley, including the Chitral Fort.

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#### **Broghil Valley:**

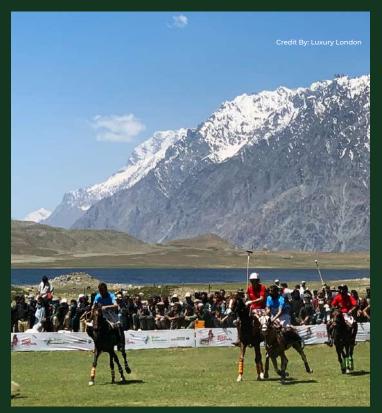
Reached over a difficult jeep trail, this high-altitude valley provides stunning views of the mountains and



glaciers. For those looking for a secluded and unspoiled experience, trekkers and nature lovers are especially drawn to the valley.

#### Shandur Top:

Known as the "Roof of the World," this high-altitude plateau is a distinctive geographical feature that provides expansive views of the surrounding peaks. This is the site of the Shandur Polo Festival, which is held in the summer and features a conventional polo match played on the highest polo ground in the world.



Every valley in Chitral has unique beauty and personality, providing travelers with various scenery and cultural experiences.

#### **Exploring the Sentinels of Time: Forts of Chitral**

Chitral's many forts, which serve as quiet sentinels watching over the valleys below, testify to the region's rich past. These historical sites feature striking architectural designs and provide a window into the past of the area:



#### **Chitral Fort:**

Standing atop a hill with a commanding view of the Chitral Valley, this magnificent fort was the Mehtar (ruler) of Chitral for centuries. With its elaborate woodwork, watchtowers, and courtyards, the fort provides an insight into the lifestyle of the ruling class.



#### Khandur Fort

This 18th-century fort, a defensive outpost in the Kalash Valley, is renowned for its distinctive architectural style and well-preserved timber structure.



#### Mastuj Fort:

Situated in the Upper Chitral Valley, this historic fort is thought to have been built in the first century AD. The fort features distinctive architectural features and provides a fascinating look into the area's early history.

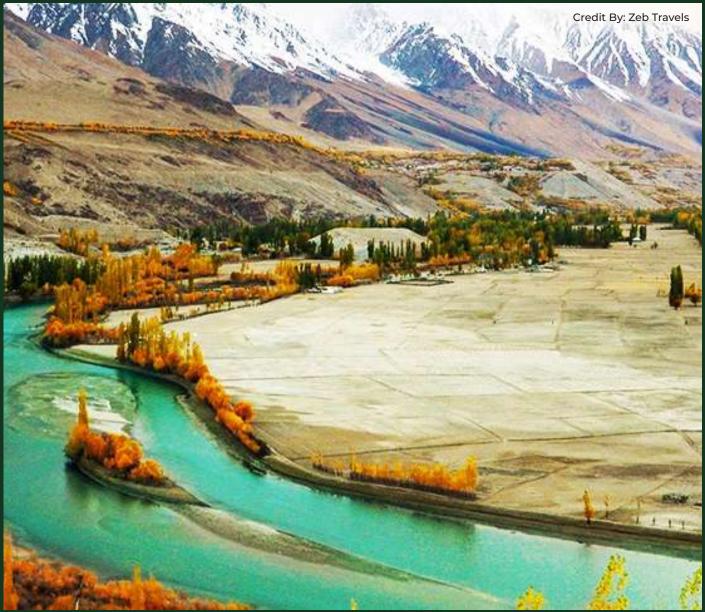


#### Thum Fort:

This isolated fort is set on a cliff in the Broghil Valley, providing stunning views of the neighboring mountains. Despite being in ruins, the fort serves as a reminder of the area's rich cultural history.



By exploring these forts, tourists can go back in time, comprehend the area's historical value, and admire the architectural prowess of the past.





#### **Tourist Activities:**

Apart from Exploring the valleys and forts, visitors can:

- Participate in outdoor activities like trekking, jeep safaris, and white water rafting.
- Immerse themselves in the vibrant culture of the local communities, witnessing traditional festivals and experiencing their warm hospitality.
- Savour the regional cuisine, renowned for using only local ingredients and distinctive flavors.

Chitral, with its captivating landscapes, historical forts, and diverse cultural tapestry, offers an unforgettable adventure for travelers seeking an escape into the heart of nature, history, and tradition. #happy@adil





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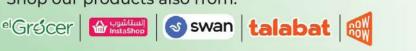
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## Lake Bosumtwi: A Serene Crater Lake Steeped in Myth and Beauty

In Ghana's Ashanti region, Lake Bosumtwi is a noteworthy cultural landmark and a captivating natural beauty. It is nested amid beautiful rainforests. This unusual lake is a must-visit location for those looking for adventure, cultural immersion, and natural beauty because of its rich history, stunning landscape, and various ecosystems.

#### Lake Bosumtwi Crater Lake, Ghana

The most noteworthy aspect of Lake Bosumtwi is its history of formation. It was not created by rivers or glaciers, unlike most natural lakes. Instead, the impact of a meteorite is thought to have built it some 1.07 million years ago. This astronomical event created a roughly circular crater with a diameter of around 10 km, which, over time, filled with rainfall to become the lake that exists today.



#### Place of Spiritual Significance and Cultural Heritage

The Ashanti people who live nearby place great cultural and spiritual value on Lake Bosumtwi. They revere the lake because they think it is where their forefathers' souls repose. The lake's banks are frequently the site of customary ceremonies and rituals, reflecting the close relationships between the surrounding communities and this unique natural feature.



#### Exploring the Enchanting Landscape

Travelers can engage in a range of activities when visiting Lake Bosumtwi. A boat excursion is one of the most well-liked methods to enjoy the lake. Sail over the calm waters while taking in the fantastic views of the towering crater walls and the surrounding jungles. Look out for the variety of birds in this ecosystem, such as hornbills, kingfishers, and herons.

Hiking trails continue to the crater rim for those looking for a more daring experience, where breathtaking views of the lake and the surroundings are available. Nature lovers can explore a range of flora and animals, including various monkeys, butterflies, and other fascinating critters, in the thick woods surrounding the lake.

Credit By: Technology.com

#### Cultural Immersion and Local Experiences

Experiencing the local way of life when visiting Lake Bosumtwi is a rewarding experience that goes beyond the breathtaking scenery. See traditional ways of living, discover the rich history and beliefs of the Ashanti people, and enjoy their gracious hospitality by visiting neighboring villages. Take advantage of the chance to experience the mouthwatering cuisine of the area, which has flavorful dishes made with fresh ingredients.



#### Sustainable Tourism and Conservation Efforts

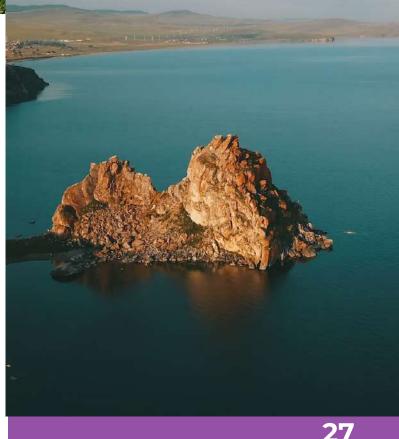


#### Timeless Enchantment Awaits

For those looking for a varied and meaningful trip, Lake Bosumtwi's stunning beauty, rich cultural legacy, and distinctive geological history make for a remarkable encounter. Whatever your reason for visiting Lake Bosumtwi—its tranquil beauty, intriguing history, or colorful cultural tapestry—you can count on an experience that will inspire and enlighten you.

Credit By: Scubapro

Pollution and non-sustainable practices threaten Lake Bosumtwi, a crucial natural and cultural heritage. Responsible tourism is essential to guarantee its survival for future generations. Select eco-friendly lodging, participate in cleanup campaigns, and engage in activities with the least negative influence on the environment.





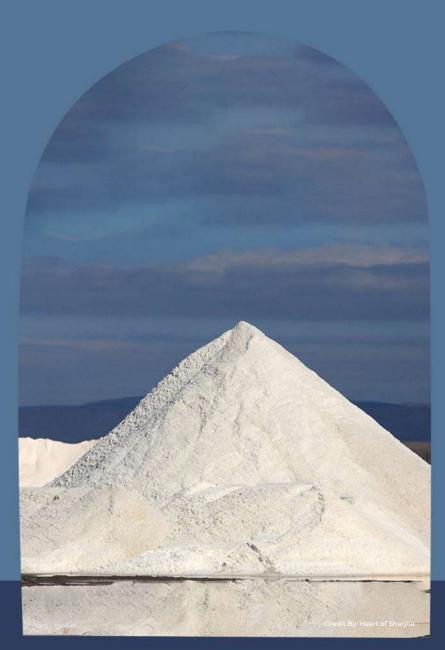
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### Pomorie: Unveiling the Secrets of the Sea at the Salt Museum

Pomorie, tucked away on Bulgaria's beautiful Black Sea coast, combines historical charm, sandy beaches, and a unique attraction known as the Salt Museum. This specialized museum provides an intriguing look into the "liquid gold" of the area while revealing the long-standing heritage of salt manufacturing through a combination of an interior exhibition and operational salt pans.

#### Delving into the History of Salt: The Museum Exhibit

An engaging exhibition that tells the exciting tale of Pomorie's salt manufacture is housed in the museum building. With the aid of an extensive archive of images, records, and artifacts, guests can travel through time and discover information about:

#### The Ancient Anhialian Technology:



This old-fashioned technique, still used in the nearby salt pans, uses the seawater's natural evaporation processes to produce salt. The display highlights the creativity and inventiveness of earlier generations by showcasing the instruments and methods used in this time-honored tradition.

#### The Historical Significance of Salt:

From its usage as a trade commodity and preservative to its influence on Pomorie's growth as a major commercial port, visitors can discover salt's critical role in the region's economy.



#### The Cultural Significance of Salt:

The exhibition explores the cultural facets of salt manufacturing, emphasizing its influence on regional customs, folklore, and even Pomorie's architecture.

Visitors can thoroughly grasp the science, history,



and cultural significance of salt in Pomorie through interactive displays, multimedia presentations, and educational panels.

#### Witnessing the Tradition in Action:

#### The Salt Pans

Visitors go outside the museum and are thrust into the unusual setting of the functioning salt pans. These vast fields, more than 20 acres, demonstrate the operation of ancient Anhialian technology. Here, guests can observe directly the many phases of salt production:



#### **Evaporation Pools:**

A concentrated brine solution is left behind as seawater is directed through a succession of shallow pools where the sun's heat speeds up evaporation.



#### **Crystallization Beds:**

On the pool bottoms, salt crystals start forming as the water evaporates. Tourists can see this crystallization process and be in awe of the shimmering white surroundings.



#### Harvesting:

The Sheraton Annaba Hotel is the perfect location for festivities and weddings because of its breathtaking views and first-rate service. The hotel's committed event coordinators ensure everything is well planned, giving visitors memorable experiences.



The salt pans are a refuge for wildlife and a window into the past. Visitors can see a variety of bird species, such as terns, avocets, and swallows, that take refuge in this unusual habitat by visiting particular observation locations.



#### **Tourist Activities:**

Apart from touring the museum and salt pans, visitors visiting Pomorie have the following options:

 Enjoy the calm waters of the Black Sea while lounging on the charming beaches and soaking up the sun. Discover the quaint Old Town of Pomorie, complete with cobblestone alleys, old-fashioned eateries, and historical sites.

 Visit historical sites like the Thracian Necropolis and museums to learn about the rich history and archaeology of the area.

 Savour the delicious regional food, which includes worldwide selections, Bulgarian delicacies, and fresh fish.

Travelers looking for a combination of historical exploration, cultural exploration, and beachside leisure will find Pomorie an exceptional experience because of its distinctive Salt Museum, fascinating past, and breathtaking natural beauty.





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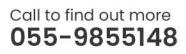
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