



*R.101's Proposed Route to India*

*R.101 was assigned the politically important route from Great Britain to India. It was to fly this route in two legs. The first leg was from the Royal Airship Works, forty-five miles north of London, to Ismailia, Egypt, where the ship would moor at a British-built mooring tower. This leg was about 2,600 statute miles and took forty to fifty hours depending on the wind. After refueling and refilling the gas bags with hydrogen, R.101 would then fly over Iraq and near Iran to land at Karachi. At the time Karachi was part of India, but today it is in Pakistan. This leg was about 2,800 statute miles and would take fifty-five to sixty hours. Karachi was chosen over Bombay (modern day Mumbai) because Karachi was near sea level, where increased atmospheric pressure would allow for more lift. At Karachi the British had built another mooring tower and a shed. This shed was the largest building in the British Empire. This map shows current country names.*