



Taking you on a life changing adventure in Pakistan

Northern Female Only Tour

Group Tour Dates:

2nd May 2024, 9th Sept 2024, 14th April 2025

LET US HELP YOU CREATE A LIFE CHANGING HOLIDAY



The company came into fruition in 2018 as my desire to put Pakistan on peoples' radar for the right reasons. I wanted to show people Pakistan through my eyes as I know the country has a plethora of beauty, culture, culinary delights & hospitality to offer those seeking something off the beaten track.

It is also my way of giving back to the people of Pakistan & doing my bit as a Pakistani overseas, which is why a strong emphasis of my itineraries involve working with local boutique hotels and local businesses so that the common man / woman in Pakistan benefits from the tourism I bring in. This also provides you with the most authentic holiday.





OUR SERVICE

Apart from flights, we take care of everything. Our specialism lies in the creation & development of authentic, cultural holidays in Pakistan from the North to the South, whether its food, nature, culture, history or golf you enjoy, we have it all covered.

Once you arrive at the airport in Islamabad, you become our guests and our responsibility. We have everything covered from hotels, transportation to all the excursions & guides, so you can just focus on taking pictures, chatting to the locals & basically having a great time. All of our guides have over 20 years experience on the ground and great knowledge about the sites they take you to but also off the beaten track activities like watching truck art being painted on the trucks.

We are proud to be recognised for this & have won 5 awards related to best Pakistan Experience service provider by SME news, best customer service & Adventure Tour Agency of the Year for 3 years running by Prestige Awards.

It's your holiday so our team go above and beyond, our goal is to ensure that we make it the most memorable experience for you & that you leave the country as brand ambassadors of Pakistan, telling the world how welcoming & culturally rich Pakistan is.

15 DAY FEMALE ONLY TOUR OF NORTHERN PAKISTAN

Embark on this spectacular voyage at Islamabad, the political and administrative city of Pakistan. Guarded by Karakoram giants, Hunza Valley nestles itself in the lap of snow-capped mountains which makes it a tourist delight. The enchanting Hunza's beauty reaches its peak in the apricot and cherry blossom in spring, the valley turns green in summer and leaves change their colours to red, yellow and orange in the autumn season. The magical Karimabad (Baltit), the formal capital of Hunza Valley has a charm of its own, encircled by breathtakingly beautiful snow-capped peaks, lush green fields, fruit orchards, and the singing Hunza River, the feeling of being here is unmatched. Views from a fairytale like Baltit Fort, the old residence of the Mirs of Hunza standing atop Karimabad are incredibly beautiful. A walk along the Barbar irrigation channel with striking views of Rakaposhi, Diran Peak and Golden Peak add more essence to your journey. The beautiful Gulmit valley surrounded by high mountains and glaciers, and the Passu village known for Passu Glacier, Batura Glacier and Passu Cones are worth visiting. The smiling, welcoming and friendly inhabitants of Hunza truly make your stay at home.

In the second part of the trip, we will explore Baltistan. In the extreme north of Pakistan, Skardu is an epitome of beauty, serenity, and wilderness. It is located amidst an impressive landscape; towering mountains, deep gorges, cascading waterfalls, creeping glaciers, and quiet lakes constitute this rugged beauty. This tour takes us to heaven on earth. Skardu is the gateway to the world's highest peaks, which include K-2, Broad Peak, Gasherbrum I, Gasherbrum II, and hundreds of peaks over 6000 metres high. Encircling the heart-shaped Kachura Lake is surrounded by fruit-laden orchards and flower-filled gardens, and the breath-taking view presents a heavenly atmosphere. The Kharpocho Fort looking down the hills, the crystal clear water of Satpara Lake, the impressive Shigar and Khapulo Forts, and the Deosai, which is the second highest plateau in the world: let's explore beautiful Baltistan, also known as "Little Tibet."

Finally, we will visit Lahore, the cultural capital of Pakistan. Overall, Lahore is a city of steeped in history, culture, and natural beauty. From its magnificent Mughal-era architecture to its lush gardens and bustling bazaars, Lahore has something for everyone. The city is a testament to the rich cultural heritage that is why Lahore is known as "the Cultural Capital of Pakistan". Lahore is a must-visit for anyone interested in history, culture, and natural beauty. With its vibrant colors, exquisite designs, and warm hospitality, Lahore is a city that will capture your heart and leave you with memories that will last a lifetime.

PROPOSAL COST - 15 DAYS / 14 NIGHTS

Group Size	Based on Twin / Double Sharing
2	£3260 PP
4-6	£2590 PP
8	£2200 PP
Single Supplement	£710 PP

COST INCLUDES:-

- Hotel Accommodation based on single room for each passenger
- Meals (Breakfasts)
- English speaking tour guide
- Air-conditioned private car throughout the trip
- domestic airfare between islamabad - gilgit & skardu - islamabad with 20kg check in baggage and 7kg carry on baggage
- air conditioned transportation throughout the trip
- entrance fees to the archaeological sites and museums
- tips at hotels / restaurant
- mineral water (1 bottle of 1.5l per day)
- portorage at hotels

COST DOES NOT INCLUDE:-

- International flights
- All items of personal nature such as telephone calls, mini bar and other Beverages
- Lunches & dinners
- Other than above mentioned
- Day use rooms if incase of flight delayed or cancellation
- Tips for Guide & Drivers

15 DAY FEMALE ONLY TOUR OF NORTHERN PAKISTAN

DAY 1- ARRIVE ISLAMABAD:

Upon arrival at Islamabad airport, you will be greeted by Xperience Pakistan's ground representative and transferred to the Legend hotel.

DAY 2- ISLAMABAD – NARAN/BESHAM:

After breakfast, we depart for Naran through the lush green Kaghan Valley. We start our journey on the Kashmir highway to join the M1 motorway. After covering some distance we will divert onto the newly commissioned Hazara Motorway and will continue till Mansehra exit to join the Kaghan valley road. On the way we pass Balakot Village near the Kunhar River, which is the gateway to Kaghan valley. A further 2-3 hours' drive brings us to Naran, whose verdant valleys and mountain lakes are breath.

In the afternoon we will visit Lake Saif ul Muluk, in local 4 x 4 jeeps, which in my opinion is one of the 8th wonders of the world. The lake is at a height of 3200 meters and the shortest ride there take you through the top of the picturesque valley and the lake itself. Guarded by the Himalayas, the crystal clear waters of the lake mirror the azure sky and Malika Parbat, (Queen of Mountains), and gracefully capture the serene beauty that is so awe-inspiring.

Upon arrival, check into the Northern Retreat Naran/Helton Hotel Besham: (Note: If the road is blocked due to snowfall at Babusar pass, than the alternate route of the KKH will be used from Manshera to Besham).

DAY 3- NARAN/BESHAM– GILGIT:

In the morning we leave Naran to start making our way for Gilgit through the Babusar Pass. A further 1-2 hours' drive will take us to Gittidas, from where an uphill drive takes you to the famous 4100 m Babusar Pass which links Gilgit with Mansehra & Abbottabad in Hazara Division.

It is a seasonal road that remains open between early June and early October (depending on the rainfall in the area). Enjoy the breath taking views before continuing a downhill drive towards Gilgit. Upon arrival, we will check into the Kallisto Hotel Gilgit. (If the road is blocked due to snowfall at Babusar pass, than the alternate route of the KKH will be used from Besham to Chilas and Gilgit).

15 DAY FEMALE ONLY TOUR OF NORTHERN PAKISTAN

DAY 04- GILGIT – KARIMABAD:

After breakfast visit the, Gilgit Bazaar with its kaleidoscopically arrayed shops, and then on to the Chinar Bagh (Garden). From here see Asia's longest vehicular suspension bridge and visit the Chinese cemetery. In the afternoon drive northwards and pause at Rakaposhi viewpoint to view the North Face of Rakaposhi which is the longest un-interrupted mountain flank on earth (7700m).

Continue the drive to Karimabad and check in to the quaint 2 Magpies hotel.

DAY 05- ALTIT-KARIMABAD-DUIKER:

Today visit the restored 800 year old Baltit Fort, once the stronghold of the Ayasho Dynasty, and today a wonderfully restored museum that has won many awards, including ones from UNESCO and British Airways. Then a few minutes' drive takes us to the neighboring 'twin' village of Altit, where we visit the restored Altit Fort and the women's work shop where they make wooden furniture and handicrafts. Enjoy the garden and heavenly orchard annexed to the restored Altit Fort and try the local Hunza cuisine at the KhaBasi (meaning lower orchard) restaurant, managed by an all women community team.

Return to Karimabad to explore the local tourist market, including 'Café De Hunza' famous for delicious walnut cake and a variety of coffees. Later drive uphill to Duiker the high vantage point to take in the magnificent views of the valley and high mountains including 7788 meters high Rakaposhi. After sunset return to Karimabad for overnight.

Overnight at the 2 Magpies.

DAY 06- KARIMABAD – GULMIT – PASSU – KARIMABAD:

After breakfast rejoin the Karakorum Highway and drive to Gulmit, in Upper Hunza, along the banks of the newly, but tragically formed azure Attabad Lake, a significant addition to the natural beauty of Hunza. The road link has been recently restored by a 7.9 km long tunnel system. We then take some time to enjoy some boating or just spend time at the lakeside and take in the views. Continue to Gulmit, a peaceful and serene village that formerly served as winter capital of the Hunza Kingdom. Here one will walk through the village, and see local women weaving carpets and making several other traditional handicrafts. We can enjoy lunch at the Moksha Café run by an enterprising couple researching local herbal medicines. Drive on to Passu Village to enjoy a fabulous view of Tupupdan Sar, Passu Cones, Shispare and Boyohagur, all exceeding 7000 meters.

After a thrilling experience of walking on the "Indiana Jones Bridge" at Hussaini return Karimabad and enjoy a traditional Hunza dinner at the 2 Magpies.

15 DAY FEMALE ONLY TOUR OF NORTHERN PAKISTAN

DAY 07- KARIMABAD – NAGAR VALLEY – GILGIT:

After breakfast proceed to Hopper in Nagar Valley located southeast of Karimabad, the drive itself is an experience as it provides the best views of stunning landscape of both the Nagar valley and Hunza Ultar mountain range. Hopper is like a wide fertile bowl covered by high peaks. It is also a starting point for a number of impressive treks, upon arrival at Hopper Village enjoy the view of Buwaltar Glacier. If you are feeling adventurous, take a short walk on the glacier! Return to KKH, en-route visit Ganesh Heritage Village one of the oldest settlements of Hunza that has been very well preserved by Aga Khan Cultural Services and then proceed to Gilgit.

Overnight at the lovely Gilgit Serena Lodge.

DAY 08 AT LEISURE IN GILGIT:

Spend the day at leisure in Gilgit, enjoying the gardens of the hotel, or take a trip to see the bazaars of Gilgit, filled with Chinese goods.

Overnight at the hotel.

DAY 09- GILGIT – SHANGLA PASS – SWAT:

After breakfast, we will have an adventurous drive on the Karakoram Highway (KKH) which parallels the Indus River and head about 8 to 9 hours towards Besham. After tea at Besham we shall leave the Indus and KKH continue climbing towards Shangla Pass that separates Swat district from Indus Kohistan. In three hours on a scenic road through steeply terraced hills and pine forests we reach the fertile valley of Swat. Upon arrival, check into the hotel.

Overnight at the Rock City Hotel in Swat.

DAY 10 & 11- SWAT:

We spend two relaxing days in Swat, visiting the Swat Museum established in 1959 by the Wali-e-Swat. Its display was redesigned in the early 1990s by the Japanese and is one of the finest - examples in the country. Beside Buddhist Art, the museum also houses ethnological collection and some proto-historic remains. We will also visit the famous archaeological sites of Butkara I, Saidu Stupa and the Ghaligai Rock Buddhas, facing the river Swat. Additionally, we can try our luck rafting on local rafts in the river. A must see visit is the Mingora Bazar, which is the commercial centre famous for its embroidered textiles, wood work and for its semi-precious stones, such as emeralds and rubies.

15 DAY FEMALE ONLY TOUR OF NORTHERN PAKISTAN

DAY-10 & 11 SWAT CONTINUED

We will also visit Murghzar where you will behold the old white palace constructed from white marble and adorned with ornate carvings. During our time here, we will also visit and work with the Swat Valley Guild, which supports local artisans in ventures such as textile weaving, shoe making, gemstone polishing and furniture making.

Overnights at Rock City Hotel.

DAY 12- SWAT – TAKHT-I-BAHI – PESHAWAR:

We leave Swat and drive to Peshawar, en route stop at Takht-i-Bahi, “Throne of the water spring” an Indo-Parthian archaeological site of an ancient Buddhist monastery in Mardan, Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan. The site is considered among the most imposing relics of Buddhism in all of Gandhara, and has been exceptionally well-preserved. The Buddhist monastery was founded in the 1st century CE, and was in use until the 7th century. The complex is regarded by archaeologists as being particularly representative of the architecture of Buddhist monastic centers from its era. Takht-i-Bahi was listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1981. After the visit continue your drive to the city of Peshawar and upon arrival check in to the hotel for overnight.

In the evening we will venture into the old bazaar to sample local delicacies such as chapli kebab and kawa.

DAY 13- PESHAWAR – ISLAMABAD:

Spend your day in the colourful city of Peshawar. Visit Peshawar Museum, the most impressive building previously known as Victoria hall, built in 1905 and now serving as a museum. Here one can find priceless collection of Gandharan art which is beautifully displayed. British officers and soldiers once used the building as a dancing hall. After the museum take a walk through the Qisa Khwani Bazaar, Peshawar’s fabled “street of story tellers” which is known as the Piccadilly of central Asia, Coppersmiths Bazaar famous for Peshawar Pottery, Mohabbat Khan Mosque, Peshawar’s last remaining Mughal Mosque of the 17th Century, Cunningham Clock tower and Meena Bazaar.

In the late afternoon drive to Islamabad for overnight at the Roomy Signature Hotel. In the evening you are free to wander around the myriad of shops and restaurants adjacent to the hotel.

15 DAY FEMALE ONLY TOUR OF NORTHERN PAKISTAN

DAY 14- ISLAMABAD:

This morning proceed for a half day visit of Islamabad city including Lok Virsa Museum, which is rated as one of the finest museums of South Asia. Its nine galleries display country's vast and colorful ethnic diversity, grand history and dazzling heritage. Continue to the Pakistan Monument, whose portraits highlight salient features and significant events through the history of Pakistan. From the nearby Shakar Parian, enjoy splendid views of Margalla Hills, Rawal Lake and the city. We will also visit the Shah Faisal Mosque, whose pointed minarets topped with gold plated crescent moons dominant the city's skyline. In the afternoon we are free to visit the city's famous mall, the most prominent of which is Centaurus Mall, housing a variety of shops featuring ethnic wear. In the evening, enjoy a farewell dinner at Monal hilltop restaurant for panoramic night time views of Islamabad while enjoying dinner.

DAY 15: TRANSFER TO AIRPORT:

This early morning transfer to the airport for your flight.

SOME TESTIMONIALS FROM PREVIOUS CLIENTS



Kathy Montgomery

11th November 2023

...I loved just about everything in my tour, the guide was very knowledgeable & extremely flexible in catering for my needs...thank you Saadia for putting so much effort in planning my itinerary & managing the components. It has been a truly memorable trip in which I have learned so much about the history & customs....



Paul & Tara

13th October 2023

One of the best holidays we've had, it was lovely not to see so many other foreigners but what threw us was the hospitality of the people of Pakistan. Peshawar despite being a place advised against travel by the FCO was one of our favourites because of the rich culture and warmth of the people.



Nathan Hale

May, 2023

The service was excellent, due to the flooding in Pakistan in 2022, I decided to postpone my trip to 2023 only 6 weeks before my travel date. Saadia and her team were very accommodating & were able to do this without making a fuss or any penalties....

I love the Trucks in Pakistan and even got to ride in one..

FAQ

- Is Pakistan safe to travel to?

In the main Pakistan is a safe country to travel around, there are some random incidents but this is like anywhere in the world these days. On a day to day basis it is safe to get around especially key cities like Islamabad & Lahore. Like any country one must be vigilant, our team is always aware of the situation so if precautionary measures need to take place these are implemented.

- What do I need to wear?

You can wear western clothes as a woman or man. However it must be remembered that Pakistan is a muslim country so clothes should generally be loose, 3/4 arm length sleeves, skirts or dresses should be below the knees. Hair does not have to be covered except when entering places of worship. Shoes should also be taken off when entering a mosque. For the North it is best to dress with layers, for Islamabad & Peshawar their seasons follow the UK and temperatures do get cold Oct - March so warm attire is recommended.

- How much money do I need to take?

Eating out & shopping in the main in Pakistan is cheap, particularly at the moment when the currency is so weak. £3 will get you a 3 course meal at a very nice restaurant.

- What's the weather like?

The weather in Sindh, from Multan down to Karachi tends to be hot all year around. The best time to visit this region is Nov - Feb. The Northern areas of Pakistan get very cold with temperatures dropping below freezing. The best to visit this part is April - October. Islamabad, Lahore & Peshawar tend to have similar seasons to the UK, with the need of a coat or cardigan in the winters.

- What's the local currency?

The local currency is Pakistan Rupees, our guide will arrange to take you to a local Bureau De Exchange where you can exchange your currency and get the best rates. We will also help you get a local SIM which you can use throughout your trip to ensure you remain connected without paying exuberant international charges.

NEXT STEPS

- A follow up telephone call to take you through the itinerary if you wish
- A deposit of £500 to secure your place.
- Deposit of 50% to be paid once we know the exact size of the group if you are happy to go with amount quoted for 2, if not your £500 will be refunded.
- We would provide you with all the documentation you would need for your visa application which is all done online now and takes 2-3 weeks to process. This would be provided after the 50% deposit is paid.
- A video call would be arranged with the group, 2 months before the travel date, so introductions can be made, following this a whatsapp group would be created for ease of communication between each other and me.
- 3 weeks before your travel date we could add the driver and guides details to the whatsapp group so the ground team in Pakistan can greet you before your arrival in Pakistan. I would be contactable throughout your time in Pakistan, should a need arise for you to contact me, such as any changes in plan to due to ill health or change in interest once in the country. However rest assure that the team in Pakistan are very well versed to help you with all of these aspects.
- I will share video links of vloggers who have covered some of these areas to help you get excited about what awaits you, if you wish, some people prefer to discover themselves.