



# Mountains & City Tour

19 Day Cultural & Adventure Tour Islamabad, Gilgit, Hunza & Lahore

Time Period: October - March

## MAP OF PAKISTAN





## 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.

I wanted people from around the world to experience and enjoy some of the great holidays I have enjoyed in Pakistan with my family.

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 or Karachi, 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 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.

## THE SHANGRILA (HUNZA VALLEY), TIBET (BALTISTAN) & LAHORE

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 unmatchable. 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 - 19 DAYS / 18 NIGHTS

Group Size	Deluxe
2	£6810 pp
4	£5880 pp
6	£5362 PP
Single Supplement	£1950

#### **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)
- porterage 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

Hotels you will be staying at Islamabad - Serena Hunza - Mix of Offto & Luxus Hunza Skardu - Serena Shigar fort lahore - Luxus Lahore



## THE SHANGRILA (HUNZA VALLEY), TIBET (BALTISTAN) & LAHORE - 19 DAYS / 18 NIGHTS ITINERARY

#### **DAY-1 ISLAMABAD**

Arrival at the Islamabad International Airport, transfer to hotel. City tour of Islamabad after a short rest at the hotel to freshen up.

Today's visits/activities include

- Shah Faisal Mosque
- Lok Virsa (Folk Heritage) Museum
- Pakistan National Monument
- Daman-e-Koh (Islamabad View Point)
- Parliament House, President House, Prime Minister House, Supreme Court of Pakistan(external view)

#### DAY-2 ISLAMABAD - TAXILA

Today's visits include

- Taxila Museum
- Julian Buddhist Stupa & Monastery
- Dharmarajika complex and stupa
- Truck Painting in Taxila
- Raja Bazaar Rawalpindi

#### DAY-3 ISLAMABAD – GILGIT

Islamabad-Gilgit: 1 hour' drive OR Chilas

A morning flight to Gilgit. Upon arrival & transfer of luggage to the hotel, we will take sightseeing of Gilgit.

Today's visits/activities include

- Kargah Buddha
- Gilgit Suspension Bridge
- British Graveyard

#### DAY-4 GILGIT - KARIMABAD

Gilgit - Karimabad Hunza: 104 kms/2 hours' drive

Drive to Karimabad Hunza. After lunch half day sightseeing.

Today's visits/activities include

- Rakaposhi View Point Ghulmet
- Baltit Fort
- Karimabad Bazaar
- Walk along Barbar Water Channel
- High Tea with homemade food at a local house & live sufi music



## THE SHANGRILA (HUNZA VALLEY), TIBET (BALTISTAN) & LAHORE - 19 DAYS / 18 NIGHT ITINERARY

#### **DAY-5 CENTRAL HUNZA & NAGAR**

Full day for exploring the unique culture of central Hunza & Nagar.

Today's visits/activities include

- Hoper Nagar Valley
- Stop at Ultar & Lady Finger View Point
- Optional Walk to Barpu Glacier
- Altit Fort
- Altit Cluster/Altit Village
- Sunset from the Eagle's Nest View Point in Duiker

#### DAY-6 KARIMABAD - UPPER HUNZA

Karimabad-Atta Abad Lake: 30km/40 minutes' drive

Drive to Atta Abad Lake. Visit Gulmit, Hussaini Bridge, & Passu. Overnight stay at Atta Abad Lake.

Today's visits/activities include

- Ganish Cluster- the oldest settlement in Hunza
- Dong Rock Inscriptions
- Gulmit Village
- Hussaini Bridge
- Passu Cones/Passu Cathedrals
- Atta Abad Lake

#### DAY-7 ATTA ABAD LAKE UPPER HUNZA

Free day at attabad lake upper hunza to relax and enjoy the ambience.

#### DAY-8 ATTA ABAD-GILGIT - SKARDU / SHIGAR

Atta Abad-Skardu: 310 kms/6.5 hours' drive

Drive to Skardu visiting Kargah Buddha en-route

Today's visits/activities include

- Drive to Gilgit along Hunza River and then towards Skardu along the Indus River
- Kargah Buddha Gilgit
- Visit the Unique place in the world where three great mountain ranges; the Himalaya,
- the Karakoram and Hindu Kush meet.
- Stop at Nanga Parbat View Point

#### **DAY-9 SKARDU**

Full day tour of Skardu. Overnight stay in Shigir.

Today's visits/activities include

- Upper Kachura Lake
- Visit Katpana Desert
- Manthal Buddha
- Kharpocho Fort
- Sarfaranga Cold Desert
- Shigir Fort



## THE SHANGRILA (HUNZA VALLEY), TIBET (BALTISTAN) & LAHORE - 19 DAY / 18 NIGHTS ITINERARY

#### DAY-10 SKARDU – KHAPULO-SKARDU

Skardu-Khapulo (Khaplo): 110 kms/2.5 hours' drive

Day Excursion to Khapulo. Visit Khapulo Fort, Chaqchan Mosque, Shyok River.

Today's visits/activities include:

- Khapulo Fort
- Chaqchan Mosque□ Shyok River

#### **DAY-11 SKARDU**

Day at leisure to enjoy Skardu / Shigar

#### DAY-12 SKARDU – ISLAMABAD

Flight to Islamabad (1 hour).

Upon arrival visit to khanpur dam for some light trekking and lunch by the lake or visit to local bazaars followed by evening shopping at centaurus shopping centre, enjoying food in the food court or visit liberty market, enjoying local shopping and local eatery.

#### DAY-13 ISLAMABAD - LAHORE

Islamabad - Katas Raj Temple: 100 kms / 2.5 hours' drive

Katas Raj Temple-Khewra Salt Mines: 20 kms / 50 minutes' drive

Khewra Salt Mines - Lahore: 245 kms/4 hours' drive

Early start today's visits/stops/activities include

- Katas Raj Temple
- Khewra Salt Mines- Asia's biggest and world second largest salt mines

#### **DAY-14 LAHORE**

Full day city tour of Lahore.

Today's visits/stops/activities include

- Lahore's walled city
- Lahore Fort
- Badshahi Masjid
- Lahore museum
- badshahi mosque
- lahore museum (optional)
- anarkali bazaar

#### **DAY-15 LAHORE**

Full day city tour of Lahore including flag ceremony at Pakistan-India border.

Today's visits/stops/activities include

- Mausoleums of Jahangir & Noor Jahan in Lahore (if not visited on day-3)
- Visit Masjid Wazir Khan
- Shahi Hamam
- Visit Shalimar Garden (optional)
- Experience the flag ceremony at the Wagah Border



## THE SHANGRILA (HUNZA VALLEY), TIBET (BALTISTAN) & LAHORE - 19 DAY / 18 NIGHTS ITINERARY

#### **DAY-16 LAHORE**

Day at leisure or optional visit of harappa archaeological site. overnight stay in lahore.

#### **DAY-17 LAHORE**

Day at leisure to explore the city.

#### **DAY-18 LAHORE TO ISLAMABAD**

Lahore - Rhotas Fort: 214km, 4 hours drive

Rohtas Fort - Islamabad: 115km, 2 hours drive

Drive from Lahore to Islamabad visiting rhotas fort on route. If you have the evergy spend the evening visiting monal to enjoy the panoramic views of islamabad and the local cuisine. a popular place for locals.

#### **DAY 19 - DEPARTURE**

BA Flights tend to be in the morning, we will arrange for the airport transfers



## SOME TESTIMONIALS FROM PREVIOUS CLIENTS







#### Kathy Montgomery

11th November 2023

...I loved just about everything in my tour, the guide was very knowledgable & 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.. ....





#### • 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.

#### • Who can I get travel insurance with?

You can get insurance with Battle Face who cover countries which are off the beaten track.

### **NEXT STEPS**

- Give us a call on 0203 150 1444 or email us on info@xperiencepakistan.co.uk if any of the tours are of interest to you or you would like a bespoke tour created for you.
- Deposit of 50% to be paid once happy with the itinerary or we can arrange an instalment plan of 3 payments, if time permits. Final payment would be due 8 weeks before your departure date.
- If interested in a group tour, we only require a £500 deposit to secure your place on the tour, if we are unable to get two people and the tour doesn't go ahead the full deposit is refunded minus any bank charges which would be applicable to international clients.
- The maximum group sizes are 8, if we are able to get 8 the price pp would reduce to that quoted which is based on 2 and the final balance owed would reflect this.
- 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 payment.
- 3 weeks before your travel date we could create a whatsapp group made up of you, me and the team in Pakistan so that you can greet each other 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 are very well versed to help you with all of these aspects.
- For group tours we would create a whatsapp group sooner and arrange a zoom call before your departure so you can meet and greet and compare notes.
- Scan the QR Code & be inspired about the adventure which awaits you.



## MAP OF GILGIT BALTISTAN



- 14 Day Tour covers Chilas, Gilgit & Hunza
- 16 Dat Tour covers the above plus Fairy Meadows
- 17 Day Tour covers Chilas, Gilgit, Hunza & Skardu
- 19 Day Tour covers Chilas, Gilgit, Hunza, Fairy Meadows & Skardu
- 27 Day Tour covers the above & Hindukush Valley, which includes Chitral



