



FACING NORTH
TRAVELS & TOURS

DIVERSITY OF NATURE & CULTURE

Skardu, Astore & Islamabad

Traveling Dates: June - October

Product Code: PK0001012

DURATION: 10 DAYS

PER PERSON PRICE: \$ 2,030

STYLE: NATURE, CULTURE, HERITAGE & FOOD

TRAVELER'S RATING: ★ ★ ★ ★

OVERVIEW:

Pakistan is country full of diversity in every means whether you talk about landscape, food, culture or our traditions. Islamabad is the capital of Pakistan where our journey starts, Islamabad is surrounded by beautiful Margala Hills which is the start of our mountain ranges. In the extreme North-East of Pakistan, at an altitude of 8200 ft., Skardu District is located in Gilgit-Baltistan and is the center of trekking, trailing and climbing journeys. In an epitome of beauty of its lakes, rivers and waterfalls, serenity of valleys and wilderness of the mountains and cold deserts and surrounding by the mighty mountains of Karakoram and Himalayas, you can get yourself soaked up in one of the coldest regions of South Asia, offering immense picturesque experiences.

START: Islamabad

TOUR TYPE: LUXURY

FINISH: Islamabad

PHYSICAL RATING: N/A

PROVINCES COVERED: Punjab, KPK & GB

AGE GROUP: 4+

THEME: Holiday

GROUP SIZE: 16

WHAT YOU WILL EXPERIENCE

- Serenity of the capital of Pakistan (Islamabad)
- Shangri-La Resorts in the Lower Kachura Lake and its fruit-full gardens
- Dawn and dusks at Indus River
- Down the hills to visit Kharpoch Fort
- Brightening moon at Katpana Desert sand dunes
- Serenity of Satpara Lakes
- Wildlife watch at Deosai National Park
- Heritage & History of Skardu
- Amazing food country has to offer

IS THIS TRIP RIGHT FOR YOU?

Please note that a more conservative dress code applies for some of the sightseeing on the city tour. Entrance may be denied at some sights if this is not followed.

It is recommended that you wear warm clothes, long sleeves and long trousers/skirt/jeans.

The Jeep Safari on this itinerary involves off-road driving through rugged areas - which all adds to the excitement. However, because of the adventurous nature of the journey and the rough terrain covered, we do not recommend this activity to passengers if they have any pre-existing medical conditions, are over 70 or pregnant.



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ITINERARY:



Day 1: Arrival at Islamabad

KhushAamdeed, Welcome to the capital of the Pakistan. Upon arrival, once you clear the customs and collect your luggage, you will be met and greeted by Facing North on Location representatives and will be transferred to your hotel. The drive to your hotel will be approximately 30 minutes. Today is at leisure to settle in and relax after your international flight. You may wish to head out and enjoy a cup of local Chai and sweets. A welcome dinner will be served at a fine dining restaurant handpicked by Facing North. You will meet your Resident Director and the staffs as well as your fellow travelers at dinner. A brief introduction will also be given to give you pointers of the upcoming tours.

Accommodation: Serena or Marriott Hotel

Activities: Quick Tour Islamabad

Transport: Coaster or Jeeps

Meals: Dinner



Day 2: Islamabad

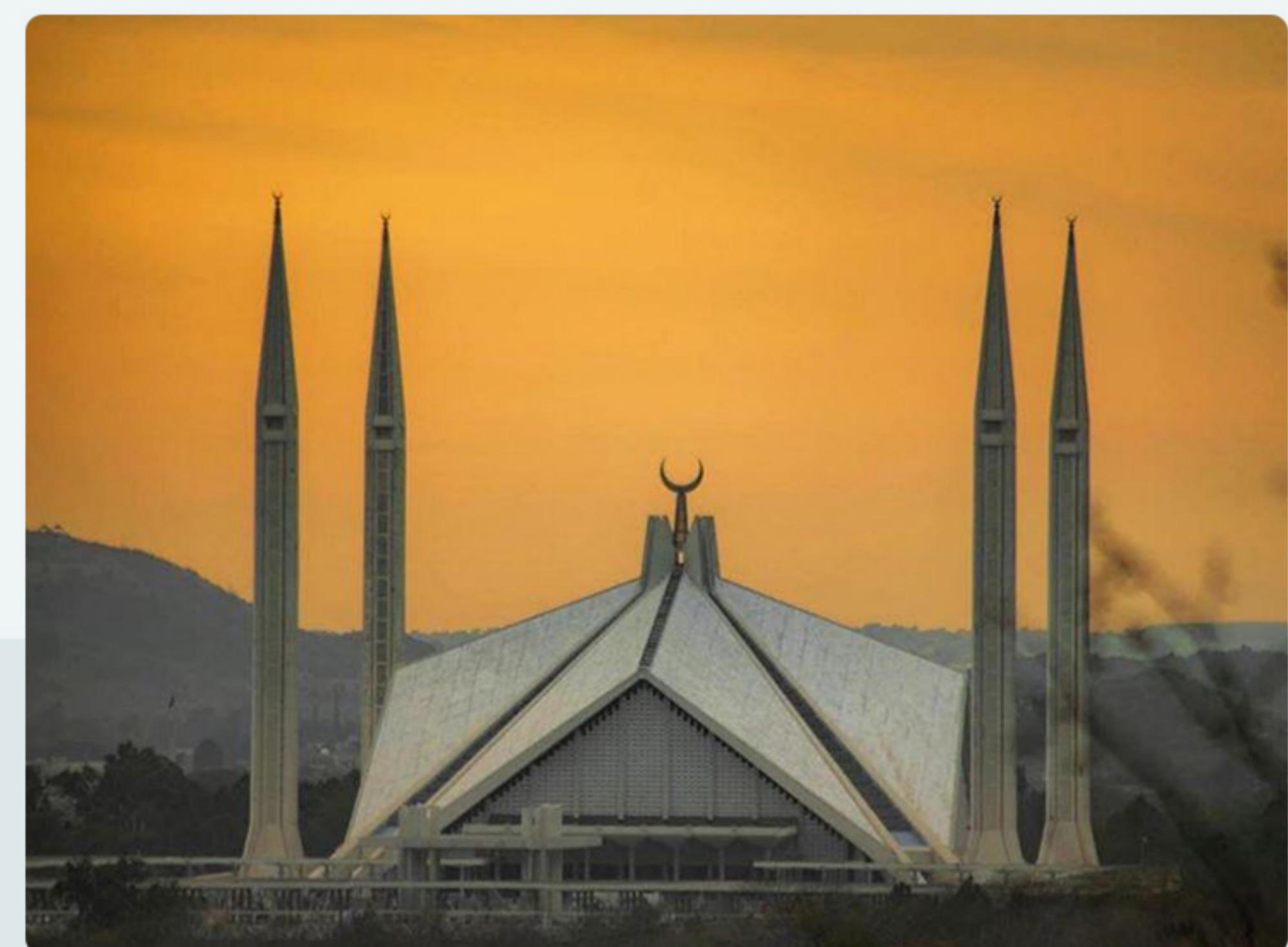
Today, you will sleep in and will join the group to enjoy a special elaborated Brunch to help you recover from the long trip. After the meal, your day will start with Margala hills, a great location to view Islamabad, followed by a short city tour. We will cover Pakistan Monument, Faisal Masjid and other landmarks of Islamabad to give you a comprehensive view of this great city. Dinner will be served at the renowned Monal Restaurant with a stunning panoramic view of Islamabad and Rawalpindi. Situated on the hill of Potohar, nestled against the pristine Margala, Monal Restaurant is voted one of the most romantic restaurants in Islamabad and is considered the best restaurant in Islamabad. Your dinner experience tonight at Monal will be a great introduction to the Pakistani cuisine..

Accommodation: Serena or Marriott Hotel

Activities: City Tour Islamabad

Transport: Coaster or Jeeps

Meals: 3 Meals



Day 3: Islamabad to Skardu

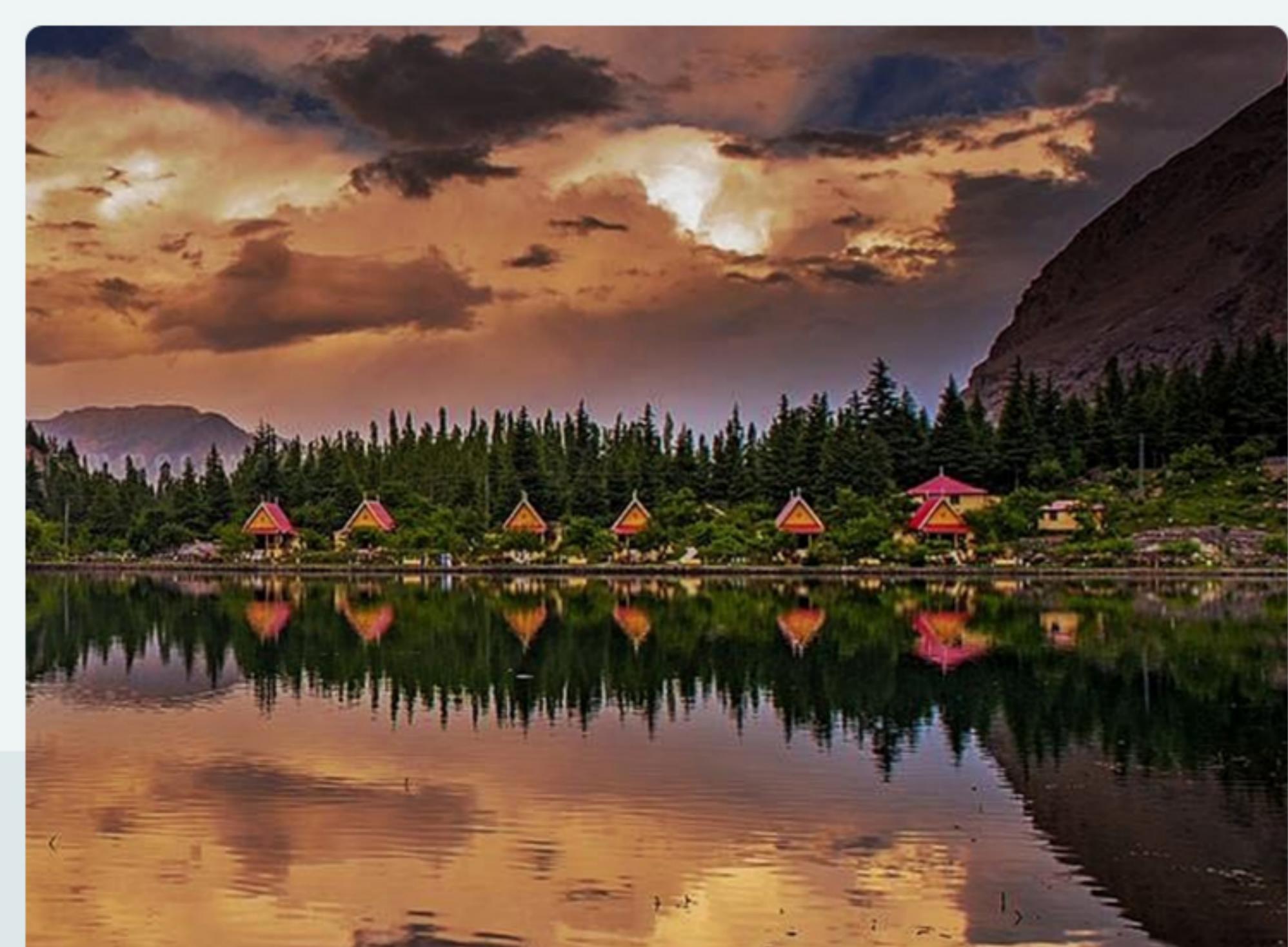
Early morning breakfast will be served, Depart early morning for Skardu. Transfer to Airport, flight to Skardu from Islamabad. Flight is approx. 1 hour which will leave lifetime impact, the flight will cross some of the high-altitude peaks and highest mountain ranges & 9 th Highest peak in the world Nanga Parbat also known as the killer mountain. Arrival at Skardu airport, we will depart to explore Kharpocho Fort, the oldest of the remains in Skardu. Excursion to Katpana desert, spend your evening in the cold dunes of Katpana, transfer to Katpana Glamps, overnight stay in the desert.

Accommodation: Glamps Pakistan

Activities: Kharpocho fort, air safari & Cold desert

Transport: 4x4 Jeeps, Flight safari

Meals: 3 Meals



Day 4: Deosai Plains & Sheosar lake

After early morning breakfast, Adventure tours and jeep safaris to the Deosai Plains, the second highest in the world (at 4,100 m or 13,500 feet) after the Chang Tang in Tibet, in local Balti language, Deosai is called Byarsa, meaning 'summer place'. With an area of approximately 3,000 square kilometers, the plains extend all the way to Ladakh and provide habitat for snow leopards, ibex, Tibetan brown bears and wild horses. Visit Bara Pani and Sheosar lake. We will have a picnic and lunch in Deosai. Return to Skardu, transfer to hotel overnight stay in Glamps.

Accommodation: Glamps Pakistan

Activities: Jeeps safari, Deosai plains, wildlife, sheosar lake and picnic

Transport: 4x4 Jeep

Meals: 3 Meals



Day 5: Shigar valley

After morning breakfast, departure to Shigar valley crossing Sarfaranga cold desert. The gateway to the great mountain peaks of the Karakorum, Gasherbrum & K-2, is only 23 km away from Skardu via jeep road. The wooden mosque in the middle of the town was built by Kashmiri carpenters several hundred years ago. The town of Shigar is the largest settlement in the valley. Even though the Shigar Valley is a remote and largely inaccessible place, there are several villages in the valley. Askole is the last settlement in the Shigar Valley, which is still far from the high mountains. Shigar was formerly an administrative sub-division of Skardu District but is now a district transfer to Shigar fort which is restored by Agha khan foundation & Serena hotels. Tour of Shigar fort, excursion to Shigar valley tour and Jarba Xho hike (optional), enjoy your evening, return to the fort. Overnight stay.

Accommodation: Shigar Serena

Activities: Sarfaranga desert, Jarba Xho hike, Tour de Shigar & Shigar fort

Transport: 4x4 Jeeps

Meals: 3 Meals



Day 6: Ghanche District & Khaplu

After early morning breakfast, we will leave for Ghanche District where we will visit sailing village and fish farms, excursion to Khaplu, this beautiful valley of the Shyok River is 103 km east of Skardu. Khaplu is the starting point for most trekking and climbing expeditions. Many famous mountains such as Masherbrum, Baltoro, Sia Kangri, K-6, K-7 are located here. Chaqchan Mosque is one of the earliest mosques in Baltistan (1504 AD), attributed to Syed Ali Hamdani. Transfer to Khaplu fort which is restored by Agha khan cultural service and Serena Hotels. We will take tour of Khaplu valley, return to the fort, overnight stay in Khaplu.

Accommodation: Khaplu Serena

Activities: Jeeps safari, Ghanche district, Khaplu fort, Chaqchan Mosque & sailing village tour.

Transport: 4x4 Jeeps and Coasters

Meals: 3 Meals



Day 7: Sailing and Machlu valley

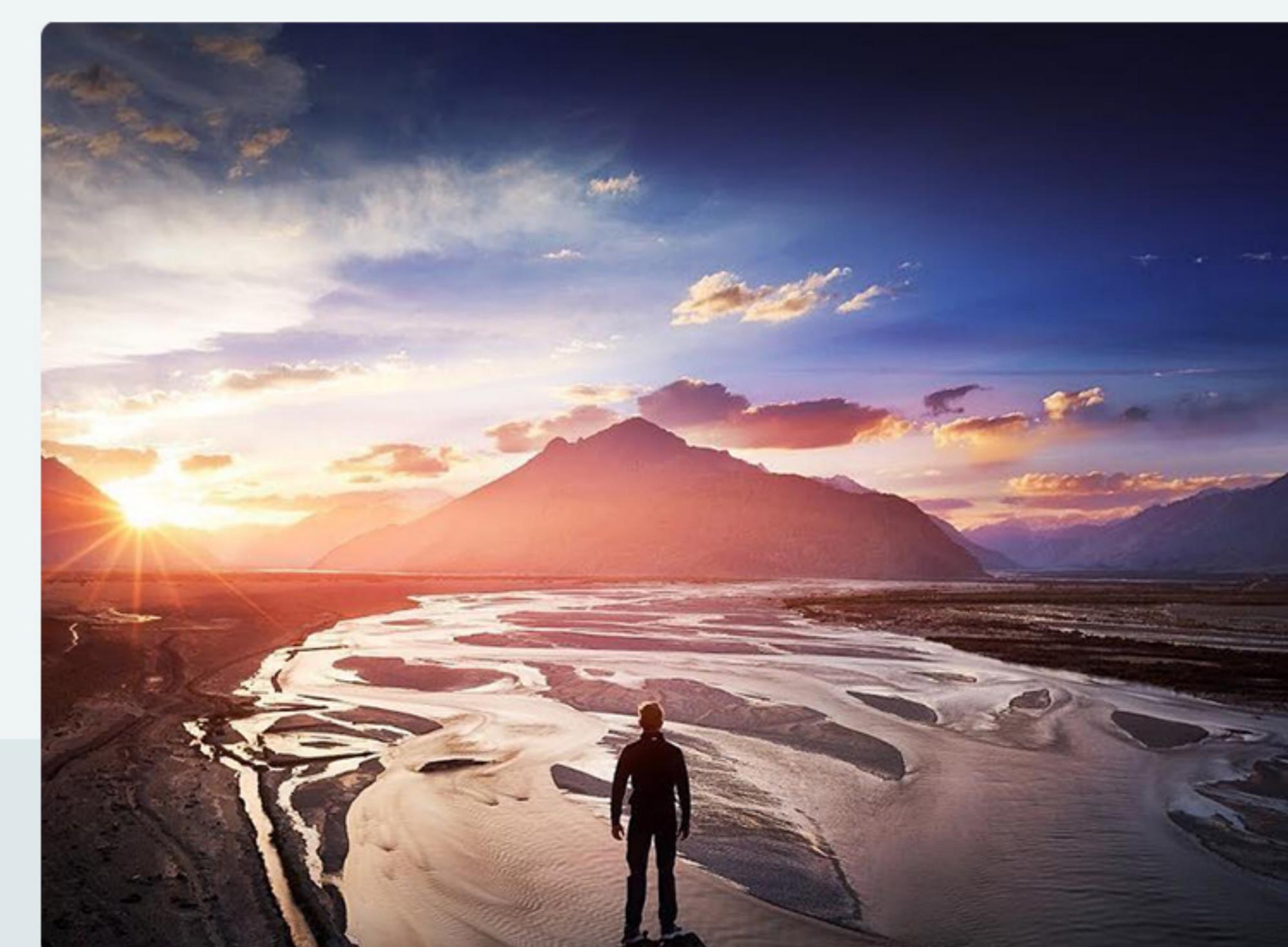
After early morning breakfast, Departure to Sailing and Machlu valley which are known as the gem of Khaplu district. Surrounded with snow covered peaks and lush green valleys with white water streams will be the perfect spot for leisure relaxing. Return to Khaplu fort, visit nearby viewpoints, dinner will be served, overnight stay in Khaplu Serena.

Accommodation: Khaplu Fort

Activities: Sailing valley and Machlu valley

Transport: 4x4 Jeeps

Meals: 3 Meals



Day 8: Manthoka waterfall, & Kharmarg District

A beautiful morning in the cold desert, breakfast will be served, later we will visit Manthoka waterfall, sightseeing and photo session. Visit Mehdi Abad visit beautiful water streams. Return to Skardu. Visit Buddha carving rock. Transfer to Shangri-La resort which is built on the shores of lower Kachura lake. Leisure time with traditional live music. Dinner will be served, overnight stay.

Accommodation: Shangri-La Resort

Activities: Manthoka waterfall, Mehdi Abad & Shangri-La and lower Kachura lake.

Transport: 4x4 Jeeps

Meals: 3 Meals



Day 9: Islamabad, Saidpur village

As our tour is coming to an end, we are taking a slower pace to allow you more time at leisure to enjoy the hotel facility. After breakfast, you will be transferred to the airport for your flight back to Islamabad. During the flight, you will see the majestic Himalayas and Karakorum range, an experience that will last a lifetime. Upon arrival and after check into the hotel, we will go on a short excursion to Saidpur village and Lokvirsa museum for a quick tour. The remainder of the day will be at leisure to allow you one last opportunity to experience the city on your own or do some last-minute shopping in Islamabad. Tonight, a Farewell Dinner is served at Nadiya, Marriott.

Accommodation: Serena Hotel or Marriott

Activities: Flight safari, Saidpur Village. Lokvirsa Museum

Transport: Flight, Coasters

Meals: 3 Meals



Day 10: Day of Departure

Breakfast will be served at the hotel. Free time for leisure and shopping in local handicraft shops, malls and marketplaces. Lunch will be served in yet another fine dining restaurant in Islamabad before you are transferred to the airport for your returning flight home.

Accommodation: None

Activities: Departure to your country

Transport: Flight

Meals: Breakfast & Lunch

WHAT IS INCLUDED?



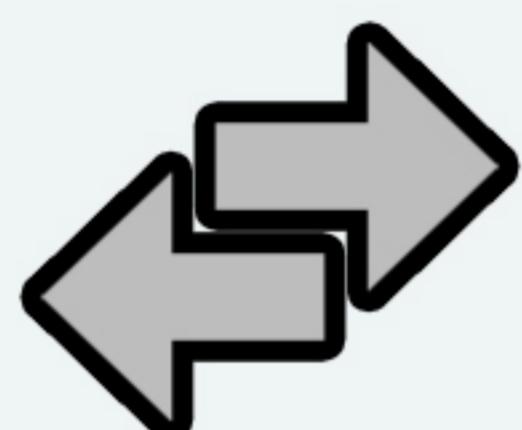
Documentation for
Visa Application



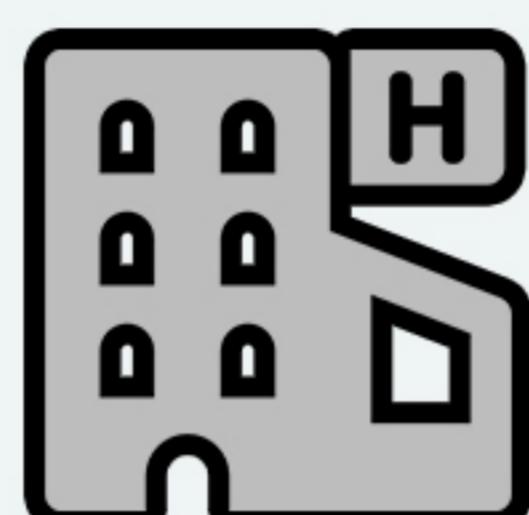
Roundtrip domestic
flight (Isb - Skardu)



Airport meet
and greet



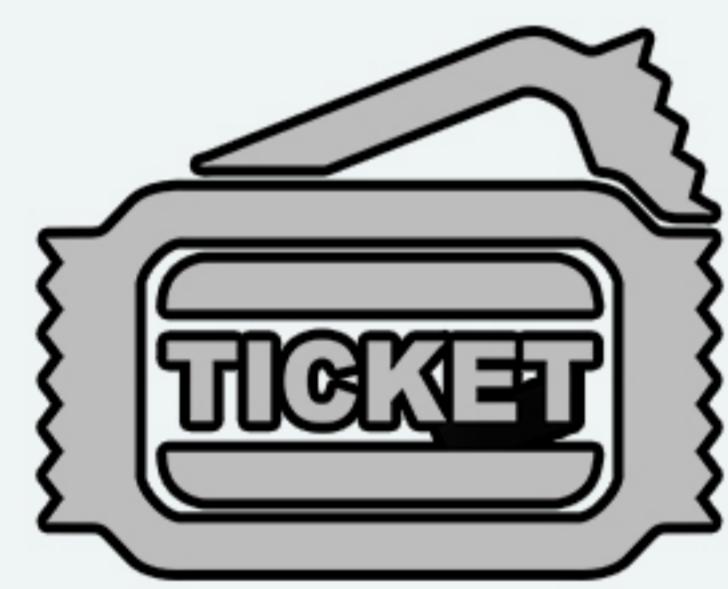
All transfers



All accommodation
as indicated on the
itinerary



English speaking
guide and Resident
Director



Entrance fees to
national parks
& monuments



Group photo album
by professional
photographer



Local bottled
water daily



Gratuities

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED?



Roundtrip international
flight to Islamabad



Visa application
and fees



Cancellation / Travel
Insurance & Emergency
Medical Insurance



Photographic
insurance



Alcoholic beverage
& soft drinks



Personal expenses

Essential Trip Info: Warm Clothes will be required in the northern region of Pakistan,
rest the weather will be moderate.



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