







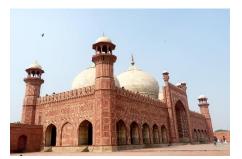
ANCIENT MONUMENTS & SPECTACULAR MOUNTAINSCAPES IN PAKISTAN

EXPLORE PAKISTAN'S HISTORICAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE



DAY ONE HONG KONG - LAHORE

- → Depart TG 601 / 12:45 hrs/ Arrive Bangkok 14:24 hrs. Connect TG 345 / 19:50 hrs / Arrive Lahore 22:30 hrs.
- → Met & transfer to hotel. Overnight in Lahore.







DAY TWO LAHORE

- → LAHORE FORT A UNESCO Heritage. The fort comprises mosques and palaces built by several Mughal emperors. It stands as one of the prime examples of Mughal architecture.
- → BADSHAHI MOSQUE Lahore's most iconic and famous landmark and a major tourist attraction. Aurangzeb's mosque's architectural plan is like that of his father's Shah Jehan, the Jama Masjid in Delhi, though it is much larger. The courtyard, which spreads over 276,000 square feet, can accommodate one hundred thousand worshippers.
- → WAZIR KHAN MOSQUE One of the largest mosques in world, located adjacent to the Lahore Fort. The mosque is justifiably called 'the architectural ornament of Lahore' for its rich display of colourful frescos and tile decoration which adorn both the interior and exterior of the building.
- → ANARKALI BAZAAR The neighbourhood has many faces, containing within it a lively market, a dense residential zone, and public buildings from the colonial period, including Lahore Museum and several universities.
- → Overnight Lahore.

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DAY THREE LAHORE - ISLAMABAD

- → SHALLMAR GARDEN Emperor Jahangir built his celebrated Shalimar Bagh, his dream project to please his queen. He enlarged the ancient garden in 1619 into a royal garden and called it 'Farah Baksh' ('the delightful'), built for his wife Nur Jahan.
- → LAHORE MUSEUM The Lahore Museum's permanent collection houses approximately 60,000 artefacts of historical, cultural and artistic value. These objects represent Pakistan's ancient and contemporary heritage and is inclusive of Islamic, Buddhist, Sikh, Hindu and Jain histories.
- → MINAR-E-PAKISTAN The tower was built in the 1960s to commemorate the Lahore Resolution of 1940, which led to the creation of Pakistan. The 70-meter (230 feet) tall tower is constructed of reinforced concrete and features a blend of Mughal and modern architectural styles.
- → Enjoy a sampling of local fare at the colourful FOOD STREET. Lahore is known for its rich culinary culture & preservation of its food heritage.
- \rightarrow Transfer to Islamabad approx. 4.5 hours, check in hotel.





DAY FOUR ISLAMABAD - TAXILA - ISLAMABAD

- → FAISAL MOSQUE The largest mosque in Pakistan and shaped like a desert Bedouin's tent, is an iconic symbol of Islamabad throughout the world.
- → VIRSA MUSEUM Most museums in Pakistan are archaeological, which is a throwback to colonial times. The Heritage Museum is the first state museum of ethnology in Pakistan which presents the history and living traditions of the people of Pakistan both from the mainstream and the remotest regions of the country.
- → **MONAL RESTAURANT** Located on top of the Margalla hills offers spectacular view of Islamabad.
- → TAXILA, TAXILA MUSEUM, BUDDHIST MONASTERIES, JAULIAN MONASTERY From the ancient Neolithic tumulus of Saraikala to the ramparts of Sirkap (2nd century B.C.) and the city of Sirsukh (1st century A.D.), Taxila illustrates the different stages in the development of a city on the Indus that was alternately influenced by Persia, Greece and Central Asia and which, from the 5th century B.C. to the 2nd century A.D. It was also an important Buddhist centre of learning.





DAY FIVE ISLAMABAD – BUDDHIST RUINS - PESHAWAR

- → TAKHT-I-BAHI The Buddhist monastic complex of Takht-i-Bahi (Throne of Origins) was founded in the early 1st century. Owing to its location on the crest of a high hill, it escaped successive invasions and is still exceptionally well preserved.
- → SAHR-I-BAHLOL The Sahr-i-Bahlol ruins are the remnants of a small ancient, fortified town of the Kushan period.
- → Transfer to Peshawar.

DAY SIX PESHAWAR - ISLAMABAD

- → QISSA KHWANI BAZAAR The Qissa Khwani Bazaar is Peshawar's most well-known and bustling marketplace. It can be found right in the city's center. This marketplace is known as the "Story Tellers' Bazaar" in English because it was a common practice for merchants and visitors to congregate here in the evening to share tales.
- → PESHAWAR MUSEUM The Peshawar Museum, situated in Pakistan, is renowned for its extensive collection of artefacts from the Gandhara civilisation, an era of great significance in the history of Buddhism. This esteemed institution proudly showcases an impressive array of Buddhist sculptures, stone carvings, and reliefs.
- → MAHABAT KHAN MOSQUE The pure white mosque of Mahabat Khan (1630) is magnificent, a remarkable monument of Mughal architecture.
- → BALA HISAR FORT Was used as the fortified royal living quarters for the Durrani kings of Afghanistan.
- → PESHAWAR GARRISON CLUB A colonial-era club with beautiful architecture and serene surroundings. Enjoy a cup of tea or relax in the peaceful ambiance.
- → Transfer back to Islamabad.

















DAY SEVEN ISLAMABAD - SKARDU

- → Morning transfer to airport for flight to Skardu depart 09:45 hrs, arrive 10:45 hrs.
- → SHIGAR BRIDGE Upon crossing the bridge, behold the aweinspiring Cold Desert of Shigar, a vast expanse of arid land that captivates visitors with its rugged beauty.
- → COLD DESERT SHIGAR The cold desert sketched alongside River Indus, embodies an enigma in its true spirit. Its topography comprises of vast white desert alongside River Indus bank, asphalted Shigar Road running amidst the sand dunes and icecapped mountains in the backdrop.
- → **THE SHIGAR VIEWPOINT** A must-visit location for tourists. The Shigar Viewpoint is so named because it offers an unrivalled panoramic view of the Shigar Valley, providing visitors with a bird's eye perspective of the area.
- → BLIND LAKE Ranked second on the list of must-visit destinations in Shigar Valley is the captivating Blind Lake, also known as Jarbazoo or Jarbachzoo. Nestled amidst the serene landscape of Shigar Valley, Blind Lake is a freshwater oasis that enchants visitors with its exotic beauty.
- → SHIGAR FORT Shigar Fort is locally known as Fong Khar, which is the local Baltic language that means the palace on rocks.
- → AMBRIQUE MOSQUE a historic mosque located in the heart of Shigar Valley. Built in the 18th century, this mosque has withstood the test of time and harsh weather conditions for over four centuries.
- → MANTHOKA WATERFALL A must visit place, the waterfall is pure magnificence. Take along slippers so you can go in the water.

DAY EIGHT SKARDU – KACHURA VALLEY

- → SHANGRI-LA LAKE (LOWER KACHURA & UPPER KACHURA LAKE) Named "heaven on earth" because of its spectacular beauty, and breathtaking view and peaceful atmosphere. Shangri-La Resort Hotel was founded by the late Muhammad Aslam Khan.
- → SOAK VALLEY Nature's masterpiece, where towering mountains, pristine lakes, and meandering rivers converge in breathtaking harmony.





DAY NINE KACHURA – HUNZA VALLEY

- → Late morning check-out and depart for Hunza (approx. 5 hours). HUNZA VALLEY has a diverse religious history with it being home to several historic religious sites.
- \rightarrow Day free at leisure.



DAY TEN HUNZA VALLEY

- → **BALTIT FORT** Strategically located with a commanding view of the Hunza Valley and its Tributaries, its inhabitants controlled the seasonal trans-Karakuram trade between south and Central Asia.
- → KARIMABAD Surrounded by snowcapped mountain peaks such as the Rakaposhi, vast glaciers such as the Ulter, and deep gorges, Roses, pansies, lilies, zinnias, and cosmos grow wild in the area, as do willow, fir, and poplar trees. Snow leopards, markhors (a type of goat), ibexes, yaks, red-striped foxes, ducks, and Marco Polo sheep also inhabit the region.



- → ALTIT FORT Located in the Hunza Valley of Gilgit-Baltistan, Pakistan, is a historic architectural gem that dates back over 900 years. Perched on a rocky hilltop overlooking the Hunza River, this ancient fort stands as a testament to the region's rich cultural heritage and strategic importance along the historic Silk Road.
- → RAKAPOSHI PEAK Eric Shipton called the Hunza vallay "the ultimate manifestation of mountain grandeur". Rakaposhi is valley's most famous peak. The huge massif dominates the skyline for a vast stretch of the Karakoram highway, first seen North of Aliabad yet still visible as far south as Gilgit.
- → DUIKAR VALLEY Duikar is situated in the beautiful Hunza valley, at an altitude of 10,000 feet. It is located 11 km from Karimabad and offers breathtaking views of the surrounding mountains, including the renowned Rakaposhi, Lady Finger, Ultar, and Golden peak. Visitors come here to marvel at the spectacular landscape and appreciate the majestic beauty of the area. Duikar is a must-see destination and one of the highest villages in the world.



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DAY ELEVEN KHUNJERAB PASS

- → **DEPART FOR KHUNJERABAD** the highest paved international border crossing in the world, connecting Pakistan and China.
- → **KARAKORUM HIGHWAY** Extends from Hasan Abdal in the Punjab province of Pakistan to the Khunjerab Pass in Gilgit-Baltistan.
- → **PASSU CONES** Passu Cones or Passu Cathedral a set of great mountain peaks above 6000 meters high.
- → **PASSU GLACIER VIEWPOINT** This region is home to some of the largest glaciers in the world outside of the polar regions.
- → KHUNJERAB NATIONAL PARK situated in the northernmost region of Pakistan, is a spectacular destination that offers a unique blend of natural beauty, rich history, and diverse wildlife.

DAY TWELVE UPPER HANZA - GILGIT

- → ATTABAD LAKE The lake has become one of the biggest tourist attractions in Gilgit-Baltistan, offering activities like boating, jetskiing, fishing, and other recreational activities.
- → HUSSAINI SUSPENSION BRIDGE The Hussaini Hanging Bridge appears to be no more than a delicate thread. Indeed, when the wind blows, the entire length of rope and wooden planks begins to sway.
- → **RAKAPOSHI POINT** The Rakaposhi peak is the 27th highest mountain on Earth but considered one of the most beautiful.
- → BORITH LAKE Borith Lake is an ideal place for boating, swimming, camping, bird watching and those who love nature and photography. It has green turquoise water which refreshes your mind.

DAY THIRTEEN GILGIT - ISLAMABAD

- → Morning check-out, transfer to airport for flight PK 606 at 12:55 hrs.
- → Upon arrival Islamabad, car and driver disposal for day free at leisure.
- → Depart TG 350 at 23:20 hrs.



