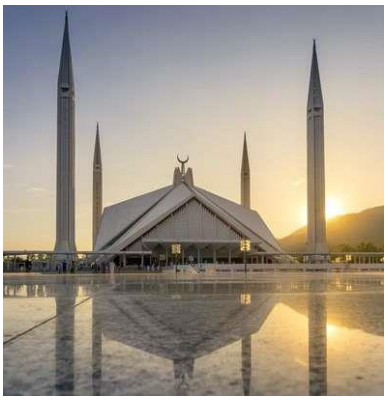
K2 Base Camp Trek



Holiday Overview – Group Departures

Style	All inclusive Trekking holiday
Accommodation	Hotels, Camping
Grade	Strenuous
Duration	20 days from Islamabad to Islamabad
Trekking / Walking days	On Trek: 14 days
Min/Max group size	1 / 15. Guaranteed to run
Meeting point	Joining in Islamabad, Pakistan
Max altitude	5,150m, K2 Base Camp

Private Departures & Tailor Made itineraries available





Day 1 – Arrival Day in Islamabad, Pakistan

Welcome to Pakistan.



Most of the international flights arrive at Islamabad International Airport in the mornings. Our staff will meet and greet you at the airport and transfer to the group hotel in Islamabad. The rest of the day is free to recover from your journey.

Later in the day, when everyone has arrived, we will have a group briefing about the trek. Depending on the time available to us, there may be an option to do some sightseeing in Islamabad, a purpose-built City in 1961 as the new capital of Pakistan.

Overnight: Grand Hotel Islamabad or similar (Meals: Breakfast, Dinner)

Day 2 – Flight to Skardu

(45 MIN) 2,300m



Today, you will travel to Islamabad International Airport to take a spectacular flight (weather permitting) across the mountains to Skardu, the Capital of Baltistan. It's a 45-minute flight which offers Spectacular Mountain views of the Himalayas & Karakoram mountain range. Breathtaking view of the world's 9th highest peak, Nanga Parbat (8,126m), if the weather is clear, then we might be able to see K2 and Gondogoro Pass as well.

Check in to the Hotel, and the rest of the day will be spent visiting the local Bazar, historical forts, and scenic lakes or visiting ancient rock inscriptions, one of which is of 8th-century Manthal Lord Buddha Rock that shows traces of Buddhist monks and pilgrims who influenced the area before Islam.

Overnight: Summit Hotel or similar (Meals: Breakfast, Dinner)

Day 3 – Skardu to Askole

(141 km), 3,075 m/10,332ft, 8 HOURS DRIVE



Rise early and hop on a jeep to drive on the winding Shigar road along the Indus and Shigar Rivers to reach Askole. Askole is a small mountain village and the last human inhabitant of Shigar Valley. Arrive early afternoon and meet the rest of your porters and trekking crew, visit the single street village with traditional wooden houses, and learn about the culture, tradition and daily life at this altitude.

Overnight: Camping (Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 4 – Askoli to Johla

3,150–3,200 m (10,330–10,500 ft), 20 km, 7-8 HOURS



We will trek to Johla camp for a night's stay. Leave Askole behind and enter the wilderness of the Karakoram mountains. The walk is gentle as the trail is on flat and dry land. The valley will be opening out soon, which will reveal the mighty Biafo Glacier. Have your first experience on the moraine, which will lead you to the old, oasis-like camp of Korfong. Korfong camp is the starting point for other famous trekking routes, including the Gondogoro La circuit, Snow Lake and Hispar Lake trek. Snow Lake Glacier offers a unique trekking and ski holiday experience.

Overnight: Camping (Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 5 – Trek to Paiju

(21 km) 3,420 m/11,220ft, 6 HOURS TREK



Today is the first trekking day of your K2 base camp trek. Pack all your equipment and start trekking towards the Paiju campsite in the central Karakoram National Park. Your porters and kitchen staff will always leave ahead of you throughout the trek to prepare lunch and set up tents before you arrive at the campsites.

Paiju Camp is on a hillside under the shadow of the Paiju Peak, with good camping facilities, litter bins, washbasins, and toilet cubicles built and maintained by the Tourism Department. It is one of the main stops for all trekking and climbing expeditions. Paiju provides an opportunity to meet members from other trekking teams and learn about their experiences.

Overnight: Camping (Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 6 – Trek to Khoburtse

(15km) 3,795 m/12,450ft, 7 hours



On the 6th day of this base camp trek, you will be introduced to the mighty Baltoro Glacier, a large piece of ice outside the polar region. An hour's walk from the camp will bring you to the snout of the Baltoro Glacier. Enjoy the sound and the view of the outpouring of water coming from Baltoro while you are walking on the rubble and rocks that cover the surface of Baltoro.

While trekking on the Baltoro Glacier, it's fascinating to imagine that the stones under your feet possibly came from the summit of Broad Peak, Gondogoro La, or the Gasherbrum Mountains.

Khoburtse campsite is on flat land at the side of Baltoro Glacier. This campsite has no washing facilities like the previous camps, but it does offer a sensational view of Uli Biaho and Trango Tower.

Overnight: Camping (Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 7 – Trek to Urdukas

(6 km) 3,900 m/12,795ft, 4 HOURS TREK



Wake up early in the morning with a hot cup of tea and witness an impressive sunrise view over Trango Tower. Today will be a short but strenuous trekking day as you walk up the undulating moraine while gaining height. Most of the time, you will trek along the lateral moraine and sometimes on the surface of Baltoro. Urdukas camp is a historical site. It is beautifully located above the Baltoro glacier with a spectacular view of Cathedral Peak.

Overnight: Camping (Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 8 – Acclimatisation & Rest Day at Urdukas

Today is a free day at Urdukas



Urdukas is a historic campsite on a grassy place on the edge of the Baltoro glacier with cleaning and washing facilities. There are short walks around the camp, so enjoy a short walk and the magnificent panoramic view of Gasherbrum and Broad Peak.

Overnight: Camping (Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 9 – Trek to Goro

(12 km) 4,295 m/14,091ft, 7 HOURS TREK



After spending a free day at Urdukas, today you will trek to Goro. As you leave the Urdukas camp, trek along the moraine until you find easy access to climb on the surface of Baltoro Glacier. Once you are on the surface, walking becomes smoother. Soon, you will have a spectacular close-up view of Masherbrum Peak (7,821m/25,659 ft), also known as the queen of the Karakoram because of its beauty.

Continue trekking upwards with a view of Gasherbrum IV, which looks like it is standing at the head of Baltoro glacier, guiding you to the K2 base camp like a beacon.

Lunch and a short break at Goro I, then trek for a few more hours to reach Goro II campsite by early afternoon for a night stay.

Overnight: Camping (Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 10 – Trek to Concordia

(12 km) 4,500m/14,763ft, 5 HOURS TREK



Today is one of the top highlights of your K2 base camp trek. Wake up early and Trek to Concordia. Concordia is known as the throne room of the mountain gods. Concordia is 4,500 meters above sea level, located at the junction of the upper Baltoro Glacier and Godwin-Austen Glacier.

All the Karakoram giants you have been looking at from afar are now right in front of you. You are surrounded by the mighty Gasherbrum II (8,035m/26,361ft), III (7,952m/26,089ft) & IV (7,925m/26,000ft), Mitre Peak, Chogolisa (7,665m/25,147ft), Broad Peak (8,047m/26,401ft), and visible for the first time, the second-highest mountain on the earth after Everest, the spectacular K2 (8,611m/28,251ft).

Concordia has a much wider area, so there is plenty of space to set up your tent.

Overnight: Camping (Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 11 – Trek to Broad Peak Base Camp

(6 km) 4,800m/15,748ft, 4 HOURS TREK



Many tour companies do not take you beyond Concordia, but we believe that without visiting the actual K2 base camp, this adventure holiday is not complete. After all, this is a base camp trek, so you must see the K2 base camp.

You will arrive at Broad Peak Basecamp by lunchtime, followed by a free afternoon to enjoy the scenery. Broad Peak base camp provides a spectacular and close-up view of K2. Enjoy a beautiful sunset view over Broad Peak and other Karakoram giants. Enjoy your base camp day and spend the evening at Broad Peak Base Camp.

Overnight: Camping (Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 12 – Trek to K2 Base Camp & Return to Concordia

(11 km) 5,150 m/16,896ft, 7 HOURS TREK



Rise and shine early to witness a spectacular sunrise view over K2 and Broad Peak. Today is the top highlight of your Base Camp trek, as you will be walking to K2 base camp. Pack all your gear and trek to the Gilkey Memorial. Gilkey Memorial is at the bottom of K2.

Having journeyed for days to get to this point, you felt a sense of pride and accomplishment that was difficult to put into words.

Overnight: Camping (Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 13 – Trek Back to Goro

(12 km) 4,295 m/14,091ft, 7 HOURS TREK



Ascending of your K2 base camp trek is now officially completed. Today, you will start trekking back towards Islamabad by following the same travel itinerary backwards. Pack all your gear, say goodbye to K2, and start descending on Baltoro.

Down the mountain valley, the serried ranks of granite towers, spires of the Lobsang, Cathedral, and Trango Towers have moved into the close distance. The snow-capped red granite spire of the mighty Masherbrum Peak is directly opposite to the south.

You will arrive at the Goro camp early in the afternoon. Goro camp is an atmospheric place, and now that you are heading home, your crew might want to have a party at the campsite to celebrate your success.

Overnight: Camping (Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 14 – Trek Back to Khoburtse

(14 km) 3,795 m/12,450ft, 7 HOURS TREK



Continue retracing your steps on Baltoro Glacier towards the Khoburtse campsite. It is amazing how different everything looks in the descending part of this base camp trek, with a constant field of vision filled with an entirely different view.

Passing through the campsite of Urdukas and the Duke of Abruzzi, you can marvel at the tenacity of those early pioneers who endured untold hardship to get to their base camps in these mountains. You will have lunch on the Duke's terrace with spectacular views across the Baltoro glacier to Biale Peak, which remains hidden except from this point. After lunch, trek down the narrow valley, sometimes on the Baltoro glacier and sometimes along the moraine, until you reach the Khoburtse campsite. Khoburtse camp is the starting point of the Braldu Valley and the end of the mighty Baltoro glacier.

Overnight: Camping (Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 15 – Trek Khoburtse to Mungrong

(15KM) 3,420 M/11,220FT, 7 HOURS



Today we trek from Khoburtse to Mungrong, covering around 15 km in approximately 7 hours. After the demanding days on the Baltoro Glacier, the gradual descent towards Mungrong feels noticeably easier, although the long distance and uneven trail still test tired legs. As we lose altitude from around 3,795 metres at Khoburtse to approximately 3,420 metres at Mungrong, breathing becomes easier and the landscape slowly begins to change.

Overnight: Camping (Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 16 – Trek Mungrong to Korfang

(21 KM) 3,150 M/10,334FT, 5 HOURS TREK

Today is our final day of trekking, heading from Mungrong towards Korfang. After so many days in the remote Karakoram, the 21-kilometre walk feels both tiring and emotional. The trail gradually descends along the Braldu Valley, with several ups and downs across the alluvial terrain and a number of small streams to cross. As we continue lower, the air becomes warmer and the landscape greener, a welcome change after the cold and barren Baltoro Glacier.

Overnight: Camping (Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 17 – Drive Back to Skardu

(141 km) 2,230 m/7,316ft, 8 HOURS

After spending the last evening under the stars in the tent, start driving towards Skardu via Askole. You will cross several small side valleys and begin to see signs of habitation before reaching an irrigation channel that brings meltwater to the field of Askoli village.



Most of your porters will be from this village, and they will be happy to be back home and see their families. Say goodbye to your porters and continue your journey to Skardu via Shigar Valley. Drive along the Braldu River to reach Shigar, cross the bridge over the Indus River, and follow the Indus River to arrive back in Skardu.

After spending two weeks in the wilderness of the Karakoram mountains, a hot shower and a warm bed await you.

Overnight: Summit Hotel or similar (Meals: Breakfast, Dinner)

Day 18 – Fly Back to Islamabad

(45 Minutes)

We will transfer you to the airport to take a spectacular mountain view flight back to Islamabad. Skardu Airport is a short distance from your hotel. Board the plane and have an exciting journey to Islamabad with a view of Nanga Parbat (8,126 meters), Gondogoro La, and other Himalayan giants. It is a 45-minute flight.



Our staff will meet you at Islamabad Airport and transfer you to the group hotel. After checking into your hotel in Islamabad, you can relax and spend the rest of the afternoon in the hotel or head out for a self-guided sightseeing tour of Islamabad City.

Overnight: Grand Hotel Islamabad or similar (Meals: Breakfast, Dinner)

Day 19 – Contingency Day in Case of Delays

If you managed to fly to Islamabad yesterday, then it is a free day to explore the green capital city. Should the flight be cancelled due to the bad weather, you will continue your journey to Islamabad by road from Skardu.



Have your last dinner in Pakistan at the Magnificent Food Street to treat your taste buds to a local Pakistani curry, a taste sensation to remember your trip to the K2 base camp.

Overnight: Grand Hotel Islamabad or similar (Meals: Breakfast, Dinner)

Day 20 – Departure Day – Fly Back Home

After breakfast, we will transfer you to Islamabad Airport for your flight back to your home country. The “K2 base camp trek” is now officially over.

Meals: Breakfast



Trek Highlights

- Explore the green city of Islamabad
- Spectacular flight to Skardu with stunning mountain views
- Visit Kharpocho Fort, Sadpara Lake and the local Bazar of Skardu
- Discover the ancient culture of Baltistan
- Enjoy delicious cuisine
- Drive along the mighty Indus River
- Walk on Baltoro Glacier and experience Concordia
- Trek to the foothill of K2

Witness Amazing sunrise views over Trango Towers, Gasherbrum, Broad Peak & K2.

Further Information About the Trek

What's Included

- Islamabad Airport pick up and drop off
- English speaking Guide
- All land transports involved in the itinerary (Private Vehicle with driver)
- 3 nights at a 3* hotel in Islamabad – 2 nights at a hotel in Skardu
- All meals during trek (Breakfast & Dinner in Skardu and Islamabad)
- All camping ground fees, Mess tents, sleeping tents, Kitchen tents with chairs
- Access to the group satellite phone/Garmin inReach (usage at extra cost)
- All kitchen equipment, including cutlery, crockery, fuel, and other related equipment
- All Wages and basic kits of guide, sirdar, Porters, cook and assistant(s)
- Insurance of porters, guides, and other crew (except helicopter rescue)
- Domestic flights
- Generator/Solar panel for lights and charging electronics
- Letter of Invitation to Pakistan
- 17 Kg personal weight allowance during trek
- Unlimited Boiled water refills during trek
- Comfy two-person alpine 4-season tents

What's Not Included

- Travel Insurance
- Porter services exceeding 17 kgs
- Flights to Pakistan
- Pakistan Visa Fee
- Tips for local guides and support staff
- Guided Islamabad sightseeing
- Miscellaneous expenses, souvenirs etc
- Islamabad and Skardu sightseeing tour.
- CKNP fees ($190), Royalty fees ($150)
- Any pre-tour or post-tour accommodation in either Skardu or Islamabad due to itinerary changes, flight delays, early finish of the trip, etc.
- Single tent/hotel accommodation (requires additional charges)
- All personal gear and equipment

Passport & Visas

A passport with 6 months remaining validity at the end of your stay is generally required. The information that we provide is for UK passport holders. Please check the relevant embassy or consulate for other nationalities. It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the correct travel documents and visas for your holiday. Visa requirements and charges are subject to change without notice.

Pakistan Visa

All nationalities require a visa to enter Pakistan. The visa fee is approximately GBP £60 and you must apply for it prior to departure. You will need a trekking visa to enter the Central Karakoram National Park (CKNP). Foreigners are not allowed to enter the Baltoro region with a standard tourist visa. To obtain a trekking visa for Pakistan you will require a letter of introduction from an approved agency which will be provided by K2 Alpine Adventures. Trekking visa processing time is 7-8 weeks so we always recommend our clients to apply as early as possible to avoid delays. Visa applications can be made in person by visiting a Pakistan consulate in your home country OR online at www.visa.nadra.gov.pk

Equipment List

As a general rule for Trekking holidays, you should always try to keep the weight of your equipment to a minimum. The packed weight of your Trek bags whilst trekking including your sleeping bag and mattress should be no more than 17 kg. This limit which is set by the porters is strictly enforced and bags will be weighed prior to setting off on Trek. Anything not required on the K2 Base Camp Trek can be left at the group hotel in Islamabad or in our Office in Skardu. K2 Alpine Adventures will send you a full list of items closer to your Holiday departure.