

Byroads
Inspiring Escorted Journeys

Pakistan Panorama



PAKISTAN PANORAMA

MOUNTAINS, CULTURE & ADVENTURE AWAIT

14 DAYS

VIBRANT CULTURE & MAJESTIC PEAKS

DEPARTS FROM: ISLAMABAD **GROUP MAX** 8 PEOPLE **PHYSICAL LEVEL** MORE ADVENTUROUS

Pakistan is a land of unparalleled beauty, cultural richness, and warm and welcoming people. This perfect-time-of-year odyssey offers a truly immersive travel experience. Think palaces, forts, mosques, lakes, tribal villages, and monuments - all within an astonishing world of towering peaks, deep valleys and glacial wonderlands.



HIGHLIGHTS

- Manthal Buddha Rock
- Khaplu Palace and Fort
- Hushe Valley
- Shigar Fort
- Amburiq Mosque
- Three Mountains Lookout
- Gilgit Bazaar
- Taltit & Baltit Forts
- Karimabad Ancient Village
- Hopper Glacier
- Duklar Lookout at Sunset
- Attabad Lake Cruise
- Gulmit Women's Weaving Centre
- Gulmit Traditional House Visit
- Passu Village
- Hussaini Suspension Bridge
- Shimshal Valley
- Local Family Lunch Gulmit
- Islamabad Faisal Mosque
- Lok Virsa Cultural Museum
- Pakistan Monument
- Islamabad Truck Art Workshops

MEET YOUR HOST



Every Byroads tour is supported by either Steve or Bronny - two experienced travellers with a genuine passion for people. They take care of all the nitty-gritty details to ensure your trip runs smoothly - and you can focus on enjoying the moment.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: ISLAMABAD

Arrive at Islamabad Airport and transfer to your hotel. Settle in and meet up with your group in the evening.

DAY 2: SKARDU AND KHAPLU

Experience an exhilarating flight this morning from Islamabad to Skardu, soaring over some of the world's most dramatic mountains. As you ascend, marvel at the breathtaking views of jagged peaks and snow-capped summits. In Skardu visit the Manthal ancient Buddhist archaeological site and then follow the Indus River to the town of Khaplu. On arrival, be guided around the historical gem that is Khaplu Fort. Built in 1840, it is both an old fort and palace. Now fully restored, Khaplu Fort is considered an architectural heritage site. Check in for your two-night stay. (B)

DAY 3: HUSHE VALLEY AND KHAPLU

Drive the rugged, steep road to Hushe, the town at the gateway of the Hushe Valley. This valley is known for its beauty, its apricot groves and for the giant mountains that surround it. Enjoy the valley's remote and unspoiled natural environment and wander through the village to chat to the local inhabitants before returning to Khaplu. (B)

DAY 4: SHIGAR

Travel to Shigar, located on the banks of the Shigar river and an access town to five giant mountain peaks (including K2) all over 8000 metres. Wander around the old town, home to many of the Balti people of Tibetan descent. Later, explore the Shigar Fort which stands as a timeless testament to the region's rich history and cultural heritage. (B)

DAY 5: GILGIT

Follow the Indus and Gilgit Rivers and their stunning surrounds to Gilgit. The attraction of this region is its beautiful valleys, plains, peaks and heritage sites. On the way, stop and photograph yourself standing at the junction of the mighty Himalaya, Karakoram, and Hindu Kush Mountain ranges. Arrive in Gilgit and explore its colourful bazaar. (B)

DAY 6: KARIMABAD

Drive into the Hunza Valley to Karimabad. Stop off on the way to view the remains of the old silk road and towering Mt Rakaposhi. Be guided through an ancient village on the outskirts of Karimabad before arriving early afternoon. Karimabad is home for the next 2 nights to allow time to explore both the Lower and Upper Hunza Valley, often referred to as "Paradise on Earth". This stunning valley which possesses an outstanding natural biodiversity, was once part of the old Silk Road, which connected China and the Middle East to Europe.

DAY 7: HUNZA VALLEY AND KARIMABAD

Roam the historical Altit and Baltit Forts. Journey out to Hopper (Hopar) Glacier; other-worldly, and notable for its fast flow compared to that of other glaciers. Explore breath-taking Duikar, the highest village in the Hunza Valley at just under 2850m and experience a magnificent sunset over the towering peaks. (B)

DAY 8: UPPER HUNZA VALLEY AND PASSU

Today venture into the Upper Hunza Valley. Enjoy a boat ride on the turquoise Attabad Lake then stop at the ancient village of Gulmit to visit the Gulmit 'Old House' and the women's carpet weaving centre. The brave may wish to take a walk across the incredible Hussaini suspension bridge - then return across the Hunza River on the zip line. Marvel at the dramatic Passu Cones and take a stroll through Passu village to admire the cherry and apricot orchards before settling in for a peaceful night's rest at the base of the stunning Passu Cones. (B)

ITINERARY

DAY 9: SHIMSHAL VALLEY AND SHIMSHAL VILLAGE

Take an exhilarating 4WD journey from Passu village to the remote Shimshal Valley, renowned as the 'Valley of Mountaineers' for its challenging peaks and adventurous spirit. Enjoy a traditional meal with a local family, immersing yourself in their culture and mountaineering heritage. (B)ilarating 4WD journey from Passu village to the remote Shimshal Valley, renowned as the 'Valley of Mountaineers' for its challenging peaks and adventurous spirit. Enjoy a traditional meal with a local family, immersing yourself in their culture and mountaineering heritage. (B)

DAY 10: SHIMSHAL TO KARIMABAD

Journey along the dramatic mountain road through the stunning Shimshal Valley. Revel in the breathtaking scenery as you reconnect with the legendary Karakoram Highway. At lunchtime, indulge in a traditional feast with a welcoming local family. As the afternoon unfolds, arrive in the picturesque Karimabad village, where you'll spend your final night in the Hunza Valley, encircled by majestic peaks towering over 7000 meters. (B,L)

DAY 11: KARIMABAD TO GILGIT

Savor a leisurely morning for last-minute souvenir shopping in the charming Karimabad village. Then, embark on a scenic journey along the iconic Karakoram Highway to Gilgit. Along the way, pause to relish a cup of delicious Pakistani milk tea while soaking in the awe-inspiring views of Mount Rakaposhi. (B)

DAY 12: GILGIT TO ISLAMABAD

Fly from Gilgit to Islamabad and witness the stunning transition from rugged mountain landscapes to the vibrant heart of Pakistan. Upon arrival, enjoy the remainder of the day at your leisure. Unwind and savor the comfort of your surroundings, or dive into the bustling energy of Islamabad. Explore its modern cityscape, where large department stores offer a treasure trove of great bargains and unique finds. (B)

DAY 13: ISLAMABAD

A full day to explore the capital's highlights, beginning with the Pakistan Monument- which is both a monument and National Heritage Museum. On then to the iconic Faisal Mosque, which is the largest mosque in Pakistan. Completed in 1986, and shaped like a desert Bedouin's tent, it is the symbol of Islamabad throughout the world. Next, uncover the treasures of Lok Virsa Museum, which showcases the many and diverse living cultures of Pakistan. Finally Immerse yourself in the vibrant world of Pakistan's truck art at the Islamabad Truck Art workshops, where trucks, lorries, and rickshaws are adorned with intricate floral patterns and poetic calligraphy in the most radiant and innovative styles. (B)

DAY 14: ISLAMABAD

Breakfast concludes your tour. Taxis to the airport are available, or Byroads can organise a transfer on request. (B)

NOTE:

Due to the possibility of domestic flight delays, Byroads suggests you consider adding an extra night at the end of your tour if your travel plans permit.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

GUIDES

- ✓ Byroads tour host and national and local guides

TRANSPORT

- ✓ Arrival transfer, Airconditioned 4WD Wagons (max of 3 passengers per 4WD), 2 domestic flights, boat

ACCOMMODATION

- ✓ 13 nights (3+ to 4-star hotel average)

MEALS

- ✓ 13 breakfasts, 1 lunch

TICKETS

- ✓ Entrance fees to indicated sites



GETTING THERE: FLIGHTS AND TRANSFERS

There are no direct flights from Australia to Islamabad, but Thai International fly via Bangkok, or Emirates, Qatar or Etihad Airlines fly via the Gulf. You can book your flights online or via your travel agent.

Your arrival transfer is included in your tour cost – however, your departure transfer is not. This can be arranged upon request.

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

We'd love to do it all for you. But there are a few things you'll need to arrange yourself. This includes you:

- Visa
- Travel insurance (compulsory)
- Departure transfer
- International flights
- Additional meals and drinks
- Cash for tipping kitty
- Optional tours
- Spending of a personal nature
- Laundry

ACCOMMODATION

Byroads accommodation is a destination unto itself. We choose our hotels carefully to ensure a seamless transition from your day exploring to a night of relaxation. Think traditional architecture blended with modern comforts – and plenty of views.

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:



Serena Kaphlu Palace

A unique heritage boutique hotel providing guests the opportunity to experience the original architecture of a mid-19th century Palace. It has modern amenities and a wonderful restaurant.



Serena Shiga Fort Hotel

This heritage hotel offers guests the opportunity to stay in the grounds of an authentic 17th century Raja Fort-Palace. The hotel is located in the heart of Shiga village.



Roomy Daastan, Hunza

Perfectly located in Karimabad to enjoy the stunning views of the surrounding mountains. This 3+ stars hotel features a large terrace, restaurant and comfortable, well appointed rooms.

THE FINER DETAILS

DATES AND PRICES

DATE	TWIN SHARE	SINGLE SUPPLEMENT
15 June 2024	3800 USD	930 USD
14 June 2025	4100 USD	940 USD
Due to the volatility of international currencies, trip fees are calculated in USD. However, you will be charged in Australian dollars. Currency conversion is based on Westpac Banking Corporation's buying rate on your balance due date.		

Additional expenses

Tipping is customary, so please allow extra funds for the tipping kitty. This will pay your local and national guides, drivers and porters.

MEALS

13 breakfasts and 1 lunch are included. Elsewhere, you can enjoy the delicious variety of local food on offer. Meals are not at all expensive, and US 20-25 per day is a reasonable budget for meals, drinks and snacks not included.

DOCUMENTATION

Once we've received your final payment, we'll post you a comprehensive field guide. It's a physical document you can keep handy to inform your travels. It also includes all relevant tour and accommodation information you need to book your visa.

VISAS

Visas are required for most nationalities, including Australians and New Zealanders. Visas can be obtained on-line and Byroads will provide you with the information required to complete the application process.

READY TO PACK YOUR BAGS?

There are two ways to book:

Online
(available 24/7)

Postal booking
form (below)



Got questions? Contact us at travel@byroads.com.au

BYROADS TOUR

BOOKING FORM

Tour name: Start date:

Room type: Twin Double Single Sharing with:

Full name: Date of Birth:

Email: Mobile:

Postal address:

Emergency contact (Name and phone number):

Nationality: Passport No:

Issue date: Expiry date:

Any medical, dietary or other special requests?

Travel insurance provider:

Policy No:

Emergency assistance phone no:

PAYMENT DETAILS

The tour deposit is due at the time of booking. The final balance payment is due 60 days prior to the commencement of the tour. All payments must be made via direct bank deposit to Byroads.

Acc Name: Byroads Pty Ltd

BSB: 034-605

Acc number: 697336

DECLARATION

I have read and I understand all the information in the respective Byroads tour brochure, and agree to abide by the Standard Booking Conditions attached to this booking form. I also confirm that I am fit to travel.

Signature:

Date:

BYROADS TOUR

BOOKING CONDITIONS

RESERVATION AND DEPOSIT

A non-refundable deposit of \$750 is payable on all tours. This deposit must be paid to Byroads, and each participating client must complete the Byroads Booking form. You agree to accept these conditions when paying a deposit for your tour and completing the Booking Form. Your Byroads tour booking will only be confirmed once the deposit and completed booking form have been received. These Booking Conditions form the basis of the contract between you and Byroads.

PAYMENT

All payments must be made directly to Byroads by bank transfer.

FINAL BALANCE

The balance of your tour payment is due 60 days prior to the start of your tour. If, for any reason, the balance payment is not received by the due date, Byroads reserves the right to treat such failure to pay the balance as a cancellation and to apply the appropriate cancellation charges.

CANCELLATION BY YOU

If, for any reason, you cancel your tour booking, Byroads shall apply the following cancellation penalties. Charges are per person:

- Cancellation up to and including 60 days prior to departure, forfeiture of the total deposit
- From 59 to 45 days prior to departure, 30% of the tour price shall be retained
- From 44 to 31 days prior to departure, 50% of the tour price shall be retained
- Within 30 days prior to departure, no refund will be made.

In addition to the above charges, cancellation fees may also apply to any domestic airfare component of your tour. No refund will be made after your tour has commenced or in respect of lost or unused tickets, hotel coupons, meals or any other services not utilized.

CANCELLATION BY BYROADS – Prior to Travel

If, for any reason, Byroads is forced to cancel a tour before it commences, Byroads may offer a transfer to an alternate departure, or all monies paid by you in respect of the tour will be refunded, less any unrecoverable costs. Unrecoverable costs may include but are not limited to monies paid to service providers, airlines, transportation companies, travel agencies and hotels associated with your tour.

AMENDMENTS

Up to and including 60 days prior to the departure of your tour, any amendment to a confirmed reservation may incur a fee of \$50 per change per file. From 59 to 30 days prior to departure, any amendment to confirmed travel arrangements may incur a fee of \$100 per change per file. Once documents have been dispatched, any amendment may incur a fee of \$150 per change per file.

TOUR PRICES

Byroads tour prices and provisional tour prices are based on tariffs and prevailing rates of exchange when tours were costed. Prices are subject to change without prior notice. In the event of fluctuations in currency exchange rates, service providers' tariffs, fuel prices or any other cost that affects the price of your tour, Byroads reserves the right to adjust tour prices at any time up to the day of departure.

TOUR OPERATION

Although Byroads will endeavour to ensure that tours are operated as advertised, an express condition of making a reservation is the acceptance by you that the tour itineraries, schedules, advertised accommodation, sightseeing and mode of transportation as outlined in the Byroads brochure and/or supplied in the pre-departure information are subject to change without prior notice.

Unforeseeable circumstances such as force majeure, epidemic, pandemic, adverse weather conditions, floods, earthquakes, airline flight rescheduling, technical faults with transportation and road conditions may also have a consequential effect on the tour's content. Any decision made in respect of tour services provided by Byroads to reroute or amend the itinerary due to the above or similar circumstances shall be at the sole discretion of Byroads. Byroads shall not be liable for any claim whatsoever arising from such events that affect the schedule and content of your tour.

If Byroads is forced to cancel your travel arrangements after your trip has commenced due to reasons outside of its control, it will provide you with a refund of recoverable third-party costs only.

HEALTH AND FITNESS

Byroads operate soft adventure tours. All participants must have a reasonable degree of physical fitness and be healthy. Before travelling with Byroads, you must familiarise yourself with any health requirements applicable to the areas you will be travelling. This includes obtaining any compulsory vaccinations or medical tests that may be required for entry into your country of travel.

You are responsible for having the correct entry and exit documents for your visiting countries. Byroads will assist in providing up-to-date information but is not responsible for any changes that may be made by governments.

ACCEPTANCE OF RISK

You acknowledge that the nature of the tour is adventurous and that participation involves a degree of personal risk. You will be visiting places where the political, cultural and geographical attributes can present dangers and physical challenges greater than those present in our daily lives. We use information from foreign government departments and reports from our own contacts in assessing whether the itinerary should operate. However, you must acquaint yourself with all relevant travel information and your itinerary. You acknowledge that your decision to travel is made considering this information, and you accept that you are aware of the personal risks attendant upon such travel.

PASSPORTS AND VISAS

Ensure your passport has a minimum of six months validity remaining, as this is an entry requirement in many countries. Upon booking, visa requirements will be advised once Byroads has received your passport details. Visas are required for a number of our tours, and it is your responsibility to obtain them.

ITEMS NOT INCLUDED IN TOUR COST

The cost of your Byroads tour does not include international airfares, airport departure taxes, unspecified meals or additional accommodation, optional sightseeing, additional transfers, gratuities for hotel staff, guides and tour leaders, items of a personal nature such as laundry, phone calls, etc. or any other incidental expenses.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

It is an express condition of travelling with Byroads that you have comprehensive travel insurance to cover you for the duration of your tour. This should include full cover for any medical expenses and repatriation if required. It is highly recommended that you take out travel insurance when you pay the deposit to guard against any unforeseen circumstances that can lead to your need to cancel your tour. If you rely on complimentary travel insurance offered through your credit card company or bank, you should ensure that it is suitable for your tour. Some of the policies offered by these institutions may not offer adequate coverage. You must provide the policy number, insurance supplier details and emergency contact number to Byroads before your documents are issued.

LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

We contract with a network of companies, government agencies and individuals to assist in the running of our tours as agent for these third parties. We are not responsible for the acts and omissions of these third parties. To the fullest extent permitted by law:

- (i) Any liability for any loss, death, injury or damage which you may suffer (directly or indirectly) in connection with or arising out of your participation in a tour, or any breach of the Booking Conditions, is excluded;
- (ii) You release Byroads and its officers, employees, agents and representatives from any liability and expressly waive any claims you may have against us arising out of, or in connection with, your participation in a tour;
- (iii) Any condition or warranty which would otherwise be implied by law into these Booking Conditions (Implied Warranty) is excluded.

To the extent an Implied Warranty cannot be excluded, our liability in respect of the Implied Warranty is limited to (in our absolute discretion): (a) the provision of a similar tour to an equivalent value or (b) a refund of the total amount received by us from you in connection with your booking.

Any claim by you is excluded to the extent that it is for indirect or consequential loss, loss of profits or economic loss (however it arises) or for indirect, special, punitive or exemplary damages.

APPLICABLE LAW

The laws of Victoria, Australia, govern these Booking Conditions to the fullest extent allowable. Any disputes in connection with a tour or these Booking Conditions must be initiated in the courts of Victoria.