



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
- Altit & Baltit Forts
- Karimabad Ancient Village
- Hopper Glacier
- Duikar Lookout at Sunset
- Attabad Lake Cruise
- Gulmit Women's Weaving Centre
- Gulmit Traditional House Visit
- Passu Village Walk
- Hussaini Suspension Bridge
- Shishal 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: TUE 16 JUN 2026 - ISLAMABAD

Arrive at Islamabad International Airport and transfer to your hotel in Pakistan's modern capital. Take time to unwind after your journey and settle into your surroundings. In the evening, meet your fellow travellers for a pre-departure briefing—an ideal chance to get to know the group and gain insights into the extraordinary adventure ahead.

The 108 Hotel (or similar)

DAY 2: WED 17 JUN - ISLAMABAD - SKARDU - KHAPLU

Start your journey with one of the most scenic flights on earth, soaring from Islamabad to Skardu over a jaw-dropping panorama of the Himalaya and Karakoram ranges. On arrival, stretch your legs with a visit to the ancient Buddhist rock carvings at Manthal—an evocative link to the region's pre-Islamic history. Then follow the Shyok River, a tributary of the Indus, through a dramatic mountain corridor to the remote town of Khaplu. Here, explore the beautifully restored Khaplu Fort, once the residence of local royalty and now a charming heritage hotel. Absorb the rich history and intricate architecture before enjoying a peaceful evening in this atmospheric setting. (B)

Serena Khaphlu Palace Hotel (or similar)

DAY 3: THU 18 JUN - KHAPLU - HUSHE VALLEY - KHAPLU

Venture into the stunning wilderness of the Hushe Valley, a hidden paradise nestled at the edge of the Karakoram. Drive past cascading streams, fields of apricot trees, and glaciated peaks as you make your way into this pristine and rarely visited corner of Pakistan. On arrival, enjoy a gentle walk around Hushe village—a real highlight of the day. Here, you'll meet the warm-hearted locals, witness the simple and traditional Balti life up close, and soak in the serene pace of this remote mountain community. Surrounded by some of the world's highest mountains, including peaks that tower above 6,000 metres, Hushe offers breathtaking scenery and a sense of profound stillness. Return to your palace hotel in Khaplu in the late afternoon, the crisp mountain air lingering in your lungs. (B)

Serena Khaphlu Palace Hotel (or similar)

DAY 4: FRI 19 JUN - KHAPLU - SHIGAR

This morning, set out on a scenic drive deeper into the heart of Baltistan, arriving in the tranquil town of Shigar. Set on the banks of the Shigar River, this enchanting place is the starting point for expeditions to some of the world's highest peaks, including the mighty K2. Wander through the historic old quarter, where Tibetan-influenced stone houses and narrow alleyways evoke centuries of tradition. Later, visit the beautifully preserved Shigar Fort, a 400-year-old palace turned heritage hotel that seamlessly blends local architecture with modern comforts. Staying here is more than accommodation—it's an immersion into the region's soulful past. (B)

Serena Fort Residence (or similar)

DAY 5: SAT 20 JUN - SHIGAR - GILGIT

Today's drive is nothing short of epic, as you journey west through starkly beautiful mountain terrain along the confluence of the Indus and Gilgit Rivers. En route, pause at a remarkable geographical landmark where three colossal mountain ranges—the Himalaya, the Karakoram, and the Hindu Kush—converge in a dramatic collision of stone and sky. This is one of the few places on Earth where such giants meet. Continue to Gilgit, a lively frontier town that once served as a vital hub along the ancient Silk Road. Arrive and settle into your hotel, surrounded by views of rugged peaks and steep river valleys. (B)

Ramada Gilgit (or similar)

ITINERARY

DAY 6: SUN 21 JUN – GILGIT - GANISH VILLAGE - KARIMABAD

Today you enter the mythical Hunza Valley, where snow-covered peaks rise above fertile terraces and glacial rivers carve deep gorges. En route, glimpse remnants of the ancient Silk Road, where stone-paved caravan trails cling to sheer mountainsides—silent witnesses to centuries of trade and cultural exchange between East and West. Admire the towering Rakaposhi, one of the world's highest peaks, and pause for a scenic tea break, sipping traditional Pakistani milk tea while taking in the full majesty of this 7,788-metre giant. Later, visit timeless Ganish village—Hunza's oldest settlement—renowned for its wooden mosques, ancient shrines, and defensive watchtowers. Continue to the picturesque village of Karimabad and step inside Baltit Fort, a 700-year-old architectural marvel perched dramatically on a rocky spur. Once the seat of Hunza's rulers, the fort's wooden balconies and defensive design reflect a rich confluence of Tibetan and Kashmiri influences. From its ramparts, take in sweeping views of the valley below before settling into your hotel. (B)

Roomy Daastaan (or similar)

DAY 7: MON 22 JUN – HUNZA VALLEY AND KARIMABAD

Step back in time as you explore more of the captivating Hunza Valley. Begin with a drive to the surreal Hopper Glacier, where shifting rivers of ice carve their way through stark mountains and vibrant summer meadows—a dramatic and otherworldly sight. On your return, visit Altit Fort, the older of Hunza's two iconic fortresses. Carefully restored, this 900-year-old stronghold offers a glimpse into the valley's ancient past, with commanding views over the Hunza River and lush terraced fields below. In the late afternoon, ascend to Duikar, the highest village in Hunza at nearly 2,850 metres. From this lofty vantage point, gaze out over a staggering mountain panorama—on a clear day, up to 12 snow-capped peaks pierce the horizon. As the sun dips below the jagged ridgelines, the mountains ignite in a blaze of gold and crimson—an unforgettable finale to a day steeped in natural and cultural wonder. (B)

Roomy Daastaan (or similar)

DAY 8: TUE 23 JUN – KARIMABAD - UPPER HUNZA VALLEY - PASSU

Set out into Upper Hunza, beginning with a boat ride across dazzling Attabad Lake—formed in 2010 after a massive landslide dammed the Hunza River, creating this striking turquoise expanse. Visit the charming village of Gulmit to explore the traditional 'Old House' and watch local women weaving vibrant carpets. For the adventurous, walk the thrilling Hussaini Suspension Bridge. Later marvel at the jagged spires of the Passu Cones before strolling through Passu's apricot and cherry orchards. Tonight, sleep beneath the silent majesty of the cones themselves. (B)

Sarai Silk Route Hotel (or similar)

DAY 9: WED 24 JUN – PASSU - SHIMSHAL VALLEY - SHIMSHAL VILLAGE

Buckle in for an exhilarating 4WD drive deep into the Shimshal Valley—Pakistan's most remote high-altitude settlement and known as the 'Valley of Mountaineers.' This rugged landscape, flanked by soaring peaks and glacier-fed rivers, is home to a resilient community that thrives in one of the world's most isolated environments. Share a traditional meal with a local family and gain insights into their unique way of life—shaped by centuries of adaptation to the valley's dramatic natural surroundings. This rare cultural encounter offers an unforgettable glimpse into life on the edge of the Karakoram. Check in to our simple mountain hotel for the night. (B, L)

Shimshal Lodge (or similar)

DAY 10: THU 25 JUN – SHIMSHAL VILLAGE TO KARIMABAD

Follow the twisting road back through Shimshal's dramatic terrain, where every turn reveals breathtaking scenery—snow-capped peaks, deep gorges, and wild river valleys. Reconnect with the fabled Karakoram Highway, a vital artery of the ancient Silk Road and one of the world's highest paved roads. Continue your journey through spectacular mountain landscapes before stopping to enjoy a hearty traditional lunch with a welcoming local family—a chance to savour regional flavours and warm hospitality. Arrive back in the village of Karimabad in the late afternoon, where you'll spend your final night in Hunza, surrounded by towering peaks that rise over 7,000 metres. Let the mountain magic linger. (B,L)

Roomy Daastaan (or similar)

ITINERARY

DAY 11: FRI 26 JUN – KARIMABAD TO GILGIT

Enjoy a relaxed morning for last-minute shopping in Karimabad's charming bazaar, perhaps picking up local handicrafts or Hunza apricot products. Then follow the Karakoram Highway back to Gilgit. On arrival, check in at your hotel and then there's time to explore the bustling local market, where vendors sell everything from gemstones and spices to wool shawls and dried fruit. Tonight is your final night in the mountains. (B)

Ramada Gilgit (or similar)

DAY 12: SAT 27 JUN – GILGIT TO ISLAMABAD

Take a final look at the mountains as you board your flight to Islamabad, where the rugged splendour of the north gives way to the polished energy of the capital. Today's activities will depend on flight schedules, but there should be time to further explore the city. Perhaps visit one of Islamabad's leafy parks, enjoy a stroll through a quiet neighbourhood market, or relax at your hotel and reflect on your journey through the high mountains and valleys of the north. (B)

DAY 13: SUN 28 JUN – ISLAMABAD

Dive into Pakistan's rich heritage with a full morning of sightseeing. Begin at the striking Faisal Mosque—one of the largest in the world—whose tent-like design is an icon of modern Islamic architecture. Then visit the Pakistan Monument, a symbolic tribute to the nation's diverse cultures. Continue to the Lok Virsa Museum, where vibrant exhibits bring Pakistan's living traditions and folk heritage to life. Cap the day with a visit to a truck art workshop, where colourful trucks are hand-painted in dazzling detail—a joyful expression of creativity and national pride. The afternoon is then yours to discover Islamabad's upscale shopping districts, browse for unique textiles, spices or handcrafted souvenirs, or simply unwind in your comfortable hotel. The city's modernity contrasts sharply with the mountain villages you've come to know—yet offers its own delights. (B)

The 108 Hotel (or similar)

DAY 14: MON 29 JUN – ISLAMABAD

Your journey concludes after breakfast. Taxis to the airport are readily available, or Byroads can arrange a private transfer upon request. As you depart, carry with you memories of mountain majesty, warm hospitality, and the untamed spirit of Pakistan. (B)

NOTE:

Domestic flights in Pakistan are occasionally subject to delays. If your travel plans allow, Byroads recommends adding an extra night in Islamabad at the end of your tour as a precaution. We also suggest booking an international airfare that allows flexible changes without significant penalties, in case of schedule disruptions.

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, 2 lunches

TICKETS

- ✓ Entrance fees to indicated sites

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



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.

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
16 June 2026	*4350 USD	*1000 USD
<p>*2026 Provisional Price</p> <p>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.</p>		

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 \$1000 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 Queensland, 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 Queensland.