

Experience Pakistan
EXTRAORDINARY JOURNEYS ACROSS PAKISTAN

Hunza, Skardu & Khaplu Spring Blossom Expedition

EP-003 · EDITION 2027.1 · 16 DAYS · SPRING IN THE KARAKORAM

Journey at a glance

Apricot, cherry and almond blossom beneath snowbound peaks across Baltistan, Hunza, Nagar and Gojal.

Duration	Activity	Highest point	Best season
16 days / 15 nights	3 of 5	Up to 4,693 m when accessible	Late March–April



Traditional boats on Attabad Lake in Upper Hunza, Gilgit-Baltistan, Pakistan

Departures & price

Dates	Reference	Status
28 March–12 April 2027	EP-003	Registering interest
6–21 April 2027	EP-003	Registering interest

Planned dates are confirmed once minimum participation and operating conditions are met. Private departures can be requested within the recommended season.

Includes the listed ground arrangements and accommodation. Final routing follows actual blossom conditions; domestic flights are not included.

The final proposal depends on group size, dates, accommodation availability, rooming and requested services. Single-room pricing is quoted separately.

Price: USD 1,500–2,500 per person, based on two people sharing

Journey overview

This seasonal photography journey is timed for the short blossom window across Skardu, Khaplu, Shigar, Hunza, Nagar and Upper Hunza. It balances first and last light with village walks, cultural heritage and enough flexibility to respond to flowering conditions.

Blossom timing changes each year with altitude and weather. The route therefore moves across several valleys and elevations, using local knowledge to prioritise the strongest conditions rather than promising a single tree or location on a fixed date.

Route: Islamabad - Skardu - Shigar - Khaplu - Gilgit - Nagar - Karimabad - Gojal - Passu - Khunjerab when open - Taxila

The journey in detail

Day 1 · Arrival in Islamabad

Altitude 540 m · Transfer 30–45 min · Activity easy

Arrive, rest and meet for a photographic and logistical briefing covering the seasonal route, luggage, weather and respectful work with people.

Day 2 · Fly to Skardu

Altitude 2,228 m · Flight about 1 hr · Local driving 1–2 hrs

Fly north when weather permits. Begin with flexible afternoon photography around the Skardu valley, choosing orchards and viewpoints according to current blossom.

EXPERIENCE PAKISTAN

Day 3 · Skardu valley at first light

Altitude 2,228–2,500 m · Driving 2–3 hrs · Walking 2–4 hrs

Photograph early light around the cultivated valley, then explore Manthal Buddha Rock, Satpara and village paths. Evening is reserved for a selected Indus or mountain viewpoint.

Day 4 · Shigar Valley

Altitude 2,230–2,500 m · Driving 3–4 hrs · Walking 2–3 hrs

Travel into Shigar for flowering orchards, old settlement lanes, Amburiq Mosque and Shigar Fort. The schedule leaves space to return to the strongest location for evening light.

Day 5 · Skardu to Khaplu

Altitude 2,600 m · Driving 3–4 hrs · Walking 1–2 hrs

Follow the Indus and Shyok through changing geology and village terraces. Arrive in Khaplu for an orientation walk through traditional neighbourhoods.

Day 6 · Khaplu heritage and blossom

Altitude 2,600–2,900 m · Walking 3–5 hrs · Activity moderate

Work around Chaqchan Mosque, Khaplu Palace and surrounding orchards, combining architecture, portraits by consent and mountain landscape.

Day 7 · Hushe Valley excursion

Altitude up to about 3,050 m · Driving 4–6 hrs return · Walking optional

Move higher into the Hushe Valley where snow peaks and later blossom stages create a different seasonal palette. Stops depend on road and flowering conditions.

Day 8 · Return to Skardu

Altitude 2,228 m · Driving 4–5 hrs · Activity easy–moderate

Return along the Shyok with new light angles and selected stops at river villages, bridges and confluences. Use late afternoon for a final Skardu location.

EXPERIENCE PAKISTAN



Cultural life and mountain landscape in Skardu, Baltistan, Pakistan

Day 9 · Skardu to Gilgit

Altitude 1,500 m · Driving 6–8 hrs · Mountain highway

A long but dramatic Indus journey toward Gilgit. Photography stops remain selective so the group reaches the city safely before night.

Day 10 · Gilgit to Karimabad

Altitude 2,440 m · Driving 3–4 hrs · Walking 1–2 hrs

Travel past the mountain-range junction viewpoint, ancient Silk Road traces and Rakaposhi. Arrive in Karimabad for an evening walk through the bazaar and old settlement.

Day 11 · Central Hunza

Altitude 2,400–2,850 m · Driving light · Walking 3–5 hrs

Photograph Baltit and Altit, orchard villages and irrigation channels. Evening light is planned from Duikar or another viewpoint selected for clarity and blossom.

Day 12 · Nagar and Hopper

Altitude 2,500–2,800 m · Driving 3–5 hrs · Walking 1–3 hrs

Cross the river into Nagar for flowering villages, Hopper Glacier landscapes and a contrasting view toward Hunza's peaks.

Day 13 · Hunza to Gojal

Altitude 2,500 m · Driving 2–3 hrs · Walking 2–3 hrs

Continue beside Attabad Lake to Gulmit, Ghulkin and Passu. Higher elevation often means later flowering, extending the photographic window.

Day 14 · Upper Hunza photography day

Altitude 2,500–2,900 m · Driving flexible · Walking 2–4 hrs

Work around Hussaini, Borith Lake, Passu and nearby villages, balancing famous landscapes with quieter community and agricultural scenes.

Day 15 · Khunjerab or high Gojal alternative

Altitude up to 4,693 m · Driving 6–8 hrs · Activity moderate

If the border road is open and conditions are suitable, travel toward Khunjerab. In early spring closure is common, so the stronger alternative is a slower high-Gojal day focused on villages, glaciers and seasonal light.

Day 16 · Return toward Gilgit and onward arrangements

Altitude 540–1,500 m · Driving 3–4 hrs plus weather-dependent flight

Return to Gilgit for the flight to Islamabad when scheduled. Use the overland route if flights do not operate, then visit Taxila only when arrival time permits. An additional Islamabad buffer night is strongly recommended before an international departure.

Spring logistics, clearly defined.

Accommodation plan

Islamabad | 1 night

Skardu | 4 nights

Khaplu | 3 nights

Gilgit | 1 night

Central Hunza | 3 nights

Upper Hunza / Gojal | 3 nights

Fifteen nights in carefully selected hotels, restored heritage properties and mountain accommodation on a twin-sharing basis.

Journey profile

Reference | EP-003

Edition | 2027.1

Format | Private seasonal photography journey

Activity | 3 of 5

Best window | Late March to April

Vehicle support | Available throughout

Clear arrangements from the beginning.

Services Included

EXPERIENCE PAKISTAN

- 15 nights in carefully selected twin-sharing accommodation
- Private transportation with fuel, tolls, parking and driver expenses
- Experienced English-speaking guide or guide-driver
- Airport transfers connected to the itinerary
- Guided heritage, village and photographic location visits described
- Entrance fees to listed monuments and attractions
- Mineral water during road journeys and sightseeing
- Pakistan visa-support or invitation letter
- Applicable government taxes and service charges

Services Not Included

- International airfare
- Islamabad–Skardu and Gilgit–Islamabad domestic flights; booking assistance is available
- Pakistan visa fee
- Travel, medical and equipment insurance
- All meals and beverages
- Camera equipment, excess baggage and personal expenses
- Tips and gratuities
- Optional activities not listed
- Costs caused by flight disruption, road closure or weather
- Anything not expressly listed under Services Included

EXPERIENCE PAKISTAN

Explore more Experience Pakistan journeys

You may also enjoy Karakoram and Baltistan Cultural Adventure , Lahore, Multan, Bahawalpur and Cholistan Heritage Journey , Sindh: Indus Civilisation, Sufi Heritage and the Lower Indus .

Plan this private journey

Tell us your dates, group size and preferred accommodation. We will confirm services and send a written proposal.

sultanhunzai86@gmail.com | +92 344 5053818 | experiencepak.com/plan-your-journey/