



China K2 Base Camp Trek

21 Days



The Adventure Company | EST. 1969

MT+SOBEKTM
MOUNTAIN TRAVEL SOBEK

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS
AS THE PIONEER OF ADVENTURE TRAVEL

➤ China K2 Base Camp Trek

On this new MT Sobek extreme adventure, join legendary mountain guide Sergio Fitch Watkins to K2 Advance Base Camp, a coveted destination for trekkers around the world. Begin your journey in Kashgar, take the Silk Road past shifting deserts and towering peaks, and then embark on your tough but incredibly rewarding 14-day trek. Hike remote mountain terrain, ride Bactrian camels across rivers, and behold the Karakorum giants. Join us on this epic trek amidst the highest, most breathtaking peaks on earth!

Details

Arrive: Kashgar, China

Depart: Kashgar, China

Duration: 21 Days

Group Size: 8-16 Guests

Minimum Age: 18 Years Old

Activity Level:



Carol

Testimonials

"Great experience every time with some of the most knowledgeable guides in their fields. We always come home with wonderful memories of the people we meet and things we see."

Bob J.

"A prominent reason we have chosen MT Sobek as our favorite adventure travel company has been the excellent travel guides."

GOT QUESTIONS? SPEAK WITH AN EXPERT.

1.888.831.7526 INFO@MTSOBEK.COM

Why Take This Trip With Us?

REASON #01

We have been leaders in mountain trekking for 50 years and are excited to offer this new ultimate challenge adventure.

REASON #02

Sergio Fitch Watkins is one of our most popular mountain guides with decades of experience leading physically demanding treks.

REASON #03

In addition to getting to the base camp of legendary K2, travelers visit the famed Silk Road crossroads of Kashgar.

What to Expect



ACTIVITIES

Strenuous mountain trekking with difficult river crossings for 14 days, hiking 6-8 hours per day, up to 16,929' elevation; cultural touring in Kashgar.



LODGING

Remote mountain camping, basic hotels in Kargilik and Ilik and comfortable hotels in Kashgar.



CLIMATE

Daytime temperatures range from the 50°Fs to the 90°Fs, depending on the elevation. Nighttime temperatures drop to 30°Fs in the high camps.

Meet Our Guides

Our expert guides and trip leaders are truly the key to our trips' success. Many are locals who live in-country year-round; others have made it their second home—all are passionate, enthusiastic and endlessly knowledgeable. Meet two of the guides that might be on your trip.

Sergio is a legendary trekking guide with over 30 years of experience and 300 trips to his name! Besides leading our expeditions in Ecuador, Bolivia, Peru, and Argentina's Aconcagua, he also loves to lead some of our more challenging treks in Nepal and Peru. In 2019, Sergio will be leading a 50th Anniversary Base Camp Trek, a new hiking trip in Chile's Dientes de Navarino mountains, and an epic hiking adventure in the Dolomites. Sergio has acquired a loyal following, and is one of our most respected guides.

Sergio Fitch Watkins

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Itinerary

DAY 1

ARRIVE IN KASHGAR

Welcome to China! On arrival in Kashgar, meet an MT Sobek representative and transfer to your hotel. Join the rest of the group and your trip leaders for a welcome dinner and briefing this evening.

Meals: D

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DAY 2

SIGHTSEE IN KASHGAR

After a good night's sleep and breakfast, spend today leisurely sightseeing in the oasis city of Kashgar, a stop on the old Silk Road. Take in the 15th-century Id Kah Mosque, located in Kashgar Square and one of the largest mosques in China; Abakh Hoja Tomb (Afaq Khoja Mausoleum), perhaps Xinjiang's finest example of Islamic architecture; and Old Town, where Kashgaris have lived and worked for centuries; and the age-old Kashgar Sunday Market, still one of the world's most amazing bazaars.

Activity: City touring

Meals: B, L, D

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DAY 3

TRAVEL TO KARGILIK

After breakfast this morning, drive southeast to Kargilik. East of Kashgar, the Silk Road splits into two threads in the face of the Taklamakan Desert, the second-largest shifting sand desert in the world. The southern road charts a somewhat remote course between desert sands and the towering Kunlun ranges. Stop in Yengisar, known for the production of knives — a timeless symbol of Uyghur culture. Once in Kargilik, experience its central square, an eclectic mix of local teahouses and bazaar vendors in the shadow of the large Jama mosque.

Meals: B, L, D

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DAY 4

EXPLORE KARGILIK BEFORE HEADING TO ILIK

This morning visit the 15th-century Jama Masjid (mosque) and the surrounding adobe-walled backstreets of Kargilik's Old Town. Then board the bus and drive farther along the same highway to Ilik, a small village oasis that serves as the starting point for K2 treks. En route, cross a 16,000' pass and the military checkpoint of Mazar.

Meals: B, L, D

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DAY 5

BEGIN K2 TREK

While your camel drivers take a few hours to load up their charges, lace up your boots and get trekking! Today you start at an easy pace along dry riverbeds. Admire the stunning desert and Karakorum views on both sides. Arrive at Karyar Camp, also known as Junction Camp (12,500'), where you spend the night.

Activity: 6 hours trekking with negligible elevation gain/loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 6

HEAD TO THE BASE OF AGHIL PASS

Today you hike to the base of Aghil Pass, which towers above at 15,765 feet. Aghil Pass is the crossing point on the Major Ridge separating the Yarkand and Shaksgam rivers. En route, take shortcuts around bends in the river with soaring mountains on both sides. Set up camp below the pass.

Activity: 8 hours trekking with negligible elevation gain/loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 7

ASCEND AGHIL PASS

It's a slow grind today up to Aghil Pass, but on the saddle of the pass, you catch your first breathtaking views of the Shaksgam River, and the mighty Karakorum peaks: K2, Broad Peak, and all the Gasherbrums! You also can see your trekking route for the next few days, as it winds along the channel of the Shaksgam River. Descend to your camping spot along the river.

Activity: 7-10 hours trekking 3,000' elevation gain and 2,500' loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 8

CONTINUE ALONG THE SHAKSGAM RIVER

Your actual trekking time is relatively short today, as you need to ride a camel across the Shaksgam River several times during your approach to K2 Base Camp. The rivers can be quite high during the trekking season, so we take no chances. Today also yields spectacular views of K2's North Ridge, on the China side of the mountain.

Activity: 4-6 hours trekking with negligible elevation gain/loss

Meals: B, L, D

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DAY 9

ARRIVE AT (CHINESE) BASE CAMP

Continue trekking through remote terrain — no villages or shepherds here — along the Shaksgam River. Make one more difficult river crossing on camelback before arriving ceremoniously at the Chinese Base Camp, aka Sughet Jangal (12,631').

Activity: 6-8 hours trekking with 500' elevation gain

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 10

EXPLORE THE SUGHET JANGAL AREA

Take it easy today, acclimatizing and checking out the area. There are many possibilities for exploration at Sughet Jangal base camp, and look for Marco Polo rams in the distance.

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 11

HEAD FROM SUGHET JANGAL TOWARD ABC

Three days up the K2 Glacier is Advance Base Camp (ABC), the turnaround point for our trek. We leave our camels behind and porters carry our gear as we set out for it today, reveling in spectacular Karakorum views as you prepare yourself for a tough couple of days ahead.

Activity: 4 hours trekking with 500' elevation gain

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 12

PRESS ON TO ABC

Be vigilant today, as your trek is all moraine traveling, with rocks, ice, and scree. From our camp at the Sarpo Lago Glacier, embark on an (optional) loop hike in the direction of camp 2 to get a spectacular view of K2, or rest at camp.

Activity: 6 hours trekking with 1,000' elevation gain

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 13

ARRIVE AT ABC

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You made it! You need to cross the K2 Glacier to reach ABC. Advance Base Camp (16,929') marks the highest point of your trek and the end of your ascent into this incredibly beautiful, humbling region. Revel in it — and the views of K2!

Activity: 7 hours trekking with 700' elevation gain/loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 14

TREK BACK TO SUGHET JANGAL

Begin to retrace your route back to Ilik, where you started the trek. Today, trek down to Sughet Jangal.

Activity: 4 hours trekking with 500' elevation loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 15

TREK BACK TO SHAKSGAM RIVER CAMP

Retrace your route back to Shaksgam River Camp. The trail is very rocky over river beds.

Activity: 6-8 hours trekking with 500' elevation loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 16

TREK BACK TO BASE OF AGHIL PASS

Retrace your route back to the base of Aghil Pass, continuing along the rocky river bed.

Activity: 6-8 hours trekking with negligible elevation gain/loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 17

CROSS AGHIL PASS

Trek up and over Aghil Pass and down to the Yarkand River.

Activity: 8-10 hours trekking with 2,500' elevation gain and 3,000' elevation loss

Meals: B, L, D

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DAY 18

TREK BACK TO ILIK

After breakfast, retrace your route back to Ilik. Enjoy great views of Mustaghata today.

Activity: 6 hours trekking with negligible elevation gain/loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 19

TRAVEL TO KARGILIK

After breakfast, drive to Kargilik. Upon arrival in town, check into the hotel and enjoy a well-deserved shower and rest in an actual bed.

Activity: 8-hour private van transfer

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 20

RETURN TO KASHGAR

Another drive today, this time back to Kashgar. You have free time in the afternoon for resting or last-minute shopping before you convene with the group for a festive farewell dinner.

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 21

DEPART FOR HOME

After breakfast, say goodbye to the group and transfer to the Kashgar Airport for your homeward-bound flight.

Meals: B

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Dates

Jul 14 - Aug 3, 2021

Aug 8 - 28, 2021

Sep 4 - 24, 2021

Sep 28 - Oct 18, 2021

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Pricing

2021

\$ 8,495 per person

Additional Cost

\$ 900 Single Supplement

PRICE INCLUDES

- Expert leadership from experienced adventure guides
- Accommodations as noted in the itinerary
- Meals as noted in the daily itinerary
- Potable water and snacks throughout
- 1 glass of wine or beer at dinner except while trekking
- All tips and gratuities for support staff with the exception of your lead adventure guide(s)
- All necessary camping gear
- All group entrance fees, activities, and ground transportation
- Arrival and departure day airport transfers

PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE

- International airfare, any airport taxes, or excess baggage charges
- Optional tips to your lead adventure guides
- Personal expenses such as medical immunizations, phone calls, laundry, or souvenirs
- Airport transfers if arriving outside of Day 1 or departing outside of Day 21
- Optional travel protection

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➤ The World of MT Sobek

At Mountain Travel Sobek, we believe life is an adventure and adventure is life.

As the originators, innovators and leaders in adventure travel for more than five decades, we passionately create, craft and share indelible, transformative journeys to the world's most memorable places. Our more than 200 unique and once-in-a-lifetime trips are designed to inspire and exhilarate, enliven and excite--opening eyes and minds through profoundly personal connections with nature and culture.

Our small group and custom adventures span the globe, and the spectrum—of interests, environments and activities—every one expertly planned and knowledgeably and passionately guided. And our commitment to making every experience a remarkable one has earned us preferred travel outfitter status for National Geographic Active Expeditions, Active New York Times Journeys, and Smithsonian Active Journeys.

We are *the* adventure company.

Awards



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