



Afghanistan Wakhan Corridor Trek

22 Days



The Adventure Company | EST. 1969

MT+SOBEKTM
MOUNTAIN TRAVEL SOBEK

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS
AS THE PIONEER OF ADVENTURE TRAVEL

➤ Afghanistan Wakhan Corridor Trek

Embark on a sightseeing journey across Tajikistan through established silk route bazaars and lush valley villages. Cross into Afghanistan to begin one of the world's most spectacular high altitude treks on "the roof of the world" along the 185-mile-long Wakhan Corridor. A remote and otherworldly place, separated from the capital and the rest of Afghanistan by a narrow finger of land that extends into the northeast and peopled by locals unchanged by modern life. This is a land that is difficult to get to, but impossible to forget.

Details

Arrive: Dushanbe, Tajikistan

Depart: Dushanbe, Tajikistan

Duration: 22 Days

Group Size: 2-16 Guests

Minimum Age: 16 Years Old

Activity Level:



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.

"I have taken 12 trips with MT Sobek. Each has left a positive imprint on me—widening my view of the world and its peoples."

Jane B.

GOT QUESTIONS? SPEAK WITH AN EXPERT.



1.888.831.7526



INFO@MTSOBEK.COM

Why Take This Trip With Us?

REASON #01

Very few western adventure travel companies are running trips in either Tajikistan or Afghanistan's Wakhan Corridor — don't miss this rare opportunity!

REASON #02

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

REASON #03

Our guides are locals that grew up in this area and their intimate knowledge makes them experts in this region.

What to Expect



ACTIVITIES

Strenuous mountain trekking from 6 to 8 hours each day for over 10 days, covering up to 13 miles per day and to over 14,000 feet elevation; cultural touring in Tajikistan.



LODGING

Scenic and remote mountain accommodations ranging from camping, local homestays and guesthouses, along with six nights at comfortable hotels in Dushanbe and Kalai-Khumb.



CLIMATE

Day time temperatures in Dushanbe range from 97°-100°F and nighttime temperatures range from 75°-82°F. In the mountains, day time temperatures range from 72°-81°F and nighttime

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.

Gayrat was born and raised in Ishkashim, Tajikistan. Growing up in Wakhan, he would frequently travel across the border into Afghanistan to visit his relatives on the other side and learned many different languages, including English, Farsi, Tajik, Russian and several Wakhi languages. He has spent the past six years as a guide in the Wakhan Corridor and made numerous friends within the local communities. He is excited to share this remote and beautiful area with you!

Gayrat Shakarbekov

GOT QUESTIONS? SPEAK WITH AN EXPERT.



1.888.831.7526



INFO@MTSOBEK.COM

Itinerary

DAY 1

ARRIVE DUSHANBE, TAJIKISTAN

Arrive in Dushanbe, the capital of Tajikistan, in the very early hours and transfer straight to the comforts of the hotel. After breakfast in the morning, enjoy a full day of sightseeing, visiting the National Museum, Hissar Fortress, and the Madrassah museum. Visit the famed Mehrgon market to shop for produce, spices, and handicrafts and take in the Main Square with its monument of Ismoil Somoni, founder of Tajik Nation. Later, gather for a welcome dinner at a nearby restaurant.

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 2

DRIVE TO KALAI-KHUMB

Begin the three day journey to the Wakhan Corridor. Leaving the bustle of the capital behind, drive today to Kalai-Khumb, stopping for lunch and photos at viewpoints along the way. The city of Kalai-Khumb is also known as Darvaz which means "entry door" in Tajik, reflecting its status as the gateway of the Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Region. Check into the hotel and rest after the long drive. Unwind in the hotel's bar and look out across the Panj River - the country's official border - for a first view of Afghanistan.

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 3

TRAVEL TO KHOROG

Today's overland journey follows the Panj River through ever more impressive scenery. Stop for lunch today near the town of Rushan to enjoy a gorgeous view of Afghanistan and anticipate the trek soon to begin. Continue to the city of Khorog, the administrative center of the Pamir region, at 6,500' above sea level. Check into the hotel with some time to unwind before dinner.

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 4

CROSS INTO AFGHANISTAN

After breakfast, today's adventure begins with a trip to the consulate for a highly sought after addition to any passport, an Afghanistan visa. With visas in hand, set off to explore the central market and botanical garden, which boasts a beautiful panoramic view of the surrounding mountains. Cross the bridge over the Panj River into Afghanistan in the town of Sulton Ishkashim (8,235'). Tonight's accommodation is a local guesthouse set in a garden and surrounded by mountain views.

Meals: B, L, D

GOT QUESTIONS? SPEAK WITH AN EXPERT.



1.888.831.7526



INFO@MTSOBEK.COM

DAY 5

DRIVE INTO THE LOWER WAKHAN

After breakfast, depart for an adventurous day of off-road driving through the Lower Wakhan. Stop in the village of Khandud for lunch, an ancient settlement nestled in the valley surrounded by mountains. Keep that camera handy while wandering through the village center and local market bazaar. Today's destination is a guesthouse in the village of Qalai-Panja.

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 6

ARRIVE AT SARHAD-E BROGIL

A final long day of off-road driving delivers truly magnificent scenery! Cross into the Upper Wakhan as today's route follows the Wakhan River through a narrow valley to the outpost of Sarhad e-Brogil (10,700'). Stopping for lunch along the way, perhaps meet some of the local Tajik, Wakhi, or Kyrgyz people who call this region home. Arrive at tonight's simple homestay in time for dinner, and try to turn in early. Tomorrow the trek begins!

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 7

JOURNEY INTO THE WAKHAN CORRIDOR

The true adventure begins! For the next 10 days, embark on an epic trek through the Wakhan Corridor, a remarkably beautiful route that few are lucky to ever experience. Each day of the trek, breakfast and dinner will be prepared at camp by the trekking staff, and a picnic lunch will be eaten along the trail, often in a scenic spot. This challenging first day follows the Wakhan River upstream towards China and Pakistan. Cross Daliz Pass at 14,032' into an area populated mostly by Kyrgyz nomads, and then descend to the first camp at 12,140'.

Activity: 5-6 hours/6 miles hiking with 3,300' elevation gain and 2,000' elevation loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 8

TREK TO BORAK

Following breakfast in camp, continue eastward along the river, following a narrow trail treaded down from the footprints (and hoof prints) of centuries of Kyrgyz caravan traders and their yaks. Spend the evening overlooking the surrounding mountains in the small settlement of Borak (11,700').

Activity: 5-6 hours/7 miles hiking with 650' elevation loss

Meals: B, L, D

GOT QUESTIONS? SPEAK WITH AN EXPERT.



1.888.831.7526



INFO@MTSOBEK.COM

DAY 9

HIKE TO THE VILLAGE OF LANGAR

Today's hike is a long but gentle ascent to the village of Langar (11,909'). This picturesque spot is where Wakhi people have built their winter settlements and the Kyrgyz people often establish camps.

Activity: 6-7 hours/11 miles hiking with 1,300' elevation gain and 900' elevation loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 10

ASCEND TO KASH GOZ

Enjoy a full-day walk to the Kyrgyz settlement of Kash Goz (13,400'). Ethnic Kyrgyz settled here in 1917 after escaping the Bolshevik Revolution. Amazingly, despite having lived in Afghanistan for over a century, these communities have not forgotten their origins, language, and lifestyle.

Activity: 6-7 hours/13 miles hiking with 1,500' elevation gain

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 11

TREK TO LAKE CHAKMAKTYN

Today's route gradually descends to tonight's camp at Lake Chakmatyn, a stunning alpine lake and the source of the Murghab River. Along the way, pass Bozai Gombaz, traditional burial grounds of the Kyrgyz, and summer homes of many nomadic families from Lake Chakmatyn.

Activity: 6 hours/12 miles hiking with 350' elevation loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 12

REST AT LAKE CHAKMAKTYN

Before beginning the return trek, enjoy a full day along the shores of Lake Chakmatyn. Explore the area on a gentle walk around the lake. The real highlight is to meet with Wakhi and Kyrgyz nomadic people, and share their traditional hospitality. Enjoy the opportunity to rest and relax.

Meals: B, L, D

GOT QUESTIONS? SPEAK WITH AN EXPERT.



1.888.831.7526



INFO@MTSOBEK.COM

DAY 13

BEGIN THE RETURN

Start on the journey back - retracing our steps back to Kash Goz. On our return, we have more time to take photos and enjoy chance meetings with the nomads of this area.

Activity: 6 hours/12 miles hiking with 350' elevation gain

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 14

DESCEND TO LANGAR

Today's route passes an old Kyrgyz shrine and tombs, gradually descending to the village of Langar.

Activity: 7 hours/13 miles hiking with 1,500' elevation gain and loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 15

CONTINUE TO BORAK

A leisurely day follows the long, gentle descent to Borak, leaving plenty of time to absorb the beautiful scenery of this region and greet nomads we pass.

Activity: 6-7 hours/11 miles hiking with 920' elevation gain and 1,315' elevation loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 16

THE FINAL PASS CROSSING OVER THE DALIZ

The last day of the trek begins in the village of Borak and again crosses Daliz pass, the final descent of the trip. Arriving at the final campsite, celebrate over dinner with the trekking team.

Activity: 7-8 hours/13 miles hiking with 2,600' elevation gain and 3,300' elevation loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 17

DRIVE TO PGISHT

This morning depart for the city of Pgisht, driving along the Wakhan River before joining up with the Pamir River at the village of Panja. Formerly the home of a Wakhan king, spend part of the afternoon touring a traditional Wakhi house - structures well known for their ornately wooden carved doors and pillars with intricately woven carpets lining the floors. Continuing on the road, stop in the town of Khandut to shop for local handicrafts and

GOT QUESTIONS? SPEAK WITH AN EXPERT.



1.888.831.7526



INFO@MTSOBEK.COM

spices at the bazaar before settling into Pgisht, a town surrounded by the Pamir Mountain's philosopher peaks named for Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels.

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 18

TRANSFER TO SULTON ISHKASHIM

After breakfast, begin the return journey to the fertile valley of Sulton Ishkashim, on a drive that winds along sandy river beds lined with poplar and chinar trees. Stop for lunch in the village of Kozideh, home to the second king of Wakhan, with views of the ancient stone Kakaha Fortress. Continue onto Sultan Ishkashim for the last evening in Afghanistan.

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 19

DRIVE TO KHOROG

Say goodbye to Afghanistan this morning and cross back into Tajikistan. Visit the Garm-chashma Mineral Hot Springs, a 1,000-year old thermal spring surrounded by limestone and rich in minerals. Its turquoise waters are rumored to have curative properties, and local inhabitants have built altars into the stone has a tribute of appreciation. We'll have time to enjoy a hot spring bath. Arrive back in the cultural center of Khorog this evening for dinner before heading to the hotel.

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 20

ARRIVE AT KALAI-KHUMB

Wake up for breakfast and retrace steps for the road back to Kalai-Khumb. Visit the Ismaili Center, located on the banks of the Gunt River, a congregational space built as a house for the Ismaili-majority region, a branch from the Islamic Shia'a. Tour the campus of the University of Central Asia, a non-profit college focused on providing further educational opportunities for the surrounding Pamir mountain societies. Relax this evening with dinner in Kalai-Khumb before settling into the hotel.

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 21

RETURN TO DUSHANBE

GOT QUESTIONS? SPEAK WITH AN EXPERT.



1.888.831.7526



INFO@MTSOBEK.COM

Journey back to the Pamir Highway en-route to Dushanbe this morning, passing by snow-capped mountains and green river banks. This afternoon is free to relax and shop for any last minute Tajik souvenirs at the local markets before re-joining for a farewell celebration and dinner.

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 22

DEPART DUSHANBE

Take an early morning transfer to the airport for homeward bound flights.

GOT QUESTIONS? SPEAK WITH AN EXPERT.



1.888.831.7526



INFO@MTSOBEK.COM

Dates

Jul 2 - 23, 2022

For full terms and conditions please visit www.mtsobek.com/terms. Please note that our itineraries may be subject to change.

GOT QUESTIONS? SPEAK WITH AN EXPERT.



1.888.831.7526



INFO@MTSOBEK.COM

Pricing

2021

from \$5,995 per person dbl. occ.

Additional Cost

from \$400 Single Supplement

2022

from \$5,995 per person dbl. occ.

Additional Cost

from \$400 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
- 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 or departing outside of Day 1 and Day 22
- Tajikistan visa fees
- Optional travel protection

For full terms and conditions please visit www.mtsobek.com/terms. Please note that our itineraries may be subject to change.

GOT QUESTIONS? SPEAK WITH AN EXPERT.



1.888.831.7526



INFO@MTSOBEK.COM



➤ 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



GOT QUESTIONS? SPEAK WITH AN EXPERT.



1.888.831.7526



INFO@MTSOBEK.COM



TWO HUNDRED ADVENTURES.

SEVEN CONTINENTS.

A WORLD OF DISCOVERY.

Where's Your Next Adventure?



The Adventure Company | EST. 1969

MT•SOBEK™

MOUNTAIN TRAVEL SOBEK

1-888-831-7526 | MTSOBEK.COM

1266 66TH STREET, SUITE 4, EMERYVILLE, CALIFORNIA 94608-1117

FOLLOW US ONLINE @**MTSOBEK**