



Pakistan Concordia & K2 Base Camp Trekking

21 Days



The Adventure Company | EST. 1969

MT+SOBEKTM

MOUNTAIN TRAVEL SOBEK

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS
AS THE PIONEER OF ADVENTURE TRAVEL

➤ Pakistan Concordia & K2 Base Camp Trekking

Straddling the border between Pakistan and China, K2 stands at 28,251 feet, making it the second tallest mountain in the world. Looming over the western Himalayas in the Karakoram Range, it has been described as a formidable peak of ice, rock and sky - rising up to touch the heavens. Join legendary mountain guide Sergio Fitch Watkins on a trek to K2 Base Camp at 16,732 feet (weather permitting), for views coveted by trekkers around the world. Begin your journey in Islamabad, exploring ancient mosques and markets before embarking on this rewarding challenge of a lifetime. Hike remote mountain terrain and rocky moraines of the Baltoro Glacier into the arena of 26,000-foot peaks at Concordia, up to where the mountains begin to sing. Join us on this epic sky-high trek!

Details

Arrive:	Islamabad, Pakistan
Depart:	Islamabad, Pakistan
Duration:	21 Days
Group Size:	6-14 Guests
Minimum Age:	16 Years Old
Activity Level:	5

Testimonials

"I've taken six MT Sobek trips and they have all exceeded my expectations. The staff, the food, the logistics and the communications have always been exceptional. Thank you for being my "go to" adventure travel company!"

Margaret I.

"I have traveled extensively around the world. The experience with MT Sobek was by far the best I have ever had. Thank you for such excellence."

Marianne W.

GOT QUESTIONS? SPEAK WITH AN EXPERT.

1-800-974-0300

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 famous Faisal Mosque in Islamabad, the capital of Pakistan.

What to Expect



ACTIVITIES

Strenuous mountain trekking on trails and glaciers for 13 days, hiking 6-8 hours per day, up to 16,732' elevation; cultural touring in Islamabad.



LODGING

Remote mountain camping with comfortable hotels in Skardu, Chilas and Islamabad.



CLIMATE

Daytime temperatures range from the 50°Fs to the 90°Fs, depending on the elevation. Nighttime temperatures drop to 14°Fs in the high camps and 40°Fs in the low 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 40 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. His recent expeditions include leading our 50th Anniversary Base Camp Trek, 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

Afsar Jaan hails from Ali-abad Hunza, Pakistan, and boasts more than 30 years of experience in adventure tourism. He began his career as a high-altitude porter and worked with expeditions in the Karakoram and western Himalayas. Jaan summited Trango Towers at 20,623 feet in 2001! In 2019, he joined MT Sobek as an Assistant Guide and has been an integral part of MT Sobek's K2 base camp treks. As well as being indefatigable, Jaan is a savvy route finder and is always there as a helping hand for the group's needs on the trek.

Afsar Jaan

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Itinerary

DAY 1

ARRIVAL IN ISLAMABAD

Welcome to Pakistan! On arrival, meet an MT Sobek representative and transfer to your hotel. Join the rest of the group on an afternoon tour of Islamabad, the capital city of Pakistan including visits to the Daman-e-Koh, local markets and Faisal Mosque, time permitting, before your welcome dinner and briefing this evening.

Meals: D

DAY 2

FLY FROM ISLAMABAD - SKARDU

Wake up for breakfast at hotel before flying to Skardu (weather permitting). In case the flight is canceled, drive along the ancient Silk Road to Chilas, situated on the banks of the mighty Indus River.

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 3

EXPLORE SKARDU OR DRIVE FROM CHILAS TO SKARDU

Today is free to explore Skardu or drive from Chilas to Skardu if the previous days flight was canceled. Meet with the tourism department for a briefing on the upcoming trek.

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 4

DRIVE TO JHOLA

After breakfast at hotel, drive in 4x4 jeeps to Jhola, at 10,500'. We pass Askole, located in the Shigar Valley at the entrance to the high Karakoram wilderness, then cross the Biafo Glacier for the first sight of the Paiyu pinnacles.

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 5

TREK JHOLA TO PAIYU (11,319')

Today's trek to Paiyu begins with two potential routes depending on weather. If the river is running low, edge along the base of a rock wall that guards the valley toward the Baltoro Glacier. Otherwise, take a higher traverse before joining the riverbed that leads to Paiyu, where you will camp tonight.

Activity: 7-8 hours/13 miles hiking with 1,886' elevation gain and 1,096' loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 6

PAIYU TO KHOBURTSE (12,894')

Today will be a challenging trek tackling the rocky moraines of the Baltoro Glacier up to Khoburste at 12,894'. But along the way, the surrounding sights of Paiyu Peak and the Trango Towers will make the effort worthwhile!

Activity: 5-6 hours/9 miles hiking with 2,103' elevation gain and 725' loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 7

TREK KHOBURTSE TO URDUKAS (13,550')

Today is your first sighting of Broad Peak and the Gasherbrums as your trek to Urdukas at 13,550'. The campsite is located on a grassy slope high above the Baltoro and commands one of the most intense mountain views in the world, which is dominated by nameless Tower, claimed to have the tallest granite wall in the world.

Activity: 4-5 hours/4 miles hiking with 816' elevation gain and 128' loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 8

ACCLIMATE AT URDUKAS (13,550')

Today is an acclimatization day at Urdukas to relax and stretch your legs.

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 9

TREK TO GORO (14,271')

Begin the trek into the heart of the Karakoram mountain range known as Concordia, the confluence of the Baltoro Glacier and the Godwin-Austen Glacier on a trek to Goro at 14,271'. Camp surrounded by views of Muztagh Tower, Gasherbrum 4 and Masherbrum. If lucky with a clear evening, enjoy the red sunset hues over Masherbrum, a sight never to be forgotten!

Activity: 7-8 hours/8 miles hiking with 1,079' elevation gain and 292' loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 10

BEHOLD CONCORDIA! (14,764')

Trek up to Concordia, passing the Golden Throne and Mitre Peak, entering into the arena of the 8,000 meter peaks: Broad Peak (26,414'), Gasherbrums and the sought after K2! Continue onwards up the mighty Baltoro passing Mustagh Tower (23,897'), Gasherbrum IV (26,001') and Hidden Peak (Gasherbrum I - 26,509'), with it's fin-like ridges, partially hidden behind Gasherbrum IV. End the day in Concordia, a three-mile wide glacier and camp on the moraine surrounded by 10 of the 30 tallest peaks in the world.

Activity: 4-5 hours/7 miles hiking with 948' elevation gain

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 11 **BROAD PEAK BASE CAMP (15,748') OR K2 BASE CAMP (16,732')**

Today we will have optional day hikes to K2 Base Camp and Broad Peak Base Camp. We will split into two groups but both day hikes are weather dependent and if it has snowed heavily, we will not undertake the hikes. Wake up early to start the trek through crevasses and across small rivers, all created by the melting ice. After three hours we will be at Broad Peak Base Camp where we will have a great view of the astonishing Karakoram 2nd (K2), Mitre Peak behind us and Bride Peak. We walk on the moraine which is mostly boulders. However, we do walk on ice occasionally.

After another 3 hours trek, we shall complete our one-way journey to K2 Base Camp reaching a moraine safe zone, a traditional base camp area for K2 climbers. Revel in the incredibly beautiful, humbling region - and awesome views of K2! One can also visit Gilkey Memorial if time allows.

Activity: 5-6 hours/5-6 miles hiking with 985' elevation gain and 985' elevation loss (Broad Peak Base Camp) or 9-11 hours/11 miles hiking with 1,968' elevation gain and 1,968' loss (K2 Base Camp)

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 12 **HIKE DOWN TO GORO (14,271')**

Begin to retrace your route back to Askole, where you started the trek. Today trek down to Goro.

Activity: 4-5 hours/7 miles hiking with 493' elevation loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 13 **RETRACE BACK TO URDUKAS**

Retrace your route back to Urdukas.

Activity: 6-7 hours/10 miles hiking with 725' elevation loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 14 **TREK BACK TO KHOBURTSE (12,894')**

Retrace your route down to Khoburtse.

Activity: 4-5 hours/4 miles hiking with 650' elevation loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 15 **TREK TO PAIYU**

Trek back down to Paiyu.

Activity: 5-6 hours/9 miles hiking with 480' elevation loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 16 **TREK BACK TO JHOLA**

Trek back to Jhola. We take the higher traverse before we regain the old riverbed that leads to Jhola.

Activity: 7-8 hours/9.5 miles hiking with 480' elevation loss

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 17 **DRIVE TO SKARDU (7,382')**

After having an early breakfast, we set off early to drive to Skardu by 4x4 Jeeps to avoid the heat of the day. The road is a bit bumpy and rough.

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 18 **SKARDU**

After a leisurely breakfast, check back in with the tourism department before heading out to explore the sights of Skardu.

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 19 FLY TO ISLAMABAD OR DRIVE TO CHILAS

Fly back to Islamabad today (weather permitting) and check into the hotel. Then sightsee in the twin cities of Islamabad and Rawalpindi. Among the sites we may visit today are Lok Virsa Museum, Pakistan Heritage Museum and Pakistan Monument.

If the flight is canceled, drive to Chilas, along the Indus River with beautiful views of Haramosh, Nanga Parbat and Rakaposhi, before checking into the hotel for the night.

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 20 FREE DAY IN ISLAMABAD OR DRIVE TO ISLAMABAD

Today we have an optional tour to Taxila Museum, which dates from the 5th century BC. It was first mentioned as a satrapy of Achaemenian Empire in the 6th century BC, later invaded by Alexander and passed to Ashoka the Great, who molded the city into a center of philosophy, art and education. After lunch return to Islamabad and transfer to Hill View Hotel for free time. We gather for a festive farewell dinner this evening.

If the previous day's flight was canceled, drive from Chilas to Islamabad before meeting for dinner.

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 21 DEPART FOR HOME

Say goodbye to Pakistan filled with memories for a lifetime, and transfer to the airport for your flight home.

Meals: B

Dates

Aug 7 - 27, 2023

Sep 7 - 27, 2023

Jun 5 - 25, 2024


Jul 2 - 22, 2024

Aug 1 - 21, 2024

Sep 1 - 21, 2024

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

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Inclusions & Exclusions

PRICE INCLUDES

- Expertise and services of our experienced adventure guides
- All accommodations as noted in the itinerary
- All breakfasts, almost all lunches and dinners as noted in the itinerary
- Snacks and water between meals
- Additional regional guides and experts on many trips
- Comprehensive Trip Planner with detailed pre-trip information
- Private guided tours at historic sites, museums, wineries and other select attractions as noted in the itinerary
- Special events and other select attractions as mentioned in the itinerary
- All gratuities at hotels and restaurants
- Equipment and experienced guides for activities as described in the itinerary
- Park and other entry fees (unless otherwise noted)
- Fares for trains, ferries and other modes of travel as listed in the itinerary
- Select transfers as mentioned in the itinerary
- Baggage transfers and portorage

PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE

- International airfare, airport taxes, and excess baggage fees
- Alcoholic beverages (MT Sobek provides wine at select events)
- Gratuities for MT Sobek guides and guide-drivers
- Travel Protection Program
- Personal expenses

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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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