

## 15-Day PAKISTAN Rash Lake Trek

Tour Code: PAK-RLT\_15

### 15 days detail itinerary

#### Day 1-2 Islamabad

Arrive at Islamabad airport transfer to hotel. City tour of Rawalpindi and Islamabad. Rawalpindi is a lively, bustling city with the crowded streets and colorful bazaars, though it lacks the grand monuments; nonetheless, the bazaar should appeal to anyone with the desire to see the real Pakistan. Islamabad is new capital 36 years old well-planned city of Pakistan is lush green at the footsteps of Potwar hills. Visit one of the biggest Shah Faisal mosques in the world; also an interesting round trip combines a tour of Shakespearian Park with a visit to Lok versa, the institute of Folk and Traditional Heritage.



#### Day 3 Islamabad- Chilas

Drive to Chilas on Karakorum highway 11-12 hrs 461km, O/n at hotel Karakorum high way is 8<sup>th</sup> wonder of the world. The Karakorum Highway was constructed jointly by the Chinese and Pakistanis, begun in 1960s and finally constructed in 1976, as a link road between Pakistan and China, It is an engineering wonder, but at the cost of many lives.



#### Day 4 Chilas- Karimabad

Drive to Karimabad along with Hunza River 6-7hrs 240km, overnight hotel Hunza 65,000 inhabitants have been ruled by the Mir's, family since the 11<sup>th</sup> century. The people are cheerful, friendly, fair-skinned and blue or green eyes. Almost all speak Burushaski and in upper Hunza they speak Wakhi. The miracle of the Hunzakuts longevity, supposedly resulting from their mostly vegetarian diet of cereals and fruits, From Hunza valley, panoramic views of Rakaposhi 7788m, Diran Peak 7266m, Spantik Peak 7027m, Ultar 7388, Lady Finger 6000m

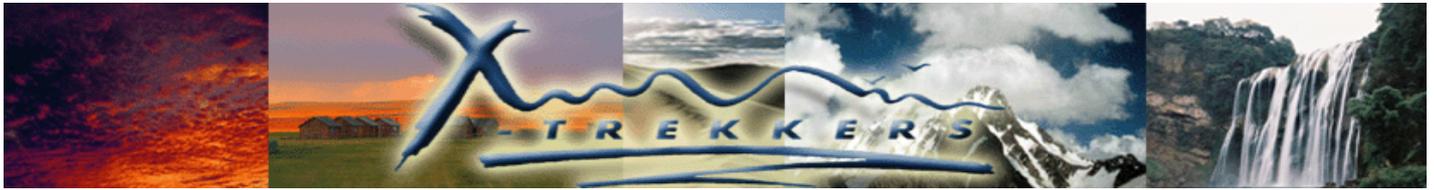


#### Day 5 Karimabad- Hopper- Barichokore 3300-M

Drive to Hopper valley 1hr, Meet porters and trek to Barichokore 4-5hrs Hopper valley has three mighty glacier ranges i.e. Burpu glacier, Bowalter Glacier and Miar glacier. Apart from these glaciers the Golden Peak and Rush Lake are also very attractive scenery landscapes for European Tourists. The Rush lake is an alpine wetland. Have a panoramic view of surrounding mountains of Spantik, Phuparash groups, Trevor group Rakaposhi 7788m, Ultar peak and lady finger with an altitude of 6000m to 7788m. Hopper- Barichokore 3300m

We start trek via Bualtar glacier to Shishkin, cross Mair and Barpu glaciers to left side meadows. Continue trek via plain plateau to Barichokore, to cross the Barpu/Mair Glaciers are much easier than the Bualtar, the walking is basically done in an ablation valley of the Barpu. We could see the beautiful views of Ultar, Diran and Spantik peaks. 5hrs trek.





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### Day 6 Barichokore- Chidin Harai 4440m

Trek to Chidin Harai 5-6hrs 4440m, overnight in tents This is a steep relentless tough climb. It takes about 5- 6hrs to get to the camp site. The views of the peaks above the Hispar Glacier are outstanding e.g. Bualtar peak, Phupurash groups, Ultar peak and hopper valley.

### Day 7 Chidin Harai- Rash Lake 4700m

Trek to Rash Lake 2-3hrs 4700m, overnight in tent One of the most beautiful Rash Lake, having awesome views of the mighty Karakorum, from here we could see the mighty K-2 and surroundings peaks. Have a spectacular view of Golden peak 7027m, Phupurash groups, Malubiting, Leila peak, Ultar Peak, Shishper peak, Bualtar and many more.



### Day 8 Climb Rash Peak 5098m

Morning climb Rash peak, afternoon back to Rash Lake for overnight

#### **Rash Peak 5098m**

Nowhere else in the Karakorum can you get such magnificent mountain views on such a short trek, sweeping from nearby 7500m peaks of the Hisper Muztagh to the 8000m giants of the Baltoro Muztagh, than from Rash Peak. From Rash Phari's shore, walk up the flower-covered slope for one hour to a hilltop 4938m with a cairn and several tent platforms, the best views, are from summit of Rash Peak 5098m. From the cairn, follow the northern ridge, and then ascend easy class2 talus to the rocky summit, also marked by a cairn. From here K2 is dramatically larger, Broad Peak and Gasherbrum are visible, and Baintha Brak looms above the Hisper La.



### Day 9 Rash Lake- Phyphary 3500m

An epic descent day! We will come down about 1,200 m. in 4-5hrs; the descent is on some talus and grassy slopes. Overnight in tent

### Day 10 Phyphary- Hamdar 3300m

Today we cross the junction of Sumayar Bar Glacier and the Miar Glacier. 3-4hrs, Hamdar is summer settlement of shepherd and earlier times shepherds were growing seasonal crops but still they are growing some vegetables. Have a nice back view of Rash peak, Golden peak and Malubiting.



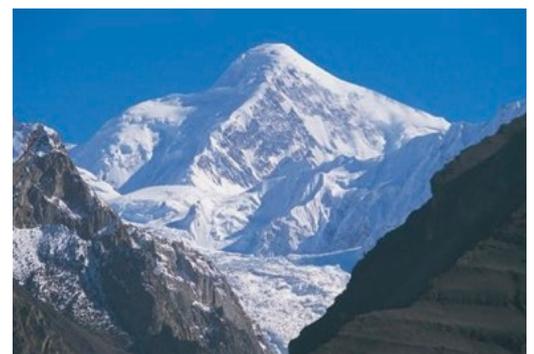
### Day 11 Hamdar- Hopper- Karimabad

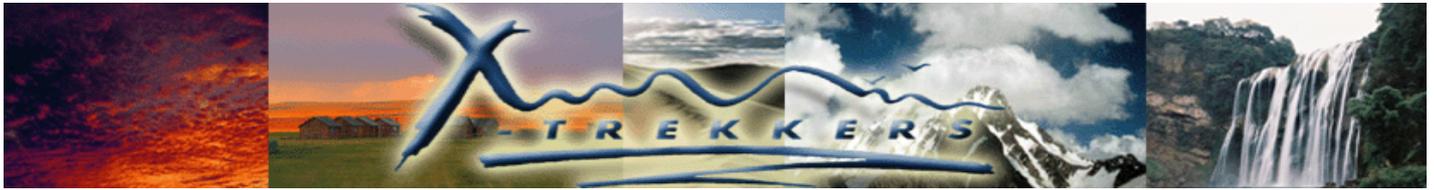
Trek on the left side of Barpu Glacier, It is an easy walk to Shishkin and again we cross Bualtar glacier and steep climb up to Hopper valley, meet jeeps and transfer to Karimabad.

### Day 12 Duiker/Altit/Baltit Forts

Morning Excursion to Duiker valley, afternoon visit 900 years old Altit and 700 Years old Baltit Forts

**Duiker valley** called Roof of the world; from the top you have very close scenic view of Lady Finger (6000m) Ultar SAR 7300m, and very nice view of Rakaposhi 7788m, Diran Peak 7200m, Gooden Peak 7027m, and Dastagil SAR.





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**Altit Fort:** It has been built on a sheer rock-cliff that falls 300 meters (1000 feet) into the Hunza River, and is much older than the Baltit Fort. View of Altit fort, with the central town to the right and below the fort. The extreme gullies, sharp drop-off, and location high above the river made this settlement highly defensible and an older settlement than many in the central valley. The majestic historical Altit fort is center of attraction due to its architectural design and strategic location. Altit is the birth place of the Hunza Kingdom and Altit fort is the first fort of the region. The fort has been constructed in six different stages by using various natural levels of the rock. The construction has been made right on the edge of a sheer rock cliff that drops 1000 feet straight down to the Hunza River. In the beginning it was built as a palace, soon after the addition of the watch tower a defensive architectural element it transformed to a fort. There is great possibility that different stages of the fort have been constructed during different times because the actual age of the fort is said to be more than 800 years. This fort is said to be around 50-100 years older than Baltit Fort.



**Baltit fort:** One of the high valleys between China and Indian subcontinent. Facing Rakaposhi Peak, one of the highest mountain peaks in the world, Baltit Fort is poised majestically above Karimabad, the present day capital of Hunza (Baltit was the capital of the old state of Hunza, and is now included in the Karimabad settlement area). Located on the rocky upper level of the Hunza hill and surrounded by Ultar Bar to the east, the Hyderabad Har to the west, Mount Ultar and its subsidiary range to the north, the Fort offers breathtaking views of the magnificent high mountains as well as a bird's eye view of the villages in the valley. Baltit Fort has great historical, cultural and symbolic value to the local community. Historically, it was the seat of the Mirs of Hunza, a family that ruled the region for centuries. Culturally, with some buildings dating back to 12th century, it is a record of the architectural evolution of the area.

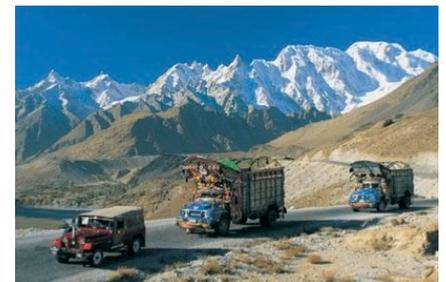


The main building is an impressive stone structure with intricately detailed timber features. Its architecture is a significant example of Pakistan's diverse heritage, reflecting distinct Tibetan influence as seen by the presence of a Tibetan 'sky-light' in the roof.

Socially, the fort and the surrounding settlements are valuable symbols and reminders of man's creativity and persistence in overcoming an unfavorable and hostile natural environment for the purpose of survival.

### Day 13 Karimabad- Besham

Drive to Besham (11-12) O/n at hotel Besham is a little transit village now beginning to assume the features of a modern town and has the trappings of modern civilization - petrol stations, cafes, restaurants, hotels, barber shops and bazaars. It is the junction for Swat valley via the scenic Shangla Pass into Khawzakhela; Kaghan valley via Manshera and Gilgit.



### Day 14 Besham- Taxila- Islamabad

Drive to Islamabad 6-7hrs 445km via Taxila, overnight at hotel Taxila, situated 35 miles from Rawalpindi, was once the seat of Oriental culture. It was first mentioned as a satrapy of the Archemenian empire in 6th century B.C. it was invaded by Alexander the Great and passed along to other rulers until finally reaching the hands of Ashoka the Great, who moulded the city into a center of learning. The creative Gandhara period followed shortly thereafter and Taxila remained the center of learning, philosophy and art. It came to a disastrous and pathetic end when sacked by the White Huns. Today, Taxila is an archaeologist's paradise: there is a well-maintained museum here and eight sites scattered around a very short radius. Amongst the best preserved are Sirkap, Jaulian (the University) and Mohara.

### Day 15 Fly Back

Transfer to Islamabad airport for International flight