

K2 BASE CAMP & GONDOGORO LA TREK



Official Expedition Dossier

EXPEDITION OVERVIEW

The **K2 Base Camp and Gondogoro La Trek** is widely regarded as one of the ultimate wilderness journeys on Earth. Traversing the heart of the majestic Karakorum Range in Pakistan, this trek takes you through a dramatic landscape of granite towers, immense glaciers, and four of the world's fourteen 8,000-meter peaks: K2 (8,611m), Broad Peak (8,051m), Gasherbrum I (8,080m), and Gasherbrum II (8,035m).

This legendary path traces the mighty Baltoro Glacier to Concordia—the majestic confluence of glaciers often described as the "Throne Room of the Mountain Gods." From Concordia, the journey advances to the foot of K2 before tackling the ultimate challenge: crossing the breathtaking **Gondogoro La Pass (5,585m)**. This technical and exhilarating pass offers a matchless panoramic view of the entire Karakorum amphitheater before descending into the lush, beautiful Hushe Valley.

QUICK FACTS

Duration	20 Days (Islamabad to Islamabad)	Max Altitude	5,585 meters (Gondogoro La Pass)
Difficulty Rating	Strenuous to Technical	Best Season	Mid-June to Early September
Activity Type	High-Altitude Alpine Trekking	Start / End Point	Islamabad / Skardu, Pakistan

DETAILED DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

Day 1: Arrival in Islamabad

Welcome to Pakistan! Arrive at Islamabad International Airport, where the representatives of **Imagine Karakorum Tours** will warmly greet you and transfer you to your premium hotel. Spend the day resting, recovering from your flight, and meeting fellow expedition members. In the evening, attend a comprehensive pre-trek briefing.

Day 2: Flight to Skardu (2,500m)

Take an spectacular, scenic flight from Islamabad to Skardu, offering breathtaking views of Nanga Parbat (8,126m) and the Indus River gorge. Upon arrival in Skardu, check into your hotel. If flights are delayed due to weather, we will travel via the historic Karakoram Highway by road, stopping overnight at a scenic midpoint.

Day 3: Acclimatization & Documentation in Skardu

A crucial day for rest and acclimatization. While our team finalizes the trek permits and logistics with the tourism department, you can explore the historic Skardu Bazaar, visit the ancient Kharpocho Fort, or take a short excursion to the pristine Sadpara Lake.

Day 4: Skardu to Askole Village (3,000m)

Embark on an exhilarating 4x4 jeep drive through the rugged Shigar Valley to Askole, the last inhabited outpost before entering the deep wilderness of the Karakorum. The drive showcases spectacular granite walls and roaring rivers. Overnight in tents.

Day 5: Askole to Jhola (3,200m)

The foot journey begins! Setting off from Askole, we follow the valley of the Braldu River. The path is relatively gentle today, serving as an ideal introduction to the trek. We cross the snout of the Biafo Glacier to reach our campsite at Jhola. (Approx. 6 hours walking).

Day 6: Jhola to Paiju (3,450m)

We continue along the Braldu River valley, walking on terrain alternating between rocky paths and loose sand. As we approach Paiju, we capture our first magnificent, distant glimpses of the Cathedral Towers and the mouth of the Baltoro Glacier. (Approx. 7 hours walking).

Day 7: Rest & Acclimatization Day at Paiju

A dedicated rest day at Paiju camp to aid proper acclimatization. Our experienced chefs will prepare hearty meals, while our porters gather to sing traditional Balti songs. A perfect time to rest your legs and prepare for the glacier walking ahead.

Day 8: Paiju to Khoburtse (3,930m)

Today we step onto the massive Baltoro Glacier. The trail weaves across the lateral moraine, navigating undulating ridges of ice, rock, and scree. We are rewarded with magnificent views of Paiju Peak and Uli Biaho Tower as we settle into Khoburtse camp. (Approx. 6-7 hours walking).

Day 9: Khoburtse to Urdukas (4,130m)

A short but challenging climb across the glacier brings us to Urdukas. This legendary campsite sits on a grassy slope high above the glacier, directly facing the jaw-dropping vertical granite monoliths of the Trango Towers. (Approx. 4 hours walking).

Day 10: Urdukas to Goro II (4,380m)

We march further into the center of the Baltoro Glacier. The ice beneath us becomes completely covered with rocks. As we reach Goro II, we camp directly on the glacier for the first time. The view from camp includes Masherbrum (7,821m) and Muztagh Tower. (Approx. 6-7 hours walking).

Day 11: Goro II to Concordia (4,600m)

An unforgettable day of trekking to Concordia, the grand meeting point of the Baltoro, Godwin-Austen, and Upper Baltoro glaciers. Stand surrounded by the world's highest density of giant peaks. K2 emerges in full, majestic glory dominating the northern horizon. (Approx. 5 hours walking).

Day 12: Excursion to K2 Base Camp (4,980m) & Return to Concordia

An early start for the ultimate pilgrimage to K2 Base Camp. We trek past Broad Peak Base Camp along the Godwin-Austen Glacier. Standing at the base of the world's second-highest mountain is a humbling, life-changing experience. We return to Concordia for the night. (Approx. 9-10 hours round trip).

Day 13: Concordia to Ali Camp (5,050m)

We steer south from Concordia, trekking along the upper Baltoro Glacier toward the base of the Gondogoro La. The terrain is snowy and icy. We arrive early at Ali Camp to rest and prepare our technical gear for the midnight pass crossing. (Approx. 5-6 hours walking).

Day 14: Ali Camp to Khuspang via Gondogoro La Pass (5,585m)

The grand finale. We begin our ascent at midnight using crampons, harnesses, and fixed ropes to safely scale the snow slopes. Reaching the summit of Gondogoro La (5,585m) at sunrise rewards you with an unmatched view of four 8,000m peaks side-by-side. We carefully descend the steep southern side into the green pastures of Khuspang. (Approx. 10-12 hours total).

Day 15: Khuspang to Saicho (3,400m)

Leaving the high glaciers behind, we descend alongside the Gondogoro River. The air becomes noticeably richer, and vegetation returns. We camp at Saicho, a beautiful riverside oasis with trees and running water. (Approx. 6-7 hours walking).

Day 16: Saicho to Hushe Village to Skardu

A gentle, pleasant morning walk brings us to Hushe, a beautiful traditional Balti village. Here, we bid a fond farewell to our incredible team of local porters. Our 4x4 jeeps will be waiting to drive us back to Skardu for a long-awaited hot shower and celebratory dinner. (Approx. 3 hours walk, 5 hours drive).

Day 17: Skardu to Islamabad Flight

Board our morning flight back to Islamabad. Upon arrival, transfer to your hotel. The afternoon is free for leisure, shopping, or relaxing. (In case of flight cancellation, this day is used to drive down from Skardu).

Day 18: Contingency / Sightseeing Day in Islamabad

A built-in buffer day to safeguard against mountain travel delays. If already in Islamabad, enjoy a guided sightseeing tour visiting the iconic Faisal Mosque, the Margalla Hills, and Lok Virsa Heritage Museum.

Day 19: Final Departure

Our team transfers you to Islamabad International Airport for your homeward flight. Carry unforgettable memories of the majestic Karakorum with you!

INCLUSIONS & EXCLUSIONS

What's Included

- All domestic airport transfers & ground transport
- Twin-sharing accommodation in premium hotels
- High-quality dome tents and mattresses on trek
- All meals (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner) during the trip
- Professional government-licensed Mountain Guide
- Experienced high-altitude kitchen staff and chefs
- Porterage for personal baggage up to 15kg
- Trekking permits, bridge taxes, and CKNP fees
- Safety ropes, harness, and group technical gear

What's Excluded

- International airfare and Pakistan entry visa
- Personal travel and high-altitude rescue insurance
- Personal clothing, sleeping bags, and climbing gear
- Tips for guides, drivers, cooks, and porters
- Soft drinks, alcoholic beverages, and laundry
- Charges for excess baggage over 15kg
- Helicopter evacuation or emergency expenses

BOOK YOUR ADVENTURE TODAY

Connect with our expedition experts to secure your spot or customize your itinerary.

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