Majestrek

Deosai, Shila & Thalay La · 10 days

Plateau to Pass



From £2,000

per person, all-inclusive from Islamabad, based on 2 travelling.

Overview

A trek from the high Deosai Plateau over a high pass into the Shigar Valley. After a night in Skardu, you cross the Deosai Plateau by 4x4, then walk for five days via the Chahni Lakes, Shila and Dubla Khan to the Thalay La, before descending to the Shigar Fort and Skardu.

Day by day

Day 1: Arrive in Islamabad

You're met at Islamabad International Airport and taken to your hotel. Later, visit the Faisal Mosque and Daman-e-Koh at sunset, or have dinner in Saidpur Village.

Day 2: Fly to Skardu

Weather permitting, fly to Skardu (2,230 m) and take the day gently to acclimatise. Walk up to Kharpocho Fort or visit Sadpara Lake, and check your kit with your guide.

Day 3: Onto the Deosai Plateau

Cross onto the Deosai Plateau by 4x4, a vast alpine plain at over 4,000 m, then walk for about two hours to your opening camp. Look out for marmots and wildflowers near camp.

Day 4: Chahni Lakes to Shila

A moderate trek deeper into the highlands, with lunch by the Chahni Lakes. Weather permitting, the Shila Pass gives rare views of K2, Broad Peak and Nanga Parbat before camp at Shila Broq.

Day 5: Shila village to the Thalay trailhead

Descend to Shila village to meet local families, then transfer to the foot of the Thalay valley and walk a short way to a riverside camp. Evenings here are for a warm drink by the campfire.

Day 6: Trek to Dubla Khan

Walk through pastures and glacial streams into quieter alpine country, arriving at the glade of Dubla Khan. Take an afternoon ridge walk if you have the legs for it.

Day 7: Over the Thalay La to Deserpa

Start early for the climb to the Thalay La, at over 4,500 m, with views across the Masherbrum Range towards Mango Gusor. Descend to the summer pastures of Deserpa for your last night in camp.

Day 8: Down to Shigar and Skardu

Walk down into the Shigar Valley, past apricot trees and stone houses, and visit the Shigar Fort before driving to Skardu. Hot showers and a proper bed are waiting.

Day 9: Fly to Islamabad

Weather permitting, take the morning flight back to Islamabad. In the afternoon, visit the Pakistan Monument and the Lok Virsa Heritage Museum.

Day 10: Spare day in Islamabad and fly home

This day is held in reserve in case weather delays the Skardu flight. If everything has run to plan, visit Taxila or walk in the Margalla Hills before your transfer to the airport.

Please note: camping arrangements on Deosai follow national park rules. If a planned campsite is not permitted in your season, we use the nearest approved site.

What's included

- Return flights between Islamabad and Skardu
- A boutique hotel in Skardu (two nights) and two nights in Islamabad
- Five nights' camping with sleeping tents and mattresses
- All meals, from dinner on Day 1 to breakfast on Day 10
- Private 4x4 with an experienced driver, and all airport transfers
- Professional English-speaking guide throughout
- A full camp crew, including cook, porters and pack animals, with a mess tent and a private toilet tent at every camp
- Deosai park fees, trekking permits and any scouts required
- Entry tickets
- The spare day in Islamabad

Not included

- International flights
- Pakistan visa
- Travel insurance
- Tips
- Sleeping bag and personal trekking gear