



SERENA HOTELS
SAFARI LODGES • HOTELS • RESORTS

Spellbinding ESCAPES



YOUR KARAKORAM HOLIDAY EXPERIENCE

A romantic getaway in the Karakoram (Gilgit & Hunza) – 4 days / 3 nights




EXPERIENCE SERENA HOTELS. EXPERIENCE GILGIT-BALTISTAN

NAME: A Romantic Getaway in the Karakoram – a short journey through Gilgit & Hunza
LENGTH OF TIME: 4 days / 3 nights plus 2 optional nights in the Islamabad Serena Hotel
BEST TIME TO TRAVEL: Anytime from March through to November!

Day	Destination / Drive time	Accommodation Details	Activities & Highlights	Optional Experiences Plus Our Top Tips!	Visual Reflection
1	Gilgit to Karimabad – Central Hunza (50 minute scenic flight and 3 hours drive)	Hunza Baltit Inn (Full board) – Standard Room Supplement: Upgrade yourself to a deluxe room or really spoil yourself and take one of the three luxury tents.	Get your cameras charged and ready for a long awaited romantic escape. Journey along the famous Karakoram Highway (KKH) with its breathtaking scenery. Soak up the magnificent valley of Karimabad over a delicious lunch for two at Hunza Baltit Inn . A step back in time – explore the UNESCO award winning 700 year old Baltit Fort . Altit Fort – wander around the historical village of Altit & explore this beautifully restored fort. Head to the charming hamlet of Duikar – watch the sunset over Rakaposhi, Golden Peak, Diran, Lady Finger & Ultar peaks . The ultimate romantic moment! Enjoy a romantic dinner for two under the stars!	Top Tip #1: Ask for a seat on the right hand side of the plane for best photo opportunities. Top Tip #2: Request room number 301 & 302 (they are two of the bigger ones) or alternatively request one of the luxury tents – they have fantastic views! Top Tip #3: Request for your driver to stop at the Rakaposhi view point – another brilliant photo opportunity and perfect spot for a mid morning chai / tea. Top Tip #4: The people of Central Hunza speak Burushaski – practice it if you can. Hello <i>Assalamu Alikum</i> Goodbye <i>Khuda Say Hawala</i> How are you? <i>Bey Hall bi la</i> Thank you <i>Ju Na</i> How much is it? <i>Goosai baroomar bi</i>	 Incredible vistas along the KKH  Views of Rakaposhi

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2	Gulmit & Husseini, Gojal Valley (Full Day Trip)	Hunza Baltit Inn (Full board) – Standard Room Supplement: Upgrade yourself to a deluxe room or really spoil yourself and take one of the three luxury tents.	An early start today! Take a boat with your beloved and travel across the mesmerizing Attabad lake – created in 2010 by the devastating landslide this 26km long lake offers an amazing experience with incredible scenery. First stop Gulmit in the Gojal Valley - surrounded by mountains, glaciers & Attabad lake. Al Aryn community School - the first school in Pakistan to focus on preserving the linguistic heritage of the area teaching the local Wakhi language. Visit the 700 year old winter residence of the ruling Mir of Hunza , now home to a women’s carpet weaving initiative. Lunch at the picturesque Borith Lake with views of Ultar Peak (6,735m) Afternoon walk to view the beautiful, spellbinding Passu Glacier . Back to Karimabad.	Top Tip #5: Learn a little bit of Wakhi before you arrive. The locals & school children will really appreciate it. Here is a start: Hello <i>Assalamu Alikum</i> Goodbye <i>Ye bafe borni</i> How are you? <i>Cheez holi</i> Thank you <i>Shoboshe</i> How much is it? <i>Yem mi Xhomrer</i> Top Tip #6: If you have any spare books (English or Urdu) the library & students of Al Aryn school would be hugely grateful. Top Tip #7: For the more energetic head up to the site and ruins of Ondra Fort and walk across the Ghulkin / Black Glacier to Borith Lake (3 hour trip incl. 1 ½ hours hike) Top Tip #8: Bring something warm & water proof – on the return trip the wind on the lake picks up and it can be very chilly and sometimes wet.	 Attabad Lake – created in 2010  Passu Glacier
3	Gilgit (3 hours drive)	Gilgit Serena Hotel (GSH) (Full board) – Standard Room Click here for more information Supplement: Upgrade yourself to a deluxe room or really spoil yourself and take one of the two suites.	Walk the cobbled streets of Baltit & Karimabad . Support local enterprises and purchase local dried fruit & nuts, honey, handicrafts, carpets and a whole lot more for you and your significant other. The Sacred Rocks of Hunza – famous archeological site recording 2000 years of travels along the Silk Road to and from China. The inscriptions are in Kharaoshti, Brahmi, Gupta, Sogdian & Tibetan and depict many an Ibex. Drive back to Gilgit along the KKH and arrive in time for a late lunch for two in the serene gardens. 7 th century Kargah Buddha rock carving – Gilgit’s most famous attraction. Explore Gilgit Bazaar – the well known Chinese NLI market & local handicrafts markets. Enjoy a romantic dinner for two in the beautiful gardens of Gilgit Serena Hotel.	If you wish to stretch your legs & breathe in the fresh mountain air walk along the water channel high above the city of Gilgit – an easy walk with incredible views over the entire valley (2 to 3 hour easy walk). Top Tip #9: Learn a few words of Shina – the local language. Hello <i>Assalamu Alikum</i> Goodbye <i>Khuda yar</i> How are you? <i>Jek Hall ban</i> Thank you <i>Ju nu</i> How much is it? <i>Anu Kachak kay han</i> Top Tip #10: Watch a spot of Polo – Game of the Kings! Played in Gilgit during the summer and at the famous Shandur Polo Tournament – ask us for the dates!	 Sacred Rocks, Hunza  Gilgit Valley

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4	Islamabad (50 minute flight)	<p>Homeward bound! Or perhaps you would like to stay on and explore Beautiful Baltistan with Serena Hotels.</p> <p>How about staying in the recently renovated Khaplu Palace & Residence or in the historical Shigar Fort Residence?</p> <p>We can tailor make an experience of a life time that you will never forget. Just let us know!</p> <p>How about staying a night in the Islamabad Serena Hotel. Ask about our city tours!</p>	It is time to leave the incredible Karakoram!	Top Tip #12: Ask to sit on the left hand side of the aero plane – it is the best side to take pics of the over 8,000 meters Nanga Parbat and the mountainous wonderland below you. Up, up and away!	 <p>A mountainous wonderland from the aeroplane.</p>

OPTIONAL ADDITIONAL TRIPS:

Consider extending your stay to explore more of Beautiful Gilgit-Baltistan.

- ✓ Hopper Valley - add 1 day extra
- ✓ Naltar Valley – add 1 day extra
- ✓ Ghizer Valley - add 1 day extra
- ✓ The best of Beautiful Baltistan – add 10 days (Refer to our Beautiful Baltistan Experience)
- ✓ Ghizer Valley, Mastuj & Chitral - add 5 days extra (Refer to our Hindukush Experience)

SOME OF OUR FAVOURITE BOOKS TO READ BEFORE OR DURING YOUR TRIP:

- ✓ *Language Hunting in the Karakoram* by E.O Lorimer
- ✓ *Karakoram in Transition: Culture, Development, and Ecology in the Hunza Valley* by Hermann Kreutzmann
- ✓ *The Making of a Frontier: Five Years' Experiences and Adventures in Gilgit, Hunza, Nagar, Chitral, and the Eastern Hindu-Kush* by George Algernon
- ✓ *Cooking in Hunza* by Marta Luchsinger, Julie Flowerday, Mareille Paley & Matthieu Paley. The book is available at the Gilgit Serena Hotel, Hunza Baltit Inn, Altit Fort
- ✓ *The Great Game* by Peter Hopkirk
- ✓ *Pakistan Trekking Guide: Himalaya, Karakoram and Hindu Kush* by Isobel Shaw

LET THE PICTURES DO THE TALKING

Spellbinding ESCAPES



Along the Karakoram Highway



Gilgit Serena Hotel



7th century Kargah Buddha rock carving, Gilgit



Standard Room – Serena Gilgit Hotel



Lady Finger, Hunza



Boating on Attabad Lake to Gulmit, Gojal Valley



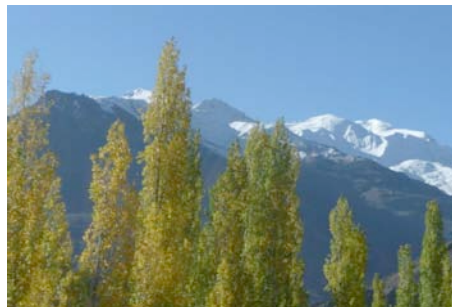
School boys in traditional Wakhi Costume



The watcher at Altit Fort, Hunza



Award winning Baltit Fort



Stunning scenery of the Karakoram Highway



View from Eagles Nest, Duikar



Sunset Ultrar Peak Hunza Valley

To book your Karakoram Experience call us on +92 (051) 111-133-133 or email at holidays@serena.com.pk
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