

## Rs 53,900 per person\*

Sindh: WAP +92 346 2324819 email <a href="mailto:bhamjee@thomascook.pk">bhamjee@thomascook.pk</a> Rest of Pakistan: WAP +92 300 8567321 email irfan@waljis.com

## 8 Days in Gilgit-Hunza via the Fabled Karakoram Highway (Shahrah-E-Resham) AND RETURN VIA KAGHAN VALLEY

**Day 1 Islamabad** - **Besham:** Depart Islamabad early and drive through Haripur and Mansera to join the Karakoram Highway (KKH) a marvel of modern engineering winding over 700 kms through breath-taking mountain terrain. Shortly after Thakot stop to view the FWO monument before arriving at our overnight stop in Besham (driving time approximately 7-8 hours).

Day 2 Besham - Gilgit: Continue on the fabled Shahrah-e-Resham towards Gilgit (driving time of approx. 7-8 hours). Spectacular scenery is our companion and we cross the sites of two under construction dams at Dassu and Diamar-Basha. At Chilas there are petroglyphs (rock carvings) left by Buddhist Monks. Before arriving at Gilgit, see the meeting point of the great mountain ranges: the Karakoram, the Himalaya and the Hindu Kush. Overnight at our hotel in Gilgit.

Day 3 Gilgit – Karimabad, Hunza: From Gilgit, we begin a scenic drive northwards and after an hour of driving, pause at Rakaposhi to view this North Face of Rakaposhi which is the longest un-interrupted mountain flank on earth (6000m). Continue the drive to Karimabad and in the afternoon visit the 800 year old Baltit Fort, the stronghold of the Ayasho Dynasty, (today a wonderfully restored museum) and explore the local tourist market. Overnight at the hotel.

Day 4 Altit sightseeing: Today visit the neighbouring 'twin' village of Altit. Here we will explore the restored Altit Fort and the women's work shop. Enjoy cuisine at the Altit Café, cooked by a women's community village organization. Rest of the day is free. In the evening drive to Dhuiker viewpoint for a sunset panorama. Overnight at the hotel.

**Day 5 Karimabad** - **Gulmit** – **Passu** - **Gilgit:** Drive to Gulmit, and visit the village and see local women weaving carpets and making several other traditional handicrafts. In the afternoon, drive to Passu village to enjoy fabulous views of mountains exceeding 7000 meters before heading to Gilgit. Overnight at the hotel.

**Day 6 Gilgit sightseeing:** Visit the Kargah Buddha rock carving, Gilgit Bazaar with its kaleidoscopically arrayed shops, and then on to the Chinar Bagh (Garden). From here see Asia's longest vehicular suspension bridge and visit the Chinese cemetery. Overnight at the hotel.

**Day 7 Gilgit - Naran:** Early in the morning proceed to Naran via Chilas and the fabled Babusar Pass. The journey takes around 7 to 8 hours. Arrive and transfer to the Hotel for overnight stay.

**Day 8 Naran – Saif ul Muluk Lake - Islamabad:** Depart in local jeeps early for Lake Saif ul Muluk, which is at the height of 3200m. Guarded by the Himalayas, the crystal clear waters of the lake mirror the azure sky and Malika Parbat (Queen of Mountains) and capture the serene beauty that is awe inspiring. Later on continue your 6-7 hour return journey to Islamabad.

**END OF OUR SERVICES** 

\*Price based on minimum 6 persons on Triple Occupancy Bed & Breakfast basis in Standard Hotels