

SKARDU

WINTER EDITION

OCTOBER-MARCH

A MAGICAL SNOWY ESCAPE

Skardu in winter is a snowy wonderland with stunning mountains, frozen lakes, and peaceful valleys. Places like Shigar Fort, Khaplu Palace, and Katpana Desert are perfect for photos. Frozen lakes and the icy beauty of Hussainabad Waterfall are must-see spots. With fewer tourists and warm Balti hospitality, it's a magical experience.



Travel Pakistani

Travel Pakistani is a platform designed to connect hosts and travelers, creating a community of explorers and creatives eager to share their passion, knowledge, and experiences with others. As an online marketplace, Travel Pakistani allows tour operators and hosts to offer their tours directly to customers.

With Travel Pakistani, you can browse through hundreds of ready-made tour packages or request a customized tour that fits your personal needs and budget. It's all about making travel easy and enjoyable, whether you're looking for a thrilling adventure, a cultural experience, or a relaxing getaway.

Skardu in Winter: A Snowy Wonderland

Skardu in winter is a dream destination with snow-covered valleys, frozen lakes, and majestic peaks like K2 and Masherbrum. The unique sight of the snow-blanketed Katpana Desert is truly magical. Frozen lakes like Satpara and Shangrila look magical in winter, while walks through Shigar and Khaplu valleys are perfect for adventure lovers. Enjoy the warm hospitality of the Balti people and explore historic sites like Shigar Fort and Khaplu Palace. Treat yourself to delicious local dishes like Thukpa and apricot jam, perfect for the cold. With fewer tourists and peaceful nights by the fire, Skardu in winter is pure magic.



ITINERARY

Day

1

Departure from Islamabad for Chilas

- Travel through Hazara Motorway and then to Thakot Motorway.
- Travel on the Karakorum Highway along the mighty river Indus.
- Short Stays on the way. Continue your journey towards Besham.
- Drive towards Dasso. Then drive towards Chilas.
- Arrival in Chilas.
- Overnight stay in Chilas.

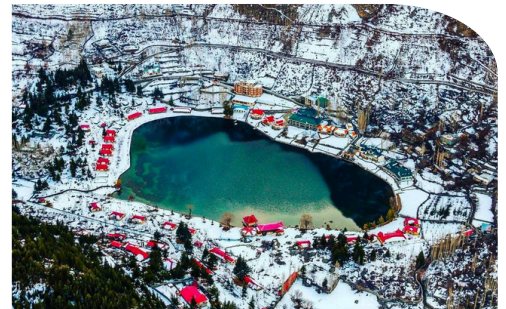


Day

2

Departure for Skardu

- Travel via Jaglot and Astak to reach Skardu.
- Visit Shangrila Lake and Upper Kachura Lake.
- Photography and Sightseeing.
- Visit Soq Valley.
- Overnight stay in Skardu.



Day

3

Visit Khaplu

- Departure for Khaplu.
- Stopover at the confluence point of the Shyok River and Indus.
- Stopover on Barah Valley.
- Visit the old town of Khaplu and the famous Khaplu fort.
- Visit 600 years old famous Chaqchan Mosque.
- Visit Sailing Fish Farm.
- Overnight stay in Khaplu.



Day

4

Visit to Shigar Valley

- Departure for Shigar Valley.
- Stopover for photography at Cold Desert.
- Enjoy a distant view scenic Sarfaranga Desert.
- Visit the old town of Shigar and the famous Shigar fort. .
- Visit Amburiq Mosque.
- Overnight stay in Shigar.



Day

5

Back to Chilas

- Visit Skardu Fort, also called Kharpocho Fort.
- Departure for Chilas.
- Travel on the same Karakorum Highway route.
- Arrival in Chilas.
- Overnight stay in Chilas.



Day

6

Back to Islamabad

- Departure for Islamabad.
- Travel on Thakot Motorway and then Hazara Motorway.
- Stopovers on the way for rest.
- Arrival in Islamabad.
- End of services after a beautiful journey.



Places to Visit

Lower Kachura Lake

Lower Kachura Lake, also called Shangrila Lake, is a stunning spot in Skardu that becomes even more magical in winter. Its frozen surface and snow-covered surroundings create a peaceful and picturesque setting. Located just 20 minutes from Skardu, the lake is part of the famous Shangrila Resort, offering breathtaking views. It's a perfect place to enjoy nature's serene beauty in the chilly season.



Upper Kachura Lake

Upper Kachura Lake in Skardu is a stunning sight in winter, with its crystal-clear waters partially frozen and surrounded by snow-covered mountains. The peaceful setting is perfect for photography and quiet walks along the lake. Trekking around the area offers breathtaking views of the rugged winter landscape. It's a serene escape for nature lovers visiting Skardu in the cold season.



Kharpocho Fort

Kharpocho Fort in Skardu is a historic gem that becomes even more enchanting in winter. Built in the late 16th century by King Ali Sher Khan Anchan, it offers stunning views of the snow-covered Skardu Valley and Indus River. The climb to the fort takes about an hour, but the serene winter landscapes make it worth the effort. Its ancient rooms and thick stone walls create a magical sense of history, perfect for exploration.



Shigar Valley

Shigar Valley in winter is a magical destination with snow-covered landscapes and peaceful surroundings. The iconic Shigar Fort, a 17th-century heritage site, looks stunning against the snowy backdrop. Visitors can explore Blind Lake and the valley's historic wooden mosque, both surrounded by serene winter beauty. It's a perfect spot to enjoy Skardu's culture and nature in the colder months.



Places to Visit

Khaplu

Khaplu in winter is a serene destination with snow-covered mountains and peaceful valleys. The historic Khaplu Palace looks magical surrounded by snow, offering a glimpse into the region's rich culture. The quiet charm of the village, frozen rivers, and warm Balti hospitality make it a perfect winter escape. It's a must-visit for those seeking beauty and tranquility.



Satpra Lake

Satpara Lake in Skardu is a breathtaking sight in winter, as its clear blue waters often freeze, creating a magical, icy landscape. Surrounded by snow-covered mountains, it offers peace and stunning views for visitors. The lake is perfect for photography and quiet winter walks along its serene shores. Its beauty and calmness make it a must-visit spot during Skardu's snowy season.



Katpana Desert

Katpana in Skardu transforms into a magical snowy desert during winter, making it one of the world's most unique sights. The sand dunes, covered in snow, create a breathtaking contrast against the surrounding mountains. This snowy Cold Desert is perfect for photos and peaceful walks, offering Skardu's rare winter beauty.



Sarfaranga Desert

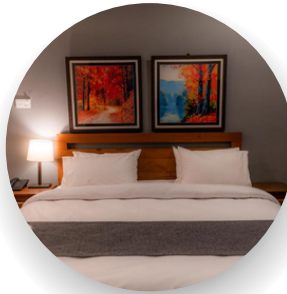
Sarfaranga Desert, also called the Cold Desert, becomes a unique sight in winter with its snow-dusted dunes. The contrast of white snow and golden sand creates a breathtaking landscape. It's a serene and peaceful spot to experience Skardu's winter charm.



Hotels

Dynasty Hotel

Dynasty Hotel Skardu is a 3-star hotel offering free WiFi and stunning mountain views from every room's balcony. Guests can enjoy a garden, terrace, and a restaurant serving American cuisine, along with free private parking. Each room includes a private bathroom, flat-screen TV, and cozy amenities like slippers. Conveniently located 11 km from Skardu Airport, it's perfect for a comfortable and scenic stay.



Hotel Himalaya

Hotel Himalaya Skardu is a cozy 3-star hotel with 16 comfortable rooms, perfect for a relaxing stay. It features a large lawn, a restaurant, and outdoor BBQ facilities. Guests can enjoy free valet parking, a bar/lounge, and a 24-hour business center. It's a great option for those seeking comfort and convenience in Skardu.



Qayam Skardu

Located in the heart of Skardu, Qayam Skardu offers 20 cozy rooms designed for comfort and relaxation. Guests can enjoy delicious continental, Chinese, and local dishes at the on-site restaurant or unwind at the open-air tea café. A souvenir and dried fruit shop lets you take a piece of Skardu home, and laundry services add to the convenience. With its warm hospitality and peaceful setting, Qayam Skardu promises an unforgettable stay.



Hotels

Shangrila Resort

Shangrila Resort in Skardu, also called "Heaven on Earth," is located among towering mountains. It surrounds the beautiful heart-shaped Kachura Lake and lush gardens. The resort features 60 spacious rooms with luxurious amenities and cottages with private balconies offering stunning lake views. It's the perfect place for relaxation and enjoying nature's beauty.



Serena Khaplu Palace

Serena Khaplu Palace is a stunning example of royal architecture in Baltistan, offering a unique stay for visitors. The hotel features air-conditioned rooms with flat-screen TVs, and some offer beautiful views of the mountains or lake. Each room has a private bathroom with a shower, bathrobes, and slippers for extra comfort. It's a perfect blend of luxury and heritage.



Serena Shigar Fort

Serena Shigar Fort, also called "Palace on the Rock," is a beautifully restored heritage hotel in Baltistan. Located on the route to K2, it offers stunning views, a peaceful garden, and a lovely terrace. Guests enjoy a restaurant, 24-hour service, and free WiFi. It's a perfect mix of history, comfort, and natural beauty.



FOOD

THUKPA

A warm noodle soup with vegetables and meat, perfect for cold days.



YAK MEAT STEW

A rich and flavorful stew made with yak meat, commonly enjoyed in the winter.



APRICOT JAM

Made from local apricots, this sweet treat is often spread on fresh bread or enjoyed with tea.



BALTI TEA

A traditional herbal tea, often served with local spices, to keep you warm.



FOOD

CHAPSHORO

A type of local dumpling filled with meat, vegetables, and spices, typically served during the colder months.



PULAO

A comforting rice dish with meat and vegetables, perfect for family meals.

MARZAN

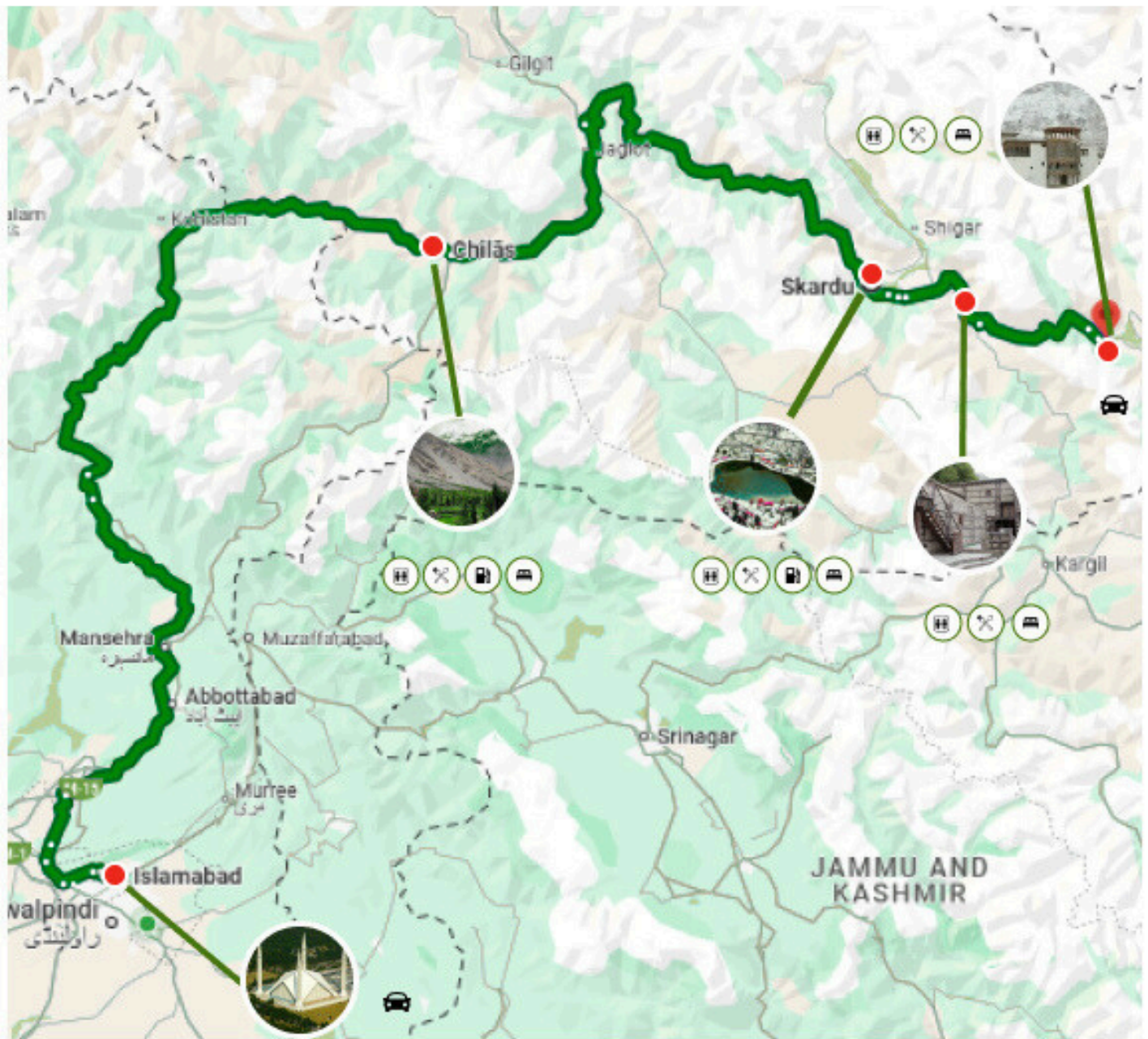
A traditional Skardu dish made with wheat flour, butter, and sugar, often enjoyed as a sweet treat in the winter.



PRAPU

A type of dumpling made from unleavened dough filled with a mixture of meat (usually yak or mutton), vegetables, and spices. Prapu is steamed or boiled, giving it a light and flavorful texture.

ITINERARY MAP



- Washroom
- Food
- Accommodation
- Fuel



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