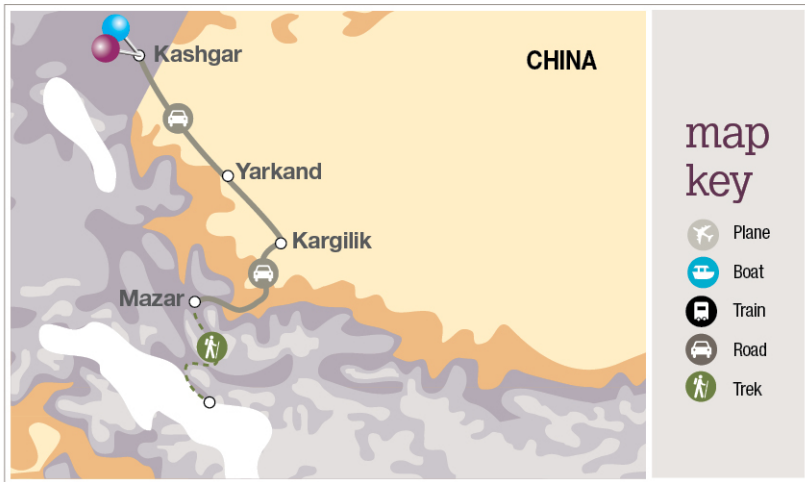


# K2 North Face Base Camp

This is a *strenuous* trip to the heart of the Chinese Karakoram. This little known and previously closed region now gives relatively easy trekking access to a region of the world's greatest peaks and historic routes following the footsteps of Eric Shipton's 1936 Shaksgam expedition to the remote K2 Glacier. There is a fair stretch of river bed travel but all of the river crossings can be managed easily on the back of a camel. The trip involves twelve days camping above 3000m. Aghil pass (4500m) is the only pass and highest point on the trip.

Visit Kashgar, Kargilik, Mazar.



● Starting point ● Finishing point

Length of trip	<b>19 days 11 trekking days.</b>
Accommodation	<b>Hotels, tents</b>
Meals included	<b>Yes</b>
Travel Style	<b>Porter supported trek.</b>
Escort	<b>Local English speaking guide</b>
Maximum group	<b>12</b>
Sightseeing and entry fees	<b>Included</b>
Commences	<b>Kashgar 31st August 2012</b>
Concludes	<b>Kashgar 18th Sept 2012</b>
COST	<b>NZ\$5,900</b> based on twin share. <i>(prices subject to change)</i>

You don't need magic to disappear. All you need is a destination.

- Unknown



**To BOOK or ENQUIRE**

**In New Zealand Ph 0800 349 739. [info@silkroad.co.nz](mailto:info@silkroad.co.nz)**

**In Australia Ph 1800 786 302 [silk\\_rd@bigpond.net.au](mailto:silk_rd@bigpond.net.au)**



## Itinerary at a Glance :

### Day 1 Arrive Kashgar

Met by our representative and transfer to the hotel

### Day 2 Kashgar

Our full day programme in Kashgar includes a wander in the old city lanes and several cultural sites. Afternoon at leisure in this historic Silk Road city.

### Day 3 Kashgar

Today we are off to the renowned Sunday market. We start first at the colourful livestock market and progress to the main bazaar after lunch. PM there is time to prepare for the trek and sort out gear.

### Day 4 To Kargilik

This morning set out for the full day drive to Karghulik via Yarkand. Stop in Yarkand for sightseeing and lunch. Expect to arrive in Karghulik late PM.

### Day 5 To Elik

Load up for the drive to Mazar and the climb into the KunLun mountains. We have only 300km to travel but it will take most of the day to cover the distance. Stop for lunch at Kudi, complete border formalities. Continue to Elik village via Mazar. Camp at Elik.

### Day 6 Trek to Kara Yar (3800m)

This morning load up the camels and head off on a high side up the river terraces for 5-6 hrs trek following the 'true' left bank of the river to the campsite at Kara Yar near the confluence of the Zug Shaksgam and Surukwat Rivers.

### Day 7 Trek to Chongur Otak (4300m)

Today the route winds up the river bed crossing and recrossing the river for about 5-6 hrs to reach the camp site at Chongkur Otak at the base of Aghil Pass.

### Day 8 Trek to Kerchin (3700m)

Immediately start the ascent to Aghil pass, 4500m. From the pass there are stunning views across to Gashebrum 1 and 2 and to Broad Peak. The descent to the Shaksgam River takes about 3 hours then its across the river to Kerchin camp site in a willow grove on the 'true' left bank.

### Day 9 Trek to Kuruk Jangal (3800m)

We trek almost 7 hours down the River today frequently using the camels to cross and re-cross the river until we reach the confluence of the Sarpo Lago River and turn up stream to the camp site at Kuruk Jangal.

### Day 10 Trek to K2 Base (3900m)

Today continue up the K2 valley to the Chinese base camp some 4-5 hrs walk up stream. This was Younghusband's camp site in 1887 and the base camp for Shipton's 'Blank on the map' expedition in 1936.

### Day 11 K2 Base

A day at base camp for photography and an opportunity to explore further.

### Day 12 Return to Kuruk Jangal

Today we retrace our steps down valley to Kuruk Jangal.

### Day 13 Return to Kerchin

Again down the river bed crossing and re crossing the river to reach Kerchin camp site at the willow grove terrace opposite the Aghil Pass.

### Day 14 Return to Chongur Otak

Up and over the pass today as far as the camp site near the shepherds summer camp at Chongur Otak.

### Day 15 Return to Kara Yar

More river bed travel today as we beat a path down the valley to camp at Kara Yar.

### Day 16 Return to Elik

We have the road end at Elik firmly in our sights today. It will take about 5 hours to make the camp spot.

### Day 17 To Karghulik

Today we are back on the road heading for Karghulik, hot showers and a hotel bed.

### Day 18 To Kashgar

Today return drive to Kashgar via Yarkand.

### Day 19 Conclude

Our arrangements conclude today with a transfer to the airport.



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