

Kalash Festival Uchal

Kalash Festival Uchal | 20th - 22nd August

Do experience the world unique culture of Kalash with Sky Nation Tourism. It is better to see the culture once than hear about it a thousand times

“Thanksgiving movement” - UCHAL is one of the famous religious festivals of the Kalash community celebrated by the Kalasha people every year on 20-22 August for the harvest and threshing of wheat crop in the three valleys of Bumburate, Birir and Rumbur.

The most remote and highly vulnerable community of Kalasha having unique traditions, values, customs is the most happiest people of the world. Non of the six key factors of happiness criteria applied in determining the international standard, but the Kalasha are known to be content and cheerful, as well as peaceful, showing gratitude and enjoying their simple pastoralist lives.

They have unique spiritual beliefs which taught them tolerance for others and which helped in maintaining a balance within their community. They have unique spiritual beliefs which taught them tolerance for others and which helped in maintaining a balance within their community and factors contributing to the wellbeing, happiness and resilience enhancement beliefs of Kalasha included five main themes, all influenced by their unique spirituality: contentment, pride in social identity, tolerance, gender collaboration and gratitude.

Kalash person's belief that “we have to live here in the heaven of Kalash and not in any other part of the world, so we are satisfied, we have enough resources to feed ourselves and our children. The Kalasha are never money oriented, we prefer peace and love that is everything to us. (Badsha Kalash)... we [the tribe] are famous for our faith in purity, we are pure souls like we don't do negative things, we are satisfied with our lives, in our traditions and give no harm to others, we believe that all living peacefully are pure souls”. (Jia Kalasha).

Kalash celebrates every single event of life individually and collectively. Their social structured is established in a way which promote happiness, love, tolerance and respect to all living and non living creature of God. The four landmark festivals are celebrated in May, August, September and December every year, providing space sand opportunities for other people to join them in these feasts.

Uchal festival provides an opportunity to the community to pay homage to nature by celebrating the harvest and also thanking their Creator for blessing them with good food and crops. They take a procession to a high plateau which is located outside of the village in Balangkuru and they pray to the Creator and this is where the long night of dancing begins.

The Kalashi people celebrate the pre-harvest with cheese, corn, and wine. The people of the Kalash

valley love music and dance to the beat of drums. Women dance in a circle on different songs. An interesting fact about Kalashi people is that they do not mourn the deaths, rather they celebrate it as a movement of happy return of their soul to God. The best gift the Kalasha people expect from the friend is a big dance for the departed soul.

On this occasion they celebrate harvesting with singing, dancing and paying homage to the nature for blessing them with barley and wheat harvest season prepare special foods, cheese, buttermilk and cornbread for the event. Women in traditional dresses perform dances. During the festival prayers, a procession is made to a high plateau outside the village in Balangkuru where the long night of dancing begins.

Itinerary:

Day 01: Islamabad-Lower Dir- Chitral

Distance from Peshawar 330km (10.00hrs)

Distance from islamabad 418km (10.30 hrs)

Departure from Islamabad /Peshawar

Lunch at Dir Shangrila Hotel

Cross lowary Tunnel 10.5km long

Arrival to Chitral Town

Enjoy the Sunset at Chitral

Check into Tourist inn hotel at Chitral

Dinner at hotel (two dishes) and night stay

Out 8.00 from check the hotel

Day 02: Chitral Town-Bamburet Kalash Valley

Breakfast at hotel

Departure for bambret by safari jeep

30 minutes staty at Ayun Vally view point

Visit kalshadur museaum with tours guide (Male or female)

Check in to happy family guest house

Visit ancient house of Kalash Valley (world heritage by UNCHR)

Visit handi crafts

Visting dancing place and other spiritual place of kalash

Check into hotel dinner (two dishes)

Bonfire and local music

Night stay at Happy Family Guest House

Day 03: Bamburet Kalash to Chitral Town

Breakfast at hotel

Departure for Chitral (04.00 hr)

Lunch at Chitral Town

Visit Birmughlasht view point 02 hours

Visit Shahi Masjid

Visit Shahi Fort Chitral

Visit Polo Ground

Visit Musem (if possible)

And much more

Check into hotel dinner (two dishes)

Niht stay at chitral city

Day 04: Chitral- Garamchashma-Chitral Town

Breakfast at hotel

Drive for Garamchashma 03 hrs

30 minutes stay at Shaghor valley

Enjoying swimming in hot spring

Visit hot spring for 2 hrs

Lunch at local restaurant

Back to Chitral

Visit to see markhor (if possible)

Check into hotel

Free time for rest

Shopping in Jung Bazar

Night stay

Day 05: Chitral- Qaqlasht-Booni (Upper Chitral)

Breakfast at hotel

Departure for Booni 4 hrs

Arrival to Booni

lunch & refreshment at Booni

Continue drive to Qaqlasht ground 1hr

back to Booni

Check into Hotel

Two dishes

Enjoy Local Taste of Booni

Day 06: Booni-Chitral-Dir-Islamabad/Peshawar

Breakfast at hotel

Departure for peshawar /islamabad

Cross Chitral Town

30 minutes stay at lowery tunnel

Some photography

Some photography

Cross lowery tunnel 10.5km

Lunch at Dir at al Manzar Hotel

Arrival to Islamabad over night

End of the tour Good bye

Cost of the Itinerary

Rate Calculation per Person with Detail:

Vehicle Type	Group Size	PKG Type	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner	off Seasons	Peak Seasons
Coaster Saloon	25-30 Person	Economy	Egg,Paratha Tea	One dish	One dish	17,000/-	19,500/-
Hi-Ace	15-18 Person	Economy	Egg,Paratha, Tea.	One dish	One dish	21,500/-	23,500/-
Hi-Ace	15-18 person	Standard Package	Egg,Channy, Paratha,Tea	Two dishes	Two dishes	24,500/-	26,500/-
High Roof	08-10 Person	Standard Package	Egg,Channy, Paratha, Tea.	Two dishes	Two dishes	28,500/-	30,500/-
GLi/XLi	04 Person	Standard Package	Egg,Channy, Paratha, Tea.	Two dishes	Two dishes	34,500/-	36,500/-
GLi/XLi	02 Person	Standard Package	Egg,Channy, Paratha, Tea.	Two dishes	Two dishes	38,500/-	44,500/-

Dinner:

Chicken korma + Chapati+ Raita/Salad + Cold drink.

OR Chicken biryani + Raita/Salad + Cold drink.

OR Chicek BBQ (Quarter Piece)+Katchup + Nan + Cold drink.

Lunch: Grill fish, Afghani Palwu Salad/ Raita, Katchup Cold drink

Terms and Conditions For The Tour

Room type 04 bed Sharing

Single or double room will be provide on demand

No hidden fees / Charges

Mode of payment 50% in Advance Cash

Time Table must be follow

First Aid at any stage/ an emergency

Rush can disturb our time plan

Conform Your Booking at least 10 days before departure

Refreshment expense & entry fees will be paid by the tourist

Infant will be free child (05-10 years) will charges 50% of the tour Package

Tour Cancellation Policy

00% of the total amount will be deducted if cancellation notified 10-09 days prior to the trip

15% of the total amount will be deducted if cancellation notified 06-07 days prior to the trip

35% of the total amount will be deducted if cancellation notified 04-05 days prior to the trip

60% of the total amount will be deducted if cancellation notified 01-02 days prior to the trip

85% of the total amount will be deducted if cancellation notified 12-24 Hrs prior to the trip

Dos and Don'ts for Everyone:

Always ask permission before photography

Don't harass women in any way

Don't walk into people tents uninvited

Don't disturb the working in field

Don't drink alcohol in public places

Buy local products

Don't carry arms

Use dedicated parking area

Security is for your safety, always cooperate with security

Don't throw stuff on to the tourist places

Don't take photography at dangerous places

Make your kind cooperation with Sky Nation Tourism team

Recommended Gear:

NIC is must

Trekking boots/Joggers/Comfortable Shoes/Slippers

Back Pack

Torches with extra batteries

Waterproof lower and Jacket

Thermals (both upper and lower)

Fleece/Sweaters

T Shirts for day trekking

Water bottle

Socks, preferably woolen (03-04 pairs)

Gloves (highly recommended)

Muffler (highly recommended)

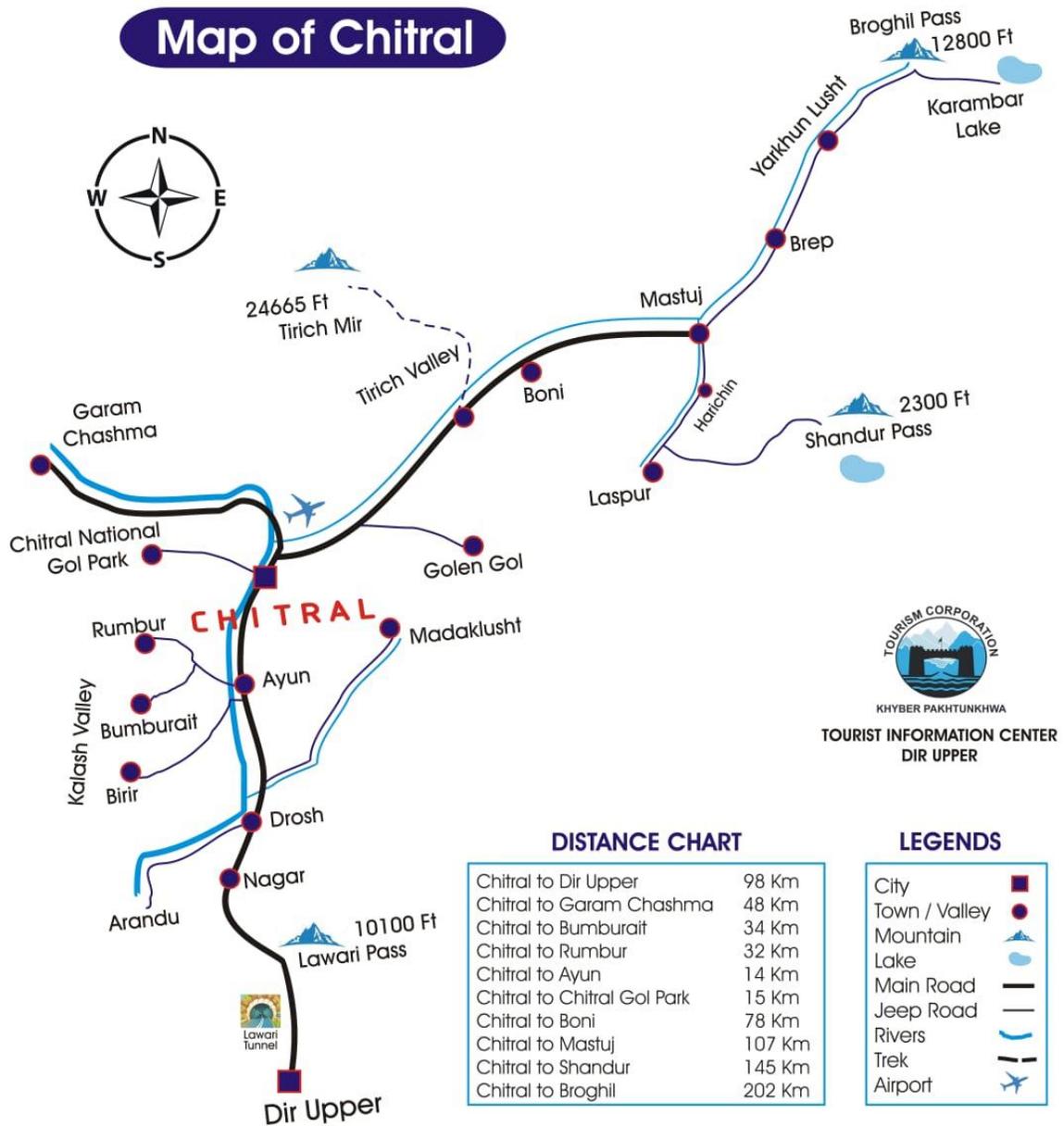
Beanie (highly recommended)

Hand wash/soap/sanitizer, wipes, tooth paste and all other necessities

Sun Block and Sun glasses

Power bank

Map of Chitral



KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA
TOURIST INFORMATION CENTER
DIR UPPER

DISTANCE CHART

Chitral to Dir Upper	98 Km
Chitral to Garam Chashma	48 Km
Chitral to Bumburait	34 Km
Chitral to Rumbur	32 Km
Chitral to Ayun	14 Km
Chitral to Chitral Gol Park	15 Km
Chitral to Boni	78 Km
Chitral to Mastuj	107 Km
Chitral to Shandur	145 Km
Chitral to Broghil	202 Km

LEGENDS

City	■
Town / Valley	●
Mountain	▲
Lake	☪
Main Road	—
Jeep Road	- - -
Rivers	~
Trek	- · -
Airport	✈