

A GLIMPSE OF BHUTAN



Nestled in the heart of the great Himalayan range, Druk Yul (The land of thunder dragon)- the Buddhist kingdom of Bhutan, is one of the world's most beautiful travel destinations. Often referred to as the last Shangri-la, this tiny Himalayan kingdom hosts a remarkable variety of climate and ecosystem, with 72% of it under forest cover, high mountain terrain and deep fertile valleys. Our itinerary and gives participants an opportunity to interact with the people of Druk Yul and experience the Bhutanese way of life in its undiminished natural form.

BOOK OUR EXTRAORDINARY 5 DAYS 4 NIGHTS TOUR IN BHUTAN WITH VERY SPECIAL PRICE OFFER STARTING FROM USD\$890 PER PERSON ONLY.

Activity Levels:  **Leisurely**
You are healthy, enjoy the outdoors and want a relaxing trip. No experience is required.

Duration: 5 days

AT A GLANCE

- Discover some of the most sacred Buddhist monasteries and temples in the Himalaya
- Hike up to the famous Taktsang Monastery, perched on a cliff 900m above the valley floor.
- Marvel at the elaborate and ancient wall paintings and carvings in Dzongs and temples.

Cost Includes

- **4 Nights** hotel accommodation Deluxe Room
- Meals 3 times daily (Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner)
- Private driver & air-conditioned vehicle

- Sightseeing and entrance fees as specified
- Local English speaking guide as per program
- Bhutan Government Royalty fees and visa
- Tourism Development Fund
- All internal taxes and fees
- Mineral drinking water
- Tourism development and visa fees

Cost Excludes

- Your Flight Ticket for Bhutan
- Drinks and personal expenses
- Travel insurance (recommended)
- Gratitude for Guide & Driver

ITINERARY

Day 01:: Arrive Paro and sightseeing in Paro

Entering by Air. The two national carriers of **Bhutan** are Drukair and **Bhutan** Airlines, who fly regularly to Paro.

1. Arriving from Bangkok to Paro: 4 flights Per Week (Durations: 3hrs)
2. Arriving from Kathmandu to Paro: 1 flights Per day (Durations: 1 hrs. 30 minute)
3. Arriving from Delhi to Paro: 1 flight daily (durations: 2h 15 minute)

The flight into Paro on our national carrier, Druk Air, is a befitting introduction to the spectacular beauty of our country. In clear weather, magnificent views of the world's highest peaks give way to the lush green Paro valley as you land. First gift from Bhutan will be the cool, clean fresh air as you step out of the plane.

During our tour in Paro, we visit **Paro Dzong**, perhaps the finest example of Bhutanese architecture as well as a local religious administrative center. We also visit **Ta Dzong**, an ancient watchtower housing the **National Museum**, with abundant culture relics. After that, visit to **Kyichu Lhakhang**, one of the oldest temples in Bhutan and ends at a local **farm house**, where you can chat with local people, see how they live and may taste some homemade wine.

Overnight: Paro

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 02:: Hike to Tiger nest monastery and drive to Thimphu

Today after breakfast, our journey starts from Northwest of Paro, we take a trip to the famous monastery Taktsang (about 3,150m) also known as the **Taktsang Palphug Monastery** and the **Tiger's Nest**. Which impressively perched on the rock. After about two and a half hour climb on partially unpaved road (sturdy footwear required) you reach this for the Bhutanese holiest place, about 900 meter above the Paro valley.

Horseback riding to the viewpoint is possible for a fee of approximately \$ 15. The monastery is also called the Tiger's Nest because of its exposed location and a tale about Tantric Padmasambhava (Guru Rinpoche). After the sightseeing, you will descend again into the valley and have lunch halfway in the Taktsang cafeteria. Then we drive to Thimphu, the capital city of Bhutan. The drive will take around 1 hour. Thimphu has a population about 100,000. The town is made up of just three lines of shops and is the only capital in the world without traffic lights. In the evening, we will visit the Handicrafts Emporium, where all types of Bhutanese handicrafts are made and sold, overnight at hotel.

Overnight: Thimphu

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 03:: Thimphu sightseeing - drive to Punakha

Full day to tour the capital of Bhutan, where there are lots to see and do. Visit **Buddha Dordenma Statue** and **Takin Sanctuary**, memorial Chorten and **Zilukha nunnery**, a Viewpoint, followed by visit to traditional Art school (also called painting school) and visit Indigenous Hospital. In between, we can stop at the **Post Office** for stamps or send postcard home. See the textile academy and museum, stroll through the Farmer's market, peek at Changlimithang ground, where you may see the archery (national game) in progress. Stroll in the core city area, and shop for souvenirs. After that we drive to Punakha.

An exciting ride takes you over the **Dochu-La pass (3150 m)** to Punakha (1250 m). From the pass marked with 108 small rectangular chapels, you have a fantastic view over the mountains of the Eastern Himalayas on clear days. In Punakha, you will find the 400-year-old Dzong of the same name - one of the most magnificent facilities in Bhutan. After lunch on the riverside, you can try out Bhutan's national sport archery.

Overnight: Punakha

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 04:: Punakha sightseeing - drive to Paro

In Punakha, We visit **Chimmi Lhakhang**, a temple dedicated to the Devine Madman and a sacred place where people pray for children. Next embrace the highlight - **Punakha Dzong**, a very beautiful Bhutanese architecture armed by the Pho Chu and Mo Chu rivers, with rich Buddhist collections. You will also visit **Suspension Bridge** nearby (the longest bridge in Bhutan).

Today we return via the Dochu-La Pass to Paro. On the way you make a short hike (walking time approx. 1 hour) to the fertility temple Chime Lhakhang, around whose emergence an old legend entwines. Depending on the road conditions and progress you will have some time in the afternoon in Paro to explore the city on your own. In the evening you can try on a traditional Bhutanese robe (Kira for the women or Go for the men).

Overnight: Paro

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 05:: Fly out from Paro to home

Our incredible tour in Bhutan comes to an end today! Say goodbye to Bhutan today. After breakfast,our representative from Mountain Sherpa Trekking & Expeditions will take us to the airport approximately 2-3 hours before our scheduled flight.

Included meals:Breakfast

Meal: Breakfast