

### **ABOUT BHUTAN**

Bhutan is a tiny Buddhist Kingdom located in the Eastern Himalaya Ranges. Bhutan is the "THE LAND WHERE HAPPINESS IS FOUND IN ABUNDANCE". Sandwiched between Tibet (China) to the north and India to the south, Bhutan, also known as the Land of the Thunder Dragon, covers an area of 37000 km<sup>2</sup> in the eastern Himalayas. Bhutan is also known, because of its pristine nature and culture, as the "Last Shangri-la" or "Heaven on Earth". Diverse in climate and culture, Bhutan is proud to be unique as a nation in the 21st century. Emerging from centuries of isolation, Bhutan, one of the most reclusive nations in the world, opened its doors in the year 1974. Ever since, in its advance towards modernization, His Majesty the 4th King of Bhutan Jigme Singye Wangchuck described Bhutan's development philosophy as a process towards Gross National Happiness (as opposed to GDP).

#### SUSTAINABLE TOURISM

In order to provide a sustainable tourism industry in Bhutan, the Government of Bhutan has imposed a policy of low volume and high quality tourists. This ensures that the Bhutanese traditions and culture can be preserved without exploitation.

There is no restriction on the number of tourists that are allowed to enter Bhutan, however independent travel within Bhutan is not allowed. Tourists can travel to Bhutan only through all-inclusive package tours (includes hotel, meals, guides, and trekking support) and the Government of Bhutan sets the rate.

## **BHUTAN PEAK ADVENTURE**

Bhutan Peak Adventure, a licenced inbound/outbound tour operator and also a member of ABTO (Association of Bhutan Tour Operator) and TCB (Tourism Council of Bhutan) established in the year 2008 offers a range of tours in Bhutan, such as:

- Cultural
- Trekking
- Pilgrimage
- Rafting
- Birding

The Company's unique selling point is customer satisfaction through personalized service. In our effort to keep our clients happy, you can be assured, we will not skimp on services.

We commit ourselves to responsible tourism by encouraging our guests to have greater understanding and appreciation of the host desitnations. We also support our partners in the travel destinations to aspire for the highest of standards and help achieve excellence.

Even after centuries of isolation, Bhutan has preserved and maintained its age-old culture and tradition. Tourism in Bhutan did not start till the early '70s, and, even today, limiting the visitors has helped our country to preserve its ancient heritage unspoiled. Driving along Bhutan's meandering roads will lead you through very untouched nature of different vegetative zones. Various tour packages are provided, besides the customized trips.

## Day 1: Arrive Paro

The flight to Paro offers breathtaking view of the mighty Himalayas. On the arrival at Paro International Airport, complete your visa formalities and you will be received by your representative, who will accompany you for the tour.

### Day 2: Paro Sightseeing

Hike to famous Taktshang Lhakhang "The Tigers Lair", clinging to a black rock face, 900 meters above the valley floor. It is one of the holiest and the most beautiful sites of Bhutan. Lunch will be served at the Cafeteria. After lunch, visit Drugyel Dzong, a ruined Fort, which once defended this valley from the Tibetan invasion.

#### Day 3: Paro–Thimphu

The drive to Thimphu. We visit the Simtokha Dzong, the oldest fortress in Bhutan. Visit the King's Memorial Chorten, and National Library that houses the world's largest book, ancient Buddhist texts and manuscripts, Folk Heritage, Painting School famous for traditional thangkha paintings.

## Day 4: Thimphu Sightseeing

Sightseeing in Thimphu: Visit Textile museum, the BBS Tower, (Radio Station Tower) to get the bird's eye view of the Thimphu Town. Visit the most endangered national animal of Bhutan, the Takin. We visit the Buddhist Nunnery, and Jungshi Bhutanse Paper factory and the post office to buy the award winning stamps at face value.

### Day 5: Thimphu–Punakha

AM drive to Punakha, crossing Dochula, a high altitude pass at an altitude of 3,100 m. Constructed on



top of a hill are 108 beautiful monumental chortens built by Her Majesty Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck. On a clear day, one can enjoy one of the most spectacular views of the highest peaks in Bhutan. Visit the Punakha Dzong. Afternoon, we visit to Khamsum Yuelley Namgyel Monastery. This temple is a splendid example of fine Bhutanese art and architecture, and is the only one of its kind in the world.

### Day 6: Punakha–Wangdi–Paro

Drive to Wangdiphodrang. On the way, we visit Chimi Lhakhang; the "Temple of Fertility". Further drive to Wangdiphodrang and view Wangdi Dzong and sightseeing. Drive to Paro. Stroll around the town.

### Day 7: Departure

Drive to Paro international Airport for onward journey. See off by our representative



Your Journey Begins Here



Bhutan offers many opportunities for trekking and tours, with its splendid scenic beauty, lofty mountains and deep valleys untouched by modernization. Trekking and touring in this Himalayan kingdom is a wonderful experience for anyone who enjoys rich natural habitats, meeting indigenous people, and immersing in their cultures. Snowman Trek is said to be the hardest trek in the world, with 12 passes to cross between 4500 and 5300 meters, with overnight camp halts at between 3700 and 5100 meters. The trekking lasts from 24–30 days. Most of the areas passed through are unsettled and high alpine areas.

# **Druk Path Trek**

Druk Path Trek is one of the most popular treks in Bhutan. It is a short and scenic trek with some great views and beautiful lakes en route. Although it leads up to altitudes above 4000m it is not too strenuous as walking distances between the camps are not too long. Besides the lakes, it is the Phajoding monastery that is one of the highlights of this trek.

## Day 1: Paro

Arrival at Paro. Local sightseeing and visits to sacred Kyichu Lhakhang, Dzongs and the Museum. After lunch visit Drugyel Dzong.

## Day 2: Paro–Jele Dzong

This is a short trekking day and the trail is uphill through conifer forests. The view of the Paro Valley from the camp is absolutely breathtaking. Maximum altitude during the hike is Jele La at 3560m.

## Day 3: Jele Dzong–Jangchulakha

Gradual climbs and a few steep climbs take you through thick alpine forests and rhododendron bushes. You will see yaks and yak herders around the camp today.

### Day 4: Jangchulakha–Jimilangtsho

The trail follows the ridge and on a clear day one will be surrounded by beautiful mountains and river valleys. The camp site is near the Lake Jimilangtsho known for their giant sized trout.

## Day 5: Jimilangtsho–Simkota

The trail takes you through dwarf rhododendron bushes and the lake. You will be able to observe the nomadic life of the yak herders on the way today. The camp is beside the Simkota lake.

## Day 6: Simkota–Phajoding

The trek begins with a gradual climb eventually reaching 4210m at Labana La. In clear weather, you will be able to see the spectacular view of Mt. Gangkar Phuensum, the highest mountain in the country and her sister mountains. Descend down to the family of Monasteries at Phajoding which serves as the View point of the Thimphu valley.

## Day 7: Phajoding–Thimphu

The trail leads downhill till your meeting with the transportation bus which will take you to your hotel.

Upon completion of the trek the remainder of the time in Bhutan can be dedicated to cultural sightseeing in Thimphu or Paro. A customized itinerary can be created for you.





The last bastion of Mahayana Buddhism (11 days/10 nights)

## Day 1: Paro

On arrival at Paro International Airport, you will be received by our representative and escort you to the hotel. After lunch, we drive to Kyichu Lhakhang, Dumtse Lhakhang, Chelela Nunnery.

## Day 2: Paro

After breakfast, we drive to the famous Taktsang Lhakhang "The Tigers Lair", clinging to a black rock face, 900 meters above the valley. Drive to Thimphu. Visit Memorial Chorten, Chang Gangkha Lhakhang, Zilukha Nunnery is one of the few surviving monasteries.

## Day 3: Thimphu

Tango was founded by Lama Gyalwa Lhanampa in 12th century. The Monastery is now an important centre of higher learning for monks is also associated with Lama Drukpa Kuenley and Zhabdrung. The name 'Tango' means head of horse.

#### Day 4: Punakha

Visit Khamsum Yuelley. It's art and architecture is the example of fine Bhutanese architecture and is one of its kinds in the world. Visit Chimi Lhakhang: The "Temple of Fertility".

### Day 5: Drive to Bumthang (via Trongsa)

One can relax or stroll in the town after a tiring journey.

### Day 6: Bumthang

Visit the sacred monasteries of Jambay Lhakhang, Kurje Lhakhang and Tamshing Lhakhang

Afternoon Visit to Mebar Tsho, (Lake of Burning Fire) Nunnery of Gangtey.

#### Day 7: Bumthang

Hike to Tharpaling Goenpa and Nimalung.

#### Day 8: Drive to Gangtey

Visit Gangtey Goenpa: is the only monastery of the Ngyinmapa sect of Buddhism in central Bhutan.

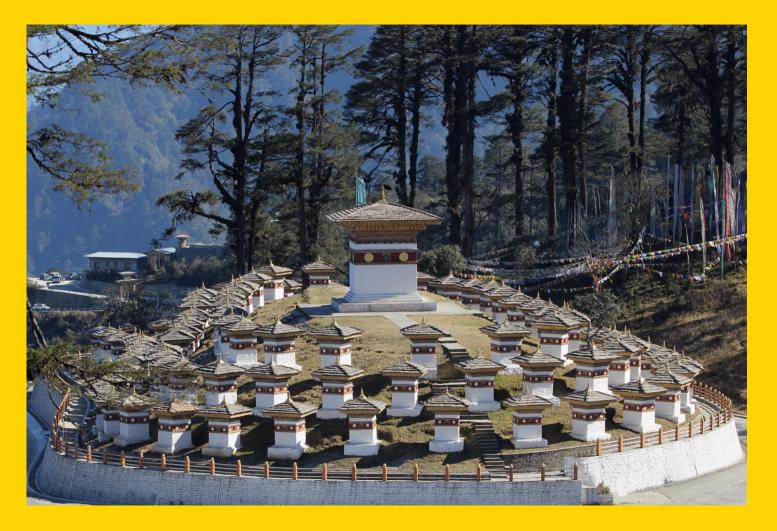
## Day 9: Drive to Wangdiphodrang

Visit Beylangdra. This is a holy pilgrimage site, built onto the sheer rock. It is an hour and half walk from the point where the road ends.

### Day 10: Thimphu

Visit Simtokha Dzong; This Dzong is the oldest Dzong in Bhutan, built in 1629 by Zhabdrung Ngawang Namgyel who unified Bhutan. Drive to Thimphu. Evening would be a free to do some shopping for souvenirs. *Day 11: Paro* 

Drive to Paro Airport for the onward flight.



Your Journey Begins Here



## Kathmandu (4 Days/3 Nights)

## Day 1: Arrive Kathmandu

Meet on arrival, and transfer to the hotel. Free for getting feel of city.

# Day 2: AM: Half day sightseeing of Pashupati and Baudha

After breakfast, proceed for a half day sightseeing tour of Pashupati the great Hindu Temple and Baudha the largest Buddhist Stupa. Rest of the day free for individual activities.

# Day 3: Half-day sightseeing of Kathmandu city & Swayambhunath

After breakfast, visit Kathmandu city, Swayambhunath Stupa. Rest of the day free for individual activities.

## Day 4: Departure transfer

Free till departure, transfer to the airport for onward journey



### Your Journey Begins Here

The government set minimum daily tariff for tourist visiting in a group of 3 persons or more is as follows:

US\$250 per person per night halt (March, April, May, September, October, November) US\$200 per person per night halt (January, February, June, July, August, December)

The tarrif includes: all accommodations (twin room sharing), all meals, government tax of USD\$65 per per night halts, all transportation during the tour, all activities noted in the itinerary. and bottled water while on drive or walk.

The daily tariff does not include: visa fee of US\$ 20.00, airfare, laundry, drinks and beverages, travel insurance, sleeping bags, gratuities.

**Surcharges** Single traveller US\$40/night Group of 2 persons US\$30/night per person.

#### **Discounts**

Children under 5 years have no charge. Children aged 6 to 12 years are given 40% discount. Students under the age of 25 years are given 25% discount.



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