

10 Days Discover Bhutan Tour

Day 01 | Arrival in Paro – Thimphu (1.5 Hr) L/D

Upon your arrival in Paro airport our guide will be there to welcome you and transfer to Thimphu. After Lunch visit the **Memorial Chorten** built in memory of the late 3rd King. This place now happens to be a get together point for the elderly people, who spend their whole day chanting prayers and meeting their friends. Visit **Changangkha Lhakhang**, the oldest temple in the valley offering a beautiful view of the valley. Enclosure where the national animal, **Takins** are kept and drive to visit the largest and the newly built statue of Buddha offering magnificent view of entire Thimphu valley, After 5 PM, visit the fortress of Thimphu, **Tashichho Dzong**, which houses the throne of the king. Evening walk around the happening town, the largest and the most crowded town in Bhutan

Overnight: Thimphu | Altitude: 2300m

Day 02 | Thimphu Sightseeing B/L/D

Morning visit the happening **weekend market** (Friday, Saturday, Sunday) where the locals from the surrounding villages come to sell their produce. They sell their goods and in return they buy their basic necessities. In olden days, bata system was practiced by everyone. Visit the **traditional Hand Made Paper Mill**. Visit the **School of Arts and Crafts** where students learn 13 different arts used predominantly in Bhutan. Visit **Folk Heritage Museum** which explains how a traditional house used to be like in the olden days, later visit the **National Library** which houses the collection of Bhutanese rich religious text and the contemporary Buddhism teachings from master all around the world. Drive further up to visit the **Dechenphodrang monastic school** and meet the young monks. Later continue to **Zilukha nunnery** to meet the nuns and interact with them.

Overnight: Thimphu | Altitude: 2300m

Day 03 | Thimphu- Punakha (3 Hrs) B/L/D

Morning drive to Punakha, crossing over **Dochula pass (3200 mts)**, If the weather permits one can enjoy a spectacular breath taking view of the highest mountain peaks of Bhutan at a site that stretches almost 180 degrees. Take a break and walk around the newly built 108 stupas and continue to the sub-tropical valley of Punakha offering a different vegetation. En route just before arriving the hotel, take a nice hike through the paddy field and old village to **visit Chimi Lhakhang**, the temple of fertility associated with religious art of phallus.

Visit **Punakha Dzong**, which houses the most elaborated temple in the country, This is a must to see fortress in Bhutan and a fine example of Bhutanese rich Art and Architecture. After the visit if you are in mood for a nice half-day hike, you could start the hike right above the Dzong with a short steep climb offering a great view of the valley with houses spread all around and the never ending turquoise river and its sandy river bed. This trail is also popular for mountain biking. The hike ends through the farm field crossing the newly constructed bridge, where your car will be waiting at the other side of the river. If you choose the entire activity can be done on foot from your hotel. After lunch could relax in the balcony of the hotel to enjoy the view and the nature, or could go for an hour hike (uphill) to the temple of **Khamsum Yuley Lhakhang** overlooking the paddy field and the snakelike river bends. Later back to the hotel.

Overnight: Punakha

Day 04 | Punakha – Phobjikha (3 Hrs) B/L/D

After breakfast drive to the remote isolated valley of Phobjikha. **Enroute hike to the unique village of Rinchengang**, which has a very old history dating back to early 1600, the hike to the village is worth with lots of photo opportunity of the village activities and children running after you. When reach, you could go for **Phobjikha Nature trail hike** (2.5 Hrs), which offers beautiful view of the valley. It starts from the valley and end with Gangtey Goempa temple at the hilltop overlooking the valley. **Gangtey Goempa temple** is a beautiful temple, richly renovated with many monks living. Could also visit the Crane Canter supported by the RSPN.

The endangered **Black Necked Cranes migrating to Bhutan every end of Oct to end of Feb**. This valley is a paradise for the nature lovers and hikers. Upon your arrival could go for a short walk in the valley. Or if you are too tired after the long drive, could relax in the hotel and enjoy the breathtaking view of the valley.

Overnight: Phobjikha | Altitude: 2900m

Day 05 | Phobjikha – Trongsa (4 ½ Hrs) B/L/D

After breakfast, will continue journey for Trongsa. Continue your drive and if time permits stop on the way in the villages of Rukubji for some photo opportunity. Later, upon your arrival after checking in the hotel, visit the impressive **Trongsa Dzong**. It was from this Dzong that the Bhutanese rulers fought off the British invasion attempts in the 1800s. Also visit the newly opened museum at the watchtower overlooking the Dzong.

Overnight: Trongsa | Altitude: 2200m

Day 06 | Trongsa- Jakar (3 Hours)

Later start driving for Jakar, crossing over Yotong La pass at 3,400m. After a short descend en route just before arriving Jakar, stop in Chumi valley, the weaving place, by the roadside where “Yatha” (wool weaving) is woven here which Bumthang is famous for. Continue your drive for Jakar crossing over Kiki La pass and finally descending to Jakar valley. Bumthang province consists of four different valleys know as Chumi, Jakar, Tang and Ura. This province is the most historical and one of the holiest place in Bhutan with so many temples and holy sites spread all around the province. Jakar is a beautiful valley and if you want to take a break and avoid driving, today’s activity can be entirely done on foot. Visit **Jampay Lakhang**, one of the first two Buddhist temples built in the country. Visit **Kurjey lakhang temple**, one of the holiest site in Bhutan, this is also the site where the royals are cremated and visit **Tamshing lakhang temple**. Evening stroll in Jakar town and try some local pancake and noodles.

Overnight: Jakar | Altitude: 2650m

Day 07 | Jakar- Punakha/Wangdue (8 ½ Hrs)

Morning check out from the hotel and drive to Punakha. En-route stop for lunch and for fresh air. Evening relax at hotel in Wangdue.

Overnight: Wangdue

Day 08 | Wangdue- Paro (4 ½ Hrs) B/L/D

Morning check out from the hotels and go for a short hike to the ancient village of **Rinchengang overlooking the ruins of Wangdi Dzong**. It’s amazing how they have managed to be together and preserve the old houses. Later in the afternoon continue your drive to Paro. Upon arrival in Paro, visit **Paro Dzong**

(Fortress) on foot and continue walking through the oldest wooden bridge still in use. stroll around the old Paro town and peep into some local handicrafts stores. Could get some opportunity to see the traditional game, **Archery match** going on, Evening back to the hotel

Overnight: Paro | Altitude: 2200m

Day 09 | Paro Sightseeing B/L/D

Morning drive to the base for the hike (3 hrs uphill) to **Tiger’s Nest**, the most revered temple in the country that literally hangs on a granite cliff overlooking the Paro valley. Most of the day will go on the hike. On the way back, if you have the energy and time visit the **Kichu Lakhang**, one of the oldest temples in Bhutan which marks the beginning of Buddhism in the country. farewell dinner with your guide

Overnight: Paro

Day 10 | Departure B

Morning transfer to the airport for your departure flight, your guide will bid you farewell at the airport.

Note: We would like to inform you, that due to the highway extension going on in central and east Bhutan, the road condition especially from Punakha onwards is not in very good condition, so if you are traveling after Punakha, please be prepared for a long bumpy drive. The driving hours after Punakha could also take longer than mentioned in the itinerary.

Tariff as follow

10 Days Bhutan Package 2020-2021 Tariff

Season/ Package Cost	1 Pax	2 Pax	3 Pax & 3 Pax above
Low Season (January, February, June, July, August & December)	USD3285	USD3195	USD2925
Peak Season (March, April, May, September, October & November)	USD3735	USD3645	USD3375

** Tariff is based on US Dollars (USD) per person per package

Included in the minimum daily tariff package:

* All accommodations in 3 star standard hotels ---- Standard room

-Thimphu: Hotel Osel or similar –**2 Nights**

-Paro: Tenzinling resort or similar –**2 Nights**

-Punakha: Zhingkhram resort or similar – **2Night**

-Phobjikha: Phobjikha resort or similar –**1 Night**

-Jakar: River lodge or simiar –**1 Night**

-Trongsa: Yangkhil resort or similar –**1 Night**

*All Meals (Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner)

- * Full time English speaking guide
- * Private transportation for airport pick up/ drop and all sightseeing
- * Entrance fees to events, historic sites, museums and parks as indicated in the itinerary
- * Visa process and arrangement – **Passport copy required only**
- * Sustainable Development Fee (SDF) and all other taxes
- * Complimentary 1 bottle of drinking water on the vehicle only
- * **International flight ex SIN: Singapore – Paro, Bhutan – Singapore return flight – economy class,**
KB541 SIN –PBH 1155-1555HRS
KB540 PBH –SIN 0805 -1610HRS
(Stopover in Guwahati, no need get off from aircraft)

Not included in the minimum daily tariff package:

- * Travel Insurance
- * Bank transfer fees
- * Refreshment, water and any alcoholic/non-alcoholic beverages
- * Travel Insurance (Must for Trekking) applicable

- * Luxury star hotels and resorts available at an additional cost
- * Luxury camping/trekking can be arranged at an additional cost
- * Gratuities to guide, driver, trekking staff, etc
- * Specialized guides (Foreign Language, Photography, Bird Watching, Buddhism or any specialized guide) available at an additional cost
- * Any personal expense

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(DH – 06/01/2020)