

7Nights/8 Days

# Bhutan Cultural Tour Packages

## Overview Bhutan Cultural Tour Packages

Bhutan, often referred to as the "Land of the Thunder Dragon," is a secluded kingdom nestled in the Eastern Himalayas, known for its unique blend of spirituality, stunning landscapes, and rich cultural heritage. The country, which has remained in self-imposed isolation for centuries, offers a rare glimpse into a world where traditional customs are still deeply integrated into daily life. Bhutan's Buddhist heritage and respect for nature have allowed it to preserve its pristine environment, making it one of the most eco-conscious countries in the world. With a population of about 700,000, Bhutan is the only Mahayana Buddhist country in the world. Its people live in close harmony with the land, and the country's architecture, art, and festivals reflect the deep spiritual beliefs of its people. From the majestic monasteries perched high on cliffs to the colorful dzongs (fortresses) and sacred temples, Bhutan's religious sites play an integral role in the cultural fabric of the nation. The capital city of Thimphu blends modernity with ancient traditions, while picturesque towns like Paro and Punakha offer a glimpse into rural Bhutanese life, surrounded by lush valleys and towering Himalayan peaks. Bhutan is also a haven for nature lovers, with its dense forests, high mountain ranges, and diverse wildlife. The country's commitment to environmental preservation is evident in its policies that protect wildlife and promote sustainable tourism. Visitors can explore the tranquil beauty of places like the Phobjikha Valley, home to the endangered black-necked crane, and the serene Paro Valley, with its iconic Tiger's Nest Monastery perched on a cliff. The Bhutanese way of life, focused on happiness, spirituality, and sustainability, makes it a one-of-a-kind destination, where visitors can experience not just the beauty of the landscapes, but also the profound sense of peace that pervades this mystical kingdom.

## Day 1 Arrival in Paro and Transfer to Thimphu

The journey to Bhutan begins with one of the most awe-inspiring flights through the Himalayan range, offering breathtaking views as you descend into Paro. Once you arrive and complete the necessary immigration formalities, you will be greeted by a representative and drive to Thimphu, the capital city. Along the way, stop at Chuzom, where the Paro and Thimphu rivers meet, and admire three unique stupas. A brief visit to Tachogang Lhakhang, the Temple of the Excellent Horse, adds to the journey's charm. Upon reaching Thimphu, check in at your hotel. In the evening, take a leisurely walk around the city's main street and visit the local crafts bazaar to explore Bhutanese arts and souvenirs.

## Day 2 Discovering Thimphu's Cultural and Historical Treasures

After breakfast, start your day with a visit to the National Library, which houses valuable Buddhist manuscripts. Continue to the Institute for Zorig Chusum, a painting school where students master traditional Bhutanese arts. Explore the Textile Museum to learn about Bhutan's rich weaving heritage and Simply Bhutan, a living museum showcasing the culture and traditions of the nation. In the afternoon, take a short drive to Pangri Zampa Monastery, one of the oldest in Bhutan, and experience a monastic school where monks learn Lamaism and astrology. A visit to Buddha Point (Kuensel Phodrang) offers a panoramic view of the valley, with time for prayer at the large Buddha statue. End the day at the King's Memorial Chorten and Trashichhoedzong, an impressive fortress and monastery that also serves as the seat of Bhutan's government.

## Day 3 Journey to Gangtey via Dochula Pass

After breakfast, drive to Gangtey (Phobjikha), passing through Dochula Pass, where you can enjoy the stunning view of the eastern Himalayas. Stop at Wangdue Phodrang to explore the local market and admire the district's bamboo products and stone carvings. As you drive through dense forests, the view of Gangtey valley, with its open, flat expanse, is a rare and beautiful sight. After lunch, take a stroll through the village and visit Gangtey Goempa, a monastery perched on a hill in the valley, where monks follow the Nyingmapa school of Buddhism.

## Day 4 Exploring the Beauty of Gangtey and Onward to Punakha

Start your day with the Gangtey Nature Trail, an easy 5.5 km walk through meadows and forests, offering a serene experience of Phobjikha valley. Afterward, drive to Punakha and check in at your hotel. Visit the majestic Punakha Dzong, built at the confluence of two rivers, and learn about its historical significance as the former capital of Bhutan and its role as the winter residence of the monk body.

## Day 5 Immersing in Punakha's Spiritual and Cultural Wonders

Today begins with a scenic hike to Khamsum Yuelley Namgyal Chorten, a striking monument built by the Queens in 1999. Afterward, visit the Sangchhen Dorji Lhuendrup Lhakhang Nunnery, perched on a hill with views over Punakha and Wangdue Phodrang. The temple houses significant Buddhist statues, including a massive bronze statue of Avalokiteshvara, and serves as a meditation and learning center for nuns, offering life skills training such as tailoring and painting.

## Day 6 Punakha to Paro with Scenic Stops Along the Way

After breakfast, embark on a short hike to Chimi Lhakhang, the Temple of Fertility, known for its association with blessing childless couples. The walk through paddy fields and villages gives a rare insight into rural Bhutanese life. Continue your journey to Paro, stopping at Simtokha Dzong, Bhutan's

oldest fortress. Upon arrival, check into your hotel and visit Ta Dzong, a former watchtower now housing the National Museum, followed by a short walk to Rinpung Dzong, a fortress with rich Buddhist murals.

## Day 7 Paro's Iconic Monasteries and Scenic Views

Start with an early morning excursion to Taktshang Monastery (Tiger's Nest), one of Bhutan's most revered spiritual sites. Perched on a cliff 900 meters above Paro Valley, it is believed to be where Guru Rinpoche meditated. After the hike, visit Drukgyel Dzong, a ruined fortress with spectacular views of Mount Chomolhari. End your day with a visit to Kyichu Lhakhang, one of the oldest temples in Bhutan, built by Tibetan King Songtsen Gampo to introduce Buddhism to the region.

## Day 8 Departure from Paro

On your final day, enjoy an early breakfast before heading to Paro airport for your departure. Your representative will assist with the exit formalities and bid you farewell, concluding your Bhutanese adventure.

### TOUR COST INCLUDES

- Accommodation in Double/Twin sharing basis with Single room supplement as per the mentioned Hotels
- Meal Plan MAP (Bed, Breakfast & Dinner)
- SDF(Sustainable development fee)- INR 1200 per person per Night
- Experienced English Speaking Tour Guide licensed by the Tourism Council of Bhutan
- Transportation
- All transfers and sightseeing as per the itinerary
- Pick & Drop to Paro Airport

### TOUR COST EXCLUDES

- Air ticket(flight fare) both International and Domestic
- Travel Insurance/ Insurance of any kind
- Entrance Fees
- Lunch at Local Restaurant
- Festival Sur Charge
- Museum, monuments entrance fees all applicable taxes
- Medical expense
- Expenses of personal nature (like Gratuities tipping, laundry, Telephone/fax calls, bar bills camera/video fees etc).
- Horse charge for Tiger's Nest hike
- Bhutanese traditional hot stone bath.
- Beverages (alcoholic / non- alcoholic)
- Airfare & airport taxes

### CANCELLATION/NO SHOW POLICY

- As per the Booking Conditions of the Tour, the cancellation charges will be applicable for any cancellation request of the tour, either by the customer or any member of the group. This will be intimated at the time of booking. In any other case, including 'No Show', the Company shall make no refund to the customer.

### TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- Ta Dzong – Paro (National Museum): closed on Government Holidays
- National Library – Thimphu: Closed on Saturday, Sunday & on Government holidays
- Textile Museum – Thimphu: Closed on Government Holidays & on Sunday. On Saturday, it open from 9.00 AM to 4 PM
- Institute of Zorig Chusum (Arts & Crafts School) - Thimphu: Closed on Sunday & Government holidays. On Saturday, it open from 10 AM to 12 o'clock. Also closed in winter (from December – early March)
- Simply Bhutan – Thimphu: Closed on Sunday & on Government holidays
- Tiger's Nest Monastery – Paro: Closed on all Tuesdays
- Folk Heritage Museum: Closed on all Sunday & on government holidays
- Rooms are subject to availability and rates are subject to change
- Supplement / hike charges will be extra on per head basis
- Unimoni Travel & Holidays reserves the right to change/modify or terminate the offer any time at its own discretion and without any prior notice
- Hotel Check in / Check out times – 1400Hrs. /1100 Hrs
- Refund on cancellation strictly depends upon the concerned hotel's and Vehicle cancellation policy.
- The package cannot be combined with any other offer
- If there is any step increase in Fuel prices, there will be an prorate increase in the rates
- All guests have to carry valid id at the time of check in to the hotel (Mandatory)
- Guests must check all their belongings before check-out. Further claims will not be entertained
- Pls be ready 10 minutes before pick up schedule
- Sightseeing places one time visit only & Midnight driving will not be provided.
- Sightseeing will be provided as per the itinerary only. It will not be provided as per the client's interest.
- Baggage space is limited to the type of transportation booked
- Standard type rooms will be offered in all category hotels
- For Vehicle, Ac will be operated only while running the vehicle and not during halt.
- Damage caused to our property due to carelessness of guests, their children or wards must be compensated by guest
- Any itinerary missed due to unforeseen conditions like weather, blocked roads, strikes, delay in Flight or Train timings the guests have to bear any additional expenses incurred due to the same directly
- Kindly maintain cleanliness in the vehicle and carry spare clothes and towels for visits to the beaches and for water sports activities.
- Consumption of alcohol in the vehicle is prohibited. Your cooperation is solicited.
- Offering alcoholic drink or beverage to the Driver is Strictly Prohibited
- For travel related sickness, please inform the driver immediately
- ALL SIGHTSEEINGS STRICTLY SUBJECT TO WEATHER CONDITIONS & AVAILABILITY OF TIME.