



04 - 10 December 2024

Bhutan

Five Night Optional extension

The Kingdom of Bhutan is a country of dramatic landscapes - sub-tropical plains to steep mountains and valleys with a balance between contemporary and medieval.

Monks transcribe ancient Buddhist text onto laptops, traditionally-dressed archers use alloy-steel bows and arrows.

Its far-sighted leaders maintain Bhutan's pristine, mountainous environment and unique culture.



Wednesday 04 Kolkata to Paro (Bhutan) B L D

Morning transfer to the airport for your flight to Paro. This flight into the Himalayas reveals breathtaking views of the world's highest peaks, taking your right into the Dragon Kingdom's cloud scraping airstrip in the lush green valley of Paro (2350m) Upon arrival, you will be greeted by your local English-speaking guide and driven to Thimphu, the capital of Bhutan.

Late afternoon/evening visit Tashichodzong, the beautiful medieval fortress / monastery that houses most of the Governments office and the Kings Throne room. It is also the summer residence of Je Kehnpi, the Chief Abbot.

Thursday 05 Thimphu B L D

On today's sightseeing tour of Thimphu, visit the National Library with its vast collection on ancient Buddhist texts and manuscripts.

Later, drive to the Painting School where students produce intricate designs on cloth. Also visit the Traditional Medicine Institute where centuries-old healing methods are still practiced. Visit the textile and heritage museum.

After lunch, visit the Handicrafts Emporium. Drive to the Memorial Chorten, the stupa built in memory of Bhutan's Third King who is popularly regarded as Father of modern Bhutan.

Friday 06 Thimphu - Punakha B L D

Today drive to Punakha with a short stop enroute at the Dochula pass (3,050 m) that offers enchanting views. After lunch visit the Punakha Dzong, the 17th Century fortress which has played an important role in building up of modern Bhutan.

Afterwards drive to the nearby town of Wangduephodrang and visit the local market which is famous for its bamboo products, slate and stone carvings.

Saturday 07 Punakha / Paro B L D

Drive to Paro, visiting the Simtokha Dzong en-route - the oldest fortress of the Kingdom built in 1627.

Arrive Paro for lunch and later visit the Ta Dzong, the National Museum of the Kingdom.

Afterwards walk down the trail to visit Ringpung Dzong which has a long and fascinating history.

Sunday 08 Paro B L D

This morning drive north of Paro village to the ruins of the Drukgyel Dzong. From this fort the Bhutanese repelled several invasions by Tibetan armies.

You have an option to trek/hike to the view point that takes about 5 hours return

Afternoon free.

Monday 09 Paro - Kolkata - Singapore B

Return to the airport for your flight to Kolkata.

Upon arrival transfer to the airport to rest at an airport hotel before the midnight flight.

Tuesday 10 Singapore - Auckland

Arrive Auckland late evening

Estimated Cost* per person

Twin Share \$5,500

Further deposit of \$250 per person required

* This is a cash / cheque price. Credit cards incur a 1.5% fee

* Itinerary subject to change and currency fluctuations

Inclusions

- Economy air flights Kolkata – Bhutan – Kolkata
- Four nights' accommodation in Bhutan
- Travel on ono-air conditioned coaches
- All meals
- All transport and as outlined in the itinerary
- Pony ride to the Takstang Monastery in Paro (one way up hill)
- Services of an English speaking guide
- Government Royalty Taxes & Bhutan Visa fee

Exclusions

- Camera / video fees at monuments
- Items of a personal nature
- No escort



Note Pukekohe Travel reserves the right to correct errors and omissions contained within this brochure without recourse.

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