## Glimpse of Bhutan Tour

### 5 Days

**Itinerary Overview**

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Bhutan has one foot in the 21st century and the other planted right back in the medieval ages. As such, the country draws much of its identity from its ancient culture, customs and traditions, the kind of which the rest of the world has lost a long time ago. Culture is Bhutan’s biggest tourist attraction.

Starting this year, Norter Adventures has combined its cultural itinerary with other finer aspects of Bhutanese way of life, which are enthralling but little known to the outsiders. One such aspect is the ancient wisdom behind phallus symbols and fertility worship. This tour will introduce our guests to this age-old belief and the role it plays in modern-day Bhutan while also providing glimpses into the mainstream Bhutanese culture as in the Buddhist influences, art, craft and architecture, food and cuisine, language, customs, etc.

Day 04: PARO – PARO

Day 05: PARO – FLY OUT
HIGHLIGHT OF THE GLIMPSE OF BHUTAN TOUR

✓ Spectacular views of Mt Everest (8,848 m), Kanchenjunga (8,586m) and Lhotse (8,414 m); and a literal adrenaline-pumping landing on the roof of the world.
✓ A panoramic view of the snow-capped eastern Himalayas and a multitude of alpine flowers and birds; Bhutan’s ancient capital and Temple of Fertility.
✓ Hike to the Tiger’s Lair, the most famous Buddhist monastery in the Himalayas, built on a sheer rock face.

ADDITIONAL INCENTIVES

✓ Each guest receives traditional Bhutanese dress to wear during the course of the stay
✓ Visit a farmhouse for dinner with a Bhutanese family
✓ A specially cultural show to see Bhutan’s finest performing art traditions
✓ Use of meditation facility in company’s altar room
✓ Buddhist teaching, if required, by a renowned master
✓ Try traditional archery, Bhutan’s national sport, and dart throw

VALUE ADDED OPTIONS

- GNH talk by expert
- Bhutanese foods Cooking lessons
- Textile dyeing process
- A farming experience and homestay program with a family

BHUTAN PACKAGES INCLUDES:

✓ USD 65 Sustainable Development Fee (SDF) and Taxes
✓ Bhutan Visa fees and permit fees
✓ Accommodation at 3 star hotels on twin sharing base
✓ All meals and bottled water daily
✓ A professional English speaking tour guide.
✓ Private luxury Transport with air-conditioned throughout your journey.
✓ All entrance fees and sightseeing as per the itinerary.
✓ Trekking equipment, yaks and ponies are included.

NOT INCLUDED:

✗ Travel Insurance, Personal equipment, telephone calls, internet, laundry
✗ Personal expenses such as a drinks, beverages, tips and gratitude
✗ Supplement for trekking is not included
✗ Single room Supplement
Entry & exit: Paro international airport
Duration: 4 nights/5 days
Places: four districts

Itinerary: 4 night 5 days

Day 01 Bangkok/Delhi/Katmandu – Paro –Thimphu

Highlights: Spectacular views of Mt Everest (8,848 m), Kanchenjunga (8,586m) and Lhotse (8,414 m); and a literal adrenaline-pumping landing on the roof of the world. Travel by Druk Air, Bhutan’s national airline, to Paro, the country’s only international airport. The flight is exhilarating to say the least, as the route traverses parallel to the mighty Himalayas enabling passengers to see the world’s highest peak, Mt Everest, and many more. The descent affords a panoramic view of Bhutan’s foothills culminating into a thrilling landing at what is considered one of the world’s most challenging airports. Meet your guide at the airport and head to the Thimphu about an hour drive. On the way stop at the Tamchoe Monastery view and chuzom the confluence of Paro and Thimphu River. Lunch at local restaurant.
After lunch we will drive to Buddha Point, which provides a spectacular 360-degree close-quarter view of entire Thimphu and the adjoining areas. This is the site of the world’s tallest statue of Shakyamuni Buddha. Our next destination is the Memorial chorten of Third king of Bhutan the JigmeDorjiWangchuk, visit the 12th century Changangkha Temple, Takin Zoo and the viewpoint at Sangaygang. Evening visit the TashichhoDzong, a 17th century castle-fortress which today houses the
offices of the King, Chief Abbot and government ministries and strolling around the town. Overnight at the hotel

Day 02: Thimphu – Punakha/Wangdi

Distance: 77 kilometres, Time: 3 hours
Highlights: A panoramic view of the snow-capped eastern Himalayas and a multitude of alpine flowers and birds; Bhutan’s ancient capital and Temple of Fertility.
The three to four-hour drive from Thimphu traverses thorough a constantly changing kaleidoscope of vegetation, waterfalls, flowers, mountains and meadows. In about 45 minutes we will reach the famous Dochula pass (3,100m) where on a clear day we can see the entire eastern Himalayan range, teeming with 6,000m to 7,554m snow-capped mountains. The pass also known for its abundant species of extremely beautiful flowers has 108 Buddhist stupas exquisitely built around a mound, adding to the natural splendor of the place.
From the pass we descend to the sub-tropical valley of Punakha. Punakha served as the ancient capital of capital and still possesses the country’s main treasures in the form of Buddhist relics. Resembling a gigantic ship on an ocean floor from afar, and girdled by two (Male and Female) rivers, the castle-fortress also represents the best specimen of Bhutanese architecture.
After lunch in a small nearby village together with a rural farming household, we will walk along a footpath flanked by an endless view of ripening paddy fields to the Temple of Fertility – Chimi Lhakhang. This temple, built in the 15th century to honour the “Divine Madman”, a saint iconoclast who is also associated with phallus worship, attracts barren couples from all over to receive fertility blessings from an anointed phallus. Than drive further to Punakha and stop at the views point the confluence of Male (Pho chu) and
female (Mo chu) rivers and visit the PunakhaDzong, later visit the SangchenLhendrup Nunnery monastery. Night halt in Punakha.

**Day 03: Punakha/ Wangdi – Paro**

Morning drive an half hour and hike to Khamsumyuley Temple, this hike will be very interesting that you can see the spectacular view of mountains, Mo chu river and rice paddy field and Punakha valley. Hike about one an half hour. After hike drive 3hours, which is 80km to Thimphu and lunch on the way at local restaurant. Afternoon visit the traditional art and craft school and folk heritage museum and visit the post office. You can play the traditional sport he archery for an hour on the archer ground. Overnight at the hotel.
Day 04: Discovering Paro Valley

Highlights: Hike to the Tiger’s Lair, the most famous Buddhist monastery in the Himalayas, built on a sheer rock face.

After breakfast, drive for half an hour and start hiking up to the temple that is renowned in the Himalayan Buddhist world as one of the most popular sites of pilgrimage. The five-hour round trip follows an ancient but oft-trodden footpath flanked by water-driven prayer wheels. The temple, precariously perched on a hair-raising ravine about 1,000 metres above the valley floor, is considered sacrosanct as it was in a cave within this temple that the eight century tantric saint, Padmasambhava, subdued the evils who obstructed the teachings of the Buddha. The saint is believed to have come to Taktshang in a fiery wrathful form riding a tigress. Over the years, many Buddhist saints have meditated in and around the temple and discovered numerous hidden treasure teachings.

Visit the ruins of Drugyel Dzongenroute. The fortress known as the “Castle of the Victorious Drukpa”, is a symbol of Bhutan’s victory over the Tibetan invasions in the 17th and 18th centuries. We can also get a view of the sacred mountain, Jumolhari, along the way. Visit the National Museum and visit the 7th century Kyichu Temple, believed to have been built on a place that resembled a knee of a giant ogress. Evening Walk around in the Paro town and visit local farmhouse and enjoy the local dinner with family. Overnight at hotel.
Day 07: Paro – Delhi/Bangkok/ Katmandu

After breakfast drive to Paro international Airport and fly out.