

Bhutan

**Catch the Spirit of Bhutan
(Thimphu, Paro and Punakha Valley)**

4 Nights 5 Days



This itinerary offers you the opportunity to experience the soul of Bhutan in a 4-night adventure, designed to immerse you in the country's rich culture, stunning landscapes, and spiritual heritage.

- **Arrival at Paro International Airport:** You will arrive in Paro, Bhutan's only international airport, surrounded by majestic mountains.
- **Transfer to Thimphu:** Drive to Thimphu, Bhutan's capital, about 1.5 hours away from Paro. Enjoy the scenic drive through beautiful valleys and rural Bhutanese landscapes. En-route stop at Tamchoe Lhakhang
- **Hotel Check-In:** Upon arrival in Thimphu, check into your hotel and relax.

Afternoon

- **Buddha Dordenma Statue:** Visit this gigantic Buddha statue which offers panoramic views of the Thimphu Valley.
- **Royal Textile Museum:** Explore Royal Textile Museum and learn about Bhutan's rich textile heritage and the importance of weaving in the culture of Bhutan.
- **Royal Takin Preserve:** Visit royal takin preserve, home to the national animal of Bhutan, the takin. The preserve is nestled in the forest, and you can enjoy a short walk around.

Overnight: Stay at a hotel in Thimphu.

Day 2: Thimphu to Punakha

Morning

Drive to Punakha: After breakfast, drive to Punakha (2.5 hour drive). En-route via Dochula Pass

- **Dochula Pass:** It is a breathtaking mountain pass located at an elevation of 3,140 meters (10,301 feet) above sea level.
- **Chimi Lhakhang:** It is a famous temple located in the Punakha Valley of Bhutan, known for its rich history, religious significance, and unique association with fertility. It is often referred to as the "Temple of Fertility" and is a must-visit destination for those exploring the region.
- **Check In to the Hotel:** Check into your hotel and relax. Prepare yourself for afternoon sightseeing.

Afternoon

- **Punakha Dzong:** Afternoon, explore Punakha Dzong and it is one of Bhutan's most iconic and beautiful landmarks. Located at the confluence of the Pho Chhu and Mo Chhu rivers in the Punakha Valley.
- **Punakha Suspension Bridge:** Visit this site which is one of the most iconic and thrilling landmarks in Bhutan.

Evening

Evening at Leisure: Enjoy evening at leisure in the hotel.

Overnight: Stay at a hotel in Punakha.

Day 3: Punakha to Paro

- **Drive to Paro:** After breakfast, drive to Paro Valley, which takes about 3.5 hours. The drive is scenic and offers views of the beautiful countryside.
- **Hotel Check-In:** Check into your hotel and relax

Afternoon

- **Paro Dzong (Rinpung Dzong):** Visit Paro Dzong, a majestic fortress that dates back to the 15th century. It's known for its beautiful architecture and surrounding gardens. Later, you can try on the Bhutanese national dress (Gho for men and Kira for women).
- **National Museum of Bhutan (Taa Dzong):** Situated above the Paro Dzong, the museum is housed in an ancient watchtower and offers fascinating exhibits on Bhutanese culture, history, and wildlife.
- **Kyichu Lhakhang:** Visit one of Bhutan's oldest temples, built in the 7th century by King Songtsen Gampo. This sacred site is an important pilgrimage destination in Bhutan.

Overnight in Paro: Stay at a hotel in Paro.

Day 4: Paro Taktsang Hike (Tiger's Nest Monastery)

- **Paro Taktsang Hike:** After breakfast, set out for a memorable trek to the iconic **Tiger's Nest Monastery (Paro Taktsang)**. This monastery, perched on a cliff 900 meters above the Paro Valley floor, is one of Bhutan's most famous landmarks. The hike takes approximately 5-6 hours, depending on your pace, and offers stunning views of the monastery as you ascend.
 - **The Hike:** The trail takes you through beautiful pine forests with views of the monastery hanging on the cliffside. You will pass a teahouse halfway up where you can rest.
- **Return to Paro:** After your hike, return to your hotel in Paro and relax.

Evening

- **Explore Paro Town:** Take a leisurely walk around the Paro Valley or you can choose to stay in the hotel and enjoy at leisure.

Overnight: Stay at a hotel in Paro.

Day 5: Departure from Paro

- **Transfer to Paro International Airport:** Depending on your flight schedule, private transfer to Paro International Airport for your departure.