

Bhutan

**Spiritual and Cultural Journey
(Thimphu, Punakha, Phobjikha and Paro Valley)
5 Nights 6 Days**



Embark on an unforgettable 6-day adventure through Bhutan, where ancient traditions, stunning landscapes, and spiritual treasures come together in perfect harmony. Explore the vibrant capital of Thimphu, the serene beauty of Punakha, and the tranquil Phobjikha Valley, before conquering the iconic Tiger's Nest Monastery in Paro. This journey offers the perfect blend of Bhutanese culture, breathtaking views, and deep spiritual experiences. A trip you won't soon forget!

Day 01

- **Arrival at Paro Airport:** Upon arrival at Paro International Airport, you will be greeted by your guide and driver.
- **Transfer to Thimphu:** Private transfer from Paro International Airport to Thimphu (Capital city of Bhutan). En-route stop at Tamchoe Lhakhang.
- **Check-in to Hotel:** Check into your hotel and refresh.

Afternoon

- **Buddha Dordenma Statue:** After lunch, visit this gigantic Buddha statue which offers panoramic views of the Thimphu Valley.
- **Royal Takin Preserve:** Head towards the 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.
- **Tashichho Dzong:** Visit the impressive Tashichho Dzong, the seat of the government and the central monastic body

Evening

- **Explore Thimphu Town:** Take a stroll around Thimphu City, explore local shops and handicraft shops.

Overnight: Stay at a hotel in Thimphu.

Day 02

Morning

Drive to Punakha: After breakfast, drive to Punakha (2.5 hours 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 03

Morning

- **Drive to Phobjikha:** After breakfast, drive to Phobjikha (2.5 hours drive). Enjoy the drive through lush forests of pine and cedar.
- **Check Into your hotel:** Check into your hotel and relax.

Afternoon

- **Black-necked Crane Education Centre:** A visit to this center provides an excellent opportunity to learn about the endangered black-necked crane and the folklore associated with them.
- **Gangtey Monastery:** Gangtey Goemba, located in the stunning Phobjikha Valley, is a prominent Nyingma monastery with rich historical significance. It is a peaceful spiritual retreat and a must-visit cultural landmark.

Evening

- **Evening Prayer at the Shedra:** Visit the Kuenzang Chholing Shedra, a newly established Nyingmapa monastery school with over 300 student monks. In the evening, join the monks and students for their prayer session and the lighting of butter lamps.

Overnight: Stay at a hotel in Phobjikha.

Day 04

Morning

- **Drive to Paro:** After breakfast, drive to Paro (4 to 5 hours drive)
- **Check Into your hotel:** Check into your hotel and refresh.

Afternoon

- **Paro Dzong (Rinpung Dzong):** Visit this beautiful fortress monastery which is a stunning example of Bhutanese architecture. Later, you can try on the Bhutanese national dress (Gho for men and Kira for women).
- **National Museum of Bhutan (Taa Dzong):** Visit the museum housed in a former watchtower, showcasing Bhutanese art, culture, and history.
- **Kyichu Lhakhang:** Visit Kyichu Lhakhang, built in the 7th century by King Songtsen Gampo of Tibet, the temple is part of a larger effort to spread Buddhism across the Himalayas. It is a popular destination for both pilgrims and tourists who visit to experience Bhutan's spiritual heritage and natural beauty.

Evening

- **Explore Paro Town:** You can stroll around Paro town, enjoy the serene surroundings, and explore local handicraft shops.

Overnight: Stay at a hotel in Paro.

Day 05

Morning

- **Trek to Tiger's Nest Monastery (Paro Taktsang):** After breakfast, embark on the famous hike to the iconic Paro Taktsang Monastery, the hike takes about 4-5 hours, depending on your pace, and offers incredible views of the valley and the monastery perched high on the cliffs.
- Once you reach the monastery, take time to explore the sacred site and enjoy the serene atmosphere. It's one of the most important pilgrimage sites for Bhutanese Buddhists.

Afternoon

- **Descend and return to Paro:** After visiting the monastery, hike back to the base and return to the hotel.

Evening

- **Relax and unwind:** After the long hike, relax in your hotel and enjoy at leisure.

Overnight: Stay in a hotel in Paro

Day 06

Departure: Private transfer to Paro Airport for your departure flight.