Glimpse of Bhutan (4 Nights / 5 Days)



Trip Overview

The Glimpse of Bhutan Tour offers a compact yet enriching experience of Bhutan’s culture, heritage, and landscapes. Over five days, travelers explore the capital Thimphu, witness vibrant local festivals, and enjoy the serene valleys and traditional architecture of Paro. Highlights include the majestic Buddha Dordenma, Dochu La Pass with panoramic Himalayan views, and the iconic Taktsang Monastery (Tiger’s Nest). This tour provides an immersive introduction to Bhutanese spirituality, traditions, and natural beauty in a short timeframe.

Total Trip Days: 4 Nights / 5 Days

Region: Bhutan

Max Altitude: 3,120 m (Taktsang Monastery)

Activity: Cultural and Scenic Tour

Difficulty: Easy to Moderate

Trip Highlights

- Visit Thimphu, Bhutan’s capital, including Folk Heritage Museum and Traditional Arts & Crafts School
- Witness the Tsechu festival (mask dances and folk performances) if dates coincide
- Admire the giant Buddha Dordenma statue and National Memorial Chorten
- Scenic drive across Dochu La Pass with panoramic views of the eastern Himalayas
- Explore Paro’s National Museum, Rinpung Dzong, and traditional town streets
- Hike to Taktsang Monastery (Tiger’s Nest), perched dramatically on a cliff

Itinerary

Day 1:

After arrival at Paro International Airport, you will be received by your guide and drive 60km (45mins) to the capital city of Bhutan, Thimphu and check into your hotel. Depending on your flight arrival time, sightseeing will begin today or you will dine at your hotel and rest for a full day tour the following day.
Overnight at Thimphu | Altitude: 2400m

Day 2:

This early morning after breakfast, we head to Tashichhodzong to witness the vibrant “Tsechu” which is a religious festival with mask dances, folk dance performances & other forms of entertainment. The fortress also houses the Golden Throne of the King. After about 2-3hrs at the festival, we begin touring the capital – stop at the Folk Heritage Museum and the Traditional Arts & Crafts School nearby. Lunch will be at a restaurant in town and then continue to visit the Textile Museum and National Memorial Chorten (Stupa), a monument to world peace. In the evening you will have free time to stroll around town and enjoy the festivities & shop.
Note: Festival takes place between Sept-October every year.
Overnight in Thimphu| Altitude: 2400m

Day 3:

First stop today will be Kuenselphodrang where you will see the largest statue of Buddha Dordenma in the world. After, take a 25min drive to a high road pass – Dochu La. On a clear day, you will be able to see a spectacular view of high peaks of the eastern Himalayas from here. We then trace our steps back to Paro (80kms -1.5hrs). On arrival, we first stop by the National Museum and the Fortress of Paro. After a long day, we check into the hotel and rest for an early morning hike.
Overnight at Paro | Altitude: 2200m

Day 4:

We start early at 6 a.m. today and hike to Bhutan's most famous landmark, the Taktsang Monastery (Tiger's Nest), which clings to a cliff at 3,120 m. According to legend, Guru Padmasambhava flew to this location from Tibet on the back of a tigress, giving it the name "Taktsang," meaning "Tiger's Nest." The hike typically takes about 5 hours with an elevation gain of roughly 1,000 m; around 2 hours uphill, 1 hour at the monastery, and 2 hours descending.
Lunch can be taken at the halfway point cafeteria, or you may return to the base. Those who prefer can hire a horse to ride up to the halfway point. After the hike, we return to the hotel to freshen up and enjoy some free time to stroll around Paro town, shop, or relax at one of the charming local cafés in the old-town area.
Overnight at Paro | Altitude: 2200m

Day 5:

This morning, you will be transferred to the airport for your departure.