



7D MYSTERIOUS KINGDOM OF BHUTAN

- 2 to go, private tour
- Visit Thimphu, modern capital of Bhutan, Punakha, ancient capital of Bhutan
- Visit the different Dzongs of Bhutan
- Hike to the famous Taktong Monastery (Tiger's Nest)

Tour Code : PBH -002PK

Day 01 Singapore / Bangkok

(Meal on Board)

Assemble at Singapore Changi International Airport for your flight to Bangkok. You will stay the night in Bangkok for your connecting flight to Paro early the next morning.

(Note : Only 1N hotel in Bangkok is provided)

Day 02 Bangkok / Paro / Thimphu

(Meal on Board / Lunch/ Dinner)

Fly into Paro on Bhutan's national carrier, Druk Air. Welcome to Bhutan – the Land of Happiness. In clear weather, magnificent views of the world's highest peaks give way to the lush green Paro Valley. As you land, the first gift from Bhutan will be the cool, clean fresh air as you step out of the plane.

A 45min drive brings you to **Thimphu**, the modern capital of Bhutan. Made up of just 3 main streets, it is the only capital in the world without traffic lights. After lunch, visit The **National Memorial Chorten**, built in honor of the late King Jigme Dorji Wangchuk. The **Folk Heritage Museum**, is dedicated to showcasing the Bhutanese feudal past through the exhibition of historical items and artifacts used in their daily life.

The **Textile Museum**, is where the art of traditional weaving is kept alive. On exhibition is a myriad collection of traditional textiles rich in culture and colors.

Day 03 Thimphu / Punakha

(Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

Depart for **Punakha**, the ancient capital of Bhutan. The roads bring you through pine and cedar forests, festooned with hanging lichen.

Dochula Pass at 3,050m offers a panoramic view of the Himalayan mountain ranges. This beautiful pass with its 108 Bhutanese stupas is the memorial site of fallen Bhutanese soldiers in the 1990s.

Descend along a series of hairpin bends of the fertile valley of Punakha. Approaching Punakha, check in at Hotel Meri Puensum for lunch. A short drive will bring you to the magnificent **Punakha Dzong**, the winter seats of the Je Khenpo and the Monk Body, remarkably located between the rivers of the Mo (Female) Chu and Pho (Male) Chu.

Slightly north of the Punakha Valley is the **Khamsum Yuele Chorten**. The 45 minutes trek up the stupa is a good light exercise for the physical body.

In the evening, return to your hotel for dinner and enjoy the light breeze of the Punakha Valley in peace and tranquility.

Day 04 Punakha / Wangdue / Gangtey / Wangdue

(Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

In the morning, pass **Wangdue**, one of the major towns and district capital of Western Bhutan where you make a short stop to view the **Wangdue Phodrang Dzong**. Dramatically perched on the spur of a hill, built in 1638, this Dzong overlooks the confluence of the Tsang Chu and Dang Chu Rivers.

Climb steadily passing through semi-tropical vegetation via Gangtey, which lies in the flanks of the Black Mountains. There is an old monastery of **Gangtey Gompa** (under renovation) dating back to the 17th century.

A few kilometers past the Gompa on the valley floor are the fascinating **Valley of Phobjikha**. The gentle sloping hillsides of Phobjikha are described as the 'most beautiful valley in the Himalayas'. This is the winter home of black-necked cranes that migrate from the arid plains in the north to pass winter in milder and lower climate and then to Pelela Pass with an alpine environment of rhododendrons and dwarf bamboo. This pass is traditionally considered the boundary between West and East Bhutan. Return to Wangdue.

Day 05 Wangdue / Thimphu / Paro

(Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

Wake up to the sound of nature in the morning. Enjoy the fresh air of a valley that has been transfixed in a time bygone.

Today, relieve the sights and sounds of the road to Wangdue and return to Paro.

Upon arrival in Paro, check in to your hotel and enjoy a lovely sundown.

Day 06 Paro

(Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

A morning drive north of Paro Valley, brings you to the ruins of the **Drukgyal Dzong**. Built in 1647 by the great Shabdrung Ngawang Namgyal, father and unifier of medieval Bhutan, the Dzong was destroyed by an accidental fire and left in ruins as an evocative reminder of the great victories. Explore the ramparts and on a clear day experience an unforgettable view of Mt Jhomolhari.

Beyond **Satsam Chorten**, hike up to the **Taktong Monastery** (Tiger's nest). The 1.5 hours hike to the cafeteria is also the view point to enjoy the stunning view of the monastery, where Guru Padmasambhava landed on the back of a tigress in the 8th century. After lunch, retrace your path and visit **Kyichu Lhakhang**, one of the oldest temples in Bhutan.

Evening ends with a walk through Paro's main shopping district.

Day 07 Paro / Bangkok / Singapore

(Breakfast / Meal on Board)

Bid farewell to Bhutan for your returning flight back to Bangkok and Singapore.



Note : Sequence of the itinerary is subject to change(s)

6 252 6822

UOBTP-Leisure@UOBgroup.com

480 Lorong 6 Toa Payoh, #20-01 HDB Hub East Wing, Singapore 310480

Co. Reg. No. 197400040W

