



Your hand-crafted journey to the

HIGHLIGHTS OF NEPAL & THE ANCIENT KINGDOM OF BHUTAN

15 Days - 14 Nights

Arrival Kathmandu 03 Nights – Chitwan 02 Nights – Pokhara 02 Nights – Kathmandu 01 Night – Thimpu 02 Nights – Punkha 02 Nights – Depart Paro 02 Nights



*Tailor made Journey for valued clients of Rosalie Group
(10 - 14 Persons)*

Travel Period: April 2027



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Namaskara! Welcome to Nepal

Day 1 **Arrival Kathmandu**

Upon your arrival at Kathmandu International Airport, our team will be holding your name signage by “Perfect Travels” in the arrivals hall.

You will be met and transferred to your Hotel for Check-in with welcome briefing.

Our travel manager will then outline your wonderful itinerary ahead.

Kathmandu is the capital city of Nepal. It is the largest metropolis in Nepal, with a population of 1.5 million in the city proper, and 3 million in its urban agglomeration across the Kathmandu Valley. Kathmandu is also the largest metropolis in the Himalayan hill region. Nepali is the most spoken language in the city, while English is understood by the city's educated residents.

Overnight Kathmandu: (4* Star Boutique Hotel) – Basera Boutique

Address: Kathmandu 44600, Nepal Ph: +977-1-5705626 Website: <https://www.baseraboutiquehotel.com.np/>

Accommodation of Deluxe Room for 3 nights including Breakfast



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Day 2 Kathmandu sightseeing tour / Breakfast

Today morning after breakfast at hotel, we take you to tour of **Kathmandu** visiting **Durbar Square, Swayambhunath, Boudhnatha** and **Pashupatinath Temple**.

Kathmandu Durbar Square: Listed as one of the eight Cultural World Heritage Site by UNESCO, Kathmandu Durbar Square is cluster of ancient temples, palaces, courtyards and streets that date back to the 12th and 18th centuries. The visit of Durbar Square includes the temple of Living Goddesses, who acknowledges the greetings of the devotees from the balcony of her temple residence, the Hanuman Dhoka Royal Palace, the historic seat of the Royalty; the magnificent Taleju Temple towering 40 meters. The capital takes its name from the giant pagoda of Kasthamandap, which is said to have been built of a single tree. The Kasthamandap has been destroyed in recent massive earthquake and will take some time to rebuild it. It has been the main focal point of the city's social, religious and political from the Malla kings.

Swayambhunath: Located approximately 4 km west of Kathmandu, Buddhist stupa this is said to be 2500 years old, The stupa which forms the main structure is composed of a solid hemisphere of brick and earth supporting a lofty conical spire capped by a pinnacle of copper gilt. Painted on the four sided base of the spire are the all seeing eyes of Lord Buddha. This hill is a mosaic of small Chaityas and Pagodas temples. It is one of the holiest Buddhist Chaityas in Nepal and oldest of its kind.

Afternoon visit **Boudhanath Stupa** and **Pashupatinath Temple**.

Boudhanath Stupa: One of the oldest and the biggest Buddhist monuments ever built in Nepal; Boudhanath is one of the holiest structures imposing a height of 36 meters with three massive level Mandala style platforms. It is surrounded by colourful buildings housing families creating a friendly enclosure. The Stupa is visited every year by tens of thousands of pilgrims from all over the world.

Pashupatinath Temple: Pashupatinath Temple dating back to 400 A.D. is one of the oldest Hindu Temples dedicated to Lord Shiva. It is for the Hindus what Mecca is for the Muslims. Situated amidst a lush green natural setting on the bank of the sacred Bagmati River, the temple built in Pagoda Style with gilded roof and richly carved silver doors.



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Day 3 Kathmandu sightseeing tour / *Breakfast & Dinner*

After Breakfast at the hotel we take you on a tour of **Kathmandu** visiting **Bhaktapur & Patan**.

Bhaktapur: Also known as Bhadgaun meaning city of devotees, this place is the home of medieval art and architecture. Lying 14 kms. /9 miles east of Kathmandu City, this place was founded in the 9th Century and is shaped like a conch shell. The city is at the height of 4600 ft. above sea level. In Bhadgaon, you will visit the Durbar Square with its array of temples overlooked by the Palace of 55 windows built by King Bupatindra Malla. The Nyatapola Temple, also built by King Bhupatindra Malla, is the best example of Pagoda style and stands on five terraces on each of which stands a pair of figures - two famous strong men, two elephants, two lions, two griffins and two goddesses. Time permitting, a visit to the museum of Thangka painting can also be considered.

Patan, known as the "City of Fine Arts." Your tour begins at the main square, filled with breathtaking Hindu temples and striking Buddhist monuments. See the old Royal Palace, dominating all others in grace and grandeur and the 16th century stone Krishna Mandir, with its 21 pinnacles dedicated to Lord Krishna. Other landmarks include the Golden Temple, and the terra-cotta temple of Mahabouddha.

Today evening we will visit a traditional Nepalese family home to indulge in ethnic Cooking Class with Dinner and Cultural Interactions. Afterwards you will be transferred back to your Hotel.



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Day 4 **Kathmandu – Chitwan** / *Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

Today morning after Breakfast/Checkout you will be driven to Nepal first National Park **Chitwan** (170 kms, approx. 6 hrs drive) (drive includes enroute stop for clean restrooms)

Upon arrival check in at your hotel

Lunch and Dinner arrangement will be made at your Hotel.

The Chitwan National Park lies in the Inner Terai lowlands and consists of Sal forests, tall elephant grasslands, hills, oxbow lakes and flood plains of the Narayani, Rapti and Reu rivers. Enlisted as a UNESCO World Heritage Site (Natural) in 1984, the park spreads over an area of 932 sq.km. The park is home to 56 species of mammals, 49 species of amphibians and reptiles, and 525 species of birds. Wildlife found here include endangered species like the one-horned rhinoceros and the Royal Bengal tiger, gaur, wild elephant, four-horned antelope, leopard, sloth bear, wild boar, rhesus monkey, grey langur monkey, wild dog, small wild cats, and many other smaller animals. Also found here are cobras, kraits and pythons. The swampy areas and numerous oxbow lakes of Chitwan provide a home for the marsh mugger crocodiles. In a stretch of the Narayani River are found one of the few remaining populations of the rare and endangered fish-only eating gharial, or Gangetic crocodile. Also found here is one of the world's four species of freshwater dolphins.

Overnight Chitwan: (5* Star Deluxe Lodge) – Jagatpur Lodge

Address: Lodge 44200, Nepal Ph: +977-1-5325241 Website: <https://www.jagatpurlodge.com/>

Accommodation of Deluxe Room for 2 nights including Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner



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Day 5 Chitwan / *Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

Today morning you will be taken for Jungle Safari that penetrates the dense grasslands to view wildlife in their natural habitat.

Later you will be taken for Canoe ride at Chitwan. You may be lucky to go home with photographic proof of the prized one horned rhino, or even the Bengal tiger!

Then, travel a short distance by jeep inside the park stopping for a **picnic lunch** in this lush natural oasis. A nature walk with a trained naturalist introduces you to some of the wildlife and the huge species of birds. You will learn more about Chitwan and its conservation efforts during your discussion with the guides

In the afternoon, visit the small village of **Tharu** ethnic group to get a sense of what their world and lives are like through interactions with the locals.

In the evening **Dinner** will be arranged at your hotel.



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Day 6 Chitwan – Pokhara / Breakfast

Today morning after Breakfast/Checkout depart the Chitwan national park and drive to **Pokhara** (160 kms, approx. 5-6 hrs drive), the second largest city of Nepal.

Upon arrival in scenic Pokhara, home to three of the highest mountains in the world you will check in at your hotel.

Afternoon you will be taken for tour of Pokhara visiting **Davis Fall & Bindebasini temple**

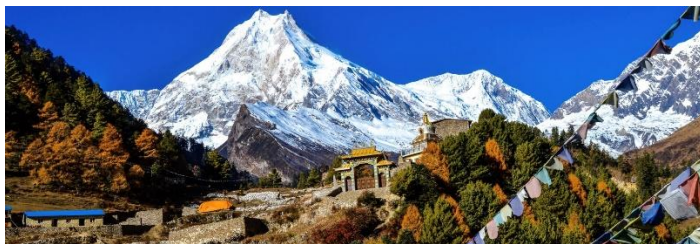
Davis fall's: Witness a unique waterfall that lies 2 Km from central Pokhara City. The water fall directly goes into a deep and narrow canal with no ends. It is believed that this deadly waterfall took the life of a tourist named David, who fell down into the channel and was never found, and hence the name David waterfall, named in his memory by the people of Pokhara. This place has many nick names like Davy's fall, David's fall or Davis's fall, all mean the same thing 'The Davis Water Fall'.

Bindabasini Temple: This is one of the oldest temples in Pokhara. Legend says that when Pokhara was a part of Kaski Kingdom, the main deity of the temple, Goddess Durga, was brought from India. Apart from the peace and tranquility that can be felt in this region, the premises of the temple offers a good view of the Himalaya on a clear day. The temple is in the area of the Bazaar; hence, a journey of the old bazaar can be combined with a visit to the temple.

Overnight Pokhara: (4* Star Standard Hotel) – Temple Bell

Address: 17 Lakeside Rd, Pokhara 33700, Nepal Ph: +977-61-590555 Website: <https://www.templebellnepal.com/>

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Day 7 Pokhara / *Breakfast*

Today early morning hike to the viewpoint at the **Peace Pagoda**; see the unforgettable sunrise over the mountain peaks. The Annapurna mountain range dominates your northern view while the sweeping expanse of the Pokhara Valley looms over the south and east. This is a not-to-be-missed experience!

Return to the hotel for breakfast, followed by a visit to the **International Mountain Museum**. View the many exhibits focused on technique, equipment, and materials for hiking, of great interest in a country that is dominated by hikers and trekkers. The museum is in a perfect location, surrounded by the stunning Annapurna mountain range -- a favorite place for adventurers.

Later visit **Tibetan refugee camp** for a cultural encounter and a glimpse into the resilience of the Tibetan community in exile. After visit return back to your hotel.



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Day 8 Pokhara – Kathmandu / *Breakfast*

Today morning you will be picked up from your hotel and transferred to Pokhara Airport for flight to **Kathmandu**.

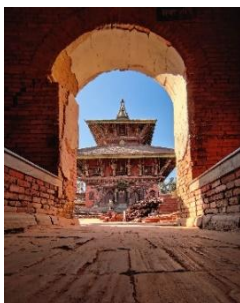
*Depart **Pokhara** (ETD: 1155 hrs by Yeti Airlines flight YT-678) / Arrive **Kathmandu** (ETA: 1220 hrs)
(Economy Class, 25kg check-in baggage and 5kg hand baggage) or similar*

Upon arrival in Kathmandu you will be met/assisted and transferred to your hotel in Kathmandu.

Overnight Kathmandu: (4* Star Boutique Hotel) – Basera Boutique

Address: Kathmandu 44600, Nepal Ph: +977-1-5705626 Website: <https://www.baseraboutiquehotel.com.np/>

Accommodation of Deluxe Room for 1 night including Breakfast



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Day 9 **Kathmandu – Paro – Thimpu** / *Breakfast & Dinner*

Today morning after Breakfast / Checkout you will be picked up from your hotel and transferred to Kathmandu Airport to connect flight to **Paro**.

*Depart **Kathmandu** (ETD: 1000 hrs by Druk Air flight KB 401) / Arrive **Paro** (ETA: 1120 hrs)
(Economy Class, 30 kg check-in baggage and 5kg hand baggage) or similar*

The flight to Paro is one of the most spectacular in entire Himalayas. Flying along the Himalayan range from Kathmandu, the journey offers fascinating views and an exciting descent into the Kingdom. Bhutan's first gift to you as you disembark from the aircraft will be cool, clean fresh and virgin mountain air. After immigration formalities and baggage collection, you will be met by our representative outside the exit gate, and drive to **Thimpu** (65 kms, approx. 1 hr drive).

Later in the day take an exploratory walk around **Thimphu Craft Bazaar** located a few minute walk from down town hotels. This market offers genuine Bhutanese arts & crafts thus contributing in promotion, protection and preservation of traditional arts.

Dinner will be arranged at your hotel.

Overnight Thimpu: (4* Star Standard Hotel) – Druk

Address: 218 Norzjin Zur Lam 49 SE, Norzjin, Bhutan Ph: +975-77-198819

Website: <https://drukhoteles.com/thimphu/>

Accommodation of Deluxe Room for 2 nights including Breakfast



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Day 10

Thimphu sightseeing tour / Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

After breakfast, drive to visit **Memorial Chorten**. Also known as Thimphu Chorten, this stupa is located at the heart of the Thimphu city and was built in 1974 to honour the third King of Bhutan, His Majesty Jigme Dorji Wangchuk (1928-1972) popularly known as Father of modern Bhutan. Afterwards visit to **Buddha Point (Kuensel Phodrang)**. It holds one of the largest Buddha's statue in the country of 169 feet (51.5m), made of bronze and gilded in gold. Visitors can also get a good overview of the Thimphu valley from this point. Then Takin Preserve. The Takin is the national animal of Bhutan, and looks like a cross between a cow and a goat. Legend has it that the animal was created by the great Buddhist yogi, Drukpa Kuenley, and it can be found only in Bhutan and nearby areas. Taxonomists place the animal in a category of its own as it is not similar enough to any other animal to fit established categories. **Lunch** will be arranged at local restaurant

Afternoon, sightseeing in **Thimphu valley** including visit to the following visits **Junghi Handmade, Changzamtog National Weaving Centre, the Institute for Zorig Chusum** (commonly known as the Painting School) where students undergo a 6-year training course in Bhutan's 13 traditional arts and crafts, Conclude the day's sightseeing with visit of Trashichhoedzong, or 'the fortress of the glorious religion'. This is one of the most impressive buildings situated along the right flank of the Thimphu river built in 1641 by Zhabdrung Ngawang Namgyel who unified Bhutan and was later reconstructed in 1962 by the third King His Majesty Jigme Dorji Wangchuk. This impressive fortress/monastery houses Secretariat building, the throne room of His Majesty, the King and various government offices. Also explore the **Local Crafts Bazaar**, to browse through example of Bhutan's fine traditional arts. Later return back to your hotel.

Dinner will be arranged at your Hotel.



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Day 11 **Thimpu – Punakha** / *Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

Today an early start this morning as you drive through the scenic terrain of the Himalayas to **Punakha**, the ancient capital of Bhutan, pausing at **Dochhula Pass** to view the astounding snow-clad peaks of Bhutan (on a clear day.) (75 kms, approx. 3 hrs drive) You pass over one hundred monuments and see many colorful prayer flags along your route on your way to the Royal Botanical Gardens.

After **Lunch** in the village of Lobesa, continue to **Punakha Dzong**, considered the most beautiful dzong in the country with its towering white washed walls accented by elaborately painted gold, red and black wood. By tradition, all of the Kings of Bhutan are crowned here in the 100-pillar Coronation Hall, decorated with massive gold statues and murals depicting the life of Buddha.

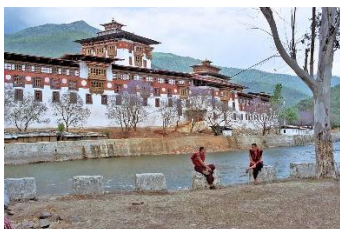
Upon arrival check in at your hotel.

Later **Dinner** will be arranged at your hotel

Overnight Punakha: (4* Star Standard Hotel) – Lobesa Boutique

Address: Lobesa - Metsina, Bhutan Ph: +975-17-581014 Website: <https://www.hotellobesa.com/>

Accommodation of Deluxe Room for 2 nights including Breakfast

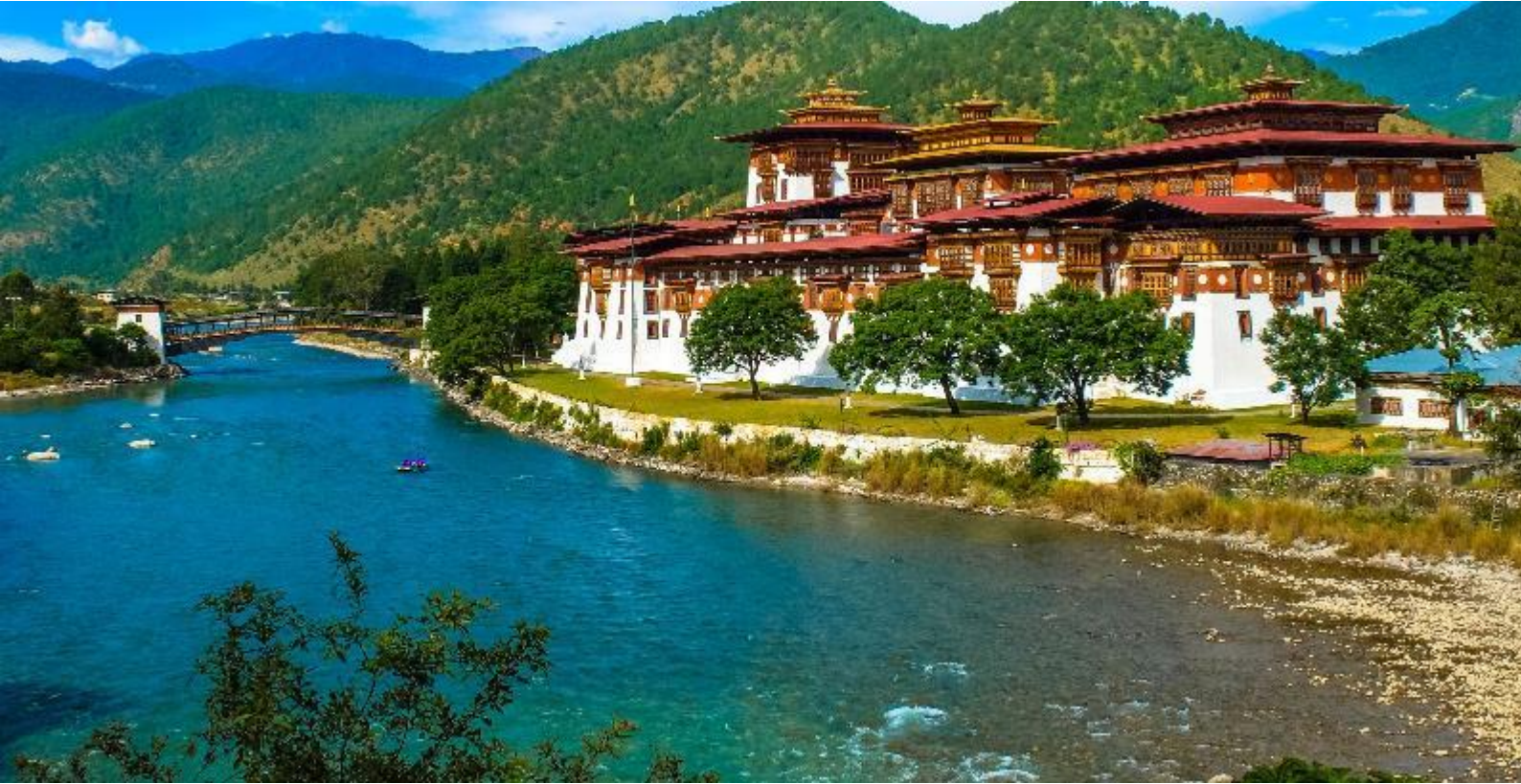


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Day 12

Punakha sightseeing tour / *Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

After breakfast drive to Lobesa to visit the **Divine Madman's Monastery-ChhimiLhakhang**, famously known for its fertility shrine, where couples unable to conceive come here for blessing. Later visit the **Punakha Dzong**, placed strategically at the junction of the Pho Chu and Mo Chu rivers; the dzong was built in the 17th century by Zhabdrung Ngawang Namgyal to serve as the religious and administrative seat of the region. It was here that the dual system of government was introduced and in 1907, enthroned the first King Gongsar Ugyen Wangchuck. Damaged over the centuries by four catastrophic fires and an earthquake, the dzong has been fully restored in the recent years by the 4th King Jigme Singye Wangchuck. At the Dzong enrich your trip with the opportunity to see the highest standards in woodwork. Do not miss the massive Kuenray, the Coronation Hall of all Bhutanese kings. Later visit **Punakha Suspension Bridge**, one of the longest suspension bridges in Bhutan. Return back to your hotel and rest. **Lunch** at local restaurant

Afternoon hike **Khumsum Yulley Namgyal chorten**. The temple of the Khamsum Yulley Namgyal Chorten was commissioned by the Queen Mother of Bhutan Ashi Tshering Yangdon Wangchuk. The temple was designed based on Buddhist scriptures and was built to bring peace and prosperity to the Kingdom as well as the world. However, it is the trek to the temple that invites a lot of people to the place. The trek takes about an hour and is one of the best Punakha things to do. Be sure to go to the top of the temple for the best views of the entire valley. Evening experience the spa / massage treatments available at the hotel. **Dinner** will be arranged at your Hotel.



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Day 13 **Punakha - Paro** / *Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

After Breakfast/Checkout go to **Paro** via Thimphu ((125 kms, approx. 5 hrs drive), and visit the **National Post office** where you can buy different types of Bhutanese stamps and also make your own personal Bhutan stamps using your pictures. Afternoon drive to Paro. At Paro visit **Paro Dzong**, a fine example of Bhutanese historic architecture. It is also known as the Rinpung Dzong which means a “fortress that sits on a heap of jewels”. This imposing dzong located above the Paro river is a fine example of Bhutanese architecture with its inward sloping walls that rise to an impressive height. The dzong was built in the 16th century on the foundation of a monastery built by Guru Rinpoche (who is regarded as the “second Buddha.”) .From the Dzong, walk further down to **Nyamai Zampa**, an oldest traditional cantilever bridge in Bhutan and also visit the **National Museum** which is now being housed at a hall near the Ta Dzong (National Museum) as it is now closed to the visitors due to major cracks formed during the September 2011 earthquake that hit Bhutan quite hard. In the evening stroll around the Paro town, free mingle with people.

Lunch at local restaurant and **Dinner** will be arranged at your Hotel.

Overnight Paro: (4* Star Deluxe Hotel) – Thim Dorji Resort

Address: Remphakha/ Lower Tsendona, Sangachokor Road, Paro 12001, Bhutan Ph: +975-77-249444

Website: <https://www.resortthimdorji.com/>

Accommodation of Deluxe Room for 2 nights including Breakfast



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Day 14

Paro Taktsang Monastery / *Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

Today you will hike to **Taktsang Goempa (Tiger's Nest Monastery)**, the most famous tourist destination in Bhutan. It takes around 30 minutes' drive from Paro town to the Parking lot. The hike upto the viewpoint will take about 1 1/2 hours from the parking lot and from there you will enjoy a spectacular view of the monastery clinging to the side of the cliff. You will stop here for refreshments and then hike further up to the monastery which should take another 1 1/2 hours. It was first built in 1692, around the Taktsang Senge Samdup, a cave where Guru Padmasambhava is said to have meditated for three months in the 8th century. It is believed that Guru Rinpoche (Guru Padmasambhava) flew to this location from Khenpajong, Tibet on the back of a tigress and subdued a demon. He then performed meditation in one of the caves here and emerged in eight incarnated forms (manifestations) and blessed the place. Subsequently, the place came to be known as the "Tiger's Nest". Guru Padmasambhava is known for introducing Buddhism to Bhutan. Today, Paro Taktsang is the best known of the thirteen caves in which he meditated.

Later visit **Kichu temple**, one of the 108 temples built in the 7th century by the Tibetan King Songsten Gampo. The story goes that a giant demon lay across the whole area of Tibet and the Himalayas and was preventing the spread of Buddhism. To overcome her, King Songtsen Gampo decided to build 108 temples, which would be placed on all the points of her body. Of these 108 temples, 2 were built in Bhutan. In the evening relax and overnight in Paro. **Lunch** at local restaurant and **Dinner** will be arranged at your Hotel.



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Day 15

Depart Paro / Breakfast

After Breakfast/Checkout from your Hotel lobby you will be met by our airport manager for your pick-up transfer to Paro Airport to connect flight for your onward journey.

Travel Notes:

- *International flight pick up transfer timing ranges from 3-4 Hours prior to flight departure timing.*
- *Domestic flight pick up transfer timing ranges from 2-3 Hours prior to flight departure timing.*
- *India Hotel Check-in time at 1400 hrs / Checkout time 1100 hrs at hotels.*

*** Namaste, Bon Voyage and see you again ***

*** End of our services ***

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Package Inclusions:

- Personalised Meet & Greet at Airports & Hotels
- Accommodation for 14 Nights
- Meals as per itinerary
- Approved English Speaking Guides for all Tours
- Transfers, Tours, Excursion by Chauffeur driven AC Vehicle
- 02 Bottle of Mineral Water Per Person Per Day in Vehicle
- All Entrance fees/tickets/permits at monuments as per itinerary
- Economy Class Air Ticket for sector Kathmandu > Paro (quoted separately)
- Bhutan Visa Fee & Bhutan SDF Fee
- Current Government of India Goods & Service Tax (GST)

Package Exclusions:

- Nepal Tourist Visa
- Travel Insurance (if any)
- Lunches & Dinners throughout except Chitwan & Bhutan
- Gratuities/Tipping (this is not mandatory and a prerogative of the guest)
- Items of personal nature use such as laundry, phone bills, drinks etc.
- Video camera fees at monuments and parks
- Early check-in and Late check-out at hotels, if not mentioned in inclusions
- Any other item not mentioned in cost includes column



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NEPAL TRAVEL PRE DEPARTURE

- 1) **BEST TIME to visit Nepal** is during the autumn season in the months of October - , December when the temperature ranges between 26 degrees Celsius and 4 degrees the weather is extremely pleasant. This **weather in Nepal** is perfect for outdoor sightseeing, trekking, and adventure sports like paragliding or bungee jumping and for photography sessions as well. Trekking can be enjoyed in August and September as the weather opens up after the heavy rainfall in July and becomes pleasant. For nature-lovers, the **best time to visit Nepal** is during the months of March and April because during this season, rhododendrons are in full bloom and the entire valley looks absolutely stunning.



Here are more details of weather conditions and the **best time to visit in Bhutan**.

| | |
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| <p>March – May (23°C to 12°C): This period Nepal experiences spring in its air. And, as the spring rolls into summer, the temperature in the plains and the valleys get really hot. However, in the lowlands of the Kathmandu valley, the weather in May is mildly warm. And, as one goes up the mountains, the heat is replaced by colder winds. As the hills are covered with rhododendrons, orchids, and other flowers during the spring season, this is the best time of the year to cherish nature along with wildlife.</p> | <p>June - August (27°C to 18°C): This period is the monsoon season in Nepal. This is not a very good time to visit Nepal as the temperature is filled with humidity. Accompanied by everyday rains and occasional thunderstorms in the valley, sightseeing tours are washed away in the rain, and trekking and hiking routes are too dangerous to travel on.</p> |
| <p>September - November (25°C to 9°C): Here comes the autumn season with an average temperature of 15-degree Celsius. The rains leave the valleys lush green and the skies brilliant blue. As a result, the landscape of Nepal gets a complete makeover after being roasted in the summer heat. This is the best season to visit Nepal, not only for the weather but for festivities as well.</p> | <p>December - February (18C to 2°C):The period between December and February experiences the winter season. The temperature in the lower plains is comfortably cooler. If you are visiting the lower points in Nepal, then winter too is perfect for visiting. Short, low elevation treks can be done without any problem.</p> |

- 2) **Famous Festivals** celebrated in Nepal and must be experiences include;

| |
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| <p>Holi Festival Hori or Faguwa is among the most vibrant festivals of Nepal. This festival of colours is celebrated by each year in Nepali community around first week of March. Locals also put ‘Chir’, a bamboo pole, decorated with strips of colourful cloth representing good luck prosperity, indicating the onset of the Holi festival. Just like the people of India, Nepalese also celebrate holi in Nepal with dry colours, water sprays, water guns and balloons.</p> |
| <p>Dashain Observed for 15 days, Dashain festival is one of the most widely celebrated festivals of Nepal during October. The victory of Goddess Durga over the devil Mahishasura is celebrated during Dashain through worships, feast, fairs and family gatherings. Nepalis also celebrate Dashain festival for the fertility of the land and good harvest. Ghatasthapana is the first day of the festival and the last day is known as Kojagrat Purnima. Seventh day is celebrated with phulpati or sacred flowers and Brahmins carry kalasha with jamara and bamboo stalk from Gorkha to Kathmandu. Animal sacrifices are common on the 8th and 9th day of Dashain, in Nepal. Vijayadashami is celebrated on the 10th day when friends and families meet to exchange greetings and blessings.</p> |
| <p>Tihar- The shining festival of Nepal - Tihar festival is a grand celebration of 5 days, right after Dashain festival. Known as ‘festival of lights’, Tihar is celebrated by worshipping Goddess Laxmi with vigour and enthusiasm. Along with worship of Goddess Laxmi, on the first two days people worship crows and dogs, cows on the third day and oxen on the fourth day. The 5th day is celebrated with Bhai tika- where sisters put tika on the forehead of their brothers praying for their long life. The Newar community celebrates Mha puja on the fourth day as well</p> |
| <p>Lhosar- The most vibrant festival in Nepal - Tibetan New Year or Lhosar is one of the most popular festivals of Nepal, celebrated by different communities on different days. Tamu Lhosar is celebrated amongst the Gurung community, whereas Sonam Lhosar is celebrated by the Tamang and Yolmo communities. The third type, Gyalbo Lhosar is observed by the Tibetan and Sherpa communities. The beginning of new year is celebrated by dance, music, family meet-ups, exchanging greetings and gifts. Families pray together during this festival and cook special foods for gods and goddesses. Consuming changkol, made from chhaang; a local Tibetan drink, similar to beer, is a known practice during Lhosar.</p> |



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BHUTAN TRAVEL PRE DEPARTURE

1) **BEST TIME to visit Bhutan** is during the spring time i.e from March to May when the weather is pleasant and the valleys become lush green with flowers blooming all over. This is the best time to visit Bhutan for sightseeing and other outdoor activities. October to November is also an ideal time to plan a visit to Bhutan as the days are sunny and you can even find snow at higher elevations. Hence, the **best seasons to visit Bhutan** is autumn and spring when the temperature is balanced, and the skies are clear. High season encompasses March through May, as well as September through November, whereas low season consists of December through February and June through August. Undermentioned is a highlighted best months table;

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
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Here are more details of weather conditions and the **best time to visit in Bhutan**.

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| <p>March – May (3°C to 25°C): The weather is usually dry and humid, offering ample scope to explore the surroundings and indulge in trekking. It is also the best time to visit Bhutan in order to attend the Paro Tsechu festival and meet the king of Bhutan. Its hard to find availability, hence it is advised to book in advance.</p> | <p>June - August (24°C to 25°C): Here comes the summer season, offering an enticing view of the Himalayan mountains replete with lush green paddy fields. The region remains mostly dry here. As the place witnesses low influx of visitors on this duration, one can have a relaxed holiday enjoying the splendid landscapes.</p> |
| <p>September - November (10°C to 23°C): Here comes the fall season. Weather becomes quite majestic, mildly sunny and chilly, making it a decent season to have a visit. During this period to attend festivals, like the Black-Necked Crane Festival and enjoy the view of beautiful landscape turning gold.</p> | <p>December - February (10°C to -5°C): The period between December and February experiences the winter season. Most of the region remains dry during this period, while the later weeks of January experience mild snowfall. It is advised to avoid making a visit to Bhutan during this period as heavy snowfall disrupts roads.</p> |



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2) Famous Festivals celebrated in Bhutan and must be experiences include;

The Thimphu Tshechu Festival is the most popular festival that is celebrated in Bhutan every year from 7th Oct to 9th Oct. During this festival all the local people dressed in colorful attires take part in the festivities. A lot of cultural events are held during this time along with masked dance performance.

The Jambay Lhakhang Drup is another iconic festival celebrated in Bhutan where cultural dances are performed along with famous fire dance for celebrating the foundation of Jambay Lhakhang Monastery. Dance of Treasure is the highlight of this festival which is said to bless a woman who is not able to give birth to a child.

The Punakha Drubchen is one of the most iconic Bhutan festivals which is celebrated in the month of either February or March. It is a 3 to 4 days festivity in which the scenes and moments from the battle of the Tibetan Army which was held in the 17th century are recreated. The festival celebrates the victory of the villagers over the Tibetan army.

3) Fascinating Facts about Bhutan;

- All visitors to Bhutan must book through a government-approved tour agency and pay for their trip before arrival
 - Bhutan adopts the policy of High Value, Low Impact Tourism
 - The Only Carbon Negative Country in the World
 - Isolated from the World Until The 1970s
 - No Traffic Lights in Bhutan
 - The King Abdicated the Throne for Democracy
 - Happiness Prevails Over GDP
 - Bhutan Says No To Plastic
 - Only 8 Pilots are qualified to fly to Paro Airport
 - The Highest Unclimbed Peak in the World
 - It is Illegal to Kill Anything
 - Bhutanese Love Spice!
 - It Has Never Been Conquered
 - Bhutan Was the Last Country to Introduce Television
 - Refusing Food the First Time is a Custom
 - Homosexuality Was Decriminalised in 2019
 - The National Sport is Archery
 - Bhutanese Still Believe in the Existence of Yeti
 - Bhutanese Love Their King, A Lot!
 - Low Crime Rates
 - It is Mandatory to Wear the National Dress
 - Local currency is Ngultrum, but INR Indian Rupee is also legal tender
- Unsurprisingly, most people know very few facts about Bhutan. In fact, lots of experienced travelers aren't even sure where Bhutan is located!



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