

# Exclusive Bhutan 7D



**Duration:** 7 Days / 6 Nights

## **Itinerary:**

**Day 1** Arrive Paro from New Delhi / Kathmandu / Bagdogra & transfer to Thimphu 65 km 1hrs drive

**Day 2** Thimphu – capital city

### **National institute of zorig chusum- SIGHTSEEING**

The National Institute of Zorig Chusum is the centre for Bhutanese Art education which provides 4-6 years of training in Bhutan's 13 traditional arts. Students specialize in painting (furniture, thangkas – painted religious pictures, usually on canvas), woodcarving (masks, statues, bowls), embroidery (hangings, boots, clothes) or statue-making (clay). The craft demonstrations are a photographers' dream and it's hard not to be impressed with the skill and discipline of the young students. The showroom sells good-value pieces made by students.

### **Motithang Takin Preserve- SIGHTSEEING**

Motithang Takin Preserve, located in the Motithang district of Thimphu, Bhutan is a wildlife reserve area for takin, the national animal of Bhutan. Originally a mini-zoo, it was converted into a preserve when it was discovered that the animals refrained from inhabiting the surrounding forest even when set free. The reason for

declaring takin as a national animal of Bhutan on 25 November 2005 (*Budorcas taxicolor*) is attributed to a legend of the animal's creation in Bhutan in the 15th century by Lama Drukpa Kunley.

### **Folk Heritage Museum Thimphu- SIGHTSEEING**

The Folk Heritage Museum or Phelchey Toenkhyim is a museum in Thimphu, Thimphu District, Bhutan. The museum is housed in a 3-story 19th century traditional rammed mud and timber house aged more than 150 years. It includes paddy, wheat and millet fields, watermill, kitchen gardens, hot stone bath etc. The ground floor resembles barn, the upper floor resembles safe store and the top most floor resembles living and dining area. The museums displays various materials related to the Bhutanese culture and way of life. Exhibitions includes rural households artifacts, equipment, objects and tools.

### **Authentic Bhutanese Crafts Bazaar- SIGHTSEEING**

There are about 100 shops and all the shopkeepers are women. The shops were allotted to these womenfolk on the condition that they would only sell products which were produced in Bhutan and not import products from other countries. The ladies are helpful, courteous and very obliging while you browse through their wares. If you start from one end, it will definitely take you a little more than an hour to window-shop till the end of the road.

### **Clock Tower Square, Thimphu- SIGHTSEEING**

Clock Tower Square has a tower with four clock faces located in Thimphu, capital of Bhutan. It is a famously known landmark in Thimphu. There are many shops, hotels and restaurants surrounding the square. The Clock-tower has a typical Bhutanese architectural outlook with rich Bhutanese carvings and paintings. There are traditional hand crafted dragon with golden painting on all the four faces of the tower which symbolizes the county as an independent dragon kingdom. The tower has beautiful paintings and carvings of flowers which add more magnificence to the tower. The shops, restaurants and hotels in the clock tower square have a blend of fine traditional and modern architectural Bhutanese design with multi-coloured wood frontages, small arched windows, and sloping roofs. The buildings around the square are all small three storied structures

### **Buddha Dordenma statue- SIGHTSEEING**

Great Buddha Dordenma is a gigantic Shakyamuni Buddha statue in the mountains of Bhutan celebrating the 60th anniversary of fourth king Jigme Singye Wangchuck. The statue houses over one hundred thousand smaller Buddha statues, each of which, like the Great Buddha Dordenma itself, will be made of bronze and gilded in gold. The Great Buddha Dordenma is sited amidst the ruins of Kuensel Phodrang, the palace of Sherab Wangchuck, the thirteenth Desi Druk, overlooking the southern approach to Thimphu, the capital of Bhutan.

## **Day 3 Thimphu - Punakha via Dochula pass 77 km 2 hrs 45 min hours drive**

### **Dochula Pass- SIGHTSEEING**

The Dochula Pass is a mountain pass in the snow covered Himalayas within Bhutan on the road from Thimphu to Punakha where 108 memorial chortens or stupas known as "Druk Wangyal Chortens" have been built by Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuk, the eldest Queen Mother. Apart from the chortens there is a monastery called the Druk Wangyal Lhakhang (temple), built in honour of the fourth Druk Gyalpo (head of the state of Bhutan), Jigme Singye Wangchuck; the open grounds in its front yard is a venue for the annual Dochula Druk Wangyel Festival. The pass with 108 memorial chortens is adjacent to the country's first Royal Botanical Park.

## **Royal Botanical Park, Lampelri- SIGHTSEEING**

The Royal Botanical Park, Lampelri is the first botanical park in Bhutan and forms the backdrop of the Dochula Pass. The park forms a biological corridor of 47 square miles (120 kms) between the Jigme Singye Wangchuck National Park and the Jigme Dorji Wangchuck National Park and has a popular botanical garden within it which is spread over an area of 125 acres. This is planted with 46 species of rhododendron of which 18 species are native to the park while the other 26 species are brought from other regions of Bhutan and planted here.

## **Punakha Suspension Bridge- SIGHTSEEING**

The Punakha Suspension Bridge is located near the Punakha Dzong and it is the longest suspension bridge in Bhutan built above the Po Chu river.

## **Punakha Dzong- SIGHTSEEING**

The Punakha Dzong, is the administrative centre of Punakha District in Punakha, Bhutan. Constructed by Ngawang Namgyal, 1st Zhabdrung Rinpoche, in 1637–38, it is the second oldest and second largest dzong in Bhutan and one of its most majestic structures. The dzong houses the sacred relics of the southern Drukpa Lineage of the Kagyu school of Tibetan Buddhism, including the Rangjung Kasarpani and the sacred remains of Ngawang Namgyal and the tertön Pema Lingpa. Punakha Dzong was the administrative centre and the seat of the Government of Bhutan until 1955, when the capital was moved to Thimphu. It is listed as a tentative site in Bhutan's Tentative List for UNESCO inclusion.

## **Day 4 Punakha Gangtey valley – day excursion 92 km 3 hrs 20 min drive**

### **Gangtay Goemba - SIGHTSEEING**

The Gangtey Monastery or the Gangtey Goemba is an important monastery / temple associate with the Nyingmapa school of Buddhism. The Monastery is Located in the Wandue Phodrang Dzhongkhag in central Bhutan. The Gangtey Monastery is situate in the picturesque Phobjikha Valley, which is also renowned for being the winter home of the rare Tibetan Black Necked Cranes.

## **Day 5 Punakha – Paro 145 km 4 hours drive**

## **Day 6 Paro sightseeing**

### **Drukgyal Dzong- SIGHTSEEING**

Drukgyal Dzong was a fortress and Buddhist monastery, now in ruins, located in the upper part of the Paro District, Bhutan. The dzong was probably built by Tenzin Drukdra in 1649 at the behest of Ngawang Namgyal, Zhabdrung Rinpoche, to commemorate victory over an invasion from Tibet. In the early 1950s, Drukgyal Dzong was almost completely destroyed by fire. It is listed as a tentative site in Bhutan's Tentative List for UNESCO inclusion. In 2016, to celebrate the birth of His Royal Highness The Gyalsey, as well as to commemorate two other significant events, namely, the arrival of Zhabdrung Ngawang Namgyel to Bhutan in 1616 AD and the birth year of Guru Rinpoche, the Prime Minister Lyonchen Tshering Tobgay announced that the Dzong will be rebuilt and reinstated to its former glory. The announcement and ground breaking ceremony took place a day

after the Prince was born

### **National Museum of Bhutan- SIGHTSEEING**

National Museum of Bhutan is a cultural museum in the town of Paro in western Bhutan. Established in 1968, in the renovated ancient Ta-dzong building, above Rinpung Dzong under the command of His Majesty, the King Jigme Dorji Wangchuck, the third hereditary Monarch of Bhutan. The necessary infrastructure was created to house some of the finest specimens of Bhutanese art, including masterpieces of bronze statues and paintings. Suitable galleries were constructed to house the extensive collections. Works of art were elegantly displayed on scientific lines. Today the National Museum has in its possession over 3,000 works of Bhutanese art, covering more than 1,500 years of Bhutan's cultural heritage. Its rich holdings of various creative traditions and disciplines, represent a remarkable blend of the past with the present and is a major attraction for local and foreign visitors.

### **Rinpung Dzong - SIGHTSEEING**

Rinpung Dzong is a large dzong - Buddhist monastery and fortress - of the Drukpa Lineage of the Kagyu school in Paro District, Bhutan. It houses the district Monastic Body and government administrative offices of Paro Dzongkhag. It is listed as a tentative site in Bhutan's Tentative List for UNESCO inclusion.

## **Day 7 Departure**

### **Inclusions:**

- Sightseeing as per the itinerary
- Breakfast at the hotels mentioned
- Accommodation for number of nights mentioned on double sharing basis
- All Transfers, excursions & sightseeing as per the itinerary by private TATA Indigo / Innova as per package choose
- Below 5 Yrs Child sharing same bed with parents will be Complimentary.
- Parking and all transport related expense including Driver Services
- All toll taxes, parking fees, Fuel and driver's allowances
- Welcome drink on arrival
- All Transport & Hotels Related Taxes
- GST & all Government Taxes (if mentioned)
- A 24 - hour helpline.
- Assistance on Arrival.
- No Hidden Cost

### **Exclusions:**

- Personal expenses such as laundry, telephone calls, tips & gratuity, mineral water, soft & hard drinks, portage
- Anything not mentioned in the inclusions

- Additional sightseeing or extra usage of vehicle, other than mentioned in the itinerary
- Entrance Fees & Guide charges
- Any cost arising due to natural calamities like, landslides, road blockage, political disturbances (strikes), etc (to be borne by the client, who is directly payable on the spot)
- Any increase in Airlines taxes or fuel price at the time of departure, leading to increase in cost on surface transportation & land arrangements, which may come into effect prior to departure.
- Still camera/ video camera charger

### **Term & Conditions:**

- Rates are not valid for peak Festive season i.e. New Year , Diwali , Pushkar fair etc.
- Rates are based on Hotels Subject to Availability at the time of making Reservation. In case of unavailability in mentioned hotels, alternate accommodation will be arranged in a similar category hotel.
- Rates are subject to change if there is any Fair & Festival, Major conference, events in travel destination
- Early check in / late checks out is subject to availability of rooms.
- Cancellation charges would be as per the company policy.
- Vehicle confirmed will be as per Itinerary and not at disposal. AC will work only in the plains and will be switched off during hill drives.
- All sightseeing mentioned are subject to weather conditions, political conditions & traffic conditions in the destination.
- Any sightseeing missed due to natural calamities / weather conditions is non-refundable.
- All entrances fees will be on direct payment basis as per Itinerary.
- It is not advisable to travel in night, if necessary supplement charge applicable

### **Travel Basics:**

- Passport and valid Visa
- Water Bottle with a Filtering System
- Daily Medications
- Phone Chargers
- Camera
- ID Proof
- Toilet Papers
- Walking Shoes
- Ear Phones
- Cap
- Power bank
- Sun Screen Lotion
- Wipes
- Ladies basics
- Mosquito Creame/bands/net depending upon your itinerary.

### **India Visa Guidelines:**

Yes, Australian passport holders **require a visa** to enter India for tourism, business, medical, or other purposes

**e-Tourist Visa (Most Common):** Valid for tourism, sightseeing, short-term yoga programs, and visiting friends/relatives.

Validity options: - 30 days (double entry), 1 year (multiple entry), 5 years (multiple entry)

**Stay limit:** 90 days per visit

#### **e-Business Visa**

For attending meetings, business discussions, or exhibitions

Valid for 1 year (multiple entries), 180 days stay per visa

#### **e-Medical Visa**

For short-term medical treatment in India

Valid for 60 days with triple entry

#### **How to Apply:**

- Apply online via the official Indian government portal: <https://indianvisaonline.gov.in/evisa/>
- No physical visit required, Upload passport scan and photograph, Payment is made online, Approval typically within 3–5 working days

#### **Documents Required:**

- Valid Australian passport (minimum 6 months validity from date of arrival)
- Recent passport-size photograph (as per specs)
- Copy of return/onward flight ticket may be asked
- Additional documentation for business or medical visas

#### **Booking Terms:**

- Deposit of 25% of the package cost at the time of booking.
- Need 50% payment of the package cost, 60 days prior to departure date
- Need 100% payment of the package cost, 30 days prior to departure date

#### **Why Choose Us:**

At **Your India Travel (YIT)**, an inbound division of **R G Destinations Pvt Ltd**, we are dedicated to crafting unforgettable journeys across India. As a **National Tourism Award-winning company**, we take pride in delivering excellence, backed by over 25 years of expertise in handling inbound tourism. Our commitment to quality and seamless experiences is reinforced by our ISO 9001-2008 certification from JAS ANZ & IAF of Australia.

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**ATEC & AFTA** – Strong presence in the Australian travel industry

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