Punakha Tsechu



Days: 9

Price: 2040 USD
International flight not included

Comfort: ★★★★★

Difficult: ★★★☆☆

Adventure Culture Festival
photographic Travel with children

Experience the spectacular Punakha Tsechu (Festival), held in the grounds of the magnificent Punakha Dzong. A **Tsechu** is a Buddhist festival in honor of **Guru Rimpoche**, the saint who brought Buddhism to Bhutan. Locals gather in a spirit of festivity, celebration and deep faith to witness unique masked dances and celebrations. The Tsechu is one of the best ways to experience the ancient living culture of Bhutan. Also visit sacred sites in Paro, Thimphu, Punakha and view the **Black-Necked Cranes** in the beautiful **Phobjikha Valley**. There is also an optional day tour of the beautiful Haa Valley available as part of this tour.

Day 1. Sightseeing at Paro



Paro Airport
10km - 15m
Paro

Paro Airport - Paro

- The flight to Paro is one of the most spectacular mountain flights in the world, with a constantly changing panorama of some of the highest mountains on earth. Our representative will meet you at Paro airport and transfer you to hotel.
- After lunch enjoy afternoon sightseeing around Paro, including a visit to the National Museum, Ta Dzong and Rimpong Dzong to see the painting of the great saint Milarepa.

  Afterwards walk to the beautiful cantilever wooden bridge still in use.

Lunch	Zakhang (traditional restaurant)
Dinner	3 star hotel
Accommodation	3 star hotel

Day 2. Hike to Tiger`s Nest



Paro

- After breakfast, we will hike to Tiger's Nest - Bhutan's most scenic icon or the most important landmark, Taktshang the Tiger's nest clings to the side of a steep cliff 300 meters above the Paro valley.
- In the afternoon drive to the ruins of the 17th Century Drukgyel Dzong and 7th Century Kyichu Lhakhang, one of the 108 temples constructed by the Tibetan king Songtsen Gampo. Kyichu is built in a manner similar to the Jokhang in Lhasa.

Breakfast	3 star hotel
Lunch	Zakhang (traditional restaurant)
Dinner	3 star hotel

Accommodation	3 star hotel

Day 3. Attend Punakha Festival



Paro
127km - 3h 30m
Punakha

Paro - Punakha

- After breakfast, we will drive from Thimphu to Punakha on national highway, which leads from the cold of Thimphu to the hot, almost tropical area of the Punakha Valley. En route, we will stop at Dochula Pass, where you can visit the marvelous 108 stupas and have a coffee break.
- On arrival, check into hotel. After lunch will visit the “Palace of Great Happiness” to attend the festival.

Breakfast	3 star hotel
Lunch	Zakhang (traditional restaurant)
Dinner	3 star hotel
Accommodation	3 star hotel

Day 4. Full day Sightseeing in Punakha



Punakha

- After breakfast, enjoy a walk to Chimi Lhakhang. Afterwards, return to Punakha Dzong to observe the continuing masked dances and rituals that take place as part of the Punakha Festival.

Breakfast	3 star hotel
Lunch	Zakhang (traditional restaurant)
Dinner	3 star hotel
Accommodation	3 star hotel

Day 5. Visit Phobjikha Sanctuary



Punakha
78km - 3h
Phobjikha

Punakha - Phobjikha

- After breakfast, we will be heading towards Phobjikha, the valley where significant wintering ground of the rare and endangered **Black-necked cranes** in Bhutan are found.
- After lunch we will be visiting the **Phobjikha Sanctuary** to view the majestic **black necked cranes** (Nov-Mar only) and **Gangtey Gompa** (Monastery), dating back to the 16th century.

Breakfast	3 star hotel
Lunch	Zakhang (traditional restaurant)
Dinner	3 star hotel
Accommodation	3 star hotel

Day 6. Visit Lamperi Botanical Garden



Phobjikha
133km - 5h 20m
Thimphu

Phobjikha - Thimphu

- After breakfast, we will drive to Paro. En route, we will stop at **Lamperi Botanical Garden** which comprises of over 46 species of **rhododendrons**. Afternoon at leisure to explore downtown Thimphu.

Breakfast	3 star hotel
Lunch	Zakhang (traditional restaurant)
Dinner	3 star hotel
Accommodation	3 star hotel

Day 7. Full day Sightseeing in Thimphu



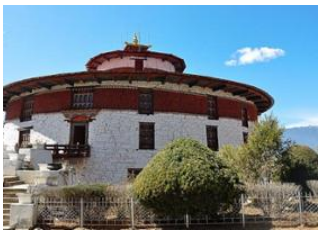
Thimphu

- Once you settle into your hotel, we will begin to unlock the mysteries of Bhutan by touring Thimphu's most important sites.

  After lunch visit the Memorial Chorten built in the memory of late Jigme Dorji Wangchuck, Buddha Point, 15th century Changangkha Lhakhang, Textile Museum is worth a visit to learn about Bhutan's living national art of weaving and primary center of learning for Bhutanese artists School of Thirteen Arts & Crafts.

Breakfast	3 star hotel
Lunch	Zakhang (traditional restaurant)
Dinner	3 star hotel
Accommodation	3 star hotel

Day 8. Morning hike to Cheri Monastery



Thimphu
50km - 1h 22m
Paro

- In the morning drive to north of **Thimphu** Valley (15kms) and hike to Cheri Monastery for 30 – 45mins. Cheri Monastery was established in 1620 by Zhabdrung Ngawang Namgyal and is now a major teaching and retreat center of the Southern Drukpa Kagyu sect.
- Afternoon you can relax at the hotel or explore the neighboring villages.

Breakfast	3 star hotel
Lunch	Zakhang (traditional restaurant)
Dinner	3 star hotel
Accommodation	3 star hotel

Day 9. Have a nice journey and see you soon !

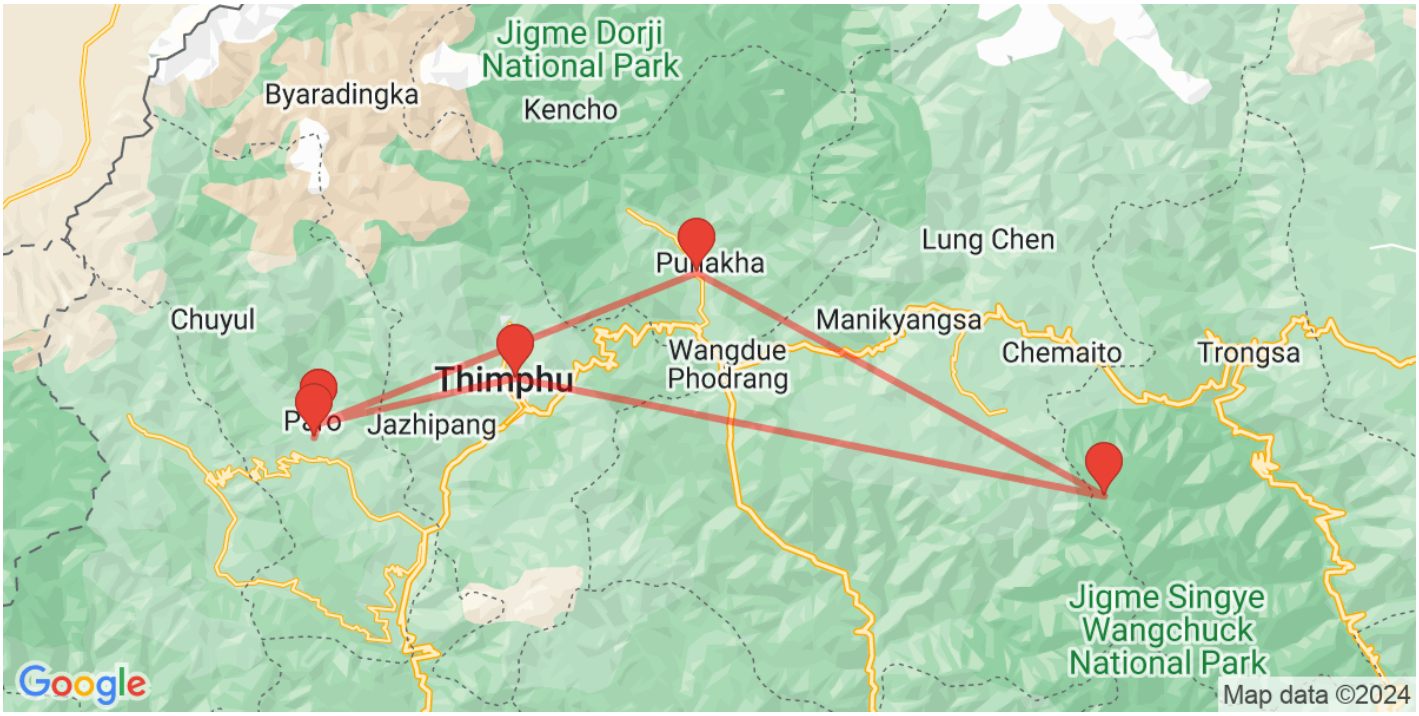


- We drive you back at the airport accordingly to your flight departure.

Breakfast	3 star hotel

Paro

Itinerary map



Individual price per person

1-1	2-2	3-10
2360 USD	2280 USD	2040 USD

Included

- Bhutan Tourist Tariff Royalty.
- Visa Fee
- All private excursions and transfers in superior air-conditioned vehicle.
- Local English speaking guide/tour leader.
- Experienced driver.
- Accommodation in carefully selected, highest standard government approved hotels & guesthouses.
- All meals in Bhutan.
- All entrance fees and permits.

Not included

- All personal expenses such as bars, beverages, laundry, telephone and tips.
- Medical / Travel Insurance.
- Airfare