

9DAYS 8NIGHTS MYSTICAL

Paro / Thimphu / Gangtey / Bumthang / Trongsa / Punakha / Haa

* EXCLUSIVE PRIVATE TOUR "4 OR 2" TO GO * ENGLISH SPEAKING LOCAL TOURIST GUIDE
* HOTELS IN BHUTAN IS BASED ON SUPERIOR CATEGORY

Tour Code : BHT9



Day 1: Kuala Lumpur → Bangkok

- Depart on your pleasant flight to Bangkok. Overnight accommodation in Bangkok is included.
- **Note** : In Bangkok, transfer BKK Airport / Hotel / BKK Airport & meals are at passenger own cost and arrangement.

Day 2: Bangkok → Paro / Thimphu (Lunch / Dinner)

- Depart for Paro on Bhutan Air or Druk Air (via transit point). On arrival, proceed to Paro town for lunch. After lunch, drive to Capital City, Thimphu.
- Visit **Tashicho Dzong**, is a Buddhist monastery and fortress on the northern edge of the city of Thimphu. It has traditionally been the seat of the Dharma Raja, the head of Bhutan's civil government, an office which has been combined with the kingship since the creation of the monarchy in 1907, and summer capital of the country. After dinner, transfer back to hotel in Thimphu.

Day 3: Thimphu / Gangtey (Phobjikha Valley) (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

- After breakfast, visit **Buddha Point** (Kuensel Phodrang). You can pay your obeisance and offer prayers to the Buddha, the largest statue in the country and then walk around and take a glimpse of the valley.
- Visit the **Motithang Takin Preserve (Mini Zoo)** where you can see the national animal - Takin research centre where these odd animals graze peacefully in a small protected park.
- Visit **National Memorial Chorten**, a stupa conceptualized by the Third King to ward off negative influences. It was later built in his memory by the present King and the Queen Mother.
- Visit **National Post Office**, where you can spend only USD 3, to have your own photo for a set of stamps.
- Visit **National School of Traditional Arts**, where young monks learn the art of Buddhist Thangka Painting; the workshops for mask making and fine metal craft, weaving, ceramics and paper.
- After lunch, proceed to Gangtey. En-route visit **Dochula pass** (3,050m) where if the weather is good, enjoy spectacular view of mountains, you also can see "108 stupa", also known as "Druk Wangyal Chortens". After dinner, transfer back to hotel in Gangtey.

****National School of Traditional Arts temporarily closed during the winter period of 15 Dec - 15 Feb****

Day 4: Gangtey (Phobjikha Valley) / Bumthang (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

- After breakfast, visit **Gangtey Goemba** one of the oldest Nyingmapa monasteries in Bhutan. Recently renovated, the monastery allows us to examine the fine workmanship of Bhutan's best woodcarvers, sculptors, and painters.
- Continue to visit the beautiful **Phobjikha Valley**, this quiet and remote valley is the winter home of black necked cranes, which migrate from the arid plains of Tibet in the north, to pass the winter months in a milder climate. At the moment, enjoy the beautiful scenic of Phobjikha Valley; also enjoy the afternoon tea with handmade cookies at the resort.
- After that, proceed to Bumthang. En-route crossing 3,300m high **Pele La Pass**. After dinner, transfer back to hotel in Bumthang.

Day 5: Bumthang (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

- After breakfast, visit **Jakar Dzong** or the "Castle of the White Bird" dominates the Chamkhar valley and overlooks the town. Then viewing the most important Buddhist sites, which the date back more than a thousand years. Take an easy walk from **Jambay Lakhang to Kurjey Lakhang** was comprises three temples. The one on the right was built in 1652 against the rock face where Guru Padmasambhava meditated in the 8th century. These three temples are surrounded by a 108 chorten wall. After that, visiting the temples and learning the rich legends associated with them. Then hike along a dirt road to Tamzhing Monastery, a UNESCO World Heritage site known for its unique murals.
- Visit **Membar Tsho (Burning Lake)**, in the Tang Valley near Bumthang, is heavily associated with Guru Rinpoche, who brought Buddhism to Bhutan and discovered his first terma in the lake in 1475.
- Visit **Cheese Factory**, here you can see the most primitive production methods and the most pollution-free cheese food.
- Visit **Chumey Valley**, the valley floors a pattern of golden fields, and clusters of village homes built in the traditional style unique to Bhutan.
- Last, visit the **Handicraft Shop**. After dinner, transfer back to hotel in Bumthang.

** The Itinerary Are Subject To The Final Discretion Of The Local Land Operator **

270715

* Terms and Conditions apply * Cash term * Peak season surcharge applies * Price subject to change without prior notice

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SUMMIT HOLIDAYS

Beyond Travel Expectations

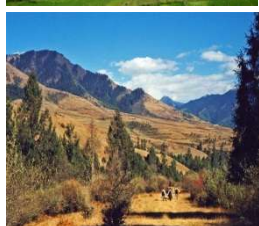
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Day 6: Bumthang / Trongsa / Wangdue Phodrang (Punakha)(Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

- After breakfast, transfer back to Wangdue Phodrang. En-route visit **Trongsa Dzong**, it was Built in 1648, the seat of power over central and eastern Bhutan. Both the first and second kings of Bhutan ruled the country from this ancient seat.
- Visit **Ta Dzong (Trongsa Museum)**, this also a former watchtower provides visitors with an insight into the significance of Trongsa in Bhutan's history. As of date the museum of Trongsa is the most fascinating museum of the nation.
- Continue to the **Trongsa Observatory**, where you can enjoy panoramic views of Trongsa were far more beautiful. After lunch, continue the journey. After dinner, transfer back to hotel in Wangdue Phodrang.

Day 7: Wangdue Phodrang (Punakha) / Paro (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

- Visit **Chimi Lhakhang**, a temple built by Lam Drukpa Kuenley, the Divine Madman and renowned for blessing barren women with fertility.
- Visit the **Punakha Dzong**, a massive structure built at the junction of two rivers. It was the capital of Bhutan until 1955, and still serves as the winter residence of the monk body. The first King, Ugyen Wangchuck was crowned here in 1907.
- After lunch, transfer back to Paro. Upon arrival, visit **Paro Town** for souvenir. After dinner, transfer back to hotel in Paro.

Day 8: Paro (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

- After breakfast, visit **Taksang**, also known as **Tiger's Nest**, a prominent Himalayan Buddhist sacred site and temple complex, located in the cliffside of the upper Paro valley. The hikes up to the view point - monastery will take about 3 hours and from there you will enjoy a spectacular view of the monastery clinging to the side of the cliff. (Pony ride can be arranged *Optional*).
- Visit one of the oldest landmarks in Bhutan, the 7th century **Kyichu Lhakhang** was one of the 108 temples built in the Himalayas by Tibetan King, Songtsen Gampo. It is revered as one of the most holy shrines in Bhutan and embodies the arrival of Buddhism here. Then, visit **Paro Dzong (Rinpung Dzong)** also known as "fortress of the heap of jewels" which is the seat of the district administration and the residence of the monastic school. The dzong is famous for its wall murals depicting Buddhist parables, symbols and the lives of prominent saints. After dinner, transfer back to hotel in Paro.

Day 9: Paro → Bangkok → Kuala Lumpur (Breakfast)

- Early breakfast will be served and we bid a fond farewell to Bhutan for the flight back to Kuala Lumpur via Bangkok.

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