

Bhutan, Happiness is a place!

Greetings from Shah Vacations

Let's plan your Bhutan trip

BHUTAN – 06 Nights/ 07 Days – EX Kolkata/ Ex Delhi

Day 1: ARRIVE PARO – THIMPHU (Approx. 65 kms/ 2 hours)

Arrive at Paro International Airport.

After arrival, proceed to the immigration counter. Complete Immigration formalities and you will be met with your chauffeur/ guide at the outside of the airport terminal. You will be transferred to Thimphu.

Thimphu - is the capital and the largest city of the Kingdom of Bhutan. Thimphu is the political and economic hub of Bhutan. The city is located on the bank of River Wang Chuu. Thimphu contains most of the important political buildings in Bhutan, including the National Assembly of the newly formed parliamentary democracy and the residence of the King. Thimphu holds a fascinating four-day festival, held every year during autumn (September/ October).

Arrive at Thimphu and check-in to your hotel.

Later proceed for a short sightseeing of Thimphu.

(Sightseeing on this day won't be possible if the flight arrival time is beyond 2 pm)

Memorial Chorten - On the western side of Thimphu's Memorial Chorten, a row of wooden platforms sits in the long grass. Each has been polished smooth by the prostrations of faithful worshippers who gather here in sun, rain or snow, to pay their respects to His Majesty Jigme Dorji Wangchuck (1928–1972), the Third King of Bhutan. The Chorten, with its elaborate golden peak representing the crescent moon and sun, is one of Thimphu's most striking religious landmarks. Constructed in 1974, the Tibetan-style chorten's whitewashed exterior boasts richly decorated chapels - one facing each of the cardinal directions.

Overnight stay in Thimphu.

Day 2: THIMPHU

Breakfast at the hotel.

After breakfast, proceed for full day sightseeing tour of Thimphu.

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Kuensel Phodrang – The statue was cast in bronze in China and transported by sea and road to this site once occupied by the palace of Druk Desi, a secular ruler of Bhutan in the eighteenth-century. At its completion, the statue will contain 125,000 gilded Buddha statues and a wealth of other statuary.

Takin Reserve & Mini Zoo - Add to Wish List Hidden in a fold of the forest-draped hills high above Thimphu, a herd of takin make their home in the Mothithang Takin Preserve. Formerly a small zoo, the king decreed that the animals should be freed rather than kept in captivity. However, instead of wandering deeper into the hills, the tame takin took to the streets of Thimphu, where they became a traffic hazard as they foraged for food.

Anim Dratshang (Nunnery) - On a hillside above Thimphu's Tashichho Dzong, just off Gaden Lam, stands Thangtong Dewachen Dupthop Nunnery. Home to around 60 nuns, the modest structure was built in 1976 by the 16th incarnation of Thangtong Gyelpo, the famed fifteenth-century "Iron Bridge Monk" who forged chain-link bridges that still span several of Bhutan's fast-flowing rivers. The road to the nunnery offers magnificent views of Tashichho Dzong, while the small complex houses a covered chorten and an unusual pillar topped with two carved deer (symbolic of the Deer Park at Sarnath, where Buddha first taught after his enlightenment) and a wheel of law.

Folk Heritage Museum - The Folk Heritage Museum, located on the outskirts of Thimphu, recreates a traditional Bhutanese family home inside a beautiful 19th century rammed earth and timber building. Here, the family's prized possessions are on display: shiny wooden bowls line the kitchen shelves, richly patterned fabrics hang alongside aged leopard fur bags in the room next door, and gold glints from thanngas hung in the family's altar room.

Royal Textile Academy & Museum - Intricately patterned wild silk kiras from Lhuentse hang alongside rough nettle fiber cloth from Zhemgang in Bhutan's excellent Royal Textile Academy. The museum, housed in an impressive modern building, celebrates the country's vibrant and varied tradition of hand weaving. From the towering applique thanangka that overlooks the entrance hall and the sumptuous garments on display in the Royal Gallery to mannequins dressed in simple herders' clothing from Laya, the museum offers an unparalleled chance to learn about and appreciate this unique aspect of Bhutanese culture.

Handicrafts Market – An interesting market with local items and bargain price handicraft goods.

Tashichho Dzong - Standing proudly on the western bank of the Wang Chhu a few kilometers north of central Thimphu, Tashichho Dzong looks every inch the seat of government. While the National Assembly no longer convenes inside the fortress's

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whitewashed walls, today the dzong still houses the throne room and the king's offices as well as the ministries of home affairs and finance.

Overnight stay in Thimphu.

Day 3: THIMPHU – PUNAKHA (Approx.120 kms/ 4 hours with en-route stop)

Breakfast at the hotel.

After breakfast, proceed for Punakha.

En-route visit **Dochu La** - A mountain pass leading further into the Punakha Valley. It offers a stunning 360 degree panoramic view of Eastern Himalayan mountain ranges. The view is especially scenic on clear, winter days with snowcapped mountains forming a majestic backdrop to the tranquility of the 108 chortens gracing the mountain pass. Enjoy lunch at newly open restaurant Druk Wangyel Cafe.

Arrive at Punakha and check-in to the hotel.

Overnight stay in Punakha

Day 4 : PUNAKHA

Breakfast at the hotel.

After breakfast, visit Punakha.

Chimi Lhakhang- Built in 1499, Chimi Lhakhang is dedicated to the "Divine Madman," Drukpa Kunley, a sage revered in Bhutan for his unorthodox teachings and his use of a "flaming thunderbolt" to fight evil. While Chimi Lhakhang marks the spot where Drukpa Kunley defeated and buried a much-feared demoness, today the hilltop lhakhang is visited by expectant mothers and families with newborns to pray for their children's health. Kindly note that a walking of good 45 minutes has to be undertaken.

Suspension Bridge - Behind Punakha Dzong stretches the Punakha Suspension Bridge, the longest of its kind in Bhutan. The bridge connects the dzong with the villages on the other bank of the Po Chhu river -- Shengana, Samdingkha, and Wangkha -- where traces of the Divine Madman Drukpa Kuenley can still be found, in the form of local stories, monasteries and markings on rocks.

Punakha Dzong - Visitors approach the dzong over a long cantilever bridge that spans the Mo Chhu and up a steep flight of wooden steps. The first dochey or courtyard houses Punakha dzongkhag's government offices, with darkened passages leading south around the six-story utse to the monastic quarters that line the second courtyard. The utse

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contains Bhutan's holiest relic, an image of Chenrezig (the bodhisattva of compassion) that the Zhabdrung brought to Bhutan from Tibet — although this is not on public display. Return back to the hotel.

Overnight stay in Punakha.

Day 5 : PUNAKHA – PARO (Approx. 150 kms/ 4.5 hours)

Breakfast at the hotel.

After breakfast, you will be transferred to Paro.

Arrive Paro by the afternoon and proceed for a brief sightseeing of Paro.

Paro – The valley extends from the confluence of the Paro Chhu and the Wang Chhu rivers at Chuzom upto Mt. Jomolhari at the Tibetan border to the North. This picturesque region is one of the widest valleys in the kingdom and is covered in fertile rice fields and has a beautiful, crystalline river meandering down the valley.

Drukgyel Dzong – The smoke-smudged walls of DrukgyelDzong's four-story utse (central tower) still stand intact among the surrounding ruins. Located at the head of the Paro Valley, the once-magnificent Drukgyel Dzong was built in 1649 and stood along a major route into Tibet for three centuries until it burned to the ground in a 1951 fire. The dzong's name, which translates as “Bhutan's Victory,” commemorates a 1644 defeat of Tibetan forces in this region. Today, a narrow path spirals up towards the dzong past the collapsed remains of a walled passage that once secured the dzong's water supply. Go through the gate to access a flagstoned courtyard once used for festivals. Beyond this lies the main body of the dzong, where wild strawberries and herbs sprout among the rubble.

Kyichu Lhakhang – When it was divined that she was preventing the spread of Buddhism, the great seventh-century Tibetan king SongtsenGampo pinned her in place with 108 magically constructed temples -- allowing Buddhism to flourish above her restrained body. One of Bhutan's two ancient demoness-pinning temples, Paro's Kyichu Lhakhang is believed to hold the demoness's left foot in place. With its tiered roof and luminous white walls, the lhakhang's age is not immediately apparent. It is only inside the monastery's ancient heart, the Jowo Lhakhang, that the sanctuary's long history is palpable. Golden murals shine faintly from smoke-darkened walls, and the floor has been polished smooth by the feet of countless faithful practitioners. The holiest part of the chapel surrounds the revered seventh-century statue of Jowo Sakyamuni, visible through a gilded door.

Ta Dzong – National Musuem of Bhutan

Overnight stay in Paro.

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Day 6 : PARO

Breakfast at the hotel.

After breakfast, proceed to visit one of the famous sites in Paro.

Tiger Nest - From a distance, Bhutan's most iconic building seems to float, weightless, halfway up a sheer cliff-face, 900 meters (3,000 feet) above the floor of the Paro Valley. As you wind your way breathlessly up the long, steep path towards Taktsang Lhakhang, the monastery periodically reveals itself, rising out of the forest, closer and more solid with each re-appearance.

OR

Chele La Pass: the highest point on Bhutan's Dantak roads, crests at 3988 meters (roughly 13,000 feet) above sea level. The bright yellow sign marking its location stands next to a traditional stone fireplace and stove, a Buddhist prayer wheel marked with a quote advocating kindness, and a small hut and seating area. Return back to the hotel.

Overnight stay in Paro.

Day 7 : DEPART PARO

Breakfast at the hotel.

(for early flights, there will be no breakfast)

After breakfast, transfer to the airport to board your flight back to home.

**** Tour Ends****

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Flight details:

15 April: Kolkata – Paro: B3 (Bhutan Airlines) 715 (0950 – 1120 hours)

21 April: Paro –Kolkata: B3 (Bhutan Airlines) 700 (1035 – 1115 hours)

Hotel Details

Thimphu (02 nights)	Punakha (02 nights)	Paro (02 nights)
Gyelsa Boutique or Similar	Zangto Pelri or Similar	Tenzinling/ Yanki Resort or Similar

Number of persons	Pricing
10	INR 38,000/- per person on twin sharing basis
Single Room Supplement	12,000/- per room
Triple Room Reduction	300/- per person
Child with bed (5 - 11 years)	11,405/- per child (exclusive of child airfare which is 12,500/- per child)
Child without bed (5 - 11 years)	3,890/- per child (exclusive of child airfare which is 12,500/- per child)
Child below 5 years	Complimentary on plan (exclusive of child airfare)

Flight details:

13 May: Kolkata – Paro: B3 (Bhutan Airlines) 715 (0950 – 1120 hours)

19 May: Paro –Kolkata: B3 (Bhutan Airlines)700 (1530 – 1610 hours)

Hotel Details

Thimphu (02 nights)	Punakha (02 nights)	Paro (02 nights)
Thimphu Towers/ Phuntsho Pelri or Similar	Hotel Vara or Similar	Tenzinling or Similar

Number of persons	Pricing
10	INR 42,000/-/- per person on twin sharing basis

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Single Room Supplement	12,000/- per room
Triple Room Reduction	1,000/- per person
Child with bed (5 - 11 years)	12,000/- per child (exclusive of child airfare which is 12,500/- per child)
Child without bed (5 - 11 years)	4,600/- per child (exclusive of child airfare which is 12,500/- per child)
Child below 5 years	Complimentary on plan (exclusive of child airfare)

Flight details:

26 May: Delhi – Paro: B3 (Bhutan Airlines) 774 (1140 – 1420 hours)

01 June: Paro – Delhi: B3 (Bhutan Airlines) 773 (0730 – 1035 hours)

Hotel Details

Thimphu (02 nights)	Punakha (02 nights)	Paro (02 nights)
Thimphu Towers/ Gyelsa Boutique or Similar	Zangto Pelri or Similar	Yanki Resort or Similar

Number of persons	Pricing
18	INR 43,500/- per person on twin sharing basis
Single Room Supplement	12,000/- per room
Triple Room Reduction	1,000/- per person
Child with bed (5 - 11 years)	12,000/- per child (exclusive of child airfare which is 15,600/- per child)
Child without bed (5 - 11 years)	4,600/- per child (exclusive of child airfare which is 15,600/- per child)
Child below 5 years	Complimentary on plan (exclusive of child airfare)

Flight details:

02 June: Delhi – Paro: B3 (Bhutan Airlines) 774 (1140 – 1420 hours)

08 June: Paro – Delhi: B3 (Bhutan Airlines) 773 (0730 – 1035 hours)

Hotel Details

Thimphu (02 nights)	Punakha (02 nights)	Paro (02 nights)
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Thimphu Towers/ Gyelsa Boutique or Similar	Zangto Pelri or Similar	Yanki Resort or Similar
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Number of persons	Pricing
15	INR 42,000/- per person on twin sharing basis
Single Room Supplement	12,000/- per room
Triple Room Reduction	1,000/- per person
Child with bed (5 - 11 years)	12,000/- per child (exclusive of child airfare which is 15,600/- per child)
Child without bed (5 - 11 years)	4,600/- per child (exclusive of child airfare which is 15,600/- per child)
Child below 5 years	Complimentary on plan (exclusive of child airfare)

INCLUSIONS	
1	Accommodation on twin room sharing basis
2	Room Category: base room category in each of the hotels
3	Meal plan on MAP basis (daily breakfast & dinner are included in the hotel)
4	Transportation as per the number of guests
5	An exclusive guide service in Bhutan
6	Return economy class airfare
7	All currently applicable taxes
EXCLUSIONS	
1	Any meal which is not specified
2	Applicable monument entrance fees
3	Travel Insurance
4	Any personal expenses such as laundry, telephone bills etc.
5	Tipping
6	Anything which is not mentioned in the 'inclusion' section
7	Applicable monument entrance fees
SPECIAL NOTE	
1	Rates are quoted in Indian Currency
2	Rates are valid only for Indian Nationals

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Easy payment options

NEFT/RTGS/IMPS
Online payments (All Credit/Debit cards)
EMI Facility up to 24 months (Major Credit cards)
Cheque
Cash (Pan card mandatory)
For Small transactions: PayTm (Below 20,000/- Only) Bhim UPI (Below 10,000/- Only)

Add-ons you may like to purchase: -

- Matrix international travel sim card
- Travel Insurance (**Strongly recommended**)
- Currency



Bhutan, Happiness is a place!

Rest we assure you our best attention and services at all times!

Thanks & Regards

Vikas Shah



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