

Family Bhutan Discovery: Festivals, Monasteries & Nature

Prepared by TourGrids



Destination
Bhutan



Duration
5 Nights 6 Days



Starting from
Rs. 50,000 / person

ITINERARY ROUTE

↖ **Paro · 2N**

↖ **Thimphu · 1N**

↖ **Punakha · 1N**

↖ **Paro · 1N**

<https://tourgrids.com/packages/bhutan/bhutan-5-nights-6-days-package-1002>

Overview

A thoughtfully paced 5 nights / 6 days Bhutan tour package designed for families who want a gentle mix of culture, festivals (seasonal), iconic monasteries and nature. Explore Paro, Thimphu and Punakha, hike to the legendary Tiger's Nest (Taktsang), cross historic dzongs and enjoy scenic drives via the panoramic Dochu La Pass. This Bhutan Family tour package balances kid-friendly activities, short walks and meaningful cultural encounters.

Highlights:

- Tiger's Nest (Taktsang) – iconic cliff-side monastery
- Paro – National Museum (Ta Dzong), traditional bazaars
- Thimphu – Buddha Dordenma, Memorial Chorten, Folk Heritage Museum
- Punakha Dzong – spectacular riverside fortress and suspension bridge
- Dochu La Pass – panoramic Himalayan views and 108 chortens

Note: Festival visits are subject to the Bhutan festival calendar; please check dates when booking.

✓ **What's Included**

- ✓ Accommodation for 5 nights in family-friendly hotels (twin/double rooms, child bed options available)
- ✓ Daily breakfast and 3 dinners (as per itinerary) – flexible meal plans for children
- ✓ Private air-conditioned vehicle, fuel and driver for all transfers and sightseeing
- ✓ Experienced English-speaking Bhutanese guide
- ✓ Airport transfers on arrival and departure
- ✓ Entrance fees to attractions and sightseeing mentioned in the itinerary
- ✓ All internal road taxes and local government permits required for standard tourism
- ✓ Bottled water in vehicle during sightseeing

✗ **Not Included**

- ✗ International flights to/from Bhutan
- ✗ Bhutan visa processing fee and Government Sustainable Development Fee (SDF) where applicable
- ✗ Travel insurance (strongly recommended)
- ✗ Meals not mentioned in inclusions, beverages and personal expenses
- ✗ Tips, portorage and gratuities for guides/drivers
- ✗ Optional activities such as horse rides to Tiger's Nest, river rafting (unless specified), or private cultural experiences
- ✗ Items of a personal nature (laundry, phone calls, etc.)

Day-by-Day Itinerary

Day

1

Arrival and Cultural Introduction in Paro

Arrive at Paro Airport where your local English-speaking guide and driver will meet you. Transfer to your hotel and relax. In the afternoon explore Rinpung Dzong (Paro Dzong) and the nearby Ta Dzong / National Museum which offers a fascinating overview of Bhutanese history. Stroll through Paro Bazaar for crafts and souvenirs.

Tip: Flights to Paro are scenic – sit on the left side for better mountain views when arriving from the west.

Day

2

Hike to Tiger's Nest (Taktsang) and Paro Village

Early morning hike to the famed Tiger's Nest (Taktsang Monastery) – one of Bhutan's most iconic temples perched on a cliff. The family-friendly trek takes 2.5–4 hours round-trip depending on pace and stops. After descending, enjoy a relaxed lunch and visit Kyichu Lhakhang, one of Bhutan's oldest temples, followed by free time in Paro.

Important: The trail includes steep sections and many steps. Children should be supervised; horses/porters can be arranged for shorter walkers.

Day

3

Drive to Thimphu – Capital Highlights

Drive to Thimphu (approx. 1.5–2 hours). Begin with a visit to the giant Buddha Dordenma statue offering panoramic views over the valley. Continue to Memorial Chorten, the Folk Heritage & National Textile Museums for interactive exhibits suitable for children, and Tashichho Dzong – the government and monastic center. Evening at leisure to walk along Norzin Lam for local cafes and shops.

Tip: Thimphu's rhythm is relaxed – allow time for spontaneous cultural interactions and gentle walks.

Day

4

Dochu La Pass and Punakha Valley

Drive from Thimphu to Punakha via the scenic Dochu La Pass (3,080 m). Stop to admire the 108 chortens and Himalayan vistas; on clear days enjoy spectacular views of the high peaks. Continue down to Punakha and visit Punakha Dzong, situated at the confluence of the Pho and Mo rivers. Walk the historic suspension bridge and explore the peaceful riverside surroundings.

Note: Weather can change rapidly at high passes – carry layers and waterproofs.

Day

5

Punakha Activities and Return to Paro

Choose from family-friendly options: hike to Khamsum Yulley Namgyal Chorten (moderate 1.5–2 hour walk with great valley views), visit a local farm/village for hands-on cultural exchange, or opt for gentle river rafting on the Mo Chhu (seasonal/age-dependent). In the afternoon drive back to Paro for your final night, enjoying changing scenery and photo stops along the way.

Tip: Khamsum hike rewards families with quieter temples and great panoramic views; carry water and sun protection.

Day

6

Departure from Paro

After a relaxed breakfast, enjoy last-minute shopping or an optional visit to nearby sights depending on your flight time. Transfer to Paro Airport for your departure.

Important: Flight schedules can change due to mountain weather — allow flexibility and follow your guide's advice.

🔍 Frequently Asked Questions

🔍 What is the best time to visit Bhutan?

The best time to visit Bhutan is during spring (March–May) and autumn (September–November). Spring offers blooming rhododendrons, wildflowers, and pleasant temperatures (12–24°C), making it perfect for trekking and photography. Autumn provides crystal-clear skies with stunning Himalayan views, major festivals like Thimphu and Paro Tshechus, and excellent weather for sightseeing. Winter (December–February) is ideal for those seeking snow-capped landscapes, fewer crowds, and cozy lodge stays, though temperatures can drop to -2°C in valleys. Monsoon season (June–August) brings lush greenery and better hotel rates but frequent rainfall. For first-time visitors, autumn is recommended for clear mountain views and cultural festivals.

🔍 How can Indian travelers reach Bhutan?

Indian travelers can reach Bhutan by road or air. By road (most popular): Enter at Phuentsholing border (adjacent to Jaigaon, West Bengal). From there, it's 5–6 hours to Thimphu or Paro. Take train to Hasimara (17km from border), New Alipurduar, or New Jalpaiguri, then taxi to the border. By air: Fly into Paro International Airport from Delhi, Kolkata, Guwahati, or Bagdogra via Drukair or Bhutan Airlines (seasonal schedules). Other road entry points include Gelephu and Samdrup Jongkhar from Assam. The road journey offers scenic mountain views, while flying provides dramatic Himalayan aerial views during the approach to Paro's challenging runway.

❓ **Do Indian citizens need a visa for Bhutan?**

Indian citizens don't need a visa but require permits and pay a Sustainable Development Fee (SDF). Required documents: valid passport or voter ID and recent passport photos. Minors need birth certificates. Entry permits cover Thimphu and Paro, while route permits are needed for other areas like Punakha, Phobjikha, or Bumthang. Permits can be arranged at entry points or through the official online system via licensed operators. The SDF is charged per person per night (rates vary – check latest official guidelines). Travel insurance is strongly recommended. Carry multiple photocopies of documents and permits for smooth checkpoint processing throughout your journey.

❓ **What are the local transportation options in Bhutan?**

Local transportation in Bhutan includes taxis (readily available in major towns with point-to-point fares), city and intercity buses (budget-friendly with fixed schedules), and private cars with drivers (most comfortable for multi-stop itineraries). Shared taxis are common for intercity routes. Limited domestic flights operate seasonally to places like Bumthang, weather permitting. Self-drive is possible but less common due to challenging mountain roads requiring experience. For tourists, hiring a private vehicle with driver is recommended for flexibility and comfort, especially when traveling between valleys. Mountain roads are winding with stunning views but require buffer time for transfers.

❓ **Where should I stay in Bhutan and what accommodation options are available?**

Bhutan offers accommodations across all budgets. Luxury options include Six Senses (eco-chic in multiple valleys), COMO Uma (boutique luxury in Paro/Punakha), Amankora lodges, and Taj Tashi Thimphu. Mid-range choices include Le Méridien properties, Naksel Boutique Hotel Paro, and Dewachen Hotel Phobjikha. Budget travelers can choose Hotel Norbuling Thimphu or local guesthouses. Stay in Paro for Tiger's Nest access, Thimphu for urban experiences, Punakha for riverside tranquility, and Phobjikha for nature immersion. Many properties offer traditional architecture, valley views, and cultural experiences. Book advance during peak seasons (spring/autumn) and festivals. Most hotels provide heating in winter and arrange cultural programs.

🔍 What are the must-visit attractions in Bhutan?

Must-visit attractions include Paro Taktsang (Tiger's Nest) – the iconic cliffside monastery requiring a scenic half-day hike. Punakha Dzong is a stunning fortress at river confluence, while Dochula Pass offers 108 chortens and Himalayan panoramas. Buddha Dordenma in Thimphu provides valley views, and Phobjikha Valley is perfect for black-necked crane spotting (winter) and tranquil walks. Don't miss Chimi Lhakhang fertility temple via village walks, Chele La Pass (highest motorable pass), and Tashichho Dzong in Thimphu. Bumthang valleys offer spiritual sites and traditional culture. The National Museum in Paro showcases Bhutanese heritage. Plan 7-10 days for a classic Paro-Thimphu-Punakha-Phobjikha circuit.

🔍 What local food should I try in Bhutan?

Bhutanese cuisine is known for its spiciness and cheese-based dishes. Must-try dishes include Ema Datshi (chilies with cheese – the national dish), Kewa Datshi (potatoes with cheese), and Shamu Datshi (mushrooms with cheese). Try Phaksha Paa (pork with chilies), Jasha Maru (spicy minced chicken), and regional specialties like Hoentay buckwheat dumplings from Haa and Puta buckwheat noodles from Bumthang. Enjoy red rice, suja (butter tea), and local ara (spirit). Bumthang is famous for cheese and honey. Note that Bhutanese food is quite spicy – chilies are considered vegetables, not just spices. Most restaurants also serve Indian, Chinese, and continental options for those preferring milder flavors.

★ Traveller Reviews



Nisha Awasthi

★★★★★ 5/5

Discovering the Spirit of Bhutan

Exploring the monasteries and learning about Buddhism here was enlightening. This package offers a great spiritual experience.



Vikas Bansal

★★★★☆ 4/5

Serene Himalayan Escape

The tranquility and beauty of Bhutan was such a peaceful escape from the hustle of daily life. It's truly a gem!



Radha Shetty

★★★★★ 5/5

A Fantastic Discover of Bhutanese Culture

This was a fantastic tour that let us discover Bhutanese culture in depth. We participated in a local festival—unforgettable!



Vinay Malhotra

★★★★★ 5/5

Bhutan: Truly the Land of the Thunder Dragon

I was captivated by Bhutan's rugged beauty and rich traditions. Each experience was enriched by our guide's storytelling. Loved it!



Chaitanya Joshi

★★★★☆ 4/5

Well-Structured Travel Itinerary

The itinerary was perfect, balancing sightseeing and relaxation. With so much to explore, this package was excellent value.

⚡ Why Choose TourGrids?

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