

Eastern Bhutan Explorer: Trashigang to Mongar Highlights

Prepared by TourGrids



Destination
Bhutan



Duration
6 Nights 7 Days



Starting from
Rs. 82,000 / person

ITINERARY ROUTE

↗ **Trashigang · 3N**

↗ **Trashiyangtse · 1N**

↗ **Mongar · 2N**

Overview

Experience an immersive 6-night, 7-day Bhutan Adventure tour package through the cultural heart of eastern Bhutan. This carefully curated Bhutan tour package is ideal for travelers seeking a balanced mix of cultural discovery, short hikes, riverside scenery, and authentic village encounters. Follow scenic mountain roads from Trashigang and Trashiyangtse to the fortress-dotted ridges of Mongar. Perfect for those searching for a compact Bhutan Adventure package and featuring signature eastern highlights, this itinerary also works well for the popular 6 and 7 Bhutan Adventure tour package searches.

Highlights:

- Trashigang Dzong & local market
- Rangjung monastery and riverside vistas
- Chorten Kora & traditional crafts of Trashiyangtse
- Mongar Dzong and panoramic Kuri Chhu valley views
- Short cultural hikes and village homestay-style encounters

Note: This itinerary emphasizes culture and light trekking; suitable for travellers comfortable with mountain driving and moderate walking.

✓ **What's Included**

- ✓ Accommodation for 6 nights (3 nights in Trashigang, 1 night in Trashiyangtse, 2 nights in Mongar)
- ✓ Daily breakfast and 4 additional meals as per itinerary
- ✓ Local English-speaking guide and all ground transportation within the itinerary
- ✓ Entrance fees and guide services for listed attractions
- ✓ Cultural experiences and village visits
- ✓ All local taxes and service charges
- ✓ Note: Accommodation is based on twin-share; single supplements available on request.

✗ **Not Included**

- ✗ International flights to/from India or Bhutan
- ✗ Bhutan visa or permit processing fees (where applicable)
- ✗ Travel insurance and personal expenses (tips, laundry, phone calls)
- ✗ Meals not indicated in inclusions and any optional activities marked as add-ons
- ✗ Domestic flights (if any) and border taxes
- ✗ Tip: Carry local currency (Ngultrum/INR) for small purchases and tips.

Day-by-Day Itinerary

Day

1

Arrival in Eastern Bhutan — Transfer to Trashigang & Orientation

Arrive by road from the Indian border (Samdrup Jongkhar) or domestic flight into the nearest airstrip. Transfer across scenic roads into Trashigang. Afternoon orientation and gentle walk around town to stretch legs. Visit the Trashigang market to see local life and handicrafts. Evening welcome briefing and cultural introduction at the hotel.

Important: Travel times depend on border crossing and road conditions; plan an early start when crossing from India.

Day

2

Explore Trashigang — Dzong & Village Immersion

Full day exploring Trashigang Dzong, perched on a ridge overlooking the valley. Visit nearby traditional villages and a local farmhouse for tea and conversation. Short hikes on mountain tracks offer panoramic views and photo opportunities across terraced fields.

Tip: Carry light rain gear and comfortable walking shoes for unpaved paths.

Day

3

Rangjung Excursion & Riverside Trails

Drive to Rangjung, a serene village known for its monastery and scenic river views. Spend the morning at Rangjung Monastery, then enjoy a riverside walk and optional short nature hike to nearby viewpoints. Afternoon free for cultural activities or exploring local craft stalls.

Note: Photography is welcomed at public areas; always ask permission before photographing people in villages.

Day

4

Trashiyangtse — Chorten Kora & Traditional Crafts

After breakfast, drive to Trashiyangtse, home to the famous Chorten Kora and a rich tradition of crafts. Visit Chorten Kora, explore woodcarving and paper-making centers, and meet local artisans. Evening stroll through the town and optional visit to community workshops.

Tip: Look for locally made hand-woven textiles — excellent souvenirs that support village economies.

Day

5

Scenic Drive to Mongar — Panoramic Viewpoints & Dzong Visit

Depart Trashiyangtse for Mongar via picturesque mountain roads. Stop at designated viewpoints for sweeping views of the Kuri Chhu valley. On arrival, visit Mongar Dzong, an imposing fortress offering insight into local monastic life and history. Evening at leisure in Mongar town.

Note: Roads are scenic but winding — motion-sickness remedies are recommended for sensitive travellers.

Day

6

Kuri Chhu Valley Hike & Cultural Meetings

Morning short trek into the Kuri Chhu valley — gentle gradients, lush riverbanks and opportunities to visit rural hamlets. Meet village hosts, learn about agriculture, and enjoy a picnic by the riverside. Afternoon cultural program or optional visit to nearby monasteries and viewpoints.

Tip: Respect local customs — remove shoes and speak softly when entering religious sites.

Day

7

Departure — Transfer to Exit Point

After breakfast, prepare for departure. Transfer to the nearest exit point (Samdrup Jongkhar or onward domestic connection). En route, stop for last-minute photos and a final overview of eastern Bhutan's landscapes. End of services and farewell.

Important: Confirm onward travel times in advance; allow buffer time for mountain road schedules.

🔍 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.

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