

Pilgrimage Circuit: Chimi Lhakhang & Sacred Sites

Prepared by TourGrids

 Destination
Bhutan

 Duration
6 Nights 7 Days

 Starting from
Rs. 72,500 / person

ITINERARY ROUTE

 **Paro · 3N**

 **Thimphu · 1N**

 **Punakha · 2N**

Overview

Pilgrimage Circuit: Chimi Lhakhang & Sacred Sites is a thoughtfully paced 6-night, 7-day Bhutan tour package designed for spiritual seekers and cultural travelers. This Bhutan Pilgrimage tour package combines the serene valleys of Paro, Thimphu, and Punakha with iconic sacred sites like Chimi Lhakhang (Fertility Temple) and Paro Taktsang (Tiger's Nest). Expect gentle hikes, monastery blessings, traditional rituals, and time for quiet reflection amid Himalayan scenery.

Highlights:

- Chimi Lhakhang – Pilgrimage to the famed fertility temple
- Paro Taktsang (Tiger's Nest) – Iconic cliffside monastery
- Punakha Dzong & Khamsum Yulley Namgyal Chorten – Majestic dzong and riverside chorten
- Dochula Pass – Panoramic Himalayan views and 108 memorial chortens
- Buddha Dordenma and Thimphu cultural sites – Rich Bhutanese heritage

This 6 & 7 Bhutan Pilgrimage tour package is suitable for moderate fitness levels; some hikes involve uneven steps and high-altitude walks. Best season: Spring (Mar–May) and Autumn (Sep–Nov) for clear skies and festivals.

✓ What's Included

- ✓ All land transportation in a private vehicle with driver and licensed guide
- ✓ 6 nights accommodation (standard, deluxe, or boutique options available on request)
- ✓ Daily breakfast and selected local meals as per itinerary
- ✓ Entrance fees to monuments and cultural sites listed in the itinerary
- ✓ Traditional welcome and cultural briefing
- ✓ Local guide services, taxes, and service charges
- ✓ Permits and visa arrangement support (government fees extra where applicable)
- ✓ This Bhutan Pilgrimage package includes spiritual visits and guided pujas where available.

✗ Not Included

- ✗ International airfare to/from Bhutan
- ✗ Bhutan visa / sustainable development fee (government levy) unless specified
- ✗ Travel insurance (strongly recommended)
- ✗ Personal expenses (tips, laundry, phone calls)
- ✗ Meals not specified in the itinerary and alcoholic beverages
- ✗ Optional activities (e.g., horseback rides, additional hikes) and entrance fees not listed
- ✗ Single supplement for solo travelers (if applicable)

Day-by-Day Itinerary

Day

1

Arrival in Paro — Welcome to the Kingdom of Bhutan

Arrive at Paro International Airport. Meet your guide and transfer to your hotel. Depending on arrival time, visit Paro Rinpung Dzong and the nearby Ta Dzong (National Museum) to get an orientation to Bhutanese history and art. Enjoy a relaxed evening and a briefing for the pilgrimage circuit.

Activities are light on arrival to help acclimatize.

Day

2

Paro: Tiger's Nest Hike or Cultural Sightseeing

Optional morning hike to Paro Taktsang (Tiger's Nest) — a 4–5 hour round trip (moderate to strenuous). For those preferring a lighter day, explore Kyichu Lhakhang and village trails around Paro. In the evening, participate in a short puja or meditation session at a local monastery.

If you plan to hike to Tiger's Nest, start early and bring layered clothing, water, and sturdy shoes.

Day

3

Thimphu: Capital Sights & Drive to Punakha via Dochula Pass

Drive to Thimphu after breakfast. Visit Buddha Dordenma, Memorial Chorten, and Changangkha Lhakhang. After lunch depart for Punakha crossing the scenic Dochula Pass (3,100 m) with its 108 memorial chortens and panoramic Himalayan views. Arrive in Punakha in the late afternoon.

Carry a light jacket for Dochula Pass; conditions can be windy and cool.

Day

4

Punakha: Dzong, Suspension Bridge & Riverside Walks

Visit the exquisite Punakha Dzong, the historical seat of Bhutanese government, beautifully set at the confluence of the Pho and Mo rivers. Walk across the Punakha Suspension Bridge, then stroll to the Rangjung Kharsapani viewpoints or enjoy a relaxed afternoon by the riverside.

Punakha sits at a lower altitude — expect warmer temperatures. Respect monastic areas and dress modestly.

Day

5

Chimi Lhakhang Pilgrimage Day — Blessings & Village Immersion

Today is the core of the pilgrimage: travel through scenic villages to Chimi Lhakhang (Fertility Temple). Receive a blessing from the resident monk, walk the prayer path, and learn about local fertility rituals and legends associated with Drukpa Kunley (the Divine Madman). Spend time meeting villagers and visiting nearby prayer houses.

Pilgrims often bring offerings (candles, tsampa); modest clothing is required for temple visits.

Day

6

Paro: Sacred Sites, Drugyel Ruins & Cultural Farewell

Return to Paro. En route or upon arrival visit Drugyel Dzong (ruins) and Kyichu Lhakhang if not already covered. Spend the afternoon browsing Paro's handicraft shops for traditional Bhutanese textiles and souvenirs. In the evening enjoy a farewell traditional Bhutanese cultural performance (where available).

Keep souvenirs small and light for flight luggage limits.

Day

7

Departure — Bhutan Till We Meet Again

Transfer to Paro International Airport for your departure flight. If time permits, enjoy a final short walk in Paro or visit a nearby monastery for last-minute prayers and reflections.

Check flight times and allow sufficient time for airport formalities; international flights often depart early.

🔗 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?

Because your dream vacation deserves the best! From expert advice to personalized trips, easy booking, and unbeatable deals — we make travel stress-free and fun!

⚡ Expert-Guided Planning

Personalized guidance from verified travel experts who understand your needs.

⚙️ Customizable Packages

Tailor your trip your way — destinations, experiences, budget. All up to you!

🛡️ Hassle-Free Booking

Smooth, secure, and simple booking process without any stress or confusion.

🏷️ Best Price Guarantee

Multiple free quotes and booking at the most competitive rates available.

For the latest pricing, availability, and customization options, visit:

<https://tourgrids.com/packages/bhutan/bhutan-6-nights-7-days-package-1008>