

Luxury Cultural Journey: Exclusive Accommodations & Guides

Prepared by TourGrids



Destination
Bhutan



Duration
7 Nights 8 Days



Starting from
Rs. 1,45,000 / person

ITINERARY ROUTE

↗ **Thimphu · 2N**

↗ **Punakha · 2N**

↗ **Gangtey · 1N**

↗ **Paro · 2N**

Overview

A premium 7 nights / 8 days Bhutan tour package designed for families and discerning travelers who seek comfort, cultural immersion, and private guiding. This itinerary combines Bhutan's iconic cultural sites, gentle nature walks, and exclusive stays in boutique and heritage hotels. Ideal as a Bhutan Family tour package or a luxury solo/couple escape. Perfect for those searching for a 7 and 8 Bhutan Family tour package with private guides and elevated services.

Highlights:

- Paro – Arrival, Tiger's Nest (Taktsang), Paro Dzong
- Thimphu – Buddha Dordenma, Tashichho Dzong, local crafts
- Punakha – Punakha Dzong, suspension bridge, riverside family activities
- Gangtey (Phobjikha Valley) – scenic valley, Gangtey Monastery, nature walks
- Private luxury accommodations, experienced English-speaking guides, and family-friendly activities

Tip: Bhutan requires a pre-arranged visa and licensed guide; we handle all in-country logistics to ensure a seamless luxury experience.

✓ What's Included

- ✓ 7 nights accommodation in luxury/heritage hotels and lodges (twin/double or family suites as requested)
- ✓ Private, licensed English-speaking guide throughout
- ✓ Private vehicle and driver for transfers and sightseeing
- ✓ All meals as specified (daily breakfasts; select lunches and dinners as noted)
- ✓ All internal transport, fuel, tolls, and parking
- ✓ Entrance fees and permits (including Bhutan visa clearance and Sustainable Development Fee where applicable)
- ✓ Bottled water, tea/coffee during drives, and welcome amenities
- ✓ Emergency assistance and 24/7 local support
- ✓ Special: Family-friendly rooming and child amenities can be arranged on request.

✗ Not Included

- ✗ International flights to/from Paro
- ✗ Bhutan visa fee payable through tour operator (if applicable) and any additional local government levies beyond the standard package
- ✗ Travel insurance, personal expenses, and gratuities for guides/drivers
- ✗ Optional activities not specified as included (e.g., river rafting, horseback rides, spa treatments)
- ✗ Meals not mentioned in inclusions and alcoholic beverages
- ✗ Single room supplement (if single traveler requests private room)
- ✗ Note: Any changes due to weather, local events, or government regulations may affect sequence of the itinerary; alternative arrangements ensure safety and experience quality.

Day-by-Day Itinerary

Day

1

Arrival in Paro — Transfer to Thimphu & Light Orientation

Arrive at Paro International Airport, assisted by our representative. Scenic drive to Thimphu (approx. 1–1.5 hours). Afternoon orientation and a relaxed walking tour of Thimphu's central sights. Visit the Memorial Chorten, stroll through the Craft Bazaar, and view the exterior of Tashichho Dzong. Evening welcome dinner at a premium local restaurant or your hotel.

Note: Flights into Paro are weather-dependent — our team will monitor schedules and assist with comfortable transfers.

Day

2

Thimphu — Cultural Immersion & Iconic Sights

Full day exploring Thimphu with a private guide. Highlights include the colossal Buddha Dordenma statue (panoramic views), the Folk Heritage Museum, and the Textile Museum. Visit a local artisan workshop to see traditional weaving and a family-friendly interactive cultural session for children. Free late afternoon for leisure or optional spa at the hotel.

Tip: The Buddha viewpoint is best visited in the morning for clear views and softer light for photos.

Day

3

Thimphu to Punakha via Dochula Pass — Scenic Drive & Dzong Visit

Depart Thimphu after breakfast, driving to Punakha via the Dochula Pass (3,100 m) with its 108 chortens and panoramic Himalayan views. Stop for photos and tea. Continue to Punakha and check into a riverside luxury lodge. Afternoon visit to the magnificent Punakha Dzong, followed by a walk to the Punakha Suspension Bridge and optional short raft ride (seasonal) on the Pho Chhu.

Note: Weather at Dochula can be chilly; layered clothing is recommended.

Day

4

Punakha — Family Activities & Village Walk

A relaxed day of family-friendly activities in Punakha. Options include a guided nature walk along rice paddies, a visit to a traditional farmhouse for a local cooking demonstration, and gentle river rafting suitable for families (optional). In the late afternoon visit the rural hamlets and meet local artisans. Enjoy an exclusive cultural evening with live Bhutanese music and dance at your lodge.

Tip: Activities can be tailored for younger children — please advise ages at booking.

Day

5

Punakha to Gangtey (Phobjikha Valley) — Scenic Highlands & Monastery

Drive towards the serene Phobjikha Valley (Gangtey) crossing scenic passes and pine forests. Check in to a luxury valley lodge with sweeping views. Visit the important Gangtey Monastery (Gangtey Gumpa) and explore the valley on gentle walks—ideal for birdwatching and family nature time. Evening at leisure with stargazing options.

Note: In winter months, Phobjikha is famous for black-necked cranes (seasonal).

Day

6

Gangtey to Paro — Panoramic Drive & High Pass Views

After breakfast depart for Paro, enjoying panoramic landscapes en route. Option to stop at viewpoint passes for photographs and a short detour to Chele La (season/weather permitting) — one of the highest motorable passes in Bhutan offering spectacular Himalayan vistas. Arrive in Paro, check into your luxury hotel, and enjoy an evening cultural briefing for the Tiger's Nest hike.

Tip: Chele La and higher passes may be closed in heavy snow; alternative scenic stops will be arranged.

Day

7

Paro — Taktsang (Tiger's Nest) Hike & Cultural Sites

Early morning hike to the iconic Taktsang Monastery (Tiger's Nest) — approx. 2–3 hours ascent at a comfortable pace with rest stops and stunning viewpoints. After descent, visit the Paro Dzong, the National Museum, and Kyichu Lhakhang. Enjoy a farewell dinner featuring Bhutanese specialties at an upscale restaurant.

Important: The Tiger's Nest hike includes steep sections; younger children or guests with mobility concerns can ride horses to midway points where available.

Day

8

Departure — Transfer to Paro Airport

After a leisurely breakfast, transfer to Paro International Airport for your departure flight. Our team assists with check-in and bid farewell — end of the Luxury Cultural Journey. Optional extension or domestic add-ons can be arranged on request.

? 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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Personalized guidance from verified travel experts who understand your needs.

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