

4 Days Cultural Tour

Perfect for travelers with limited time, this 4-day journey captures the very essence of Bhutan. Explore the ancient Paro Valley, hike to the iconic Tiger's Nest Monastery clinging to a sheer cliff face, and discover Thimphu—the world's only capital without traffic lights. From 7th-century temples to the tallest Buddha statue in the world, this compact tour delivers the best of Bhutanese culture, spirituality, and Himalayan beauty.

LOCATION	DURATION
Paro, Thimphu	4

Highlights

- Tiger's Nest Monastery hike
- Paro Rinpung Dzong
- National Museum (Ta Dzong)
- Kyichu Lhakhang - 7th century temple
- Buddha Dordenma - 51m tall statue
- Thimphu sightseeing
- Takin Preserve Center
- Traditional craft markets

Day-by-Day Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival in Paro - Valley Exploration

Paro | 2,280m | 1.5 hrs | 54 km

You will be received by a representative from Byways Tours and Travels at the airport and transferred to your hotel.

After lunch, visit **Ta Dzong**, an ancient watchtower built in 1656, renovated in 1968, and converted into the **National Museum of Bhutan**. Then visit **Rinpung Dzong (Paro Dzong)**, built in 1646 by Zhabdrung Ngawang Namgyal. The Dzong currently houses the administrative offices of Paro District and a monastery. In the evening, stroll around the charming town of Paro. Dinner and overnight at the hotel.

Meals: L/D | Hotel in Paro

Day 2: Tiger's Nest Hike & Drive to Thimphu

Paro to Thimphu | 3,120m | 5-6 hrs hike | —

After breakfast, embark on an excursion to **Tiger's Nest Monastery (Taktsang)**. The total distance is **7.4 km (4.5 miles)** round trip and takes a **minimum of 5 hours**. The elevation at the starting point is **2,600m**, and the monastery sits at **3,100m** above sea level.

A 25-minute drive from the main town of Paro takes you to Satsam Chorten, where the trail begins. The path climbs through beautiful pine forests, with many trees festooned with Spanish moss and occasional groves of fluttering prayer flags. We stop for rest and refreshments at Taktsang Cafeteria, then continue until we see Tiger's Nest Monastery clearly within reach. The history dates back to the 8th century when Guru Rinpoche, a tantric master, flew to this place on the back of a flying tigress—said to be his Tibetan consort Yeshe Tsogyal—and meditated in a cave nearby. The temple was built in the 17th century by Penlop Gyaltse Tenzin Rabgye. This incredible monastery clings to the edge of a sheer cliff that plunges 600 meters into the valley below.

After lunch, visit **Kyichu Lhakhang**, one of Bhutan's oldest Buddhist temples, built in 659 AD by Tibetan King Songtsen Gampo. In the evening, drive to Thimphu. Dinner and overnight at the hotel.

Meals: B/L/D | Hotel in Thimphu

Day 3: Thimphu City Tour

Thimphu | 1,200m | 4 hrs | 125 km

After breakfast, visit **Buddha Dordenma**, the tallest Buddha statue in the world at 51 meters. Then visit the **National Library**, which houses a vast collection of ancient Buddhist manuscripts, followed by the **Folk Heritage Museum**.

Continue to the **Takin Preserve Center** to see Bhutan's national animal, the Takin. Visit **Zhulikha Nunnery** and the **School of 13 Arts and Crafts (Zorig Chusum)**, famous for traditional carving and freehand art. Here you will find students whose aptitude is more artistic than academic. Lunch will be served at a tourist restaurant in the city center.

After lunch, visit the **authentic Bhutanese Craft Market** and the **Weekend Market**. You may also visit an **archery ground** to witness archery matches if interested. In the evening, visit **Tashichho Dzong** (Fortress of the Glorious Religion), built in 1641 by Zhabdrung Ngawang Namgyal and reconstructed in 1961 by the Third King, Jigme Dorji Wangchuk, known as the Father of Modern Bhutan. Enjoy an evening stroll around Thimphu City. Dinner and overnight at the hotel.

Meals: B/L/D | Hotel in Thimphu

Day 4: Departure

Thimphu to Paro Airport | 2,280m | 2 hrs | 75 km

Early morning, drive to Paro International Airport for your departure. Bid farewell to the Land of the Thunder Dragon. Tashi Delek!

Meals: B

What's Included

Included

- + Accommodation in 3* Hotels in twin sharing basis
- + All Three Meals (Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner)
- + Daily Tariff
- + Visa Fee
- + Royalty and Government Taxes
- + Sustainable Development Fee of USD 100 per night per person which goes towards free education, free healthcare and infrastructure development
- + Transportation from receive till drop
- + Museum and Monument fee
- + Bottle Water in Car
- + Sightseeing
- + English Speaking Guide
- + Driver

Not Included

- Air Fare
- Insurance Premiums
- Payment for service provided on a personal basis
- Cost for any services not mentioned in the Inclusive Head
- Cost incurred due to mishaps, strikes, political unrest, etc.
- Personal expenses in items such as laundry, soft or hard drinks, camera charges, bottle water in restaurants or in hotels, Portage, bellboy charges
- Charges for chartered flights necessitated by a sudden death or unforeseen mishap
- Tips to guide and driver

Ready to Book?

Contact our Bhutan travel experts to customize this itinerary.

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