

4 Days Bhutan Tour

Four days is Bhutan distilled - and the answer for travellers who thought they didn't have time for the kingdom at all. This is our only itinerary based entirely in one Paro hotel: no repacking, no long transfers, just the essentials done properly. You'll explore the Paro valley's watchtower museum and Rinpung Dzong, spend a full day in Thimphu - the capital where Buddha Dordenma gazes over the valley and the post office prints stamps with your own photograph - and save the final full day for the hike every visitor dreams about: Tiger's Nest Monastery, clinging to its cliff a thousand metres above the valley floor. Best suited to travellers joining from a wider Himalayan journey, or anyone whose leave allowance says no but whose bucket list says Bhutan.

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

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

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. Lunch will be served at a restaurant in the heart of Paro town. After lunch, visit Kyichu Lhakhang, among the most ancient and revered shrines in the kingdom. Established in 659 AD by the Tibetan Emperor Songtsen Gampo. This peaceful sanctuary features historic artifacts, twin temples, and quiet courtyards where orange trees famously produce fruit throughout the year.

In the evening, enjoy a leisurely stroll through the picturesque town of Paro, exploring craft shops and viewing the traditional wooden architecture while experiencing the local way of life. Settle down for the night at your hotel in Paro.

Meals: L/D | Hotel in Paro

Day 2: Tiger's Nest Monastery Hike

Paro to Thimphu | 3,120m | 5-6 hrs hike | 7.4 km hike + 50 km drive

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 3,120m 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 Gyaltsen Tenzin Rabgye. This incredible monastery clings to the edge of a sheer cliff that plunges 600 meters into the valley below.

Following lunch, we will drive toward Thimphu, pausing along the way to explore Tachog Lhakhang before proceeding to the capital city. Founded in the 15th century by the legendary iron-bridge builder Thangtong Gyalpo, this picturesque temple is famous for its hand-forged iron chain bridge spanning the roaring river below. Upon arrival, you will settle into your accommodation in Thimphu for your overnight stay at the hotel.

Meals: B/L/D | Hotel in Thimphu

Day 3: Thimphu City Tour & Dochula Pass

Thimphu | 3,100m | 45 min drive each way | 45 km round trip

After breakfast, visit Buddha Dordenma, the tallest Buddha statue in the world at 51 meters. Continue to the Takin Preserve Center to see Bhutan's national animal, the Takin, then move on to visit Zhulikha Nunnery. We then visit the National Library, which houses a vast collection of ancient Buddhist manuscripts, followed by the Folk Heritage Museum.

Lunch will be served at a tourist restaurant in the city center.

After lunch, drive to Dochula Pass, which takes around 45 minutes. Spend some time enjoying the view of the Eastern Himalayan snow-capped mountains. Drive back to Thimphu.

Visit the authentic Bhutanese Craft Market. 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. If you want we can stroll around Thimphu

town. Dinner and overnight at the hotel.

Meals: B/L/D | Hotel in Thimphu

Day 4: Departure

Thimphu to Paro Airport | 2,235m | 1-1.5 hrs | 50 km

After breakfast, 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 (1 Single room just for you).
- + All Three Meals (Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner).
Lunch will be served in a local Tourist Restaurant.
- + Daily Tariff.
- + Visa Fee.
- + Royalty and Government Taxes.
- + SDF (Sustainable Development Fee) of USD 100 per night per person, which directly 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, sudden death etc.
- Personal expenses in items such as laundry, soft or hard drinks, camera charges, bottle water in restaurants or in hotels, Portage, bellboy charges.
- Tips to guide and driver.

Ready to Book?

Contact our Bhutan travel experts to customize this itinerary.

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