

Cultural Tour with Day Hikes (short)

Day 1: Arrival and sightseeing in Paro (2,250 m / 7,382 ft)

Upon your arrival into the country, a representative from Himalayan Treks and Adventure will meet you at an agreed upon location to assist with transport and checking into a hotel. After checking into rooms, we visit Rinpung Fortress, which was built in 1646. We also tour the oldest temple in the country, Kichu Lhakhang, and Drugyal fortress, which was built in 1646 to honor Bhutan's successful defense of foreign invaders.

Day 2: Travel to Thimphu (2,320 m / 7,610 ft): 54 km, 1 hour drive: Hike to Tiger's Nest Monastery

Today we visit the Tiger's Nest Monastery. The monastery is believed to have been discovered when spiritual teacher Rinpoche flew on the back of a tiger into the caves that are now covered by the monastery. After touring the grounds, we hike down to the valley floor and travel to Thimphu to spend the night.

Day 3: Hike to Wangditse Gompa followed by sightseeing in Thimphu

We begin today with a trip to BBS Tower (Bhutan Broadcasting Service) for grand views. From here we hike to Wangditse Gompa. While at Wangditse Gompa we can see Samtenling Palace, which is the home to King of Bhutan. After touring the Gompa, we return to Thimphu. On the way, we visit a mini zoo. The King's Memorial Chorten, a nunnery temple, the National Library, and the National Institute of Traditional Medicine. We may also visit a textile museum, a handicraft store, a traditional paper factory and Tashichho Fortress. In the evening, we can enjoy a leisurely walk in Thimphu and observe the local lifestyle.

Day 4: Travel to Punakha (1,250 m / 4,100 ft): 76 km, 2 - 3 hours drive: Hike to Lungchutse Monastery

While traveling to Punakha we stop at Dochula pass for great views of the Himalayas. At Dochula Pass we visit Druk Wangyal Chortens, where we begin our hike to Lungchutse Monastery. The trail to Lungchutse is decorated with vibrant prayer flags. We also have amazing views of the Himalayan Mountains and the valleys below. We also stop at Metshina Village and go on a walk through the rice fields to Chimi Lhakhang Fertility Temple dedicated to Drukpa Kuenley "Divine Madman". We spend the night in Punakha.

Day 5: Travel to Paro: 130 km, 4 hours drive: Hike to Khamsum Yulley Namgyal Chorten

Today we get an early start to hike to Khamsum Yulley Namgyal Chorten, which contains elaborate paintings dedicated to an old sect of Buddhism. We continue our hike further towards Punakha. We visit Punakha Fortress, which is the second oldest, 1637, and second largest fortress in Bhutan. We spend the night in Paro.

Day 6: Final Departure

We conclude our trip after breakfast. If you wish to stay in Bhutan, further accommodations can be arranged or if you are leaving we will assist in preparations and transport to the airport.