

5 Nights/6 Days

# Bhutan Dom-118



## Overview Bhutan Dom-118

Nestled in the folds of the Eastern Himalayas, remaining in self-imposed isolation for centuries, Bhutan opened up to the world in a glacial pace. The population lived in close harmony with nature, evolving a unique identity, derived largely from a rich religious and cultural heritage. This country of 700,000 people, roughly the size of Switzerland, is the world's only Mahayana Buddhist country. The Buddhist respect for all sentient beings helped Bhutan protect its pristine ecology and wildlife.

## Day 1 ARRIVAL AT PARO AIRPORT – THIMPHU

On arrival at Paro Airport and after completing your Visa / Permit formalities you will be received by our Bhutan representative who will assist you in boarding your vehicle for transfer to Thimphu (2320Mts / 7656Fts, 65 Kms / 01½ to 02 Hrs), Thimphu is the capital town of Bhutan. Later visit Memorial Chorten, Tashichho Dzong Evening free at Leisure. Overnight at Hotel.

## Day 2 THIMPHU

After breakfast, go for Thimphu sightseeing covering Kuensel Phodrang. The Kuensel Phodrang or the Buddha point is the world's largest sitting Buddha statue, the statue is 167 feet high. The statue is situated on top of a hill overlooking the city of Thimphu, it can be accessed by road and is about 15 minutes away from the city's center. The word Kuensel means everything is clear and from this place, you will surely enjoy a great view of the Thimphu Valley on both sides. The statue will house a temple inside it, the statue and its adjoining car park and recreational center. Motithang Takin Preserve. The Motithang Takin Preserve also known as the Thimphu Zoo by many is a small natural preserve for the Takin, Bhutan's national animal. It was originally a mini zoo, but later converted as the Takin Preserve. The mini zoo contained a small number of Takin but the King of Bhutan later decreed that it was improper for a Buddhist nation to keep an animal in captivity. The animals were set free and the zoo was shut down, but for some reason the Takin refused to leave the area for the forests nearby. Changangkha Lhakhang. This popular temple, perched like a fortress on a ridge above central Thimphu, hums with pilgrim activity. It was established in the 12th century on a site chosen by Lama Phajo Drukgon Shigpo, who came from Ralung in Tibet. Parents traditionally come here to get auspicious names for their newborns or blessings for their young children from the protector deity Tamdrin (to the left in the gridded inner sanctum). Children are blessed by a phurba (ritual dagger) and given a sacred thread. Semtokha Dzong. Simtokha Dzong also known as Sangak Zabdhon Phodrang (Bhutanese language meaning: "Palace of the Profound Meaning of Secret Mantras") is a small dzong. It was built in 1629 by Zhabdrung Ngawang Namgyal, who unified Bhutan. It is the first of its kind built in Bhutan. An important historical monument and former Buddhist monastery, today it houses one of the premier Dzongkha language learning institutes. Overnight In Thimphu.

## Day 3 THIMPHU – PUNAKHA (75 KMS / 03 HRS DRIVE)

After breakfast at hotel, Drive to Punakha across Dochula pass (3080m). In Bhutan, the passes are marked by a large Bhutanese Chorten and prayer flags. Dochula pass offers the most spectacular view over the high peaks of the eastern Himalayas on a clear day. After checking into hotel, proceed to visit Punakha Dzong, a massive structure built at the junction of two rivers. It was the capital of Bhutan until 1955, and still serves as the winter residence of the monk body. Later in the day excursion to Chimi Lhakhang (from hotel it is about 15 minutes' drive till motorable road and then walk starts through paddy fields and villages. This is total about 1½ hour walk, including both way). The Chimi Lhakhang, situated on a hillock in the centre of the valley, also known as the temple of fertility. It is widely believed that couples who do not have children and wanting one, if they pray at this temple, they are usually blessed with a child very soon. The trail leads across rice fields to the tiny settlement of Pana, meaning 'field'. A walk through the village near the temple will give you rare glimpses into the daily life and lifestyle of the villagers. Evening can be spent exploring Punakha village located right on the bank of river. Overnight at the hotel in Punakha.

## Day 4 PUNAKHA – PARO

After breakfast you will drive to Paro. Rimpung Dzong. The Paro Dzong is probably Bhutan's best known and most iconic Dzong. This is probably the first building you will notice when you land at Paro International Airport and will probably be your first memory of Bhutan. The imposing Dzong is perhaps the finest example of Dzong architecture existing the world today, the massive buttered walls of the fortress dominate over the valley. The Rimpung Dzong's name translates to the "Fortress on a heap of Jewels". and Ta Dzong (National Museum) Kyichu Lhakhang. The Jowo Temple of Kyichu is one of the oldest temples in Bhutan. The Tibetan King Songsten Gampo built the temple in the 7th Century AD. The Kyichu Lhakhang was one of the 108 temples constructed by him to subdue a demon that was terrorizing the people of the Himalayas. The Lhakhang underwent many extensions during the ages with the last one being, carried out in 1965 by the Queen Mother Ashi Kezang Choden Wangchuck. She added another new structure to the temple called the Guru Lhakhang. As one of the oldest Lhakhangs, it houses many important relics. One of the most important relics of the temple is a 7th century statue of Jowo Sakyamuni which is believed to have cast at the same time as its famous counterpart in Lhasa Tibet. Later Visit Namgay beer factory.

## Day 5 PARO - FULL DAY HIKE TO TAKTSANG LAKHANG (TIGER'S NEST)

Start the day early for a day hike to Taktsang Lhakhang (Tiger's Nest Monastery) - The hike which is all the way uphill takes about 2 /3 hours one way through pine forests. Afternoon at leisure for go for shopping in the market. Overnight at Hotel.

## Day 6 PARO - ONWARD CONNECTION

After breakfast, transfer to Paro Airport for taking onwards connections. We trust you will find the above in order and look forward to your doing & reply. In case of any further assistant required, please feel free to be in touch with us.

### TOUR COST INCLUDES

- Accommodation in Double/Twin sharing basis with Single room supplement as per the mentioned Hotels
- Meal Plan MAP (Bed, Breakfast & Dinner)
- SDF(Sustainable development fee)- INR 1200 per person per Night
- Experienced English Speaking Tour Guide licensed by the Tourism Council of Bhutan
- Transportation
- All transfers and sightseeing as per the itinerary
- Pick & Drop to Paro Airport

### TOUR COST EXCLUDES

- Air ticket(flight fare) both International and Domestic
- Travel Insurance/ Insurance of any kind
- Entrance Fees
- Lunch at Local Restaurant
- Festival Sur Charge
- Museum, monuments entrance fees all applicable taxes
- Medical expense
- Expenses of personal nature (like Gratuities tipping, laundry, Telephone/fax calls, bar bills camera/video fees etc).
- Horse charge for Tiger's Nest hike
- Bhutanese traditional hot stone bath.
- Beverages (alcoholic / non- alcoholic)
- Airfare & airport taxes

### CANCELLATION/NO SHOW POLICY

- As per the Booking Conditions of the Tour, the cancellation charges will be applicable for any cancellation request of the tour, either by the customer or any member of the group. This will be intimated at the time of booking. In any other case, including 'No Show', the Company shall make no refund to the customer.

### TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- Rooms are subject to availability and rates are subject to change
- Supplement / hike charges will be extra on per head basis
- Unimoni Travel & Holidays reserves the right to change/modify or terminate the offer any time at its own discretion and without any prior notice
- Hotel Check in / Check out times – 1400Hrs. /1100 Hrs
- Refund on cancellation strictly depends upon the concerned hotel's and Vehicle cancellation policy
- The package cannot be combined with any other offer
- If there is any step increase in Fuel prices, there will be an prorate increase in the rates
- All guests have to carry valid id at the time of check in to the hotel (Mandatory)
- Guests must check all their belongings before check-out. Further claims will not be entertained
- Pls be ready 10 minutes before pick up schedule
- Sightseeing places one time visit only & Midnight driving will not be provided
- Sightseeing will be provided as per the itinerary only. It will not be provided as per the client's interest
- Baggage space is limited to the type of transportation booked
- Standard type rooms will be offered in all category hotels
- For Vehicle, Ac will be operated only while running the vehicle and not during halt
- Damage caused to our property due to carelessness of guests, their children or wards must be compensated by guest
- Any itinerary missed due to unforeseen conditions like weather, blocked roads, strikes, delay in Flight or Train timings the guests have to bear any additional expenses incurred due to the same directly
- Kindly maintain cleanliness in the vehicle and carry spare clothes and towels for visits to the beaches and for water sports activities.
- Consumption of alcohol in the vehicle is prohibited. Your cooperation is solicited
- Offering alcoholic drink or beverage to the Driver is Strictly Prohibited
- For travel related sickness, please inform the driver immediately
- ALL SIGHTSEEINGS STRICTLY SUBJECT TO WEATHER CONDITIONS & AVAILABILITY OF TIME.