

Bhutan or the "Land of the Peaceful Dragon" is a country of sprawling forests, venerated monasteries, overpowering fortresses, lush green valleys fed by bountiful rivers and age-old practices. Cultivated fields surrounded by pitched roof houses with their typical trefoil-shape windows and Dzongs (fortresses) dominate the scenery with their sheer size. Its people are hardworking, vibrantly attired and deeply religious while the land is immaculate. Bhutan's alpine pastures, peaks, forests, lakes and flowers make it a paradise. Maybe that is why the rare black-necked crane makes its way across the Himalayas to Bhutan every year.











Morning: Arrive in Paro

Traditional welcome at the airport and drive to the hotel.



Evening:

Begin with a visit to the National Museum set in the Ta Dzong, an ancient watchtower that now displays hundreds of ancient Bhutanese artifacts and artwork. The collection at the National Museum preserves a snap-shot of the rich cultural traditions of the country.

Paro Dzong means 'Fortress on a heap of jewels'. This impressive dzong is the finest example of Bhutanese architecture and is one of the most popular and well known dzongs in Bhutan.

Indulge in a game of archery. **Archery** is the national sport of Bhutan loved by its citizens.









Take the 1 hour drive to the capital city, Thimphu for sightseeing.

Memorial Chorten is a four-storey tall white building, containing statues and iconography of deities from complex tantric teachings.



The Folk Heritage Museum, an outdoor museum gives an insight into rural life.

The National Library of Bhutan is a four-storied eight-cornered traditional building, which looks like the central tower temple of a Bhutanese Dzong.

National Institute of Traditional Medicine: Established in 1988, this Institute strives to merge the allopathic and traditional systems of healing.











Morning: Taktsang Monastery

Do not miss the 4.5 hour hike to **Taktsang Monastery**. Perched on the side of a vertical cliff at 3000 m altitude north of Paro, the beautiful Taktsang Monastery also known as 'Tiger's Nest' is the most famous and an unofficial symbol of Bhutan.



Evening – Kyichu Lhakhang

Located close to the Paro Airport, the **Kyichu Lhakhang** is an important Himalayan Buddhist Temple. It is one of Bhutan's oldest religious sites built in the seventh century.











o Final Departure

Today you will be transferred to the airport for your onward journey.













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