BHUTAN | SIKKIM | DARJEELING



Bhutan also known locally as DRUKYUL (Land of Thunder Dragon) has remained sequestered from the rest of the world in its pristine state, unspoiled by outside influences. Bordered by China (Tibet) in the North and India in the south, the kingdom of the Lost Horizon opened its door to tourism only in 1974, since then the number of visitors to Bhutan has steadily increased. Bhutan is endowed with breathtaking natural beauty, surrounded by sacred mountains, virgin peaks and holy lakes. Its 46,500 square kilometer of area is covered with not less than 72% of dense forest and jungles. In less than 65 miles, Bhutan rises 25,000 feet from the subtropical jungles of the south to arctic cold of the high Himalayas. More than 90% of the population are farmers who live in small villages spread over rugged mountain. Since 8th century the Mahayana Buddhist teachings and philosophy played vital role in shaping the country's culture and their way of life. In fact, it is the only surviving Mahayana Buddhist Kingdom in the world.

Travelers to Bhutan will experience the enchantment of the pure and exotic land, through its ancient fortresses, monasteries, and temples that dot the countryside. With its imposing architecture and superb art, for its delightful race of people in their traditional dress, time has stood still in this serene environment. Their unique customs, beliefs and life-style are magical and preserved in its ancient ways.

CULTURAL AND SCENIC TOUR OF BHUTAN(8DAYS) LAND COST: US$



This trip is designed to show you more of this fascinating land and her people, untouched by outside world. The trip allows you to get a more "hands on" experience of Bhutan. You begin your tour with a flight to Paro enjoying spectacular views of snow capped mountains as you approach Paro. Take a scenic drive to Thimpu, the capital of Bhutan and take some tour in and around Thimpu. Continue to Punakha through Dorchu La Pass which offers panoramic views of Himalayas. After the tour of Punakha Dzong, which was the winter capital until the second King of Bhutan, you will continue to the beautiful valley of Phobjikha. This all gives you an opportunity to see the rarest and most unique travel destinations in the world, where you will see a very little or no influence by outside world.

WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THIS TOUR?

1. All airport transfers with assistance.
2. Accommodation with breakfast, lunch & dinner.
3. Guided tours with entrance fees.
4. Private Transportation as per the itinerary
5. All applicable government Royalty & taxes.

HOTEL MENTIONED OR SIMILAR

- Thimpu	Galingkha
- Punakha	Zangto Pelri
- Phobjikha	Dewachen Lodge
- Wangdi	Dragon Nest Resort
- Paro	Hotel Nirvana

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED?

1. Airfares from & to U.S.
2. Travel Insurance
3. Excess Baggage, Laundry, Soda, Tips
4. Other expenses which are not specified above.

PARO FESTIVAL, BHUTAN (11DAYS) LAND COST: US$



Spring is one of the best times to visit Bhutan, when rhododendron, Magnolia and many other spring flowers are blooming and various rare bird species are encountered. Join with the local inhabitants of Paro to celebrate the spring festival, one of the most popular festivals in Bhutan. Monks, as well as laymen dressed in brilliant costumes and wearing masks of both wrathful as well as peaceful deities re-enact the legends and history of Buddhism in the Dragon Kingdom. The festival culminates in the spectacular showing of the four stories 350 years old Thangkha (Buddhist religious scroll), celebrating the deeds of Padmasambhava, who is credited with introducing Buddhism to Bhutan. Locals attend the festival in their finest dresses, beautiful jewelries, and enjoy picnic lunch with abundant of locally brewed alcohol. After the festival, traverse west to east along Bhutan's lateral highway enjoying the great biodiversity, ranging from conifer forest to banana trees and cactus plants. Along the route, enjoy the breath taking views of snow capped mountains, glimpses of various birds and wild animals, and experience the ancient old tradition, culture and Bhutanese way of life.

WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THIS TOUR?

1. All airport transfers.
2. Accommodation with breakfast, lunch & dinner
3. Guided tours with entrance fees to monument
4. Private Transportation as per the itinerary
5. All current government taxes & royalty.

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED?

1. International Airfare
2. Travel Insurance
3. Excess Baggage, Laundry, Soda, Tips
4. Other personal expenses.

JAMBAY LAKHANG FESTIVAL - BHUTAN(10DAYS) LAND COST: US$



Bumthang is locally known as Jambay Lhakhang Drub. This festival is held in the picturesque valley of Bumthang in central Bhutan. It gained its popularity from the visits of tourists

in the recent years due to favorable weather. In addition to the mask dances, Jambay Lhakhang built in the year 659 is known for its two special events that is “Mewang" (Fire blessing ceremony). During the fire blessing, locals run underneath a huge flaming gate made out of dry grasses with amber and piles of burning grasses falling on their head. Besides the festival, this trip allows you to enjoy the daily lives of friendly Bhutanese people by visiting villages, temples, monasteries, and gigantic fortresses. It gives you a chance to meet people, enjoy the pristine forest with rare glimpse of wildlife and observe the ancient old traditions of arts and crafts. Begin your trip from Paro Valley and continue by road through the lush valley of Thimphu and to Punakha. Continue the overland journey to the enchanting valleys of Trongsa and Bumthang, which played a key role in influencing Bhutanese history, culture and religion. And then to Phobjikha valley, a winter habitat to the rare black-necked cranes that migrate from Tibetan plateaus in winter. This route will take you through the temperate zone with great biodiversity, ranging from lush forest of conifer, rhododendron and magnolia to orchid draped oaks, banana trees and cactus plants. During clear weather, the high passes you cross, provides spectacular views of high snow capped peaks that go up to 25,000 ft. There will be ample opportunities to interact with the friendly people of Bhutan and learn their philosophy of “GROSS NATIONAL HAPPINESS”.

WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THIS TOUR?

1. All airport transfers.
2. Accommodation with breakfast, lunch & dinner
3. Guided tours with entrance fees to monument
4. Private Transportation as per the itinerary
5. All current government taxes & royalty.

HOTEL MENTIONED OR SIMILAR

- Thimpu	Galingkha
- Punakha	Zangto Pelri
- Trongsa	Yankhila Resort
- Bhumtang	Tsela Lodge
- Paro	Hotel Nirvana

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED?

1. International Airfare
2. Travel Insurance
3. Excess baggage, Laundry, Soda, Tips
4. Other personal expenses.

THIMPHU FESTIVAL, BHUTAN(11DAYS) LAND COST: US$



Thimphu is the capital city of Bhutan and probably the only capital city that has no traffic lights. During the fall season, Thimphu residents celebrate their annual spiritual festival that over the years have grown to one of the most popular festivals of Bhutan. It was once a small village festival and gradually gained popularity as Thimphu grew and became the capital city. Like other festivals in Bhutan, it commemorates the deeds of the Tantric master Padmasambhava. People from all corners of the country come not only to witness the religious dances but also take part in the country fair festivities. During your trip enjoy the ancient culture of this tiny kingdom and observe the old tradition of crafts, arts and weaving. The trip involves excursions to villages, temples, monasteries, Dzong (fortresses) and markets. While in Bhutan keep your camera ready, there is always some unique photo opportunity around the corner while traveling through the winding scenic road of Bhutan.

WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THIS TOUR?

1. All airport transfers.
2. Accommodation with breakfast, lunch & dinner.
3. Guided tours with entrance fees to monument.
4. Private Transportation as per the itinerary.
5. All applicable government taxes & royalty.

HOTEL MENTIONED OR SIMILAR

- Thimpu
- Punakha
- Trongsa
- Bhumtang
- Paro

Galingkha
Zangto Pelri
Yankhila Resort
Tsela Lodge
Hotel Nirvana

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED?

1. International Airfare
2. Travel Insurance
3. Excess baggage, Soda, Laundry, Tips
4. Other personal expenses.

SIKKIM & DARJEELING(8DAYS) LAND COST: US$



Sikkim, a former Himalayan kingdom, now a state in India, is richly endowed with a prominently Buddhist culture dating back to the 7th century AD. It's unique location in the Himalayas and elevation ranging from 1,970 ft. to over 26,250 ft. spread over an area of 7000 sq. km. offers diverse flora and fauna ranging from sub-tropical to the alpine. Mt Kanchenjunga (27,371 ft.), the third highest mountain in the world and the guardian deity of Sikkim looms majestically throughout the trip. Darjeeling- "The Queen of the Himalayas" is a bustling tourist town renowned for its tea gardens, the Himalayan mountaineering Institute, the sunrise over the Himalayas from the Tiger Hill and imprints of the British Raj are the highlights of the trip.

WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THIS TOUR?

1. Airport transfers
2. Accommodation with breakfast & dinner.
3. All transfers, sightseeing, excursions
4. An English speaking accompanying guide.
5. Applicable monument entrance fees.
6. Joy Ride on toy train (Darjeeling-Ghoom-Darjeeling).
7. Permit costs.
8. All applicable taxes.

HOTEL MENTIONED OR SIMILAR

- Kalimpong	Kalimpong Park Hotel
- Gangtok	Chumbi Residency (Jade Room)
- Pelling	Norbugang Resort
- Darjeeling	Dekeling Resort

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED?

1. Air U.S.-Bagdogra-U.S.
2. Visa and Travel Insurance
3. Lunch
4. Laundry, Soda, Tips
5. Other personal expenses

THE RHODODENDRON TRAIL(9DAYS) LAND COST: US$



The Rhododendron Trail is designed to allow you to discover this floral rainbow, traveling in the comfort of a car. Best recommended for the local Spring season (April-May). The tour takes you to the higher reaches of Tsomgo lake & the North Sikkim areas covering Lachung, Yumthang,

Lachen & Thanggu. These areas vary in altitude from 8,200 ft. to 14,000 ft. and cover rhododendron reserves such as the Kyongnosla Alpine Sanctuary near Gangtok and the Shingba Rhododendron Sanctuary near Lachung. The itinerary offers you an introduction to the rhododendrons in Sikkim, as well and the countryside and some of the amazing views of Himalayan range.

WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THIS TOUR?

1. Airport transfers
2. Accommodation with breakfast & dinner
3. All transfers, sightseeing, and excursions
4. An English speaking accompanying guide.
5. Applicable monument entrance fees.
6. Permit costs.
7. All applicable taxes.

HOTEL MENTIONED OR SIMILAR

- Gangtok	Chumbi Residency (Jade Room)
- Lachen	Hotel Yangla
- Lachung	Hotel Golden Fish

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED?

1. Air U.S.-India-U.S.
2. Visa and travel insurance
3. Lunch
4. Laundry, Soda, Tips
5. Other personal expenses