

**“Best of Bhutan”**  
**DESTINATION: THIMPHU - PARO**

**DAY WISE ITINERARY:**

**Day 01: Arrive Paro/ Drive to Thimphu**

Driving Distance - 65 Km. | Driving time - 1.5 to 2 Hr. | Altitude of Paro - 2280 m. | Altitude of Thimphu - 2350 m.

On your journey to Paro, the panoramic views of the Himalayas are sensational, including the Everest and other famous Himalayan Peaks. The approach through the Bhutanese foothills and the landing, including a few steep turns to land at the tiny airstrip of Paro becomes more exciting as you enter Bhutan.

On arrival, you will be **received by your guide from ideal Travel Creations with “Tashi khadar”**, then drive to Thimphu. After Lunch, **you may relax or go around the Thimphu town and valley if you have enough time, you can also choose to sightseeing.**

In the evening, **visit the Tashichhodzong**. The Dzong is the seat of the National Government and the Central Monastic Body, including the summer residence of the Je Khenpo (Chief Abbot of Bhutan) at present.

Overnight in hotel.

**Day 02: Thimphu Sightseeing**

After a leisure breakfast, your sightseeing for the day includes;

**Sangaygang view point (2685 meters):** You can have a very good view of whole Thimphu valley from this place. Walking through the hundreds of colorful prayer flags that dot the hill could be another good experience.

**Takin Preserve Centre:** Takin, the national animal of Bhutan can be seen here. This particular animal is found only in the Himalayan region.

**Changangkha Monastery:** This monastery is built on a hill overlooking the Thimphu valley. It was built in 15th Century by Lama Phajo Drugom Zhipo. Many parents of Thimphu take their new born babies to this monastery to be blessed by a high lama.

**Folk Heritage Museum:** Founded by Her Majesty the Queen Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck the museum is one of a kind that portrays the lifestyle of a family in the Thimphu valley in the olden days. This is a three storied, 19th century traditional house giving an insight to the Bhutanese lifestyle, and artifacts from the rural households. The museum contains typical Bhutanese household objects, tools and equipment.

**A typical Bhutanese Lunch at the Folk Heritage Restaurant shall be a good experience.**

**The Institute for Zorig Chusum:** Zorig Chusum means the thirteen traditional arts and crafts. Students are taught the 13 traditional arts and crafts of Bhutan in this institute. *(Closed on Govt Holidays and during institute breaks)*

**The Institute of Traditional medicine:** Medicines are prepared according to the Tradition practices in this institute. People are also treated here in traditional ways. *(Closed on Govt Holidays)*

**Kuenselphodrang:** A place for refreshing with a huge statue of Buddha. The area also gives a very good view of the Thimphu Valley from the west. The place also consists for biking trail and has a picnic spot.

**National Memorial Chhorten:** This Chhorten was built in the honor of the Third King Jigme Dorji Wangchuck, also known as “The Father of Modern Bhutan”. This Chhorten was built in 1974 in a typical Tibetan style. This Chhorten is also a center of worship for the people living in Thimphu and contains many religious paintings and tantric statues. **Lighting Butter lamps and circumambulating the chhorten can be a great experience and a good way to earn merits as per Buddhist beliefs.**

Overnight in hotel

### **Day 03: Thimphu – Paro**

**(Distance: 65 km / Driving Time: 1.5 hr / Altitude of Paro: 2280 m)**

After breakfast drive to Paro. On the way, you may opt for a short hike to visit the **Tamchog Lhakhang** dedicated to the 13th century saint Thangthong Gyalpo, the iron chain bridge builder. The old iron Chain bridge on the way with its swaying and undulating movements can be quite an experience. The place also give a very good photography options.

Further on the way to Paro, stop at the **Paro Airport View Point**. Enjoy the view and the soothing breeze for a while. Check in at the hotel.

Afternoon, visit the **Ta Dzong** which now houses the **National Museum of Bhutan** with an excellent collection of arts, relics, religious thangka, etc.

Then visit the **Paro Rinpung Dzong** which literally means the "fortress of the heap of jewels". The Dzong now serves as the administrative and judicial seat of Paro Dzongkhag. In the evening, **explore the Paro Town**.

Overnight in Paro.

#### **Day 04: Paro**

After breakfast, hike to the **Taktshang Monastery (Tiger's Nest)**. The primary lhakhang was built surrounding Guru Rinpoche's Meditation cave in the 1684 by Gyaltsen Tenzin Rabgay. This incredible monastery clings to the edge of a sheer Rock cliff that plunges 900 meters into the valley below.

After lunch, visit the **Kyichhu Lhakhang**. This temple is one of the oldest Buddhist temples in Bhutan. The Tibetan King, Songtsen Gampo miraculously built 108 temples to consecrate the entire region of Himalaya in the 7th century. Kyichhu Lhakhang is considered to be one of them.

Overnight in hotel.

#### **Day 05: Departure**

After breakfast, drive to Airport and farewell.

##### **Notes:**

- The comfort, convenience and interest of the travelers is very important to us. We are flexible with the itinerary. Sightseeing can be done as per the convenience and interests of the guests. If it is of interest to the guest, they may choose to visit places that may not be in the itinerary, except for the change of overnight destination.
- Please note that some of the sites may be closed on government holidays and certain occasions. In such cases you shall be given options for other sightseeing or experience options.

- The itinerary can be customized as per the requirements of the travelers for any duration or within any destination and can be combined with any kind of activities such as trekking, rafting, walking tour, cycling, etc. Extra Cost may be applicable for some of the activities
- If any such interests are not included in the itinerary it will have to be confirmed beforehand at the time of confirmation of the tour.

**TOUR ENDS**

**Thank you for Travelling with us**