

Dharma Chakara

(Where ever Lord Buddha had resided having turned the wheel of teachings even at the places where the lord had slept, pay homage to all such places "Shanti Deva")

This 14days Dharma tours starts from Paro to central part of Bhutan, Bumthan. Dharma Chakra valley or Bumthang was first visited by Guru Rimpoche in early 8th century. Offer prayers at oldest temple (7th century) in the country "Jampa Lakhang". Also visit Kurjey lakhang, the temple with body imprint of Guru Rimpoche on the Rock. Day excursion to Mebar Tsho "Burning Lake" and hike to Taksang, "**Tiger's nest**" at Paro ends our Pilgrimage tour.

Day1. Arrive to Paro: Fly into Paro on the national carrier Druk Air, the only Airline of Bhutan. Upon arrival you will be met by your guide and transferred to hotel at Paro. Alt: **7364ft.**

Day2. Paro ----- Thimphu: 1hr drive winds along a river valley to Thimphu, Alt: **7,493ft.** Check into hotel. Visit the Nunnery, TashiChhoDzong, Takin reserve, local vegetable market and Textile weaving center. Overnight at hotel.

Day3. Thimphu ---- Sightseeing: Start with National memorial chorten (shrine), visit the Traditional Painting School, a school for Bhutan's 13 traditional Arts and crafts, the National Library where ancient scrolls are preserved and the Handicrafts Emporium. Halt overnight at hotel.

Day4. Day hike to Tango / Cherri: Today you can take day hike to Tango / Cherri following the upper Thimphu valley. It is the centre for higher studies for the Buddhist philosophy. Over night at Hotel.

Day5. Thimphu ----- Punakha (3hrs / 77 km): Drive to Dochula pass, Alt: **10142ft**, and then to the fertile valley of Punakha. Alt: **4430ft.** Overnight at Punakha.

Day6. Punakha ----- Trongsa (6 hrs / 145 km): Visit Punakha Dzong and continue towards the central valleys of Bhutan. You will pass Wangdi Dzong (fortress) and Pele la Pass **at 11046 ft.** Overnight at Trongsa.

Day7.Trongsa ----- Bumthang (2 to 3 hours / 68 kilometers): This morning, tour the spectacular Trongsa Dzong, up to Yotong La pass at **11,200 feet**, drive to Jakar Dzong , the "castle of the white bird" perching above Bumthang. Alt:**8463ft.**

Day8. Jakar----Jakar (Chokor Valley): The cultural and historic heart of the Kingdom. Bumthang was introduced to Buddhism by Guru Rinpoche in the 8th century. Visit the oldest Jambey Lhakang, from 7th century. Overnight at Hotel.

Day9. Jakar-----Jakar: Drive to **Membartsho**, the “Burning Lake,” a place where Pema Lingpa discovered the hidden terma (treasure). Back to hotel for overnight halt.

Day10. Bumthang ----- Phobjikha: Travel on to Phobjikha, the chosen winter roosting home of the rare Black necked Cranes. Overnight in the quiet valley of Phobjikha.

Day11. Phubjikha ----- Punakha (3hrs / 86km): Resume your journey back. Overnight in a beautiful resort at Punakha.

Day12. Punakha ---- Thimphu (3hrs- 70km): take a fabulous drive back through Dochula Pass to Thimphu. Other places of interest are Bronze casting, gold and silver smith, where the traditional jewelry and statues are made. Halt over night at Thimphu.

Day13. Thimphu----Paro--Day Hike to Taksang (Tigers Nest): Drive to Paro and hike to Taksang Monastery, the most famous monastery in Bhutan, 2,700 feet above Paro’s valley floor. Light butter lamps / short meditation. Halt over night at Paro.

Day14. Paro -----Bangkok: Say goodbye to Bhutan and board a flight for Bangkok for onward destinations. We hope you’ll carry this gentle kingdom in your heart: May it brings peace to you and others. Have a safe journey home.

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