

Sacred Dances

Sacred Dances (Ter Cham) at Sakteng: *Dances performed by Lay monks wearing nothing but a mask. These dances are performed naked during the night. It is believed that by attending these dances one can purify themselves from their sins and bad Karma.*

Location: Tashigang (Sakteng), Performed every after three years

Season: July, 2012.

Festival duration: 2days

Tour duration: 11days.

Day1. Guwhati ----- S/jongkhar: 3hrs/110km. Drive on Indian plains, crossing over the Brahmaputra river towards Samdrup Jongkhar (820ft/ 250 m). Overnight at a Hotel.

Day2. S/jongkhar ----- Tashigang: 180km/6hr. You will drive through Semitropical forests. Then stop for lunch at Wamrong, a small town with a school and head office to the village of Khaling. Take another short drive before you drop down to Kanglung and to Tashigang. Overnight at hotel.

Day3. Trashigang – Chaling (7050ft) – 7hr – Damnongchu (10131ft): Take the feeder road up to Chaling from where the trek to Merak will start. The first halt will be at Damnongchu just after Mindrula which lies at about 10,880ft.

Day4. Damnongchu – 5 hr – Merak (11480ft): The trail from Damnongchu to Merak goes along the river bank with gradual ups and downs. The campsite is located just before the settlement of Merak.

Day5. Merak – 7 ½ hrs – Miksa Teng (9400ft): The trek from Merak to Miksa Teng is of medium difficulty. The campsite is located in a clearing surrounded by rhododendron trees. It is beautiful when the flowers are in full bloom.

Day6. Miksa Teng – 3 ½ hr – Sakteng (9850ft): Trek to Sakteng from Miksa Teng is quite easy. Make your way through beautiful woods with a short climb before reaching Sakteng. The campsite is located on the outskirts of the village.

Day7. Attend festival: It is a very important festival. This late afternoon “Sacred naked dance” dates back to early 8th century and are performed to cleanse our self from the bad spirits. Overnight at camp.

Day8. Sakteng – 6 ½ hr– JyonkharTeng (6100ft): Sakteng to Jyonkhar Teng trek is an easy trek compared to the previous ones. It is mostly downhill to Jyonkhar Teng. Campsite is located near a river.

Day9. Jyonkhar-----5hr-- Phongmay/Radhi(6500ft)/Trashigang: This is a pleasant hike to Radhi. We will pass through villages to reach at the road head where your van will transfer you to Tashigang. Overnight at hotel.

Day10. Tashigang -----Samdrup Jongkhar: From here we start our 6 hr journey to the border town of Samdrup Jongkhar. This is an interesting drive through the beautiful vegetation with full of flora and fauna. Overnight at Hotel.

Day11. Samdrup Jongkhar -(110km / 4hrs)-- Guwhati -Delhi /Kolkota / Bangkok: Say goodbye to Bhutan and drive to Guwhati for onward destinations. We hope you'll carry this gentle kingdom in your heart. May it bring peace to you and to others. Have a safe journey home.

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