Name of Package : AchoNorman2Bhutan

Paro-Thimphu-Punakha-Thimphu-Paro

5N6D :Itinerary (5 Nights and 6 Days)

Day 1: Arrival, Exploration of Paro valley & transfer to Thimphu, overnight in Thimphu
Day 2: Thimphu valley exploration, overnight in Thimphu
Day 3: Thimphu to Punakha & Wangdue, over night in Punakha
Day 4: Punakha – Thimphu – Paro, over night in Paro
Day 5: Paro, Visit to Taktshang Monastery (Tiger’s nest), over night in Paro
Day 6: Departure to Airport

Day 01
KTM- Paro Airport
Lands your plane at 10.15 hrs in Paro. Your agent in Bhutan is at the Airport to receive you with a traditional way of offering a scarf, which symbolizes the token of heartfelt welcome with a wish to have a wonderful & memorable tour in Bhutan. Then we move for lunch.

PARO -THIMPHU
After lunch, We will drive through the breathtaking Paro valley for some sightseeing before we head towards Thimphu in the late afternoon. The following are the sites/places we will visit.

National Museum (Paro Ta Dzong).

Bhutan’s one and only museum houses the ancient treasures of the kingdom. These artifacts represent Bhutanese culture and values, and are the source of the Bhutanese identity. Nothing introduces Bhutan better to the outsiders than a visit to this museum.

Paro Dzong.

Paro or Rinpung Dzong is a huge fortress in Bhutan. It is the venue of the annual Paro festival which attracts the highest number of tourist during the season. The fortress houses the Monastic Body and administrative offices of Paro District. Some scenes of the film...
"Little Buddha" by Hollywood Director Bernardo Bertolucci were shot in this fortress. We head to Thimphu in the latter part of the afternoon, arriving in time for a delicious traditional Bhutanese meal, and after-dinner shopping in the center of town.

We reach Thimphu and check in the Hotel, Hotel to name to confirm.

DAY 02
TOUR OF THIMPHU
After breakfast we drive out to explore the following places/sites of historical importance. 01. Post office: To have your picture on Bhutan postage stamps where you can send postcards to your friends & family with greetings from BHUTAN. 02. Textile Museum, where you will be showcased the ancient textiles of Bhutan. 03. Lord Buddha Statue, this is a fascinating site you will see, the statue is known to be the biggest & tallest statue on earth. 04. Takin Zoo, in this Zoo you can see the Takin the national animal of Bhutan and other unique animals. 05. The memorial Chorten, this stupa is built in the memory of our late 3rd king. 06. Folk Heritage where you will see how the Bhutanese ancient people lived their lives. Lunch at Folk Heritage in true Bhutanese essence 07. After lunch we resume our tour with visit to a painting shop in Thimpu 08. Our final tour is to Tashichho Dzong, if time permits we will go around Thimphu town. Check in the Hotel, Hotel name to confirm.

DAY 03
THIMPHU-PUNAKHA-WANGDUE
Our day begins pretty early as we head towards Punakha, a place once famed as the ancient capital of Bhutan and, even today, houses the national treasures of the kingdom.

On the way, we will visit Semtokha Dzong (Palace-fortress) which was built in 1627 and is the oldest in Bhutan. Our next stopover will be at Dochula where 108 nos. of stupas are built by Queen mother Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck, a pass that is located at an altitude of 3,100m is perhaps the only spot where one can see the Eastern Himalayas in a spectacular 360 degrees. It is here
that a grand new festival has been introduced besides which the place is known for a plethora of flora and fauna.

Our next stopover will be at Chimi Lhakhang known as the Temple of Fertility, located at amid rice fields at the bank of Punatshangchhu River. This ancient temple was built to honor “Divine Mad Man” – Drukpa Kuenley – whose crazy teachings bordered on the burlesque including phallic worship. Today, the temple is much sought after by barren couples all over the world for its power to grant fertility.

We have our Lunch In Chhimi Lhakhang Cafetaria

Our most climatic part of the day, however, is the visit to Punakha Dzong – the grand ancient capital – which is considered the most beautiful architectural specimen from Bhutan. The awe-inspiring complex which appears like a gigantic ship in the midst of an ocean, flanked as it is by two rivers on either sides, it is the home of Bhutan’s spirituality. It is here that Bhutan’s kings are crowned and the head of Buddhist clergy anointed. This is our end of days tour, we move to our hotel. Name of Hotel to confirm.

DAY 04
PUNAKHA-THIMPHU-PARO

Breakfast:
We head back to Paro today. We will scour the place en route and gradually climb up to Dochula pass via paddy fields, quaint farm houses, subtropical forests – the habitat of the White-Bellied Heron (world’s most endangered bird), Rhododendron forests (Bhutan has 48 species), and then beautiful alpine flowers.

We have our Lunch at Dochula in Druk Wangyel cafeteria

After lunch We resume our journey passing through the capital city for the final time before descending to the expansive Paro valley, considered to be Bhutan’s spiritual heartland.

We check in our Hotel in Paro

Name of Hotel to confirm ..
DAY 05

Hike to Taktshang Monastery (Tiger’s nest)

Breakfast in the Hotel. We provide two options for Paro leg of our tour.

For those who are deeply spiritual and also love a dash of adventure, we will undertake a 3 hour hike to Taktshang (Tiger’s Lair), the most famous temple in the Himalayan Buddhist world. The temple clings precariously onto a vertical cliff above the Paro Valley floor.

It is here that Guru Padmasambhava, considered to be the second Buddha by the Himalayan Buddhists, is said to have meditated in the 8th century after having flown there on the back of a ferocious tigress.

And the second option: we will drive for 2 hours to Chelela pass (3,988m), the highest point reached by road in Bhutan. Chelela is known for its spectacular natural beauty and has hundreds of species of Alpine flowers and rare and exotic birds like the Himalayan Monal, Khalij Pheasant. From Chelela, one can also see snow-clad Mt. Jhomolhari (7,300m), the abode of Goddess Remati, and other peaks like Jichu Dra-ke (6,950m).

We have our Lunch at Taktshang cafeteria on the way back from the monastery.

Reach Paro towards the evening, we check in the hotel and relax. Hotel name to confirm.

DAY 06: DEPARTURE

Breakfast: We drive to airport to board the plane at 11.15 hrs... We will however set this before your arrival to Bhutan, and we will fine-tune your agenda accordingly – for your greatest pleasure.

Thank you for visiting Bhutan, the “Land of the Thunder Dragon”
For Booking
Contact Manit Ahlawat in Shanghai
+86 135645 39699
Manit_a@hr-mate.com