

Earthbound Expeditions

Bhutan Luxury Tour, Nepal and Bhutan Luxury tours

9 days, from US$4,987 per person

Duration	Group size	Country
9 days	**4 people**	**Bhutan**

Bhutan Luxury Tour, Nepal and Bhutan Luxury tours Overview

Bhutan luxury tour: explore Nepal and Bhutan in comfort

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Explore Nepal and Bhutan in comfort

This 5-star luxury tour of Bhutan offers private travel packages for honeymoon couples, travellers over 50, and families. Contact the Earthbound Expeditions team for advice on luxury Bhutan and Nepal tour packages. You can see the Himalayas while staying in luxury accommodation.

The tour covers the natural beauty and long-established cultures of the two Himalayan kingdoms. Bhutan is predominantly Buddhist, while in Nepal Hindu and Buddhist traditions exist together throughout the country.

We have combined luxury tours of Nepal and Bhutan into one trip, which begins in Kathmandu and continues to Bhutan, using high-quality hotels throughout.

- The luxury tour of Nepal and Bhutan can be arranged to coincide with festival dates. We can also organise private treks of any length in Bhutan or Nepal, with luxury facilities throughout.
- All tours are private and depart daily throughout the year (July and August are not recommended).
- The Bhutan luxury tour can be adapted to your interests and schedule.

On this tour you are accompanied by experienced, knowledgeable guides who explain the local culture, history and traditions. You also try the local food and meet local people along the way.

Itinerary

Day 1

Arrive in Kathmandu

Arrive in Kathmandu, Nepal. A member of the Earthbound Expeditions staff meets you at the airport. Check in to the hotel, where we later give you a briefing about the tour.

Altitude: 1,400 m On foot: None, arrival day Night: Hotel, Kathmandu Meals: Dinner

Day 2

Kathmandu Valley sightseeing and drive to Nagarkot

Visit the Hindu temple complex at Pashupatinath (a UNESCO World Heritage Site) and the largest Buddhist stupa at Boudhanath. Visit Swayambhunath, known as the Monkey Temple, which is 2,000 years old. Drive to the Nagarkot viewpoint.

Altitude: 2,175 m On foot: Easy walking, 2–3 hrs Night: Hotel, Nagarkot Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 3

Sunrise at Nagarkot and Bhaktapur

Watch the sunrise and the mountain views from Nagarkot. Continue to the ancient town of Bhaktapur to see its preserved cultural and historical sites. Drive back to Kathmandu.

Altitude: 1,400 m On foot: Easy walking, 2–3 hrs Night: Hotel, Kathmandu Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 4

Fly to Paro, Bhutan

Fly to Paro with Druk Air. Clear customs and visa control, and meet your guide. Drive to Paro town for lunch. Visit Ta Dzong, an ancient watchtower that now houses the National Museum. Below the museum is Paro Rinpung Dzong, the centre of civil and religious authority in the valley. A short walk takes you to the base of the dzong and across a traditional covered cantilever bridge. A short distance further is one of the many archery grounds, where you may see a match in progress.

Altitude: 2,320 m On foot: Easy walking, 1–2 hrs Night: Hotel, Thimphu Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 5

Drive from Thimphu to Punakha Valley

Today we drive to Punakha. Leaving Thimphu, the road climbs steeply through pine and cedar forest hung with lichen, up to the Dochula Pass at 3,050 metres. The pass often gives panoramic views of the Himalayan ranges. The road then descends a series of hairpin bends to the fertile Punakha Valley. In the afternoon we visit Punakha Dzong, the winter seat of the Je Khenpo and the ancient capital of Bhutan. It stands between the Mo Chu (female) and Pho Chu (male) rivers. The dzong is open to visitors only in summer, when the Je Khenpo and the monk body are in Thimphu.

Altitude: 1,200 m On foot: None, 3 hr drive Night: Hotel, Punakha Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 6

Punakha to Wangdue and Paro

After breakfast, drive to Wangdue, one of the main towns and district headquarters of western Bhutan. We make a short stop to see Wangdue Phodrang Dzong, which stands on the spur of a hill at the confluence of the Tsang Chu and Dang Chu rivers. Drive back to Paro.

Altitude: 2,200 m On foot: None, 5–6 hr drive Night: Hotel, Paro Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 7

Paro Valley sightseeing and Tiger's Nest hike

Drive 16 kilometres north up the Paro Valley to visit the ruins of Drukgyal Dzong. It was built in 1647 by Shabdrung Ngawang Namgyal, the founder and unifier of medieval Bhutan. The dzong was destroyed by an accidental fire and left in ruins as a reminder of the victories it was built to commemorate. Explore the ramparts; on a clear day there is a view of Mt. Jhomolhari (7,314 metres). Drive to Satsam Chorten to hike to Paro Taktsang (Tiger's Nest), or take a horse ride up towards the monastery. The horse ride to the cafeteria takes around one and a half hours. Afterwards, walk back down to the road. Drive to Kyichu Lhakhang, one of the oldest temples in Bhutan. In the evening, walk through Paro's main shopping area to look for souvenirs.

Altitude: 2,200 m On foot: 4–5 hrs Night: Hotel, Paro Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 8

Fly to Kathmandu, farewell cultural show and dinner

Drive to the airport for your flight back to Kathmandu. You are met and checked in to a 5-star hotel in Kathmandu. You have the option of sightseeing in Kathmandu Durbar Square or the Thamel area. In the evening you join our team for a Nepali cultural show and dinner.

Altitude: 1,400 m On foot: None, flight day Night: Hotel, Kathmandu Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 9

Departure

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for your departure flight. This is the end of the Nepal and Bhutan luxury tour. Note: if you wish, you can add a few days in India or Tibet to the same trip. We can arrange a luxury tour of India, Nepal and Bhutan, or of Tibet, Nepal and Bhutan.

Altitude: 1,400 m On foot: None, departure day Night: No overnight Meals: Breakfast

What's included

- All accommodation in Nepal and Bhutan (5-star and 4-star hotels)
- Full-board meals.
- Private transfers.
- Professional English-speaking tour guides.
- All airport pick-ups and transfers.
- Farewell dinner with a Nepali cultural show.
- Return airfare from Kathmandu to Bhutan.
- Travel permits.
- Bhutan visa fee.
- Entrance fees for major monuments in Bhutan.
- Yoga and meditation classes in Nepal (optional).
- One meditation class in Bhutan.

Not included

- International flights.
- All personal expenses and personal travel insurance.
- A few lunches and dinners.
- Tips for guides and drivers.
- Mountain and road rescue.
- Other emergency evacuations, which are charged if needed.
- Expenses arising from illness, landslides, political disturbances, re-routing, flight cancellations or any other unforeseen events outside our control.
- Drinks with meals, telephone bills, laundry, postage and similar costs.
- Nepal visa, about USD 30.

Photos, videos and reviews of this trip: earthbound.rajansimkhada.com/bhutan-luxury-tour