

DAY	DATE	NIGHT STOP	PROGRAMME (ITINERARY)	MEALS	ADDITIONAL INFO
1	25-Sep	KATHMANDU (KGH garden facing standard room)	Meet & greet at the airport. A short transfer to hotel (centrally located, mid-range hotel in & around the eclectic and cosmopolitan tourist hub of Thamel) Acquaintance with our representative for a detailed tour briefing and for those little hints/tips that make all the difference.	None	Day tours available at additional costs.
2	26-Sep	KATHMANDU (KGH garden facing standard room)	Free day.	B	Day tours available at additional costs.
3	27-Sep	PARO (mid-range hotel)	Fly to Paro (55mins approx). A visual feast of Himalayan range beckons you on a flight to Paro, our entry point located in a beautiful valley, where a warm welcome awaits. Jovial faces, prayer flags and the cool, fresh air of this high Himalayan city are immediately noticeable. The lovely valley in which Paro is nestled encapsulates a rich culture, scenic beauty and hundreds of myths and legends. It is home to many of Bhutan's oldest temples and monasteries and the National Museum. Mt. Chomolhari (7,314m) dominates the northern end of the valley; its glacial waters plunging through deep gorges to form the Pa Chu (Paro river). The Paro valley is one of the kingdom's most fertile, producing the bulk of Bhutan's famous red rice from its terraced fields. A short drive to hotel. After settling in, visit to The 'fortress of the mountain of jewels' which was built in 1646 by Shabdrung Ngawang Namgyal on a hill above the township. The approach to the Dzong is through a traditional covered bridge (called the Nemi Zam) and then up a paved stone path running alongside the imposing outer walls	B, D	Opt for the left-sided seats at check-in for the views of the Himalaya.
4	28-Sep	JELA DZONG (camping)	TREK DAY 1: Start of the Druk Path Trek. Paro - Jela Dzong The start of the Drukpath Trek is at the historic Ta Dzong (approx 25min drive), the National Museum. We follow a dirt road until it gives way to our trail in the pine forests. The trail is uphill all the way till Jela Dzong, a temple built as a war fortress in the olden days, overlooking the Paro valley below. Trek duration: 4-5hrs approx Overnight altitude: 3000m approx	B, L, D	
5	29-Sep	JANGCHUBLAKHA A (camping)	TREK DAY 2: Jela Dzong - Jangchublakha Today's trail looks aking to the setting of Stephen Spielberg's Jurassic Park. With ancient firs wrapped in Spanish moss, a dinosaur or a Bhutanese Yeti might actually surprise you around the bend. You may see yak herders around the campsite. Trek duration: 4.5-5hrs approx Overnight altitude: 3200m	B, L, D	
6	30-Sep	JIMILANGTSHO (camping)	TREK DAY 3: Jangchublakha - Jimilangtsho The trek today starts off with a climb, overlooking the rolling valleys below. Rhododendrons and other high altitude shrubs decorate the rocky trail which climbs up and down. On a clear day the Chomolhari can be seen. Our camp is at the lake of Jimilangtsho. Trek duration: 5-5.5hrs approx Overnight altitude: 3300m approx	B, L, D	

7	01-Oct	LABANA (camping)	<p>TREK DAY 4: Jimilangtsho - Labana</p> <p>The trail will take us through dwarf rhododendrons and junipers. We will also pass the lakes of Janatso and Simkotha. The view of the far ridge across the valley which you trekked will fill you with a sense of personal satisfaction and renew you with extra confidence in yourself. Tonight is going to be the coldest of all our camps.</p> <p>Trek duration: 4-4.5hrs approx Overnight altitude: 3500m approx</p>	B, L, D	
8	02-Oct	THIMPU (mid-range hotel)	<p>TREK DAY 5: Labana - Thimphu</p> <p>An hours' climb from the camp will take us over the highest pass (Pumo La) on this trek at 4100m. On a clear day we can see the Gangkhar Puensum, the highest peak in Bhutan.</p> <p>Descending from the pass over rocky steps, we will be greeted by the sight of Thimphu far below in the valley. From this point on, it's all downhill. We will be passing through the temple and meditation center complex of Phajoding. Our transport will meet us just as we start emerging from the forest. Drive to Thimpu (25mins approx) & continue</p> <p>Center of government, religion and commerce, Thimphu is a lively place, and an interesting combination of tradition and modernity. Home to civil servants, expatriates and monks, Thimphu maintains a strong national character thanks to the adherence to traditional architectural practices.</p> <p>Towards the late afternoon, we visit Tashichhodzong ('Fortress of the glorious religion' which houses some ministries, the King's secretariat, and a central monk body).</p> <p>Trek duration: 3.5-4hrs approx Thimpu altitude: 2300m approx</p>	B, L, D	
9	03-Oct	GANGTE (Farmhouse)	<p>Drive towards Gangte, a.k.a. Phobjikha, (5hrs approx) via the Dochula pass (3,050 m).</p> <p>Mountain views are spectacular from this vantage point, weather permitting. Broad yak pastures, rhododendron and pine forests and the winding narrow road leads to a serene bowl shaped valley. Flanked by the enigmatic yet untouched Black Mountains and the winter abode (Oct-Mar) to the migratory Black Necked Cranes, the Gangte Valley has an unassuming charm about it . Latter part of the day, we then take a circular walk along the Nature Trail (2hrs approx) to emerge out onto the ridge –the site of the 450 year old Gangte Monastery which houses one of the largest prayer halls in Bhutan and gives shelter to about 100 resident monks.</p>	B, L, D	
10	04-Oct	PUNAKHA (mid-range hotel)	<p>To Punakha. This morning drive to Punakha taking the same route that we took yesterday till Wangduephodrang. An erstwhile winter capital of Bhutan (2hrs approx)</p> <p>Capital of Bhutan until 1955, Punakha is the winter seat of the Je Khenpo (Chief Abbot). Blessed with a temperate climate and fed by the Pho Chu (male) and Mo Chu (female) rivers, Punakha is the most fertile valley in the country.</p> <p>Late morning and afternoon will include a walk to the temple of the Divine Madman- Chimi Lhakhang. The walk takes you through the farmlands and past the farmhouses to a hill with commanding views of the river valley below. A stop by a farmhouse gives you the low- down on the typical farm life. And, then a visit to Punakha Dzong. Placed strategically at the junction of the Pho Chu and Mo Chu rivers, the dzong was built in 1637 by Shabdrung Ngawang Namgyal to serve as the religious and administrative center for the region. Damaged over the centuries by four catastrophic fires and an earthquake, the dzong has been fully restored in recent years by the present monarch.</p>	B, L, D	

11	05-Oct	PUNAKHA (mid-range hotel)	In Punakha. Short drive back to Wangduephodrang (30mins approx) to witness the inaugural day of the most significant festival of the region - 3day Wangdue Tsechu (festival).	B, L, D	
12	06-Oct	THIMPU (mid-range hotel)	Drive back to Thimpu in the morning (3hrs approx) via Dochu la pass again. Day will include the visits to National Memorial Chorten, National Library, Institute for Zorig Chusum (Painting School). Visit to the local vegetable market on return to the city centre. Not done with the Bhutanese capital yet, we drive to a vantage point above the city towards a tiny zoo to be bemused by the sight of an animal that seems more out of the pages of a mythical story book. Takin, the national animal of the Druk Kingdom, is as strange a creature as you'll ever see – an interesting concoction of a goat and a cattle. We then head further to a nunnery, Drubthob Lhakhang. En route, you can capture a fascinating sight of the city from high above.	B, L, D	
13	07-Oct	PARO (mid-range hotel)	Full day in store to witness the first day of one of the biggest and the most spectacular festivals in Bhutan - Thimpu Tsechu. Towards late afternoon, transfer back to Paro (1.5hr approx).	B, L, D	
14	08-Oct	PARO (mid-range hotel)	Our long-awaited morning hike up to the famed Taksang Monastery (Tiger's nest), an iconic Bhutanese landmark. The upward climb will take around 2 hours and stunning views compensate for the energy expended. Local lore claims that it is here that Guru Padmasambhava landed on the back of a Tiger in the 8th century, and then proceeded to meditate for three months. In 1684 a monastery was built on the site to commemorate the event. Midway on the descent, we take lunch at the terraces of a Government run cafeteria facing the Tiger's Nest.	B, L, D	
15	09-Oct	NUWAKOT (The Famous Farm)	Flight back to Kathmandu. Nuwakot (The Famous Farm) Drive northwards out of Kathmandu valley. Climbing out of the valley through numerous twists and turns, the verdant hills and terraced farmlands provide for a soothing vista. Few more of the bends of the typical Nepalese middle-hill roads, suddenly the massive hulk of the Himalayas of Langtang range take the centre-stage of your attention. Driving down the hill, you'll soon reach the township of Bidur, from where divert off the main road on to the serpentine narrow road up the hill through pine forest to the delightful village and former citadel of Nuwakot (4hrs approx). Stroll around the village visiting 17th c palace and fortress, bazaar area, local school and an ancient temple of divine power.	B, D	
16	10-Oct	NUWAKOT (The Famous Farm)	Day can be whiled away with a hike around the surrounding area, to the viewpoint and the villages or by simply lap up the luxury of R 'n R amidst the ideal setting and ambience of The Famous Farm.	B, L, D	
17	11-Oct	KATHMANDU (KGH garden facing standard room)	Drive back to Kathmandu (4hrs approx). Day at leisure to pursue your own interests - whether it is exploration of local markets, taking in the cultural & historical highlights of the city.	B	Day tours available at additional costs.
18	12-Oct		Transfer to airport for the departure flight (30mins approx)	B	