



THE KINGDOM OF BHUTAN

Join Limitless Planet on an extraordinary journey to the Kingdom of Bhutan to explore the ultimate Shangri-La in Bhutan, a stunning land of sweeping mountain ranges, fascinating flora and fauna, snow-capped peaks, and enchanting dzongs and monasteries. Buddhist figures adorn rugged cliffs, and the entire landscape is imbued with an atmosphere of tranquility and serenity.

Perched on the eastern edge of the Himalayas, the tiny kingdom of Bhutan has always been wrapped in mystique. It only opened to foreign tourists as recently as 1974, and only allows its two national airlines to fly into Paro airport. Bhutan also levies a steep daily visitor tax to keep tourist crowds at bay. The result: a country seemingly frozen in time, unchanged by the whims of mass tourism and one of the world's first nations fully carbon negative.

During your visit, you can explore Thimphu and enjoy picturesque hikes to the Tango Goenpa Monastery, the National Memorial Chorten (which contains statues and iconography of deities), and the enormous Shakyamuni Buddha statue. You can gain insight into Bhutan's arts and crafts by visiting the impressive Voluntary Artists Studio and driving past the Tashichho Dzong, also known as the "Fortress of the Glorious Religion."

Other must-see sights include the temple of the "Divine Madman" at Chimi Lhakhang, the Khamsum Yuelley Namgyal Chorten in Punakha, and the Ta Dzong, which displays a magnificent collection of art, relics, and religious thangka paintings. You can also brave the rapids in the upper Punakha glacial valley and engage with nuns at the Sangchhen Dorji Lhendrup Lhakhang Nunnery.

Your journey culminates in Paro with a hike to the Taktsang Monastery (Tiger's Nest), one of the most revered Buddhist sights in the world. Throughout your trip, you'll be captivated by the breathtaking natural beauty and cultural riches of this amazing country.

Join us to learn more about the fascinating people, philosophy, and culture of Bhutan.

End this trip with a visit to the Taj Mahal in Agra, India and a couple of days to explore Delhi.

We guarantee you will be amazed by the wonders of this area of the planet! If you are an adventurous traveler, this is a trip you will not want to miss.



Day 1: November 11, 2024- Arrive Delhi, India

Upon arrival in India, meet your driver at the airport and transfer to your hotel.

Overnight: Haveli Dharampura

Day 2: November 12, 2024- Delhi, India- Paro, Bhutan

Meals: Breakfast, lunch, dinner

Arrive at Paro International Airport and Drive to Thimphu

During this flight one will enjoy the view of Mt. Everest, Mt. Kanchenjunga and other Himalayan Mountains including the sacred Mt. Jhomolhari & Mt. Jichu Drake in Bhutan. On arrival at Paro Airport a representative of Bhutan Soul Tour and Travel will receive you and drive to Thimphu.

After lunch visit:

- **Buddha Point/ Kuensel Phodrang** - The largest Buddha statue in the country, and from there you can get a good view of the Thimphu valley.
- **Memorial Chorten** - Built in the year 1974 in the memory of our third king of Bhutan, His Majesty Jigme Dorji Wangchuck.
- **Tashichho Dzong** - The “fortress of the glorious religion” was initially erected in 1641 and rebuilt by King Jigme Dorji Wangchuck in the 1960s. Tashichho Dzong houses some ministries, His Majesty’s secretariat, and the central monk body.

Overnight: The Pema by Realm, Thimphu

Day 3: November 13, 2024- Thimphu, Bhutan

Meals: Breakfast, lunch, dinner

Thimphu - Sightseeing

- **Changangkha Lhakhang** - Right above Thimphu Valley, this temple and monastic school was established in the 12th century on a site chosen by Lama Phajo Drugom Shigpo.
- **Motithang Takin Preserve** - Houses the rare national animal of Bhutan. Takin is listed by international conservation agencies as a vulnerable species, and it is a rare animal found only in Bhutan, Nepal, and Burma.
- **Traditional Medicine Institute** - In Bhutan, equal emphasis is given to both allopathic and traditional medicines. The rich herbal medicines made up from medicinal plants are prepared and dispensed here.
- **National Institute for Zorig Chusum** - The school of Arts and crafts is an institute where students undertake a six-year course on the 13 traditional arts and crafts of Bhutan.

- **Simply Bhutan** – An integrative living museum that gives a quick introduction to various aspects of traditional life in Bhutan.

Overnight: The Pema by Realm, Thimphu

Day 4: November 14, 2024- Phobjikha

Meals: Breakfast, lunch, dinner

After breakfast, drive to Phobjikha, approximately a six-hour drive through picturesque valleys and mountain slopes dotted with typical Bhutanese villages.

From the Dochula pass, you will enjoy vast panoramic views of the high snow-capped peaks of the Bhutanese Himalaya on a clear day. You will continue driving down into the Phobjikha valley and visit Gantey Goenpa, an old monastery that dates back to the 16th century.

Later, you will walk around the valley, which is also the winter home to the rare, black-necked cranes that migrate from remote parts of Tibet, China, and Siberia during winter to this valley.

Overnight: Hotel Phobjikha

Day 5: November 15, 2024- Phobjikha

Meals: Breakfast, lunch, dinner

Full day at leisure to explore the local communities or hike through the pine forest trail.

From soaking in the peace and tranquility of the valley, day hikes range from easy to difficult. From walking through pine forests, temples and villages laden with prayer flags; expect great interactions with locals and plenty of photography opportunities.

Overnight: Hotel Phobjikha

Day 6: November 16, 2024- Phobjikha- Punakha

Meals: Breakfast, lunch, dinner

After breakfast, drive to Punakha.

On the way, you will visit Chhimi Lhakhang, founded in the 15th century by Lama Dukpa Kinley, also known as the divine madman. You will then visit Punakha Dzong, one of the most beautiful dzongs in the country. Later, you will walk around Punakha and Khuruthang town.

Overnight: Dhensa Boutique Resort, Punakha

Day 7: November 17, 2024- Punakha

Meals: Breakfast, lunch, dinner

Today, visit the Khamsum Yulley Namgyel Chorten.

The idyllic chorten is built on a ridge in the northern countryside of Punakha valley. The hike takes approximately 30 minutes to reach the countryside from Punakha town, and the journey continues for another 45 minutes on foot. Hikers will start the hike through the paddy fields. The way the terraces are built, fed by the irrigation channel, hiking during the plantation or the harvesting season offers a scenic view of the countryside. At the base of the hill, the real trail begins through the pine forests. Upon arrival, hikers can enjoy the spectacular view of the valley below.

Overnight: Dhensa Boutique Resort, Punakha

Day 8: November 18, 2024- Paro, Bhutan

Meals: Breakfast, lunch, dinner

After breakfast, you start your drive to Paro, approximately four hours.

On the way, you will visit Kyichu Lhakhang, one of the oldest and most sacred temples in the kingdom, dating back to the 7th century.

You will also visit Ta Dzong, the former watchtower that now houses the National Museum, and Rinpung Dzong, which houses the monastic school and the office of the civil administration.

Finally, you will walk down to Paro town, passing close by crossing the Bhutanese typical wooden roofed bridge.

Overnight: Resort Thim-Dorji, Paro

Day 9: November 19, 2024- Paro, Bhutan

Meals: Breakfast, lunch, dinner

- **Kyichu Lhakhang** - One of the oldest and most sacred temples in the kingdom, dating back to the 7th century.
- **Ta Dzong** - Former watchtower which now houses the National Museum.
- **Rinpung Dzong** - Houses the monastic school and the office of the civil administration, it also a great place to see the Bhutanese wooden roofed bridge to Paro town.

Later, stroll around Paro town.

Overnight: Resort Thim-Dorji, Paro

Day 10: November 20, 2024- Paro - Excursion to Taktsang (Tiger nest)

Meals: Breakfast, lunch, dinner

After breakfast, drive for half an hour and start the hike, which is about 5 hours (round trip.)

The trail is along an ancient path marked by river-powered prayer wheels. As you reach Taktsang you will be struck by the architectural wonder of this most pious Buddhist shrine in Bhutan. Perched some 1000m, 3000ft on a cliff overlooking the valley; it would justifiably qualify as one of Bhutan's wonders. Tragically wrecked in a fire early in 1998, it has been rebuilt to its original glory. It is said that the legendary Indian saint, Guru Padma Sambhava, flew from Tibet on the back of a tigress to tame five demons, who were opposing the spread of Buddhism in Bhutan in 746 A.D. Hence the name, Taktsang, or the "Tiger's Lair." Descend back to Ramthangka.

If time permits, drive further north to visit another symbolic structure, which is now under reconstruction. Drugyel Dzong, or "" Castle of the Victorious Drukpa," which was also built by the Shabdrung to commemorate Bhutan's victory over the Tibetans in the 16th century.

From here, the Jomolhari Peak ("Mountain of the Goddess") can be seen on a clear day (Alt. 7,329m/24,029ft.).

Overnight: Le Meridien Paro Riverfront, Paro

Day 11- November 21, 2024- Paro, Bhutan to Delhi, India

Meals: Breakfast

After breakfast, drive to Paro International Airport for your onward flight to Delhi.

Upon arrival in Delhi, meet your driver at the airport and transfer to your hotel.

Later in the afternoon, you'll see the Red Fort followed by a rickshaw ride through the lanes of "Chandni Chowk" or Silver Street. It is one of Delhi's most populated areas and the largest marketplace. This marketplace will allow you to

experience the sights and sounds of Old Delhi. Chandni Chowk means “moonlit crossroads,” an area which best represents the “super-Oriental”, the grandeur and the grime. With its crowded bazaars, twisting lanes, maze of small streets, strange aromas, and the pungent odor of Oriental spices it’s an experience like no other. You’ll conclude the tour by visiting Raj Ghat – Father of the nation Mahatma Gandhi’s memorial.

Dinner will be on your own this evening.

Overnight: The Lodhi

Day 12: November 22, 2024- Delhi- Agra, India

Meals: Breakfast

After breakfast, you’ll take the train to Agra, and have your afternoon at leisure to enjoy the hotel.

Lunch and dinner at leisure.

Overnight: The Oberoi Amarvilas



Day 13: November 23, 2024, 2024- Agra- The Taj Mahal

Meals: Breakfast, dinner

Agra is the only city in the world that boasts of three UNESCO World Heritage Sites - the Taj Mahal, the Agra Fort, and the old capital of Fatehpur Sikri; all legacies of the Mughal Empire from the 16th and 17th centuries. It is no wonder that Agra is the most visited destination in India.

After breakfast, depart for your journey to Agra. A royal welcome will await you at your hotel. The hotel is located 600 meters from the Taj Mahal and all rooms, suites, lobby, bar, and lounge offer breath-taking views of the monument.

A visit to India isn’t complete without a visit to the Taj Mahal. That morning, experience the sunrise over the majestic architecture of the world’s greatest monument of love. For centuries, the Taj Mahal has inspired poets, painters, and musicians to try and capture its elusive magic in word, music, and color. Since the 17th century, travelers have crossed continents to marvel at the ultimate memorial to love.

The Taj was built in the memory of the beautiful Arjumand Bano Begum, an empress who won the heart of a Mughal prince. Arjumand Bano was married at 21 to Emperor Jahangir’s third son, Prince Khurram. Work on the mausoleum

began in 1633 and over 20,000 workers labored for 17 years to build it. A true labor of love. The most skilled architects, inlay craftsmen, calligraphers, stone-carvers, and masons came from across India, Persia, and Turkey to build the Taj. The master mason was from Baghdad, a double-dome engineer from Persia, and an inlay specialist from Delhi. What is most amazing about the Taj Mahal is the fine detailing. The colored inlay is never allowed to overwhelm the design. The ornate pietra dura and relief carvings are of floral, calligraphic, and geometric designs. The skill of the inlay worker is so fine that it is impossible to find the joints, even when as many as 40 tiny pieces of semi-precious stones have been used in the petals of a single flower. Some of the best calligraphy of Koranic verses can be seen around the entrance arches and on the two headstones.

The Taj Mahal changes colors with the seasons and the different times of day. At dawn, the marble has a delicate bloom in shell pink, by noon it glitters majestically white, turning to a soft pearly gray at dusk, and in the dark of night it shimmers against the backdrop of star-spangled sky. The many faces of The Taj Mahal display the seductive power of architecture at its best.



OPTION (included): This afternoon, enjoy your time at leisure or visit the UNESCO Heritage Site, Agra Fort.

The Agra Fort's construction was started by Emperor Akbar in 1565 when he was just 23 years of age. Within the fort are several fascinating buildings – the Pearl Mosque built of marble, the Hall of Public Audiences, the Hall of Private Audiences where the famous "peacock throne" was kept, the Octagonal Tower, and the Jehangir Palace.

After visiting Agra Fort, you'll return to your hotel. The rest of the day will be at leisure to relax.

Dinner will be together as a group this evening. Then, come poolside for a colorful display of traditional music and dancing.

Overnight: The Oberoi Amarvilas

Day 14: November 24, 2024- Agra-Delhi, India

Meals: Breakfast

Drive back to Delhi, check into a day room at Novotel New Delhi Aerocity.

Later this evening, fly back to the USA.

Thank you for traveling with Limitless Planet!

IMPORTANT: This is a highly adventurous and active trip. Passengers must be physically fit enough to participate.

PRICING

Total Trip Cost- \$5,995 per person, double occupancy*

\$7,380 per person, single occupancy*

**Prices do not include credit card fees. All credit card fees come from the company and not Limitless Planet. We cannot waive or remove credit card fees. You do have the option of paying with a check or Venmo to bypass any credit card fees.*

WHAT'S INCLUDED:

- Luxury accommodation at mentioned hotels *(or similar category according to availability)*
- Breakfast included every day.
- Full meals- breakfast, lunch, and dinner in Bhutan
- Knowledgeable, 5-star, English speaking historian throughout the trip
- Entrance and monument fees to the sites mentioned in the program.
- Transportation throughout your trip (private)
- Bottled water throughout your trip.
- Train ticket to Agra
- Domestic flights as mentioned in the itinerary on Druk Air (roundtrip)
- Entrance to the Taj Mahal
- Living like a Local: Travel with us and find out.

NOT INCLUDED:

- Airport taxes
- International flights
- Visa expenses
- Personal expenses such as laundry, beverages, phone calls, and internet access.
- Travel Insurance
- Meals not specified in the itinerary/meals at leisure/room service.
- Tips to guides and drivers.

NOTES:

- Subject to availability.
- Rates subject to change until confirmed.
- Rates are non-endorsable/non-refundable.

CANCELLATIONS 75% fee for cancellations up to 90 days prior to arrival / full charge for no shows and cancellations 0-90 days prior arrival.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Passport

Each traveler will be required to have a passport valid for at least six months after your travel departure date. Limitless Planet is happy to assist you with your passport application or renewing an expired passport. Additional fees may apply. Please send a copy of your valid passport with your deposit payment.

Visa

A visa is required for US citizens to enter India. Please ask your account manager for the visa application.

Travel Insurance

Travel insurance is not included in the quote of this itinerary. For your convenience Limitless Planet offers travel protection plans through Travelex Insurance Services. We are happy to send you a link for a quote. Travel insurance is REQUIRED for this trip.

Tours

All activities on this trip are optional. Tours will meet in the hotel lobby prior to departure to travel as a group. Any passenger that is not in the lobby upon designated time will be responsible for their transportation to that day's activity location. If you would like to sleep in and skip a tour, no problem! It is your trip; we want you to enjoy it as you wish. Have something you want to do while in Peru that is not listed on the itinerary, let us know. We are happy to make special arrangements.

Concierge Service

Limitless Planet is happy to provide on-site VIP Concierge Service for the duration of your trip. Our on-site guides will ensure your restaurant reservations are made and your flights are on time. Our guides are experienced in managing the most intricate on-site details of today's complicated programs. Be rest assured, you will have on-site assistance for any issue that occurs during your travels.

Health & Wellness

Your health and wellness are very important to us. We are happy to accommodate any dietary restriction and special requests. All participants of Limitless Planet's tours must be physically fit enough to participate in the tour. Limitless Planet reserves the right to deny participation on any of our tours, according to the tour itinerary.

IMPORTANT:

For every booking entrusted to us, we require the following information:

- Full passengers' name, date of birth, nationality & passport number
- International arrival/departure flight (if not arranging through Limitless Planet)
- Active medical problems
- Bed preference (subject to availability)

LIMITS ON LIMITLESS PLANET'S RESPONSIBILITY:

Limitless Planet acts as Tour Operator. It purchases transportation, hotel accommodations, restaurants and other services from various independent suppliers that are not subject to its control. Limitless Planet cannot, therefore, be liable for death, personal injury or any other loss that may occur due to any act or omission of any such a supplier or by reason of any other event over which it has no control. Domestic flights are, occasionally, subject to overbooking, cancellation, and schedule changes. If this occurs, Limitless Planet will do all in their power to assist clients in boarding flights or finding alternate arrangements. It must be stressed that this is done as a courtesy to clients and Limitless Planet cannot be held responsible for denied boarding, nor for the additional costs thus incurred; nor for payments not recovered for missed land arrangements due to airline delays.

Optional Activities that may be Dangerous

Depending on the itinerary you have selected, optional activities will be available at some of the places they will visit. Some of these activities carry with them the inherent risk of serious personal injury. These activities include, but are not limited to horseback tours, canoe trips, hiking, river rafting, etc. You should be aware that your personal safety cannot be guaranteed, and Limitless Planet assumes no responsibility for your safety.

Acts of God and the Like

Limitless Planet is not responsible for acts of God, fire, acts of local government or other authorities, wars, civil disturbances, riots, terrorist acts, strikes, thefts, pilferage, epidemics, quarantines, earthquakes, adverse weather conditions, dangers incident to sea, land, and air travel and other similar acts or incidents beyond its ability to control or its suppliers.



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