

# THE KINGDOM OF CLOUDS BHUTAN

SEPT 25 - OCT 2, 2020  
USD 3,148 / person

## DAY 01 (FRI) SEPT 25 DEPART MANILA / BANGKOK

Enjoy free time and overnight in Bangkok.

## DAY 02 (SAT) SEPT 26 ARRIVE PARO - THIMPU

Upon arrival, we transfer to Thimpu for overnight.

## DAY 03 (SUN) SEPT 27 THIMPU

Visit Thimpu Festival, which is held in the courtyard of the Tashichho Dzong. The occasion provides an opportunity for people to relax and forget the daily routine, and to dress in their finest clothes and jewelry, but it is also an occasion for prayer and blessings. In the afternoon, visit National Memorial Chorten, Buddha Point (Kuensel Phodrang). It holds one of the largest Buddha's statue in the country, made of bronze and gilded in gold. Then visit Changangkha Lhakhang. This temple is located above central Thimphu, built in 12th century by Lama Phajo Drukgom Shigpo on a ridge overlooking the town. See the Takin, their local animal. In the evening, enjoy a leisure stroll at the city center to browse some local crafts.

## DAY 04 (MON) SEPT 28 THIMPHU - PUNAKHA

Drive up to Dochu-la pass stopping briefly here to take in the view and admire the chorten, mani wall, and prayer flags which decorate the highest point on the road. In the afternoon visit Punakha Dzong or 'Palace of Great Happiness or Bliss, built at the junction of the Phochu and Mochu rivers. Embark on a short walking excursion to Chimi Lhakhang, located on a ridge surrounded by beautiful paddy fields. Go through the Sobsukha Village to reach the monastery also known as Fertility temple. Explore the Wangdue Town in the evening.

## DAY 05 (TUE) SEPT 29 PUNAKHA - PARO

After breakfast drive back to Paro. On the way, visit Simtokha Dzong, the oldest fortress of the country. Later in the day, proceed to visit Ta Dzong, originally built as Watchtower, which now houses National Museum. The extensive collection includes antique thangka paintings, textiles, weapons & armor, household objects and a rich assortment of natural and historic artifacts. Then walk down the trail to visit Rinpung Dzong, meaning "fortress of the heap of jewels", which has a long and fascinating history.

## DAY 06 (WED) SEPT 30 PARO

Excursion to Taktshang Monastery (approx. 5 hours round trip walk). It is one of the most famous of Bhutan's monasteries, perched on the side of a cliff 900m above the Paro valley floor. It is said that Guru Rinpoche arrived here on the back of a tigress and meditated at this monastery and hence it is called 'Tiger's Nest'. Later in the afternoon drive to Drukgyel Dzong, a ruined fortress where Bhutanese warriors fought Tibetan invaders centuries ago. Last stop is the 7th century Kyichu Lhakhang, one of the 108 temples built in the Himalayas by Tibetan King, Songtsen Gampo.

## DAY 07 (THU) OCT 1 PARO / MANILA

Free time until our flight to Manila.

## DAY 08 (FRI) OCT 2 ARRIVE MANILA

### IMPORTANT:

- USD 500 non-refundable deposit is required for reservation
- Minimum 15 passengers

### INCLUSIONS:

- RT Airfare and Taxes
- 4 star hotel accommodations
- Overnight stay in Bangkok
- Full board Meals
- Bhutan Visa
- Tips and gratuities
- Travel insurance
- Filipino Tour Escort