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The Druk Path Trek is one of the best, short and easy treks in Bhutan. It takes you along an ancient trade route into the natural forest at the highest mountain pass connecting the Paro and Thimphu valleys. It offers a spectacular view of the Himalaya, lakes, valley, and snow-capped mountains in Bhutan. The path leads through beautiful rhododendron forests, beautiful lakes with alpine yak pastures, and frozen mountains. The main highlights of the Druk path trek are as below.

## Highlights of the Druk path trek

- The ancient routes in Bhutan which offer a spectacular and magnificent view of the mountains.
- You will Hike to the Tiger's Nest Monastery and visit Punakha Dzong
- Check out the top cultural sites in Thump and Paro Valley
- Visit one of the most important festivals in Bhutan
- Enjoy a first-class camp and a well-equipped hotel

## **Drook Path Trek**

Druk Path Trek is one of the best hikes in Bhutan. It connects the Paro and Thimphu valleys through an ancient trade route, and It leads through beautiful rhododendron forests, Alps and lakes. The hike begins walking through apple orchards and pine forests to the north in a tall meadow with a breathtaking view of Mount Chomolhari. Over the next four days, you will climb the tree line and crossed several paths, including the Phume La. Along the way, You can see stunning views of many clear mountain lakes, water fields, and the Himalayas on the Bhutan-Tibet border, including Mount Jumolhari, Jichu Drake, and Gangkar Puensum. Your last descent enters the capital of Bhutan, Thimphu, through a Phadjoding monastery through the cedar and juniper forests.

## **Travel Itinerary**

## Day 01: welcome in Paro and city sightseeing tour

When you reach near to Bhutan on flight, you can enjoy amazing views of the Himalayas, including the sacred peaks Mount Chomolhari and Jichu Drake peaks. At the airport, we will welcome you and will take you to your hotel and check-in. Today, you are going to visit Rinpung Dzong, which was built in 1646. Now it is house in Paro Jongkhag Monastery and office of Bhutan government. You will also visit the oldest temple in the country, built-in 1646 to commemorate Bhutan's victory over Tibetan invaders in the 17th century, and the Kichu Lhakhang in Drugyal Dzong.

## Day 02: Hike in Takhtang monastery (Tiger's Nest)

After breakfast, you walk for approximately 4-5 hours at the Takasinga Monastery, the most famous monastery in Bhutan at 3,180 meters. Guru Rinpoche is said to have flown on the backs of the tigers to meditate in the cave. Where the Takhtasang Monastery is located now. We serve lunch in a cafe restaurant in the middle of the mountain. The ashram is situated on the edge of a cliff about 900 meters above the Paro valley. After exploring the monastery, you reach the down of the valley.

## Day 03: Trek from Paro to Jele Dzong. Walking duration 4 - 5 hours

At first, drive to Jele Dzong (3400m), where you start your trek. From there, you walk to the Dzong for about an hour. The path slowly climbs through the forest before reaching your camp. At the top of the hill is the Jele Dzong camp. From here you can see the Paro valley with snowy mountains. Jele Dzong was built in the 15th century and is mostly destroyed, but the Lakhan (Buddhist temple) with the Buddha Sak statue

#### Day 04: Trek Jele Dzong to Jangchulakha: Walking Duration 4 hours

Today, you spend about 2 hours of walking. You start with a gradual ascent and then descend. The path leads through dense alpine forests and rhododendrons and reaches Jangchulakha. You will go a little further and arrive at the camp, which offers a beautiful view of the impressive landscape. You can see the yak herders around your campsite at an altitude of 3,600 meters.

# Day 05: Trek from Jangchulakha to Langrithang: Walking Duration 4-5 hours

Today, you climb 330 meters and descend 310 meters. The trail starts walking uphill and follows a cliff. On a nice weather, you will have a beautiful view of the snow-capped mountain from the top, including Chomolhari and other areas. After a short walking, you reach Lake Jimilangtsho and have lunch. Then you go the path through the cedar forests to Langrithang.

# Day 6: Trek from Langrithang to Tsaluna and drive to Thimphu: Duration 4 hours

Today, you will find descent 800 meters. The path leads through the forests and follows a stream before getting the Tsaluna Monastery, the holy site of the 8th century. The street in front of you is the town of Tsaluna Village with beautiful fields. Then you go to Thimphu. During your stay, you visit King's Memorial Chorten and the majestic Tashichho Dzong. In the evening, you can walk the streets of Thimphu and enjoy the local lifestyle.

## Day 07: Finally departure to Paro Airport

Today, you will say goodbye to the small empire of the Himalayas and its friendly people. After an early breakfast, you head to Paro airport from Thimphu for boarding to your next destination.

## **Important Note**

Your safety is vital when you travel with us. Please note that your leader has the right to change or cancel part of the trip for security reasons. Every effort is made to organize the previous trip. Since this adventure trip revolves around remote mountains so we cannot guarantee that we will not be abstracted by Weather conditions, the health status of group members, and unexpected natural disasters, etc. The leader tries to make the trip as planned, but you should be flexible if necessary

### The costs are includes

- Bhutan entry visa fees
- Pick up and return from hotels and airports
- Category A and B hotels in cities and camps (tents) during the trek
- Full board meals( 3 meals a day) including tea and coffee.
- Ground transportation in a deluxe private vehicle.
- English speaking, experienced and trained local guides and other staff
- All necessary entrance fees for museum and monuments
- Services charge, necessary taxes, and Bhutan government royalties

### The costs are not included

- International flight ticket including to and from Bhutan
- Personal nature Items such as personal equipment, drinks, laundry, etc.
- Personal camping equipment like sleeping bags, flashlights, etc.
- Cancellation, accident and medical insurance

## Food and accommodation.

Hotels are permitted and category by the government of Bhutan as Grade A, B, and C. These hotels are equal to 3-4 star hotels. You will stay in class A and B hotels in Paro and Thimphu and camp during the trek. All accommodations are shared by two. Single room supplement is available upon request paying

We offer full board meals during the trip. Most hotels have many types of food, which are the most famous continental, Indian, Chinese, and more regular. Nonvegetarian dishes are typical in most parts of Bhutan, like beef, pork, chicken, and fish.

## People and culture

Once you arrive in Bhutan, you will find that it is very different from anywhere you have been. You see, people dressed as Gho for men and Kiara for women. Monks often wear red robes around temples and monasteries. Children also wear these clothes in their schools. People do not measure their happiness according to the standards of others, but belief in spiritual and internal growth. Most of the Bhutanese live on agriculture, commerce, crafts, and regular employment. These people are also friendly and helpful and are known for their incredible hospitality. Their culture and traditions conform to their daily activities and belief systems. The people of Bhutan pay homage to their gods by praying, meditating, spinning prayer wheels, and hanging prayer flags. Tibetan Buddhism is predominant in Bhutan.

## When is the best travel time for Bhutan?

October to December is the best travel time to Bhutan as the air is clean, bright, and fresh with the sunny blue sky. January and February are cold, but from April weather is dry and pleasant, and the famous rhododendrons bloom beautifully in late spring and fill the valleys with colour. Heat and humidity increase from May, and the rainy season from June to September cover the mountains. If you are interested in a rare black-necked crane, you should visit the Phobjikha Valley.

# **Travel insurance**

Travel insurance is a prerequisite for booking a vacation with us. At least for trekking and mountaineering, you need to be repatriated and emergency health insurance to cover the costs of maintaining the mountain. We highly recommend Cancellation insurance as all advances paid are non-refundable.

You most check the terms of your insurance policy. Necessarily, you should make sure you have covered the following: 1) activity (i.e. tourism, trekking, or mountaineering) 2) mountaineering summit 3) evacuation of the helicopter in an emergency. It is your responsibility to take out adequate insurance for this trip.

We recommend using a specialized insurance company for your travel adventures. If you only have a regular travel policy, then it is not insurance for adventure travel specialists, check 1 of 2) of the 3 above. Even if you cover these points, the main downside to a typical travel policy is that the insurer must make decisions about retirement plans in a remote area and must obtain your prior approval to cover these costs. It is essential to understand that the responsibility for the cost of the withdrawal and return is ultimately your responsibility and that you are responsible for the cost of the resignation of medical treatment. You must be fully aware of the effects of managing your travel insurance and know the limits and exclusions of your policy.

Please note that in some medical emergencies, we may initiate a helicopter rescue process (or other necessary means) without first seeking approval from your insurance company.