Bhutan Tsechu Festival Tour

Duration: 8 Days 7 Night | Location: Nepal



Trip at a glance

Category: Bhutan Tours

Location: Nepal

Duration: 8 Days 7 Night

Difficulty: Not applicable

Trip Style: Trekking & Hiking

Summary

Bhutan is a well situated in the heart of the Himalayas and is called the Himalayan Kingdom of Bhutan where Myths and Folklore are still intact and believed by the locals. Myths and Folklore plays a vital role in the life of a Bhutanese and everything is connected with the mythology of a place, monastery, animals etc. In honor of such beliefs, there are lots of festivals being held throughout Bhutan on different dates and months based on lunar calendar and one such festival is Bumthang Jambay Lhakhang Drup.

Overview

Trip Introduction

Bhutan is a well situated in the heart of the Himalayas and is called the Himalayan Kingdom of Bhutan where Myths and Folklore are still intact and believed by the locals. Myths and Folklore plays a vital role in the life of a Bhutanese and everything is connected with the mythology of a place, monastery, animals etc. In honor of such beliefs, there are lots of festivals being held throughout Bhutan on different dates and months based on lunar calendar and one such festival is Bumthang Jambay Lhakhang Drup.

About Tsechu festival

The Tsechu festivals-living culture of Bhutan that many have come to admire and to treasure. The tsechu is a festival in honor of Guru Rinpoche, the saint who brought Buddhism to Bhutan. These Tsechus are held in almost every district attracting hundreds of foreigners and its people in a spirit of festivity, celebration, and deep faith. Peoples dance with a mask, playing weapons and funny dresses. Here we have made some major festival tour departures. Come and visit Bhutan to experience it yourselves.

Tshechu Mask Dance

The largest and famous annual festival in Bhutan is the Tshechu, an event honoring Guru Rinpoche through Religious dances performed by the monks as well as by lay people. The dates and duration of the Tshechu festivals vary among dzongkhags (Districts) but they always fall on or around the 10th day of the month in the Bhutanese calendar.

The dances are known as Cham and are performed to bless onlookers, to teach them the Buddhist dharma, to protect them from misfortune and to exorcise all evil; the dancers who take on the aspects of wrathful and compassionate deities, heroes, demons, and animals do this. Zhabdrung Ngawang Namgyal and Pema Lingpa were the main figures who composed many of the dances.

Dance of Guru Rinpoche

It is believed that merit is gained by attending this Religious festival. The dances invoke the deities to wipe out misfortunes, increase luck and grant personal wishes. Onlookers rarely fail to notice the Atsaras or clowns who move through the crowds mimicking the dancers and performing comic routines in their mask with long red noses. A group of ladies performs traditional Bhutanese dances during the intervals between mask dances. An auspicious event of the many of the Tshechus is the unfurling of the Thongdrol from the main building overlooking the dance area. This is done before sunrise and most people rush to witness the moment. Thongdrols are large Thangkas or Religious pictures that are usually

embroidered rather than painted. The word itself means 'liberation on sight.' It is believed that bad karmas are wiped away simply by viewing it. Apart from its Religious implications, the Tshechu is also an annual social gathering where people dress in their finest clothing and jewelry. A small fair may be organized outside the Dzong for those looking for a variety of entertainments.

Day by day itinerary

Trip Itinerary

Day 1: Kathmandu – Paro.

On arrival in Paro, you will be received by our Bhutanese guide and escort to Hotel then visit the Ta Dzong, an ancient watchtower, Paro Rimpung Dzong built in 1646. Over night in Hotel.

Day 2: Paro Sight Seeing.

Hike to Taktshang Monastery. The primary Lhakhang was built surrounding Guru Rimpoche's meditation cave in 1684 by Gyaltse Tenzin Rabgay. This incredible monastery clings to the edge of a sheer rock cliff that plunges 900 meters into the valley below. Legend has it that Guru Padmasambhava flew here on the back of a tigress. Then visit the ruins of the Drukgyal Dzong and the Kichu Lhakhang. Overnight in Hotel.

Day 3: Paro – Thimphu.

Drive to Thimphu and attend the Thimphu Tsechu Festival at Tashichhodzong the fortress of the glorious. Initially erected in 1641 by Shabdrung. Local peoples are dressed in their finest traditional clothes who have walked from miles around to attend the festivities. They come to watch masked dances, to pray and to feast. the few surviving nunneries in Bhutan, the National Memorial Chorten, the National Library, the Traditional Medicine Institute, and the Tashichho Dzong. visit the Sangaygang viewpoint, from where the bird's eye view of the Thimphu Valley can be seen. Visit the Takin Preserve Centre, the Drupthob Lhakhang, one of the few surviving nunneries in Bhutan, the National Memorial Chorten, the National Library, the Traditional Medicine Institute, and the Tashichho Dzong. Overnight in Hotel.

Day 4: Thimphu – Punakha.

Drive to Punakha crossing Dochula pass and visit the Chhimi Lhakhang on the way to Punakha. Visit Punakha Dzong and surrounding. Dinner and overnight in hotel.

Day 5: Punakha.

Whole day witness of Tsechu festival. Dinner and overnight in Hotel.

Day 6: Punakha- Wangduephodrang – Gangtey.

Drive to Wangduephodrang and visit the Wangduephodrang Dzong then drive to Gangtey. Visit the Gangtey Gompa and explore the Phobjikha Valley, one of the most beautiful glacial valleys in the Himalayas and the winter place for the endangered Black Necked Cranes. Overnight in Hotel.

Day 7: Gangtey – Paro.

Drive to Paro via Thimphu. Overnight in Hotel.

Day 8: Paro – Kathmandu.

Drive to Paro Airport and fly back to Kathmandu.

Package: Standard Package

Contact for pricing

Pricing depends on dates and group size. Contact us for a quote.

Inclusions

- Arrival/departure transfers.
- royalty.
- accommodation on twin sharing basis.
- all meals.
- sightseeing tour with English speaking guide and all transportation as per itinerary.
- entrance fee to the monuments etc.

Exclusions

- Airport taxes.
- Nepal re-entry visa fee.

- the expense of personal nature like cold drinks and tip.
- personal travel health insurance etc.

Gear checklist

Equipments List

Trip notes

Trip Highlights

Departure

Departure

Review

Trip gallery

View photo on the trip page

View photo on the trip page

View photo on the trip page

Plan your journey with our team

Thamel, Kathmandu, Nepal | +977-9745232234
megamounttreks@gmail.com | megamounttreks.com

View this trip or request a booking