

# Chengdu Tibet Nepal Bhutan Tour (Flight Option)

A complete natural, scenic, and cultural experience in the boundless journey of the Himalayas



## **Overview**

Chengdu <u>Tibet Nepal Bhutan Tour</u> of 14 days is a professionally prepared vacation with complete natural, scenic, and cultural experience in the boundless journey of the Himalayas. This trip will take us from the hills of authentic Chinese arts to the barren shades of Tibet, from the stone-patched alleys of Nepal to the magical valleys of Bhutan. Explore the adventure lover's paradise as each destination welcomes you with some magical surprises here. Revolving around some of the untouched and undiluted culture, tradition, and the art of living, Asia Experience presents you with this tour of a lifetime.

China-Chengdu is a country with a diverse yet well-preserved culture and art in the world. With so many amazing destinations it has to offer, our tour will focus on the most sought-after places among all those. Commencing from Chengdu, rise and shine witnessing the very best bits from this pearl of southwestern China. Housing some of the loveliest Panda sanctuaries in China, Chengdu showcases the art in its streets from the periods of five dynasties till now. From the plains of Chengdu, we will rise to the roof of the world, Tibet. Within the same nation, you can experience a vast difference in geography, culture, and overall lifestyle here. Cruising through some of the majestic Monasteries and the palace of former Dalai Lamas, we will come a step closer to knowing Tibet here. From the premises of Potala palace to the shrines in Jokhang temple, every component outshines with fantastic forms of Tibetan artwork. Treat your soul to some of the most majestic landscapes in the world and embrace the history and devotion of



Tibet.

Nepal is a nation with some of the best lest traveled delights in the world. With varied landscape and culture, one can experience a whole lot of different moments, even with a short tour. Delve into the history and rich heritage of this beautiful nation with the bliss of natural scenery, providing you with a company all along the way. Sail through the hidden stories of every street here alongside the warm hospitality and smiling face surrounding you every time. Gulp in the local delicacies and leap for the next one in your incredible journey of Nepal.

**Bhutan** is a nation hidden in the Himalayas with some of the authentic culture and traditions with very less influence of modernization in Asia. A country with beautiful nature, friendly people, mesmerizing monasteries, and pure heart, Bhutan is a perfect gateway to motivate yourself every day. From the trails to Taktsang to the pearl of Paro valley, riding through the rice fields and tying the local treats, Bhutan is a place you will love to visit again. Assimilate the beauty of the green hills surrounding you and the art of living in these beautiful places.

Attain the next chapter of your beautiful travel journey with the China <u>Tibet Nepal Bhutan Tour</u>. Blend with the travel-loving soul of yours in this tour of a lifetime with the aid and assistance from **Asia experiences**.

## **Highlights**

- China: 2 Nights in China with Chengdu, Sichuan Opera house
- **Tibet: 4** Nights in Lhasa, Tibet with Potala Palace, Drepung Monastery, Norbulinka Palace and Yamdrok-Tsho Lake excursion.
- Nepal: 3 Nights in Kathmandu with Bhaktapur Durbar Square, Pashupatinath, Boudhanath, Patan, Swoyambhu Stupa and local market.
- **Bhutan: 4** Nights in Bhutan with Taktsang Monastery (Tiger's Nest), Paro Valley, Thimphu with weekend market and Punakha Dzong.

#### **Outline**

- 1. Choose your own departure date
- 2. Select the comfort level of accommodation
- 3. Adjust activities to cater to special interests
- 4. Modify tour duration and any aspect of the tour as needed
- 5. Flexible travel route {start from Chengdu (China) and end to Paro (Bhutan/Bangkok) or viceversa}

# Your Journey day by day

#### Day 01: Arrival in Chengdu

After your arrival in Chengdu, you will be approached by an Asia experiences guide. He/She will lead you to your hotel from the airport. Chengdu is the capital of the Sichuan Province in Western China. You



will have a short briefing and orientation about this whole tour of your hotel. After some rest today you can head out for a short stroll around your hotel. If you have enough spare time today, you can take a short walk exploring the ancient Jinli street. You can try some of the favorite local snacks here. Similarly, you also have an option to visit the Sichuan Opera house and enjoy some cultural show in the evening. Overnight at a hotel in Chengdu.

#### Day 02: Chengdu Tour

After your breakfast today, we will head towards the Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding here. This center is one of the most visited tourist destinations in Chengdu and holds a significant role in the conservation of Giant Panda in the world. Home to more than 100 giant Pandas, you can enjoy some time here viewing them in their habitat of bamboo forest. You can watch the activities of baby pandas and the female Pandas nursing their babies. In a different section here, you can learn about different scientific facts about these adorable Pandas. From here, we will head towards the Wenshu Temple, one of the significant Spiritual Buddhist temple in the city. Here, you can enjoy walking in the peaceful path and admire the architecture of the Temple and premises. Chengdu is one of the most relaxed vacation destinations of China, and you will have plenty of leisure activity destinations throughout the tour. In the evening, try some massaging sessions and end the day with an energizing organic tea. Overnight in Chengdu.

## Day 03: Chengdu Tour and fly to Lhasa (Train ride also possible)

We will visit some of the other destinations in Chengdu before our flight to Lhasa today. Our first place to visit today is the Dufu Thatched Cottage. It is a park, and a Museum opened in honor of the great poet Dufu (712-770 AD) who is also famed as the Sage of Poetry here. Explore the park with some other shrines between the Shaoling Thatched cottage portions and feel closer to some of the works of Dufu. After spending some time here, we can visit the Jinsha site museum showcasing the civilization and components of the ancient Shu Kingdom. We will then take you to the Chengdu airport where you will board a flight to Lhasa. You also have an option to take a long train ride there (*Chengdu – Lhasa Train:*  $3070KM - 36\ hours$ ), but the flight is suggested for your comfort. After landing, you will head towards the hotel in Lhasa and rest for the day. Overnight in Lhasa.

## Day 04: Lhasa Sightseeing Potala and Norbulingka Palace

We will begin the Sightseeing tour of Lhasa, the capital of Tibet today. Kick start the day with a warm Tibetan tea in your hotel. Today's tour constitutes of two significant attractions and some brief stopping in the other destinations. We will visit the former ruling seat of the Dalai Lamas of Tibet, the Potala Palace first today. Potala Palace is an architectural masterpiece, and one can explore the vibrant Tibetan Art and culture here. In the palace premises, you can visit the grand chapels, large courtyards, staterooms, and beautiful gardens. The artistic decorations, sculptures, old paintings, murals and other components of the Palace is mesmerizing here as well. We will head next to visit Norbulingka Palace, the Summer Palace of Dalai Lamas. Alongside the architecture, local houses, and small prayer shrines here, the vast Palace gardens are the most known and popular feature of Norbulingka Palace. We will head towards the Museum in Lhasa where one can know a lot about the culture, artwork, and history of this beautiful state of Tibet. Overnight in Lhasa.



#### Day 05: Lhasa Sightseeing Sera-Drepung Monastery, Jokhang Temple

We will resume our tour of Lhasa by visiting some of the other best attractions in and around the city. After our breakfast here, we will head towards the majestic Drepung monastery. It is one of the largest monasteries in Tibet with more than 10,000 monks studied here in the past times. The courtyards, shrines and some of the best architecture makes this monastery a must visit place in Lhasa. After some time here, we will head towards the Sera monastery within a short driving distance from here. Both these monasteries are two of the three major Gelug sect monastery in Tibet. The designs, Murals, and architecture of these monasteries alongside the breathtaking view of the landscape from here is a fantastic combination. From here we will then visit the UNESCO world heritage site, Jokhang Temple. Besides the famous Barkhor Street, this temple is the most significant shrine of Tibetan people. Here, you can have a better view of the local culture, tradition, and everyday lifestyle. You can try some Tibetan delicacies and return to your hotel.

#### Day 06: Yamdrok-Tso lake excursion

After our breakfast at Lhasa, we will start our excursion to Yamdrok-Tso Lake today. This drive of about 3-4 hours is packed with breathtaking landscape, scenery, steep rocky hills, and beautiful mountain flowers. Yamdrok Lake is among the holiest lake of Tibet. Circumambulating the lake is said to help in atoning the past sins. We will have our lunch here and then spend some time in its banks. The peaceful environment alongside the pleasant scenic surrounding of the Yamdrok-Tso Lake makes it more appealing to spend some extra time here. The view of barren hills and snow-capped mountains clearly reflecting in Yamdrok Tso is one to soak in and treasure. In the late afternoon, we will drive back to Lhasa and rest for the day. Overnight at Lhasa.

#### Day 07: Fly to Kathmandu

We will head towards Nepal after our breakfast in Lhasa. The two-hour flight provides us some of the best views of the Himalayas. After Landing in Nepal, our Asiaexperiences guide will pick and transfer you to your hotel. You can rest for the day in your hotel. In the Evening head out for a stroll around Thamel. You can also enjoy some authentic Newari and Nepali cuisine here. Overnight at Kathmandu.

#### Day 08: Kathmandu Sightseeing

Today will be a complete heritage tour of the Kathmandu valley commencing from the famous Kathmandu Durbar square in a walkable distance from your hotel. We can witness a lot about the medieval history, culture, and architecture of the Kathmandu valley here. The shrines and monuments of the square hold many different story and religious importance too. Here, we will also visit the Temple of the living goddess Kumari in our visit. Next, we will head towards the Temple of Swyambhunath or also popular as 'The Monkey Temple.' We will hike a while to reach the beautiful dome at the top from where the view of Kathmandu valley is exquisite. From here we will head towards the Hindu Shrine Pashupatinath with a short drive. In the banks of the holy Bagmati River, we can explore more than 500 small and big shrines, Shiva Lingams, and Temples. We will head towards the Boudhanath stupa next from here. The vast white dome is the biggest stupa of Nepal, and one can experience the influence of Tibetan art on the premises. We will drive back to our hotel in Thamel and rest for the day there. Overnight at Kathmandu.



#### Day 09: Bhaktapur, Changu Narayan, and Nagarkot sightseeing

Our tour of today constitutes of visiting some of the best places in Bhaktapur city, one of the three major cities of the Kathmandu Valley. Bhaktapur is well known for the best-preserved culture and traditional lifestyle in the valley. We will visit the Bhaktapur Durbar Square first here. The fifty-five windows palace, Pottery square, Nyatapola temple complex, and the Bhaktapur museum are some of the major attractions here. We will head towards another cultural treat of Changunarayan temple next from Bhaktapur. Changunarayan holds some of the significant inscriptions and sculptures aging back to the 3rd century. The carvings in the roofs, windows, and idols are the finest of the local artists from that period. The main temple is devoted to the Hindu god Vishnu. We can also try some local cuisine here before continuing our way to Nagarkot village. Overnight at Nagarkot.

#### Day 10: Fly to Paro, Drive to Thimphu

We will have a majestic sunrise view with the hills and Himalayas from Nagarkot village today. After some time here we will head towards the Tribhuvan International Airport (TIA) and fly to the Paro airport in Bhutan. After arriving at Paro, our representative from Asiaexperiences will approach you and transfer you to your hotel in Thimphu. The guide will provide you a brief introduction about this tour on the way to Thimphu.

Halfway to the Paro-Thimphu highway, visit the 16<sup>th</sup>-century old Tachogang Lhakhang temple by traversing an old bridge. From the bridge, enjoy the scenic views of the villages. Tachogang temple means the hill of the excellent horse. Continue to drive to Thimphu. After reaching the hotel, you can rest for a while and head for a walk around it. You can also attend the evening markets here today. Overnight at Thimphu.

#### Day 11: Sightseeing in Thimphu

We will spend our day visiting the major attractions in and around the capital Thimphu. After our breakfast, we will visit the King's Memorial Chorten made in the memory of King Jigme Dorji Wangchuck (1928-1972 AD). After some time here, we will visit the mini zoo and take a glance at beautiful animals alongside the national animal of Bhutan 'Takin'. We will visit the nunnery temple and the traditional medicine institute of Thimphu. We will continue our Thimphu sightseeing tour after lunch visiting the painting schools and traditional paper factory here. Next, we will visit Tashichho Dzong. This old fortress holds a great significance in the history of Bhutan. We will also visit Bhutan Postal Museum, Folk Heritage Museum and end our tour with a visit to the Great Buddha Dordenma statue which is the largest statue of Bhutan. We will return to our hotel and rest. If you have made the Trip overlapping weekends in Bhutan, you will have an opportunity to attend the weekend markets and experience the local trade and lifestyle here. Overnight at Thimphu.

#### Day 12: Thimphu to Punakha and Back

We will drive to Punakha after breakfast today. In the way, we will stop at the Dochula Pass at 3,100 meters. From this pass, we can enjoy a fantastic view of the Himalayan range centered by Gangkhar Puensum (7,570 m: highest in Bhutan). The Druk Wangyal Chortens lies in the pass which was made in



honor of war soldiers of Bhutan. From here we will make brief stops at the temple of divine madman, and the temple of fertility before reaching Punakha. We will visit the famous Punakha Dzong here in the banks of Pho Chu and Mo Chu rivers and spend some time in this magnificent Dzong. We will also cross the oldest Punakha Suspension Bridge which connects three villages to witness the wonderful surrounding views. We will then return to Thimphu besides the hills and rice fields and rest for the day. Overnight at Thimphu.

#### Day 13: Thimphu to Paro and Taktshang Monastery hike

We will take a short drive to Paro after breakfast and start our walk to the Tiger's Lair, Taktsang Monastery. The main highlight of Bhutan, this monastery is a beautiful place to be with magnificent landscape views of the surrounding regions. Located at a sharp face of a high hill, the hike to it is certainly not easy. However, with our experienced guides, you will be assured the safest route to it. Many legends are granted at this monastery with some claiming that one the great Guru Rinpoche meditated in the caves of this monastery. After spending some time here, we will return to Paro and have lunch.

Next, visit the beautiful Paro Dzong and National Museum of Bhutan. End your trip by visiting Kyichu Lhakhang. You can see the oldest Jowo temple which was built to stop female giants from preventing the spreading of Buddhism across Tibet. Overnight at Paro.

#### Day 14: Final Departure via Bangkok/Kathmandu/New Delhi

This wonderful vacation of these wondrous nations of the Himalayas ends with a high note today with a departure flight providing the view of Himalayas to your next destination. With a heart full of great stories, treasured moments, and unique experiences that you have collected throughout the tour, this vacation will be the next chapter to your travel diaries. Our team of Asia experience will be in touch for your invaluable feedback and suggestions. We will drive you to the airport for your return flight from the hotel.

## **Cost & Inclusion**

#### Tibet:

- Airport pickups and drops service.
- Private ground transportation with A/C.
- Twin-sharing hotel accommodation.
- Local cultural tour guide with English speaking.
- Sightseeing entrance fees for museums and monuments.
- Breakfast in Tibet.
- Processing Travel Permit and Entry Visa.

#### Nepal:

- Airport pickups and drops service.
- Private ground transportation with A/C.
- Twin-sharing hotel accommodation.



- Local cultural tour guide with English speaking.
- Sightseeing entrance fees for museums and monuments.
- Breakfast in Nepal.

#### **Bhutan:**

- Airport pickups and drops service.
- Private ground transportation with A/C.
- Twin-sharing hotel accommodation.
- Local cultural tour guide with English speaking.
- Sightseeing entrance fees for museums and monuments.
- Full meals in Bhutan.
- Processing Travel Permit and Entry Visa.

#### **Select:**

#### **FAOS**

## Is this a private tour?

It is completely a private tour that includes a private vehicle, a private guide and accommodation as per your choice.

#### What facilities do we get during a private tour?

You get the facilities of a private vehicle and a private guide and hotel as per your choice during this private tour.

## Are the vehicles private or public?

Throughout the tour, all the vehicles are private. It is for you or your team only.

#### What type of vehicles are there?

We provide a private vehicle depending on group sizes such as SUV, Coaster, and HiAce that are comfortable.

#### Where to visit for the Chengdu day tour?

Panda Centre and Volunteering in the Panda Centre, Leshan Temple, and Wenshu visits are some amazing destinations for the Chengdu day tour.



#### Is it possible to spend a half day at Panda Centre and volunteer at the Centre?

Yes, it is possible to spend a half day at Panda Centre and volunteer at the Centre.

## What is the best way to explore the Chengdu day tour?

The best way to explore the Chengdu day tour is by combining the half-day Panda Centre and the half-day Leshan temple tour but can be slightly hurried.

#### Where to stay during the Shigatse to Rongbuk Monastery/EBC overland tour?

It is best to stay at Shegar as there is the availability of a local 3-star hotel with an attached toilet during the Shigatse to Rongbuk Monastery/EBC overland tour.

#### What type of hotels are there in Shegar?

There are mainly 3-star local hotels in Shegar with an attached bathroom which is comfortable to stay in. **Everest Hotel** in Shegar is one of the best options.

#### How to get to Rongbuk/EBC from Shegar?

Take an early morning ride from Shegar on a private vehicle accompanied by a private guide to Rongbuk/EBC to witness the amazing sunrise view and phenomenal views of Mt. Everest and drive to Gyirung afterwards.

#### How are hotels in Gyirung/Kerung?

The hotels in Gyirung/Kerung are the same as in Shegar i.e. local 3-star hotel with an attached bathroom.

#### What airlines do you use for the internal flights?

We use mostly Air China Airlines for Lhasa flights and Druk Air Airlines for Bhutan flights.

## What is required for payment and how much is the deposit?

We require compulsory scanned copies of your passports and the deposit is 20% of the total cost for the overland tour and 100% internal flight cost.



# When to pay the remaining amount?

The remaining amount must be paid before 60 days of the travel date.

## Is there any deadline for booking?

There is no strict deadline for booking but it is better to book earlier as the flights to Bhutan and Tibet are limited and the limited availability of the best hotels at certain places. There is only one daily flight to Bhutan from Kathmandu.

#### How can we make the payment?

You can use a single card or two separate cards for payments as per your preference but you have to pay an extra 4% of the payable amount as a card fee for the bank.

## What essentials should we pack for the Nepal and Bhutan tours?

For the Nepal and Bhutan tours, we suggest packing only essentials including personal items, recommended medicines, comfortable shoes, and seasonal clothes. Make sure to pack appropriate whole-body covering clothes to tour the religious places (temples, stupas, and monasteries).

#### What do foreigners usually use to communicate while in Tibet/Nepal/Bhutan?

In Nepal, Tibet, and Bhutan, foreigners communicate using Wi-Fi networks and apps like WhatsApp, WeChat, Viber, and Messenger to communicate as Wi-Fi is easily available in most places. They can also purchase local SIM which is easy to get for communication.

#### Are most people able to communicate in English?

In Nepal, Bhutan, and Tibet, only a limited number of people can communicate in English but there are good English-speaking staff to assist you in hotels and restaurants. Also, you are accompanied by a fluent English-speaking private guide to coordinate during your tours.