

# Nepal Tibet Bhutan Laos Tour (Overland tour from Kathmandu to Lhasa)

#### 19 Days Exclusive & Personalized Journey

Visit 4 mystical destinations in this spectacular 17-day journey through Nepal Tibet Bhutan and Laos



## **Destination Highlights**

- **Nepal: 5** Nights in Kathmandu with Bhaktapur Durbar Square, Pashupatinath, Boudhanath, Patan, Swoyambhu Stupa and Nagarkot.
- **Tibet:** 6 Nights in Tibet, with Rongbuk Monastery (Everest Base Camp), Potala Palace, Drepung Monastery, Norbulinka Palace and Sera Monastery.
- **Bhutan: 3** Nights in Bhutan with Taktsang Monastery (Tiger's Nest), Paro Valley, Thimphu with weekend market and Punakha Dzong.
- Laos: 4 Nights in Laos With Vientiane, Luang Prabang, Pak Ou Cave and Ban Phanom.

#### **Customizable Private Tour**

Tailor Your Journey with Flexible Dates, Accommodations & Activities

- 1. Choose your own departure date
- 2. Select the comfort level of accommodation
- 3. Adjust activities to cater to special interests
- 4. Modify any aspect of the tour as needed
- 5. Flexible travel route (start from Kathmandu/Lhasa/Laos/Bangkok and end to Laos/Bangkok/Kathmandu/Beijing



## **Trip Highlights**

- Enjoy the ancient **world heritage sites** of Kathmandu.
- Fly above Nepal, Bhutan and Tibet and admire the beauty of Himalayan range with **Mt. Everest**.
- Adventurous overland ride to Lhasa via Rongbuk Monastery (Everest Base Camp) and Shigatse from Kathmandu.
- Admire the view of Lhasa with **Potala Palace of Dalai Lama**.
- Explore the beauty of Tibet with amazing view.
- Visit **Drepung Monastery**, the biggest Monastery in Tibet and Norbulingka Palace.
- Enjoy the delightful valley of Paro, Thimphu, Phunakha and Wangdue Phodrang.
- Hike to Paro **Taktsang Monastery (Tiger's Nest)**in Bhutan.
- Vientiane explore Laos' laid back capital, Wat Prakeo, That Luang Stupa.
- Luang Prabang old town, Wat Xiengthong temple, National Museum.

## **Trip Overview**

Sometimes with their nature and again with their enchanting Buddhist monasteries, these countries just make their entrance to any travel lovers bucket list. These places are distant but yet so similar to their religion and belief and with graceful hospitality to their guests with open arms. Whether you feel like sitting in the laps of Himalayas of Nepal or on the golden monasteries of Laos, your adventure never ends. Walking up the cliffs and hills of Bhutan or the steps of in the streets of Tibet, a feeling of positive energy and excitement follows you. So leap into these nations of golden heart and rejoice in your life with a hat tip.

Kickstart your journey in the cradle of Everest as you stumble upon culture and mystical art in **Kathmandu.** In a nation where guest are greeted as a form of god, pass through the World Heritage sites. Join the devotees in their prayers and discover the history of these centuries-old monuments. Behold the imposing craftsmanship and treat your senses with the rich Asian cuisine. Gaze the enchanting sunrise from the hills in the horizon. Dispatch the negative energy with perplexing wood carvings in Changunarayan temple. Cite your felicity after sailing through the cultural and scenic blooms in **Nepal.** 

Merge into the solitary Buddhist culture like nowhere else in the **roof of the world**. Experience the history and lifestyle of dancing in your vision with grace. Start a new chapter of your travel diary packed with adventure and confounding history of time. An overland tour from Kathmandu to Tibet offers travelers a unique experience. The scenic drive to Rongbuk Monastery near Everest Base Camp, with its diverse landscapes, is truly captivating. With the **Dalai Lamas** chariot of ruling The **Potala Palace** to the devotional shrines in Jokhang Temple, the framework of **Tibet** shines through your perception. A benumbing Zion in the



heart of Asia, glean the sights of epic hills and Mountains here.

Concealed in the hills in the bosom of the Mother nature is a nation of Thunder Dragons. Sliding through time with pure culture and immense heritage, **Bhutan** will wallop your consciousness with glee. From the caves of Tiger's nest(**Taktsang Monastery**) to the plains of Paro, your heart with pound with thrilling escapades. Reside in the golden dzongs and mend your soul with the rich culture and warm hospitality of Bhutanese people. Configure your memories from evergreen ridges and high road passes. Caress your sensation with amusing artworks and mystifying souvenirs in this aesthetic Himalayan Nation.

In a country fluorescent with smiles and substantial undiluted culture, uncover the natural treasures and bewildering crusade. Brace yourself walking into this land perished with nature and culture. Cruise the reach of Mekong River and shoot yourself in the thoroughfare of **Vientiane**. Explore the history and culture of **Laos** in the UNESCO heritage sites and the shrines aging centuries. Navigate the caves of **Luang Prabang** and roll over the streams and creeks in your way. Rise and get along with the saffron clothed monks and fill your heart with containment and purity.

## Your Journey day by day

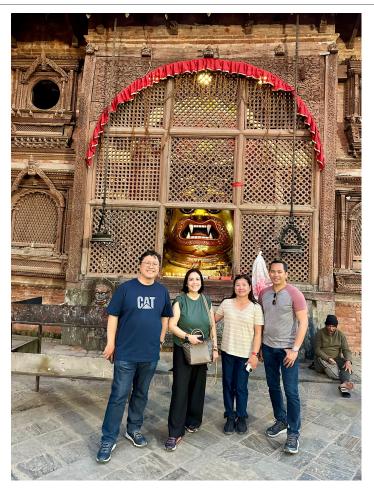
## Day 01 Arrival at Kathmandu

You will arrive at the Tribhuwan International Airport and met and attended by our staffs from Asia Experiences. After a formal welcoming, you will head towards the hotel. Overnight at Hotel in Kathmandu.

## Day 02 Sightseeing at Kathmandu



Today you will be covering some of the significant places inside Kathmandu. After a light breakfast, you will either head towards the Basantapur(Kathmandu) Durbar or Swyambhunath stupa. With many brief stops your next destination, today will be the city of arts-Lalitpur or Patan. Swyambhunath is one of the oldest Buddhist temples in the world with more than hundreds of small and big shrines surrounding the area. The stupa complex sits on the top of the hill and is a habitat of many monkeys. Hence Swyambhunath is also famous as the 'Monkey temple.' You can get a majestic view of the Kathmandu valley from the view platform in the top. This short hike will warm up your body and the smell of the incents will cleanse your soul.



Patan Durbar Square is the center of Culture and tradition in the city of Patan. This major city is only about 30 minutes' drive from Kathmandu and is a melting pot of Hinduism and Buddhism. The Krishna Mandir(Temple) and the Mangalbazzar streets are the major attractions to visit in and around Patan Durbar square. Patan is quieter and more varied landscape wise than Kathmandu and is a perfect place to relax in Kathmandu Valley.

## Day 03 Kathmandu and Bhaktapur Cultural Tour

You will be heading towards the remaining cultural and religious places today. Today's highlights will be the visit of major Hindu shrine of Pashupatinath and the city tour of Bhaktapur.

Pashupatinath is an important Hindu shrine which gets the devotees from all over the world. The whole temple complex consists more than 500 small and big shrines and in the center is a beautiful main pagoda. One can learn a lot about Hindu tradition and culture by visiting the Pashupatinath temple. You can also witness a touching Hindu Cementation on the banks of the holy river of Bagmati here.

Bhaktapur Durbar Square-Bhaktapur is a wonderful destination to learn about the medieval valley lifestyle of Kathmandu You can witness authentic Newari culture and cuisine in this city major attractions here surrounds the Bhaktapur durbar square. The Golden gate Temple, fifty-five window palace and Nyatapola temple square

are some of the many monuments you will visit today in Bhaktapur. In the late afternoon, you will drive towards the popular hill village of Nagarkot. Overnight at Nagarkot.

#### Day 04 Sunrise at Nagarkot, Hike to Changunarayan

Rise early and after a quick honey tea head towards the view stand on the top of the hill at Nagarkot to experience a Mountain sunrise. One can view a whopping 14 mountain ranges in a clear sky from the hills of Nagarkot. After some relaxation and Yoga session, head towards the ancient village of Changunarayan. The Hiking is short and easy, and in two hours you will reach the Changunarayan settlement around the oldest temple of Nepal-Changunarayan Temple. Made to the name of Hindu god Vishnu, Changunarayan is an artistic place with alluring designs and carvings. One can find stone



inscriptions from about 3rd century in the temple premises here. Return to Kathmandu.

## Day 05 Drive from Kathmandu to Gyirung via Rasuwa Gadi

Our overland tour starts today from Kathmandu to Kerung/Gyirong. We will do all the necessary preparations and leave the valley following the Trishuli highway. The road is smooth in the first segment in the hills followed by some gravel segments. Similarly, we will also face some off-road portions as we get near to the Chinese border. In the way, we will stop for lunch at local settlements and continue driving in this scenic highway. After reaching Kyirung, we will have our documents checked at both Nepalese and Chinese immigration offices and drive to our hotel.

## Day 06 Kerung/Gyirong to Shegar/Rongbuk Monastery (Everest Base Camp)



You will start for the longest and most scenic drive of the whole trip to the Rongbuk monastery near EBC. The landscape shift is wondrous as we shift into more barren and snow-covered regions from here. We will drive pass Pelkutso lake and a vast grassland in the first portion of today. Taking small short stops to admire nature and view, we will continue our drive to the Gyawula Pass (5200 m). A bit windy, but absolutely beautiful, we can view the Himalayas clearly from here. From the pass, it is a couple of hours to reach Rongbuk monastery.



#### Day 07 Rongbuk to Shigatse via Tingri

We will wake up early for a breathtaking sunrise of a lifetime from the Rongbuk monastery over Mt. Everest. After this amazing experience, we will explore the monastery premises for a bit before continuing our road journey to Shigatse. We will be traveling in a bit bumpy road for the first part of the trip. From here we will stop at the small Tingiri town. The views of Cho Oyu and Everest is majestic from the town here. Next, it is a couple of hours of highway drive to the G318 National highway milestone (5,000 m) in Lhatse, and there we'll take some pictures. After driving to Shigatse from Lhatse, we will freshen up and visit Tashilupo Monastery. This monastery, which is the seat of the Panchen Lama of Tibet is also one of the most significant ones here.

## Day 08 Shigatse to Lhasa with Gyantse and Yamdruk Lake

Today will be the last day of driving exploration in Tibet, and we will cover many cultural destinations in the way. The road is in good condition, and we will make shortstops in the small farmer villages lying in the way. After reaching Gyantse, we will take a brief exploration tour of some majestic sites here. This heritage-rich town has a lot to offer, and we will visit the Perklor Monastery, Kumbum stupa, and GyantseOld Street here. The next portion of the drive takes us beside the Holy Yamdrok Lake (One of the three significant holy lakes in Tibet). We will also enjoy the views of Manak Dam Lake and Korola



Glacier before reaching Lhasa in the evening.

#### Day 09 Lhasa exploration

Today after your light breakfast you will head towards the center of attraction and the world heritage site of the Potala Palace. Situated in the Hilltop, you can see this great structure from miles far. The Potala Palace is a vast complex, and you can lose yourself on the designs and beautiful paintings here. You will only have an hour to visit the main structure and photography is strictly prohibited inside. While the halls, prayer rooms, and courtyards are popular, people also love to spend some time in the nearby temples and gardens here. You will visit the Sera Monastery and Jokhang Temple from Potala Palace. The Jokhang temple is the spiritual center of Tibetan temple made by King Songtsen Gampo. Lying in the Barkhor Street, you can indulge into some souvenir shopping here. The Sera Monastery is an important Gelug university monastery in Tibet. You can have a scenic view alongside magnificent architecture here. Home to many monks, the sera monastery is a place to relax and meditate. Overnight stay at the hotel in Lhasa.

## **Day 10 Lhasa Religious and Cultural Tour**

You will start today with a light tea and visiting the Drepung Monastery. It is the largest monastery in Lhasa and is home to more than 10,000 monks. With a large prayer hall and well-crafted and designed walls, you will love to spend some time in Drepung Monastery. After a brief visit to this majestic monastery, you will head towards Mentshikang, the heart of Tibetan Medicine center. You can watch herb processing alongside different natural medicine components here. You will then visit another Unesco Heritage site in Tibet; The



Norbulingka Palace is also popular as the Summer

Palace of Dalai Lama. The beautiful garden here holds one of the most picture-perfect places in Tibet. Rest and overnight at Lhasa.

## Day 11 Flight Back to Kathmandu, Thamel Shopping

You will return to Kathmandu today with a scenic flight over the Himalayas. In your spare time, you can stroll around Thamel hunting souvenirs and handicrafts. You can also enjoy the nightlife at Thamel by attending

some bar and pubs. Rest and overnight at Kathmandu.

## Day 12 Fly to Paro, Bhutan, Drive to Thimphu, Thimphu Sightseeing

After a light breakfast we will take you to the Tribhuvan International Airport, and from here you will head towards Paro Airport in Bhutan. Our representative/guide will pick you up from the airport, and you will drive towards Thimphu.



On

the way to the Paro-Thimphu highway, visit the  $16^{\rm th}$ -century old Tachogang Lhakhang temple. The temple means the hill of the excellent horse. You need to cross an old bridge to visit the temple. From the bridge, enjoy the scenic views of the villages.

Today you will explore the major attractions in and around Thimphu. You will understand and learn many things about the Bhutanese lifestyle and culture on your tour. The major attraction today will be the visit to the Folk Heritage Museum here. One can learn a lot from the components and showcases in the museum. After the Museum visit, head towards the National library nearby home to numerous manuscripts and Bhutanese books. Then, to the Bhutan Postal Museum and explore the large collection of stamps. Next, explore the Late King's Memorial Chorten. It is designed in Tibetan-style architecture and holds cultural importance and the place is soothing and peaceful. On the way to Takin's zoo, you will have an opportunity to visit the handmade paper factories. The traditional medicine institute visit will give an educational touch to your tour. In the late afternoon, you will head towards the biggest Shakyamuni Buddha statue in Bhutan the Great Buddha Dordenma, and enjoy the Thimphu valley view from there. Overnight stay at a hotel in Thimphu.

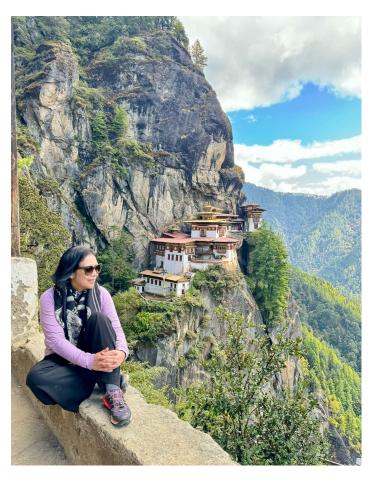
## Day 13 Thimphu to Punakha and back

After a quick breakfast, head towards the Dochula pass for a scenic mountain view. The Druk Wangyal Chortens here is a collection of 108 Chortens in memory of Bhutanese soldiers. This is a place perfect for panoramic pictures of the Himalayas, the lush Himalayan vegetation, and flowers. Drive through the terraced

rice field and reach the iconic Punakha Dzong. Providing an outstanding landscape and magnificent architecture, this dzong is one of the best places to be in Bhutan. Nearby the oldest Punakha Suspension Bridge is another highlight. It connects three major villages and the surrounding views from the bridge is impressive. Return to Thimphu with a scenic drive. Overnight at a hotel in Thimphu.

## Day 14 Thimphu to Paro, Trek to Taktsang Monastery

Post an early breakfast you will drive to Paro valley and from there start your hike toward the Taktsang Monastery. At the top of the cliff is the cave where Guru Rinpoche himself is believed to have meditated. The monastery can be reached from various directions, and your guide will take you from the optimum trail. Not only the monastery and the caves are appealing, but the view of nature and landscape from the monastery is simply stunning. Your exhaustion is washed away from the cool hilly breeze and the fantastic scenery. After a brief time here, return and have lunch.



Next, visit Rinpung Dzong, a large Buddhist monastery of the Drukpa Lineage. Cross a traditionally covered cantilever bridge below Ringpung Dzong. On the hill above Ringpung Dzong is Ta Dzong which is now established as the National Museum of Bhutan. End the tour with a visit to the oldest temple in Bhutan called Kyichu Lhakhang Temple. Overnight at a hotel.

## Day 15 Paro to Vientiane (Laos) through Bangkok (Self-transfer)

After an early breakfast pack up and head towards the Paro Airport. As we don't have a direct flight connecting Laos from Bhutan, you will head there from Bangkok. After reaching Laos in Vientiane airport, our representative will meet and transfer you to your hotel. Rests then freshen-up and in the evening you can stroll

around Vientiane and try some local cuisine. Overnight at Vientiane.

## Day 16 Vientiane Tour, Mekong riverside Tour

Start your day with a short city tour of Vientiane. You can walk to most of the destinations of today. Wat Sisaket, Wat Prakeo, Patuxay Monument, and That Luang Stupa are among the major attractions of your visit today. In the late afternoon take a short Mekong Riverside tour with your guide. You can understand a lot about the Lao people, their culture and tradition from the tour. There is a wide range of tribes and locals dwelling the banks of the Mekong river too. After a beautiful sunset return to your hotel and rest.

#### Day 17 Vientiane to Luang Prabang, Cultural Tour

The Luang Prabang city was the ancient capital of northern Laos. After some remaining site visit in Vientiane, you will head towards the airport and fly to Luang Prabang. You can either take a short hike to Mount Phousi for a sunset view or stroll around the streets of Luang Prabang. The glided stupa here is a perfect destination for a panoramic view of the city hidden in Nature. You can enjoy the Nightlife and try some of the local cuisines in Luang Prabang.

Overnight at a hotel in Luang Prabang.



## Day 18 Luang Prabang to Pak Ou Cave, Ban Phanom and back

Today will be an interesting day in Laos as you will visit the important sites of Luang Prabang. After an early light morning breakfast, you will visit the shrine of Wat Aham, stupa of Wat Visoun, Wat Sene, Wat Mai and the magnificent Wat Xieng Thong before boarding a boat in Mekong River. Through this brief journey, you will see the mingling of nature and Lao people here in the banks of Mekong. Along the way to the caves, we will make stops to gulp in some sticky rice delicacies and whiskey. After reaching the royal temple of Wat Longkhonun, you will head towards the mouth of Ou River and to Pak Ou Caves. We will also make stops in various villages including Ban Phanom on our return to Luang Prabang for souvenir buying and local experience. Overnight at Luang Prabang.



#### **Day 19 Departure from Luang Prabang**

You will visit some of the remaining places in your spare time, and our guides will take you to the airport before your flight. You are sure to carry a heart full of boundless memories and amazing venturesome experience on your tour. Stories reaching each destination are a priceless wealth you are taking with you which you can share with your treasured ones for a long time to come.

#### Cost & Inclusion

#### Nepal;

- Airport pickups and drops service.
- Private ground transportation with A/C.
- Hotel accommodation as per your choice.
- Local cultural tour guide with English speaking.
- Sightseeing entrance fees for museums and monuments.
- Breakfast in Nepal.

#### Tibet;

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

#### Bhutan:

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

#### Laos;



- Airport pickups and drops service.
- Breakfast in Laos.
- Private ground transportation with air-conditioned.
- Hotel accommodation as per your choice.
- Local cultural tour guide with English speaking.
- Sightseeing entrance fees for museums and monuments.

## **Essential Information**

## Flight Connections: Nepal, Bhutan, Tibet, and Laos

#### • Nepal:

- o Daily: 1 direct flight to/from Bhutan.
- Weekly: 3 direct flights to/from Tibet (Lhasa).
- o Connecting flights: Available to/from Vientiane (Laos) via Bangkok.

#### • Bhutan:

- o Daily: 1 direct flight to/from Kathmandu, Nepal.
- No direct or connecting flights to Tibet or Laos.

#### • Tibet:

- Weekly: 3 direct flights to/from Kathmandu, Nepal.
- Multiple direct flights to/from mainland China (e.g., Chengdu, Beijing, Chongqing, Xian, Xining, Kunming, etc).
- Connecting flights: Available to/from Vientiane (Laos) with an overnight layover in Kunming or, depending on the travel season, a same-day connection.

#### • Laos:

- Daily: Direct flights available between Bangkok and Vientiane, Laos.
- o Connecting flights: Available to/from Nepal and Tibet via Bangkok and Kunming respectively.

## **Contact Us**

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