

Himalayan Odyessey (12 Days/ 11 Nights)

Delhi-Darjeeling-Gangtok-Phuntsoling-Thimphu-Punakha-Paro

Himalayas, as a tourist destination offering as much a cultural attraction as it is a trekking destination. There are villages located across the hilly slopes where the life is laid back and relaxed. There are several picturesque views waiting for you right in the region that will make your holiday all the more memorable and exciting.

Day 1: Delhi

Arrive at Delhi. Met and greeted by our representative at the airport and transfer to hotel. Overnight stay at hotel.



Day 2: Delhi - Darjeeling

On arrival at Bagdogra airport, received by our representative and transfer to Darjeeling (93 km, 3 hours). Check-in and Overnight stay in Darjeeling.



Day 3: Darjeeling

Morning after breakfast full day sightseeing of Darjeeling which includes early morning sunrise view from Tiger Hill (2,585m), visit to Ghoom monastery built in 1850 by Lama Sherab Gyatsho, a monk from Mongolia. The main feature of this Gelugpa monastery is the magnificent statue of Maitreya, "the future Buddha" draped in white silk scarves of offering called Khadas. After breakfast, visit the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute and the Tibetan Refugee Self Help Centre where you can see Tibetan craftsmen making traditional items like carpet, woolen boots, wood carvings and feather goods. Overnight stay at the hotel.



Day 4: Darjeeling - Gangtok

After breakfast drive to Gangtok-the capital of Sikkim. Over night stay at hotel.



Day 5: Gangtok

Morning take an excursion to Rumtek Monastery. Situated about 24 km from Gangtok Rumtek Dharma Chakra Centre is the seat of the Kagyupa order, one of the four major Tibetan Buddhist sects. Since the late 196s, after the arrival of His Holiness, the 16th Gyalwa Karmapa, the Centre houses some of the world-s most unique religious scriptures and objects. Traditional in design , it is replica of the original Kagyupa headquarters. Over night stay at hotel.



Day 6: Gangtok - Phuntsoling

After breakfast drive to Bhutan-s border town of Phuentsholing enroute passing through lush green tea gardens. The gateway to the south, Phuentsholing is a thriving commercial centre on the northern edge of the Indian plains. Situated directly at the base of Himalayan foothills, Phuentsholing is a fascinating mixture of Indian and Bhutanese, a perfect example of mingling of people and their culture. Evening visit Zangtho Pelri Lhakhang, the temple representing heaven of Guru Rinpoche. Then take a stroll around town and local market.Over night stay at hotel.



Day 7: Phuntsoling - Thimphu

Early morning departure to Thimphu. Enjoy sightseeing on the way. Over night stay at hotel.



Day 8: Thimphu

After breakfast full day sightseeing of Thimphu Visit Memorial Chorten, Tashichhodzong, National Library, Painting School, Traditional Medicine Institute, Handicrafts Emporium, and Thimphu viewpoint . Overnight stay at Thimphu.



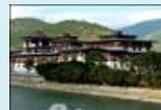
Day 9: Thimphu - Punakha

Morning drive to Punakha across Dochula pass (3,050m) that heralds the most enchanting views of Bhutan. Until 1955, Punakha served as the capital of Bhutan and still it holds the winter seat of Chief Abbot.



Day 10: Punakha - Paro

After breakfast drive to Paro, the beautiful valley, encapsulates within itself a rich culture, scenic beauty and hundred of myths and legends. Afternoon visit Ta Dzong, the National Museum of the Kingdom and then walk down the trail to visit Rinpung Dzong which has a long and fascinating history. Overnight at the hotel in Paro.



Day 11: Paro

Morning drive to Durkgyel Dzong, the ruined fortress from where Bhutanese warriors repelled several invasion by Tibetan armies. Also visit here a traditional farm house which offers good insight into lifestyle of local people. Then take an excursion to Taktsang Monastery (Tiger-s Nest), situated 900m above Paro valley floor. Evening visit Kyichu Lhakhang, one of the oldest and most sacred shrines of the Kingdom. Overnight at the hotel in Paro.



Day 12: Paro

After breakfast drive to Paro airport for onward destination.

