



# Bhutan

## Discover the Land of the Thunder Dragon

Deep in the Himalayan mountains lies the Kingdom of Bhutan, where Gross National Happiness shapes everyday life. In monasteries and chortens, prayer wheels spin, devotees chant their mantras and colourful prayer flags flutter in the wind. You travel over high mountain passes with views of snow-covered Himalayan peaks and experience rural life during a cooking class. A stop in Nepal's capital, Kathmandu, gives you a first look at life in the region before you continue your journey.

- Hike to the legendary Tiger's Nest Monastery
- Take in the Himalayan peaks from Dochula Pass
- Visit monasteries in Thimphu and Paro
- Explore Nepal with a stopover in Kathmandu and Bhaktapur

11 days

06. Mar. – 16. Mar. 2027

Share a room

€ **3399,-**

Have a room all to yourself  
€ 3949,-

# Bhutan: Discover the Land of the Thunder Dragon

## Day 1, Sat, 06.03.2027: Namaste!

Independent arrival in Kathmandu (not included in this Marco Polo travel package). Transfer to the hotel. The rest of the day is at your leisure. In the evening, we meet again and raise a glass to an unforgettable journey at a welcome dinner. D

## Day 2, Sun, 07.03.2027: Nepal's capital

The morning is devoted to Kathmandu. At Durbar Square, the city's main square, the royal palace, pagodas and temples showcase the fine art of local woodcarving. We climb countless steps up to the stupa of Swayambhunath, and at the Museum of Nepali Art (MoNA), we admire its outstanding collection of local works before enjoying lunch. In the afternoon, we continue to Bhaktapur, one of the most beautiful royal cities in the region. During a pottery workshop, we're introduced to the craft and try our hand at making a vessel ourselves. B/L

## Day 3, Mon, 08.03.2027: Buddhism and Hinduism

We visit Boudhanath, the most important Buddhist temple in Nepal. At the Carpet Museum, we admire intricately woven carpets made using ancient techniques. Continuing with Hinduism, we visit Pashupatinath, one of the most significant Hindu temples in the country. The afternoon is free for your own exploration. B

## Day 4, Tue, 09.03.2027: Kuzuzangpo in Bhutan

In the morning, transfer to Kathmandu Airport and flight to Paro in the Kingdom of Bhutan. At the airport, your Bhutanese scout welcomes you to the Land of the Thunder Dragon. Continue to Thimphu, Bhutan's capital, which still has no traffic lights. From the great Buddha statue high above Thimphu, we take in the sweeping views over the valley. Before dinner, we admire graceful dancers in colourful traditional costumes. B/L/D

## Day 5, Wed, 10.03.2027: In the Thimphu Valley

After breakfast, we drive to Changangkha Lhakhang Monastery, a 12th-century temple. At the Memorial Chorten, devotees turn large prayer wheels. At the Textile Museum, we admire impressive weaving craftsmanship. In the afternoon, we take a two-hour moderate hike with views over the Thimphu Valley at Sangaygang Hill and visit the historic Wangditse Monastery, dating back to the 18th century. B/L/D

## Day 6, Thu, 11.03.2027: Over Dochula Pass

On the way to Punakha, the coach slowly winds its way up to Dochula Pass at 3,088 metres. At the top (weather permitting), we are rewarded with a breathtaking view of the snow-covered peaks of the Himalayas. In the former capital Punakha, we visit the impressive Punakha Dzong, also known as the Palace of Great Happiness. At Chimi Lhakhang, the fertility temple perched on a hill above the town, couples come to pray for children of their own. A walk afterwards gives you a glimpse of rural life. B/L/D

## Day 7, Fri, 12.03.2027: In the Punakha Valley

After breakfast, an easy, two-hour hike takes us to the Khamsum Yuelley Namgyal Chorten above the Punakha Valley. At noon, we have a picnic lunch by the river and visit the 160-metre-long Punakha suspension bridge, lined with colourful prayer flags. We then continue to Wangdue Phodrang Dzong, an important site in Bhutan's history. To end the day, we visit a nunnery near the hotel. B/L/D

## Day 8, Sat, 13.03.2027: Paro

On the return journey to Paro, we once again cross Dochula Pass. The town's dzong has served as a

fortress, administrative centre, monastery and even a filming location for the Hollywood classic *Little Buddha*. To the north, the mighty Mount Chomolhari rises above the valley. Upon arrival in Paro, our scout takes us to a temple, where a local lama performs a blessing ceremony. We listen to the prayers and mantras of the Buddhist monks and take in the atmosphere. B/L/D

## Day 9, Sun, 14.03.2027: To the Tiger's Nest Monastery

Like an eagle's nest, the Tiger's Nest Monastery clings to a cliff high above the valley. According to legend, Guru Rinpoche reached the monastery riding on the back of a tigress; we cover the route on foot. Along the pilgrimage trail, we hike for 5-6 hours (challenging, approx. 800 metres of elevation gain) up to the monastery. Taktshang Monastery is one of Bhutan's most important pilgrimage sites. The view from the monastery, perched at over 3,100 metres above the Paro Valley, makes every effort worthwhile.



In the evening, we visit a local family and learn how to prepare ema datshi, a spicy cheese dish, and momos, a type of dumpling. During dinner afterwards, we enjoy our own creations. B/L/D

## Day 10, Mon, 15.03.2027: Back to Nepal

Today it's time to say goodbye to the Land of the Thunder Dragon. Transfer to Paro Airport and flight to Kathmandu. Transfer to the hotel. In the evening, we enjoy a farewell dinner together and look back on the journey. B/D

## Day 11, Tue, 16.03.2027: Back home

Transfer to Kathmandu Airport and individual return journey (not included in this Marco Polo travel package).

B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner

## Flights

International flights are not included.

## Hotels

Place	Nights	Hotel	Category
Kathmandu	3	The Malla	****
Thimphu	2	Tashi Yid-Wong	***
Punakha	2	Dragon's Nest	***
Paro	2	Olathang	***
Kathmandu	1	The Malla	****

Subject to change

## Travel documents and vaccinations

In addition to a visa (not included), German nationals require a passport that is valid for at least six months past the end of their stay with at least one free page. Citizens of other countries should check with the appropriate consulate. Vaccinations are not required.

## Included in the tour price

- Economy-class flight with Bhutan Airlines or Druk Air from Kathmandu to Paro and back, subject to availability
- Transfers, excursions and round trip in good local coaches
- 10 nights in single rooms
- Breakfast, 7 lunches and 6 dinners
- Welcome-Dinner on the day of arrival
- Farewell-Dinner
- English-speaking Marco Polo tour guides in Nepal and Bhutan
- Cooking class with a local family
- Bhutan visa fee
- Bhutan tourism fee
- Entrance fees as per the itinerary

## Price per person from €

11 days

	DBL	SGL
06.03. – 16.03.2027	3399	3949

**Minimum number of participants:** 4, maximum 12 participants. If the minimum number of participants is not reached, the Tour Operator may cancel the travel contract no later than 21 days before the start of the tour. **Tour Operator:** Marco Polo Reisen GmbH, Riesstrasse 25, 80992 Munich, Germany. **General travel conditions and suitability of the tour for people with reduced mobility:** [www.agb-mp.com](http://www.agb-mp.com). **Payment/secured payment certificate:** Payment is due upon presentation of the secured payment certificate (Sicherungsschein) (sent with tour confirmation) within the meaning of Section 651r (3) of the German Civil Code (BGB). Upon conclusion of the contract, a deposit of 20% of the tour price, up to a maximum of €1000 per person, is due. The outstanding amount is due 20 days before departure or at the latest upon receipt of the travel documents.

**Travel insurances:** No travel insurances are included in the tour price. **Data protection:** Marco Polo Reisen processes customer data for the purpose of travel implementation and contract execution (Art. 6 para. 1 lit. b of the European Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)) as well as to advertise its own offers (Art. 6 para. 1 lit. f GDPR). Detailed information and contact details of our Data Protection Officer: [www.agb-mp.com/datenschutz](http://www.agb-mp.com/datenschutz). You may object to the use of your data for advertising purposes at any time: Marco Polo Reisen GmbH, Riesstrasse 25, 80992 Munich, Germany, Tel.: +49 (0)89/50060-411, E-mail: [guys.travel@marco-polo-reisen.com](mailto:guys.travel@marco-polo-reisen.com)

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