

Cultural and colonial Tour of EASTERN BHUTAN

Duration : 06N/07Days

Pax : 02

Meal plan : Breakfast and Dinner

Over view of the itinerary

Day1:Samdrupjongkhar

Day2:Samdrupjongkhar-Tashigang

Day3:Tashigang-Merak (Day Excursion)

Day4:Tashigang-Tashiyangtse

Day5:Tashiyangtse-Mongar

Day6:Mongar-Samdrupjongkhar

Day7:Samdrupjongkhar- Guwahati

Hotels : Norbu Khangzang Resort at Samdrup Jonkhar, Druk Doejung/Lingkho Lodge in Trashigang, Karmaling in Trashiyangtse, Wangchuk Resort in Mongar

Cost : 49500/- per person

ITINERARY :

Day 1 Guwahati – Samdrupjongkhar(140 Km / 02 Hours)

Meet and greet on arrival at Guwahati Airport. Thereafter transfer to Samdrup Jonkhar – a small commercial town in Eastern part of Bhutan by the India Border. After completing the immigration process at the samdrupjongkhar border. check-in to your hotel upon arrival in Samdrupjongkhar. Evening Explore, wander around Town, take a leisurely walk around vibrant streets. Explore local markets, Bhutanese handicrafts. · Visit market in the Evening

Day-2- Samdrupjongkhar -Tashigang(182km approx)

After Breakfast we will begin driving towards Tashigang. Approximately 18km from Samdrupjongkhar, Dewathang is historically significant as the site where troops, Led by Jigme Namgyal(father of 1st King), resisted British forces in 1884. On the way visit Mithun breeding farm. This farm focuses on the breeding Mithun a semi-domesticated bovine species significant to Bhutanese agriculture. Lunch at Wamrong the sub district of Tashigang. Continue journey towards T/gang we came across Khaling village the place where blind school is located , Yongphula pass (2900m), Sherubtse college the first public school in 1968 led by Lyonpo Dawa Tshering & group of Jesuits under the leadership of late father William Mackey & Lopon Kharpo with the vision of His Majesty the Third King Jigme Dorji Wangchuk.

Checked into your hotel & relax after the journey.

Day 3: Tashigang-Merak- Tashigang(Day Excursion)

Today you will start drive early in the morning ascending to high mountains of Merak – Sakteng, so called Migoi national park. Migoi is local name for elusive yeti and most local inhabitants will be able to remember numerous cases when they or their relatives encountered yeti in the wild. After about 5 hours rough road ride you will reach Mon-la pass where the welcome party of Brokpa nomads in local dress will be waiting. Experience of local hospitality and yummy nomad lunch, the tasty local spirit and milk-like chang beer. Continue drive to Merak village (3500 m) and accommodation in local farmhouse as a guest of Brokpa family. Explore village and get more understanding of local culture. You will see how local people spin wool and make their colorful traditional clothes and textiles. Learn how they make yak cheese, butter tea and ara (local rice, wheat or corn spirit).

Day-4: Tashigang -Tashiyangtse(52km)

Start early depart from T/gang around 8:30 am to make the most of your day. The drive takes around 1.5 hrs depending on stops along. visit Gomkora meaning “Meditation place or Circumambulation” is a sacred site in Bhutan, believed to be where Guru Rinpoche, the 8th century Buddhist saint meditated and left a body impression on a rock after subduing a demon. Athrteedayu festival is held here annually in March/April as per the buddhist calendar. Visit Chorten Kora a significant stupa in t/ yangtse was built around 1740 by Lama Ngawang Loday to honor his uncle and subdue a demon believed to inhabit the site modeled after the Boundhanath stupa in Nepal. Local believed that an 8 years Dakini girl was sealed alive of her own free will in the chorten as a offering from the Dakpa people of Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh. Dakpas comes for the 15th day of 1st month of the Bhutanese calendar and Bhutanese celebrate their kora on the 30th of the 1st month of Bhutanese calendar. Lunch at T/ yangtse Karmaling hotel.

Drive towards Bumdeling wildlife Sanctuary is a great place for butterflies and the only place in Bhutan where Ludlow Bhutan Swallowtail (Bhutanitisludlowi) National Butterfly of

Bhutan is found. Ludlow Bhutan Glory was rediscovered in 2009, 75 years after the only two known specimens were collected in the same area. Bumdeling is an annual migration place for Black necked cranes, which fly over from nearby Tibet to pass the winter month in a warmer climate. It has one of the richest temperate Fir forests in the eastern Himalayas and provides an ideal protected habitat for big cats Tigers & Leopards. Then visit 13th Arts & Crafts school where the students are trained in 13 different skills like Masonary (Dozo), Carving (Parzo), Painting (Lhazo), Sculpting (Jinzo) etc.... Overnight T/ yangtse

Day-5: Tashiyangtse -Mongar(90km)

Early morning breakfast and drive towards Mongar. On the way stop at **T/gang Dzong**. The fortress was built in 1659 to defend against Tibetan Invasions. The dzong hosted a monastic community besides acting as the central administrative center. The construction of dzong was prophesied by lama Ngawang Namgyal who ordered the governor of Trongsa Chogyal Minjur Tempa to put down local chieftains & construct the Dzong. Walk around the T/gang town .

The road approaching Mongar is one of the most spectacular journeys in the country. It passes over sheer cliffs and through beautiful fir forests and green pastures.

DrametseGoemba :The biggest and most important monastery in eastern Bhutan,From the highway between Trashigang and Mongar, it is around 18km/1hr drive along the dirt road, gaining around 1350m.Drametse Monastery was founded in 1511 by Ani Choten Zangmo, the grand-daughter of the famous Bhutanese saint Pema Lingpa (1450-1521), who named the place as Drametse, meaning no enmities place or peak.we will visit the Modern Mongar Dzong, exploring the ruins of Zhongar dzong. A relatively new fortress built in the 1930s using traditional methods without plans or nails.

Day-6:Mongar-Lhuentse-Samdrupjongkhar (8 Hours drive) on way Lunch

After Breakfast we will be heading towards to Lhuentse. Focusing on its unique cultural sites such as the Lhuentse Dzong, Takila Guru Statue and village known for weaving (Kishuthara) and Pottery(Gangzur). After Lhuentse Day Excursion we will be heading back to Samdrupjongkhar

Day 07 : Samdrup Jonkhar – Guwahati : Tour ends drop at Guwahati Airport

Inclusion:

- SDF (Sustainable Development Fees)& Taxes for above said duration of Stay in Bhutan
- E-permit and processing
- Twin sharing accommodation at 3 star hotels/Homestay certified by Department of Tourism
- Full-Time English Speaking License Guide from Airavat Tours & Travel
- A comfortable SUV throughout the Journey
- Complimentary bottled water throughout the journey
- Meal MAP(**Breakfast & Dinner**)

Exclusion:

- Flight fare (domestic & international), Airvat Tours & Travel can organize your flights
- Additional/ Extra room supplement and room upgrade charges
- Bank Charges for payments transfers, card payment charges are higher than wire transfer
- Personal expenses or shopping beverages taken from the hotels or restaurant
- Gratuities to guide and drivers
- Anything which is not mentioned under inclusion are not included in the cost
- All entrance fees to Museums and monuments