



# AHKE Adventure Travel

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*- Adventure - Culture - Eco Tours - Buddhism -*

## **“BEST OF SCENIC BHUTAN”**

The Kingdom of Bhutan, nestling in the heart of the great Himalaya, only opened its gates to foreigners in 1974. It remains the society, where age old culture and traditional life continues as it had been for centuries. With about 69% of population still living in rural Bhutan, farming is still considered an occupation for the majority of Bhutanese. Old aged barter system and close bond within the family often with more then 50 members are common sight.

Best of Scenic Bhutan Tours offer you insight of Bhutan in short time. During these tour, you will have opportunity to see all the cultural and other important sites in western Bhutan.

You will witness, how little life in Bhutan have changed through out the civilisation. You may find that life here is very similar to European medieval era.



**(View from Pass between Valleys)**

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## **-TRIP NOTES-**

**Trip Name:** “Best of Scenic Bhutan”  
**Best Season:** Jan-June & Sept-Dec.  
**Duration:** 06 Days/5 nights in Bhutan  
**Grade:** Soft Adventure  
**District to visit:** Paro, Punakha, Wangdue & Thimphu  
**Trip Leader:** AHKE Adventure’s Senior Guide

## **DETAIL ITINERARY:**

### **DAY 01 Arrive Bhutan**

Your Bhutanese escort will receive you upon arrival and drive you through the valley of Paro to the hotel. Drive to the ruins of Drugyel Dzong. This Dzong is of historical importance, from whose ramparts the Bhutanese repelled Tibetan invaders. On a clear day one can view the sacred Chhomolari (Mountain of Goddess) - 24,000 ft. Visit Ta Dzong, the National museum housed in an ancient watchtower, which has a fine collection of ancient Thangka painting, textiles, weapons and artifacts. See also a traditional wooden bridge. Later drive to Thimphu, the capital city of Bhutan. Check in at a hotel and you may like to stroll around the town.

### **DAY 02 Thimphu Sightseeing**

Sight seeing in Thimphu includes - visit to the School of Thangka Painting, the National Library, which holds a vast collection of ancient Buddhist manuscripts and the Institute of Traditional Medicine, where centuries old healing arts are still practiced. Visit the Memorial Chorten built in memory of His Late Majesty, King Jigme Dorji Wangchuck, the Jushina paper factory and later visit the Handicraft Emporium.

### **DAY 03 Thimphu Sightseeing & Punakha**

Do some left over sightseeing. Then drive through Dochula Pass where one gets one of the most enchanting views in Bhutan. On a clear day, the one can get a good view of the Himalayan ranges and also see the Gasa Dzong at a distance. The journey continues through varying scenes of greenery all the way to Punakha. The Punakha Dzong is set on the junction of the two rivers Phochu (male river) and Mochu (female river) and is one of the most spectacular Dzongs in the country. At present this Dzong serves as the winter residence for the Je Khenpo, Chief Abbot of the Central Monastic Body. Visit the Dzong if the monastic body has sifted to Thimphu for the summer. Visit the town. Overnight at Punakha.

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## **DAY 04 Punakha-Paro**

Drive to Paro via Thimphu. On the way, undertake hike to fertility temple in Lobesa and then head for Thimphu. Visit Sangay Gang where you can get a spectacular view of the whole Thimphu valley. Then visit Zelukha Nunnery. Later in the afternoon, drive to Paro.

## **DAY 05 Excursions to Taktsang**

Drive to Satsam Chorten and then hike to viewpoint of Taktsang, the Tiger's Nest. This magical monastery clings to a vertical granite cliff 3,000 ft above the valley floor. The monastery was burnt in 1998 but has recently been reconstructed. It is one of the most holy places and all Bhutanese believe that they must visit it at least once in their lifetime.

## **DAY 06 Paro Departure.**

Breakfast in Hotel, and Drive to Paro International Airport. Group will be assisted with departure formalities by your escort.