

The Rotary Club of Thimphu will facilitate in linking with our partners for the extra stay and travel in Bhutan after the conference. The following are the general costs and conditions based on twin sharing rooms in a 3 star hotels. If participants choose to upgrade RinzOm at the following email : rinziom2015@gmail.com; Phone no. +97517601802 for package details.

Costs and conditions in the packages:

### Quote:

For 1 pax: USD 350 per person for single traveler (there is extra supplement charges when traveling as single person)

For 2 pax: USD 300 per person for two pax or more

### The cost will include:

the Sustainable Development Fee to the Government Accommodation in 3\* hotels on twin sharing basis. Single room supplement will be USD 45 per room per night all meals private transport English speaking guide entry fees for sightseeing bottled drinking water

#### The cost will not include:

- ➤ the visa fee
- -travel insurance
- drinks and beverages
- laundry service
- phone calls
- ➢ tips and gratuities

# Bhutan Travel Itinerary for Two night/three days package

# A. Two Nights/ Three days package

# Day 1: Thimphu

Visit the Buddha Dordenma Statue at Kuenselphodrang.

**Visit the National Textile Museum**. The National Textile Museum offers an in-depth look into the Bhutanese art form of weaving. You can see examples of weaving techniques from different areas of Bhutan, as well as styles of local dress and textiles made by local people. A small group of weavers usually work their looms inside the shop giving you the chance to see weaving firsthand.

**Visit the Folk Heritage Museum**. Built in 2001, the Folk Heritage Museum gives a glimpse of how life was lived in a Bhutanese village a hundred years ago.

**Visit the Paper Factory**. At the paper factory, you can watch the workers make traditional paper from the daphne plant. Traditional Bhutanese paper (called 'Desho') is said to last longer than regular paper.

**Visit the Takin zoo in Motithang**. Takin is the national animal of Bhutan. They are a symbolic animal representing some aspect of Bhutan's culture and tradition.

**Visit the Dechenphodrang monastic school located to the north of the city**. It became a monastic school in 1971 and currently has over 400 student monks enrolled in eight-year courses. The monastery contains a number of important historical Bhutanese artifacts including the 12<sup>th</sup> century paintings monitored by UNESCO and a noted statue of ShabdrungNgawangNamgyal.

**Visit Tashichhodzong**. Tashichhodzong means 'the fortress of the glorious religion.' It is a majestic fortress in all its grandeur and serves as the seat of Bhutan's government. The Dzong houses the secretariat, the throne room, the offices of His Majesty the King and the ministries of home affairs and finance. The fortress was initially erected in 1641 and later rebuilt in the 1960s by the third king, JigmeDorjiWangchuck.

#### **Overnight: Hotel in Thimphu**

# Day 2: Tiger's nest monastery hike

**Drive to the base and hike to TaktshangGoemba**. Taktshang meaning the 'Tiger's Nest' is one of Bhutan's most venerated pilgrimage sites and a very popular site for all tourists visiting Bhutan. According to legend, Guru Rinpoche miraculously flew here on the back of a tigress, meditated in a cave here for three months and converted the whole of Paro valley to Buddhism. Resting at an altitude of 900 meters above the valley, Taktshang is an architectural wonder and the spectacular five-sixhour walk will be your most overwhelming experience ever.

**Visit the Ta-Dzong**. The Ta-Dzong was originally the watchtower for the ParoDzong and stands imposingly on a hillock overlooking the Paro valley. In 1968, it was inaugurated as the National Museum, and now holds a fascinating collection of arts, relics, religious thangka paintings, Bhutan's exquisite postage stamps, coins, handicrafts, and a small natural history collection. A short visit here will give you an idea of the cultural and ecological richness of Bhutan. The Ta-Dzong is closed on government holidays.

### **Overnight: Hotel in Paro**

# Day3: Departure

Drive to the Paro International Airport where our representatives will bid you goodbye!

# **B. Three Nights/fourdays package**

Day 1: Thimphu

### Visit the Buddha Dordenma Statue at Kuenselphodrang.

**Visit the National Textile Museum**. The National Textile Museum offers an in-depth look into the Bhutanese art form of weaving. You can see examples of weaving techniques from different areas of Bhutan, as well as styles of local dress and textiles made by local people. A small group of weavers usually work their looms inside the shop giving you the chance to see weaving firsthand.

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# Overnight: Hotel in Thimphu Day 2: Day excursion to Punakha

Drive from Thimphu. The drive takes about 3 hours

**Enroute stop at the Dochula Pass.**On a clear day, you will get awe-inspiring glimpses of the towering Himalayan peaks around.

**Visit PunakhaDzong.** Placed strategically at the junction of the Pho Chu and Mo Chu rivers, the dzong was built in 1637 by ZhabdrungNgawangNamgyal to serve as the religious and administrative seat of the region. It was here that the dual system of government was introduced in the 17th century and in 1907, the first King GongsarUgyenWangchuck was enthroned. Damaged over the centuries by four catastrophic fires and an earthquake, the dzong has been fully restored in the recent years by the 4th King JigmeSingyeWangchuck.

**Cross over the longest suspension bridge** in the country over the Pho Chhuriver spanning 180 m. You will enjoy the swaying walk across the bridge draped with colourful prayer flags and visiting the little village shops at the other end.

**Visit Chhimi Lhakhang**. This fertility temple is dedicated to the famous teacher, Drukpa Kinley (also known as the 'Divine Madman') with whom the phallic symbol is associated. The Divine Madman sits there though a statue this time. Do not miss the master's deeds painted on the walls. Couples usually visit this temple to be blessed with children. Parents also take their babies here to get them named. Babies named here usually have 'Kinley' as their first name.

### Drive back to Thimphu.

### Overnight: Hotel in Thimphu

### Day 3: Tiger's nest monastery hike

**Drive to the base and hike to TaktshangGoemba**. Taktshang meaning the 'Tiger's Nest' is one of Bhutan's most venerated pilgrimage sites and a very popular site for all tourists visiting Bhutan. According to legend, Guru Rinpoche miraculously flew here on the back of a tigress, meditated in a cave here for three months and converted the

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# Overnight: Hotel in Paro

### Day 4: Departure

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# C. Four Nights/Five days package

#### Day 1:

### Visit the Buddha Dordenma Statue at Kuenselphodrang.

**Visit the National Memorial Chorten**. The National Memorial Chorten was built in 1974 in memory of the late Third DrukGyalpo (King) of Bhutan. At the chorten, you will find an extraordinary depiction of Buddhist teachings in the form of paintings and sculptures.

**Visit the National Textile Museum**. The National Textile Museum offers an in-depth look into the Bhutanese art form of weaving. You can see examples of weaving techniques from different areas of Bhutan, as well as styles of local dress and textiles made by local people. A small group of weavers usually work their looms inside the shop giving you the chance to see weaving firsthand.

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## Overnight: Hotel in Thimphu

# Day 2: Thimphu - Punakha

Drive from Thimphu. The drive takes about 2.5 hours

**Enroute stop at the Dochula Pass.** On a clear day, you will get awe-inspiring glimpses of the towering Himalayan peaks around.

**Visit SangchenDorjiLhundrupChholing Nunnery**. Built on a hill overlooking the Punakha and Wangduephodrang Valleys, the nunnery has a temple that houses a 14 foot statue of Avalokiteshvara (ChenrizigChagtongChentong), Guru Padmasambhava, ZhabdrungNgawangNamgyel, Gautama Buddha and the 21 Taras. In addition to practice and teaching of the dharma, the nunnery provides life skills training in embroidery, sculpture, and thangka painting.

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**Cross over the longest suspension bridge** in the country over the Pho Chhuriver spanning 180 m. You will enjoy the swaying walk across the bridge draped with colourful prayer flags and visiting the little village shops at the other end.

### **Overnight: Hotel in Punakha**

### Day 3: Punakha - Paro

**Visit Chhimi Lhakhang**. This fertility temple is dedicated to the famous teacher, Drukpa Kinley (also known as the 'Divine Madman') with whom the phallic symbol is associated. The Divine Madman sits there though a statue this time. Do not miss the master's deeds painted on the walls. Couples usually visit this temple to be blessed

with children. Parents also take their babies here to get them named. Babies named here usually have 'Kinley' as their first name.

### Drive to Paro.

**Visit Tamchog Lhakhang enroute**. Located on the base of a mountain across the Paro chu (river) on the Paro-Thimphu highway, Tamchog Lhakhang is a 'must-visit' temple. The lhakhang was built by the great master architect ThangtongGyalpo in the 14th century. The temple houses some very unique statues. To get to the temple, one will have to walk over the iron chain suspension bridge that spans over the Paro chu.

**Visit theTa-Dzong**. The Ta-Dzong was originally the watchtower for the Paro Dzong and stands imposingly on a hillock overlooking the Paro valley. In 1968, it was inaugurated as the National Museum, and now holds a fascinating collection of arts, relics, religious thangka paintings, Bhutan's exquisite postage stamps, coins, handicrafts, and a small natural history collection. A short visit here will give you an idea of the cultural and ecological richness of Bhutan. The Ta-Dzong is closed on government holidays.

Visit Paro town, visit some of the local establishments, and mingle with the locals.

# Overnight: Hotel in Paro

# Day 4: Tiger's nest monastery hike

**Hike to TaktshangGoemba**. Taktshang meaning the 'Tiger's Nest' is one of Bhutan's most venerated pilgrimage sites and a very popular site for all tourists visiting Bhutan. According to legend, Guru Rinpoche miraculously flew here on the back of a tigress, meditated in a cave here for three months and converted the whole of Paro valley to Buddhism. Resting at an altitude of 900 meters above the valley, Taktshang is an architectural wonder and the spectacular five-six hour walk will be your most overwhelming experience ever.

### Evening at leisure.

### **Overnight: Hotel in Paro**

### Day 5: Departure

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