



# AHKE Adventure Travel

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Website: [www.bhutanecoventure.com](http://www.bhutanecoventure.com)

– Adventure – Culture – Eco Tours – Buddhism –

## BEST OF TWO HIMALAYAN KINGDOMS (12 Days)

**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 than 50 members are common sight.

For those of you visiting Bhutan with us would be guaranteed series of wonderful experiences, through observational experiences and by living in the Bhutanese surrounding, and being a witness to an unchanged medieval way of life in Bhutan. These medieval settings are always alive.

**Nepal** is a wonder in Himalaya. It is a land of diversity, with it's own unique culture and heritage. Landscape of Nepal varies from Gangetic plain to highest mountains in the world within a 100 miles or so. These have brought a unique diversification in a narrow east-west belt of a Himalayan Kingdom in Altitude, Climate, Flora and Fauna, People, Language, Religion, Culture, and Heritage. Hence Nepal has to offer a diverse variety of tourism.

This trip is designed by merging two best trips from two countries. This soft adventure mixed with Eco Tours will allow you to experience out most of two Himalayan Kingdoms.



(Huge Bhutanese Horoscope Signs on the wall & Budhanath Temple in Kathmandu)



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## DETAIL ITINERARY:

### **DAY 01 Arrive Bhutan**

AHKE Adventure Travel representative will receive you upon arrival and drive you through the valley of Paro to the hotel.

Afternoon, 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.

### **DAY 02 Paro; Excursions to Taktsang**

Drive to Satsam Chorten and then hike to viewpoint of Taktshang, 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 03 Paro -Thimphu**

Drop some left over signseeing, and hotel visits. Then drive through the beautiful valleys of Paro into Thimphu, the capital city of Bhutan. 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 04 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. Stroll through Thimphu town.

### **DAY 05 Thimphu - Punakha**

Drive through Dochula Pass where one gets one of the most enchanting views in Bhutan. On a clear day, 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 Wangdue/Punakha.



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## **DAY 06 Punakha – Paro via Thimphu**

Drive to Paro via Thimphu. Visit Sangay Gang where you can get a spectacular view of the whole Thimphu valley. Then visit Zelukha Nunnery. After lunch, drive to Paro.

## **DAY 07 Paro – Kathmandu.**

Breakfast in Hotel, and Drive to Paro International Airport for your onward journey to Kathmandu. On arrival at Kathmandu, AHKEV Nepal representatives will assist you with all the arrival formalities and check in at the hotel.

The beautiful capital city lies in the mystifying valley of Kathmandu, which is about 25 km in length and 15 km in width. The valley retains an inscrutable aura as it was secluded from the outside world till the 1950's. Evening walk around for the leisure.

## **Days 08 Kathmandu Sightseeing**

Sight seeing of the Pashupatinath temple; the most revered and holiest Hindu shrine in Nepal. Visit Bouddhanath stupa, 7th Century Buddhist monument. After lunch tour of Swayambhunath Stupa; the 2000 years old Buddhist monument on a small hillock. This place is popularly known as the Monkey temple.

## **Days 09 Board Bus or Car to Chitwan.**

After short break, you can decide to go for Elephant safari, and Visit to elephant breeding centre. Detail interpretation will be available during the guided tours.

## **Days 10 Out door Activities**

During this day, you can decide to go on for canoe ride, and bird watching or excursions. This adventure will be made available though out the day, with local guide.

## **Days 11 Out door Activities**

Village visits, and jeep safari will be conducted during the day. Night cultural program will be hosted.

## **Days 12 Fly to Kathmandu and international departure in the afternoon.**

Departure transfer to airport for onward journey, and you will be assisted with all departure formalities by the representative of AHKE Adventure Travel.

We will provide VIP services to make sure your requirements are met at all stages. Briefing and all other departure formalities will be made available well in advance. **Please contact us for more detail.**