

Name of the trek

Samtengang	winter trek
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No of days

Ten nights, eleven days

Difficulty

Easy

Places visited

Paro, Thimphu, Punakha	and Wangdi
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Best seasons

Jan- June and Aug- Dec

This trek offers traveller a great opportunity to witness the beauty that the nature has to offer, you will be coming across beautiful mountains topped with snow, traditional houses made by their own hand, valleys that are separated by mountain and rivers. Monastery, temple and Dzong that are the lasting wonders of Bhutanese architect.

Day 1: arrival to Paro, our company's representative will be there at the airport to receive you and take you to the hotel for freshening, a brief about what the tour is all about. Sightseeing

Paro town in the evening, at night in hotel in Paro.

Day 2: Early breakfast, hike to Taktsang: The trip begins with 20 minutes drive till the road and start uphill walk for about an hour. Taktsang is the popular name of Taktsang Palphug Monastery, a prominent Himalayan Buddhist sacred site and temple complex, located in the Cliffside of upper Paro valley. On approach path to the monastery, there is a Lakhang and a temple of Urgyan Tsemo which, like the main monastery, is located on a rocky projection of several hundred feet over the valley. From this location, the monastery's buildings are on the opposite ravine, which is known by the name "COPPER-COLOURED MOUNTAIN PARADISE of Padmasambhava". This is the view point of visitors and there is cafeteria to provide refreshment. After that we will drive back to Paro valley and have lunch and by evening we will drive to Thimphu and over night in hotel in Thimphu.

Day 3: Thimphu Sightseeing- Early breakfast and we will visit Simtokha Dzong (1627), the kingdom's oldest fortress which now houses the Institute for Language and Culture Studies. After lunch, visit the National Memorial Chorten, built as a memorial to Bhutanese third king (the father of modern Bhutan) and also as a monument to world peace. Then visit Tashichhodzong, Thimphu's most impressive building situated by the Wang Chu. It houses His Majesty's secretariat, some ministries, and also the central monk body during the summer months. In the evening, take a stroll through Thimphu market and town.

Day 4: Thimphu- Punakha- Early breakfast, we drive past the Dochula pass at 10,000 ft, to Punakha. On this tour you will see some of the highest peaks in Bhutan including Gangkhar Puensum, the highest unclimbed mountain in the world. This trek pass through the temperate forest coloured with Rhododendrons and Magnolias takes you to the semi- tropical zone of orange cactus and bananas and to the valley of Punakha. Then we will visit the town and Punakha Dzong.

Day 5 Khuruthang- Limbukha: This trek starts from Punakha Dzong which is 12 km and takes four hour walking time. It is a gradual climb through chir pine forest and paddy fields, this route is also used to go to the village of Shegang

Day 6 Limbukha- Chungsakha: It takes you thorough Rhododendron and oak forest. Distance 13 km and walking time 5 hours. On this trek you will come across a famous Drukpa Kuenley's Temple.

Day 7 Chungsakha- Samtengang: on this trek you will be coming across the village of Sha, under Wangdue District.

Day 8 Samtengang- chuzomsa/ Wangdue: This end of our trek and the trail is downhill and the trek ends at Chuzomsa. From here it is a 20 minute drive to Wangdue. Afternoon at leisure or explore Wangdue town and over night in hotel in Thimphu.

Day 9 Wangdue- Thimphu: Early breakfast and then we will drive to Thimphu. Afternoon you are free to explore Thimphu town and by evening we will drive back to Paro and over night in hotel in Paro.

Day 10 Paro Sightseeing: Drive up the valley to Drukgyel Dzong (1646), which once defended this valley from Tibetan invasions. Though largely destroyed by fire in 1951, its towering outer walls are still an imposing sight. On a fine day, there is a grand view of Mt.Chomoihari from the approach road to Drukgyel Dzong. Drive back along the valley to visit a traditional farm house and then the 7th Kyichu Lhakhang, one of Bhutan's oldest and most sacred shrines.

In the afternoon, visit Ta Dzong, built in 1651 as a watchtower and in 1968 inaugurated as Bhutan's National Museum. The collection includes art, relics, religious thangka paintings, postage stamps, coins and handicrafts, as well as a small natural history collection. Then walk down a short hillside trail to visit Rinpung Dzong (Paro Dzong), built in 1646, and now housing the offices of the district administration and Paro's monk body. Overnight at the hotel in Paro

Day 11: Paro Early breakfast and then drive to Paro Airport for flight to onward destination.