

The compelling beauty of Bhutan beckons travelers from around the globe and has been known as a hidden gem for decades. Bhutan is a must see on any traveler's bucket list and this journey will give you a chance to travel in a small group with a dedicated local guide who will share insight on the local people, culture and history of the region. Located on the Silk Road between China and India, the Kingdom of Bhutan is landlocked in the Eastern Himalayas in Southern Asia. In 2008, Bhutan transitioned from an absolute monarchy to a constitutional monarchy and held its first general election.

### **Program Highlights**

- 11 days & 8 nights
- Make new friends while immersing yourself in the culture of Bhutan, giving back to a **local community project** and exploring this beautiful and peaceful nation.
- Small group size with high-end service and accommodations throughout the journey.

#### **Cultural Immersion**

- Take a challenging hike to the enchanting **Taktsang Monastery** for an unbelievable viewpoint of the surrounding valley. Built around a cave where the Guru Rinpoche meditated, this monastery clings to a cliff of rock 3,000 feet above the valley floor.
- Interact with a nonprofit organization such as **Draktsho**. They are one of a kind in Bhutan and aspire to enhance the living standard of children and youth with disabilities through empowerment by training and eventual integration with the mainstream population. Their primary focus is to equip the children with vocational skills, build self-esteem and self-reliance, make them more independent and confident, and most importantly become a contributing member of the society.

#### **Community Connections**

- Visit a **local primary school** and donate time to help in a classroom.
- Talk to the people you meet during your travels. You'll be delighted at how open to conversation the locals are, and you may surprise yourself with the new impressions formed.
- Visit the **Zilukha Nunnery**, where you will have a chance to talk with the nuns about their lives and Buddhism in general.



# Thimphu, Punakha & Paro

## Bhutan Dates: October 18-28, 2019

**\$6,299** (includes flights / double occupancy)

**\$1,199** (single supplement)

*Optional* Thailand Post Program Extension: Bangkok



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