

## Bhutan Druk Path Trekking

<b>Trip code</b>	
<b>Package name</b>	Bhutan Druk Path Trekking
<b>Duration</b>	6
<b>Max. elevation</b>	4220 m
<b>Level</b>	MODERATE
<b>Transportation</b>	Private vehicals depending on group size during the tour and trek.
<b>Accomodation</b>	3***hotel, Lodge twin sharing bed basis during the tour and trek.
<b>Starts at</b>	Paro
<b>Ends at</b>	Thimphu
<b>Trip route</b>	Paro - Jili Dhong -Jangchulakha - Jimilang Tso - Simkota Tso - Phajoding - Thimphu
<b>Cost</b>	USD 1,840 per person

## Highlights

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## Overview

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**Bhutan Druk Path Trekking is one of the relevant and finest treks which can be completed in a short period of time of 6 days. Traversing through beautiful landscapes from lush valleys to dense forests and snowcapped mountains, this trek is an ideal trip for those who are bound with the time.**

Leading through an ancient trading route, over high mountain passes, Druk Path Trekking connects the valleys of Paro and Thimphu or you can even say that this chain of mountains separates the two

valleys. This popular trek offers beautiful views of Himalayan ranges. This route passes through sparsely populated places and is also famous for wonderful high altitude lakes teeming with fish. Also this area is particularly famous for spectacular rhododendron forests which run riot in the month of May. This trek will take you the beautiful nature and cultural villages along the trail. The pristine lakes, beautiful landscape, pine & rhododendron forest and the local people meet all the way help you to make an unforgettable experience for the lifetime.

This hiking is an average altitude trip in-between 2400 to 4200 meters so every level of hikers can do this trip. The trip starts from Paro and ends in Thimphu after 6 days trekking. The trek begins by walking up through apple orchards and pine forest past ruined Jele Dzong (fortress), which sits on a high grassy ridge with breath-taking views of Mount Jumolhari to the north. In the next 4 days, we climb above the tree line and cross several passes, including the Phume La (4210m.). Enroute, we come across clear mountain lakes, number of yak herder's camps and have splendid views of Himalaya along the Bhutan – Tibet border including Mount Jumolhari, Jitchu Drake and Gangkar Punsum. Our final descent through pine and juniper forests via Phadjoding monasteries would lead into Thimphu, the capital city of Bhutan. Trail passes through spectacular rhododendron forests, alpine yak pastures and beautiful lakes stocked with snowy mountain trout. There will be a number of temples and Dzong's to visit on the way, and in the clear weather of late autumn and winter there are great views of the Himalayas. As well as being able to visit the sites of Paro and Thimphu before and after the trek, you may also enjoy a day excursion to the Punakha valley to visit the imposing Punakha Dzong. The best time for this trek is from March to May and September to November.

## **Trip Itinerary**

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### **Day 1 : Paro to Jili Dzong (3480 m, 10 km) via Damchena village – approx. 4/5 hours walk**

Embarking our trek from Paro, we drive to the road heading at the National Museum (2487m) above Paro from where we will start your trek. Keeping it slow and steady, we will significantly gain some altitude. We will walk through a gravel road heading up hill through apple orchards, smallholdings of Damchena village and pine forests. Here we will have a visit at Jili Dzong which is perched on a whaleback ridge. Jele Dzong is mostly in ruins and there is a Lhakhang with the statute of Buddha Sakyamuni. On a clear day, the views of Paro town far below and of Mount Jomolhari (7,314m) are breathtaking from this place. Our today's campsite is located at an altitude of 3480 meters above sea level.

### **Day 2 : Jili Dzong to Jangchulakha (3780 m, 10 km) – 4 hours walk**

Initiation of the trek begins with an appetizing breakfast. Then our walk take an ascent for about half an hour until the walk descends below the ridgeline to walk through the trail of thick alpine forests and rhododendrons. There are fascinating views of Jomolhari and other snowcapped mountains and you can also hear some monal peasants during the day. We continue our uphill walk to reach a yak herders' pasture at Jangchulakha (3,780m) with outstanding views of the

Himalayan range. We camp in a yak pasture near the hillside. You can also see yak herders around our campsite at the height of 3,780 meter and get an idea of how these people live.

### **Day 3 : Jangchulakha to Jimilang Tsho (3880 m, 15 km) – approx. 4/5 hours walk**

Leaving Jangchulakha, we leave our footsteps following the ridge back to Jangchu la pass (4,180m) and at times through juniper trees and dwarf rhododendrons. Our walk is 330 meters ascend and 310 meter descends on this day. The views of the mountain valleys of Thimphu and Paro are sensational. Camp is near Jimilang Tsho (Sand Ox Lake) known for its giant size trout. Also there are good views of Mount. Jitchu Drake (6,989m), the peak representing the protective deity of Paro valley.

### **Day 4 : Jimilang Tsho to Simkota Tsho (4110 m, 11 km) – approx. 4 hours walk**

Following the track, the trail traverses through dwarf rhododendron trees and Janetsho Lake. You may come across some yak herder's camp where you will have the opportunity to get a glimpse of a nomad's life. Trail winds and undulates with magnificent view of the Himalaya across deep valleys. Simkotatsho Lake (4,110m) can be seen below after crossing one final spur. A short steep descent will take you to our camp which is located at an altitude of 4110 meter at Simkota Lake. If you are lucky you can catch a lake trout for your dinner.

### **Day 5 : Simkota Tsho to Phajoding (3870 m, 10 km) – approx. 3/4 hours walk**

On the following day, our trail begins with a steady ascent to a small saddle at 4150 meter from where you enjoy majestic view of Mount Gangkar Puensum, the highest mountain in Bhutan and other Himalayan peaks on clear sunny day. Continuing our walk, we will then descend to another small lake and then climb to the Phume La pass (4,210m) which is adorned with beautiful prayer flags. From this pass, the trek takes you downhill passing through Thujidrag Goemba, a meditation center hanging on the side of a precipitous rock face. Continuing further through juniper trees to a community hall near Phajoding where you will halt for the night. Phajoding Goemba (3,870m) is an important pilgrimage site.

### **Day 6 : Phajoding to Thimphu (2320 m, 5 km) – 3 hours walk**

Concluding our trek on this trek, we trek downhill passing through a forested area of mostly blue pine until we reach Thimphu. After arriving at Thimphu, you can decide whether to stay overnight at Thimphu or further drive towards Paro.

## **Inclusions**

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### **What is included?**

Airport pick up & drop by private vehicle as your require.

Private vehicals for round trip.

Standard accommodation twin sharing bed basis for the duration of tour.

All meals fixed breakfast, lunch & dinner with Tea and Coffee for whole duration of your stay in Bhutan.

Mineral water supply for the trip.

Local licensed English speaking Bhutan Tour & Trekking Guides.

All sightseeing tours, Monument /Museum entrance Fees as per itinerary.

Country Presentation & Tour Briefing on arrival evening.

Bhutan Visa Fees and Visa Processing assistance.

The required number of trekking & touring staff.

All trekking access, route permits logistics & fees.

Luggage will be hauled by horses, mules or yaks at higher elevations.

Government tax which goes to the country's health & education projects.

### **What isn't included?**

Your travel insurance.

Bottled/alcoholic/cold drinks room service.

International airfares and airport departure tax.

Personal Equipment.

Tips to staffs-Tipping is expected.

Any others expenses which are not mentioned on Price Includes section.

### **Complimentary**