# Paro Tshechu (Festival) - 9 Days

The **Paro Tshechu Festival** is a profound cultural spectacle in Bhutan, celebrated with great zeal in the historic town of Paro. This annual event, set according to the lunar calendar, typically occurs in March or April and draws locals and tourists alike to witness a vibrant display of **Bhutanese festival costumes**, spiritual **Paro Tshechu masks**, and **Traditional dances of Bhutan**. Hosted in the courtyard of the Paro Dzong, this festival is not only a religious occasion but a social gathering where Bhutanese from various walks of life come together to celebrate their heritage, partake in spiritual cleansing, and enjoy the dramatic reenactments of Buddhist mythology through dance and music.

**Amen Bhutan Tours and Treks** stands as the premier choice for experiencing the vibrant **Paro Tshechu Festival**. Renowned for our deep cultural insights and exceptional service, we specialize in providing a comprehensive and immersive experience of this significant Bhutanese event. Our expertly crafted tours ensure guests not only witness the spectacular displays of -**Traditional dances of Bhutan** and **Bhutanese festival costumes** but also gain a profound understanding of the spiritual and historical significance behind the festivities. With Amen Bhutan Tours and Treks, travelers enjoy exclusive access to well-curated itineraries, knowledgeable guides, and seamless travel arrangements, making us the best company to guide you through the rich tapestry of **Bhutan festivals** and the unforgettable experience of the **Paro Tshechu Festival.**

# Itinerary

### Day 01: Bangkok/Kathmandu/New Delhi-Paro (2,250m)-Thimphu

**Departure**: Depart from your starting point in Bangkok, Kathmandu, or New Delhi, depending on your travel itinerary.

**Flight to Paro**: Board a flight to Paro, Bhutan, where you'll experience a breathtaking descent through the Himalayan mountains before landing at Paro International Airport, situated at an elevation of approximately 2,250 meters (7,382 feet) above sea level.

© 2026 Amen Bhutan Tours & Treks. All rights reserved.

**Immigration and Customs**: Upon arrival at Paro Airport, proceed through immigration and customs clearance. Ensure you have all necessary travel documents, including your passport and Bhutanese visa, if applicable.

**Meet and Greet**: You may be greeted by a representative from your tour operator or hotel, who will assist with transportation arrangements and transfer you to your accommodation in Thimphu, the capital city of Bhutan.

**Scenic Drive to Thimphu**: Enjoy a scenic drive from Paro to Thimphu, the political and economic center of Bhutan. The journey takes approximately 1.5 to 2 hours, offering panoramic views of lush valleys, terraced fields, and traditional Bhutanese villages along the way.

**Check-in at Hotel**: Arrive in Thimphu and check-in at your hotel. Take some time to relax and settle into your accommodations before embarking on further exploration of the city.

**Optional Activities**: Depending on your arrival time and energy levels, you may have the opportunity to explore Thimphu's attractions, such as the Tashichho Dzong (fortress-monastery), National Memorial Chorten, or the vibrant local markets.

**Evening Rest**: After a day of travel and exploration, unwind and enjoy a leisurely evening in Thimphu. Sample delicious Bhutanese cuisine, relax in the cozy ambiance of your hotel, and prepare for the adventures that await you in the days ahead.

**Briefing and Orientation**: If included in your tour package, attend a briefing or orientation session conducted by your tour guide or representative. Learn more about the itinerary for the upcoming days, as well as important information about Bhutanese customs, culture, and etiquette.

**Rest and Relaxation**: Conclude your first day in Bhutan with a well-deserved rest, reflecting on the memorable experiences of your journey and anticipating the cultural delights awaiting you in Thimphu and beyond.

## Day 02: Thimphu (2,320m)

**Breakfast**: Start your day with a hearty breakfast at your hotel or a local café, fueling up for a day of exploration in Thimphu, the vibrant capital city of Bhutan.

**City Tour**: Embark on a guided city tour of Thimphu, led by your knowledgeable local guide. Explore the unique blend of traditional Bhutanese architecture and modern influences as you visit key landmarks and cultural sites.

© 2026 Amen Bhutan Tours & Treks. All rights reserved.

**Tashichho Dzong**: Begin your sightseeing with a visit to Tashichho Dzong, an impressive fortress-monastery and the administrative headquarters of Bhutan's government. Admire the intricate woodwork, stunning murals, and serene courtyards of this historic landmark.

**National Memorial Chorten**: Continue your tour with a visit to the National Memorial Chorten, a sacred Buddhist monument built in memory of Bhutan's third king. Join locals as they circumambulate the chorten, spinning prayer wheels and offering prayers for peace and prosperity.

**Buddha Dordenma Statue**: Marvel at the majestic Buddha Dordenma Statue, one of the largest Buddha statues in the world. Standing at over 50 meters tall, this gilded bronze statue overlooks the city of Thimphu, offering panoramic views of the surrounding valley.

**Changangkha Lhakhang**: Visit Changangkha Lhakhang, an ancient temple perched on a hilltop overlooking Thimphu. Seek blessings from resident monks and soak in the tranquil atmosphere as you admire the breathtaking views of the city below.

**Craft Market and Handicrafts**: Explore Thimphu's bustling craft market, where local artisans showcase their traditional handicrafts, including intricately woven textiles, hand-carved wooden masks, and vibrant thangka paintings. Take the opportunity to shop for souvenirs and support local artisans.

**Lunch**: Enjoy a delicious lunch at a local restaurant, savoring authentic Bhutanese dishes such as ema datshi (chili and cheese stew), phaksha paa (pork curry), or momos (dumplings) served with fiery dipping sauces.

**Leisure Time**: Take some leisure time to explore Thimphu at your own pace. Stroll along the city's charming streets, interact with friendly locals, or relax in one of Thimphu's scenic parks.

**Cultural Performances (Optional)**: In the evening, consider attending a cultural performance showcasing traditional Bhutanese music, dance, and theater. Immerse yourself in the vibrant cultural heritage of Bhutan and witness the intricate artistry of local performers.

**Dinner**: Conclude your day with a delightful dinner at a local restaurant, sampling more Bhutanese delicacies or opting for international cuisine. Reflect on the highlights of your day and anticipate the adventures that await you in the days ahead in Bhutan.

## Day 03: Thimphu-Punakha (1,350m)

**Breakfast**: Begin your day with a delicious breakfast at your hotel in Thimphu, preparing yourself for the journey ahead to Punakha, a scenic valley located at a lower altitude.

© 2026 Amen Bhutan Tours & Treks. All rights reserved.

**Departure from Thimphu**: Check out from your hotel in Thimphu and meet your guide and driver for the journey to Punakha. Board your vehicle and embark on the picturesque drive through the Bhutanese countryside.

**Dochula Pass**: En route to Punakha, make a stop at Dochula Pass, a mountain pass located at an altitude of 3,100 meters (10,171 feet). Enjoy panoramic views of the Himalayan mountain range on clear days and admire the 108 memorial chortens (stupas) that adorn the pass.

**Chimi Lhakhang**: Continue your journey to Punakha and visit Chimi Lhakhang, also known as the "Temple of the Divine Madman." This charming temple is dedicated to Drukpa Kunley, a revered Buddhist saint known for his unorthodox teachings and eccentric behavior.

**Lunch**: Take a break for lunch at a local restaurant in Punakha, where you can savor traditional Bhutanese cuisine or opt for international dishes, depending on your preference.

**Punakha Dzong**: Explore Punakha Dzong, one of Bhutan's most iconic landmarks and a masterpiece of Bhutanese architecture. Set against the backdrop of the Mo Chhu (Female River) and Pho Chhu (Male River), this majestic fortress-monastery is renowned for its grandeur and historical significance.

**Suspension Bridge**: After visiting Punakha Dzong, take a leisurely stroll across the nearby suspension bridge spanning the Mo Chhu River. Enjoy panoramic views of the surrounding valley and immerse yourself in the natural beauty of the Punakha region.

**River Rafting (Optional)**: For thrill-seekers, consider participating in an exhilarating river rafting adventure on the Mo Chhu River. Navigate through gentle rapids and soak in the scenic beauty of the river valley from a unique perspective.

**Visit Local Villages**: Take the opportunity to visit nearby villages and interact with local residents, gaining insights into their traditional way of life and cultural practices. Experience the warm hospitality of the Bhutanese people as you engage in meaningful exchanges.

**Check-in at Hotel**: Arrive at your hotel in Punakha and check in for a relaxing evening. Unwind and enjoy the serene ambiance of your accommodations, surrounded by the natural splendor of the Punakha Valley.

**Dinner**: Conclude your day with a delicious dinner at your hotel or a nearby restaurant, sampling more Bhutanese specialties or international cuisine. Reflect on the highlights of your journey from Thimphu to Punakha and prepare for the adventures that await you in the days ahead.

© 2026 Amen Bhutan Tours & Treks. All rights reserved.

## Day 04: Punakha-Phobjikha (3,000m)

**Breakfast**: Start your day with a hearty breakfast at your hotel in Punakha, energizing yourself for the journey to Phobjikha, a picturesque valley nestled at an altitude of 3,000 meters (9,842 feet).

**Departure from Punakha**: Check out from your hotel in Punakha and meet your guide and driver for the scenic drive to Phobjikha. Bid farewell to the lush valleys and historic landmarks of Punakha as you embark on your next adventure.

**Wangdue Phodrang**: En route to Phobjikha, make a stop at Wangdue Phodrang, a quaint town known for its traditional architecture and bustling markets. Explore the local shops and perhaps purchase some souvenirs to commemorate your journey.

**Gangtey Monastery**: Arrive in the enchanting Phobjikha Valley and visit Gangtey Monastery, also known as Gangtey Gonpa. This revered monastery, perched atop a hill overlooking the valley, offers panoramic views of the surrounding landscape and is an important center of religious study and practice.

**Gangtey Nature Trail**: Embark on a leisurely hike along the Gangtey Nature Trail, which meanders through pristine forests and open meadows, offering opportunities for birdwatching and wildlife spotting. Keep an eye out for the rare black-necked cranes that migrate to the valley during the winter months.

**Lunch**: Take a break for lunch at a local restaurant or picnic spot in Phobjikha, where you can enjoy a delicious meal amidst the natural beauty of the valley.

**Black-Necked Crane Information Center**: Visit the Black-Necked Crane Information Center, dedicated to the conservation of these endangered birds and the promotion of environmental awareness in the Phobjikha Valley. Learn about the migratory patterns and habitat of the black-necked cranes through interactive exhibits and educational programs.

**Explore Local Villages**: Take the opportunity to explore the charming villages of Phobjikha and interact with local residents. Gain insights into their traditional way of life, agricultural practices, and cultural traditions as you stroll through the picturesque countryside.

**Check-in at Hotel**: Arrive at your hotel or guesthouse in Phobjikha and check-in for a relaxing evening. Unwind and enjoy the serene ambiance of your accommodations, surrounded by the tranquil beauty of the valley.

© 2026 Amen Bhutan Tours & Treks. All rights reserved.

**Dinner**: Conclude your day with a delightful dinner at your hotel or a nearby restaurant, savoring Bhutanese specialties or international cuisine. Reflect on the natural wonders and cultural experiences of your journey from Punakha to Phobjikha, and prepare for the adventures that await you in the days ahead.

## Day 05: Phobjikha-Thimphu

**Breakfast**: Begin your day with a wholesome breakfast at your accommodation in Phobjikha, fueling up for the journey back to Thimphu, the capital city of Bhutan.

**Departure from Phobjikha**: Check out from your hotel or guesthouse in Phobjikha and meet your guide and driver for the return journey to Thimphu. Bid farewell to the serene beauty of the Phobjikha Valley as you embark on the scenic drive back to the capital.

**Wangdue Phodrang**: En route to Thimphu, make a stop at Wangdue Phodrang, where you can stretch your legs, explore the local market, and perhaps purchase some souvenirs or snacks for the journey ahead.

**Scenic Drive**: Enjoy the picturesque drive through the Bhutanese countryside, passing through lush valleys, terraced fields, and quaint villages along the way. Take in the breathtaking mountain scenery as you wind your way back towards Thimphu.

**Optional Stops**: Depending on your preferences and interests, you may have the opportunity to make additional stops along the route to Thimphu. Consider visiting local landmarks, viewpoints, or cultural sites to further enrich your journey.

**Lunch**: Take a break for lunch at a local restaurant or roadside eatery, where you can savor delicious Bhutanese cuisine or international dishes, depending on your taste preferences.

**Return to Thimphu**: Continue your journey back to Thimphu, retracing your steps through familiar landscapes and landmarks. As you approach the capital, soak in the bustling atmosphere and vibrant energy of Bhutan's largest city.

**Check-in at Hotel**: Arrive in Thimphu and check back into your hotel or accommodations. Freshen up and relax after the day's travels, settling back into the comforts of your temporary home in the capital.

**Leisure Time**: Enjoy some leisure time to explore Thimphu at your own pace. Consider revisiting favorite landmarks, shopping for souvenirs, or simply strolling through the city streets to soak in the sights and sounds of Bhutan's vibrant capital.

© 2026 Amen Bhutan Tours & Treks. All rights reserved.

**Dinner**: Conclude your day with a satisfying dinner at a local restaurant, sampling more Bhutanese specialties or international cuisine. Reflect on the experiences of your journey from Phobjikha to Thimphu, appreciating the diverse landscapes and cultural encounters along the way.

## Day 06: Thimphu-Paro

**Breakfast**: Begin your day with a nutritious breakfast at your hotel in Thimphu, preparing yourself for the journey to Paro, a scenic town located in the Paro Valley.

**Departure from Thimphu**: Check out from your hotel in Thimphu and meet your guide and driver for the drive to Paro. Bid farewell to the capital city and set out on the road towards your next destination.

**Scenic Drive**: Enjoy the scenic drive from Thimphu to Paro, taking in the breathtaking views of the Himalayan mountains, lush valleys, and traditional Bhutanese villages along the way. The journey offers ample opportunities for photography and appreciation of Bhutan's natural beauty.

**Optional Stops**: Depending on your interests and preferences, you may have the option to make stops at points of interest along the route from Thimphu to Paro. Consider visiting local landmarks, viewpoints, or cultural sites to enhance your journey.

**Visit to Paro Town**: Upon arrival in Paro, explore the charming town at your leisure. Take a stroll through the streets lined with traditional Bhutanese architecture, visit local shops and markets, and immerse yourself in the relaxed atmosphere of Paro.

**Lunch**: Take a break for lunch at a local restaurant in Paro, where you can sample authentic Bhutanese cuisine or international dishes, depending on your preferences. Savor the flavors of Bhutan as you recharge for the rest of the day's activities.

**Visit to Paro Dzong**: Explore Paro Dzong, also known as Rinpung Dzong, a fortress-monastery that serves as the administrative and religious center of the Paro district. Marvel at the impressive architecture, intricate woodwork, and stunning murals as you learn about the history and significance of this cultural landmark.

**Leisure Time**: Enjoy some leisure time to relax and unwind in Paro. Take advantage of the serene ambiance of the town to recharge your batteries and soak in the peaceful surroundings.

**Check-in at Hotel**: Arrive at your hotel in Paro and check-in for a comfortable stay. Freshen up and settle into your accommodations, enjoying the amenities and hospitality provided.

© 2026 Amen Bhutan Tours & Treks. All rights reserved.

**Dinner**: Conclude your day with a delicious dinner at your hotel or a nearby restaurant in Paro. Reflect on the experiences of your journey from Thimphu to Paro, appreciating the sights, sounds, and flavors of Bhutan along the way.

## Day 07: Paro (Festival attend)

**Breakfast**: Start your day with a hearty breakfast at your hotel in Paro, preparing yourself for a day filled with festivities at the Paro Tshechu, one of Bhutan's most significant religious celebrations.

**Attend Paro Tshechu**: Head to the festival grounds where the Paro Tshechu is being held. The festival typically takes place at Paro's main monastery or dzong and features a vibrant display of traditional Bhutanese culture, including mask dances, religious rituals, and colorful performances.

**Witness Mask Dances**: Watch mesmerizing mask dances performed by monks and laymen, each dance depicting religious stories, legends, and moral teachings. Marvel at the intricate costumes, elaborate masks, and graceful movements of the dancers as they bring Bhutanese folklore to life.

**Participate in Rituals**: Take part in the various rituals and ceremonies conducted as part of the festival, such as the offering of prayers, recitation of sacred texts, and symbolic rituals believed to bring blessings and protection.

**Immerse in Buddhist Tradition**: Immerse yourself in the rich Buddhist tradition of Bhutan as you observe monks and devotees engage in religious practices and spiritual activities. Gain insights into the significance of the festival and its role in preserving Bhutanese cultural heritage.

**Explore Festival Grounds**: Explore the festival grounds and interact with locals and fellow festival-goers. Browse through stalls selling traditional handicrafts, textiles, and religious artifacts, and sample local delicacies offered at food stalls.

**Photography Opportunities**: Capture the vibrant colors, intricate details, and festive atmosphere of the Paro Tshechu through photography. Document your experiences and create lasting memories of this unique cultural event.

**Attend Special Events (Optional)**: Depending on the festival schedule, you may have the opportunity to attend special events such as cultural performances, religious teachings, or exhibitions showcasing Bhutanese art and craftsmanship.

**Stay Hydrated and Energized**: With a full day of festivities ahead, remember to stay hydrated and energized by drinking plenty of water and eating nutritious snacks. Pace yourself and take breaks as needed to fully enjoy the festival experience.

© 2026 Amen Bhutan Tours & Treks. All rights reserved.

**Cultural Immersion**: Embrace the spirit of the Paro Tshechu and immerse yourself in the cultural traditions and spiritual essence of Bhutan. Engage with locals, participate in rituals, and witness the profound significance of this annual celebration.

**Dinner**: Conclude your day at the Paro Tshechu with a satisfying dinner at your hotel or a local restaurant. Reflect on the memorable experiences of the festival and the cultural insights gained during your time in Paro.

## Day 08: Paro

**Breakfast**: Begin your day with a leisurely breakfast at your hotel in Paro, enjoying a variety of delicious dishes to fuel yourself for the day's activities.

**Visit Paro Taktsang (Tiger's Nest)**: Embark on a memorable excursion to Paro Taktsang, also known as the Tiger's Nest monastery. Perched precariously on a cliffside overlooking the Paro Valley, this iconic Buddhist site is a must-visit destination in Bhutan. Enjoy a scenic hike through pine forests and mountainous terrain to reach the monastery, soaking in breathtaking views along the way.

**Explore Paro Town**: After returning from Paro Taktsang, take some time to explore the charming town of Paro. Wander through its quaint streets lined with traditional Bhutanese architecture, visit local shops and markets, and immerse yourself in the laid-back atmosphere of this picturesque valley town.

**Optional Activities**: Depending on your interests, you may choose to engage in various optional activities in Paro. Consider visiting other cultural sites such as the National Museum of Bhutan, Rinpung Dzong, or Kyichu Lhakhang. Alternatively, relax and unwind at a local spa or indulge in traditional Bhutanese hot stone bath therapy for a rejuvenating experience.

**Shopping**: Shop for souvenirs and handicrafts at Paro's local markets and boutiques. Browse through a diverse array of items including handmade textiles, intricate woodcarvings, Bhutanese masks, and locally produced goods. Take home unique treasures as mementos of your time in Bhutan.

**Lunch**: Enjoy a delicious lunch at a local restaurant in Paro, sampling authentic Bhutanese cuisine or international dishes. Savor the flavors of Bhutan while taking in the scenic views of the surrounding mountains and valleys.

**Relaxation and Reflection**: Take advantage of the afternoon to relax and reflect on your experiences in Bhutan. Find a peaceful spot to unwind, journal about your adventures, or simply soak in the natural beauty and serenity of Paro.

© 2026 Amen Bhutan Tours & Treks. All rights reserved.

**Photography**: Capture the beauty of Paro's landscapes and cultural landmarks through photography. Whether it's the colorful prayer flags fluttering in the breeze, the intricate architecture of ancient temples, or the sweeping vistas of the Himalayas, there are countless opportunities for stunning photographs in Paro.

**Evening Stroll**: Take a leisurely evening stroll through Paro town, soaking in the ambiance of the twilight hours. Witness the glow of sunset casting a warm hue over the valley, and perhaps encounter locals going about their evening routines.

**Dinner**: Conclude your day with a delightful dinner at your hotel or a local restaurant, indulging in delectable Bhutanese cuisine or international fare. Reflect on the highlights of your time in Paro and cherish the memories created during your stay in this enchanting valley town.

## Day 09: Paro-Departure

**Final Breakfast**: Enjoy your last breakfast in Paro at your hotel or a local café, savoring the flavors of Bhutanese cuisine or international dishes before your departure.

**Check-out**: Complete the check-out process at your hotel, settling any outstanding bills and ensuring that you have all your belongings packed and ready for departure.

**Transfer to Paro Airport**: Meet your guide and driver for the transfer to Paro International Airport, where you will begin your journey home or onward to your next destination.

**Flight Check-in**: Arrive at Paro Airport and proceed through the check-in process for your departing flight. Ensure that you have all necessary travel documents, including your passport, tickets, and any required visas.

**Security and Immigration**: Pass through security and immigration clearance, following all instructions from airport staff and adhering to security protocols.

**Final Farewell to Bhutan**: Take a moment to bid farewell to Bhutan, reflecting on the memories and experiences you have gathered during your time in this enchanting Himalayan kingdom.

**Boarding**: Board your departing flight from Paro Airport, settle into your seat, and prepare for the journey ahead.

© 2026 Amen Bhutan Tours & Treks. All rights reserved.

**Flight Departure**: Depart from Paro Airport and begin your flight back home or to your next destination. Sit back, relax, and enjoy the views as you soar over the majestic Himalayas one last time.

**Reflection**: Use the flight time to reflect on your Bhutanese adventure, recalling the sights, sounds, and encounters that have enriched your journey.

**Arrival at Destination**: Arrive at your final destination, whether it be your home city or a connecting hub, and proceed with any onward travel arrangements as necessary.

**End of Journey**: With your safe arrival at your destination, your Bhutanese journey officially comes to an end. Cherish the memories and experiences you have gained, and perhaps start planning your next adventure to the Land of the Thunder Dragon.

# Cost Details

## What's Included

- ✓ Bhutan Royalties, tourists fees, Visa fees and taxes.
- ✓ Accommodations in listed or similar hotels (pleasant hotels 3 star) during the tour.
- ✓ All meals, including evening tea/coffee etc through-out the trip.
- ✓ All land transfers, sightseeing with entrance fees
- ✓ Bottled water in the vehicle and other camp services.

## What's Not Included

- ⊗ Luxury hotel upgrades available at additional cost.
- ⊗ Travel insurance
- ⊗ Expenses of personal nature
- ⊗ Drinks like beer, whisky, coke, fanta and Mineral water

© 2026 Amen Bhutan Tours & Treks. All rights reserved.

- Telephone and internet

© 2026 Amen Bhutan Tours & Treks. All rights reserved.