



Dates April 24-28, 2010 (festival dates)

Trip Duration 12 nights / 13 days

Difficulty Rating Easy

Highlights Ura is located in a beautiful and secluded valley in Central Bhutan just beyond the terminus of most tourist itineraries. As a result, this festival remains one of the most traditionally authentic.

Cost Cost depends on the group size. Contact us for details. Costs will include ground transportation to and from Paro airport, transportation and entrance fees to all listed activities, entry fees, all meals, accommodations.

- Itinerary**
- Day 1 Arrive at Paro Airport. You will be received by our guide at the Paro International Airport and escorted to your hotel for refreshment. Visit the National Museum of Bhutan and Paro Dzong. Overnight at hotel.
 - Day 2 Paro. In the morning, hike to the Kila Goenpa nunnery for superb views in all directions - the Haa Valley, Taktshang Goenpa, the Paro valley. Lunch at hotel. Dinner and overnight at hotel.
 - Day 3 Paro - Thimphu. Hike to Tiger's Nest, Taktshang Monastery. Lunch at Taktshang teahouse with its spectacular view of the famous monastery. Evening drive to Thimphu. Overnight at hotel.
 - Day 4 Thimphu. After breakfast, visit the National Library to see some unique and historic books. Our books are not hardbound in the typical manner. Next, the Traditional Painting School and then the Traditional Paper Factory. After lunch, souvenir shopping or more touring, as you wish. Dinner and overnight at hotel.
 - Day 5 Thimphu. Day excursion to the 13th century Phadoding Monastery built by Phajo Drugom Zhigpo. Lunch box will be served on route. Dinner and overnight at hotel.
 - Day 6 Thimphu - Punakha. Morning drive to Punakha via Dochu-la Pass (10,000 ft). On clear days there are excellent views of the Himalayas. Afternoon sightseeing of the Punakha and Wangdue Valleys. Overnight at hotel.
 - Day 7 Punakha - Trongsa. Drive to Trongsa with a stop at Chendebji Chorten. Check-in and lunch in the hotel. In the afternoon, make an excursion to Kuenga Rabten, an ancestral home of the Royal Family. Overnight at hotel.
 - Day 8 Trongsa - Bumthang. In the morning you can have free time to wander around the Trongsa Township and visit the Dzong. After lunch we will drive to Bumthang. Dinner and overnight at lodge.
 - Day 9 Bumthang. This is a day of visiting holy sites: monasteries and dzongs, including Jambay Lhakhang, Kurjey Lhakhang, Tamzhing Monastery and Kuenchosum Lhakhang. After lunch, visit the Jakar Dzong known as the "Fortress of the White Bird." Overnight at hotel.
 - Day 10 Bumthang - Ura - Bumthang. Drive to the isolated village of Ura for a full day at the Ura Tshechu festival. Return to Bumthang for overnight.
 - Day 11 Bumthang - Trongsa - Wangdue. After breakfast, begin our return west by driving through Trongsa back to Wangdue. Overnight in hotel in Wangdue.
 - Day 12 Wangdue - Paro. Drive from Wangdue to Paro via Dochu-la Pass and Thimphu. Farewell dinner and overnight at hotel.
 - Day 13 Paro. Early morning drive to Paro international airport after breakfast.

