

Earthbound Expeditions

India, Nepal, Bhutan Tour

18 days, from US$5,487 per person

Duration	Group size	Country
18 days	**8 people**	**Bhutan**

India, Nepal, Bhutan Tour Overview

India, Nepal and Bhutan tour: a multi-country tour in Asia

India, Nepal and Bhutan tour: a multi-country tour in Asia

A cultural journey through the Himalayan countries of South Asia

This tour visits the best-known landmarks of India, Nepal and Bhutan, with their history, architecture, views of the Himalaya and scenic drives.

The India, Nepal and Bhutan tour is a cultural journey from the plains of India to the mountains of Nepal and Bhutan, often called the last Shangri-la on earth. The three countries are very different from each other.

In India, you see Old and New Delhi and then the Pink City of Jaipur in Rajasthan. Next is the Taj Mahal, after which you continue to Varanasi by overnight train. You take a boat ride on the Ganges River and see Hindu pilgrims praying and bathing in this holy city.

We then drive to Nepal, where we first visit Lumbini, the birthplace of Lord Buddha, before going to the jungles of Chitwan National Park to look for rhinos, Royal Bengal tigers and other wild animals. Next is Kathmandu, the Nepalese capital and a former hippie destination, where we take you on a sightseeing tour of the heritage sites of the Kathmandu Valley.

From Nepal we fly to Bhutan, the Dragon Kingdom, known as the last Shangri-la on earth. After landing in Paro, we explore the capital, Thimphu, visit the Tiger's Nest Monastery, and see the alpine countryside of Punakha and its dzongs.

The India, Nepal and Bhutan tour lets you explore the cultures and natural landscapes of all three countries.

India, Nepal and Bhutan tour: a multi-country tour in Asia.

If you do not have time to visit all three countries, you can combine two, for example India and Nepal, or visit Nepal alone. If you have more time, you can also explore Tibet. Contact us for more details.

Itinerary

Day 1

Arrive in Delhi, India

Arrive in Delhi, India. An Earthbound Expeditions representative meets you and takes you to check in to your hotel.

Altitude: 215 m On foot: None, arrival day Night: Hotel, Delhi Meals: None

Day 2

Delhi sightseeing

Visit Old and New Delhi: the Red Fort, built by Emperor Shah Jahan; Jama Masjid, the largest mosque in India; Raj Ghat, the memorial to Mahatma Gandhi; a walk along Chandni Chowk, the busy silver street of Delhi; India Gate, a victory arch; Rashtrapati Bhavan, the presidential residence; the Parliament (Sansad Bhavan); the Secretariat government buildings; and Connaught Place, the commercial and business centre.

Altitude: 215 m On foot: Easy walking, 2–3 hrs Night: Hotel, Delhi Meals: Breakfast

Day 3

Drive to Jaipur, the Pink City

• Amber Fort. • Hawa Mahal (Palace of the Winds). • City Palace Museum. • Jantar Mantar.

Altitude: 430 m On foot: None, 5–6 hr drive Night: Hotel, Jaipur Meals: Breakfast

Day 4

Jaipur to Agra and the Taj Mahal

• Sightseeing in Jaipur. • Drive to Agra to visit the Taj Mahal. • Overnight train from Agra to Varanasi.

Altitude: 80 m On foot: Easy walking, 2–3 hrs Night: Overnight train, Agra to Varanasi Meals: Breakfast

Day 6

Varanasi and the Ganges

• Explore the old town of Varanasi and take a sunrise boat ride on the Ganges River. • Visit Sarnath, where the Buddha first preached.

Altitude: 80 m On foot: Easy walking, 2–3 hrs Night: Hotel, Varanasi Meals: Breakfast

Day 7

Drive to Lumbini, the birthplace of the Buddha

Drive to Lumbini in Nepal, a holy site for Buddhists. Visit the Lumbini garden area, the birthplace of Lord Buddha, and join a meditation session.

Altitude: 150 m On foot: None, 9–10 hr drive Night: Hotel, Lumbini Meals: Breakfast

Day 9

Chitwan National Park, Nepal

• Drive across Nepal's Terai region to Chitwan National Park, one of the finest national parks in Asia and the first in Nepal. Jungle safari activities.

Altitude: 150 m On foot: Short walks Night: Lodge, Chitwan Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 11

Chitwan to Kathmandu

• Visit Boudhanath Stupa and Pashupatinath Temple. a. Swayambhunath, the Monkey Temple. b. Patan Durbar Square. Note: • a scenic mountain flight for views of Mount Everest is also available.

Altitude: 1,400 m On foot: None, 5–6 hr drive Night: Hotel, Kathmandu Meals: Breakfast

Day 13

Fly to Paro, drive to Thimphu

• Fly along the Himalayan range to Paro, Bhutan. • Drive to the capital, Thimphu. • Visit the fortress and the painting schools in Thimphu.

Altitude: 2,320 m On foot: Easy walking, 1–2 hrs Night: Hotel, Thimphu Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 14

Drive to the Punakha valley

• Drive to the Punakha valley via the Dochula pass, through the Bhutanese countryside.

Altitude: 1,200 m On foot: None, 3 hr drive Night: Hotel, Punakha Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 15

Drive to Paro and hike to Tiger's Nest

• Drive to Paro. • Visit Taktsang (Tiger's Nest) Monastery and explore the local villages and countryside.

Altitude: 2,200 m On foot: 4–5 hrs Night: Hotel, Paro Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 17

Trip ends in Paro, Bhutan

The trip ends in Paro today, so you need to arrange your onward flight. Approximate costs to the following destinations are: • Delhi USD 396 • Bangkok USD 461 • Kathmandu USD 247 • Calcutta USD 267. Note: these flight costs are indicative only, and the actual fare may change when the ticket is issued. Alternatively, • you can extend the trip to Sikkim and Darjeeling, or to Tibet, at extra cost after the tour ends in Paro, Bhutan.

Altitude: 2,200 m On foot: None, departure day Night: No overnight Meals: Breakfast

What's included

- All accommodation in India, Nepal and Bhutan at 3-star level.
- Full board meals in Chitwan and Bhutan.
- All breakfasts.
- Private transfers.
- Sightseeing tours.
- Professional English-speaking tour guides.
- All airport pick-ups and transfers.
- Farewell dinner with a Nepali cultural show.
- Return flights from Kathmandu to Bhutan.
- Travel permits.
- Bhutan visa fees.
- Entrance fees to the main monuments in Bhutan.

Not included

- International flight tickets.
- All personal items and personal travel insurance.
- A few lunches and dinners.
- Tips for guides and drivers.
- Mountain and road rescue.
- Other emergency evacuations, which are charged if necessary.
- Expenses arising from illness, landslides, political disturbances, re-routing, flight cancellations and any other unforeseen events outside our control.
- Drinks, telephone bills, laundry, postage, etc.
- Nepal and India visa costs.

Photos, videos and reviews of this trip: earthbound.rajansimkhada.com/india-nepal-bhutan-tour