

Transportation

We use comfortable and modern Toyota cars, land cruisers, SUVs and coaster buses for all group sizes. Every vehicle is rechecked properly before every tour to ensure the safety and comfort for all our client.

Shopping

Bhutan is popular for its hand-woven textiles, cane and bamboo products, handicrafts, woven baskets handmade paper products, thangka paintings, wooden bowls, carved masks, textiles finely crafted metal objects and Bhutan's postage stamps.

Food

Bhutanese food is known for being very hot and spicy. However for our visitors both international cuisine and authentic Bhutanese food is served. The more adventurous can try hot Bhutanese dishes. For visitors on trek we serve simple but nutritious and tasty dishes. Meals are normally served in buffet style in hotels.

Festivals

Bhutan is one of the most religious countries in the Buddhist world. Like all Buddhist nations, festivals have a special place in the hearts of Bhutanese people. Most of the festivals have their roots in their Buddhist religion. The largest annual festival in Bhutan is known as "Tsechu", an event honouring Guru Rinpoche through religious dances. These religious festivals are a perfect occasion to catch a glimpse of Bhutanese culture and tradition. Tsechus take place annually in and around the great Dzongs, attracting both tourists and large number of locals from the surrounding villages. The dates and the duration of the Tsechu festivals may vary among Dzongkhags (Districts) but they always fall on or around the 10th day of the month in the Bhutanese calendar. It is believed that merit is gained by attending this religious festival. The festival is filled with series of mask dances performed to bless onlookers, to teach the Buddhist Dharma to protect them from misfortune and to exorcise all evil. Apart from the religious implications, the Tsechu is also an annual social gathering where people dress in their finest clothing and jewellery. Small fair may be organized outside the Dzong for those looking for a variety of entertainments.



Climate

The weather in Bhutan is dependent on the altitude and varies from region to another. The central valleys of Punakha, Wangdi Phodrang, Mongar, Trashigang and Lhuntsi have a semi-tropical weather with cool winters while Ha, Paro, Thimphu, Trongsa and Bumthang have a much harsher climate with snowfalls in the winter. Southern Bhutan is tropical with a monsoon season. The temperatures in the valleys where most of the tourist activities take place range from 16-18 degree C (60-65 degree F) in the winters and temperatures from 27-29 degree C (80-84 degree F) in the spring. The monsoons arrive in mid-June which is the period of the rainy seasons. Autumn is extremely pleasant and ideal for trekking.



Maebar Tours & Treks specializes in customized tours on:

*Architecture *Birdwatching *Botanical *Filming *Photography *Nature
*Festival *Meditational Retreat *Pilgrimage *Bicycling *River Rafting &
kayaking *Honeymoon *Textile Weaving *Agrcultural *Standard Cultural
Tours *Trekking Programmes

Our approach is simple. We beleive that a successfu; holiday would depend on the synergy between you and us. Therefore we do not list and itineraries in our brochure because we custom design holidays to suit your special needs and individual interest

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Your local guide



Time Difference

Bhutan standard time is six hours ahead of GMT and Bhutan is thirty (30) minutes ahead of Indian Standard Time, one hour behind Thailand and 15 minutes ahead of Nepal

Photography

The natural beauty of green valleys, unique architecture of Dzongs and monasteries-castles, dense forests, and rolling hills on the countryside makes it perfect for the photographers to take pictures.

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About Bhutan

The Last Shangri-La on earth, shrouded in mystery to many is a tiny Buddhist kingdom tucked in the heart of Himalayas between China to the north and India to the south. Bhutan is one of the most sought after travel destination in the world. Perhaps the only nation that measures development in terms of “happiness”. The vision of our king popularly known as Gross National Happiness in other parts of the world. Home to the exotic rare species of flora and fauna. Bhutan has been voted as the top ten global hotspots in the world. The country’s various habitats are believed to contain over 5500 species of plants, and close to 200 species of mammals and over 600 species of birds.

Currency

The national currency of Bhutan is Ngultrum. It is at par with Indian rupee which is widely accepted in Bhutan except for the denomination of 500 notes which are banned in Bhutan because of counterfeit. You can exchange your money with Ngultrum at the airport, hotels or from the Bank of Bhutan and Bhutan National Bank. There are no international ATM centers in Bhutan. Credit cards are accepted in very few hotels and shops. All credit card transactions take extra time and are cumbersome to use. It is preferable to use checks and cash dollars.

Things to bring

As with all travel, the less you carry, the easier it is to move around and the less there is to misplace. Due to wide range of temperature and climatic conditions it would be advisable to bring appropriate clothing. From May to September, cotton clothes are sufficient plus a woollen sweater or light jacket. From October to the end of April, you will need very warm clothes including long johns or woollen tights to wear under trousers and down jackets or coat. During visits to monasteries, Dzongs and other religious institution requires one to wear to be dressed appropriately. Casual clothes are generally more suitable though a set of formal wear might come in handy for festivals or in the likely event that you are being invited to a Bhutanese home or a social function. You will be outside a lot so you might also want to carry sunglasses, sun caps, sunscreen lotion and lip protection. Rain gear will be a useful item in your check list if you are traveling during the monsoon season from June through July

Medical Services

Every district in Bhutan has a general hospital and is staffed with competent doctors and offer basic health services.



Best time to visit

The best time to visit Bhutan is during Spring - February, March, April, may, and in Autumn - August, September, October and November. The other months are either cold or rainy but they have their own charm.

Language

The official language of Bhutan is called Dzongkha. Two most spoken languages of Bhutan are Sharchop and Dzongkha. There are 19 dialects in Bhutan. English Language is also widely spoken in Bhutan. The guides are all trained and can speak fluent English.

Photography

The natural beauty of green valleys, unique architecture of Dzongs and monasteries-castles, dense forests, and rolling hills on the countryside makes it perfect for the photographers to take pictures.

Hotels

All tourist hotels/ resorts in Bhutan are approved and regulated by Tourism Authority of Bhutan. We put our clients in the best hotels available in Bhutan. There are also few five star hotels in Bhutan however that comes in with the additional charges.