

Newsletter

November-December
2017

The Norbu Bhutan Bimonthly

Dear Readers,

Greetings from Norbu Bhutan Travel!

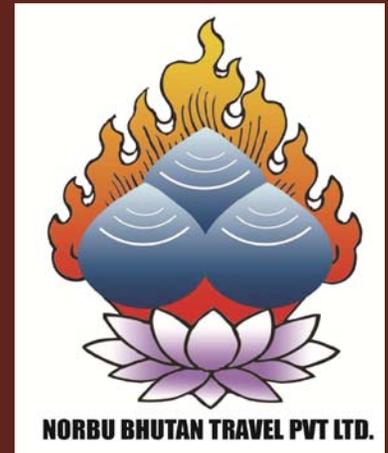
The purpose of our electronic bimonthly newsletter is to keep our clients in the picture as to what is of interest or new in the Bhutan travel industry. It is a step to enhance our service to nurture the bonds of trust and goodwill with our guests and partners on which lie the foundations of our company.

Started in 2008, we have earned a reputation for excellence in the travel industry. Today, we are a professional and competitive inbound tour operator that has successfully avoided the pitfall of over expansion at the risk of losing the "personal touch" that we foster in all our services. We boast a hand selected network of hotels, highly trained guides and the best of transportation facilities. Above all, we make it our business to provide our guests with the journey a lifetime that is made easier by the unique beauty of Bhutan.

Our company is licensed by the **Tourism Council of Bhutan**, which is the government agency monitoring all tourism policies, guidelines and activities. We are also an active member of the **Association of Bhutanese Tour Operators**.

Tashi Delek

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News in Brief ... Preserving Nation's cultural landscapes

At the panel session for management of cultural sites for cultural landscape sustenance in Thimphu yesterday, management plans for three identified cultural landscape were presented. Management plans for six cultural landscapes: Buli, Ramtoe, Ura, Nabji, Gangtey, and Rinchengang were discussed before a plan was developed. However, these identified sites are not confirmed as cultural landscape heritage. Senior architect with Department of Culture, Yeshe Samdrup, said that the crucial part of the management plan is the assessment of the values of the site. He added that through interviews, assessments, and history of the site, value and worthiness of the site is recognised. "We also carry out a comparative analysis, why the village should be protected or holds more value than others. These will be analysed and will define the value." The management plan will also include value of the site, incentives, rules and regulations for developmental activities of the identified site.

Places to Visit... Tashichho Dzong



Tashichho Dzong stands to this day, as one of the most important structures today as well as in Bhutanese history. The dzong is known as "The fortress of auspicious religion" when it's translated from Dzongkha (The local language in Bhutan) to English. This large and impressive structure with large golden Bhutanese-style spires on top also contains the throne room of His Majesty the King of Bhutan. Part of the year during the warmer summer months, his Holiness, the Je Khenpo, who is the head of the central monk body in Bhutan also makes his home in this dzong. The dzong (Monastery) was built in 1641 by Zhabdrung Ngawang Namgyal who is famously known as the founder of Bhutan. The fortress was renovated in 1962 by the third king of Bhutan, His Majesty, Jigme Dorji Wangchuk.

The original dzong was built in 1216. It was known as the Dho-Ngyen Dzong (Blue Stone Dzong) and it was built by Lama (High Monk) Gyalwa Lhanangpa. Soon after, Lama Phajo Drugom Shigpo, who first brought the Drukpa Kagyupa lineage to Bhutan, took it over. It wasn't until 1641 that Zhabdrung Ngawang Namgyal acquired the dzong and completely rebuilt it. Henceforth the dzong came to be known as the Tashichho Dzong of today.

UP COMING FESTIVAL... MONGGAR TSHECHU, 25TH-28TH NOVEMBER

Mongar in eastern Bhutan is largely known as the "Bastion of the Zhongarps," after the illustrious Dzongpons of Zhongar that played significant role in the history of Bhutan. One can still see the ruins of the Zhongar Dzong next to the highway in Lingmethang before reaching Monggar.



The main inhabitants of this region are the Tshanglas and the Kurtoeps. They speak distinct languages known as Tshanglakha and Kurtoepaikha. This region is famous for its exquisite wood carvings. The new Dzong in Monggar was built at the initiative of the third King Jigme Dorji Wangchuck in 1953. Today the dzong is the centre of administration where all important decisions are taken. The most exciting local event is the annual three day Tshechu that is held every November. It is witnessed by people from as far as Trashigang and Lhuentse. There are numerous local Tshechus in this region all with their own unique dances and traditions. They occur at various times throughout the year so visitors can be assured that no matter when they visit a fantastic and colorful local festival will be taking place.

Highlights ... Chortens (Stupas)



Chortens (Stupas) are found all over Bhutan in various locations. It is in fact the most visible sight in Bhutan considering how deeply the country is immersed in Buddhism. These religious structures are found on mountains, passes, road-sides, river banks hills and even in towns and monasteries.

Yangkhil Resort, Trongsa Bhutan

Elegant and beautiful is how you'd best describe the magnificent resort of Yangkhil. Situated in Trongsa which was once the most politically powerful district in Bhutan, Yangkhil Resort is the perfect place for accommodation.

The view of Trongsa from Yangkhil is simply spectacular, and it is an awesome place to take a vacation considering the beautiful scenery and the efficient and high quality services.



Yangkhil Resort offers 21 modern designed rooms, each of which is combined with traditional Bhutanese architecture. The rooms are all equipped with radiator heating system and has spacious sitting area, comfortable bedding and a wardrobe. Large private balconies offer great views of the historic Trongsa Dzong and the Ta Dzong. Bathrooms consist of hot running water (24/7) and all the necessary amenities.

Optimize your vacation in Trongsa and delight yourself with the wonderful services and sheer elegance of Yangkhil Resort.

Highlights of Yangkhil Resort

- Indoor dining room, built with traditional architecture
- Outdoor open air dining with breathtaking views
- Delightful Bhutanese, Continental, Indian and Chinese Cuisine
- Conference hall with the capacity of 40 heads
- Business Centre
- Utility shop
- Salon
- Laundry service

For Reservations and Enquiries

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“Address: R Penjor Building, Norzin Lam, Thimphu, Bhutan, Contact: +975 17116661/17117771”



Did you know? Bhutan is the only nation in the world where the **sale of tobacco** is **banned**.

Expected Temperature in Nov-Dec 2017

Month	Values in Celsius	Paro	Thimphu	Punakha	Trongsa	Bumthang	Mongar	Trashigang
Nov	Max	13.9	17.9	22.6	19.8	16.1	19.9	26.1
	Min	1.4	5.0	9.6	6.4	-0.5	11.2	13.6
Dec	Max	11.2	14.5	19.1	18.2	12.3	17.7	23.0
	Min	-1.7	-1.1	6.3	2.5	-2.3	9.5	11.6

*To be noted that average temperatures are recorded from valley floors. There can be considerable divergences from the recorded figures depending upon elevation

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