Norbu Bhutan
Travel Pvt . Ltd

Newsletter 1st Quarter 2022

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO.

Mr. Yeshey Norbu

Hello Family,

The holiday season is upon us and you can feel the change in your emotions and energy. It's clear what is important in your life - your family, friends, colleagues and your spirit of giving.

For most of you, it can get overwhelming and for some of you magical.

This is the season to slow down a little and reflect on the time that has passed by like a dream. Only memories remain.

You have to also think about how you can be a step ahead and make your life easy when it comes to your family, business and your social circles.

I hear stress is inevitable in a season that creates lots of together time but I always wonder why.

Here is the solution, you will feel stifled and misunderstood during your holidays, so too others can feel overrun or overlooked by our misconceptions.

I think the best gift you can give people this holiday is your compassion along with your gift.
Show up, be there for them, ask questions about them, pay attention to them – it's always been about them.

This way you do so much healing and create a safe, loving environment for them to be able to show you who they are right now in this season of life.

We are always happy when making progress and change. This holiday transform yourself, look on the bright side and it is for you to create happy emotional experiences to share.

Remember the secret to living is giving.

If you are planning a getaway, be extra selective about the destination and plan well ahead.

Stay safe, have a delightful holiday season and a good year ahead.

Yeshey Norbu
CEO
Norbu Bhutan Travels.

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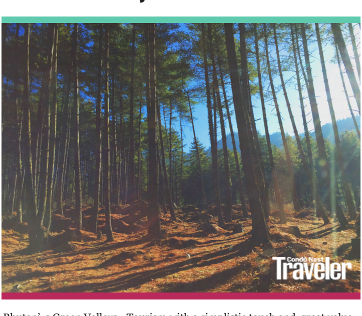
Sustainable Destination You'd Love to Travel In 2022 by Conde Nast Traveller.



Bhutan' s Green Valleys - Tourism with a simplistic touch and great value. Are you a sustainable adventurer who evaluates why we travel and want to ensure that you are going somewhere that will do more good than bad? If the answer is a resounding "Yes," then Bhutan is the ideal getaway for you. This captivating travel destination is the last standing Buddhist Kingdom in the world.
Bhutan's constitution regulates tourism and forest protection, taking the "less is more" philosophy when opening its borders to visitors. It has certainly paid off for this tiny Himalayan kingdom, which is one of the world's only carbon-negative nations.
Keeping Bhutan's minimum daily package rate in mind, inbound tourism is carefully targeted, with fewer visitors spending more money. This strategy ensures that guests are warmly welcomed into this compassionate, inclusive community, with few barriers separating them from the locals. Since there's no escaping Bhutan's unique, epoch-old way of life alongside emerald-green vegetation and glacial meadows, you can say with certainty that your environmental footprint is minimal.
Gangtey Lodge, Bhutan Spirit Sanctuary, and Six Senses are perhaps the most prominent sustainable high-end hotels in Bhutan, with a Habitas outpost expected to launch soon.
Bhutan is one of the best-vaccinated countries on the planet, in addition to being one of the Futures of Tourism's 23 founding signatories.
Check out the Top Places to Visit in Bhutan.

CARBON -NEGATIVE-

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Upcoming Festivals for 2022.

BOOK NOW! PAY LATER

Punakha Festival - March 9th - March 14th 2022.
Punakha Tshechu

The Punakha Tshechu (festival) is held every February or March inside the magnificent Punakha Dzong - The Palace of Happiness, Bhutan's ancient capital. The festival occurs in the first lunar month and culminates in the Serda, a colorful procession that re-enacts a battle against Tibet in the 17th century.

It is unique because this is the only festival with such a procession. Your knowledgeable personal guide will explain to you the site's cultural and historical significance, as well as its location and its importance to the locals who flock in droves to watch, enjoy, and pay their respects.
The tshechu is a fun and exciting day out for the Bhutanese, and it also serves as a place of pilgrimage and prayer for devout Buddhists.
Incorporate Punakha Festival with your First Trip to Bhutan.

Paro Festival April 12th - March 16th,2022
Paro Tshechu

Paro Tshechu is considered one of the most colorful festival in the country. Monks perform mask dances in colorful embroidered robes, and the locals gather in their best clothes (bright and colorful hand-woven dresses) to witness the mask dances. It is the perfect opportunity to get a sneak peek into the unique culture of Bhutan. Tshechus are held annually in temples, monasteries, and dzongs/ fortresses throughout the country. Among many, the Paro Tsechu is one of Bhutan's most popular festivals. The main focal point of the tshechu is the unfurling of the silk Thanka (a religious applique scroll). The Thangka is also called "Thongdrel' which means 'liberation on sight.' The large silk scroll is regarded as one of Bhutan's most holy blessings. It is displayed for a few hours before sunrise on the festival's final day, allowing people to receive its blessing. The mere sight of this holy scroll is believed to wash away all the sins and relieve sentient beings from suffering. Want to get started Want to get started,
Book a Free consultation here.

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His Majesty Gifts Tsendrong United Nations Garden.

Salang Tendrel (the ground breaking ceremony) was held at the Tsendrong UN Garden in Kawangjansa, Thimphu, to celebrate Bhutan's 50th anniversary of admission to the United Nations (UN). Bhutan joined the United Nations on September 21, 1971.
The garden will be developed as a green leisure facility and become a part of Thimphu's networks of green gardens. The Tsendrong UN Green Garden will also be accessible to people with disabilities.
The 1.2 acre UN Garden was a gift from His Majesty The King to celebrate the significant achievement. According to a Foreign Ministry statement, Bhutan's admission as the 128th member-state of the United Countries in 1971 was a major milestone in the country's history since it established Bhutan's identity as a sovereign nation and symbolized our admittance into the broader comity of nations.
Prime Minister Dr. Lotay Tshering, senior government officials, head of UN agencies, diplomats, and dignitaries were in attendance, and Dorji Lopon Kuenley of Zhung Dratshang conducted prayers for Salang Tendrel. According to UN Resident Coordinator Gerald Daly, the gift pushes them to strive for more as they represent Bhutan while reflecting on the accomplishments achieved in the last 50 years. According to Mr. Daly, the United Nations is collaborating with Bhutanese and international specialists to make the Tsendrong UN Garden better than other recreational areas.
Add the United Nations Garden on your itinerary during your visit to Bhutan.

Are you a Winter lover and planning a trip to Bhutan during this season?

Bhutan is a small landlocked country that experiences a series of physical and climatic transformations. If you visit Bhutan in the winter, you will certainly fall in love with the country and the weather. The southern part of the country gets mild winters at the same time the northern half is coated in a thick layer of snow.

In addition to spectacular views of the snow-capped Himalayan peaks, winter brings a flurry of festivities around the country. Experiencing the humble lives of local people by staying in popular Bhutan homestays is one of the many reasons why people love visiting Bhutan.

Learn more here If you are ready for a home away from home with Bhutan homestay, book a customized Bhutan vacation package with us. Relax at one of Bhutan' s Homelike locations, where you' ll be greeted with warmth and a blanket of snow.

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Updated Flight Schedule (For the Month of January 2022)

You can see the Druk Air -
Royal Bhutan Airlines Schedule here or download it.

The Key to Bhutan's Happiness on BBC Travel

"Happiness is the concern of everyone," said His Eminence Khedrupchen Rinpoche (Spiritual Master). "Whether or not you acknowledge it, this is the purpose of every human being."

"We must stop searching for happiness in experiences outside ourselves. There are, in my opinion, four pillars: loving kindness, compassion, non-attachment and karma, that can be easily embraced by any one at any point in their lives, from anywhere."
According to Rinpoche, loving kindness "is the key to generating happiness not just on a personal level, but for others as well." He stressed the importance of being kind to yourself first and how this leads to compassion to others. "You must love yourself and truly know that no matter the circumstance, you are good enough. From there, you can spread that [compassion] to others."

Also non-attachment or impermanence, is a Buddhist concept that is at the root of Bhutanese culture. "When something goes wrong, don't become depressed immediately because things will change," Rinpoche said. "If we accept that all things are impermanent, then that means there can be change, and with change there is hope." Rinpoche explained that this also holds true for the positive things in life. "Accepting that things don't last, including success and wealth, allows you to truly appreciate what you have at hand."
"Karma is totally misunderstood. Most people think it means that if you do something bad, then something bad will happen to you, like a form of universal revenge or punishment. It isn't that at all. It is about cause, condition and effect. Accepting that your actions and choices have an impact on the world around you. It is like planting a seed of a tree. If we plant a mango seed, we get a mango tree. We can't plant an apple seed and expect a mango tree to grow!" he chuckled. "Believing in karma is an opportunity for you to transform yourself, to shape yourself, to really work on who you want to become and do what you want to achieve."
"What is so special about being Bhutanese is that there is always a united sense of gratitude, communal well-being and national identity"

The part of the reason why the Bhutanese view happiness differently than other cultures is because of their ability to reconcile past and present. "Bhutanese culture is strongly rooted in our traditions and spiritual values, but we are a very progressive and practical society. Generally, our culture and religion is not prescriptive, and not a black-and-white choice, but rather navigating the middle path in everyday living."
If there was one piece of advice Rinpoche could share with the world it would be this: "Always remember that the most important thing is to live life in the present moment, and that happiness is not a by-product of external factors, but the result of positively conditioning your mind. Happiness is at the grasp of everyone."

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Quarantine, Vaccination, Test Requirements and Expected Future for Travel to Bhutan.

Bhutan is yet to formally re-open to tourism. Tourism Council of Bhutan (TCB) will inform with
an official announcement (press release) when Bhutan is ready and decides to open under safe
and relaxed travel conditions.
Until then, TCB will be facilitating the entry of tourists on a case by case basis after fulfilling the
existing COVID-19 requirements, including the 14 days mandatory quarantine.

In addition, the tourist wanting to visit Bhutan must also meet the following conditions.

01 Interested inbound tourists to apply through a licensed Bhutanese tour operator.

02 Entry will be facilitated only for those coming via air.

03 Minimum Daily Package Rate (MDPR) and associated exemptions will be applicable for the entire tour duration after the mandatory quarantine.

04 Sustainable Development Fee (SDF) per person per night will be levied during the quarantine period.

05 The Royal Government of Bhutan will bear the cost for all tests as per the COVID-19 requirement.

06 Strictly follow prevailing National COVID-19 protocol and TCB guidelines.

07 Need to have COVID-19 insurance coverage.

08 Produce a COVID-19 negative certificate issued by a laboratory certified to carry out RT-PCR test, not earlier than 72 hours before embarking or the initiation of a journey from the country of origin.

09 It is mandatory for Interested inbound tourists to have taken both the doses of vaccination.

10 At any given time, the National COVID-19 protocol may be enforced.

The Royal Government will bear the food and room charges during the 14 days quarantine
period in Government-authorized hotels.

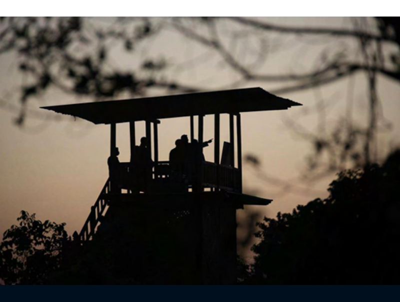
We are hopeful that we will be able to re-open soon to tourists with more relaxed travel
conditions.

Stay in touch with Norbu Bhutan and read more fascinating, inspiring stories from Bhutan and find out soon when Bhutan finally opens to the world. Will keep you posted.

COVID 19 CASES

BHUTAN:

Confirmed cases : 2659
Recovered : 2642
Active : 14 Death : 3



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