

IID TIBET OVERLAND TOUR



Tibet... one of those extraordinary destinations where indeed adventure lurks around every corner! Adventure on the road is never short on the beautiful Transhimalayan drive, through mountain, passes, promising a panorama of a cultural and scenic diversity unsurpassable anywhere. It culminates on an arid plateau - a veritable treasure trove of architectural masterpieces - the Buddhist monasteries of Drepung, once the largest in the country The Jhokhang - a spiritual center, and the awesome palaces of the Dalai Lama - Norbuling (the summer palace) and the Potala (the traditional seat).

To travel for days on this remote plateau with the chance encounters of nomads herding their sheep or yaks is to be transformed into another way of life. We begin the tour by traveling to Kathmandu and departing by road to the Nepal/Tibet border town of Zhangmu where we collect our Transport. The day-to-day program is outlined as follows:

ITINERARY:

DAY 01: SINGAPORE / KATHMANDU (WELCOME- DINNER)

Upon arrival at Kathmandu met with guide and you will transfer to hotel in Thamel. Afternoon time for last minute ground meeting and discussion on the program ahead. In the evening you gather for a Welcome Nepali Dinner. O/N in Kathmandu at 2 Star Hotel Nature.

DAY 02: FREE DAY IN KATHMANDU (B)

After breakfast you are free as your own in Kathmandu. You can also visit around Thamel and Durbar Square during the day. O/N in Kathmandu at 2 Star Hotel Nature.

DAY 03: KATHMANDU / NYALAM-3600M-154km (B)

Departure at 0530hrs from THAMEL. After an approx. 6 hr drive, we reach the KODARI BORDER (China / Nepal Border). A further half hr drive by truck will bring us to Zhangmu, where after completion of Immigration formalities, we will begin our journey to Nyalam. O/N in Nyalam at Nyalam Guest House.

DAY 04: NYALAM / LHATSE-3950m-370km (B)

From Zhangmu or Nyalam, the road follows the BHOTE KOSHI river in the deep valley with plenty of waterfalls. After 1.5 hrs drive bring us to NYLAM PASS (3800m) with the JUGAL HIMALA in view. A continued drive via LALUNGLA (5050m) will bring us in view of MT. LANGTANG (7245m), MT. XIXAPANGMA (8013m), & MT. DORJE LAKPA (6980m), MT. MAKALU (8464m), MT. EVEREST (8848m), MT. LHOTSE (8516m) & MT. CHOOYU (8201m). O/N in Lhatse at Hotel Lhatse or similar.

DAY 05: LHATSE / SHIGATSE-3900m- 210km (B)

Lhatse is 3 hrs away over a 5220m pass near the petrol station, there is a small restaurant where tea & snacks are available. Depending upon the road conditions, SAKYA MONASTERY, which is 26km off from the main road, will be visited. SAKYA is one of the oldest and most important monasteries in Tibet. Reach XIGATSE, the place of the famous TASHILUMPO MONASTERY the seat of Panchen Lama until his death in 1989 with its huge Thanka Wall clearly visible on north side of the road. O/N in Shigatse at Hotel Samdruse or similar.

DAY 06: XIGATSE / GYANTSE-3950m-90km (B)

After visiting TASHILUNPO MONASTERY in the morning, we will go past the Bazaar of XIGATSE. We then drive to GYANTSE which is 2 hrs away. Gyantse is small bustling town steeped in history. It lies 264 km Southwest of Lhasa on the northern bank of NYANG CHU River. In the 15th Century, it is served as the Capital of a small Kingdom. Visit KUMBUM CHORTEN & PHKLKOR MONASTERY which was built around 1400 AD. It later became the main center for trade with British / India. O/N in Gyantse at Hotel Utse or similar.

DAY 07: GYANTSE / LHASA-3650M-260km (B)

An 8hr drive takes you to Lhasa crossing the KAROLAPASS (5010m) and KAMBALA PASS (4794m). The KAROLA climbs between two lofty mountains, NOZING KHANGSA (7223m) and RALUNG (6236m). While on the road, you will see the YAMDROK TSO (Turquoise Lake), which takes approx. 1hr to cross around. After passing KAMBALA, Lhasa Valley is seen to the north. You will also cross the Brahmaputra River. Reach Lhasa and check into your hotel. The accompanied guide will reconfirm your onward airline ticket. O/N in Lhasa at Hotel Snowland or similar.

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DAY 08-9: LHASA (B)

These days you will be engrossed with sightseeing and excursions of THE POTALA PALACE, THE JOKHANG TEMPLE surrounding BARKHOR market DREPUNG MONASTERY and SERAMONASTERY. O/N in Lhasa at Hotel Snowland or similar.

DAY 10: LHASA / KATHMANDU (B)

Transfer to airport (2 hrs drive) – Our representative will assist you. Departure of flight for KATHMANDU would be approximately at 1000hrs (CHINA STANDARD TIME) and arriving KATHMANDU at 0900hrs (NEPAL STANDARD TIME). The flight between Lhasa / Kathmandu takes 1hr 10mins. During the flight you will see the following: YARLUNG TSANGPO RIVER, LAKE YAMDROK, MT. KANCHANJUNGA (8586m), MT. MAKALU (8463m) and MT. EVEREST (8848m) - weather permitting. Upon arrival, you will be taken to your hotel and you will be free for your own shopping or sightseeing activities. O/N in Kathmandu at 2 Star Hotel Nature.

DAY 11: KATHMANDU / SINGAPORE (B)

After breakfast, you are free until time to leave the international airport for your final destination.

COST INCLUDES:

- ✓ Twin sharing accommodation in Kathmandu at 2 Star Hotel Nature (or similar) with breakfast.
- ✓ Twin/triple sharing budget accommodation at Hotels or Guest House on B & B basis
- ✓ All necessary transportation by tourist bus from Kathmandu to Tibet border and by 4WD Toyota Landcruiser from Zhangmu to Lhasa.
- ✓ Sightseeing tour as per the Program with English-speaking Guide.
- ✓ All necessary permits and monastery entrance fees in Tibet.
- ✓ Airfares from Lhasa / Kathmandu.
- ✓ Return Economy airfare on Thai Airways.

COST EXCLUDES:

- × SIN APT TAX @ S\$ 21; LHASA/NEPAL APT TAXES (domestic & international)
- × Lunch and Dinner in Kathmandu and whilst in Tibet.
- × Chinese visa fees US\$ 45, Kathmandu airport tax Rs 1695.
- × All expenses of personal nature, Charge for photography, Insurance, Monastery entry fees in Kathmandu & RMB 30 for air ticket reconfirmation fee etc
- × Personal Travel Insurance
- × Relevant airline insurance costs & fuel surcharges (from S\$161/pax)

** Kindly note that the itinerary here is subject to changes. Taxes and visa fees indicated may also be affected by exchange rates or changes in governmental policies. All information given here is correct at the time this itinerary was prepared.*

our adventure trips

On Adventure trips and overseas training, the locations are in remote areas or in the wilderness. The events that may occur in these places are less predictable. The unexpected is the norm. Despite painstaking organization, they cannot be taken for granted. There will be some element of risk-taking as we are dealing with the elements. Some places do not have the same quality of emergency, health and safety services that we may be used to because of the lack of communications. Road travel may be uncomfortable and sometimes unreliable. This means that the itineraries planned should be seen as statements of intent, rather than a contractual obligation. Weather, transport difficulties and political instability might dictate that the itineraries be amended. The land agent or the trip leader will make the necessary changes which are necessary and with or without consulting the participants. However PWT will do everything within our control to minimize the effects of the enforced changes. We cannot however be held responsible for the results of changes or delays, regardless of how they are caused

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