



MADCAP LUXE
ADVENTURE KIT

THE DRAGON
KINGDOM DRIVE
BHUTAN HIMALAYAN EXPEDITION

DEPARTURE 1

25TH JUNE - 8TH JULY, 2026

DEPARTURE 2

25TH SEPTEMBER - 8TH OCTOBER, 2026

DELHI - BHUTAN - SACRED GANGES - DELHI

14 DAYS | 13 NIGHTS

WHERE HIMALAYAN ROADS, ANCIENT MONASTERIES,
AND SACRED RIVERS CONVERGE INTO ONE EXTRAORDINARY JOURNEY.

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THE BEGINNING



Bhutan — the last Himalayan kingdom.

A land where prayer flags dance in the wind, monasteries cling to cliffs, and the rhythm of life is guided not by speed, but by harmony.

The Dragon Kingdom Drive invites a select circle of explorers to journey across India and Bhutan in a curated self-drive expedition.

From the highways of northern India to Bhutan's mystical valleys, and onward to the sacred cities of Bodh Gaya and Varanasi, this expedition blends road adventure, Himalayan culture, and spiritual heritage.

This is not just a drive.

This is a rare Himalayan odyssey.

Only a limited number of participants will be part of this journey.

THE INVITATION





Madcap Luxe curates extraordinary self-drive expeditions where culture, adventure, and indulgence unite.

Each journey is designed as a story — combining iconic destinations, remarkable roads, and rare experiences into a seamless expedition.

The Dragon Kingdom Drive is one such story.

A journey that crosses borders, landscapes, and spiritual traditions — from India's great highways to Bhutan's sacred valleys and the timeless ghats of Varanasi.

This is exploration driven.



GENESIS



Bhutan is not just another destination in the Himalayas.

It is a kingdom where tradition still guides everyday life, where monasteries rise from mountain cliffs, and where the rhythm of life flows with quiet harmony.

The Dragon Kingdom Drive was designed to bring together the thrill of the open road with the timeless magic of Bhutan's valleys, monasteries, and mountain passes.

From the Himalayan landscapes of Bhutan to the sacred energy of Bodh Gaya and the ancient ghats of Varanasi, this journey connects some of the most profound cultural and spiritual experiences of the region.

For a few days, the road becomes the story.
And the Himalayas become the backdrop.



Rannvijay

RANNVIJAY SINGHA

Co-Founder
Madcap Adventure



GORAKHPUR

Gateway to Nepal and the Himalayan frontier.



MITHILANCHAL

Cultural heartland of eastern India, revered as the land of Maa Sita and globally celebrated for its Madhubani painting tradition.



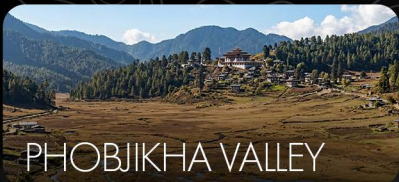
PHUENTSHOLING

Bhutan's vibrant border town and entry into the Dragon Kingdom.



THIMPHU

Bhutan's capital blending tradition and modernity.



PHOBJIKHA VALLEY

A pristine Himalayan valley known for its breathtaking landscapes.



BUMTHANG

Bhutan's spiritual heartland and ancient monasteries.



PUNAKHA

Historic capital and home to Bhutan's most beautiful fortress monastery.



PARO

Gateway to the legendary Tiger's Nest monastery.



SILIGURI

A pristine Himalayan valley known for its breathtaking landscapes.



BODH GAYA

Sacred site where Buddha attained enlightenment.



VARANASI

One of the world's oldest living cities along the Ganges.



BRING YOUR OWN CAR
OR MOTORCYCLE
(4X4 RECOMMENDED)

or

Rent a Vehicle through Madcap Luxe

Participants may also join the expedition convoy
directly from Gorakhpur if they prefer to
skip the Delhi drive.



PROFESSIONAL
ROUTE CAPTAIN



LEAD EXPEDITION VEHICLE



MADCAP LUXE
ON-GROUND HOSTS

COURTYARD BY
MARRIOTT

Gorakhpur

MITHILA
HAAT

Mithilanchal
Cultural Retreat

HOTEL
DRUK

Phuentsholing

YARKAY

Thimphu

HOTEL
DEWACHEN

Phobjikha
Valley

MOUNTAIN
RESORT

Bumthang

DHENSA
BOUTIQUE
RESORT

Punakha

HIGHLAND
GLAMPING

Paro

COURTYARD
BY MARRIOTT

Siliguri

HYATT
PLACE

Bodh Gaya

DOUBLETREE
BY HILTON

Varanasi

THE STAYS



DAY 1

THE BEGINNING



DELHI - GORAKHPUR

852 KM | 11 HOURS DRIVE

THE JOURNEY

- The expedition begins from Delhi as the convoy heads east across the expressways of northern India.
- Long highways and evolving landscapes mark the opening chapter of the Dragon Kingdom Drive.
- Arrival in Gorakhpur by evening.
- Welcome dinner and expedition briefing.
- Participants may also join the convoy directly from Gorakhpur.
- Overnight: Courtyard by Marriott.

DAY 2

INTO MITHILANCHAL



GORAKHPUR - MADHUBANI (MITHILANCHAL)

357 KM | 7 HOURS DRIVE

- Drive through eastern India into the cultural heartland of Mithilanchal — revered as the land of Maa Sita and celebrated globally for its vibrant Madhubani painting tradition.
- Exclusive Experience:
 - Visit Mithila Haat, where the traditions of Mithila culture come alive through art, cuisine and handicrafts.
 - Overnight: Mithila Haat Cultural Retreat.

DAY 3

CROSSING INTO BHUTAN



MADHUBANI - PHUENTSHOLING

400 KM | 8 HOURS DRIVE

THE JOURNEY

- A long yet rewarding drive brings the convoy to the Bhutan border.
- Complete immigration formalities before entering the Dragon Kingdom.
- Arrival in Phuentsholing and evening at leisure.
- Overnight: Hotel Druk.

DAY 4 INTO THE HIMALAYAS



PHUENTSHOLING - THIMPHU

400 KM | 8 HOURS DRIVE

- The road begins to climb steadily into Bhutan's pristine Himalayan landscapes, with winding mountain roads and forested valleys marking your entry into the Dragon Kingdom. Arrival in Thimphu, Bhutan's charming capital.

Evening Experience:

- Visit Nunnery Viewpoint for panoramic views of the Thimphu valley
- Explore the local markets and cafes of Thimphu town

Overnight: YARKAY, Thimphu

DAY 5

ACROSS
THE HIGH PASSES



THIMPHU - PHOBJIKHA VALLEY

130 KM | 4-5 HOURS DRIVE

THE JOURNEY

- Begin the morning with cultural exploration in Bhutan's capital.
Morning visits:
 - Buddha Dordenma (Buddha Point) – one of the largest Buddha statues in the world
 - Memorial Chorten – one of Bhutan's most revered monuments
- The journey then continues toward the central valleys of Bhutan.
- Drive across the spectacular Dochula Pass (3,100 m), offering breathtaking views of the eastern Himalayas and the iconic 108 Druk Wangyal Chortens.
- Continue onward through forested valleys toward Phobjikha Valley, one of Bhutan's most beautiful glacial valleys and winter home to the rare Black-Necked Cranes.
- Overnight: Hotel Dewachen

DAY 6

THE HIGH HIMALAYAN ROUTE



PHOBJIKHA - BUMTHANG

147 KM | 5-6 HOURS DRIVE

- A spectacular Himalayan drive through some of Bhutan's most dramatic mountain landscapes.
- En route experiences include:
 - Visit the historic Trongsa Dzong, Bhutan's largest fortress monastery overlooking a deep valley
 - Cross Yongtala Pass (3,440 metres) — one of the highest mountain passes along the route
- Arrival in Bumthang, considered the spiritual heartland of Bhutan.
- Overnight: Mountain Resort

DAY 7

BUMTHANG EXPLORATION



BUMTHANG

- Explore the sacred valley of Bumthang, home to some of Bhutan's oldest temples and monasteries.
- Visits include:
 - Jambay Lhakhang – one of Bhutan's oldest monasteries
 - Kurjey Lhakhang – an important pilgrimage site
 - Red Panda Brewery & Factory – Bhutan's famous craft brewery
 - Local handicraft and cheese production centres
- Overnight: Bumthang

DAY 8

TOWARD PUNAKHA VALLEY



BUMTHANG - PUNAKHA

200 KM | 5-6 HOURS DRIVE

- A scenic drive through Bhutan's lush forests and winding mountain valleys brings you to the warmer lowlands of Punakha Valley.
- Arrival at the stunning Dhensa Boutique Resort, nestled among pine forests overlooking the Punakha river.
- White-water rafting on the Punakha River
- Overnight: Dhensa Boutique Resort

DAY 9

FORTRESS OF THE DRAGON KINGS



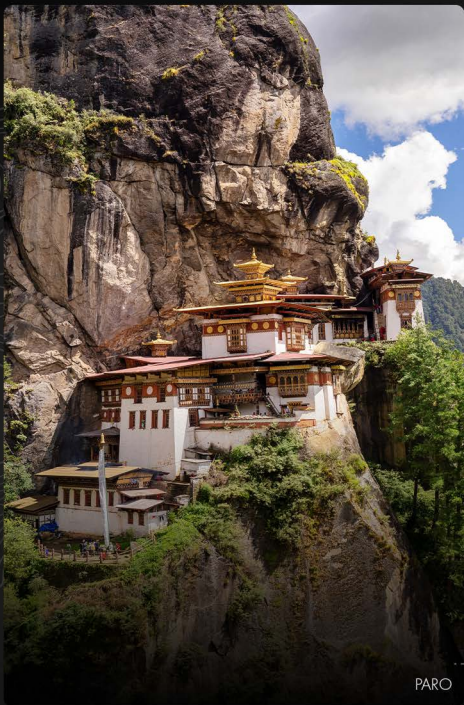
PUNAKHA - PARO

129 KM | 4 HOURS DRIVE

- Begin the morning with a visit to Bhutan's most iconic architectural landmark.
- Punakha Dzong – Bhutan's most spectacular fortress monastery located at the confluence of two rivers.
- After the visit, continue the scenic drive toward Paro Valley.
- Visit to a local Bhutanese brewery
- Overnight: Highland Glamping

DAY 10

TIGER'S NEST MONASTERY



PARO

- One of the most extraordinary experiences in the Himalayas.
- Hike to the legendary Tiger's Nest Monastery (Taktsang), perched dramatically on a cliff nearly 900 metres above the Paro valley floor.
- Evening free to explore Paro's charming town and markets.
- Overnight: Paro

DAY 11

DESCENDING FROM
THE HIMALAYAS



PARO - SILIGURI

300 KM | 8 HOURS DRIVE

- Exit Bhutan and descend through the Himalayan foothills into India.
- The route winds through tea estates and forested hills before arriving in Siliguri, the gateway to Northeast India.
- Overnight: Courtyard by Marriott

THE JOURNEY

DAY 12

JOURNEY TO ENLIGHTENMENT



SILIGURI - BODH GAYA

574 KM | 10 HOURS DRIVE

- Drive toward Bodhi Gaya, one of the most sacred Buddhist pilgrimage destinations in the world.
- Mahabodhi Temple (UNESCO World Heritage Site)
- The sacred Bodhi Tree, where Gautama Buddha attained enlightenment.
- Overnight: Hyatt Place

DAY 13

SACRED GANGES



BODH GAYA - VARANASI

273 KM | 6 HOURS DRIVE

- Drive to Varanasi, one of the world's oldest living cities and the spiritual heart of India.
- Private boat ride along the Ganges
- Witness the mesmerizing Ganga Aarti ceremony at
- Dashashwamedh Ghat
- Overnight: DoubleTree by Hilton

DAY 14

THE RETURN



VARANASI - DELHI

811 KM | 13 HOURS DRIVE

THE JOURNEY

- The final convoy drive back to Delhi marks the completion of the expedition.
- From the Himalayan monasteries of Bhutan to the sacred waters of the Ganges, the journey concludes — but the memories of this extraordinary road remain.

- A curated self-drive expedition across India and Bhutan.
- Drive through Himalayan mountain roads and sacred valleys.



- Visit the legendary Tiger's Nest Monastery.
- Experience Punakha river rafting.
- Discover Bhutan's monasteries and cultural heritage.



- Witness the sacred Bodhi Tree in Bodh Gaya.
- Experience the timeless Ganga Aarti in Varanasi.
- Expedition led by Madcap Luxe hosts and route captains.
- Limited participant circle.



1.

Respect the road, the mountains,
and the cultures we pass through.

2.

Safety is luxury's
highest form.

3.

Camaraderie defines
the Circle.

4.

We start together.
We finish together.

THE CODE





13 nights in curated
hotels across
India and Bhutan.



Dedicated expedition
content creator
(capturing the journey across the route)



Expedition lead vehicle
and route captain.



Bhutan local guide
and lead vehicle



Bhutan entry permits with
full documentation support.



Madcap Luxe
on-ground hosts
throughout the expedition.



Curated meals
(breakfast, lunch and dinner
throughout the expedition)



Madcap Adventure
Goodie Bag.

THE INCLUSIONS



Vehicle rental
(if not bringing
your own vehicle).



Fuel, tolls and
parking charges.



Personal travel
& medical insurance



Shopping &
bespoke indulgences



Any item not mentioned under inclusions.



- Limited participant circle.
- Driving participants must hold a valid driving licence.
- Hotels confirmed as listed; equivalent alternatives may be arranged if required.
- Itinerary may be adjusted due to weather or operational reasons.
- Payment schedule and terms shared separately.



MADCAP LUXE

ADVENTURE KIT

THE DRAGON KINGDOM DRIVE BHUTAN HIMALAYAN EXPEDITION



INR
2,69,000 + GST
Per Person Price

- Approx. USD 3,200
(conversion subject to prevailing rates)
- Based on twin-sharing accommodation.
- Single occupancy available at additional cost.

THE PRICE



THE BEGINNING

Some journeys end at a destination.
The Dragon Kingdom Drive ends with something more.
A road that began in Delhi winds through Himalayan kingdoms, ancient monasteries, and sacred rivers.
And somewhere between the mountains of Bhutan and the ghats of Varanasi, you realise:
This was never just a drive.
It was a story.

— Madcap Luxe

Enquiries & Reservations

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