



VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

PRESENTS

HIMALAYAN KINGDOMS: NEPAL & BHUTAN

November 7-21, 2017

15 days for \$4,997* total price from Washington, DC
(\$4,395* air & land inclusive plus \$602* airline taxes and fees)

A singular journey to two distant and devout lands, different in fact yet similar in spirit. Hinduism in Nepal and Buddhism in Bhutan suffuse all aspects of life; in both nations, tradition and belief abide – and surrounding Himalayan scenery casts a truly awe-inspiring spell.



ITINERARY IN BRIEF

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

Days 1-4: November 7-10, 2017
Depart U.S./Kathmandu, Nepal

➤ Arrive in the Nepalese capital and experience your first look at this landlocked Himalayan nation with a visit to Durbar Square. Next visit Swayambhunath, the ancient Buddhist temple complex, and travel through the beautiful Kathmandu Valley to hilltop Kopan Monastery. Here, enjoy a small group highlight as you dine in the home of a local family.

Days 5-6: November 11-12, 2017
Nagarkot/Bhaktapur

➤ Stop in Nepal's oldest and holiest Hindu shrine, Pashupatinath Temple. Travel on to Bhaktapur, with time to explore this living open-air market before the drive to Nagarkot. The following morning, watch the sunrise over the Himalaya.

Days 7-8: November 13-14, 2017
Thimphu, Bhutan

➤ Fly to Bhutan and enjoy a full-day excursion in Thimphu featuring a visit to the Textile Museum and Memorial Chorten, one of Bhutan's best-loved religious landmarks. Attend a Bhutanese cultural performance and dine in the home of a local family.

Days 9-10: November 15-16, 2017
Punakha

➤ En route to Paro, visit Kunselphodrang, the recently built Buddha Point where the world's largest sitting Buddha. Travel over Dochula Pass where we follow the sacred tradition of raising prayer flags. Visit a local rice farming village. Embark on an exhilarating rafting trip on the Pho Chu River, visiting Punakha Dzong.

Days 11-13: November 17-19, 2017
Paro/Tiger's Nest Monastery

➤ Tour Paro, nestled in the center of a valley dotted with rice paddies and wheat fields. As a highlight: visit Paro Taktsang, the sacred Tiger's Nest monastery and temple complex perched on a cliff some 3,000 feet above the upper Paro Valley.

Days 14-15: November 20-21, 2017
Paro/Kathmandu/Return to U.S.

➤ Fly via Kathmandu where day rooms are available before a mid-afternoon departure for the airport and overnight flights back to the U.S.

Himalayan Kingdoms, *Continued*:

***PLEASE NOTE:** At this time, elements of the tour are still being finalized. Your deposit will be fully refundable until all details, including pricing, are complete. Our tour operator, Odysseys Unlimited, will be in touch with you in March 2017 when the final tour details and tour brochure is available. At that time, you will have two weeks to decide whether you would like to convert your preliminary registration to a confirmed booking or to cancel and receive a full refund. Once confirmed, the cancellation penalties as outlined in the brochure will apply. You will then receive a confirmation packet plus information regarding the purchase of optional trip insurance and travel protection.

***Probable Pricing:**

\$4,997* total price from Washington, DC. Please call for prices from other cities. Prices are per person based on double occupancy and include airline taxes, surcharges, and fees of \$602*, which are subject to change until final payment is made. Land only price is \$3,595*; arrival and departure transfers not included. Single travelers please add \$795*. Business class upgrade on round-trip Trans-Atlantic flight is available on a request basis – please call for details. *Please note: This trip involves considerable walking and on uneven terrain, as well as some lengthy coach rides on unpaved roads. You should be in good physical condition to enjoy the tour to the fullest. While the elevations are not severe, the relatively high altitude of Nagarkot (7,000 feet) and Thimphu and Paro (both 7,500 feet) could pose problems for travelers with certain health conditions. You should consult your physician if you have concerns.*

PLEASE NOTE: All dates, prices, and itinerary details for 2017 tours are subject to change. You will be contacted with these details in March 2017.

Your Tour Price Includes:

- Round-trip air transportation from listed cities; all flight within itinerary
- 12 nights' accommodations in Deluxe, Superior First Class, First Class, and unrated hotels
- 31 meals: 12 breakfasts, 9 lunches, 10 dinners
- Extensive sightseeing as described
- Services of Odysseys Unlimited Tour Directors
- Private motorcoach transportation throughout the trip
- Gratuities for drivers/guides, dining room servers, and airport and hotel porters
- Luggage handling for one bag per person

PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

Please FAX or email your pre-registration form and deposit information to our Tour Operator, **Odysseys Unlimited**:
Secure FAX: 617-454-9199 E-mail form to: customerservice@odysseys-unlimited.com

Enclosed is my/our deposit for \$ _____ (\$500 per person) for _____ person/people. This secures our space on the following tour: **Himalayan Kingdoms: Nepal & Bhutan, November 7-21, 2017**. Please charge my deposit to:

AMEX VISA MasterCard Discover

Card # _____ Expiration Date _____ Security code _____

Signature _____

I understand that I will be contacted in March 2017, once the final brochure for the tour is available, and will be given the opportunity to cancel at that time, without penalty. I also understand that billing and a complete confirmation packet, including information about optional trip insurance and travel protection, will follow once I convert this preliminary registration into a confirmed booking.

Passport Name _____ Date of birth _____ Gender ____ Class Yr. _____

Passport Name _____ Date of birth _____ Gender ____ Class Yr. _____

Street Address _____ City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Phone: Home () _____ Cell () _____ E-mail _____

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