

CHINA TIBET BUS TOUR – BTCPTD1

6-day Lhasa, Gyantse & Shigatse Ancient City Tour

Trip Overview

This tour includes three biggest ancient cities: Lhasa, Gyantse and Shigatse. By visiting these places, tourists will get an overview of Tibet's religion, cultural treasures, and dream-like landscapes. The highlights of this tour will be the Tibetan architectural treasure, the Potala Palace, Jokhang and Sera, Holy Yamdrok Lake and Karo glacier as well as Tashilumpo Monastery which stores the biggest copper Buddha statue in the world.

Highlights:

- **Potala Palace:** Winter palace of the Dalai Lama
- **Jokhang Temple:** Spiritual Center for Buddhists in Tibet
- **Sera Monastery:** One of the "great three" Gelug monasteries of Tibet, the hot attraction is monks debate.
- **Drepung Monastery:** Drepung used to be a seat of central government until the 5th Dalai Lama built Potala Palace.
- **Yamdrok tso Lake:** It is the "Heavenly Lake" which is one of the four holy lakes of Tibet;
- Tashilunpo monastery: The seat of the Panchen Lama.

Outline Itinerary

B=Breakfast D=Dinner

Day	Place & Transport	Accommodation	Meals	Today's Activities or Sightseeing
Day 1	Arrive in Lhasa	Economy Hotel	-	Airport/train station to Hotel transfer
Day 2	Lhasa	Economy Hotel	B, D	Potala Palace, Jokhang Monastery, Barkhor Street
Day 3	Lhasa	Economy Hotel	B	Drepung Monastery, Sera Monastery
Day 4	Lhasa to Gyantse to Shigatse(330km)	Economy Hotel	B	Karola Glacier, Yamdrok Lake, Kumbum Monastery
Day 5	Shigatse to Lhasa	Economy Hotel	B	Tashi Lhunpo Monastery
Day 6	Depart from Lhasa	-	-	Hotel to airport/train station transfer

Detailed Itinerary

Day 1 Arrive in Lhasa by plane or by train

You are warmly welcome to Tibet by saying Tashi Delek at the Train station/airport by our professional employee and send you to reserved hotel in Lhasa. Then have a good rest to acclimatize the high altitude in the afternoon.

Meals included: —

Hotel: Lhasa YAK Hotel (or other similar Hotel)

Braga Travel Consulting – www.chinalife.com – www.bonniebraga.com – email: bonniebraga@msn.com
frances@bragatravelconsulting.com – phone: 1305-382-4294 - 1786-353-2336

Day 2 Lhasa City, Potala Place and Barkhor Street (B, D)

The tour will begin from UNESCO World Heritage site - Potala Palace, which is also the winter palace of Dalai Lama. It's situated at 12,139 feet above sea level. It's a 13-story high building that contains over 1,000 rooms, various statues, stupas, murals and artifacts.

Then continue to Jokhang Temple, another UNESCO World Heritage site. It's a spiritual center for Buddhists in Tibet. Next to the temple there is Barkhor Street, filled with pilgrims and street vendors, selling traditional Tibetan items such as prayer wheels and jewelry.



Meals included: Breakfast & Dinner

Hotel: Lhasa YAK Hotel (or other similar Hotel)

Day 3 Monasteries in Lhasa, Drepung and Sera (B)

In the morning, you are going to visit Drepung monastery which was one of the “three great” Gelug monasteries of Tibet and was founded in 1416. Ganden palace is used as Dalai Lama’s palace in the Drepung before moving to the Potala palace.

Afternoon, Sera Monastery---It was one of the “three great” Gelug monasteries of Tibet and was founded in 1419. The highlight is the Monks debate at around 3 - 5 in the afternoon.



Meals included: Breakfast

Hotel: Lhasa YAK Hotel (or other similar Hotel)

Day 4 Lhasa — Yamdrok Lake — Gyantse — Shigatse (B)

Drive from Lhasa to Gyantse. Admire the Gampala pass (4790 m) on the way, and get a glimpse of Yamdrok-tso (4400m), which is surrounded by many snow-capped mountains. Then continue to drive west towards Gyantse. In Gyantse, tourists will visit the famous Pelkor Monastery and Gyantse Kumbum. After one and a half hour's drive, clients will arrive in Shigatse, which is the second largest city in Tibet.

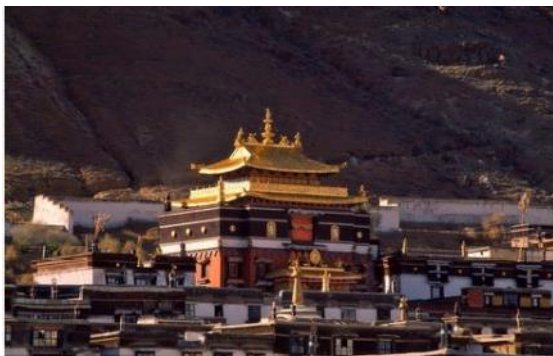
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Meals included: Breakfast
Hotel: Shigatze Tsangba Hotel
(or other similar Hotel)

Day 5 Shigatse —Lhasa (B)

Today, explore Tashilunpo monastery of Gelug Sect, the seat of the Panchen Lama, built in 1447. The monastery houses a giant statue of the Maitreya Buddha - the biggest gilded statue of Maitreya (Buddha of the future) in the world and a tomb of all the Panchen Lama, containing jewels and gold. In the afternoon, you will drive back to Lhasa, which will take around 6 hours.



Meals included: Breakfast
Hotel: Lhasa YAK Hotel (or other similar Hotel)

Day 6 Depart from Lhasa (B)

Transfer to Lhasa airport or train station.
Service ends.

Meals included: Breakfast

Services Included

1. All necessary travel permits for Tibet (excluding Chinese visa);
2. Professional Tibetan **English speaking** tour guide;
3. Admission fee of all tourist sites listed in above itinerary;
4. Tourist bus/minibus with local driver for transportation between airport/train station and Hotel at designated period of time, and transfers for above tours;
5. Accommodation of 5 nights (3 star hotel) with daily breakfast;
6. Welcome Tibetan dinner;
7. Oxygen bottles provided during the tour days in Tibet.

Services Excluded

1. China Visa;
2. Lunches and Dinners;
3. Tips to guide and driver;
4. Insurance;
5. Other personal expense;
6. Any air tickets/ train tickets.

Important Notes:

1. Our free **airport--Hotel** transfer are based on bus transfers on below timings:
Lhasa airport--hotel: 12:20 noon, 4:00 pm
Hotel--Lhasa airport: 07:30 am; 11:00 am
If you miss the above timing, or if your flight cannot match the above time, or if your flight delay, or if you dont want to wait for other people, or if you prefer your own private transfer, we can arrange the following for you at extra cost:
500 Yuan/per taxi with guide for airport--hotel or vise verse (all year);
650 Yuan/per 5 seats Chinese business van with guide for airport--hotel or vise verse(all year except July--Oct)
750 Yuan/per 5 seats Chinese business van with guide for airport--hotel or vise verse (July--Oct)
--please note transfers include tour guide is per government requirement.
2. Lhasa **train station--hotel** in Lhasa transfer is free on tour date
If you miss the above timing, or if your train cannot match the above time, or if your train delay, or if you dont want to wait for other people, or if you prefer your own private transfer, we can arrange the following for you at extra cost:
350 Yuan/per taxi with guide for train station--hotel or vise verse (all year);
480 Yuan/per 5 seats Chinese business van with guide for train station --hotel or vise verse(all year except July--Oct)
580 Yuan/per 5 seats Chinese business van with guide for train station --hotel or vise verse (July--Oct)
--please note transfers include tour guide is per government requirement.
3. We can upgrade your hotel with extra cost.

Tashi Delek & Enjoy Tibet and Tibetan culture!