

## **Lhasa Ganden Tour**

**Trip Facts** 

**Duration:** 5 days

**Trip Start & End Point:** Lhasa **Group Size:** 2 Person Or Above

Tour Type: Private

Transportation & Drive Hours: Private Vehicle (Approx. 2-3 Hrs)

Best Season: April Through November



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## Day to Day Itinerary

### Day 1:ARRIVAL IN LHASA (3650 m/11972ft) – 90 KM, 45 MIN

The adventure begins in Lhasa. There are two ways to arrive—via Nepal and via mainland China. The flight from Nepal to Lhasa is considered one of the most beautiful air routes in the world, as it provides sweeping views of Everest (8848m), Kanchenjunga (8536m) and other Himalayan peaks. If traveling via mainland China, there are a wide variety of flights in addition to the world's highest train route to reach Lhasa. Upon arrival, you will be received by our Tibetan guide at the airport/train station. After approximately 1 hours of driving, you will reach Lhasa from Airport. It's advisable to rest and take it easy for the remainder of the day due to Lhasa's altitude. Overnight in Lhasa

#### Day 2:SIGHTSEEING IN LHASA (3650 m/11972ft)

The journey begins with a visit to Potala palace – a UNESCO World Heritage celebrated for its priceless treasury of Buddhist artifacts and bejeweled tombs of past Dalai Lamas. The Potala was also the tallest building in the world for 200 years following its construction in 1645. Equally breathtaking are the gardens and sacred spaces of the Norbulingka, the Dalai Lama's summer residence. We will also visit the Jokhang Temple followed by Barkhor Markets – a bustling road lined with vendors where you can sample the smells and sounds of Tibet, or browse through the Thankas, masks, prayer beads and countless other treasures inherent to Tibetan custom and tradition. Overnight in Lhasa.

#### Day 3:SIGHTSEEING IN LHASA (3650 m/11972ft)

Today we have another highlight trip in Lhasa follow by Sera Monastery, accompanied by an experienced tour guide (who is also a translator). Sera is an exceptional space; its white-washed walls and golden roofs speak of Tibetan Buddhism's ancient wisdom and tranquility. The group will then move to Drepung Monastery, which was built in 14th century and was home to over 10,000 monks. Drepung was also the educational center for the lineage of Dalai Lamas, and is famed for attracting tens of thousands of pilgrims for its Thanka festival. Drepung has a poignant presence in the spiritual life of Tibetans, and is the most cherished of all Tibet's monasteries. And finally visit Tibet Museum to explore more knowledge on history, culture, arts & architecture of Tibet. Overnight in Lhasa.

Day 4:LHASA TO GANDEN MONASTERY (4000 m/13120ft) - 55 km / 1.5 hrs



Today, you will wake up little early and take breakfast then we head to Ganden Monastery to visit one of significant Geugpa sect monastery situated in Ganden. Ganden denotes the paradise of Tushita and the abode of Jampa, the future Buddha. The monastery, one of Gelugpa's great six was built on a ridge called Gokpo RI, the site where Tsong khapa first meditated in order to choose a place for the main monastery of the sect. Its foundation was laid 1409. In 1417, Ganden's main chapel, the Tsokchen, was established. It is also the most devastated on among all the great six monasteries (Ganden, sera, Drepung, Tashilhunpo, Labrang, Kumbum) of the Yellow sect. Ganden's abbotship unlike other monasteries is transmitted neither by heredity nor incarnation. It was always chosen from among worthy learned monks; usually from the major monastery of Lhasa. The drive will takes about 1.5 hrs with wonderful landscape view and fine highway. After visiting Ganden, we drive back to Lhasa. Rest day at free. Overnight in Lhasa.

#### Day 5:Departure

After breakfast in the hotel, we will transfer you to the airport for your flight back to Kathmandu / Mainland China OR transfer to the train station for your onward journey to Mainland China.

# **Trip Cost Includes**

- Tibet special permits and entrance fees
- Tibet group visa fee
- Transportation in Tibet by private van or coach
- Accommodation on sharing room with breakfast in Tibet
- Tibetan Guide (English Speaking)
- Taxes & service charges

## **Trip Cost Excludes**

- Flight ticket for Kathmandu Lhasa Kathmandu (approx. USD 750)
- Arrival & departure transfers (Kathmandu)
- Hotel accommodation in Kathmandu with breakfast on sharing basis
- Lunch & dinner in Kathmandu & in TibetAlcohol & bottle drinks
- Tips for guide, driver & staffs
- Any expenses of personal nature
- Your travel insurance
- Nepal visa
- Emergency & Evacuation costs
- Any extra cost due to unforeseen circumstances like natural calamities, political reason. Government rules