

### **Background and context**

4 reasons to consider Bhutan as a high-potential destination

- 1 Unique value proposition
- 2 Accelerated momentum and high priority by the government
- 3 Reliable land tour operators
- 4 Convenient access

## About Bhutan (1/2)



#### **Facts about Bhutan**

Strategically located between India and China

Population : ~650,000

Area : ~38,000 sq. km.

Capital : Thimphu

Language: official language "Dzongkha", English widely spoken

- Climate: 3 climatic zones ranging from 100 m above the sea level in the South to 7,500 m above sea level in the North
  - North: Great Himalayas cold climate
  - Central: Inner Himalayas moderate climate
  - South: Himalayan foothills sub-tropical climate



## About Bhutan (2/2)



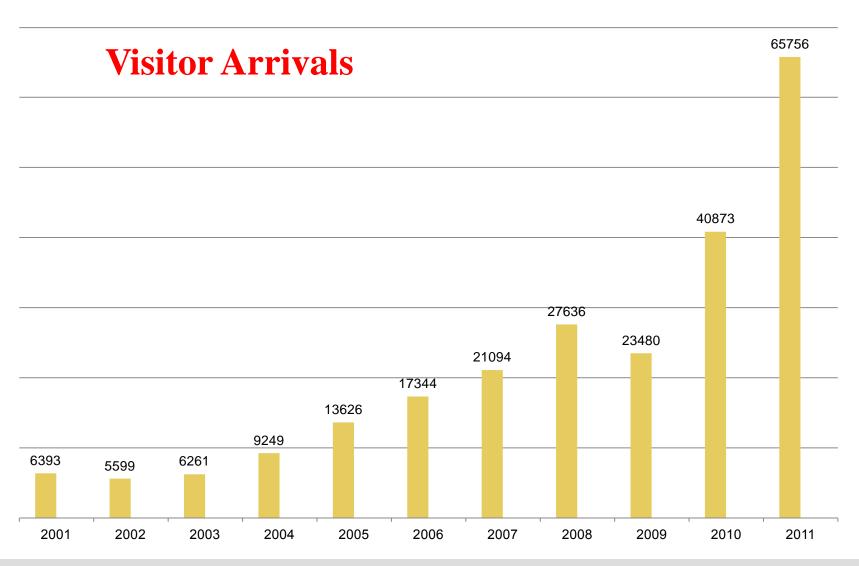
#### Bhutan is the unique country in the world that ...

- ... believes in the philosophy and practice of gross national happiness
- … is a leading Mahayana Buddhist Kingdom
- ... is a kingdom that has transformed into a young democracy peacefully
- … has been designated as one of the ten Biodiversity Hotspots in the world and the centre of 221 Global Endemic Bird Areas
- ... is carbon neutral with near 100% of energy from hydropower
- has 72% of land under forest cover
- a... has a preserved rich local culture reflected in the all customs and practises
- ... has the best health and education outcomes in South Asia
- ... is reputed to be among the safest and least corrupt countries in the world
- … has breathtaking unexplored natural beauty including the tallest unconquered mountain peak



## **Current Tourism Trends**





## A vibrant hospitality sector in place



#### **Tour operator**

- 100+ international tour operators send tourists to Bhutan
- 300+ active Bhutanese tour operators handle all guest relations and logistics

## International transportation (airlines)

- 23 weekly round trip flights to 4 countries with 2 dedicated aircrafts
- Airport operations and pilot training meet the highest safety standards

## Domestic transport infrastructure

- 1,600+ kilometres of road network connects the country from the west to the east
- Domestic air services started:
  - March 2011 to Trashigang (East) and Bumthang (Centre)

#### **Accommodation**

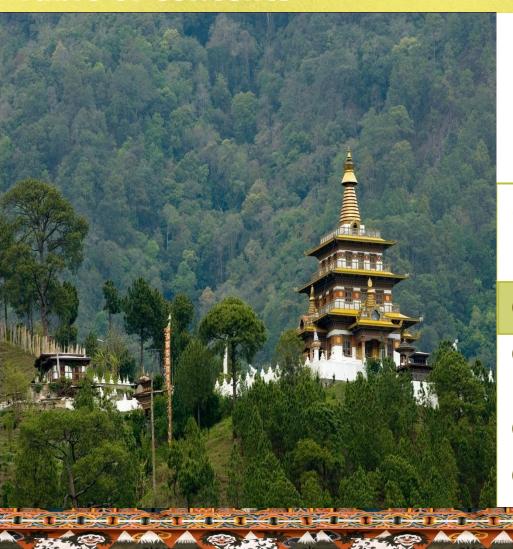
- 2,000 + beds available in 3,4,5 star hotels
- Additional 500-1,000 beds in the pipeline
- Key international players include Aman, Como and Taj

## Other tourist amenities

- Guides: High quality guides specialized in culture, adventure, birding across multiple languages
- Online visa processing







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# Bhutan has a rich value proposition of culture, nature and wellness embedded in the GNH philosophy

**Unique philosophy of Gross National Happiness (GNH)** 

#### **Nature**



- Isolated mountain country in the Himalayas
- Unexplored natural beauty including multiple valleys, 11 rivers and dense forest cover
- Rich bio-diversity and wildlife across three climatic zones
- Niche adventure options like rafting, trekking, fishing

#### **Culture**



- 40 local cultural festivals spread across the year across the country
- Unique local textiles, arts and craft
- "Living culture:" dominance of local architecture, dress, customs and practices including Mahayana Buddhism
- Vibrant local community life
- Tradition of theatre and dance
- Distinct cuisine

#### Wellness (mind and spirit)



- Pristine environment
- Natural hot-water springs with healing properties
- Ancient system of traditional medicine
- Spiritual and meditation elements
- Potential for world-class spas

## Bhutan's value proposition

# Unique differentiated products drive appeal for each of the regions



Paro, Thimphu and Punakha



## Bumthang and Trongsa



## Manas and Zhemgarg



Trashigang Trashiy- angtse



#### Top products

- Numerous Tsechus (Cultural festivals)
- Dzongs, Lhakhangs, Monastries
- Varied museums
- Spectacular treks Jumolhari, druk path, Laya-Gasa trek
- Scenic river rafting and cross country bicycling
- Numerous Tsechus
- Ancient nabji pilgrim site
- Mountain biking
- Jambey and Kurjey Lhakhang (temples)
- Duer hot spring
- Speciality yatha weaving
- Trail from Bumthang Ura to Kheng Shinghkhar
- Rare wildlife at Manas
- Duemang hot spring
- Traditional medicated bath at Dangkar
- River rafting
- Zhemgang Tsechu
- Unique customs of Merak Sakten
- Bird and wild life viewing
- Orchid viewing
- Black mountain trek
- Donphama medicinal bath
- Fishing

#### Best time to visit

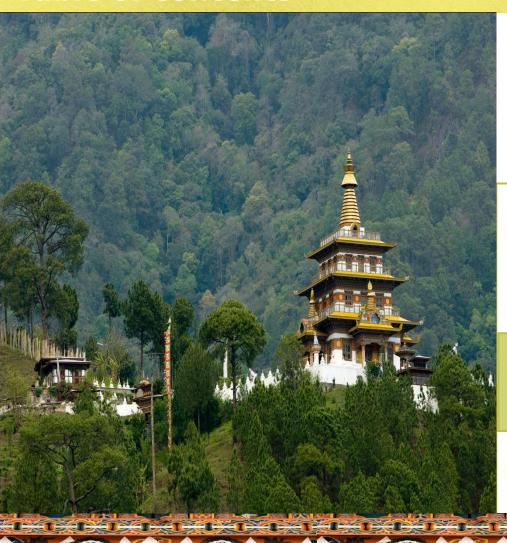
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Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

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## Government has an integrated plan for tourism with multiple initiatives to drive the sector



#### **Mission**

To be a premium exclusive long stay destination for culture, nature & wellness tourism

#### Exclusivity and unique philosophy of Gross National Happiness

### Strategic thrusts



Nature: unexplored beauty



Culture: 'living' culture & heritage



Wellness: Spirituality and serenity

## Flagship projects

1 Destination marketing ...

... to identify, develop, market and promote unique products and experiences to travel partners around the world 2 Aviation

... International aviation capacity and service

... Domestic connectivity across the country

3 Supply Creation

... High end hotels to offer exclusive experiences

### Key initiatives: Tourism

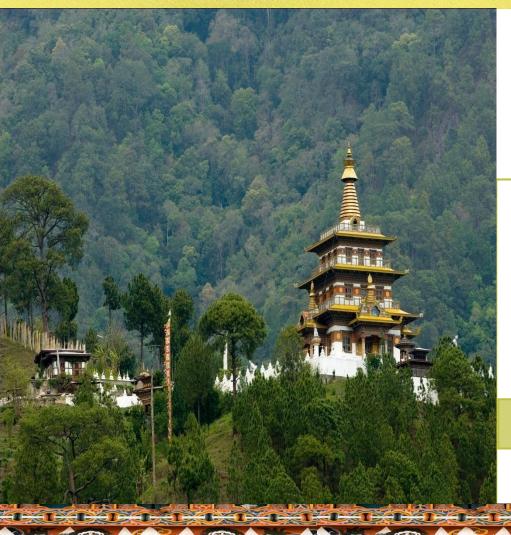
Pricing and channel

- ... minimum floor price to continue with greater transparency in packages
- **5** Supply up-gradation
  - ... star rating of all hotels and mandatory for all tourists to stay in 3 star and above
- Integrated destination infra
  - ... holistic infrastructure for all tourist arrivals
- Sustainable and Responsible Tourism
  - ... Compliance towards standards

#### Key initiatives: Cross cutting themes

- 8 Key Tourist amenities: Credit card, Visa, Rest areas
- Overall governance of the sector
- 10 Other enablers: Integrated transport infrastructure, land availability, talent development





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## Our local tour operators fully support you to plan and execute tours



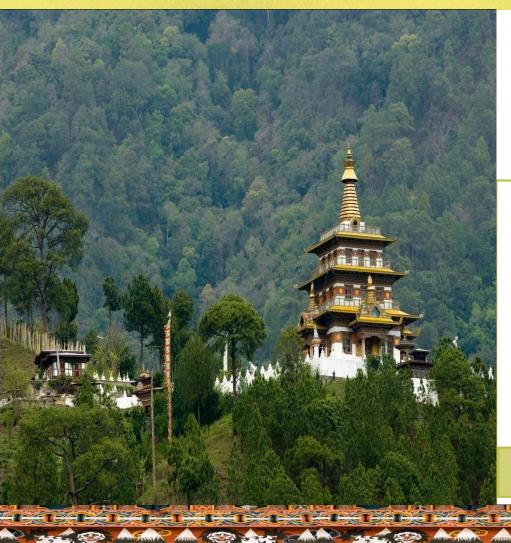
### **Basic support from local land tour operators**

- Assist tour contents planning
- Obtain VISA
- Book flight tickets
- Book accommodation
- Arrange food
- Arrange guide
- Arrange car and driver
- Provide equipment for activities such as trekking etc.

USD 200/day/pax: Dec-Feb & June -Aug USD 250/day/pax: Mar-May & Sept-Nov

Local tour operators will offer flexible support based on your request





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## Druk Air flights are available from 8 cities to Bhutan

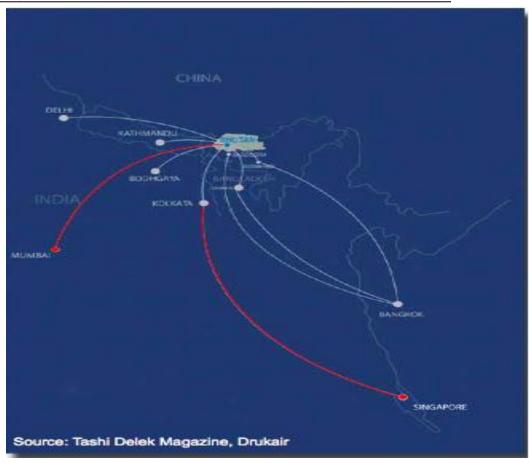


#### **Druk Air info**

- Founded: 1981, Commercially operated in 1983
- HQ: Paro, Bhutan
- Chief Executive Officer : Mr. Tandin Jamso
- IATA Code : KB
- Aircraft Fleet: 2 (A319)
- Destinations
   International: 8 Cities
- Website: http://www.drukair.com.bt

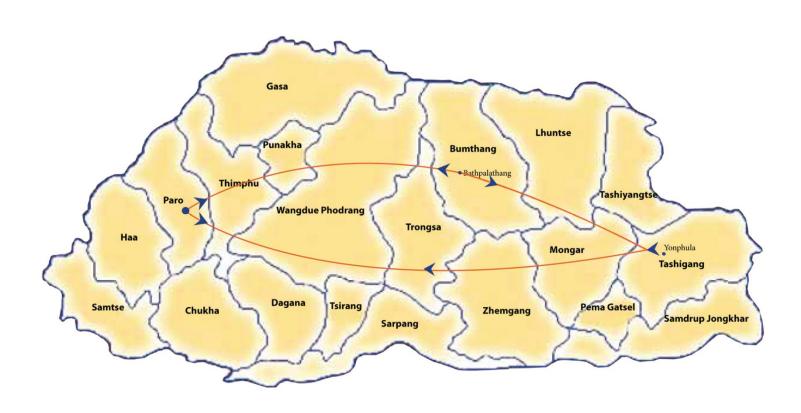


#### **Operating area**



## **Domestic air service route**









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