

# Tibet Overland Tour (Drive in Fly out)

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This is a very famous route which starts from Kathmandu and ends in Lhasa through Friendship Highway. From Kathmandu (1300m) the road travels gently up to Kerung (1873m) then leaving Nepal to make a steep switchback ascent to Kerung (2300m) into China in Tibet.

The road then climbs to the top of Tong-la (5120m), continuing to Tingri (4390m), and then down to Shigatse and Lhasa (3510m). The highway is very well paved and maintained by the Chinese government so it will be a pleasant journey. Also, the route takes in most of Tibet's main culture sites, Sakya, Gyantse, Shigatse and Lhasa. Highlights en route are Sakya monastery, the largest monastery in Tibet, Shigatse, Tibet's second largest city, Tashilhunpo Monastery, the seat of Panchen Lama, Shalu Monastery, Gyantse (Tibet's ancient trading hub) and the beautiful Turquoise Lake, Yamdrok Tso, which is Tibet's largest freshwater lake.

## Itinerary

### **Day 01: Arrival in Kathmandu and transfer to Hotel.**

On arrival in Kathmandu Airport, you would be met and received by our representative & transfer to the hotel. Overnight at the hotel.

### **Day 02: Kathmandu Sightseeing Tour.**

After breakfast, proceed for a city tour of Kathmandu visiting Durbar Square, a complex of palaces, courtyard and temples, built between the 12th and 18th centuries, used to be the seat of the ancient Malla kings of Kathmandu. In the afternoon visit the Swoyambunath Stupa and Patan City. Swoyambunath Stupa, atop the hillock is one of the holiest Buddhist sites in Nepal enlisted in the World Heritage Site. Patan City is an enchanting melange of palace buildings, artistic courtyard and former palace complex. One remarkable monument here is a 16th century temple dedicated to the Hindu God Lord Krishna, built entirely of stone..

### **Day 03: Kathmandu - Kerung (3600m) -154kms**

Departure at 05.30 from Kathmandu, after and approx. 6 hour's drive. We will reach Kerung (Nepal-China Border). Further half hour drive by truck will bring us to Kerung, where after completion of immigration formalities check drive to Tingri. Overnight.

### **Day 04: Kerung- Tingri (3950m) 370km**

From Kerung road follows the Bhotekoshi river in a deep valley with plenty of waterfalls. After 1-5 hrs. Drive brings us to Nylam Pass (3800m) with the Jugal Himal in view. A continued drive via Lalungla (5050m) will bring us in view of Mt. Langtang (7245m), Mt. Xixapangma (8013m) and Mt. Dorge Lakpa (6980m), Mt. Makalu (8464m) Mt. Everest (8848m), Mt. Lhotse (8516m), and Mt. Cho O Oyu (8201m). Overnight.

#### **Day 05: Tingri-Xigatse (3900m)Shigatse**

Tingri is 03hr away over a 5220m pass near the petrol station, there is a small restaurant where tea snacks are available. Depending upon the road conditions, Shakya Monastery, which is 26 km. Off from the main road will be visited. Shakya is one of the oldest and most important monasteries. Reach Xigatse, the place of the famous Tashilumpo Monastery, the seat of Panchen Lama after his death in 1989 with its huge thanka Wall clearly visible on the north side of the road. Overnight.

#### **Day 06: Xigatse- Gyantse (3950m) 90km.**

After visiting Tashilhunpo Monastery in the morning including the bazaar of Xigatse, drive to Gyantse, which is 02 hr. This is a small bustling town, steeped in history. It lies 264km southwest of Lhasa on the northern bank of Nyalun Chu River. In the 15th century it served as the capital of the small kingdom. Visit Kumbun Chorten and Phaklakor Monastery, which was built around 1400 and it later became the main Centre for trade with British India. Overnight.

#### **Day 07: Gyantse- Lhasa (5010m) -260km**

The 08-hr drive takes you to Lhasa crossing the Karola Pass (4794m). The Karola climbs between two lofty mountains, Nozing Khangsa (7223m) and Ralung (6236m) while driving you will see the Yamdrok Tso (Turquoise Lake) which takes approx. 1 hour to cross around. After passing Kampala, Lhasa Valley is seen to the north. You will also cross the Brahmaputra River. Reaching Lhasa and checking in at the hotel. The accompanied guide will reconfirm your onward airline ticket. Overnight .

#### **Day 08 - 09: Lhasa sightseeing**

These days you will be engrossed with sightseeing and excursions of the Potala Place, The Jokhang Temple surrounding Barkhor market Drepung Monastery and Sera Monastery. Overnight.

**Day 10: Lhasa to Kathmandu flight**

Transfer to airport 02hr.drive Representative will assist you. Departure of flight to Kathmandu would be approx 10.00 hour. China Standard Time and arriving at Kathmandu at 09hr.