

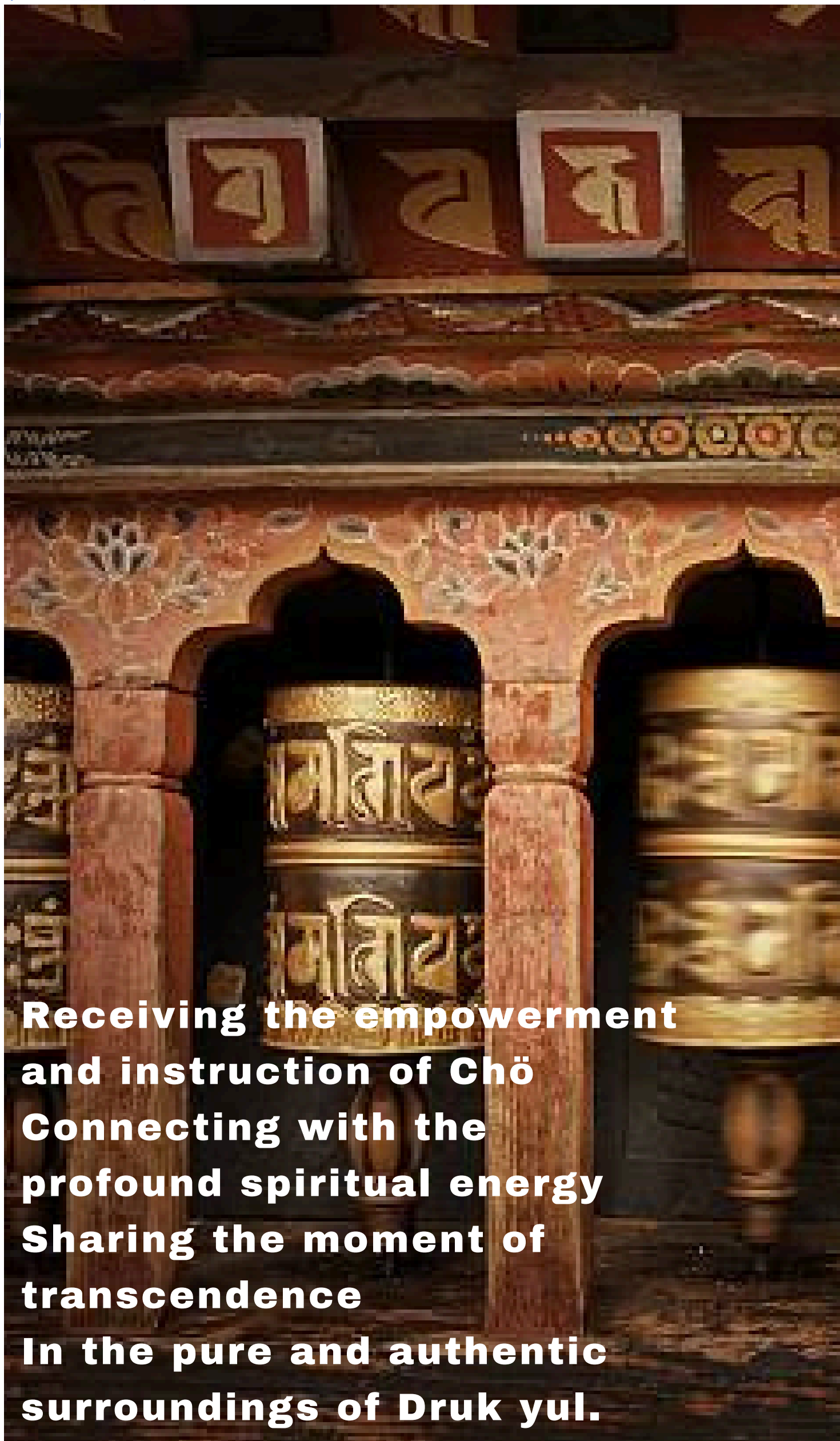
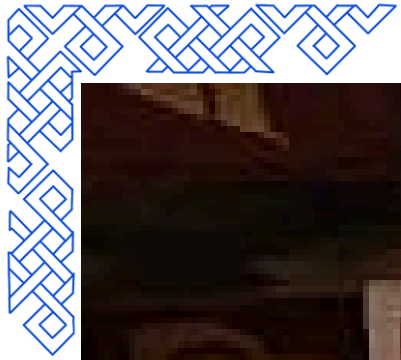
**March
2025**

**Chö Retreat and
Pilgrimage in Eastern
Bhutan
with Kyabje Kalu
Rinpoche**

**Niguma
Experience**

**Join us March 2025
To embark on a unique
pilgrimage with Kalu Rinpoche
for an in-depth experience of
Eastern Bhutan in the serene
embrace of the sacred region
blessed by Guru Rinpoche**





**Receiving the empowerment
and instruction of Chö
Connecting with the
profound spiritual energy
Sharing the moment of
transcendence
In the pure and authentic
surroundings of Druk yul.**



Chö Retreat and Pilgrimage in Eastern Bhutan

26th March – 4th April (10 days)

Day 1 (26th March): New Delhi-Guwahati (by air), Guwahati-Samdrup Jongkhar-Tashigang (by car)

Day 2 (27th March): Yongphula Lhakhang and Kanglung Zangto Pelri, Chö Empowerment from Rinpoche (Tashigang)

Days 3-5 (28th-30th March): Chö retreat with Rinpoche, including morning teaching, late afternoon practice, and dinner with Rinpoche (Tashigang)

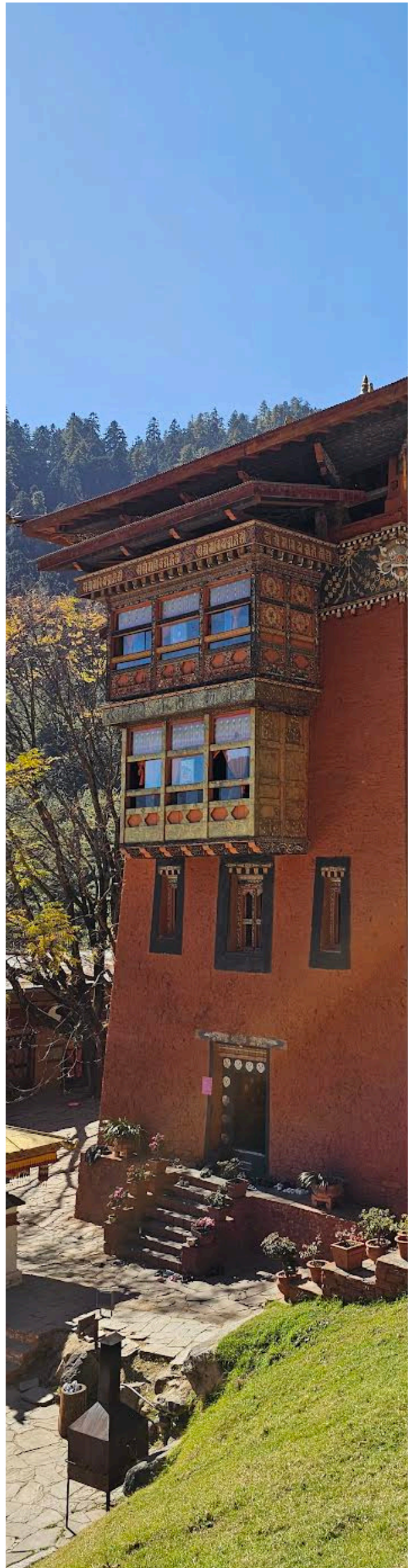
Day 6 (31st March): Giant Guru Rinpoche statue and Je Lhakhang (Autsho, Lhuntse)

Day 7 (1st April): Jangchobcholing Lhakhang (connected to 1st Kalu Rinpoche) and Lhuntse Dzong

Day 8 (2nd April): Visit Dremitse Dzong and Tashigang Dzong (Tashigang)

Day 9 (3rd April): Tashigang-Samdrup Jongkhar-Guwahati (by car), hotel check-in at Guwahati

Day 10 (4th April): Guwahati-Delhi (by air)



Daily Itinerary

Day 1 -

- **Morning Flight from Delhi to Guwahati**
- **Tour bus and guide pick up from Guwahati and drive to Samdrup Jongkhar (Bhutan Border)**
- **Immigration and lunch at Samdrup Jongkhar**
- **After lunch drive to Tashigang**
- **Dinner at hotel**



Daily Itinerary

Day 2 -

8am : Breakfast at hotel restaurant

8:45am : Drive to Airport to receive Rinpoche

10am : Yongphula Lhakhang

11am : Yonphu Pam lhakhang

12pm : Kanglung zangtopelri

1pm : Lunch at hotel

TBD : Empowerment Program

6:30 - 8:30pm : Welcome dinner



Yongphula Monastery:

The Yonphula Monastery was founded around 1940 by Lama Karpo Rinpoche, a disciple of Terton Dudjom Lingpa Jigdrel Yeshe Dorji, under the patronage of Tashigangpa Dzongpon Thinley Tobgay.

The Yonphula Monastery in Bhutan houses a replica of the Jowo Shakyamuni statue. The replica at Yonphula Monastery is a significant cultural and religious artifact. It allows devotees who may not be able to travel to Lhasa to experience the spiritual significance of the Jowo Shakyamuni.

Lama Karpo was a revered Dzogchen master and recognized as an emanation of one of India's Eighty-four Mahasiddhas. He studied under his father, Lama Kota, and later with Dudjom Rinpoche at Lama Ling in Tibet, making Yonphula a key center of the Dudjom Tersar lineage.

Yonphu Lhakhang:

The Yonphu Lhakhang is the oldest Lhakhang in Kanglung District, it is between 400~500 years old. The Lhakhang also has the oldest continuous Tshechu in eastern Bhutan.

Choeje Sangdag, the youngest of the 4 sons of Terton Pema Lingpa, came to Tashigang looking for a suitable place to establish his religious seat. On reaching Yonphu, he gave blessing to the local people. The community offered the land to the lama. The place then was called Yuen Phu. With some alteration, today it has become Yonphu Lhakhang.

***Timings are tentative and subject to change**



Daily Itinerary

Day 3 to 5 -

8am : Breakfast at hotel restaurant

10am : Teaching Starts

1pm : Lunch (location TBD)

3:30pm : Drive to Chöe

4 - 6pm : Chöe

6:30 - 8:30pm : Dinner



Daily Itinerary

Day 6 -

7am : Breakfast at hotel restaurant

8am : Drive to Lhuntse (4hr drive)

1pm : Lunch

3pm : Drive to Guru Rinpoche Statue

7pm : Dinner

Takila Guru Padmasambava Statue:

The Takila Guru statue, built by the late Ven. Khenpo Karpo Rinpoche, fulfills a prophecy by the great Tibetan saint and treasure revealer, Tertön Lerab Lingpa. This prophecy called for a Guru statue in Takila to bring peace, prosperity, and happiness to the world.

Construction of the statue began in March 2008 and was consecrated in November 2015. Standing at 154 feet (46.9 meters), it is the largest statue of Guru Padmasambhava in Bhutan, surrounded by eight large and 108 smaller stupas.

Terton Lerab Lingpa (1856–1926) was a prominent figure in the Nyingma school of Tibetan Buddhism. A revered tertön (treasure revealer), he uncovered numerous sacred teachings, preserving and transmitting the ancient Nyingma traditions during a period of decline. His profound teachings continue to inspire practitioners today.

Khenpo Karpo (1934–2017), born in Bhutan, was a beloved spiritual master renowned for his wisdom and compassion. A devoted student of Dudjom Rinpoche, he spent over 30 years studying the Nyingma teachings and played a key role in the creation of the Takila Guru statue.



Daily Itinerary

Day 7 -

8am : Breakfast at hotel restaurant

9am : Drive to Janchucholing (1.5hr drive)

10 - 11am : Visit Janchubcholing

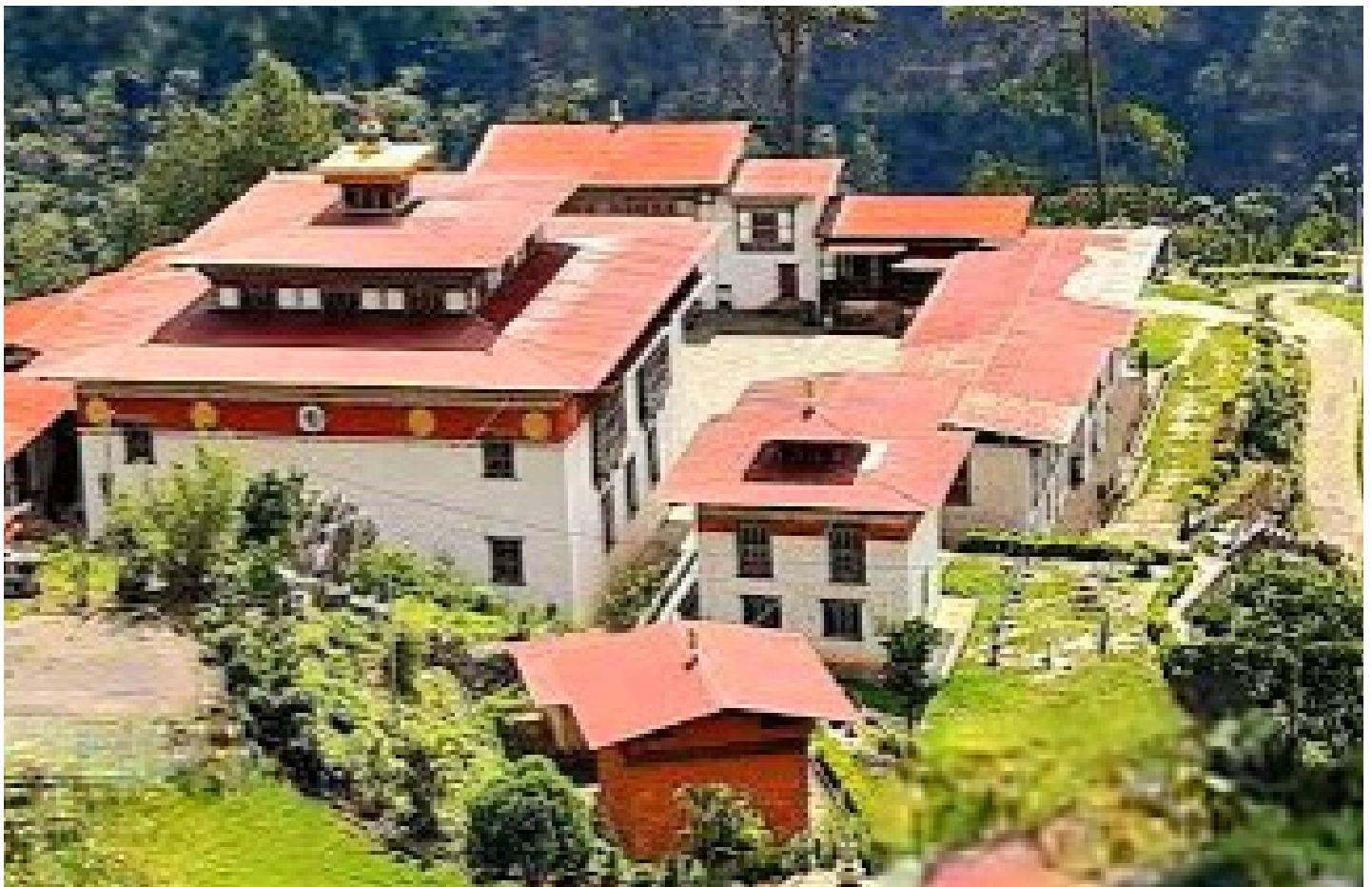
Drive to Lhuntse Dzong

1pm : Picnic Lunch

3pm : Drive to Autsho Je Lhakhang

Hotel (rest)

7pm : Dinner



Namdroling Dratshang:

Located in Lhuntse Dzongkhag, Bhutan, Namdroling Dratshang was built under the guidance of the Je Khenpo, the Chief Abbot of Bhutan.

The current Je Khenpo, His Holiness Tulku Jigme Choedra, has served since 1996, making him the longest-serving Je Khenpo in Bhutanese history. Born in Autsho, Lhuntse, in 1955, he entered monastic life young and became Je Khenpo at 41.

As Bhutan's spiritual leader, he oversees the Central Monastic Body and has modernized monastic education, integrating traditional Buddhist studies with modern subjects. A renowned scholar and teacher, Tulku Jigme Chhoedra's writings and teachings continue to inspire practitioners worldwide.

Jangchubling Dratshang:

Jangchubling Monastery is an important Nyingma Buddhist monastery located in Lhuntse, Bhutan. It was founded by Tertön Pema Lingpa, a renowned treasure revealer of the Nyingma tradition. It's one of the oldest monasteries in Bhutan, dating back to the 15th century.

During the 20th century, Jangchubling monastery was under the Royal patronage of Princess Wangmo, the daughter of the 2nd King of Bhutan. In the early 1950s, the Yangsi of Benchen Khenpo was recognised as the reincarnated Abbot of Jangchubcholing Monastery and was sent to Tshurpu Monastery in Tibet to complete his education. In the meantime, Princess Wangmo, as the Royal Patron of Jangchubcholing Monastery, requested Rangjung Rigpe Dorji, the 16th Karmapa, to appoint a Rinpoche to oversee the affairs of the monastery. Based on the royal request, the 16th Karmapa appointed the 1st Kalu Rinpoche (Kutse Gongma) as the chief Abbot of Jangchubcholing Monastery in Kurtoe circa 1957.

Kalu Rinpoche resided there as the Chief Abbot and emissary at Jangchubcholing Monastery for about 10 years circa 1957-1967. During this time, Rinpoche ordained over 300 monks and established 2 Niguma Retreat centres in Kurtoe.

Rinpoche organised 2 groups of monks who completed the three-years retreat, and the 2nd group consisting of Khenpos went on to become the Lamas that Rinpoche appointed to oversee and manage the centres he previously established in the west to further his intention to spread Dharma in the western world.

The present Kalu Rinpoche's connection to Jangchubcholing was further enhanced as his maternal family was originally from the Jangchubcholing village.



Daily Itinerary

Day 8 -

8am : Breakfast at hotel restaurant

9am : Drive to Tashigang (1.5hr drive)

12pm : Visit Dremetsi Dzong

1pm : Lunch in Dremetsi

3pm : Drive to Taashigng Dzong

4pm : Drive to Hotel

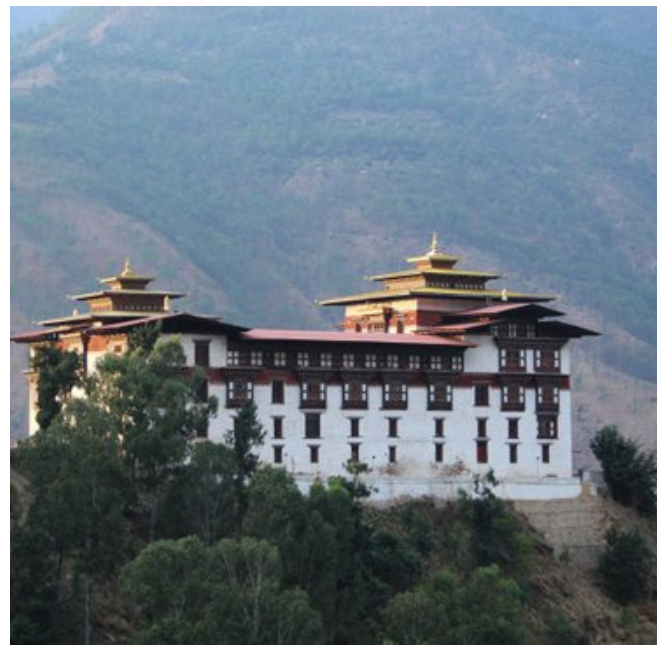
7pm : Dinner

Tashigang Dzong:

Known as the "Fortress of the Auspicious Hill," Tashigang Dzong is one of Bhutan's largest dzongs, located in Trashigang District. Built in 1659 under Trongsa Penlop Mingyur Tenpa's orders, its construction was prophesied by Ngawang Namgyal. Initially a defense against invasions, it also serves as a religious and administrative center.

Strategically perched on a ledge with cliffs overlooking the Drangme Chhu and Gamri Chhu rivers, the dzong has undergone multiple renovations, including a major expansion by Tashigangpa Thinley Tobgay between 1937 and 1939.

It houses a monastic community, serves as a center for Drukpa Kagyu teachings, and played a pivotal role in unifying eastern Bhutan. Notably, it still holds rifles left by Indian soldiers retreating through Bhutan during the 1962 Sino-Indian War.



Dremetse Dzong:

Founded in 1511 by Ani Chöten Zangmo, the granddaughter of Tertön Pema Lingpa, Drametse Lhakhang is a prominent Nyingma monastery in Mongar, Bhutan. Ani Chöten Zangmo established the monastery after retreating to Drametse to escape a forced marriage, dedicating herself to spiritual practice.

Known for its intricate architecture, religious art, and historical artifacts, the monastery is the birthplace of the UNESCO-listed Drametse Nga Cham, a masked dance of significant cultural heritage. Today, it remains a serene pilgrimage site and a vital center for Nyingma teachings.



Daily Itinerary

Day 9 -

6am : Breakfast at hotel restaurant

7am : Drive to Samdrup Jongkhar (1.5hr drive)

1pm : Lunch in Samdrup Jongkhar

Immigration (Bhutan & India)

4pm : Hotel in Guwahati

Daily Itinerary

Day 10 -

8am : Breakfast at hotel restaurant

Drive to airport





Registration:

Open now until 25th February 2025

**Early Bird Offer (By 25th January): USD \$3,580
(single room: \$3,680)**

**Full price (26th January-25th February): USD
\$3,780 (single room: \$3,880)**

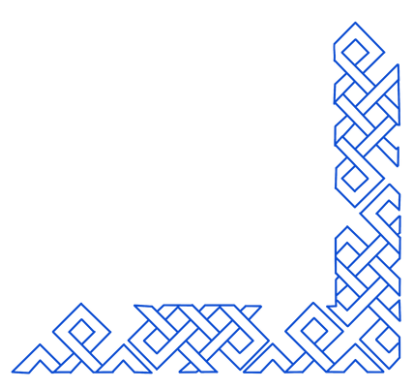
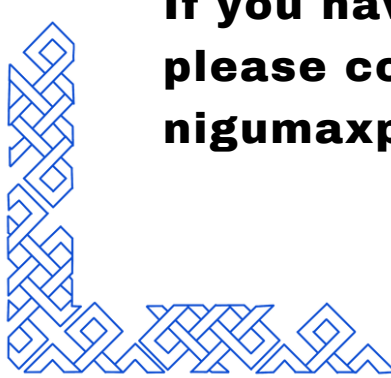
Including:

- **New Delhi-Guwahati return flight tickets**
- **Bhutan Visa fee**
- **SDF (USD \$100 per day per person)**
- **Hotels (3-4 star)**
- **Breakfast/lunch/dinner**
- **Tour guides**
- **Transport (by car)**
- **Medical insurance**

Excluding:

- **Flight tickets from your own location to New Delhi**
- **India visa fee**
- **Shopping or other entertainment of personal choices**

***All proceeds go to support Rinpoche's activities.**



**If you have any questions,
please contact Kelzang at
nigumaxp@gmail.com**

**March
2025**

**SEE YOU
IN
BHUTAN**

**Join us in March 2025 for an
extraordinary opportunity to partake in a
Chö retreat led by H.E. Kyabje Kalu
Rinpoche, set amidst the breathtaking
beauty of the Land of the Thunder
Dragon.**

**Niguma
Experience**