

(TE-011) Tibet 9 days classic panorama tour (9 Days)

Lhasa-Gandan Monastery-Tsedng-Yamdroktso

Lake-Gyantse-Shigatse-Lhasa+Yambajing+Namtso Lake, 9-day classic tour will take you to appreciate the panorama Tibet, with its unique high altitude, unique highland landscapes, exotic culture and friendly people. This tour take you to view the highlights in Tibet within shortest time.



(Tsedang)

Day 1/Arrive in Lhasa

Arrive in Lhasa, rightly one of the most featured and dreamt-about cities in the world, not only limited accessibility for its remoteness and its high altitude at 3,650 meters, but also the mysterious Tibetan religion. In Tibetan, Lhasa means the Holy Land or the Buddha Land. The guide will meet you at Konggar Airport, and transfer you to Lhasa city with about 1.5 hours' driving (100km). On arrival at the hotel, rest and acclimatize yourself to the local time and altitude. (D)

Day 2/Lhasa

The first day of sightseeing starts from Lhasa's cardinal landmark- Potala Palace, a structure of massive portions. Its towering image has already appeared on various occasions, but your first sight of the Potala will still be an awe-inspiring moment. It takes at least a good 2-hour to visit those rooms, halls and chapels. Some 2km to the east of the Potala is the most revered religious structure and the holiest temple in Tibet - Jokhang Temple. Bustling with worshippers and redolent with mystery, the Jokhang is an unrivalled experience. The quadrangle of streets surrounding the Jokhang is the Barkhor Market - Lhasa's most interesting pilgrimage circuit. This area of the Old Town is both the spiritual heart of Lhasa and the main commercial district for Tibetans. The rest of day is free. (B,L,D)

Day 3/Lhasa-Gandan Monastery-Lhasa

Today's highlight is to visit the Gandan Monastery, about 60km to the east of Lhasa. Gandan Monastery is one of the three great temples of Lhasa, also the top temple of the Six Gelug Sect temples (Yellow Hat Lamaism). The name of Gandan means "love, happiness, and satisfaction". It was built in early 15th century by Tsong Khapa (the founder of Gelug). At its peak, it had a registration of more than 4,000 monks. Although it was almost completely demolished during the Cultural Revolution and nearly all buildings were reconstructed later, the cultural relics have lost more or less. If you are interested in Tibetan Buddhism, here is a choice you can't miss. (B,L,D)

Day 4/Lhasa-Tsedang

Drive to Tsedang, located by Yarlung Valley, it is the capital of Shannan Prefecture. Today's highlight is the visit of Yonbulakhang and Changzhu Temple. Yonbulakhang is the earliest palace in Tibet, on the Zhaxiciri Mountain. The first impression of Yonbulakhang gave people is always very big built, precipitous and uncommon, because surrounded by the wilderness and field ridge. Changzhu Temple, located at the south bottom of Gongri Mountain, is famous for its "Pearl Tangka", on which paints the image of Kwan-yin Bodhisattva. Thangk is two meters long, 1.2 meters wide. Totally, cost 26 liang pearl, and it's also embedded with diamonds, coral and other precious jewelry. (B,L,D)

Day 5/Tsedang-Yamdroktso Lake-Gyantse

After breakfast, head for Yamdroktso Lake. It's mostly mountain road, winding and bumpy, even thrilling somewhat. After about 3.5 hours' driving, climbing over the snow pass of Kambala (5030m), the dazzling Yamdroktso just lies several hundred meters below the road, and in clear weather is a fabulous shade of deep turquoise. Far in the distance is the huge massif of Mt. Nojin Kangtsang (7191m). After down from the mountain, there's about 30km road along lakeside, with barley fields on the other side of the road. A nice walk by the lakeside can be a great joy. Leaving Yamdroktso is as spectacular as arriving, since you'll cross the 5045m Karola, with its awesome roadside views of the Nojin Kangtsang Glacier. With the Glacier scene still exciting you, after about 90km, you get to Gyantse. There stands the 35m-high famous Kumbum Stupa, packed with exquisite Tibetan sculpture and paintings, a stunning architectural wonder in Tibet. Stay overnight in Gyantse. (B,L,D)

Day 6/Gyantse-Shigatse-Lhasa

Proceed 98km to Shigatse and visit Tashihunpo Monastery, the new Palace of Panchen Lama. Tashihunpo's magnificent outside may make you gaps in admiration, its inside just offers you more religious tranquility and sincerity. Then, drive back to Lhasa.

Miles away from Shigatse, you can already see the gold tops of Tashihunpo Monastery shinning under the sun. (B,L,D)

Day 7/Lhasa

Sightsee of the Drepung Monastery, Sera Monastery and Norbulingka in Lhasa. Drepung Monastery, the largest and richest monastery in Tibet, was founded in 1416 by a disciple of Tsong Khapa under the patronage of a noble family and later enlarged by the Fifth Dalai Lama. Nowadays it stands as Tibet's most important and largest monastic university in Tibet. Norbulingka Park (Treasure Garden) was built in the 1740s during the reign of the seventh Dalai Lama. Later it was renovated and enlarged and became the Dalai Lama's Summer Palace. Sera Monastery is located a few miles to the north of Lhasa, is one of the three largest monasteries. (B,L,D)

Day 8/Lhasa-Yambajing-Namtso Lake-Lhasa

Trip to Yambajing thermal spring, which is located 120km in the north of Lhasa, greeting with the beautiful scenery of Tibetan northern grassland on the way. Proceed to Namtso Lake, lying at the foot of Nyainqentanglha Mountain, which is the highest lake in the world, considered as the holy lake in Tibet. You will feel comfortable in your private tour car or bus in which you will spend around 6 or 7 hours, and you can stop anywhere you like to take photos, just tell your driver or guide. (B,L,D)

Day 9/Depart from Lhasa

Pack up your luggage and transfer to the airport for leaving. TOUR ENDS! (B)