



# Tibetan Guide

M I M A D H O N D U P

## Winter Special Tour DISCOVER TIBET TOUR

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Tashi delek! Tibetan Guide Travel Tours is a small travel agency based in Lhasa. We always work hard and take responsible for our clients by using local services as much as possible. Of course we use Tibetan drivers and tour guides. Who are experienced, have rich knowledge about Tibetan culture and also excellent attitude. We are confident that you would not be disappointed if you choose our services letting us show you our mother land.

### Proposed itinerary

#### Day 1: Lhasa arrival [3650m]

Upon arrival in Lhasa you will be welcomed by your English-speaking Tibetan Guide and Tibetan Driver who will bring you to your hotel. Acclimatization to high altitude: please, drink lots of water and take plenty of rest in order to minimize altitude sickness.

*Overnight at Shambhala Palace or House of Shambhala Hotel, which is a Tibetan style hotel located in Lhasa city center (Barkhor)*

#### Day 2: Lhasa sightseeing

We begin visiting Jokhang Temple, the most sacred monastery in Tibet. It was founded in the 7th century by the first great Buddhist king Songtsen Gampo. Later you can explore the surrounding Barkhor old quarter and spend time walking around Jokhang Temple following pilgrims from all over the Tibetan plateau. In the afternoon we go to Sera Monastery, one of three great universities of Gelugpa Sect. We will attend the debating session of the monks.

*Overnight at Shambhala Palace or House of Shambhala Hotel*

#### Day 3: Lhasa sightseeing

Today we visit the beautiful Potala and Norbulingka Palaces. Potala winter palace was built in the 17th century by the fifth Dalai Lama. Provides amazing views of the entire city and houses the private quarters of the Dalai Lama, numerous grand state rooms and chapels. Norbulingka Palace is the summer palace of the Dalai Lama, built in the 18<sup>th</sup> century by the seventh Dalai Lama. It's tradition to do picnic in its beautiful garden and perform opera dances during Shoton Festival (August-September).

*Overnight at Shambhala Palace or House of Shambhala Hotel*



#### **Day 4: Lhasa – Shigatse [354Km, 3840m]**

Adventure starts: we drive West to reach second largest city in Tibet. First we cross Kampa-la Pass [4797m] and then Karo-la Pass [5050m], where Mt. Noi jin Kangsang [7206m] glacier lies near the road. In the middle, we enjoy the unreal turquoise waters of holy lake Yamdrok-Tso. Then we stop in Gyantse town, where we visit the considered best tibetan art paintings in Kumbum Stupa inside Pelkor Chode Monastery. Also from here, we admire the majestic Gyantse Dzong (fortress) overlooking the valley. Finally, we reach Shigatse before dinner.

*Overnight at Gesar Hotel*

#### **Day 5: Shigatse – Lhasa [272Km, 3650m]**

As early as possible, we visit Tashilhunpo Monastery, built in the 15th century by the first Dalai Lama. Nowadays seat of the Panchen Lama. We recommend to do Kora around Tashilhunpo Monastery. Also, you can walk around local market. After we finish visits go back to Lhasa. Our tibetan traverse goes along the Yarlung Tsampo (Brahmaputra) River. This is the most direct route to Lhasa and part of the Friendship Highway.

*Overnight at Shambhala Palace or House of Shambhala Hotel*

#### **Day 6: Ganden Monastery and Drak Yerpa day trip [150Km]**

In the morning we visit Ganden Monastery, 50 km from Lhasa. It is the main seat of the Gelug Sect and was founded by Tsongkhapa in 1409. We can also do kora around monastery. It's placed in the top of a hill in the Kyichu valley. You can do kora around monastery too and enjoy gret views of tibetan original landscape. After lunch, we will visit Drak Yerpa meditation caves and temples. It's an off the beaten path complex where tibetan masters go for meditation since VII Century. It's one of the most holy and important pilgrimage places in Tibet. Visit takes around 2-3 hours walking in a hillside. Back to Lhasa and enjoy free time.

*Overnight at Shambhala Palace or House of Shambhala Hotel*

#### **Day 7: Tibet departure**

Enjoy your last hours in Tibet exploring Lhasa by your own until your guide and driver meet you at the hotel to transfer you to the airport. ***End of our services.***

*Consider extending your trip spending extra days in Lhasa city or surroundings. Please, contact us for further information about any available extension of your trip.*



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**PRICE: 800 US Dollar per person.**

Group size: Min 4 people / Max 12 people.

Discounted price of 800USD per person from November 1st to April 20th.  
– Single room occupancy supplement (Lhasa-Shigatse-New Tingri): 220USD.

When group members arrive or leave separately, then extra fee applies per journey:  
Airport transfer: 300 Yuan. Train station transfer: 150 Yuan.

Please, check [upcoming departures](#) or let us know your trip dates if looking for travel partners..

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**Day 1:** Lhasa arrival [3650m]

**Day 2:** Lhasa sightseeing

**Day 3:** Lhasa sightseeing

**Day 4:** Lhasa – Shigatse [354Km, 3840m]

**Day 5:** Shigatse – Lhasa [272Km, 3650m]

**Day 6:** Ganden Monastery and Yerpa caves day trip [150Km]

**Day 7:** Tibet departure

### Included

- All necessary travel permits in Tibet.
- All entrance fees as described in the itinerary above.
- Experienced Tibetan guide in Tibet (English language).
- Transportation in Tibet (Airport / train station group pick up & drop off).
- Vehicle fuel, tools and vehicle repairs (if necessary).
- Driver and guide's food and accommodation.
- Accommodation in shared room basis. We will arrange for you as we mentioned in the itinerary. Double room with bathroom and breakfast are included when you stay in Lhasa and Shigatse hotels. If House of Shambhala is closed, we will provide accommodation at Kyichu Hotel.  
In Lhasa, Shambhala Palace, House of Shambhala or Kyichu Hotel 3\*\*\* (Barkhor)  
In Shigatse, Gesar Hotel 4\*\*\*\*

### Not included

- China VISA
- Plane or train tickets in or out of Tibet.
- Meals and drinks
- Personal expenses
- Extra expenses incurred due to unexpected natural events (delays, road washouts, snowfall...)
- Tips to guides and driver, but this totally depends on you.

**By joining this tour, you agree to our booking conditions, terms and policies**

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## VISA & Tibet travel permits

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Due to the current regulation, you need a special permit to visit Tibet Autonomous Region. The only thing you need to worry about is sending us clear scan of your travel documents **25-30 days in advance**. We will do the rest.

Application process depends on your entry point:

### **From mainland CHINA**

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We need clear scan copy of your passport and visa. If you do not hold a tourist visa (L), additional documents are required. Please, contact us for further information.

If you are entering Tibet by plane from mainland China, you will need the original permit. We will sent it to any address in China that you wish, be it your hotel, a friend's house or any International Airport where you connect with your Lhasa flight (additional fee apply for airport delivery). If you are arriving by train, you will only need a photocopy of the permit.

### **From NEPAL**

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We need clear scan copy of your passport.

If you want to enter Tibet from Nepal, chinese visa must be applied in Nepal. You must be sure about your itinerary as your visa will only permit you to stay for this set number of days. It cannot be extended later on when you are in Tibet. The visa that you will get is a group visa for all the people on the tour and it cannot be separated.

When we have a photocopy of your passport and itinerary, we will send a visa application to the chinese embassy in Nepal. Once you arrive to Kathmandu, our partner travel agency at Nepal will go to the chinese embassy to get the visa with your original passport.

Bear in mind that the we need at least three working days to be able to get you visa and it costs 150 USD for non-USA passport holders (240USD for USA, Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Romania & some other countries).

We can help with any services you might need in Nepal. Please, contact us.

**Please, confirm the latest requirements with us before your booking confirmation.**