



CENTRAL HOTEL
BHUTAN

Bhutan Travel Policy — Essential Information

- Visas and permits: Most international visitors need visa approval before travelling. Indian nationals require an entry permit.
- Bangladeshi and Maldivian nationals may apply for a visa in advance or on arrival.
- Passport validity: Passports must be valid for at least six months after your intended departure from Bhutan.
- Indian visitors: Adults may use an Indian passport or voter ID.
- Children under 18 may use a passport or birth certificate and must travel with a legal guardian.
- Visa fee: A non-refundable USD 40 processing fee applies. Allow at least five working days for visa processing.
- Sustainable Development Fee: The standard SDF is USD 100 per adult per night. Indian nationals pay INR 1,200 per adult per night. The current USD concession is valid until 31 August 2027, subject to government review.
- Children's concessions: Children under six are exempt from SDF. Children aged six to under 12 pay USD 50 per night, or INR 600 for Indian nationals.

- Bangladeshi visitors: A special SDF concession of USD 15 or Nu. 1,200 per person per night applies to the first 15,000 Bangladeshi visitors annually, subject to eligibility.
- Guides and accommodation: Stay at Department of Tourism-approved accommodation and arrange a certified guide for touring beyond designated border towns. Treks require an accredited operator or guide.
- Booking your trip: You may book independently or through a tour operator, provided all immigration and tourism requirements are met.
- Border-town visits: A conditional 24-hour SDF waiver applies within designated areas of Phuentsholing, Samtse, Gelephu and Samdrup Jongkhar. Entry formalities still apply.
- Travel insurance: Insurance is not mandatory but is strongly recommended.
- Requirements and concessions may change. Please confirm the rules applicable to your nationality and travel dates before booking.