

# Jomolhari Loop Trek

Trip code	
Package name	Jomolhari Loop Trek
Duration	7
Max. elevation	4180 m
Level	MODERATE
Transportation	Private vehicals depending on group size during the tour and trek.
Accomodation	3***hotel, Lodge twin sharing bed basis during the tour and trek.
Starts at	Paro
Ends at	Thimphu
Trip route	Drukgyakzong - Sharna Zampa - Thangthang kha - Jango Thang - soiyaksta - Thambu song - Gunitswa -Thimphu
Cost	USD 2,140 per person

## Highlights

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## Overview

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**A short but very adventurous trek in the Dragon Kingdom, Bhutan will give you a lifetime memory along with a breathtaking view of Mount Jomolhari along with several other peaks. This 7-day trek is one of the most popular trek in Bhutan where the maximum altitude you will trek is 4,180 meters.**

Jomolhari Loop Trek offers a wide range of landscapes flora and fauna. The highlight of this trek is the majestic impression of Jomolhari from Jomolhari Base Camp (Jangothang). While you are in Bhutan, you can explore the colorful city of Paro, visit the tiny but beautiful city of Thimpu which is also the capital of the country, visit the National Library in Thimpu, visit Bhutan's historical, cultural, and religious landmarks and hike to Taktsang Monastery 'Tiger's Nest' perched in a vertical cliff.

This trek is suitable for an adventure enthusiast and nature lovers as we will be exploring Bhutan's rural life and discovering age-old monasteries and temples. April to June and September to November is considered the best month for doing the Jomolhari loop trek. The starting point of this trek is Drukgyal Dzong, from where we commence our trek to SharnaZampa, and camp overnight.

We will pass by Gunitsawa village, a beautiful village. The next day, we will begin our trek very early as we have to walk for seven to eight hours in order to reach Thangthangkha. Continuing our trek, on the next day, we trek towards Jangothang. The main goal of the trek is to reach Jangothang and watch an eyeful view of Mt. Chomolhari, JichuDrakey, and Jomolhari, in front of human life.

This is a great opportunity for all adventure lovers to play with the natural beauty of the Himalayan kingdom. After spending two overnight at Jangothang, we move ahead to SoiYaktsa. The trail passes through scattered hamlets and farmland into a deep and richly forested valley, which leads to a high alpine pastureland where yak herders graze their animals. The trek offers a taste of the great variety of Bhutanese landscape.

Nearly the whole trek goes through a small part of the JigmeSingye National Park, passing a few of the Yak herder's settlements and the remotest region of Lingshi. One should be reasonably physically fit to enjoy the majestic mountain views, endure thin air, serenity, splendid Himalayan peaks, peacefulness, lovely forest, and terraces walk & the wilderness of the landscape while on the Trek.

Jomolhari Trek allows travelers to enjoy the taste of the great variety of Bhutanese landscape, and the views from some of the major passes that we come across are breath being one of the famous mountains or the valleys underneath. The trek gives you a chance to meet people, enjoy the pristine forest with rare glimpses of wildlife, and observe the ancient traditions of arts and crafts. You would be traveling through the less frequented areas of Bhutan.

## Trip Itinerary

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### **Day 1 : Drive to Drukgyal Dzong and trek to SharnaZampa(2850 m) via Gunitsawa village – approx. 5/6 hrs. walk.**

We inchoate our journey of 7 days trek to Jomolhari with a drive to Drukgyal Dzong. Drukgyal Dzong was a fortress and Buddhist monastery, now in ruins, located in the upper part of the Paro District, Bhutan. The name "Drukgyal Dzong" translates to "Fortress of Victory" as the monument stands for the Shabdrung's victory against an invasion of allied Tibetan-Mongolian forces in 1649. You can have a panoramic mountain view of Jomolhari (7326 m) from here on a clear sunny day.

After your arrival at Drukgyal Dzong, we have to walk from here as the road ends. Be sure that you have all your documents with you as your trekking permit will be at the check post by the army guarding at Gunitsawa village. Gunitsawa is a tiny but beautiful village. Following Paro River along our way, we will pass by cultivated fields, beautiful meadows, paddy fields and

impressive farm houses which are so picturesque. The forests are alive with numerous birds and brightly colored butterflies. Today's campsite is by the small outpost for park warden on the opposite side of the river.

## **Day 2 : Trek from SharnaZampa to Thangthangkha (3610 m) – approx. 7/8 hrs. walk.**

We will start our trek early today as we have a long way to reach our destination. We have to walk through the river valley and pass by few isolated farmhouses and deep forest area walking through both ascending and descending trail. Enroute you can see the junction from where the other path leads north over Tremo La to Tibet. After going uphill through the river valley, you enter the JigmeDorji National Park, the largest protected area in the country. The park is home to several endangered species including the Takin, snow leopard, blue sheep, tiger, red panda, and the Himalayan black bear. More than 300 species of birds have been cataloged within the park. Continuing our walk further, we follow a narrow mere path through oak, spruce, birch and alpine yellow trees. In some section, the trail is wet and loose rock. Most of the campsite is designated by government depending on area, access to water and mainly to protect from deforestation and disturbance to wild animals. After crossing a bridge and chorten, we hike towards our camping section. Your camp will be set up in a meadow with a stone shelter. Enormous glance of Mount Jomolhari can be seen from Thangthangkha.

## **Day 3 : Trek Thangthangkha to Jangothang (4080 m) – approx. 5/6 hrs. walk.**

Early in the morning, wake up and explore the panoramic view of Mount Jomolhari today. Our today's destination is Jangothang, one of the most beautiful campsites of the Himalayas. Commencing our trek, we ascend up to Paro Chhu valley which finally widens up gradually to a mere path which ascends to a meadow where same yak herders have their winter home. It is regarded as one of the most beautiful stroll. The path ascends for a while until we reach the army check post. Crossing the check post, you will enjoy a spectacular view of high mountain ridges and snow-capped peaks. In this area yaks and their herder's homes become a regular feature of the landscape. Passing the villages Soe, Takethang and Dangochang is another asset on this day. The ruins of an old fortress used to guard Bhutan against Tibetan invasions with wind flags. After reaching Jangothang, you will again have a spectacular view of Mount Jomolhari including its neighboring snowcapped peaks.

## **Day 4 : Rest day at Jangothang.**

One rest day will be kept at Jangothang since it is a perfect place for you to acclimatize before going over the high passes. However, if you want to do a short day hike around the place then there are plenty of possibilities here. You can have a great view of lakes and snowcapped mountains such as Jomolhari, TseringKang and Jichu Drake. If you are lucky, you can also spot some blue sheep on the upper slopes of the valley. You can also trek up to Tosoh or hike around the area. There are good short hiking trails in three directions. Jomolhari and its subsidiary mountain chains lay directly west, Jichu Drake to the north and there are a number of unclimbed peaks to the east. In summer, the ethereal Himalayan blue poppy can be seen in this area. If yak

herders are in the vicinity, perhaps visit inside one of the big black smoky yak-hair tents.

### **Day 5 : Trek Jangothang to SoiYaktsa (3800 m) – approx. 6/7 hrs. walk.**

On the following day, the trail leads to a last settlement in the valley and drops to the Paro Chhu. Passing the lake of Tshophu which is located at the altitude of 4380 meter, you will climb up steeply to Bhonte La pass (4,890 m), the highest point of this trek route. Reaching the Dhumzo Chhu River, you descend downstream passing few houses of SoiYaktsa (Dhumzo) to arrive at your camp soon after.

### **Day 6 : Trek SoiYaktsa to Thombu Song – approx. 4/5 hrs. walk.**

On the sixth day of our trek, we will be descending down to Thombu Song. The trail climbs 100m over a ridge to drop to another stream then. After crossing the Takhung La pass (4,520m) you descend to Thombu Shong, three yak herder huts with your campsite next to them.

### **Day 7 : Trek Thombu Shong to Gunitsawa village – approx. 4/5 hrs walk.**

Final day of our trek begins with breakfast at the camp. We have to walk 13 kilometers today in order to reach Gunitsawa village, our today's destination. Enroute we have to cross Thombu La pass (4380 m) and a few hours walk from there will take you to Gunitsawa village. Further, you will be driven to Thimpu, the capital of Bhutan which takes about two hours drive. After your arrival at Thimpu, get refreshed and rest.

## **Inclusions**

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### **What is included?**

Airport pick up & drop by private vehicle as your require.

Private vehicals for round trip.

Standard accommodation twin sharing bed basis for the duration of tour.

All meals fixed breakfast, lunch & dinner with Tea and Coffee for whole duration of your stay in Bhutan.

Mineral water supply for the trip.

Local licensed English speaking Bhutan Tour & Trekking Guides.

All sightseeing tours, Monument /Museum entrance Fees as per itinerary.

Country Presentation & Tour Briefing on arrival evening.

Bhutan Visa Fees and Visa Processing assistance.

The required number of trekking & touring staff.

All trekking access, route permits logistics & fees.

Luggage will be hauled by horses, mules or yaks at higher elevations.

Government tax which goes to the country's health & education projects.

### **What isn't included?**

Your travel insurance.

Bottled/alcoholic/cold drinks room service.

International airfares and airport departure tax.

Personal Equipment.

Tips to staffs-Tipping is expected.

Any others expenses which are not mentioned on Price Includes section.

### **Complimentary**