



2026 Festivals

Bhutan is a land where vibrant traditions and deep spiritual heritage come alive, especially through its year-round festivals. These events offer a rare glimpse into the heart of Bhutanese culture - ranging from the spiritually profound **Tshechus**, with their sacred mask dances and blessings, to the lively **Rhododendron Festival**, which celebrates the Bhutan's stunning natural beauty. Bhutan's festivals are more than just celebrations; they are moments when entire communities gather, offering visitors an intimate and authentic experience of the country's rich cultural fabric.



Image: Scarlett DG, DoT Bhutan

Below, you will find the tentative dates for Bhutan's most popular 2026 festivals, ideal opportunities to plan an unforgettable journey to this magical kingdom.

January – March

Early spring in Bhutan is a time of vibrant celebrations, beginning with the Punakha Drubchen from February 24th to 26th at the historic Punakha Dzong. This is followed

by the Punakha Tshechu, a grand event that brings the former capital to life with colourful dances and spiritual rituals.

For those seeking a more intimate cultural experience, the Tharpaling Thongdrol in Bumthang on March 3rd offers a deeply spiritual significance. The Tangsibi Mani festival (March 4th to 6th) in Ura, Bumthang, further enriches the experience with local traditions in a serene setting.



Image: Scarlett DG, DoT Bhutan

Later in the month, further East, you can experience the spiritual Gomphukora in Trashigang or the Chorten Kora Festival in Trashi Yangtse. In addition to the locals, you will also meet pilgrims from the Indian state of Arunachal Pradesh. In the West, you have a choice of the colourful Talo Tshechu in Punakha and the Gasa Tshechu both taking place from March 26th to 28th. Zhemgang also celebrates its festival at the same time.

The highlight of this season is the Paro Tshechu at Rinpung Dzong from March 29th to April 2nd which concludes with the display of a 'Thongdrol' on the last day.

Sl. No	Festival	Place	Dates
1	Punakha Drubchen	Punakha Dzong, Punakha	24 th - 26 th Feb
2	Punakha Tshechu	Punakha Dzong, Punakha	27 th Feb – 1 st Mar
3	Tharpaling Thongdrol	Tharpaling Lhakhang, Chumi, Bumthang	3 rd Mar
4	Tangsibi Mani	Tangsibi Lhakhang, Ura, Bumthang	4 th - 6 th Mar
5	Chorten Kora	Chorten Kora, Trashigang	3 rd Mar & 19 th Mar
6	Gomphukora	Gom Kora Lhakhang, Trashigang	26 th – 28 th Mar
7	Talo Tshechu	Talo Gonpa, Punakha	26 th – 28 th Mar
8	Gasa Tshechu	Gasa Dzong, Gasa	26 th – 28 th Mar
9	Zhemgang Tshechu	Zhemgang Dzong, Zhemgang	26 th – 28 th Mar
10	Paro Tshechu	Rinpung Dzong, Paro	29 th Mar – 2 nd Apr

April – June

April and May continue with a vibrant series of festivals that highlight the country's deep cultural roots and natural beauty. Nature lovers shouldn't miss the Rhododendron Festival at Lamperi Botanical Park in Thimphu from April 22nd to 24th.



Image: Scarlett DG, DoT Bhutan

From April through to June, the spiritual valley of Bhutan, Bumthang celebrates several festivals beginning with the Domkhar Tshechu (26th to 28th April) and concluding with the famous Kurjey Tshechu on 24th June which offers a deep connection to Bhutanese spirituality.

Sl. No	Festival	Place	Dates
1	Rhododendron Fest	Lamperi Botanical Park, Thimphu	13 th - 14 th Apr
2	Domkhar Tshechu	Domkhar, Chumi, Bumthang.	26 th – 28 th Apr
3	Ura Yakchoe	Ura Lhakhang, Bumthang	28 th Apr – 02 nd May

Sl. No	Festival	Place	Dates
4	Nimalung Tshechu	Nimalung Bumthang	Dratshang, Chumi, 22 nd – 24 th Jun
5	Kurjey Tshechu	Kurjey Bumthang	Lhakhang, Choekhor, 24 th Jun

July - September

The festival season picks up again in September. Thrill-seekers can participate in the Tour of the Dragon Mountain bike race (5th September) challenging themselves on rugged routes from Bumthang to Thimphu. While September features the popular Thimphu Drubchen (17th September) and the Thimphu Tshechu (21st to 23rd September), there are opportunities to travel to Bumthang for the Tamshing Phala Choepa (21st to 23rd September) and the Thangbi Mewang (26th to 27th September).



Image: Kezang Choden, DoT Bhutan

You can also visit Haa Valley for the Haa Tshechu. The Wangdue Phodrang Dzongkhag also features the Wangdu Tshechu from September (19th to 21st September) and the Gangtey Tshechu in Phobjikha (24th – 26th September).

Sl. No	Festival	Place	Dates
1	Tour of the Dragon (Mountain Bike Race)	Bumthang to Thimphu	5 th Sep
2	Thimphu Drubchen	Tashi Chhodzong, Thimphu	17 th Sep
3	Haa Tshechu	Lhakhang Karpo, Haa	19 th – 21 st Sep
4	Wangdue Tshechu	Wangduephodrang	19 th – 21 st Sep
5	Tamshing Phala Chhoepa	Tamshing Lhakhang, Bumthang	21 st – 23 rd Sep
6	Thimphu Tshechu	Tashi Chhodzong, Thimphu	21 st – 23 rd Sep
7	Gangtey Tshechu	Gangtey Gonpa,	24 th – 26 th Sep
8	Thangbi Mewang	Thangbi Lhakhang, Choekor, Bumthang	26 th – 27 th Sep

October – December

Begin October with the thrilling Jhomolhari Mountain Festival (October 14th to 15th in Thimphu), a must for adventure enthusiasts. Tshechus in Pemagatshel, Chhukha, and Dechenphu, as well as the Jakar Tshechu in Bumthang, offer a variety of spiritual and cultural experiences.

November's highlights include the Jambay Lhakhang Drup, Prakhar Duchhoed, and the Black-Necked Crane Festival on November 11th in Phobjikha. The year concludes with the Mongar and Trashigang Tshechus in the East. December also brings the Phuntsholing Tshechu, Jambay Lhakhang Singye Cham, and the grand Druk Wangyel Tshechu at Dochula on December 13th. The Trongsa and Lhuentse Tshechus from December 17th to 21st end the year on a high note.



Image: Marcus Westberg, DoT Bhutan

Sl. No	Festival	Place	Dates
1	Jhomolhari Mountain Festival	Dangochong, Thimphu	14th - 15th Oct
2	Pemagatshel Tshechu	Pemagatshel Dzong, Pemagatshel.	18 th – 21 st Oct
3	Jakar Tshechu	Jakar Dzong, Choekhor, Bumthang.	18 th – 21 st Oct
4	Chhukha Tshechu	Chhukha Dzong, Chhukha	19 th - 21 st Oct
5	Dechenphu Tshechu	Dechenphu Lhakhang, Thimphu	21 st Oct
6	Jambay Lhakhang Drup	Jambay Lhakhang, Choekhor, Bumthang	26 th – 29 th Oct
7	Prakhar Duchhoed	Prakar Lhakhang, Chumi, Bumthang	27 th – 29 th Oct
8	Black Necked Crane Festival	Gangtey Gonpa, Phobjikha, Wangduephodrang.	11 th Nov
9	Mongar Tshechu	Mongar Dzong, Mongar	17 th - 19 th Nov
10	Phuntsholing Tshechu	Phuntsholing, Chhukha	17 th - 19 th Nov
11	Jambay Lhakhang Singye Cham	Jambay Lhakhang, Choekhor, Bumthang	24 th Nov
12	Druk Wangyel Tshechu	Dochula, Thimphu	13 th Dec
13	Trongsa Tshechu	Trongsa Dzong, Trongsa	17 th – 21 st Dec
14	Lhuentse Tshechu	Lhuentse Dzong, Lhuentse	17 th – 21 st Dec
15	Nabji Lhakhang Drup	Nabji Lhakhang, Nabji, Trongsa	24 th – 26 th Dec

Bhutan's 2026 festival calendar is a vibrant showcase of the nation's deep cultural and spiritual heritage. Each festival offers a unique opportunity to immerse yourself in Bhutanese traditions, whether through the colourful Tshechus, the adventurous mountain festivals, or the serene celebrations of nature.

By planning your visit around these events, you can experience Bhutan at its most lively and authentic, ensuring an unforgettable journey that resonates long after you have returned home.

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