

4-Day Lhasa Classic Tour

Basics

Tour code: LCT - Tibet - 4D-01

Attractions: Potala Palace, Jokhang Temple, Barkhor Street, Norbulingka, Drepung Monastery, Sera Monastery

Overview:

Have you been to the magic Tibet? Have you visited Lhasa? If not, this classic four-day tour is just for you. You will explore the majestic Potala Palace, exotic Barkhor Street, sacred Jokhang Temple, grand Norbulingka, heavenly Drepung Monastery, and the mysterious Sera Monastery. Best of all, you will taste authentic Tibetan food.

Highlights

- Take awe in the majestic and magnificent Potala Palace;
- Admire the real sacred place of Tibetan Buddhist disciples - Jokhang Temple;
- Explore the exotic Tibetan ethnic-cultural street - Barkhor Street;
- Visit the Summer Palace of Tibet, the grand Norbulingka;
- Get lost in the heavenly atmosphere of Drepung Monastery and Sera Monastery.

Itinerary

Date	Starting Time	Destination
Day 1	Flexible	Arrival in Lhasa
Day 2	9:00 a.m	Visit Potala Palace, Jokhang Temple, Barhkor Street
Day 3	9:00 a.m	Norbulingka, Drepung Monastery, Sera Monastery
Day 4	Flexible	Departure

Day 1: Arrival in Lhasa

Upon your arrival by air or train, our Lhasa driver and guide will be ready to take you for a wild adventure. There is no activity arranged for the rest of the day. You can use it to acclimatize yourself to the plateau environment.

Day 2: Potala Palace, Jokhang Temple, Barhkor Street

After breakfast, your Lhasa discovery officially begins.

The first stop today will be the world-famous **Potala Palace**. It's a witness of the beautiful combination between Tibetan chief Srongtsen Gampo and Princess Wencheng from the Tang Dynasty and a place where the Dalai Lamas took residence and handled local affairs. The palace houses numerous relics and



treasures. Tibetans consider the palace a sacred place. Many significant religious events took place here.

After visiting the Potala Palace, you will enjoy a Tibetan lunch at a local restaurant.

Tip: Some people may find Tibetan food a little strange. Please check your guide for lunch advice.

In the afternoon, we will head for the **Jokhang Temple** the real sacred place for Tibetan Buddhist disciples. It's the most magnificent building from the Tubo period in existence and the earliest wooden building in Tibet. It has traces of Tibetan, traditional Chinese, Nepalese, and Indian architectural styles. Many Tibetan Buddhist disciples came here to pay their respect, making the thousands of butter lamps and incenses burning all day long.



At last, we will spend some time in Barhkor Street. It's a thousand-year-old street that can show

the Tibetan culture and customs best. The most prosperous part of Barhkor Street is near the Jokhang Temple. Many Tibetan Buddhist disciples with revolving prayer wheels in their hands make their pilgrimage clockwise around the Jokhang Temple. It's striking to see local people so devout and reverent. Of course, you will also see a lot of local specialties, arts, crafts, and souvenirs.

Your day tour comes to an end by now. Your guide and driver will escort you back to your hotel.

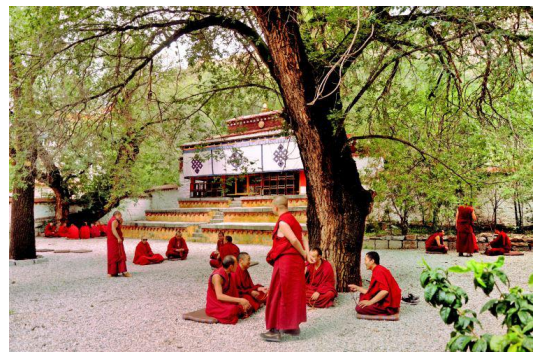
Day 3: Norbulingka, Drepung Monastery, Sera Monastery

After breakfast, you will head for **Norbulingka** first. It used to be the Summer Palace for Dalai Lamas. As the largest man-made garden with the best landscape and most historic spots, Norbulingka doesn't collect much antique relics and treasures as Potala Palace and Jokhang Temple. It is still a great place for leisure.



Your next stop will be the **Drepung Monastery**. “Drepung” in the Tibetan language means “rice pile” as the outer walls of the temple (built on the mountain) are white and look like rice piles from afar. It's the largest Tibetan Buddhist monastery in Tibet. You have to trek on the mountain road to get to the main hall of the monastery, which can take a lot of energy. During the Sho Dun Festival, which takes place in July of Tibetan Calendar, a large image of Sakyamuni made from colorful silk will be presented along the mountain so that all the disciples can prostrate themselves in worship.

Have lunch at another nice local restaurant before heading for the **Sera Monastery**. “Sera” in the Tibetan Language refers to the rosewood as there is a vast piece of rosewood forest around the monastery. One of the highlights of visiting the Sera Monastery is to see the monks debating the Buddhist scriptures.



Afterward, your guide and driver will accompany you back to your hotel.

Day 4: Lhasa Departure

Your driver and guide will pick you about 3 hours before your flight and drive you to Lhasa airport.

What's Important:

What's included:

Tibet Travel Permit.
Air-conditioned vehicles with an experienced driver.
Licensed English-speaking tour guide.
Entrance fee for sights mentioned in the itinerary.
Bottled water.

What's not included:

Meals
Personal expenses or private entertainment items at sights.
Tips or gratuities for guide and driver if we did a good job (recommended)
Accommodation
Airfare or train fare to Lhasa.

What to take: smile and a relaxed enthusiastic attitude.

Good to know:

1. This trip involves several cities that host mostly minority people, some of whom don't even speak Mandarin, let alone English. They have their languages. We can't promise that the local guides will possess the English language skills as masterfully as the guides in big cities like

Beijing, but we do promise that you will understand them. They will be very polite, enthusiastic, and eager to share what they know about their hometown.

2. As our customer, your time is very valuable to us. We will never take you to any factories or shops for shopping.
3. For lunch, we will take you to a nice local restaurant, where you can enjoy the local food at a fair price. Please inform us about your food preferences in case you have any allergies.
4. A regular day tour will last 8-9 hours. If you want a tour with a duration exceeding the working period of our tour guide and driver, we need to charge you for your extra hours at the standard rate of 100 RMB per hour.
5. The tour we provide you is based on days, not the hours. A regular day tour will last 8-9 hours. In case you only need our service for between 6 hours to 8 hours in one day, we will consider it a day tour.
6. Please be aware that your itinerary can be changed at any time. Whenever you want to adjust it, we will help you with that.
7. What we provide are high-quality private tours; you will only be with your families or friends. No other people are joining you.

FAQ

1. How to get to Lhasa?

Lhasa has many direct flights to domestic cities like Beijing, Shanghai, Chengdu, Chongqing, Xian, Guangzhou, Xining, Shenzhen, Hangzhou, Guiyang, Xiamen, etc. Also, trains are connecting Lhasa and other major cities of China. However, taking the train will cost you too much time.

2. How is the weather in Lhasa? When is the best time to visit Lhasa?

Lhasa has a relatively moderate temperature with a small annual temperature difference but a distinct temperature difference between day and night. The best time to visit Lhasa is from June to September, when the climate is the best, the oxygen concentration is the highest, and the scenery is the most beautiful. Most cities are unbearably hot during the time, but Lhasa is at its primetime

Tel: +86 18629295068

Email: lilychinatours@hotmail.com; service@lilysunchinatours.com

thanks to its advantageous location. Therefore, Lhasa is a great resort in Summer.

3. How to get to Lhasa downtown from the airport?

Shuttle buses are running between the downtown area and the airport. However, if you want a trouble-free transfer, we can arrange a private car for you. The whole journey lasts about 80 minutes.

4. Is it safe to rent a car in Lhasa?

It's safe to take a taxi in Lhasa, but you might be overcharged. We suggest you hire a local tour agency like us to help you with transportation. In this way, you will have plenty of time to travel.

5. Can we take baths in the Lhasa hotel?

Lhasa is largely the same as other big cities in China. It also has many four-star and five-star hotels of international standard. You don't have to worry about the bath problem.

6. What local food do you recommend us to taste?

There is so much local food waiting for you to taste, and we highly recommend tsampa with butter and cheese, butter tea, yak meat, Tibetan noodles, sweet tea, and highland barley wine.

7. Can you recommend some souvenirs?

There are many local specialties in Lhasa like Thangka, Tibetan silverwork, yak fur, cordyceps sinensis, local milk, Tibetan wine, carpet, etc.

8. Why can't I take a bath when I arrive in Lhasa?

There are two reasons. On the one hand, you might catch a cold during the bath as the temperature of Lhasa is lower than most places in China. It's very dangerous to get cold in the plateau region because sickness can easily cause pulmonary inflammation. On the other hand, the sweltering bath may make you dizzy especially in a place deficit in oxygen like Lhasa. Therefore, please give your body some time to adapt to the height.

9. How can I book the ticket for Potala Palace?

There is a limit regarding how many tickets can be sold per day. Therefore, people often book tickets in advance. You can either book on the official website of the Potala Palace, or buy on spot. To make everything easy, we are here to help.