



འབྲུག་བཟང་བཤམ་ཚོགས་ལྷན། དཔལ་ལྷན་འབྲུག་གཞུང་།

TOURISM COUNCIL OF BHUTAN
ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN



Vision: A green, sustainable, inclusive and a high value tourism destination

7th March 2020

UPDATE: COVID-19 Notification

The press release issued yesterday on 6th March 2020 with regard to COVID-19 is revised herewith in pursuant to the notification issued by the Ministry of Home and Cultural Affairs on same day vide letter number Tha(01)/2020/2136. The following are the points relevant to tourism:

- (i) Issuance of e-visa/e-permit to nationals from countries affected by COVID-19 or those persons that have visited or transited through COVID-19 affected countries stands suspended till further notice.
- (ii) Visa on arrival for eligible foreign nationals stands suspended until further notice.
- (iii) Government clearance to host events such as car rallies, seminars, trade fairs and workshops in the country stands suspended till further notice.
- (iv) All mass gatherings must be deferred till further directives.

Therefore, TCB would like to request all tourism stakeholders to abide by this notification strictly.

Further, in considering the health, safety and well-being of tourists, tourism personnel and the general public at large, the following notice is being issued to all tourism stakeholders:

- During this period the Government will monitor the situation and make a re-assessment of the measures in place.
- Tour operators are requested to keep track of those tourists who are already in the country and advise them to take precautionary measures.
- Tour operators are requested to inform guides and drivers to be vigilant and monitor the status of tourists, other people at the tourist's sites and of course themselves at all times.
- Everyone needs to keep record of all the places they visit and those places visited by their guests (tourists). This will allow for a quick and effective response of medical and emergency personnel if there are suspected of new cases.
- Maintain good personal hygiene, avoid gatherings, wash/sanitize your hands regularly and avoid unnecessary physical contact with others.
- Minimize service personnel at hotels, resorts, restaurants, and tourist sites.
- Hotels are to keep record of the contact details of their guests and their next destination.

As mentioned in the earlier notification, all suspected cases are to be immediately reported by phone to one of the following health officials (please do NOT go directly to a hospital):

1. Dr. Chench Dorji: 17296890
2. Mr. Rixin Jamtsho: 17606098
3. Dr. Kesang Dorji: 77232566
4. Dr. Dorji Tshering: 17517821
5. Dr. Phub Tshering: 17280808
6. Dr. Tandin Zangpo: 17828860
7. Dr. Ugyen Wangdi: 17733500
8. Dr. Tshokey: 17589485
9. Dr. Thinley Pelzang: 77391619
10. Dr. Pelden Wangchuk: 17827843
11. Health Help Centre Toll Number: 112

Please contact the following officials from the Tourism Council of Bhutan for more information:

1. **Mr. Damcho Rinzin.**
Mobile Number: 17122257
2. **Mr. Yeshey Wangchuk.**
Mobile Number: 17124546

Dorji Dhradhul
Director General