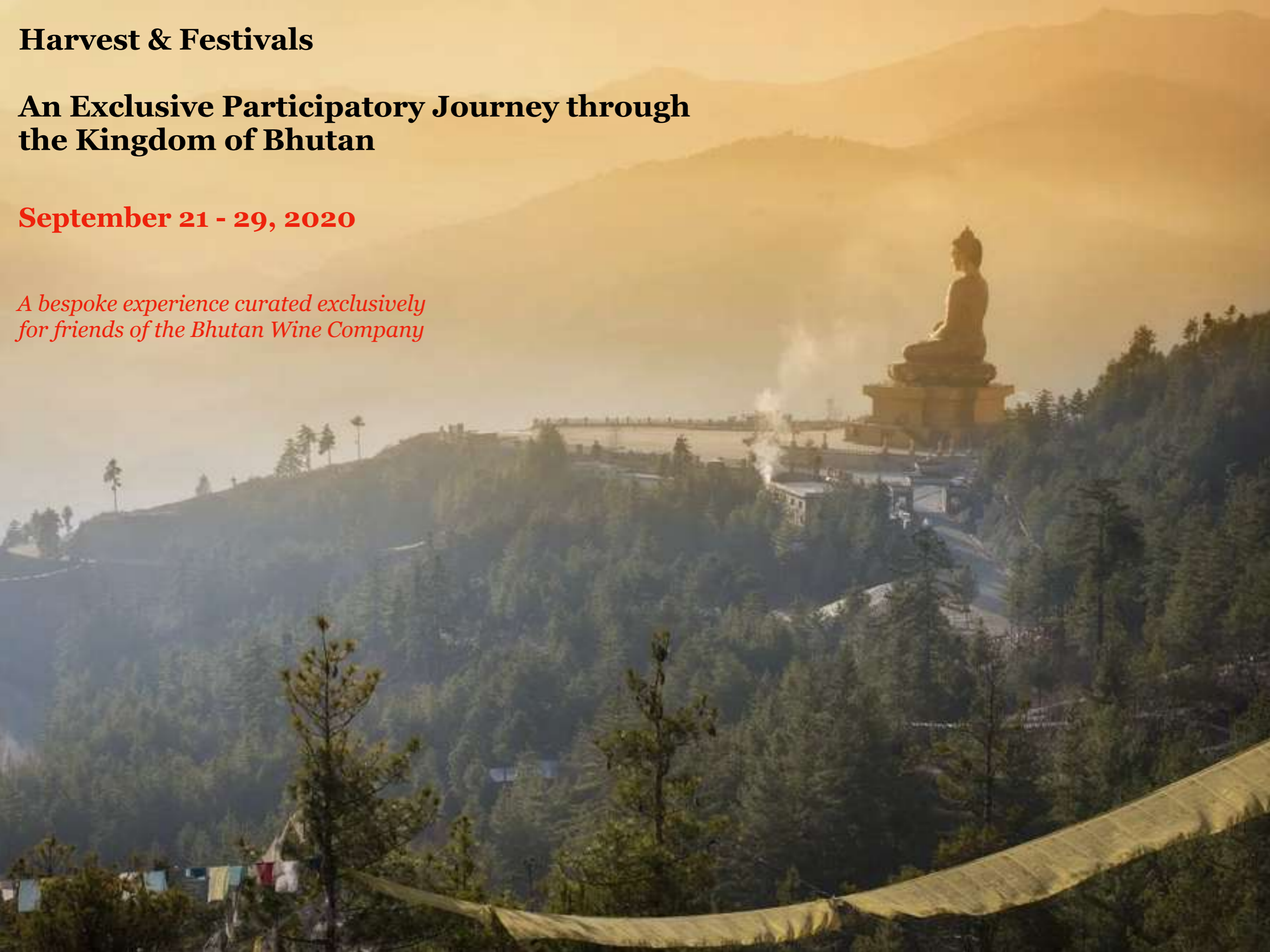


Harvest & Festivals

An Exclusive Participatory Journey through the Kingdom of Bhutan

September 21 - 29, 2020

*A bespoke experience curated exclusively
for friends of the Bhutan Wine Company*





On this journey, guests will participate in the founding of the fine wine industry in the mystical Kingdom, collaborating with government officials, wine specialists and traditional villages in the social development of new vineyards.

Become immersed in Gross National Happiness, the teaching of Compassion in Action and the gentle ways of the Bhutanese people. We invite you to join us in this ground-breaking cross-cultural endeavor.

Itinerary at a Glance

September 21-29, 2020

Day 1: Paro (arrive via Bangkok)

*Paro lodging at the luxury ZhiwaLing Heritage
“National Geographic Unique Lodges of the World”

Morning: Orientation at the Paro Seed Research Center
& Yusipang Vineyard

Afternoon: Rinpung Dzong Fortress

Day 2: Paro

Ser Bhum Vineyard Harvest & Winemaking
Field harvesting, sorting grapes, pre-fermentation

Onsite lunch with vineyard staff

Afternoon: Yoga & Meditation with Monks

Day 3: Paro

Tiger’s Nest Hike and Blessing Ceremony

Afternoon: Spa / Relaxation / Shopping

Day 4: Punakha Valley via Dochula Pass

*Punakha lodging at the Dhensa Boutique 5-Star Resort

Afternoon: Punakha Fortress, Suspension Bridge &
Small Villages

Day 5: Punakha

Bajo Vineyard Harvest
Gaselo Vineyard vine inspection & training
Onsite lunch with Former UN Ambassador Daw Penjo
Late Afternoon: Chimi Lhakhang Fertility Monastery

Day 6: Punakha

Morning: River Rafting the beautiful Mo Chhu River

Afternoon: Talo Monastery & Village Music of Bhutan

Day 7: Thimphu

*Thimphu lodging at the ZhiwaLing Ascent Luxury Hotel

Biodiversity Center
Memorial Chorten, Buddha Dordenma
Takin Reserve, City Food and Cultural Day Tour

Day 8: Thimphu Festival Day

Afternoon Options:

1. Compassion in Action
Macaque Monkey Re-Integration Program
2. Hot Stone Bath & Spa

Evening Option: Urban Nightlife

Day 9: morning departure for Bangkok

Your Luxury Accommodations

Dhensa Boutique Resort luxury accommodations in Punakha center on serenity, in everything from the grounds, to the beds, food, and spa services.



ZhiwaLing Heritage Paro is locally-owned and the only “National Geographic Unique Lodges of the World” in Bhutan. This spectacular luxury hotel features an onsite tea house, temple and full-service spa.

ZhiwaLing Ascent Thimphu is locally-owned and boasts the newest hotel construction in Thimphu. Enjoy world-class international fare, yoga and spectacular mountain views.



The Vineyards

PARO

Located just above the town of Paro, near the international airport, sits our Paro vineyard. Located at around 7,500 feet in elevation, the Paro vineyard offers majestic 360 degree views of the Paro valley and its surrounding peaks. This vineyard has terraced slopes, where we have planted head-trained vines at ten foot spacing intervals to take advantage of the drying local winds. Additionally, we have two flat blocks, one which is planted with north-south rows and one with east-west rows. Both blocks are designated for VSP trellises.



YUSIPANG

Located outside of Bhutan's capital city of Thimphu, on the East West road from Thimphu to Punakha, this gorgeous vineyard offers stunning views of the valley below and a dizzying array of Himalayan peaks. Situated at 8,900 feet in altitude, this is our highest vineyard, and as such benefits from strong sun exposure in summer months. This vineyard offers steep terraced southeast facing slopes. The terraces are planted with both single and double rows of vines, which are head trained. We believe that Cabernet Franc and Petit Manseng will perform exceptionally well here.



Ser Bhum Vineyard Hongtsho, Bhutan



BAJO

Nestled in the beautiful Punakha Valley, this vineyard will relish dry, hot temperatures throughout the year as it sits in a protective rain shadow and enjoys gentle warming breezes year round. We anticipate our red varietals, particularly Cabernet Sauvignon, will flourish here, as will Chardonnay. The Bajo vineyard is completely flat, at around 4,000 feet in elevation, and is located just above the Sankosh river. This vineyard is also designated for VSP trellises.



Paro district contains some of Bhutan's oldest fortresses, the precious artifacts of the National Museum and cliff-clinging religious centers like Kila Goemba nunnery and Taktsang (Tiger's Nest) monastery.



Ser Bhum Vineyard & Winery

Planted in April, 2019 with 1-year-old vines, the 2-acre Ser Bhum vineyard will be ready for the Kingdom of Bhutan's first ever fine wine harvest in September 2020!

Guests will assist with field harvesting & winemaking in the new winery (currently under development).



Hike to Tiger's Nest, Bhutan's most iconic structure and monastery, and take in some of Paro's most breathtaking views along the way.

Paro



Dochula is the pass between Thimphu and Punakha where hundreds of prayer flags flap in the wind, sending out merit to all sentient beings. On a clear day the views are astonishing. Visible are many snow covered 7.000-metre summits including Gangkhar Phuensum, the world's highest unclimbed mountain.

***Dochula
Pass***



There are plenty of things to explore in the beautiful and fertile Punakha Valley. Punakha Dzong is the valley's foremost visitor attraction, but you could also visit Chimmi Lhakhang and participate in a centuries-old fertility ritual, float down the river on a gentle rafting trip, or head uphill to peaceful Sangchen Dorji Luendrup Nunnery for brilliant valley views.

Punakha



On our fifth day, we'll harvest Malbec & Cabernet Franc at the Bajo Vineyard.

Bajo Vineyard

After lunch, we'll head over to the new Gaselo Vineyard and assist with vine inspection and training.



Village life offers an extraordinary opportunity to witness authentic folk music in its true context. The villages of Lobesa and Talo in the Punakha district possess vivacious musical traditions of song and movement often connected to annual agricultural practices such as rice planting and pounding. Apart from motivating the workers in the field, the song is also a way for the community to pray for a good harvest. The Aungli or buffalo horn is played by cow herders in the morning and evening for the cows while during the day it is sounded to protect them from tigers, leopards and other predators.



Punakha

- 1. River rafting the Mo Chhu River, the cleanest river on Earth*
- 2. Make friends at the Sangchhen Dorji Luendrup Nunnery*





Thimphu

The city of Thimphu boasts nearly 130,000 people speaking a wide range of languages. Visitors enjoy a rich slate of activities in the nation's capital: spiritual centers, museums, government institutions, colleges and farmer's markets.



Thimphu Festival

Ritual, dance, masks, costumes, music, pageantry and spectacle enthrall and enchant the onlooker at the annual Thimphu tshechu, an occasion that brings together the district community from far and wide, city folk and villagers attired in their finest costumes. The dances are mystical but can also vaunt an earthly humor as the comic atsara in their red mask and costume wreaks laughter-drawing havoc among performers and audience alike. According to Bhutanese Buddhist belief, the very act of watching a tshechu dance represents a step towards enlightenment.

Compassion in Action Afternoon in Thimphu

**Optional Visit with Marianne and Hendrik
at the Macque Monkey Re-intergration Center**



Activities



- 1. Meet locals in the heart of Thimphu town*
- 2. Enjoy the village music at Monasteries*
- 3. Hang Prayer flags*

Your Personal Guide - Mr. Rinchen Dorji



Rinchen is originally from Central Bhutan. With 15 years of industry experience, Rinchen has led countless expeditions across all regions of his country—with his most recent being with Vogue Magazine.



Enjoy the best that Bhutan has to offer—from local eats to Asian fusions and award-winning dining experiences.



INCLUDED

- All 5-Star accommodations
- Business-class roundtrip flight Bangkok - Paro
- All vineyard activities
- Professional guide & driver; private vehicle
- All government visas & permits
- All internal transfers
- All cultural activities
- 3 meals per day

NOT INCLUDED

- Airfare from your hometown to Bangkok
- Passport fees and visa photos
- Personal items (alcohol, a-la-carte, other meals)
- Spas and hot-stone baths
- Room service and valet/laundry service
- Overnight stays or costs in Bangkok
- Phone calls
- Other items not specifically mentioned as included



Thank You!