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## 7 days Gyantse Horse Racing Festival tour

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Lhasa  
Gyantse  
Shigatse  
Lhasa

Gyantse Horse Racing Festival is one of the largest festival in Tibet. A great way to see Tibetan world famous horse racing, archery, dancing and more. With a Tibet guide experience the local life, culture and sightseeing beyond Lhasa.

Type  
Private  
Duration  
7 days  
Theme  
Festival  
Trip code  
TFT-01  
Price  
From £ 596 per person

### Itinerary

Horse race and archery are generally popular in Tibet, and Gyantse enjoys prestige of being the earliest in history by starting in 1408. Contests in early times included horse race, archery, and shooting on gallop followed by a few days' entertainment or picnicking. Legend says Gyantse Prince of Dhamag Parba Sangpo in the Sakya regime enjoyed great prestige among the people, and after his death his children held a memorial ceremony on the time of that year, they held a series of religious activities, like unfolding the painted scroll of Buddha and sorcerer's dance and entertainments such as horse races, wrestling matches and weightlifting. In 1447, Tashi Rabten became Gyantse Prince of Dhamag, and he added horsemanship and archery, Tibetan Opera and songs and dances to the ceremony. Thus, the present Gyantse Dhamag Festival came into being. It celebrates for seven days with different activities, culture show, horse racing competitions between the villages under Gyantse county. Presently ball games, track and field events, folk songs and dances, barter trade are in addition to the above.

#### Day 01 :

31 May. 2023: Arrival at Lhasa [3,658m]

Upon arrival at Lhasa airport or train station, to be met and transferred to your hotel in Lhasa. Then have a good rest to acclimatize the high altitude. Overnight at Lhasa.

#### Day 02 :

01 Jun. 2023: Lhasa City sightseeing

After breakfast, visit Jokhang temple and Potala Palace. Jokhang temple is the most sacred shrine in Tibet which was built in the 7th century and located at the heart of old town in Lhasa, the circuit around it called Barkhor street, which is a good place to purchase souvenirs. Potala Palace is the worldwide known cardinal landmark of Tibet. The massive structure itself contains a small world within it. Mostly it is renowned as residence of the Dalai Lama lineages (Avalokiteshvara). Both of them are the focal points of pilgrims from the entire Tibetan world, multitudinous pilgrims are circumambulating and prostrating in their

strong faith. Overnight at Lhasa.

**Day 03 :**

02 Jun. 2023: Lhasa City sightseeing

Today you will visit Drepung, Sera monasteries and Norbulingka palace. Both Drepung and Sera monasteries are Gelugpa (yellow hat) sect monastic colleges. Drepung monastery was the seat of the Government prior to Potala, it was once the world largest monastery in the history with 7,700 monks hailed from different monasteries all over Tibet. Sera monastery is famous for its Buddhism philosophical debate practice, the clapping sound and aggressive expression of the monks are well worth to see. Norbulingka is the summer palace of Dalai Lama, you'll see the residences of different lineages of the Dalai Lama. Overnight at Lhasa.

**Day 04 :**

03 Jun. 2023: Lhasa /Yamdrok Lake / Gyantse [3,980m], 270km, 6-7 hours' drive

Drive up to Kambala pass which is 4794m high, you will have a glimpse of Yamdrok-Tso there. It is one of the three holy lakes in Tibet. Then along the Friendship southern Hwy to Gyantse, a short stop at Karo La pass [5,100m] which is overlooked by Mt. Nyenchen Kangsar glacier. Today is the first day of seven day Gyantse horse racing festival, you will have the chance to take part in the festival and enjoy the happy atmosphere. Visit the famous stupa - Gyantse Kumbum, the most stunning architectural wonder in Tibet. Overnight in Gyantse.

**Day 05 :**

04 Jun. 2023: Gyantse Horse Racing Festival / Drive to Shigatse [3,836m], 90km, 2 hours' drive

Attend to Gyantse Horse Racing Festival. Hang out with locals at the festival, you will see various festival activities like horse racing, dancing shows, etc. Late afternoon drive to Shigatse. Overnight at Shigatse.

**Day 06 :**

05 Jun. 2023: Shigatse / Lhasa, 300km, 6hrs drive (B)

Morning visit Tashilunpo Monastery and the spectacular tombs of Panchen Lamas, do its kora with local people. Afternoon drive back to Lhasa along the friendship highway. Overnight at Lhasa.

**Day 07 :**

06 Jun. 2023: Lhasa airport / train station send-off

Your guide and driver will see you off at the airport or train station, end of the trip.

**Prices**

Period

2 Persons

3 Persons

4-6 Persons

Regular price£ 710£ 581£ 506

**Inclusions**

**Tour notes:**

Please note prices are based in CNY.

**General inclusions:**

All required government taxes and fees.

Please contact one of our Tour Advisors to get a custom quotation made to your requirements.

All required Tibet permits and domestic travel documents.

Your selection of 3, 4 or 5 Stars hotel (shared twin room, private bathroom and daily breakfast)

All entrance tickets as noted in the tour's itinerary.

Local Tibetan guide fluent in English, Chinese or Japanese that is certified by the state tourism build. (If your native language is not listed please let us know, we are certain we can assist your needs.)

Airport and/or train station pick-up and drop-off.

Comfortable and clean private minivan with driver (please note that on days designated with walking tours, no private vehicle will be arranged by default.)

**General exclusions:**

Personal expenses such as laundry, drinks, internet access, fax, telephone calls etc.

Tips for your guide and driver.

Meals that are not specified in the tour itinerary.

Optional Attractions that are not specified in the itinerary.

Flight tickets or train tickets in and out of Lhasa (Please note: We can offer you train and/or plane tickets in and out Lhasa from all cities within China. Please check the latest price with us via email.)

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