

Bhutan's Bumthang Valley

Naturetrek Tour Report

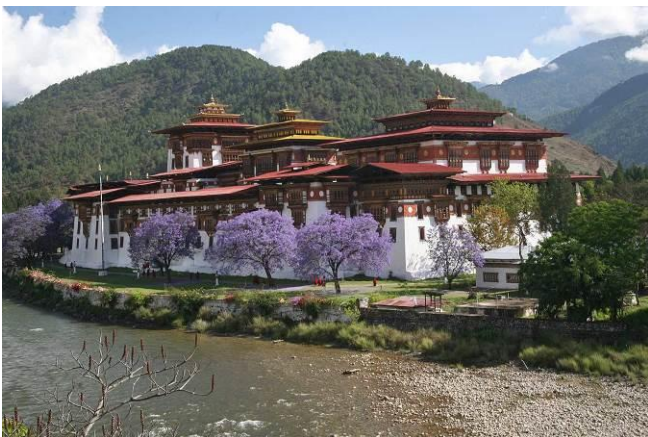
30 April - 17 May 2018



Euphorbia griffithii



Piptanthus nepalensis



Punakha Dzong



Rhododendron virgatum

Report & images by David Tattersfield



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With seven Naturetrek clients

Day 1

Tuesday 30th April

Some of the group met at Heathrow's Terminal 3 for the afternoon departure on Qatar Airways to Doha.

Day 2

Wednesday 1st May

After an overnight flight and short stopover in Doha, we arrived in Kathmandu in the late morning and transferred to the Yak and Yeti Hotel, where we met the remaining three members of our party. We had the remaining part of the afternoon for some local sightseeing or relaxing around the hotel. After a very filling evening meal, we retired to bed for much-needed sleep.

Day 3/4

Thursday 2nd/Friday 3rd May

We were up early for breakfast and left at 7am for the airport for our anticipated flight to Paro. Unfortunately, at check-in we discovered that owing to an unforeseen administrative error, Karin did not have the required visa and could not travel. We remained in Kathmandu until the situation was sorted out, with the rest of the group flying on to Paro and meeting our local guide, Pema and driver Jigmey.

Our local agent, Badri, in Kathmandu was most helpful and organised for us a visit to the National Botanic Garden, in the afternoon and the following day, a tour to the World Heritage Sites of the Great Boudha Stupa and the wonderful Bhaktapur, the ancient capital city of Nepal. It was here that the greatest damage occurred during the devastating earthquake of April 2015 and many iconic monuments still lay in ruins.

Meanwhile, in Bhutan, the group visited the impressive Paro Dzong and National Museum and the following day made the steep climb to the Tiger's Nest Monastery. After lunch, they drove up towards the Chele La, to the west of Paro and the highest motorable road in Bhutan, at 3800 metres. Low cloud prevented an exploration of the ridge, but lower down, in the forest, the undoubted highlights were the deep-blue *Primula griffithii* and the yellow-flowered *Bryocarpum himalaicum*.

Day 5

Saturday 4th May

Karin and I were back at Kathmandu airport for the flight to Paro. All went to plan, until we arrived in Paro and it was discovered that my visa was now invalid. The group waited patiently while the matter was resolved and an hour and a half later, we set off down the Paro valley. We stopped to walk across the iron suspension bridge, leading to the 15th-century Tamchog Lhakhang Temple. The flora here reflects the dry climate of the inner valleys with several *Berberis*, pink-flowered *Indigofera heterantha*, the yellow-flowered *Lonicera quinquelocularis* and the deep-blue *Ceratostigma griffithii*. Continuing eastwards, we had a quick lunch in Thimphu, the nation's capital, and then resumed our journey eastward, passing close to Simtokha Dzong, as the road climbed towards the Dochu La. During a brief stop at a checkpoint, we found the spectacular Cobra Lily *Arisaema nepenthoides* and *Paris polyphylla* and, in a very wet marsh, the yellow candelabra primula *Primula smithiana*. *Pieris formosa* and the red

Rhododendron arboreum soon appeared in the forest but as we approached the pass, they were replaced by magnificent stands of the endemic *Rhododendron kesangiae*.

It was rather misty on the pass and, as time was short, we only gave a passing glance to the array of chotens, built to commemorate the brief war with Assam in 2003. As we set off down the old, and now little used, forest trail, our first *Rhododendron* was the very distinctive *Rhododendron keysii*, with trusses of narrow orange flowers. Above our heads were huge specimens of *Rhododendron hodgsonii*, pale yellow *R. falconeri* and crimson *R. barbatum*, with its characteristic red peeling bark. The ground flora included the huge unfurling leaves of *Cardiocrinum giganteum*, white-flowered *Trillium tschonoskii* and the curious striped, hooded spathes of *Arisaema griffithii*. At this point, we were aware that darkness was falling fast, not helped by the thick cloud, and we had some distance still to go. We found the white blossoms of the epiphytic orchid *Coelogyne corymbosa*, which was growing plentifully on the trees, before it became almost too dark to follow the rather indistinct path. With the assistance of light from a mobile phone, we stuck together, while a quick-thinking Pema went ahead and returned with a torch. While stopped at one point, a strong, sweet scent filled the air. We had 'found' *Rhododendron griffithianum*, a fact confirmed moments later, when we saw its large bell-shaped flowers. We joked, later, that botanising in the Himalayas, in the dark, was not something we would recommend, and at the time we were very glad to reach the road and our vehicle. The rest of our journey was in darkness and we arrived quite late at our hotel, in Punakha.

Day 6

Sunday 5th May

Having decided to visit the Dzong, on our return journey, we left Punakha at 8am, pausing only to take photographs of the impressive building, from across the river. Down the valley, we passed through the new town, built to house the expanding population, needed to service the hydro-electric industry. In the old town of Wangdu Phodrang work was still continuing to restore the fire-damaged Dzong. We were now in a much drier region and we made occasional stops to see the striking red-flowered shrub *Woodfordia fruticosa* and the attractive Wild Turmeric *Curcuma aromatica*. As we climbed again, we soon entered lush temperate forest and near Nobding we had distant views of the snow-capped Himalayan peaks. We stopped for coffee and a comfort break here, before continuing steadily upwards. There were impressive stands of the large-leaved *Rhododendron falconeri* but its trusses of pale-yellow flowers were a little past their best. As we approached the Pele La, *Rhododendron hodgsonii* and *R. kesangiae* were in full flower and we made a short walk to compare these superficially similar species and also found lovely specimens of *Bryocarpum himalaicum* and the sweetly-scented *Daphne bbolua*.

Beyond the pass, dwarf bamboo was the dominant plant with extensive drifts of blood-red *Rhododendron thomsonii*, in boggy pasture. Our next stop was by the picturesque chorten, at Chendejji, where *Rhododendron griffithianum* was in full flower (this time in daylight!) and the attractive climber *Holboellia latifolia*, with attractive, pendulous white flowers, festooned the trees. After lunch, we could see that many of the trees, across the valley had the white *Rhododendron lindleyi* growing epiphytically, high in their branches. Beyond here, there were still extensive road works and the roadside cliffs were being prepared for blasting. We stopped to view Trongsa Dzong across the valley, before a final slow section, and it was almost dark when we reached our guesthouse.

Day 7

Monday 6th May

In the morning, we visited Trongsa Dzong, a most imposing fortress, overlooking the deep ravine of the Mangde Chu. It now serves as the region's administrative centre, as well as being home to over 200 monks. We

rejoined our vehicle and departed for our next high pass, the Yotong La at 3245 metres. At our planned stop, we were dismayed to find the roadside had been trashed by a road-workers' camp, but we found a short walk, near the road, a little further on. It was good to get away from the road and we found ourselves among colourful stands of pink *Rhododendron kesangiae*, a variety of maples with brightly-coloured, fresh young foliage and groves of the rosaceous small tree *Maddenia himalaica*. On the Yotong La, there were magnificent flowering specimens of *Viburnum nervosum* and Himalayan Birch, *Betula utilis*, with bronze peeling bark. We were delighted to find flowering plants of *Primula whitei*, with sky-blue flowers, nestling in large rosettes of crinkled leaves.

Another long descent followed, with stops for orange, red and yellow forms of *Rhododendron cinnabarinum* and the pale-yellow *Rhododendron campylocarpum*. We had a tasty, hot lunch, at a guesthouse, in Chumney, and then travelled through scattered small settlements and farmland, to our final pass, the Kiki La. We were at a much lower elevation in Blue Pine forest and we saw lovely specimens of the pink-flowered *Rhododendron virgatum* and pale-yellow *Rhododendron triflorum*. Over the pass, we entered the Bumthang Valley and stopped by the river to see large stands of Royal Fern *Osmunda regalis* and the much rarer *Osmunda cinnamomea*. I had seen Ibisbill, here, on previous occasions and today we were not disappointed. We watched several of these wonderful waders, as they flew to and fro across the boulders and shingle-banks of the broad river. A few minutes later, we were in Jakar, where we made a brief stop, before heading up the valley to our hotel.

Day 8

Tuesday 7th May

Overnight, we had repacked everything we needed for our trek and were ready to leave at 8am. Bumthang is richly endowed with historic buildings and we visited the beautiful 7th-century temple of Jambay Lhakhang and the impressive monastery complex of Kurjey Lhakhang, on our way up the valley to the start of our trek. At Toktu Zampa, our luggage was transferred to the vehicle, carrying our tents and other camping equipment and we set off on our adventure.

We walked through the fields along the valley of the Chamkar Chu passing Mani walls, small wayside shrines and a water-driven flour mill, before crossing a suspension bridge and following a trail through a forest of Blue Pine *Pinus wallichiana*. It was good to be unrushed, after all the stop-start travelling, and to fully appreciate our surroundings. *Cardiocrinum giganteum* and some fine flowering plants of the ground orchid *Calanthe tricarinata* grew in wet shady areas of the forest and meadows were full of orange and red *Euphorbia griffithii*, the russet-brown unfurling fronds of the Interrupted Fern *Osmunda claytoniana* and yellow *Primula smithiana*. We had a hot lunch, carried by our pony-man, en route, and reached our campsite at Ngang Lhaktang, by mid-afternoon. Tea and biscuits were waiting for us and we then had ample time to organise our tents and explore our surroundings.

Day 9

Wednesday 8th May

A little overnight rain soon cleared, and we had a dry day, with sunny periods, until light rain returned in the evening. We made steady progress through a wonderfully diverse forest, initially of Blue Pine, which gradually gave way to towering Hemlock *Tsuga dumosa*, East Himalayan Spruce *Picea spinulosa* and finally East Himalayan Fir *Abies densa*. Beyond wet stands of bamboo and blood-red specimens of *Rhododendron thomsonii*, we entered a shady ravine with *Primula geraniifolia*, *Trillium govanianum* and *Clintonia udensis*.

As we neared our campsite the forest was dominated by *Rhododendron kesangiae* with moss-covered trunks and huge trusses of dark pink flowers. *Bryocarpum himalaicum* and the rare yellow *Daphne ludlowii* were growing in the deep moss layer and moss-covered logs provided ideal nursery beds for countless seedlings. In damp gullies, patches of pink *Primula gracilipes* caught our eye, and blue and white *Anemone obtusiloba* was scattered through the turf. The pink flower buds of *Sinopodophyllum hexandrum* and its mottled leaves were just emerging, and we admired the magnificent hairy rosettes of *Meconopsis paniculata*. After hot drinks and a lovely evening meal, we retired to our tents as rain began to fall.

Day 10

Thursday 9th May

After an early breakfast, we were ready to leave by 7am. It was cool and cloudy, as we followed the old trail up through the dense mixed forest. Overhead were the deep-red flowers of *Rhododendron barbatum*, easily identified by its characteristic peeling bark. *Primula gracilipes* was abundant on shaded banks and near the top of the pass, under colourful prayer flags were many blue and white *Anemone obtusiloba*. *Rhododendron cinnabarinum* subsp. *xanthocodon* was in full flower with yellow waxy bell-shaped flowers and there were some fine large trees of *Rhododendron hodgsonii*. We had cups of hot coffee and snacks, which were most welcome, as a heavy sleet shower sent us scurrying to our rucksacks for waterproofs. Not far down our steep descent was a very attractive form of *Euphorbia himalayensis* with maroon bracts. More splendid stands of *Rhododendron barbatum* followed, with a few trees of pale-yellow *R. campylocarpum*, before we emerged from the forest. We ate our lunch, in comfort by a wayside shrine, by which time the sun had come out, to give us a lovely afternoon. We had a gentle stroll through meadows and patches of forest in the afternoon and arrived at our riverside campsite around 5pm for the welcome tea and biscuits.

Day 11

Friday 10th May

On a clear and sunny morning, our day started with a visit to the local primary school and we arrived just before the school day started. It was a fascinating experience and a privilege to be made to feel so welcome. The children eagerly attended to their daily chores of tidying the school grounds, before assembly, and they were keen to show us their work in the classrooms. From the displays and posters, on the walls, it was clear to us that conservation and care for the environment were important aspects of the teaching of Bhutan's next generation.

We crossed the river and made our way uphill to Ogyen Choling, where we visited the former palace and its interesting museum of old Bhutanese artefacts. We had a long climb ahead of us through meadows, forest and dense bamboo. Along the way, we encountered beautiful specimens of *Rhododendron thomsonii*, which seems to prefer very boggy conditions. Higher up, along the edges of the forest, the prominent shrub was *Piptanthus lanuginosus*, with grey foliage and deep-yellow flowers. After lunch, the sun disappeared and the weather deteriorated, rapidly. By 3pm it had started to rain and from 4pm, as we climbed higher, this turned into heavy wet sleet. We had to take our time on the steeper sections, and it became quite muddy, underfoot. Most of us were soaked to the skin and feeling cold and dejected by the time we reached the campsite. A rather draughty wooden building was all we had, and it took some time to change into dry clothes and restore everyone's morale. It was now snowing outside, which did little to lift our spirits, but once we were all in our tents, things started to improve. After a hot meal, we got into our sleeping bags, hopeful that the morning would bring more promise.

Day 12

Saturday 11th May

The snow had stopped overnight, and we awoke to covering of around five centimetres. Low cloud was still rolling up the valley, but this gradually cleared to give us a better impression of our surroundings. We were in an open clearing, surrounded by a dense dark forest of East Himalayan Fir. Under their snowy blanket, we could just see the deep-red flowers of *Rhododendron succothii* along the forest edge.

The snow slowly started to melt but we had to wait until lunchtime, before it was feasible to venture any distance. Eventually, as the sun came out, we set off on the trail through the forest and almost straight away we found masses of *Primula calderiana*, some in full flower, with their colour an astonishing deep blue to deep purple, with a yellow eye. Where winter snow had just receded, their large resting buds were just starting to open. Here and there were the yellow flowers of its close cousin *Primula tanneri* subsp. *nepalensis*, which was invariably in much more shaded areas of the forest. Huge specimens of *Rhododendron hodgsonii*, dominated the first part of the trail, with *Rhododendron kesangiae* lighting up the forest, below us. The trail was now largely snow-free, and we walked to a point where we could see the Rudong La high above us. We went as far as the first trees of the yellow-flowered *Rhododendron nightii* and decided that this was a suitable point to turn back and return to the comforts of the campsite.

Day 13

Sunday 12th May

It had been so unfortunate that we had arrived in such terrible weather. We awoke to a clear and sunny morning with time for a last look round our campsite, before our return to the valley. The wet, boggy area, near the campsite had *Rhododendron anthopogon*, with flowers in various shades of pink. Deep-purple *R. wallichii* grew nearby and above us were plants of paler shades and quantities of *R. cinnabarinum* subsp. *xanthocodon*. We returned down through the forests the same way we had come and then took another path that led towards our destination.

When we reached the valley, we made an impromptu visit to a farmhouse, where we received a very warm welcome. We were shown round the wonderfully constructed and relatively new building and the lady of the house was proud to explain their simple way of life and to answer any questions. She was busy preparing her next batch of their traditional spirit, ara, which is distilled from fermented grains and before we left, we were given the customary drink of this excellent fire-water. Not far away, we reached our last campsite, beside the Tang River.

Day 14

Monday 13th May

It was rather sad to say our goodbyes to the camp staff, as they loaded their ponies for their return home. They had worked hard on our behalf, but like all Bhutanese, had enjoyed travelling. Our bus arrived and we loaded up and set off on our journey back to the west. Beyond Jakar, we stopped at the weaving cooperative at Zunge for souvenirs before crossing the Yotong La and driving down to Trongsa for lunch. Here we discovered that there had been a landslide on the road ahead and we had to take a long and awkward detour, crossing the valley of the Mangde Chu, past the construction site for the new hydro-electric dam.

Continuing over the Pele La, once again the road conditions slowed our progress and it was quite late, when we arrived in Phobjika. The open flattish and treeless landscape of the valley was quite a contrast to the dense forest

we had become accustomed to. Our hotel was very comfortable, and we were glad of the hot showers and wood-burning stoves.

Day 15

Tuesday 14th May

Our first stop this morning was to see *Rhododendron ciliatum* growing in very boggy conditions, which it shared with *R. thomsonii*. We then visited the huge monastery of Gangtey Gumpa, which overlooks the town and marvelled at its richly decorated interior. As we left the valley, we made roadside stops beside Sikkim Larch *Larix griffithiana* and some particularly showy specimens of *Clematis montana* and *Rhododendron thomsonii* and after crossing over the Lawa La, we did a little roadside walking past fine specimens of *Rhododendron keysii* and a range of Maples, Hydrangeas and other trees, all now with their new leaves. Back on our bus, we resumed our journey, stopping for a coffee break at Nobding and continued down through Wangdu Phodrang. We took a lunch break, overlooking the river and couldn't resist the temptation of wandering round a roadside vegetable market.

We arrived back in Punakha, around 5pm, just in time for our visit to Punakha Dzong. It is sited, significantly, at the confluence of the Mo Chu and Pho Chu and is one of the most important buildings in Bhutan. Pema, looking smart in his national costume, took us on a tour of its colourful and complex interior. The monks, who reside there during the winter months, were busy preparing to leave for Thimpu, the following day, and all their precious icons had been assembled, in readiness for the journey.

Day 16

Wednesday 15th May

We left early in the morning, to try and avoid the lengthy procession, but our plan failed, and we had to resign ourselves to a slow journey as far as the main highway. We made up some of the lost time and broke the journey with a brief visit to the Botanic Garden, not far below the Dochu La. Once over the pass, we were soon in Thimpu, for lunch. The busy capital was quite a shock after our adventures, and we spent a while browsing in the shops along the main street. Then it was back to Paro, for our final night in Bhutan.

Day 17

Thursday 16th May

Karin had managed to arrange a couple of extra days for herself and for her two friends Pamela and Libby, so that they could enjoy, together, the visits to Paro and the Tiger's Nest. That was a wonderful outcome and we wished them well, as we said goodbye.

We left for Paro airport early in the morning, where we thanked Pema and Jigme for their help and hard work during the trip and most of all for their excellent company. After arriving back in Kathmandu, we had plenty of time for an afternoon visit to Bhaktapur.

Day 18

Friday 17th May

We left Kathmandu on a mid-day flight to Doha, changing there for our return to Heathrow.

Species Lists

Plants

Latin name	Common name / Description	Notes
PTERIDOPHYTA	FERNS AND FERN ALLIES	
Blechnaceae <i>Woodwardia unigemmata</i>	Blechnum Family	Warm broad-leaved forest
Denstaedtiaceae <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken Family Bracken	Frequent
Dryopteridaceae <i>Dryopteris wallichiana</i> <i>Elaphoglossum</i> sp. <i>Polystichum nepalense</i>	A Buckler-fern Epiphytic fern, laminar fronds A Shield-fern	Common. Forests Warm to cool broad-leaved forest Forest banks
Gleicheniaceae <i>Gleichenia volubilis</i>	Gleichenia Family 'Demented Bracken'	Warm broad-leaved forest
Hymenophyllaceae <i>Hymenophyllum</i> sp.	Filmy Fern Family Epiphyte	Damp shady forests
Lycopodiaceae <i>Lycopodium clavatum</i>	Clubmoss Family Stag'shorn Clubmoss	Forests. Widespread
Ophioglossaceae <i>Ophioglossum vulgatum</i>	Adder's Tongue Family Adder's Tongue	Meadows. Tang Valley
Osmundaceae <i>Osmunda cinnamomea</i> <i>Osmunda claytoniana</i> <i>Osmunda regalis</i>	Royal Fern Family Cinnamon Fern Interrupted Fern Royal Fern	Bumthang Valley Widespread Bumthang

Latin name	Common name / Description	Notes
Pteridaceae	Ribbon Fern Family	
<i>Adiantum pedatum</i>	A Maidehair Fern	Moist Hemlock forest. Below Phephe La
<i>Pteris cretica</i>	Ribbon Fern	Widespread
GYMNOSPERMS	CONIFERS AND ALLIES	
Cupressaceae	Cypress Family	
<i>Cupressus cashmeriana</i>	Around monasteries	Cultivated
<i>Cupressus comeyana</i>	Weeping Cypress	Pele La. Endemic. Also cultivated
<i>Juniperus pseudosabina</i>	Black Juniper	Rudong La. Common
<i>Juniperus recurva</i>	Weeping Blue Juniper	Locally common
<i>Thuja orientalis</i>	Chinese Arbor-vitae	Thimpu. Cultivated
Ephedraceae	Joint-pine Family	
<i>Ephedra gerardiana</i>	A joint-pine	Dry slopes
Pinaceae	Pine Family	
<i>Abies densa</i>	East Himalayan Fir	Common
<i>Larix griffithiana</i>	Sikkim Larch	Chele La. Gangtey
<i>Picea spinulosa</i>	Eastern Himalayan Spruce	Common
<i>Pinus roxburgii</i>	Chir Pine	Arid valleys. Low altitude
<i>Pinus wallichiana</i>	Blue Pine	Dry valleys.
<i>Tsuga dumosa</i>	Himalayan Hemlock	Common
Taxaceae	Yew Family	
<i>Taxus baccata</i> subsp. <i>wallichiana</i>	Eastern Himalayan Yew	Occasional
Taxodiaceae		
<i>Cryptomeria japonica</i>	Japanese Cedar	Cultivated

Latin name	Common name / Description	Notes
ANGIOSPERMS	FLOWERING PLANTS	
DICOTYLEDONS		
Actinidiaceae <i>Actinidia callosa</i>	Actinidia Family Robust climber.	Cool broad-leaved forest
Adoxaceae <i>Sambucus adnata</i> <i>Viburnum cotinifolium</i> <i>Viburnum cylindricum</i> <i>Viburnum erubescens</i> <i>Viburnum grandiflorum</i> <i>Viburnum mullaha</i> <i>Viburnum nervosum</i>	Moschatel Family An Elder Broad-leaved shrub Evergreen. Flowers cream Pendulous pink flowers Clustered pink flowers Leaves narrow, pointed Pointed leaves. White flowers	Common in pastures Taktsang Broad-leaved forest. Trongsa Dochu La Chele La. Phephe La Dochu La Pele La
Amaranthaceae <i>Amaranthus hybridus</i>	Pigweed Family Leaf and grain crop	Cultivated
Anacardiaceae <i>Rhus chinensis</i>	Sumach Family Tree to 10 metres. Leaflets 3-6 pairs. Panicle terminal	Dry hillsides
Apiaceae <i>Heracleum sphondylium</i> <i>Sanicula elata</i>	Carrot Family Hogweed Sanicle	Weed of cultivation Common in forests
Apocynaceae <i>Catharanthus roseus</i> <i>Plumeria rubra</i> <i>Vincetoxicum hirundinaria</i>	Dogbane Family Madagascar Periwinkle Frangi-Pani Swallow Wort	Cultivated Cultivated. Kathmandu Occasional. Pine forest
Araliaceae <i>Brassaiopsis mitis</i> <i>Hedera nepalensis</i>	Ivy Family Spiny-stemmed tree. Palmate leaves. Ivy	Broad-leaved forest. Trongsa Moist forests

Latin name	Common name / Description	Notes
<i>Panax pseudo-ginseng</i>	Small shrub with linear leaflets	Coniferous forests
Aristolochiaceae	Birthwort Family	
<i>Aristolochia griffithii</i>	Very large, spotted flowers	Roadside near Tashiling
<i>Asarum himalaicum</i>	Small brown flowers	Hemlock forest.
Asteraceae	Daisy Family	
<i>Ageratum conyzoides</i>	Annual. Bluish-white flowers	Roadsides. Alien
<i>Ainsliaea aptera</i>	Leafless stem, white flowers	Forests
<i>Anaphalis margaritacea</i>	White everlasting flowers	Grassy clearings
<i>Anaphalis triplinervis</i>	An everlasting. Linear grey leaves	Meadows and forests
<i>Aster albescens</i>	Blue-flowered sub-shrub	Forest margins. Paro Valley
<i>Erigeron multiradiatus</i>	Purple-blue flowers	Grassy slopes and wet Pine forest
<i>Eupatorium adenophorum</i>	Invasive sub-shrub	Roadside alien. Mexico
<i>Gynura nepalensis</i>	Hairy perennial to 2 metres. Disk florets orange-yellow	On cliffs. Trongsa
<i>Pseudognaphalium affine</i>	Jersey Cudweed	Common weed
Begoniaceae	Begonia Family	
<i>Begonia annulata</i>	Variegated leaves. White flowers	Warm-temperate forest
Berberidaceae	Barberry Family	
<i>Berberis griffithiana</i>	Evergreen. Small spiny leaves	Forest margins
<i>Berberis insignis</i>	Evergreen. Large spiny leaves	Forest margins
<i>Berberis praecipua</i>	As above, but flowers more numerous	Dry hillsides
<i>Berberis virescens</i>	Deciduous. Leaf margins entire. Spines 1-2 cm	Forest clearings
<i>Mahonia napaulensis</i>	Large pinnate leaves	Forest margins
Betulaceae	Birch Family	
<i>Alnus nepalensis</i>	Himalayan Alder	Frequent
<i>Betula alnoides</i> var. <i>cylindrostachya</i>	Alder-leaved Birch	Broad-leaved forests
<i>Betula utilis</i>	Himalayan Birch. Brown papery bark	Conifer and Rhododendron forest
Bignoniaceae	Trumpet Tree Family	
<i>Jacaranda mimosifolia</i>	Jacaranda	Cultivated. Punakha

Latin name	Common name / Description	Notes
Bombacaceae <i>Bombax ceiba</i>	Kapok Tree Family Kapok Tree	Wangdue Phodrang
Brassicaceae <i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i> <i>Cardamine griffithii</i> <i>Cardamine trifoliata</i>	Cress Family Shepherd's Purse Petals purplish Trailing stems, white flowers	Occasional weed Damp banks. Below Phephe La Dochu La
Buxaceae <i>Sarcococca hookeriana</i>	Box Family Small evergreen shrub	Shaded damp forest
Cactaceae <i>Opuntia vulgaris</i>	Cactus Family Prickly Pear	Dry hillsides. Alien
Cannabaceae <i>Cannabis sativa</i> subsp. <i>indica</i>	Hemp Family Hemp	Weed and cultivated for fibre
Caprifoliaceae <i>Lonicera angustifolia</i> <i>Lonicera quinquelocularis</i> <i>Leycesteria formosa</i>	Honeysuckle Family Pale pink flowers Yellow flowers Flowering Bamboo	Phephe La Paro Valley Occasional in forest
Caryophyllaceae <i>Stellaria media</i> <i>Stellaria vestita</i>	Pink Family Common Chickweed Grey leaves	Weed of cultivation Dry areas
Celastraceae <i>Euonymus frigidus</i> var. <i>elongatus</i> <i>Euonymus tingens</i> <i>Parnassia nubicola</i>	Grass of Parnassus Family Evergreen. Leaves narrow, willow-like, serrulate Evergreen. Branchlets with 4 ribs. Leaves rugose	Below Phephe La Pine and Hemlock forest. Below Phephe La Campsite. Phokphey
Coriariaceae <i>Coriaria napalensis</i>	Coriaria Family Shrub. Prominent red styles and stamens	Dry hillsides

Latin name	Common name / Description	Notes
Cornaceae <i>Benthamidia capitata</i>	Dogwood Family Large yellow bracts	Thimpu. Cultivated
Crassulaceae <i>Rhodiola hobsonii</i> <i>Sedum triactina</i>	Stonecrop Family Shoots arising from low caudex Sprawling succulent	Mossy rocks. Paro Taktsang Mossy rocks in forest
Daphniphyllaceae <i>Daphniphyllum himalayense</i>	Large Rhododendron-like leaves. Flowers in racemes.	Cool broad-leaved and conifer forest. Punakha
Droseraceae <i>Drosera peltata</i> subsp. <i>peltata</i>	Sundew Family A Sundew	Damp meadows
Elaeagnaceae <i>Elaeagnus parvifolia</i> <i>Hippophae salicifolia</i>	Elaeagnus Family Silvery leaves. Cream flowers. Buckthorn	Common in Blue Pine forest and meadows By streams
Ericaceae <i>Agapetes serpens</i> <i>Cassiope fastigiata</i> <i>Enkianthus deflexus</i> <i>Lyonia ovalifolia</i> <i>Lyonia villosa</i> <i>Gaultheria fragrantissima</i> <i>Gaultheria griffithiana</i> <i>Gaultheria nummularioides</i> <i>Gaultheria trichophylla</i> <i>Pieris formosa</i> <i>Rhododendron aeruginosum</i> <i>Rhododendron anthopogon</i> subsp. <i>anthopogon</i> <i>Rhododendron arboreum</i> <i>Rhododendron argipeplum</i> (similar to <i>R. barbatum</i> but broader leaf - characters appear to overlap) <i>Rhododendron barbatum</i>	Rhododendron Family Epiphyte or lithophyte Red tubular flowers Dwarf shrub Pendulous flowers Evergreen. White flowers. Corolla cylindric Evergreen. White flowers. Corolla urn-shaped Large shrub. Flowers white, in racemes Large shrub. Flowers greenish-white, in racemes Prostrate dwarf shrub. Bristly shoots Prostrate dwarf shrub. Short bristly shoots Pieris Red-brown indumentum. Flowers pink or purple Aromatic dwarf shrub. Pink flowers Flowers red, occasionally pink Reddish peeling bark Reddish peeling bark	Warm broad-leaved forest Chele La, Phokphey, Rudong La Forests Warm broad-leaved forest Conifer/Rhododendron forests Warm broad-leaved forest Moist Hemlock/ Rhododendron forest Common Cliffs. Dochu La West of Dochu La Thimpu to Bumthang Phokphey Common, middle altitudes Yotong La Phephe La

Latin name	Common name / Description	Notes
<i>Rhododendron camelliiflorum</i>	Usually epiphytic	Forests
<i>Rhododendron campylocarpum</i> subsp. <i>campylocarpum</i>	Corolla campanulate, pale yellow +/- red basal blotch	Chele La. Bumthang
<i>Rhododendron ciliatum</i>	Ciliate leaves. Large campanulate, scented flowers	Gangtey
<i>Rhododendron cinnabarinum</i> subsp. <i>cinnabarinum</i>	Flowers yellow to red. Leaves narrow	Phephe La. Phokphey
<i>Rhododendron cinnabarinum</i> subsp. <i>xanthocodon</i>	Flowers yellow to orange. Leaves broader	Chele La. Phephe La, Phokphey
(confusion exists between the 2 subspecies - leaves were not examined closely)		
<i>Rhododendron edgeworthii</i>	Rugose leaf. Flowers very fragrant	Taksang to Trongsa
<i>Rhododendron falconeri</i>	Large leaves. Creamy-yellow flowers	Dochu La
<i>Rhododendron flinkii</i>	Yellow flowers, red spotted. Thin rust-brown indumentum	Phokphey. Rudong La. Endemic
<i>Rhododendron grande</i>	Leaves large, prominent veins. Flowers pink to cream.	Below Yotong La
<i>Rhododendron griffithianum</i>	Large scented white flowers	Doch La, Chendebji, Trongsa
<i>Rhododendron hodgsonii</i>	Bark smooth. Flowers pinkish-red or purple	Pele La. Phokphey
<i>Rhododendron kesangiae</i>	Bark with epiphytes. Flowers dark pink	Fir and Hemlock forest. Endemic
<i>Rhododendron keysii</i>	Distinctive tubular flowers	Dochu La, Gangtey, Lama La
<i>Rhododendron lanatum</i>	Leaves thickly brown-tomentose beneath. Flowers yellow	Chele La
<i>Rhododendron lepidotum</i>	Aromatic dwarf shrub. Leaves scaly	Chele La to Rudong La
<i>Rhododendron lindleyi</i>	Usually epiphytic	Chendebji
<i>Rhododendron maddenii</i>	Large white flowers	Rocks and cliffs. Evergreen Oak forest
<i>Rhododendron nivale</i>	Dwarf shrub	Mountain slopes. Chele La
<i>Rhododendron setosum</i>	Aromatic dwarf shrub. Leaves scaly, margins bristly	Open hillsides
<i>Rhododendron succothii</i>	Leaves sessile. Flowers red	Fir forest. Phokphey
<i>Rhododendron thomsonii</i>	Flowers deep red.	Bogs
<i>Rhododendron triflorum</i>	Corolla zygomorphic	Paro. Tang. Gangtey
<i>Rhododendron virgatum</i> subsp. <i>virgatum</i>	Small shrub. Pink flowers	Chele La, Chendebji, Tang Valley
<i>Rhododendron wallichii</i>	Flowers lilac or pink	Chele La. Phokphey
<i>Rhododendron wightii</i>	Yellow flowers, red spotted. Sticky buds	Chele La, Phokphey. Rudong La
<i>Vaccinium nummularia</i>	Creeping shrub. Young shoots with bristly hairs	Widespread
<i>Vaccinium retusum</i>	Epiphyte. Pink flowers. Young shoots pubescent	Pele La
Euphorbiaceae	Spurge Family	
<i>Euphorbia griffithii</i>	Red or orange bracts	Common.
<i>Euphorbia himalayensis</i>	Maroon bracts	Phephe La
<i>Euphorbia pulcherrima</i>	Poinsettia. Native tropical America	Cultivated
<i>Ricinus communis</i>	Castor Oil Plant	Weed

Latin name	Common name / Description	Notes
Fabaceae	Pea Family	
<i>Albizia chinensis</i>	Flowers yellowish-white	Valleys to 1500m
<i>Albizia julibrissin</i>	Flowers pinkish	Hillsides. Trongsa
<i>Albizia sherriffii</i>	Flowers white	Trongsa
<i>Caesalpinia decapetala</i>	Scrambling shrub. Erect spikes of yellow flowers	Roadsides. Trongsa
<i>Delonix regia</i>	Flame Tree	Kathmandu. Native to Madagascar
<i>Desmodium elegans</i>	Trifoliate shrub. Pink flowers	Dry hillsides.
<i>Erythrina arborescens</i>	Red flowers	Punakha to Trongsa. Cultivated
<i>Indigofera heterantha</i>	Pink flowers	Dry hillsides. Paro Valley
<i>Parochetus communis</i>	Blue Pea	Occasional. Moist places
<i>Piptanthus nepalensis</i>	Large yellow flowers	Open hillsides
<i>Piptanthus tomentosus</i>	Leaves white above	Bumthang
<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Red Clover	Occasional roadside weed
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White Clover	Grassy places. Alien weed
Fagaceae	Beech Family	
<i>Castanopsis hystrix</i>	Spikes of white flowers	Warm broad-leaved forest
<i>Castanopsis tribuloides</i>	Leaves entire. Fruit spiny	Warm broad-leaved forest
<i>Lithocarpus elegans</i>	Leaves entire. Acorns in clusters	Warm broad-leaved forest
<i>Quercus lanata</i>	Evergreen, Leaves serrate, pale beneath	Warm broad-leaved forest
<i>Quercus griffithii</i>	Deciduous, leaves serrate	Blue Pine forest
<i>Quercus semecarpifolia</i>	Shrub or tree, Leaves entire	Dry slopes under Blue Pine
Fumariaceae	Fumitory Family	
<i>Corydalis trifoliata</i>	Blue flowers	Fir forests. Bumthang
<i>Corydalis</i> sp.	Pale yellow.	Forests
<i>Corydalis</i> sp.	Yellow. Orange tip.	Forests
Gentianaceae	Gentian Family	
<i>Gentiana capitata</i>	Annual. Flowers in capitate heads	Widespread in turf
<i>Gentiana pedicellata</i>	Branched annual	Widespread in turf
<i>Gentiana prolata</i>	Low creeping herb	Rudong La
<i>Gentiana thibetica</i>	Broad leaves	Mountain turf

Latin name	Common name / Description	Notes
<i>Halenia elliptica</i> <i>Megacodon stylophorus</i>	Annual Broad-leaved rosette	Open hillsides and pasture Meadows. Phokphey
Geraniaceae <i>Geranium donianum</i> <i>Geranium lambertii</i> <i>Geranium nepalense</i> <i>Geranium procurrans</i>	Geranium Family Upright herb Not rooting at nodes Sprawling herb Stems rooting at nodes	Campsite. Phokphey Blue Pine and Fir forests Bumthang Bumthang
Gesneriaceae <i>Briggsia muscicola</i>	African Violet Family Epiphyte. Below Phephe La	Epiphyte. Bumthang
Grossulariaceae <i>Ribes acuminatum</i> <i>Ribes griffithii</i> <i>Ribes himalense</i> <i>Ribes laciniatum</i>	Currant Family Racemes erect, densely flowered. Flowers green Racemes long, pendulous. Flowers greenish-yellow Long pendulous racemes. Reddish peeling bark Racemes, erect., distantly flowered. Flowers crimson	Taktsang. Phephe La Yotong La Bumthang Yotong La
Helwingiaceae <i>Helwingia himalaica</i>	Inflorescence arising from middle of leaf	Oak forest. Dochu La
Hydrangeaceae <i>Hydrangea anomala</i> <i>Hydrangea heteromalla</i>	Hydrangea Family Climbing shrub Shrub or small tree	Warm broad-leaved forest Hemlock forest
Hypericaceae <i>Hypericum choisianum</i> <i>Hypericum uralum</i>	St John's Wort Family Leaves with few glands Leaves with dense blackish gland dots	Paro. Dochu La. Forest margins
Juglandaceae <i>Juglans regia</i>	Walnut Family Walnut	Cultivated
Lamiaceae	Mint Family	

Latin name	Common name / Description	Notes
<i>Colquhounia coccinea</i>	Red-flowered shrub	Below Taktsang
<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Self Heal	Meadows
<i>Origanum vulgare</i>	Marjoram	Grassy slopes
Ladizabalaceae		
<i>Decaisnea insignis</i>	Pinnate-leaved shrub. Sepals greenish-yellow	Below Dochu La
<i>Holboellia latifolia</i>	Climber. Pendulous whitish flowers	Frequent
Loranthaceae	Mistletoe Family	
<i>Scurrula elata</i>	Parasitic shrub. Tubular red and green flowers	Dochu La, Pele La
Lythraceae	Loosestrife Family	
<i>Woodfordia fruticosa</i>	Shrub. Tubular red flowers	Wangdue Phodrang
Malvaceae	Mallow Family	
<i>Hibiscus rosa-sinensis</i>	Red flowers	Cultivated
<i>Malva parviflora</i>	Least Mallow	Weed of cultivation
Magnoliaceae	Magnolia Family	
<i>Magnolia campbellii</i>	Large tree	Hemlock and Fir forest
<i>Magnolia doltsopa</i>		Punakha to Trongsa. Oak forest
<i>Magnolia globosa</i>		Dochu La. Chendebji
<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i>	Evergreen tree. White flowers	Planted. Punakha Dzong
<i>Magnolia hodgsonii</i>	Evergreen tree. White flowers, with purplish inner petals	Warm broad-leaved forests above Punakha
Meliaceae	Melia Family	
<i>Melia azedarach</i>	Indian Bead Tree	Cultivated
Moraceae	Fig Family	
<i>Ficus elastica</i>	Indian Rubber Tree	Warm broad-leaved forest
<i>Ficus pumila</i>	Creeping Fig	Kathmandu. Cultivated
<i>Ficus religiosa</i>	Pipal	Punakha Dzong. Cultivated
Morinaceae	Morina Family	

Latin name	Common name / Description	Notes
<i>Acanthocalyx nepalensis</i>		Forest clearings. Bamboo grassland
Myrtaceae	Myrtle Family	
<i>Callistemon citrinus</i>	Red Bottle-brush	Cultivated
<i>Eucalyptus tereticornis</i>	Forest Red Gum	Punakha. Cultivated
Nyctaginaceae		
<i>Bougainvillea spectabilis</i>	Bougainvillea	Cultivated. Kathmandu
Oleaceae	Olive Family	
<i>Jasminum humile</i>	Yellow flowers	Forest margins
<i>Osmanthus suavis</i>	Evergreen shrub. Small white, scented flowers	Dochu La
Onagraceae	Willowherb Family	
<i>Circaea alpina</i> subsp. <i>imaicola</i>	An Enchanter's Nightshade	Hemlock forest
Orobanchaceae	Broomrape Family	
<i>Pedicularis</i> sp.	Dark pink flowers	Above Ogyen Choling
Oxalidaceae	Wood-sorrel Family	
<i>Oxalis corniculata</i>	Procumbent Yellow-sorrel	Roadsides. Alien weed
<i>Oxalis leucolepis</i>	Similar to Wood-sorrel	Dochu La
Papaveraceae	Poppy Family	
<i>Meconopsis paniculata</i>	Large rosettes	Chele La, Phephe La, Phokphey
<i>Meconopsis sinuata</i>	Rosettes of wavy-edged leaves	Phephe La
<i>Papaver somniferum</i>	Opium Poppy	Occasional weed
Philadelphaceae	Mock-orange Family	
<i>Deutzia corymbosa</i>		East of Phephe La
<i>Philadelphus tomentosus</i>		Dry forest margins
Phrymaceae	Monkeyflower Family	
<i>Lancea tibetica</i>	Low-growing herb. Mauve flowers	Yotong La

Latin name	Common name / Description	Notes
<i>Mazus surculosus</i>		Grassy places
<i>Mimulus nepalensis</i>	Monkeyflower	Damp places
Phytolaccaceae	Pokeweed Family	
<i>Phytolacca acinosa</i>	American Pokeweed	Roadsides. Low altitudes
Plantaginaceae	Plantain and Speedwell Family	
<i>Hemiphragma heterophyllum</i>	Creeping herb. Pink flowers, red fruits	Meadows
Plumbaginaceae	Plumbago Family	
<i>Ceratostigma griffithii</i>	Blue flowers	Dry hillsides. Paro valley. Endemic
Podophyllaceae	Podophyllum Family	
<i>Sinopodophyllum hexandrum</i>	Pink flowers	Forest clearings. Phephe La
Polygalaceae	Milkwort Family	
<i>Polygala sibirica</i>	Purple flowers	Open slopes
Polygonaceae	Bistort Family	
<i>Aconogonum campanulatum</i>		Common
<i>Aconogonum molle</i> var. <i>molle</i>	Creamy inflorescence	Broad-leaved forest. Common
<i>Bistorta macrophylla</i>	Large-leaved Bistort	Rudong La
<i>Bistorta vacciniifolia</i>	Vaccinium-leaved Bistort	Phephe La. Rudong La
<i>Fagopyrum esculentum</i>	Buckwheat	Cultivated
<i>Oxyria digyna</i>	Mountain Sorrel	Rudong La
<i>Polygonum aviculare</i>	Knotgrass	Weed of cultivation
<i>Polygonum capitatum</i>	Pink spherical flowerheads	Common. Low altitudes
<i>Polygonum viviparum</i>	Alpine bistort	Rudong La
<i>Rheum acuminatum</i>	A Rhubarb	Phephe La
Primulaceae	Primrose Family	
<i>Anagallis arvensis</i>	Pimpernel	Arable weed
<i>Androsace geraniifolia</i>	Small pink or white flowers	Forest below Taktsang
<i>Bryocarpum himalaicum</i>	Corolla yellow, lobes bidentate	Chele La, Yotong La, Phokphey

Latin name	Common name / Description	Notes
<i>Lysimachia prolifera</i>	Decumbent herb. Flowers pink or mauve	Pele la. Phephe La
<i>Primula bracteosa</i>	Lavender flowers. Leafy flower scape	Dochu La
<i>Primula calderiana</i>	Farinose. Flowers deep purple with yellow eye	Phokphey
<i>Primula capitata</i>	Narrow-leaved rosettes	Bumthang. Bamboo forest
<i>Primula denticulata</i>	Drumstick Primrose. Persistent bud scales	Common. Paro valley, Gangtey
<i>Primula dickeana</i> var. <i>aureostellata</i>	Pale yellow, with deep-yellow star-like centre	Phokphey. Endemic
<i>Primula erythrocarpa</i> (easily confused with <i>P. denticulata</i>)	Bud scales absent. Leaves pubescent above, margins ciliate	Paro Valley
<i>Primula filipes</i>	Dwarf herb. Small pink flowers with yellow eye	Cliffs. Paro Taktsang
<i>Primula geraniifolia</i>	Umbels of deep pink flowers	Hemlock forest. Below Phephe La
<i>Primula gracilipes</i>	Rugose leaves. Flowers pinkish-purple	Phephe La and below Phokphey
<i>Primula griffithii</i>	Flowers blue violet, golden eye	Chele La. Endemic western Bhutan
<i>Primula primulina</i>	Dwarf rosettes	Mossy cliff. Rudong La
<i>Primula sikkimensis</i> var. <i>sikkimensis</i>	Not in flower	Wet flushes. Rudong La
<i>Primula smithiana</i>	Yellow candelabra	Wet flushes. Common
<i>Primula tanneri</i> subsp. <i>nepalensis</i>	Efarinose. Flowers yellow	Rhododendron forest. Chele La, Phokphey
<i>Primula whitei</i>	Pale blue flowers, white eye. Large leaf rosette	Rhododendron forest. Yutong La
Ranunculaceae	Buttercup Family	
<i>Aconitum bulbiferum</i>	Scandent herb	Forests. Bumthang
<i>Actaea acuminata</i>	Short racemes. White flowers	Hemlock and Fir forests
<i>Adonis brevistyla</i>	Leaves much divided	Forests
<i>Anemone demissa</i>	Leaves coarsely-lobed and toothed. Densely hairy	Chele La, Rudong La
<i>Anemone griffithii</i>	Sparsely hairy. White flowers	Dochu La. Phephe La
<i>Anemone rivularis</i>	White flowers in umbel	Cool forests
<i>Anemone obtusiloba</i>	Hairy plant. White or blue flowers	Forest clearings
<i>Callianthemum pimpinelloides</i>	Low herb	Phephe La
<i>Caltha palustris</i>	Marsh Marigold	Wet ground. Fir forests
<i>Clematis montana</i>	Woody climber	Common
<i>Delphinium ludlowii</i>	Leaves deeply lobed, toothed	Shady ravines. Phephe La
<i>Paeonia suffruticosa</i>	A Tree Peony	Gangtey Gumpa. Planted
<i>Ranunculus adoxifolius</i>	Leaflets broadly ovate	Alpine grassland
<i>Ranunculus brotherusii</i>	Procumbent herb. Leaflets deeply cut	Meadows to 4000 metres
<i>Ranunculus scleratus</i>	Celery-leaved Buttercup. 3-lobed leaves	Weed of cultivation. Paro

Latin name	Common name / Description	Notes
<i>Souliea vaginata</i>	White flowers, tinged purple	Fir forest. Phokphey
<i>Thalictrum chelidonii</i>	A Meadow-rue	Fir forests
Rosaceae	Rose Family	
<i>Agrimonia pilosa</i>	Narrowly-ovate yellow petals	Occasional. Roadsides
<i>Aruncus dioicus</i> subsp. <i>triternatus</i>	Flowers in loose terminal panicles	Conifer/Rhododendron forests
<i>Cotoneaster bacillaris</i>	Small tree	Paro Chu and Bumthang
<i>Cotoneaster microphyllus</i>	Low shrub	Dry banks. Common
<i>Cotoneaster simonsii</i>	Shrub	Dochu La
<i>Duchesnea indica</i>	Yellow-flowered strawberry	Occasional. Clearings
<i>Fragaria daltoniana</i>	A Strawberry. Shiny leaf	Yutong La. Bumthang
<i>Fragaria nubicola</i>	A Strawberry. Edible	Common. Forest margins
<i>Maddenia himalaica</i>	Deciduous shrub. Racemes of creamy flowers	Forest margins
<i>Malus baccata</i>	Siberian Crab Apple	Margins of Blue Pine forest
<i>Malus pumila</i>	Apple	Cultivated. Paro
<i>Malus sikkimensis</i>	Leaves densely white-pubescent below	Open Forest
<i>Prinsepia utilis</i>	Tall spiny shrub. Black fruit	Valley bottoms
<i>Prunus cornuta</i>	Bird Cherry. Racemes of white flowers	Bumthang. Open forests
<i>Prunus cerasoides</i>	Large tree	Warm broad-leaved forest
<i>Prunus rufa</i>	Peeling brown bark. Pendulous white flowers	Phephe La
<i>Photinia integrifolia</i>	Evergreen tree. White flowers	Warm broad-leaved forest
<i>Potentilla anserina</i>	Silverweed	Tang Valley. Arable weed
<i>Potentilla microphylla</i> var. <i>achilleifolia</i>	Feathery-leaved herb	Alpine turf. Chele La, Rudong La
<i>Potentilla peduncularis</i>	Pinnate-leaved rosettes	Phokphey. Meadows
<i>Rosa brunonii</i>	Scrambling shrub	Moist forest to 2500 metres
<i>Rosa macrophylla</i>	Erect shrub	Forest margins. Bumthang
<i>Rosa sericea</i> var. <i>sericea</i>	Erect shrub. Cream flowers	Common
<i>Rubus acuminatus</i>	Large climbing shrub. Leaves simple	Warm broad-leaved forest. Trongsa
<i>Rubus biflorus</i>	Orange-fruited bramble	Forest clearings
<i>Rubus fockeanus</i>	Creeping herb. Stems pubescent, not bristly	Mossy ground in forests
<i>Rubus fragarioides</i>	Similar to <i>R. fockeanus</i> but leaves 5-foliolate	Trongsa and Bumthang
<i>Rubus hypargyrus</i>	Robust. Leaves white tomentose beneath	Bumthang
<i>Rubus niveus</i>	White stems, leaves pinnate, petals pink	Roadsides and open forest
<i>Rubus paniculatus</i>	Leaves simple. Flowers in broad panicles	Broad-leaved forest margins. Trongsa

Latin name	Common name / Description	Notes
<i>Rubus pentagonus</i>	Scrambling shrub. Broad, flat prickles	Cool broad-leaved and hemlock forest
<i>Rubus pungens</i>	Scrambling shrub to 2 metres. Numerous prickles	Dry valleys with Blue Pine
<i>Rubus treutleri</i>	Scrambling shrub. Leaves 3-5 lobed. Petals pink	Cool broad-leaved and Hemlock forest
<i>Sanguisorba filiformis</i>	White flowers	Phokphey
<i>Sibbaldia</i> sp.	Prostrate herb	Rudong La
<i>Sorbus arachnoidea</i>	Large tree. Leaves with 7- 9 pairs of leaflets, stipules large	Yutong La. Bumthang
<i>Sorbus microphylla</i>	Shrub or small tree. Leaves with 9-12 pairs of leaflets.	Fir and Hemlock forest
<i>Sorbus thibetica</i>	Leaf margins serrate, tomentose beneath	Dochu la
<i>Sorbus wallichii</i>	Leaves with 5-8 pairs of leaflets	Chendebji
<i>Spiraea bella</i>	Leaf margins serrate	Phephe La
<i>Spiraea canescens</i>	Leaf margins entire	Bumthang. Forest margin
Rutaceae	Rue Family	
<i>Skimmia laureola</i>	Laurel-leaved Skimmia	Damp forests
<i>Tetradium fraxinifolium</i>	Tree with pinnate leaves. Broad inflorescence	Chendebji
<i>Zanthoxylum armatum</i>	Spiny shrub. Pinnate, aromatic leaves	Dry hillsides. Wangdue Phodrang
Salicaceae	Willow Family	
<i>Carpinus vaginea</i>	Tree in cool broad-leaved forest	Dochu La
<i>Carpinus viminea</i>	Tree in warm broad-leaved forest	Punakha
<i>Corylus ferox</i>	A Hazel	Bumthang valley
<i>Populus ciliata</i>	Ciliate-leaved Poplar	Broad-leaved forests
<i>Populus rotundifolia</i>	Round-leaved Poplar	Common. Blue Pine forest
<i>Salix babylonica</i>	Weeping Willow	Cultivated. Paro
<i>Salix obscura</i>	Tree to 6 metres	Streamsides in Blue Pine forest
<i>Salix serpyllum</i>	Dwarf, creeping. Catkins blackish crimson	Chele La. Rudong La
<i>Salix thomsoniana</i>	Dwarf. Long catkins	Chendebji
Sapindaceae	Maple Family	
<i>Acer campbellii</i>	Leaves 5-7 lobed	Oak and Hemlock forest
<i>Acer cappadocicum</i> var. <i>indicum</i>	Leaves large, petioles long, sap milky	Oak and Pine forest
<i>Acer caudatum</i>	Leaves 5 lobed, margin doubly serrate	Phephe La. Fir forest
<i>Acer hookeri</i>	Leaves unlobed, margin serrate	Cool broad-leaved forest
<i>Acer oblongum</i>	Leaves unlobed	Warm broad-leaved forest

Latin name	Common name / Description	Notes
<i>Acer pectinatum</i>	Leaves 3-5 lobed	Widespread. Hemlock and Fir forest
<i>Acer sikkimense</i>	Leaves unlobed	Broad-leaved forest
<i>Acer stachyophyllum</i>	Leaves unlobed, pale beneath	Hemlock forests
<i>Acer sterculiaceum</i>	Leaves 3-5 lobed, hairy	Cool broad-leaved forest
Saururaceae		
<i>Houttuynia cordata</i>	Pungent herb	Open forest. Bumthang
Saxifragaceae		
<i>Astilbe rivularis</i>	Saxifrage Family Leaves bi-or triternate	Frequent. Damp banks
<i>Chrysosplenium forrestii</i>	Leaves alternate. Bracts bright yellow	Damp forest. Phephe La
<i>Chrysosplenium griffithii</i>	Leaves alternate. Flowers dark green	Phephe La
<i>Chrysosplenium nepalense</i>	Leaves opposite	Phephe La
<i>Saxifraga</i> sp.	Yellow flowers	Phokphey
<i>Tiarella polyphylla</i>	Spike of small white flowers	Frequent. Damp forest
Schisandraceae		
<i>Schisandra grandiflora</i>	Climber	Forest
Scrophulariaceae		
<i>Buddleja asiatica</i>	Figwort Family	Dry hillsides. Trongsa
<i>Buddleja colvilei</i>		Open hillsides. Phephe La
<i>Buddleja crispa</i>		Forest below Taktsang
<i>Verbascum thapsus</i>	Mullein	Waste ground
Symplocaceae		
<i>Symplocos paniculata</i>	Small tree. Peling bark	Forest and river banks
Theaceae		
<i>Schima wallichii</i>	Tea Family Tree. Showy white flowers	Warm broad-leaved forest. Punakha
Thymelaeaceae		
<i>Daphne bholua</i>	Daphne Family Scented flowers	Forests

Latin name	Common name / Description	Notes
<i>Daphne ludlowii</i> <i>Edgeworthia gardneri</i>	Yellow flowers Bark used for making paper	Phephe La. Endemic Evergreen forest. Trongsa
Urticaceae <i>Girardinia diversifolia</i> <i>Urtica dioica</i>	Nettle Family Stinging herb Stinging Nettle	Common Around habitation
Verbenaceae <i>Duranda erecta</i> <i>Lantana camara</i>	Verbena Family Hedge plant. Blue flowers Shrub Verbena	Kathmandu Alien weed
Violaceae <i>Viola bhutanica</i> <i>Viola biflora</i> <i>Viola hookeri</i>	Violet Family Flowers purplish Yellow flowers Stoloniferous	Dochu La Cool forest margins Dochu La
MONOCOTYLEDONS		
Amaryllidaceae <i>Allium wallichii</i>	Amaryllis Family Broad leaf	Phephe La
Araceae <i>Arisaema concinnum</i> <i>Arisaema griffithii</i> <i>Arisaema nepenthoides</i> <i>Arisaema propinquum</i> <i>Colocasia esculenta</i> <i>Typhonium diversifolium</i>	Arum Family Radiate leaflets Large striped spathe Tall eared spathe Striped glossy spathe. Taro Cormous herb. Leaves petiolate, 3-lobed	Warm broad-leaved forest Hemlock forests Locally common Below Phephe La Near villages and cultivated Forest edge. Ngang Lhaktang
Asparagaceae <i>Maianthemum oleraceum</i> <i>Ophiopogon wallichianus</i> <i>Polygonatum cirrhifolium</i>	Asparagus Family White or wine-red flowers Purple flowers Solomon's Seal	Shaded banks. Dochu La Chendebji Forest

Latin name	Common name / Description	Notes
Colchicaceae <i>Disporum cantoniense</i>	Meadow Saffron Family Drooping cream flowers	Banks in mixed forest
Commelinaceae <i>Cyanotis vaga</i>	Spiderwort Family Flowers blue	Pasture and weed of crops
Hypoxidaceae <i>Hypoxis aurea</i>	Hypoxis Family Yellow flowers	Grassy places
Iridaceae <i>Iris clarkei</i> <i>Iris tectorum</i>	Iris Family Flowers (not seen) dark blue Leaves broad. Flowers lilac-blue	Marshes and conifer forest Cultivated. Naturalised
Juncaceae <i>Luzula multiflora</i>	Rush Family Heath Wood-rush	Moist grassland
Liliaceae <i>Cardiocrinum giganteum</i> <i>Clintonia udensis</i> <i>Notholirion bulbuliferum</i> <i>Notholirion campanulatum</i> <i>Notholirion macrophyllum</i> <i>Streptopus simplex</i>	Lily Family Giant Lily Broad leaves. Pale violet drooping flowers Leaves 7-17 apex acute, 2cm broad. Many bulbils Similar to above. (flowers red) Leaves 3-6 apex blunt, 0.8cm broad Leaves finely acuminate. Basal lobes clasping	Damp forest Damp Forest Phephe La, Rudong La Rudong La Chele La to Bumthang Rhododendron forest
Melanthiaceae <i>Paris polyphylla</i> <i>Paris violacea</i> <i>Trillium govanianum</i> <i>Trillium tschonoskii</i> var. <i>himalaicum</i>	Bunchflower Family A Herb-Paris Patterned leaf Starry purple flowers White of pink flowers	Forests Forests Forests Forests
Nartheciaceae <i>Aletris gracilis</i>	Bog Asphodel Family Rosettes of leaves with fibrous remains of old leaves	Wet grassy banks
Orchidaceae <i>Bulbophyllum rolfei</i>	Orchid Family Epiphyte	Dochu la

Latin name	Common name / Description	Notes
<i>Calanthe tricarinata</i>	Yellow and red flowers	Forests. Bumthang
<i>Cephalanthera longifolia</i>	Sword-leaved Helleborine	Forest margins
<i>Coelogyne corymbosa</i>	Epiphyte. White flowers	Dochu La, Chendebji
<i>Dendrobium amoenum</i>	Epiphyte. Mauve flowers	Warm temperate forest
<i>Dendrobium densiflorum</i>	Dense pendant spikes of yellow flowers	Punakha Dzong. Cultivated
<i>Dendrobium nobile</i>	Maroon and white flowers	Planted, Gangtey Gompa
<i>Goodyera repens</i>	Creeping Ladies Tresses	Cool forest
<i>Listera brevicaulis</i>	Small paired leaves	With mosses on logs. Below Phephe La
Poaceae	Grass Family	
<i>Arundinaria racemosa</i>	Less than 2 metres. Transparent leaf edge absent	Coniferous forests
<i>Fargesia grossa</i>	Clump-forming to 10 metres. Used for fencing	Wet Hemlock forest
<i>Oryza sativa</i>	Rice	Cultivated
<i>Thamnocalamus spathiflorus</i>	Clump-forming. To 5 metres, above 2800 metres	Sloping sites. Mixed temperate forest
<i>Yushania micropylla</i>	Dominant after grazing. Transparent leaf edge	Subalpine pasture
(After felling or burning of forest its presence prevents regeneration of trees)		
<i>Zea mays</i>	Maize	Cultivated
Smilacaceae	Smilax Family	
<i>Smilax ferox</i>	Climber	Broad-leaved and Oak forest
Zingiberaceae	Ginger Family	
<i>Cautleya gracilis</i>	Shoots to 40cm. Flowers yellow	Moist banks or epiphytic. Oak forest
<i>Curcuma aromatica</i>	Pink bracts. Flowers before leavaes	Wangdue Phodrang
<i>Hedychium spicatum</i>	Flowers white, tinged yellow or red at base	Broad-leaved forest
<i>Roscoea tibetica</i>	Purple flowers	Moist meadows

Birds (✓=recorded but not counted; H = heard only)

	Common name	Latin name	May															
			2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
1	Eastern Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus coromandus</i>				✓												
2	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>				✓				✓								
3	Black Eagle	<i>Ictinaetus malayensis</i>				✓			✓									

	Common name	Latin name	May															
			2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
4	Crested Serpent Eagle	<i>Spilornis cheela</i>														✓		
5	Himalayan (Griffon) Vulture	<i>Gyps himalayensis</i>				✓												
6	Hill Partridge	<i>Arborophila torqueola</i>			H					H	H	H	H	H				
7	Blood Pheasant	<i>Ithaginis cruentus</i>										H	✓					
8	Satyr Tragopan	<i>Tragopan satyra</i>								H	H			H				
9	Kalij Pheasant	<i>Lophura leucomelanos</i>	✓															
10	Himalayan Monal	<i>Lophophorus impejanus</i>	✓									✓						
11	Ibisbill	<i>Ibidorhyncha strubersii</i>						✓						✓				
12	River Lapwing	<i>Vanellus duvaucelii</i>				✓	✓											✓
13	Speckled Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba hodgsonii</i>												✓	✓			
14	Spotted Dove	<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>				✓												✓
15	Oriental Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia orientalis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
16	Barred Cuckoo-Dove	<i>Macropygia unchall</i>																✓
17	Common (Eurasian) Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	H	H	H	H								H				
18	Himalayan (Oriental) Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus saturatus</i>		H														
19	Indian Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus micropterus</i>				H												
20	Lesser Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus poliocephalus</i>																
21	Large Hawk-Cuckoo	<i>Hierococyx sparverioides</i>		H	H	H									H	H	H	
22	Grey-bellied Cuckoo	<i>Cacomantis passerinus</i>														✓	✓	
23	Asian Koel	<i>Eudynamys scolopacea</i>													H	H	H	
24	Grey Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus jotaka</i>						H	H									
25	Himalayan Owl	<i>Strix nivicolum</i>							H									
26	Blyth's Swift	<i>Apus leuconyx</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓		
27	White-throated Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>																✓
28	Crested Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle lugubris</i>			✓													
29	Great Barbet	<i>Psilopogon virens</i>			H											H	H	
30	Blue-throated Barbet	<i>Psilopogon asiaticus</i>			H											H		
31	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>			✓	✓	✓									✓	✓	
32	Rufous-bellied (Pied) Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos hyperythrus</i>								✓								✓
33	Maroon Oriole	<i>Oriolus traillii</i>			✓													
34	Oriental Skylark	<i>Alauda gulgula</i>												✓				
35	Nepal House Martin	<i>Delichon nipalensis</i>			✓										✓	✓		

	Common name	Latin name	May														
			2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
36	Ashy Drongo	<i>Dicrurus leucophaeus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓		
37	Grey-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius tephronotus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
38	Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓									✓	✓	
39	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>				✓										✓	
40	Yellow-billed Blue Magpie	<i>Urocissa flavirostris</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		
41	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							
42	Grey Treepie	<i>Dendrocitta formosae</i>			✓									✓	✓	✓	
43	Spotted Nutcracker	<i>Nucifraga caryocatactes</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		
44	Red-billed Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓		
45	House Crow	<i>Corvus splendens</i>	✓												✓		
46	Large-billed Crow	<i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
47	Scarlet Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus speciosus</i>			✓												✓
48	Long-tailed Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus ethologus</i>					✓			✓	✓	✓					
49	Black Bulbul	<i>Hypsipetes madagascariensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
50	Red-vented Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓								✓	✓	✓	
51	White-browed Fulvetta	<i>Alcippe vinipectus</i>				✓				✓	✓	✓	✓				
52	Red-tailed Minla	<i>Minla ignotincta</i>					✓			✓							
53	Bar-throated (Chestnut-tailed) Minla	<i>Minla strigula</i>				✓											
54	Great Parrotbill	<i>Conostoma aemodium</i>								✓							
55	White-throated Laughingthrush	<i>Garrulax albogularis</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	
56	Spotted Laughingthrush	<i>Ianthocincla ocellata</i>	H										✓				
57	Bhutan (Streaked) Laughingthrush	<i>Trochalopteron imbricatum (lineatus)</i>			✓												
58	Black-faced Laughingthrush	<i>Trochalopteron affine</i>				✓				✓	✓		✓				
59	Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush	<i>Trochalopteron erythrocephalum</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							✓	
60	Dark-sided Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa sibirica</i>									✓	✓					
61	Ultramarine Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula superciliaris</i>				✓									✓		
62	Rufous-gorgetted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula strophliata</i>									✓						
63	Verditer Flycatcher	<i>Eumyias thalassina</i>			✓	✓								✓	✓		
64	Yellow-bellied Fantail	<i>Rhipidura hypoxantha</i>				✓			✓	✓	✓		✓				
65	Whistler's Warbler	<i>Seicercus whistleri</i>	✓							✓							
66	Tickell's Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus affinis</i>			✓	✓											
67	Blyth's Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus reguloides</i>	✓														

	Common name	Latin name	May														
			2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
68	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>									✓						
69	Buff-barred Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus pulcher</i>									✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
70	Chestnut-crowned Bush Warbler	<i>Cettia major</i>											✓	✓			
71	Oriental Magpie-Robin	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>	✓		✓											✓	✓
72	Himalayan Bluetail (Orange-fl Bush Robin)	<i>Tarsiger rufilatus (cyanurus)</i>												✓			
73	Golden Bush Robin	<i>Tarsiger chrysaeus</i>											✓				
74	Hodgson's Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus hodgsoni</i>				✓											
75	Blue-fronted Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus frontalis</i>		✓													
76	White-capped Water Redstart	<i>Chaimarrornis leucocephalus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓									✓	
77	Plumbeous Water Redstart	<i>Rhyacornis fuliginosus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
78	Little Forktail	<i>Enicurus scouleri</i>				✓											
79	Brown Dipper	<i>Cinclus pallasii</i>		✓													
80	Grey Bushchat	<i>Saxicola ferrea</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓											
81	Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola rufiventris</i>		✓	✓											✓	
82	Blue Whistling Thrush	<i>Myophonus caeruleus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
83	White-collared Blackbird	<i>Turdus albocinctus</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓		
84	Whiskered Yuhina	<i>Yuhina flavicollis</i>				✓											
85	Rufous-vented Yuhina	<i>Yuhina occipitalis</i>							✓	✓							
86	Stripe-throated Yuhina	<i>Yuhina gularis</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							
87	Grey-crested Tit	<i>Parus dichrous</i>								✓							
88	Green-backed Tit	<i>Parus monticolus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓					✓	✓	
89	Rufous-vented Tit	<i>Parus rubdiventris</i>									✓			✓			
90	Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>							✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			
91	Rufous-fronted Tit	<i>Aegiothalos iouschistos</i>			✓												
92	Hodgson's Treecreeper	<i>Certhia hodgsoni</i>							✓	✓		✓		✓	✓		
93	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>			✓												
94	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓							✓	✓	✓	✓	
95	Fire-breasted Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeun ignipectus</i>				✓											
96	Green-tailed Sunbird	<i>Aethopyga nipalensis</i>				✓			✓	✓							
97	Mrs Gould's Sunbird	<i>Aethopyga gouldiae</i>							✓								
98	Rufous Siberia	<i>Heterophasia capistrata</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓											
99	Oriental White-eye	<i>Zosterops palpebrosa</i>		✓		✓											

	Common name	Latin name	May														
			2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
100	Russet Sparrow	<i>Passer rutilans</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
101	Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
102	Plain Mountain Finch	<i>Leucosticte nemoricola</i>											✓				
103	Red Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>	H														
104	White-browed Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus thura</i>											✓				
105	Crested Bunting	<i>Melophus lathami</i>														✓	

Mammals

1	Assam Macaque	<i>Macaca assamensis</i>			✓									✓			
2	Large-eared Pika	<i>Ochotona macrotis</i>		✓					✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		
3	Wild Boar	<i>Sus scrofa</i>		✓		✓											
4	Himalayan Musk Deer	<i>Moschus leucogaster</i>												✓			

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