

Haa Summer Festival: *show casing the rich alpine flowers, folklore and culture*

Day 1: 9th July, 2011

Proposed programme

Sl.No	Time	Programme
1	8:00 AM	Arrival of the guest and tourists at lhakhang Karpo
2	8:15 AM	Offering of Tashi khadar to the tourists by the respected family members at the reception
3	8:30 AM	Arrival of the chief guest escorted with chipdrel ceremony (the longest procession ceremony) till DYT hall
4	9:30 AM	The inauguration of the festival with the Marchang ceremony
5	9:45 AM	Welcome address by DYT Chairman
6	10:00 AM	Opening of the festival including the nomads and alpine flower photo exhibition by the Hon'ble chief guest together with the selected youngest tourist in the group ¹
7	10:15 AM	Traditional folk welcome dance, Local Chundu Gongshay and Zhungdra ²
8	11:00 AM	Starting of the local sports and games: ³ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Khuru • Soksum competition
9	12:00PM	Prize distribution for Khuru and Soksum
10	12:30PM	Demonstration and experiencing the Haaps cuisine speciality (Hontey, khuley and Tshe Thub) 9th July: 12:30 pm & 3:30 pm 10th July: 11:45 am
11	1:00 PM	Coinciding with lunch, families bring lunch in the traditional containers to exhibit which will be shared by the guests. In addition to the above dishes " wild flowers " and " mushroom " cuisines will be prepared
12	2:00 PM	Show casing traditional, cultural skills (Choeshum, thanka painting, bamboo products, yak's products, pala-tongpa, household items and khami ngashig etc) if possible all 13 arts and crafts ⁴
13	3:00PM	Yak Cham and other cultural programs
14	4:00 PM	Display of local Shaman costumes and ornaments along with a preview on how its conducted (Showing documents of the shaman festivals on TV in a tent displaying the attires)
15	5:00PM	BREAK ⁵
16	7:00 PM	Traditional rituals in preparation for the next day's archery tournament (performing rituals and hiring astrologers to suppress the opponents)

Note:

1. Local Tship (astrologer) will be in a tent providing his fortune telling services to everyone including tourists throughout the festival.
2. Personalised alpine flower stamps with photo by Bhutan post for everyone.

¹ The idea behind the youngest tourists is that the experiences gained by him/her will be the highlight of the trip which will be shared with many other people both in Bhutan and in his/her home country

² The cultural program, flower and nomad exhibition will continue for the entire 2 days festival

³ The tourists and guest could also experience the Khuru and Soksum game saperately designed for them

⁴ Show casing of the 13 arts and crafts will continue throughout the program (both days)

⁵ Return to farm houses / hotel for leisure evening to experience village life and for dinner

Day 2: 10th July, 2011
Proposed programme

Sl.No	Time	Programme
1	9:00 AM	Arrival of the participants and tourists for the archery match
2	9:15 AM	Food and Beverages Stall - Experiencing Haaps breakfast speciality: Akha (dough made out of wheat flour), Yaksha kam (dried yak meat) and Ezay(chilly paste)
3	9:30 AM	Drachen korni (A traditional procession to make a round in an auspicious direction to avoid bad lucks and supersede the opponents)
4	10:00 AM	Start of archery tournament with marching ceremony
5	10:30 AM	Traditional archery experience for the guests (in a separate ground possible oneway)
6	11:00 AM	Chundu Soelkha Haap's Ausa- Uesu Yakcham and mask dance
7	11:30 AM	Nublang exhibition
8	11:45 AM	Demonstration and experiencing the Haaps cuisine speciality (Hontey, khuley and Tshe Thub) - Buck wheat flour processing -Tongpa, Tse thu (local porridge), Phuelu, Chugo mago
9	12:00 PM	Choenda (final hit) and victory lap celebration with distribution of prizes
10	1:00 PM	Lunch for the guests will be served in tradition manner by the family members displaying the varieties of cuisines
11	2:00 PM	Haap's Nomadic life experience in the yak tent <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstration of yak milking, butter and cheese processing etc • Competition with rice and butter measurement with traditional measuring scale for the guests.
12	2:45 pm	Alpine flower exhibition and competition ⁶ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competition on the identification, significance and naming the scientific terms of the flowers found in Haa Dzongkhag (open to all). • Best photograph competition on the alpine flowers of Haa Dzongkhag (open to all)
13	3:30PM	Awarding of prizes to the winners
14	4:00 PM	Vote of thanks by Dasho Dzongdag
15	4:20 PM	BREAK
16	5:30 PM	Demonstration and preparation of Ara
17	6:00 PM	Ara tshogchang ceremony, ara served in a formal traditional way along the bon fire.
18	6:30 PM	Tshang mo if any, followed by songs and cultural dances performed by the villagers
19	7:00 PM	Traditional dinner served around bonfire
20	8:00 PM	The Haa summer festival concludes with Tashi Labey joined by all the guests

⁶ Alpine flower exhibition encompasses – photographs, paintings, botanical illustrations, its significance on local culture and activities and botanical excursions (day hikes and trekking) etc.