

9DAYS_ MYANMAR HIGHLIGHTS

Highlight: Yangon – Bagan – Mandalay - Inle Lake – Yangon

1. OVERVIEW:

Myanmar (formerly Burma) enjoys an enchanting beauty of colonial relics, charming natural lake and longstanding tradition. This trip offers impressive experiences that will go far beyond the travel guide book of this mysterious time-locked land. Have tea with a Shan family to taste flavorful street food in Mandalay and wander around bustling markets. Boat through KyaukOhnmin cave temple, watch the sun sets over the ancient temples in Bagan or warm your hearts when playing with children at a local orphanage. Enjoy a horse cart ride through ancient ruins in Ava or visit elephant camp in the jungles of Kalaw. Dig deeper into this thrilling country and that has been protected from foreign eyes for so long. The best part of the trip is ahead of you, you're always served with a fun vocation and warm smile in Burma.

2. ITINERARY IN BRIEF

DAY 1: YANGON ARRIVAL

DAY 2: YANGON FULL DAY CITY TOUR

DAY 3: YANGON - BAGAN

DAY 4: BAGAN FULL DAY CITY TOUR

DAY 5: BAGAN – MANDALAY - THE GLASS PALACE - THE ROYAL HISTORY OF MANDALAY

DAY 6: MANDALAY - CRUISE VISIT AVA, SAGAING & AMARAPURA (FULL DAY)

DAY 7: MANDALAY - HEHO - INLE LAKE

DAY 8: INLE LAKE - RUINS OF INDEIN & FLOATING GARDENS - YANGON

DAY 9: YANGON DEPARTURE

3. ITINERARY IN DETAIL

DAY 1: YANGON ARRIVAL

Arrival Yangon airport, you are transferred to hotel in the city by private car & guide. The transfer from airport to hotel is approximately 50 minutes.

Accommodation: Overnight at hotel in Yagon (3*, 4* or 5*)

DAY 2: YANGON FULL DAY CITY TOUR

This full day tour today we will show you the different faces of Yangon. We start from the bottom of the hill and passing the workshops, small downtown area including several markets, colonial buildings and monasteries, which will be useful or even essential to understand more of the country during the rest of your journey. Visit the 2,600 years old Shwedagon Pagoda, the most sacred Buddhist pagoda for the Burmese can be seen from almost anywhere in Yangon. Witness the colors transform on the 100-meter pagoda which is literally covered with over 60 tons of gold leaf. So what's behind the golden façade of the Shwedagon Pagoda? You will learn about the full history of the pagoda, the daily life of

all people living in its immediate surroundings and a deeper insight in the Buddhist religion and how the spiritual belief is mixed with the belief in nats– the Myanmar spirits. Return to the hotel for relax.

Meal: Breakfast

Accommodation: Overnight at hotel in Yagon (3*, 4* or 5*)

DAY3: YANGON - BAGAN

Free at leisure until transfer to airport for domestic flight to Bagan city. Flight time is approximately 1.5 hours.

Arrival airport, you are transferred to Bagan ancient town by private car & guide. Check in & free at leisure.

Meal: Breakfast

Accommodation: Overnight at hotel in Bagan (3*, 4* or 5*)

DAY4: BAGAN FULL DAY CITY TOUR

Bagan is really quiet, it's a beautiful area, and the temples here are often completely deserted. Your experienced guide through Bagan will show you the best-known temples of the area. Minnanthu is probably the most favorite temple area amongst frequent Bagan visitors but whenever you see a temple you like, just ask your guide to stop to have a look at it – simply pick your own favourite temple. Start the day climbing a pagoda to get a first impressive view over the whole area. From here you continue to move to the other amazing temples that have been here for hundreds of years. Places like the Ananda, Dhammayangyi, Sulamani, and Thatbyinnyu will certainly impress you. Lunch at local restaurant

Return to hotel afterwards your guide pick you up again at around 16.00 pm to continue the tour by horse cart to Pythaggyi pagoda for sunset.

Meal: Breakfast

Accommodation: Overnight at hotel in Bagan (3*, 4* or 5*)

DAY 5: BAGAN – MANDALAY - THE GLASS PALACE - THE ROYAL HISTORY OF MANDALAY

Morning, transfer to airport for domestic flight to Mandalay. Flight time is approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes. Meet your driver for an airport transfer with a private vehicle. The distance is almost 1 hour driving.

Arrival, check in your booked hotel for refresh before discovering city.

Mandalay is the last capital of Myanmar Kingdom before the annexation of British in 1885, the period of kingdom was very short, but the name Mandalay becomes well known by "Rudyard Kipling". King Thibaw and Queen Supayalat were the last royalties of Burma until being sent to exile. Today we visit the rebuilt palace designed by king Mindon. The royal palace walls surrounded by the moat is one of the great things to visit and it has been re-created after 1945, by 2nd War World. We enter the palace main gate and from here we continue to visit the most beautiful part which is the wood-carved Shwenandaw monastery just outside the palace in which king Mindon lived and died. King Thibaw later used this building for meditation. We continue to the lesser-known Setkyathiha pagoda with a bronze Buddha statue, brought to Mandalay by king Thibaw just before the beginning of the war. The royal family collected many religious artefacts and we witness the process of making gold leaves, woodcarvings and silver or gold threaded kalagas (tapestry).

We have a visit to a viewpoint near the Ayeyarwaddy River for a cold Mandalay beer during sunset. Continue to the busy Yadanar night market to have some traditional snacks and a walk around before heading to one of the most famous beer stations and BBQ restaurants in Mandalay. Your guide will order the food and be sure you're satisfied. We continue before 8:30 PM to the excellent Mandalay marionettes theater for a show performed by a mix of traditional musicians, puppeteers and dancers.

Meal: Breakfast

Accommodation: Overnight at hotel in Mandalay (3*, 4* or 5*)

DAY 6: MANDALAY - CRUISE VISIT AVA, SAGAING & AMARAPURA (FULL DAY)

Today, from the jetty in Mandalay we relax on a leisurely boat cruise for about 2 hours downstream to Sagaing passing the temple dotted hills where we stop and visit the Setkyar Thida nunnery. Afterward, we continue by boat to Ava, horse carts are ready to take us around this magnificent site past ancient temple ruins that used to be majestic buildings. Lunch will be taken in Ava before we go to Amarapura by car. The old capital of Amarapura is a very quiet village nowadays where you only hear the sound of the weaving machines. Visit one of the small weaving factories and walk slowly over U-Bein Bridge. It's an ideal excursion if you don't take the boat from Mandalay to Bagan since the most interesting part of the long boat ride is covered in this shorter cruise

Meal: Breakfast

Accommodation: Overnight at hotel in Mandalay (3*, 4* or 5*)

DAY 7: MANDALAY - HEHO - INLE LAKE

Morning, transfer to Mandalay airport for domestic flight to Heho. Flight time is approximately 1 hour. Meet your driver for an airport transfer to Inle Lake for the tour

Described in many books that the Shan has the most interesting and rich culture. Begin with a visit of the Buddha Museum, housed in the former Haw (palace) of the last Shan prince of Nyaung Shwe; Mr. Sao Shwe Thaik. You might enjoy a Shan lunch here before our tour to the local market, traditional Shan cotton and Shan traditional dresses make this a very colorful sight. A visit to the ancient teak wooden Shwe Yan Pyay monastery with oval windows certainly gives you the opportunity to take great pictures. You are being peddled around small canals and pass floating gardens in a small wooden boat to see more of the local Shan life from the water. End the tour with a visit and some wine tasting of the excellent wines at the Red Mountain Winery.

Meal: Breakfast

Accommodation: Overnight at hotel in Inle (3*, 4* or 5*)

DAY 8: INLE LAKE - RUINS OF INDEIN & FLOATING GARDENS - YANGON

Inle Lake in southern Shan State is a vast natural lake surrounded by traditional Shan villages that certainly is worth a visit. Surrounding and on the lake itself the Intha people have been living for many centuries in villages built entirely on stilts. Embark on a private motorboat around the lake to discover its natural beauty, visit the floating gardens, see some of the famous leg rowers, and have a cup of tea at a local family's house. On and around the lake, traditional markets are held in different villages according to a 5-day rotating schedule. You will be taken to visit one of these colorful markets frequented by

Shan and PaO people. You certainly also visit a local cheroot factory (where the Burmese cigars are made), Phaung Daw Oo Pagoda, Intha Heritage house - where the Burmese cats are bred, a weaving factory and floating tomato gardens if wanted.

Transfer to airport, continue take flight back to Yangon. Arrival airport, you are welcomed by our guide & driver then transfer to the city

Meal: Breakfast

Accommodation: Overnight at hotel in Yangon (3*, 4* or 5*)

DAY 9: YANGON DEPARTURE

Free at leisure until transfer to airport for flight departure

Meal: Breakfast

Date: valid until 30th September 2015

Description	2 pax	3-4 pax	5-6 pax	7-8 pax	9-10 pax	Single Supp
First Class	1053	945	939	888	840	434
Superior packages	1190	1083	1076	1025	978	571
Deluxe packages	1516	1409	1403	1351	1305	898

Date: 01 Oct 2016 – 31 Mar 2016

Description	2 pax	3-4 pax	5-6 pax	7-8 pax	9-10 pax	Single Supp
First Class	1200	1053	1041	990	944	538
Superior packages	1369	1221	1210	1159	1113	706
Deluxe packages	1729	1583	1571	1520	1473	1069

SURCHARGE FOR FLIGHT TICKET

Note: Subject to be changed without prior noticed

- From Yangon (RGN) to Nyanung U (Bagan): US\$ 120 per person
- From Nyanung U (Bagan) to Mandalay: US\$ 73 per person
- Mandalay (MD) to Heho (Inle Lake): US\$ 73 per person
- From Nyanung U (Bagan) to Heho (Inle Lake): US\$ 120 per person
- From Heho (Inle Lake) to Yangon (RGN): US\$ 125 per person

Supplement cost for balloon ride: US\$ 285 per person (BOB is available start from October to March)

LIST OF HOTELS USED:

Destination	First Class – 3 star	Superior packages – 4 star	Deluxe packages – 5 star
Yangon	BEST WESTERN GREEN HILL - www.greenhillhotelyangon.com (Deluxe room)	SUMMIT PARK VIEW HOTEL www.summityangon.com (Superior)	KANDAWGYI PALACE HOTEL www.kandawgyipalacehotel.com (Superior)

Bagan	THE FLORAL BREEZE www.floralbreezehotel.com (Deluxe)	AMAZING BAGAN RESORT www.amazing-hotel.com (Deluxe)	AUREUM PLACE RESORT - www.aureumpalacehotel.com/bagan.html (Deluxe Room)
Mandalay	YADANARPON DYNASTY www.yadanarpondynastyhotel.com/ (Superior)	HOTEL SHWE PYI THAR- www.hotelshwepyithar.com/ (Superior Room)	SEDONA HOTEL www.sedonahotels.com.sg/Where/SedonaHotelMa (Superior)
Inle	PARADISE INLE RESORT www.inleparadise.com/ (Superior)	PRISTINE LOTUS HOTEL www.pristinelotus.com (Floating Duplex)	AUREUM PALACE RESORT www.aureumpalacehotel.com (Lake View)

WHAT IS INCLUDED

- Accommodation in a double or twin or double room with daily breakfast
- Services of a driver and private air-conditioned vehicle during all tours and transfers.
- **English-speaking guide** during all tours and transfers
- Private board for sightseeing as mentioned in the program, Entrance fees for all visits as mentioned in the itinerary
- Mineral water is available as complementary

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED

- International & Domestic flight tickets
- Meals, if not specified in the itinerary
- Gratuities for guides and drivers
- Balloon Over Bagan Fees
- Visa upon arrival & Myanmar stamping fee at the airport (35US\$ paid by cash at the airport)
- Travel insurance (we highly recommend that you purchase adequate insurance)
- Personal expenses, such as laundry, telephone, drinks, etc. All other services not specified in the itinerary
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- Surcharge for Peak Season at above mentioned hotels (if have)