

MYANMAR (BURMA) An Introduction



DAY 1: YANGON (RANGOON)

Arrive in Yangon from either Bangkok or Singapore.

You are welcomed by your tour guide at the airport and transfer to your hotel. Visit Chauk Htat Kyi, a huge reclining Buddha image, followed by a photo stop at the Karaweik Hall royal floating barge. Nothing will prepare you for Shwedagon Pagoda, with its glittering gold stupa that Rudyard Kipling called "a golden mystery...a beautiful twinkling wonder." At the pagoda join or observe local pilgrims and monks offering their devotions and enjoy the amazing sunset view at over the city.

Overnight: Sedona Hotel

DAY 2: YANGON - BAGAN

Early morning flight to Bagan considered one of the greatest sights of Asia! Begin our exploration of Bagan by visiting a busy local market to see the vast variety of fresh fruit and vegetables for sale and gain an insight into the bustling market atmosphere in Bagan and continuing with visits to a diverse selection of the most important pagodas and temples such as Ananda Temple, one of the largest, best preserved, and most revered temples in Bagan. Also visit a local lacquerware workshop, where we watch men and women ply their craft using traditional methods. We end our tour for the day by climbing to the top of the Temple for sunset views. Sit back relax and be amazed by the beauty of Bagan as you watch the sun slowly set behind the ancient Pagodas.

Overnight: Thabar Gate

B

DAY 3: BAGAN - MANDALAY – AMARAPURA

Transfer to the airport for your flight to legendary Mandalay, a city of great cultural importance. Upon arrival visit a 200-year-old teak bridge, the most photographic site in Myanmar. This afternoon visit the second most sacred image in Myanmar next to the Shwedagon Pagoda is the Mahamuni Pagoda. Next visit Golden palace Monastery famous for its intricate woodcarvings. Continue to the Kuthodaw Pagoda, which is known as the world largest book due to the Buddhist scripture carved on 729 marble slabs. Then climb up to the Mandalay Hill and see the best view of Mandalay from the top of Mandalay hill as the sun slowly sets.

Overnight: Mandalay City Hotel

B

DAY 4: MANDALAY – INLE LAKE

Transfer to Airport for flight to Heho, our gateway to Inle Lake and the Shan State. Known as the most beautiful lake in Myanmar, Inle Lake's calm waters are surrounded by high hills and dotted with floating gardens and stilted villages. A scenic drive takes us to Nyaung Shwe, a small jetty where we pick up our private boat for a 30-minute ride to our hotel, located on the shores of the lake. Enjoy a tour of Inle Lake by boat.

Overnight: Skye Lake, deluxe room



DAY 5: INLE LAKE – INDEIN

After breakfast, an exciting morning visit to the rotating “5-Day Market” to observe Shan ethnic tribes who come to buy and sell a variety of goods: a first hand glimpse into the lives of the Pa-O, Danu and Intha hill tribes. We continue our sightseeing in Inle Lake, maneuvering by boat through long, scenic channels where we can watch the farmers cultivate their produce in “floating gardens”. We will visit the fascinating village of Indein, with its complex of ancient shrines and stupas and walk through exotic colonnades of stairways and shop stalls. We’ll visit the “long neck” tribal women, and weaving and craft villages perched on stilts. See the lake’s unique “leg rowers” – the Intha people row standing up with one leg wrapped around an oar.

Overnight: Skye Lake

B

DAY 6: INLE LAKE – NGAPALI

In the morning, return to Nyaung Shwe and continue to Heho for the flight to Ngapali. Transfer from Thandwe Airport to Ngapali Beach 20 minutes away. Here, in the Bay of Bengal is the beautiful beach of Ngapali with its charming fishing village and coconut trees. Relax on the beach or for the more active, enjoy various sports such as snorkeling, surfing or cycling.

Overnight: Amata Beach Resort, 3 nights

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DAY 7-8: NGAPALI BEACH

Two days at leisure on the beach for sun bathing, swimming and strolling along the white sand beach. You may wish to visit the nearby fishing villages by bicycle or boat.

DAY 9: NGAPALI BEACH – YANGON

Take an afternoon flight back to Yangon. Continue sightseeing in Yangon and visit Scott Market (Bogyoke Aung San Market) a sprawling 75-year-old Market. At the market you will find a whole variety of interesting Burmese souvenirs, from lacquer ware to gems & jewelry - bargain at the stores to fully experience the Burmese market atmosphere!

Overnight: Sedona

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DAY 10: YANGON to Singapore or Bangkok

After breakfast, continue sightseeing in Yangon until transfer to airport for International departure flight.

Approximate cost: \$1000 per person (3-4 star hotels)