



ADVENTUROUS MYANMAR (16 days / 15 nights)

Yangon – Golden Rock – Hpa-An – Mawlamyaing – Bago –
Yangon – Sittwe – Mrauk Oo – Ngapali Beach – Yangon

Day 01

YANGON

We will welcome you directly at the Yangon International Airport and accompany you to your hotel in the city.

Yangon is the former capital of Myanmar. The city, with a population of over 5 million inhabitants, is lined by the Yangon River in the West and the Bago River in the South. Compared with other Asian cities of similar size, it gives the impression of being green and full of trees, above which shimmering pagodas seem to float.

The most famous and most revered monument in Yangon is the Shwedagon Pagoda, a must for every visit to Myanmar. More gold is said to have been used in building it than is possessed by the Bank of England.

The centre of Yangon still retains many impressive old buildings from the British colonial period.

Shwedagon Pagoda: The highlight of any trip to Yangon, and indeed to Myanmar itself, is a visit to the Shwedagon Pagoda, located in midtown Yangon between the People's Park and the Kandawgyi Lake. The 2,500 years old Shwedagon Pagoda appears most beautiful during the early morning or evening, when you are able to enjoy this gilded sight in different colours.



Scott Market: This sprawling, over 70 years old market has the largest selection of Burmese handicrafts you will find under one roof. Even a stroll along all the different stands without the intention of buying is a pleasant change in every itinerary.

Sule Pagoda: Situated in the very centre of downtown Yangon, the tall zedi of Sule Pagoda makes an excellent landmark; in fact it's used as a milestone from which all addresses to the north are measured. It is over 2,000 years old, but like many other ancient Burmese shrines, it has been rebuilt and repaired many times over the centuries. It is said that the central stupa enshrines a hair of Buddha; its Mon name, *Kyaik Athok*, translates as 'the stupa where a Scared Hair Relic is enshrined'. Most likely, as with the zedi of Shwedagon Pagoda, it was originally built by the Mon in the middle of this century.

Kaba Aye Pagoda: The 'world peace pagoda' is fairly new, it was built in 1952 for the 1945-1956 Sixth Buddhist Synod. The 34-meter-high stupa also measures 34 meters around its base. It is located approximately 11 km north of downtown, close to the Inya Lake.



China Town: It is located west of the city centre, still within the downtown area. Here you can enjoy the bustling street markets, where you can buy nearly everything and visit Kheng Hock Keong, the largest Chinese Temple in Yangon, which is over 100 years old.

SAVOY HOTEL (5*, Deluxe room)

PARK ROYAL HOTEL (4*, Superior room)

THAMADA HOTEL (2*, Superior room)

Day 02

GOLDEN ROCK

Our guide and driver will meet you at your hotel. Today you will drive together to Kyaiktiyo.

Kyaiktiyo is one of the most interesting and sacred Buddhist sites of Myanmar. The “Golden Rock”, a boulder covered in gold, is balanced precariously on the very edge of a cliff. According to legend, it is kept from rolling down the hill by a strand of Buddha’s hair, precisely placed in the 7,30 m (24 ft) stupa that crowns the rock.

This incredible balancing boulder stupa is about 20km from the little town of Kyaiktiyo, which is midway between Bago and Thaton. The delicately placed gold leaf covered boulder right atop of the Kyaiktiyo Mountain is one of the most sacred Buddhist sites in Myanmar.

There are amazing sunsets and the huge rock shows its most beautiful colors during dawn, while the pilgrims light candles and meditate all through the night.

GOLDEN ROCK HOTEL (3*, Deluxe room)

GOLDEN ROCK HOTEL (3*, Standard room)

GOLDEN ROCK HOTEL (3*, Standard room)



Day 03

HPA-AN

Today you will drive from Kyaiktiyo to Hpa-An. The driving time will be approximately four hours.

Hpa-An is the capital of the Kayin State with approximately 50.000 inhabitants, located on the banks of the tranquil Thanlwin River. Although it is indeed a small town, it is also a bustling commercial center. Pha-An was only recently discovered as a tourist destination. The surroundings are famous for its large, bizarre cave labyrinths which are decorated with Buddha images.



HOTEL ZWEKABIN (3*, Deluxe room)

HOTEL ZWEKABIN (3*, Premier room)

HOTEL ZWEKABIN (3*, Superior room)

Day 04

MAWLAMYAING

In the morning, our driver and guide will pick you up from your hotel and you will start your trip to Mawlamyaing.

Mawlamyaing (or Moulmein) is the historical capital of the Mon State and with about 250.000 inhabitants one of the largest cities in Myanmar.

The name comes from the legend of Mot-Mua-Lum (“destroyed eye”) which tells of a Mon king who had a third eye that was in the middle of his forehead and which had the power to see what was happening in the surrounding kingdoms. The ruler of a neighbouring kingdom gave him his daughter for marriage, but she maliciously destroyed the all-seeing third eye.

The atmosphere of post-colonial decay is more palpable here than in the fast-developing Yangon or Mandalay; it’s also an attractive, tropical town with hills on one side and the sea on the other. George Orwell (author of “Burmese Days”) was stationed here for a time in the 1920s during his service with the Indian Imperial Police.

NGWE MOE HOTEL (3*, Standard room)



Day 05

MAWLAMYAING



Today you will enjoy another full day of excursion in and around Mawlamyaing.

Mawlamyaing's central market, *Zaygyi*, is a rambling area on the western side of South Bogyoke Lan, just north of the main pedestrian jetty for Mottama. This market specializes in dry goods, from inexpensive 'bale' clothes to house wares. Much of the merchandise includes items that have 'fallen off the boat' on the way from Singapore to Yangon, such as untaxed cigarettes and liquor.

Gaungse Kyun (Shampoo Island): This picturesque little isle off Mawlamyaing's north-western end is named so, because during the Ava period the yearly royal hair washing ceremony customarily used water taken from a spring on this island.

You can hire a boat to get to the island. You can visit Sandawshin Paya, a silver zedi said to contain hair relics, and a nearby Buddhist meditation centre.

NGWE MOE HOTEL (3*, Standard room)

Day 06

MUDON & KYAIKKAMI

Today you will drive via Mudon to Kyaikkami. In Mudon you will visit the longest reclining Buddha of the world.

Kyaikkami is formerly known as Amherst, named after William Amherst, 1st Earl Amherst, then governor-general. It is situated on a peninsula about 48 km (30 mi) south of the town of Mawlamyine. It is a popular destination for local pilgrims and some tourists. The town has an interesting pagoda (Kyaikkami Ye Le Paya) just constructed on the sea,



using the natural foundation of its ocean reefs, which is connected with the corridor to the beach and always attracts the people for the festival of donations over the sea-tides.

NGWE MOE HOTEL (3*, Standard room)

Day 07

BAGO & YANGON

Today you will drive from Mawlamyaing back to Yangon. On the way we might make a stop in the city of Bago which was reputedly founded in 573 AD by two Mon princes from Thaton. During the late Mon dynastic period it became the center of the Mon kingdom. The city is also famous for its huge reclining Buddha, which measures 55 meter in length and was originally built in 994 AD.

Sights in Bago:

Shwemawdaw Paya: is said to be over 1.000 years old, originally built by the Mon. It is 114 meters high and can be seen even from far away. The pagoda has a long history of destruction due to earthquakes and reconstruction; it finally reached today's height in 1954, after a levelling of the stupa in a massive earthquake in 1930. The mouth of the two guardian beasts at the west entrance contains two Mahayana bodhisattvas.

Kanbawzathadi Palace & Museum: a former Mon palace, walled in the Mon style, with a square measurement along each side of 1.8 km. The palace housed King Bayinnaung from 1553 to 1599, who established the 2nd Union of Myanmar. It features the newly rebuilt audience hall and the king's apartment. The entire compound has been surrounded by a teak stockade, a few stumps of which can be seen in the new museum. The museum displays Mon, Siamese and Bagan style Buddhas.

Hintha Gon Paya: a shrine, built by U Khanti, who already built Mandalay Hill. It is supposed to be the point rising from the sea, when the *hintha* (mythological bird) landed here. It offers a brilliant view over Bago and the region.

Shwethalyaung Buddha: a huge reclining Buddha. It is reported to be one of the most lifelike of all reclining Buddhas. Originally it was built in 994 AD of brick and stucco by the Mon king Migadepa II.

Mahazedi Paya: Originally constructed in 1560 AD by King Bayinnaung, it was destroyed during the sack of Bago in 1757, it wasn't rebuilt and the earthquake in 1930 levelled it nearly out. The current reconstruction was only completed in 1982. There is a nice surrounding view from the top. The duplicate tooth of the Buddha and emerald bowl of King Kandy from Sri Lanka was once enshrined here and is now in the Kaunghmudaw Paya in Sagaing.

Shwegugale Paya: this zedi dates back to 1494 and the reign of King Byinnya Yan, while it looks fairly modern. It features a dark *gu* (tunnel) with 64 seated Buddha images inside.



Kyaik Pun Paya: built in 1476 by King Dhammazedi, it consists of four 30 meter high seated Buddhas placed back to back in the four heavens directions. A legend says, that there were four Mon sisters connected with the construction and if any of them should marry, one of the Buddhas would collapse.

SAVOY HOTEL (5*, Deluxe room)

PARK ROYAL HOTEL (4*, Superior room)

THAMADA HOTEL (2*, Superior room)

Day 08

SITTWE

Today you will be transferred to the domestic airport for your flight from Yangon to Sittwe.

Sittwe is the capital of the Rakhine State and there are quiet some interesting sights to visit in Sittwe, for example some monasteries, which feature old artefacts and coins from Mrauk Oo, the Payagyi Temple with its Rakhine-style sitting Buddha image cast in 1900 and the Aha Tan Kyaung Pagoda. This particular pagoda is fairly new (5 years) and houses a lot of Buddha images cast in the typical kind of different countries like Nepal, Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia, Indian, Bangladesh, China, Japan and Indonesia.

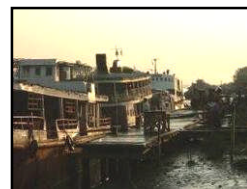
During sunset you can enjoy a nice scenery from "The Point" at the confluence of the Kaladan River and the Bay of Bengal. Very interesting as well is the market in Sittwe and the Indian/Bangladesh fishing village, located north-east of the city center.

NOBEL HOTEL (2*, Standard room)

Days 09 & 10

MRAUK OO

After Breakfast, you will be transferred to the jetty for the boat to Mrauk Oo. The ferry ride takes about five hours and you can enjoy the view along the river. In Mrauk Oo you will be picked up at the jetty and transferred to the hotel.



Mrauk Oo is the old capital of the powerful Rakhine kingdom with a 3.000-year-old history. In the 16th century Mrauk Oo was a large and important free port. Today it is an archaeological complex with several extremely interesting buildings and temples. The most impressive one is the massive Shittaung Temple that enshrines 80.000 images of Buddha. Its interior walls are engraved with over 1.000 Buddhist images.

Temples & Pagodas of Mrauk Oo:

Ratanabon Pagoda: was build by King Minkhamaung in 1612. Interesting are the sandstone Chintes (half lion / half dragon guardians) at each of the four corners.

Shittaung: most complex and well preserved, unfortunately partly newly renovated, temple. It was constructed in 1535 by King Minbin, the most powerful of the Rakhine kings. In reference to the number of holy images inside the temple the name means "Shrine of the 80.000 Images".

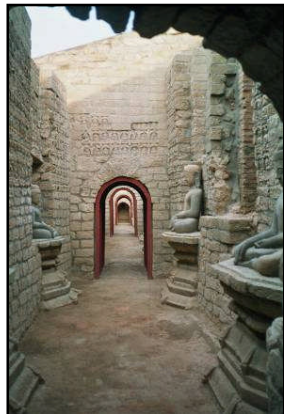
Andaw Thein: King Minrazagi rebuilt this Paya, formerly constructed in 1521 by King Minhlaraza, in 1596 to enshrine a tooth relict brought from Sri Lanka by King Minbin. While Shittaung features three square passages inside the temple Andaw Thein has two passages around an eight side pillar, which supports the roof.

Htukkanthein: is a very impressive Temple with a spiral passage, which leads to an egg-shaped Buddha chamber. The tall entranceway on the east side admits light into this chamber. From outside it really looks like a huge bunker and would have easily provided a good refugee for King Minphalaung, who erected this temple in 1571, in the case of any attack.

Laymyathar: is the oldest temple in Mrauk, from 1430, built by King Minsawmon.

Laungbonprauk Pagoda: King Minsalotasawmon ordered to build this monument in 1525. It features nice tiles in different colors, symbolizing flowers, on the wall surrounding this Paya. It has formerly reached a height of 37m, nowadays it measures 23m.

Anoma Image: this beautiful ornamented and large Buddha image was donated in 1501 by Princess Anozza. It faces east towards the rising sun, but funny wise there is a large hill eastwards directly in front of it.



Lawkamaung: built by King Sandathu Dama Raza in 1685, very famous for the guinea-pig-guards, surrounding the base. He chose the guinea-pig since he himself was born on a Friday, and this animal is the Buddhism symbol for all Friday-born.

The museum within the old palace walls is a very interesting sight as well, which features a good collection of religious sculptures and other artefacts. Very nice are also the small places of Bronze casting at Nyaung Bon Zay or the repairing place for Ox and Horse carts near the Moe Cherry restaurant.

MRAUK OO PRINCESS RESORT (5*, Village House)

NAWARAT HOTEL (3*, Superior room)

NAWARAT HOTEL (3*, Standard room)

Day 11

MRAUK OO

Today you will experience an interesting excursion by boat. You will visit some Chin Villages north of Mrauk Oo, on the bank of Laymro River. The elder ladies are famous for their completely tattooed faces.

Afterwards we will return to Mrauk Oo.

MRAUK OO PRINCESS RESORT (5*, Village House)

NAWARAT HOTEL (3*, Superior room)

NAWARAT HOTEL (3*, Standard room)

Days 12-15

NGAPALI BEACH

In the early morning will bring you to the airport in Sittwe for your flight to Thandwe.

In Thandwe you will be picked up at the airport by a colleague of the resort and proceed to the beach.

There are several beautiful beaches in Myanmar, all ideal for relaxation, but Ngapali is surely the most beautiful and most accessible one via direct flights to Thandwe from Yangon, Nyaung Oo (Bagan), Sittwe and Heho (Inle Lake).





In Ngapali you will find unspoiled white sandy beaches and crystal-clear water for snorkelling, sailing and wind surfing. Relax in the shade of palm trees, wander along the silver sands and watch the fishermen during their daily catch or just let the breeze from the Bay of Bengal clear your mind.

BAYVIEW BEACH RESORT (4*, Deluxe Beach Front Room)

SILVER BEACH RESORT (3*, Suite)

SILVER BEACH RESORT (3*, Standard room)

Day 15

YANGON



In the afternoon you will be brought to the Thandwe Airport and fly back to Yangon. We will accompany you to your hotel in Yangon for a last night in the South East Asian Garden City.

Enjoy the rest of the day with leisure or with shopping and further sightseeing.

SAVOY HOTEL (5*, Deluxe room)

PARK ROYAL HOTEL (4*, Superior room)

THAMADA HOTEL (2*, Superior room)

Day 16

YANGON

Transfer to the Yangon International Airport for your departure from Myanmar full of unforgettable memories of a truly unique country.

***We would be very happy if you would allow us
the pleasure of arranging your tour!***

We would be more than happy to tailor the above mentioned tour to fit your needs and timeframe whereby we can then quote you an individual price for the tour.

Please contact us we look forward to being of service to you!
Our initial offer is strictly *without obligation* and free-of-charge.

The prices include:

- Accommodation at the above mentioned hotels in double or single occupancy incl. breakfast
- Transportation for excursions and sightseeing with a private car or minibus with driver and A/C
- Truck fees at the Golden Rock
- Domestic flights incl. airport transfers
- Cruise on a local boat from Sittwe to Mrauk Oo and back
- Cruise to the Chin Tribes
- English speaking station guides at each destination (except at the beach and the will be a supplement for a guide who speaks another language (German, Italian, French, Russian, etc.))
- Government tax
- Admission- & zone fees

The prices do not include:

- Any personal expenses for souvenirs, lunch, dinner, tips, etc.
- International flights & airport fees for departing Myanmar (USD 10,- per person)



- Travel insurance (We strongly recommend to purchase a travel insurance covering medical evacuation before your trip.)
- Visa arrangements
- All other services not mentioned in inclusions

GENERAL REMARKS:

- There is a hotel surcharge and some extra compulsory services for reservations in special times (New Year, Christmas, etc.). Any change of the itinerary or number of participants is subject to price change.
- For any modification of date or itinerary the prices can be revised.
- Usually the room will be available only from 14:00 on the arrival date to 12:00 on the departure date. Depending on the hotels policy, the supplement will be added for early check-in or late check-out.
- The cost of the air tickets are subject to change without prior notice by the airlines.