



MYANMAR (BURMA)

“ I travel because I like to move from place to place.
I enjoy the sense of freedom it gives me.
It pleases me to be rid of ties, responsibilities, duties.
I like the unknown.
I have the notion that by travel I can add to my
personality and so change myself a little.
I do not bring back from a journey quite the same
self that I took. ”

Somerset Maugham “Gentleman in the Parlour”, 1935

MINGALABAR AND WELCOME! TO THE TOURISM WORLD'S BEST-KEPT SECRET - MYANMAR!



To encounter this unique country is something very special indeed – its millennium-old history, countless ancient temples and pagodas, unspoiled nature, beautiful beaches and, not least, the warm hospitality of the Burmese people invariably cast their spell on visitors!

Hardly any other Asian country has preserved as much of its cultural authenticity as Myanmar.

UNITEAM Tours & Travel, established in 1992 in Yangon (Rangoon), specializes in designing and carrying out individual excursions and group tours in Myanmar (Burma). The goal of our teams in Yangon and Hamburg is to serve every customer individually, helping them customize a trip that meets their special wishes or recommending tours that have proven to be rewarding and popular.

In Myanmar, we are supported at all major destinations by professional and reliable tour leaders to ensure that you are optimally looked after. We and our experienced guides are committed to making your stay in Myanmar a thoroughly enjoyable and unforgettable experience.

In addition, UNITEAM Tours & Travel is available to plan your trips to other parts of Asia. Together with our trusted network of partner agencies, we can also arrange tours to Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, China and Taiwan.

We organise:

- individually customised tours in Myanmar
- group tours
- accommodations
- national and international flight bookings
- car rental with driver
- incentive programmes
- scenic day-trips
- sailing cruises through the Mergui Archipelago in the Andaman Sea
- tours in Asia

UNITEAM Tours & Travel relies exclusively on the finest available accommodations and transportation. We regularly inspect and examine hotels in all categories, restaurants, airlines, automobiles and boats as well as our tour guides in order to ensure that your trip is filled with only pleasant surprises. Optimal preparation and organization and the consideration of each special wish of our guests are all of the utmost importance to us, as are safety, service and the preservation of Myanmar's culture.

We will be pleased to send you detailed travel suggestions, including information and prices for the various hotel categories and transport mode of your choice. We can provide either a single guide to accompany you on the entire tour, or a different guide at each stop during your journey. Our guides are primarily fluent in English, but some are also available for tours in German, French, Russian, Spanish and other languages.

UNITEAM Tours & Travel looks forward to welcoming and serving you in Myanmar.

MYANMAR

To visit Myanmar (Burma) is to step into another world – a land of spellbinding aromas, sights and sensations, with a truly unique atmosphere.

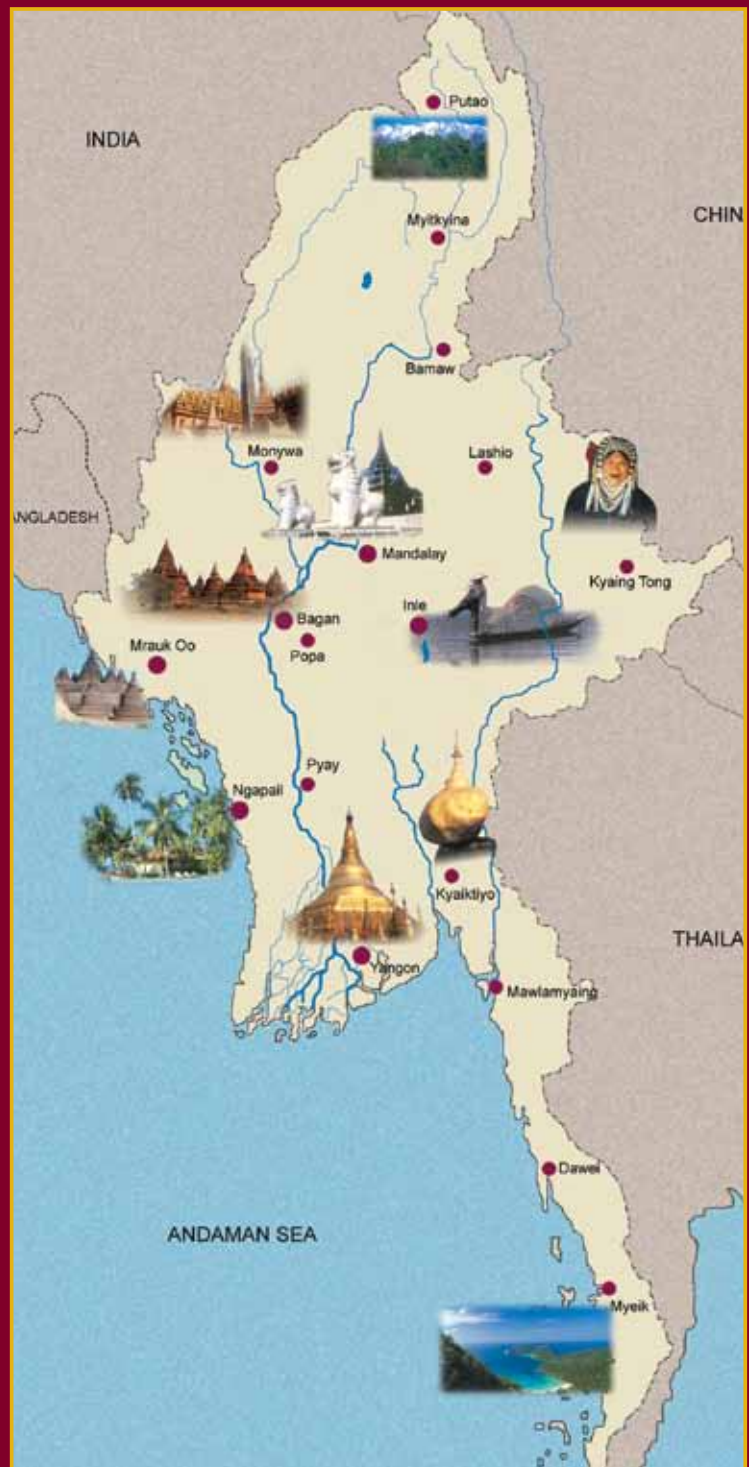
In Myanmar, there are over 130 ethnic groups and a variety of different languages and cultural features, many of them found only in the remote mountainous regions.

Yangon, the former capital of Myanmar, is a melting pot of the traditional and the contemporary, where authentic Burmese culture mingles with a colonial legacy that is still present decades after the British departure. The city pulsates to the vibrant rhythm of its streets, bustling with what makes this country so special: its people.

Let yourself be inspired by stately processions of monks robed in saffron and purple, shaven-headed nuns seeking alms, and elegant Burmese ladies adorned with yellow *thanakha* paste. Young and old alike linger in teashops, gossiping, smoking traditional fragrant Burmese cheroots, dressed as they have for centuries in the traditional *longyi* or *htamein*.

The beaches in this part of the world are almost uniquely unspoiled, timeless Ngapali Beach being perhaps the most typical of all. Relax in the shade of palm trees, wander along the silver sands, watch the fishermen at their daily catch or just let the breeze from the Bay of Bengal clear your mind.

Wherever you go you will catch glimpses of earlier times – real or imagined – but it is the hospitality and friendliness of the people of this “golden land” that is most striking – their tolerance of different religions and cultures, respect for each other and heartfelt smiles. It is this perhaps more than anything else that makes Myanmar the unique and fascinating country it is.



HIGHLIGHTS



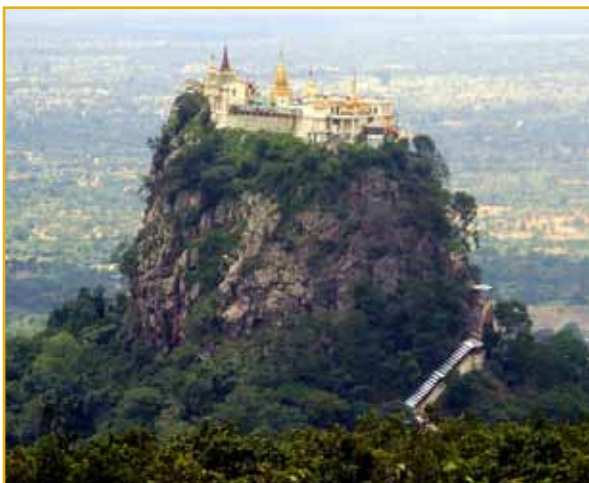
Bagan

Bagan

This deserted ancient city alongside the Irrawaddy River is home to over 2000 temples and pagodas covering an area of around 40 square km. Myanmar's greatest wonder, and by far its largest attraction, it is one of the most remarkable archaeological sites in Asia and represents the spiritual heritage of ancient Burma.

"Pagan is in many ways the most extraordinary and religious city in the world. Jerusalem, Rome, Kiev, Benares, none boast such an immense number of temples, with such a riot of forms and ornamentation, as this wonderful deserted capital on the Irrawaddy... The whole area is dense with pagodas of every form and size, even the ground is littered with temple ruins so that it is said you can't move your hand or feet without touching a sacred fragment."

Shway Yoe (Sir James Scott) "The Burman: His Life and Notions", 1882



Mount Popa

Mount Popa

Also known as the "flower mountain". 777 steep stairs lead up the 737-metre (2417-ft) peak of its extinct volcanic vent (Taung Kalat) with pagodas and small temples perched at the summit. This, the abode of the country's most powerful Nats (sacred spirits), offers an entrancing view across the plains of upper Myanmar.

Mandalay

Mandalay, Myanmar's second largest city, was the last capital of the Burmese kingdom and is considered the country's cultural heartland. As an important trade centre, it is home to some of Myanmar's most important pagodas as well as its finest handicraft workshops.

Three ancient capital cities – Ava, Sagaing and Amarapura – are within easy reach of Mandalay and well worth a side trip. Just across the Irrawaddy River and a short but fascinating boat ride away is Mingun, home to one of the largest intact bells in existence as well as the earthquake-ravaged base of an unfinished pagoda, which would have been the tallest in the world.

"For the wind is in the palm-trees, and the temple-bells they say: 'Come you back, you British soldier; come you back to Mandalay!'"

Rudyard Kipling, "Mandalay" (1890)



Mandalay

Monywa

Monywa is a lovely town, situated on the eastern bank of the Chindwin River, and a major trade centre for agricultural products from the surrounding Chindwin Valley. It is the gateway to the magnificent Thanboddhay pagoda complex, with 7350 statues and almost 600,000 sacred images of the Buddha, as well as the impressive sandstone Hpo Win Daung Caves.



Monywa

Inle Lake

Inle Lake is 22 km (14 mi) long, about 11 km (7 mi) wide and lies a comfortable 875 m (2871 ft) above sea level. It is very shallow, only 2 to 3 m (7-10 ft) deep, surrounded by high plateaus and overlooked by the misty Shan mountains. The lake is home to the Intha people, who have adapted to their environment by building whole villages rising on stilts from the shallow waters. Lake dwellers grow an array of flowers and vegetables in picturesque



Inle Lake

floating gardens and fields, tended by workers in canoes. They have become famous for their unique one-leg rowing technique.

Pindaya

Pindaya is a peaceful little town in a beautiful rural setting. It is famous for its labyrinthine caves, which house over 8000 Buddha images of varying sizes. Pindaya is mainly inhabited by Danu people, and the villages around it mostly by members of the Pa-O tribe. The town is a starting point for treks further afield to the hill villages of the Palaung, Taungyo and Danu tribes.



Pindaya



Taunggyi / Kakku

Taunggyi is a bustling mountain town on one of the major trade routes to China. Its market is a magnet for tribal people from all over the region. South of the city, a two-hour drive away through Pa-O tribal villages, is the famous but little-visited site of Kakku with 2478 stupas surrounding a 2000-year-old pagoda.

Kalaw

Kalaw is a quiet town at 1320 m (4331 ft) above sea level on the western edge of the Shan Plateau. Formerly a popular British hill station, it retains an atmosphere reminiscent of the colonial era. Kalaw also serves as a good starting point for interesting one- to five-day treks and hikes into the surrounding mountains, home to hill tribes such as the Palaung, Pa-O, Taungthu, Taungyo and Danu, to mention but a few.



Kalaw - women of the Akha-tribe

Putao

Located at the foot of the Himalayas, Putao is the northernmost town in Myanmar. Reachable all year round only by plane, it serves as the starting point for trekking and hiking tours through local villages, home to tribes including the Lisu and Rawang. In the surrounding mountains many rare species of animals can be found - making this area particularly attractive to bird watchers. This region of the Himalayas is one of the last areas of subtropical rain forest. Putao is also the starting point for treks to Hkakabo Razi, with an elevation of 5881 m (19,295 ft) the highest mountain in Southeast Asia.



Putao

Kyaing Tong (Kengtung)

Kyaing Tong is the sleepy but historic capital of the Shan state's Khun culture, strategically located near Myanmar's borders with Thailand, China and Laos. The fascinating nearby Tong, Wa, Shan, Akha and Lahu villages can all be reached by foot from Kyaing Tong.



Yangon

Pyin Oo Lwin

A former British hill station located in the Shan hills east of Mandalay at an altitude of 1070 m (3510 ft), Pyin Oo Lwin offers many examples of colonial architecture, transport in traditional stagecoaches and a beautiful botanical garden. It is also called the “city of flowers”, which bloom here the year round. Its forested country lanes provide a welcome respite from the heat of the plains.



Pyin Oo Lwin

Lashio

With over 500,000 inhabitants, most of them Chinese and Shan, Lashio is the largest city in the northern Shan state. It is located at the southern end of the famous Burma Road, linking the country to China and used by the British in World War II. Also of interest are a morning visit to the central market, with its colourful mix of ethnic groups, and the hot springs on the road to Mu Se.

Bamaw

Bamaw is a small town near the Chinese border. Its daily market draws many people of the surrounding Lisu, Kachin and Shan tribes. Of particular interest are the overgrown city wall ruins of Sampanago (now known as Bhamo), 5 km (3 mi) east of Bamaw, capital of an ancient Shan kingdom.

“Beyond the Club, the Irrawaddy flowed huge and ochreous, glittering like diamonds in the patches that caught the sun; and beyond the river stretched great wastes of paddy fields, ending at the horizon in a range of blackish hills.”

George Orwell's novel *Burmese Days* (1934)



Myitkyina

Myitkyina, situated on the Irrawaddy five hours by car north of Bamaw, is the capital of Kachin state. The city, though not otherwise of particular interest, is famous for its abundance of fruits and makes a good starting point for visits to the many Kachin villages.

Yangon

Yangon is the former capital of Myanmar. The city, with a population of over 5 million inhabitants, is lined by the Yangon River on the west and the Bago River on the south. Compared with other Asian cities of similar size, it gives the impression of being green and full of trees, above which shimmering stupas seem to float. The most famous and most revered monument in Yangon is the glittering Shwedagon (also known as the Golden) 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.

"Then, a golden mystery upheaved itself on the horizon, a beautiful winking wonder that blazed in the sun, of a shape that was neither Muslim dome nor Hindu temple-spire... 'There's the old Shway Dagon', said my companion... 'This is Burma, and it will be quite unlike any land you know about'."

Rudyard Kipling, *Letters from the East*, 1889



Yangon at night

Mawlamyaing

Mawlamyaing (or Moulmein) is the historical capital of 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



Mawlamyaing

was happening in the surrounding kingdoms. The ruler of a neighbouring kingdom gave him his daughter in marriage, but she maliciously destroyed the all-seeing third eye.

From 1827-52 Mawlamyaing was the capital of British Burma, and at the time also an important port in the teak trade. An atmosphere of post-colonial decay is still palpable in this attractive tropical city of stupas, situated between the mountains and the sea. Nearby is the famous Kyaiktiyo Pagoda ("Golden Rock"). Other destinations in the vicinity of Mawlamyaing include Pha An, Kyaikkami and the world's largest lying Buddha in Mudon.

"By the old Moulmein Pagoda, lookin' lazy at the sea, there's a Burma girl a-settin', and I know she think o' me."

Rudyard Kipling, *"Mandalay"* (1890)



Hpa-An



Bago, lying Buddha

Bago

According to legend, Bago was founded in 573 AD by two Mon princes from Thaton. During the late dynastic period it became the capital of the Mon kingdom. The city is famous for its huge reclining Buddha, constructed in 994 AD, which measures 55 m (177 ft) in length.

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 the Buddha’s hair precisely placed in the 7.3 m (24 ft) stupa that crowns the rock.



The Golden Rock

Mrauk Oo

Old capital of the powerful Rakhine kingdom, with a 3000-year 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 is the massive Shittaung (Shite-thaung) Temple that enshrines 80,000 images of Buddha. Its interior walls are engraved with over 1000 Buddhist images.



Mrauk Oo

Ngapali Beach

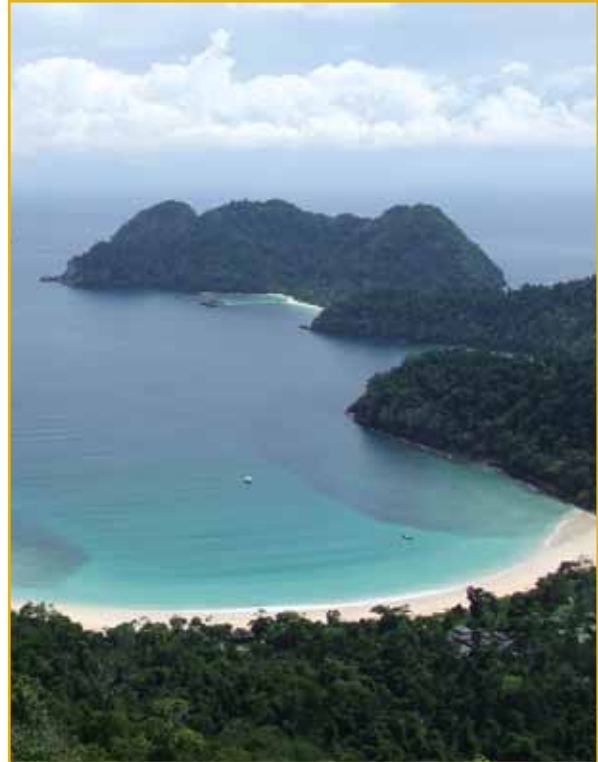
There are several beautiful beaches in Myanmar, all ideal for relaxation, but Ngapali is surely the most beautiful and most accessible, via direct flights to Thandwe from Yangon and Heho. In Ngapali you will find unspoiled white sandy beaches and crystal-clear water for snorkelling, sailing and wind surfing.

Mergui Archipelago in the Andaman Sea

Comprising some 800 islands in the far south of Myanmar, the Mergui Archipelago represents one of the world's last remaining untouched paradises. Though a few are temporary homes to local sea gypsies who sail between them, most of the islands are uninhabited. They are densely forested and mountainous, with jungle coming down to meet white sand beaches and profuse fauna including sea eagles, parakeets, monkeys, leopards, elephants and rhinoceros. On the coasts are numerous natural harbours providing a wide range of day and overnight anchorages. There is a bay for every boat, in any weather. The scuba diving is world class, especially off the islands furthest from the mainland. Even for the casual snorkeller there is much to discover around all the islands.

The charters of our sister company UNITEAM YACHTING sail back and forth between Myeik (Mergui) in the north and Kawthaung in the

south, allowing visitors to see as much of the archipelago as possible. Both places have nearby airports providing easy transfers from Yangon. (www.uniteamyachting.com)



Andaman Sea



Ngapali Beach

MYANMAR – 12-DAY TOUR

We will gladly individualize your itinerary to fit your specific wishes. Here is one example of what your stay in Myanmar could look like.



Bagan

1 st Day ARRIVAL IN YANGON

Yangon, with about 5 million inhabitants, is the largest city in Myanmar. Unlike many Asian cities of comparable size, it gives the impression of being green and full of trees, towering above which are shimmering golden pagodas. At sunset, you will visit the 2500 year old Shwedagon Pagoda.

[2 nights in Yangon]

2 nd Day YANGON

Your morning tour begins in the colonial heart of the city, including the famous Scott Market and the gilded Sule Pagoda followed by the Botataung Pagoda near the port. On the way to the huge Buddha at Chaukhtatgyi Pagoda, you will enjoy a fantastic view of Kandawgyi (Great Royal) Lake, whose waters reflect the Karaweik, the replica of Burmese royal barge.



Yangon



Inle Lake

3rd Day **PINDAYA - INLE LAKE**

After a flight from Yangon to Heho, we go by car to the peaceful little town of Pindaya. There we visit the famous caves with over 8000 Buddha statues made of alabaster, teak, marble, brick, paint and cement. A local factory allows a detailed look at the making of Burma's beautiful and famous Shan paper and the umbrellas which are made of it.

In the afternoon we'll drive about 2 ½ hours to Nyaung Shwe, where a boat will take us to the hotel on Inle Lake. [3 nights on Inle Lake]



Sagar

4th Day **SAGAR**

Shallow – only 2-3 metres deep – and surrounded by the misty Shan Mountains, Inle Lake is the home of the Intha people, who have adapted to their watery environment, building whole villages on stilts. The lake people, famous for their unique one-leg rowing technique, grow a variety of flowers and vegetables on their floating gardens and tend them from their canoes.

From there we go to Sagar, site of simple but beautiful old pagodas surrounded by many smaller stupas. The pleasant two-hour boat ride down the river that flows south from Inle Lake passes ancient shrines and pagodas as it takes us through the “Tuscany of Myanmar”, with colourful fields of green, yellow and brown nestled on the slopes of the Shan Plateau.

5th Day **INLE LAKE**

In the morning the tour begins on the lake with a ride to Ywama village, which has a floating market every 5th day. You'll visit handicraft shops and gold- and silversmiths. Its main pagoda, dating from 1094, which is surrounded by many ancient stupas, makes Indaing a site of special interest. The Indaing Pagoda is the original home of Inle Lake's famous five Hpaung Daw U Buddha images.

Hpaung Daw U Pagoda is the holiest religious site in the southern area of the Shan state. You will also visit silk weavers and the famous Nga Phe monastery “of the jumping cats”.

6th Day MANDALAY

After a flight from Heho, near Inle Lake, to Mandalay, capital of the last Burmese kingdom and Myanmar's second largest city, we visit various places of interest, including Mahamuni Pagoda, the famous Shwe Inbin Monastery with its ancient carvings, the Shwe Nandaw (Mandalay Palace) and Kuthodaw Pagoda, whose 729 stupas are known as "the world's largest book". Mandalay is the site of Myanmar's finest craftsmen as well as its cultural heart, so we will also visit the city's marble and gold-leaf workshops and its bronze foundries. At sunset, we will climb Mandalay Hill and take in the impressive view across the Irrawaddy River. [2 nights in Mandalay]

7th Day AVA, SAGAING & AMARAPURA

On our way to the old cities of Ava, Sagaing and Amarapura, we stop at Shwe Kyet Yet village to enjoy a magnificent view from Sagaing Hill over the Irrawaddy River in the morning sun.

We will visit Ava by traditional horse-drawn carriages which will take us to the old wooden Baga Yar Monastery, the square Le Thagi Pagoda from the 14th century, to Lawka Htut Khaung and to Nan Myint, an old watchtower.

Another interesting stop can be added to the

itinerary in order to observe the various stages in manufacturing the familiar alms bowls that all monks carry. On the other side of the Irrawaddy River is Sagaing, where you will visit Umin Thounzeh (30-Cave Pagoda) and the U Ponya Soon Shin Paya, which offers an excellent view of the Irrawaddy River and the pagoda-studded slopes of the Sagaing Hills. At sunset our day ends at the 18th-century capital Amarapura with a stroll across the U Bein Bridge, the longest teak bridge in the world (1.2 km/0.75 mi).

8th Day MONYWA

Early in the morning we will drive about 2 ½ hours to Monywa, a lovely town on the eastern banks of the Chindwin River. There we'll visit the magnificent Thahboddhay pagoda complex with its 845 stupas, 7350 statues and nearly 600,000 sacred images. [1 night in Monywa]

9th Day MONYWA - PAKOKKU - BAGAN

Today we travel via Pakokku to Bagan. En route we visit the magnificent Hpo Win Daung sandstone caves with their splendid murals and beautiful Buddha images. Right nearby, an impressive stairway between high walls leads down the steep hill to the Shwe Ba Taung Paya complex.



Sagaing



U Bein bridge

At Pakokku we cross the Irrawaddy by ferry and continue on to Bagan. This deserted ancient city is one of the most important remarkable archaeological sites in Asia and represents the spiritual heritage of ancient Burma. Located on the banks of the Irrawaddy, Bagan is Myanmar's largest attraction, with over 2000 pagodas and temples covering an area of 40 km² (15 sq mi). [3 nights in Bagan]

10th Day BAGAN

We begin our visit to the plains of Bagan at the 11th-century Ananda Temple, one of the largest, most beautiful and revered temples in Bagan. Ananda has four large wooden standing Buddhas, two of which seem to change facial expressions as you approach. You will then view the huge 12th-century Dhammayangyi Temple, which resembles a pyramid and is known for its remarkable brickwork; Dhamma-ya-za-ka, a 12th-century pagoda in the temple style with old stucco, sculptures and carvings; and Sitana Gyi, the only pagoda in Bagan built in Sri Lankan style. Enjoy the sunset from the Mingalarzedi (13th c.) or Shwe San Daw (11th c.) pagoda or ask your tour guide about a boat trip on the river. We can also arrange a trip with a hot air balloon from where you can enjoy a fantastic view.

11th Day SALAY & MOUNT POPA

After breakfast we drive about 1 ½ hours to the town of Salay, a colourful ancient religious centre in central Myanmar. Here you'll visit the Youqson

Kyaung, a 150-year-old wooden monastery with unique wood carvings and beautiful ceiling work. In Mogok Vipassana Yeikthar, a meditation centre, you can look into a hollow three-metre-high lacquer Buddha (Nan Paya).

After another drive of about 1 ½ hours, we will reach Mount Popa, the "Flower Mountain". 777 steep steps lead up to the 737-metre (2417-ft) peak of its extinct volcanic vent (Taung Kalat), with pagodas and temples and a fantastic view. After the descent and before returning to Bagan, we can view the whole of Mount Popa – home of 37 powerful nats (spirits) – from a distance with drink in hand: at the bar of the Popa Mountain Resort.



Bagan

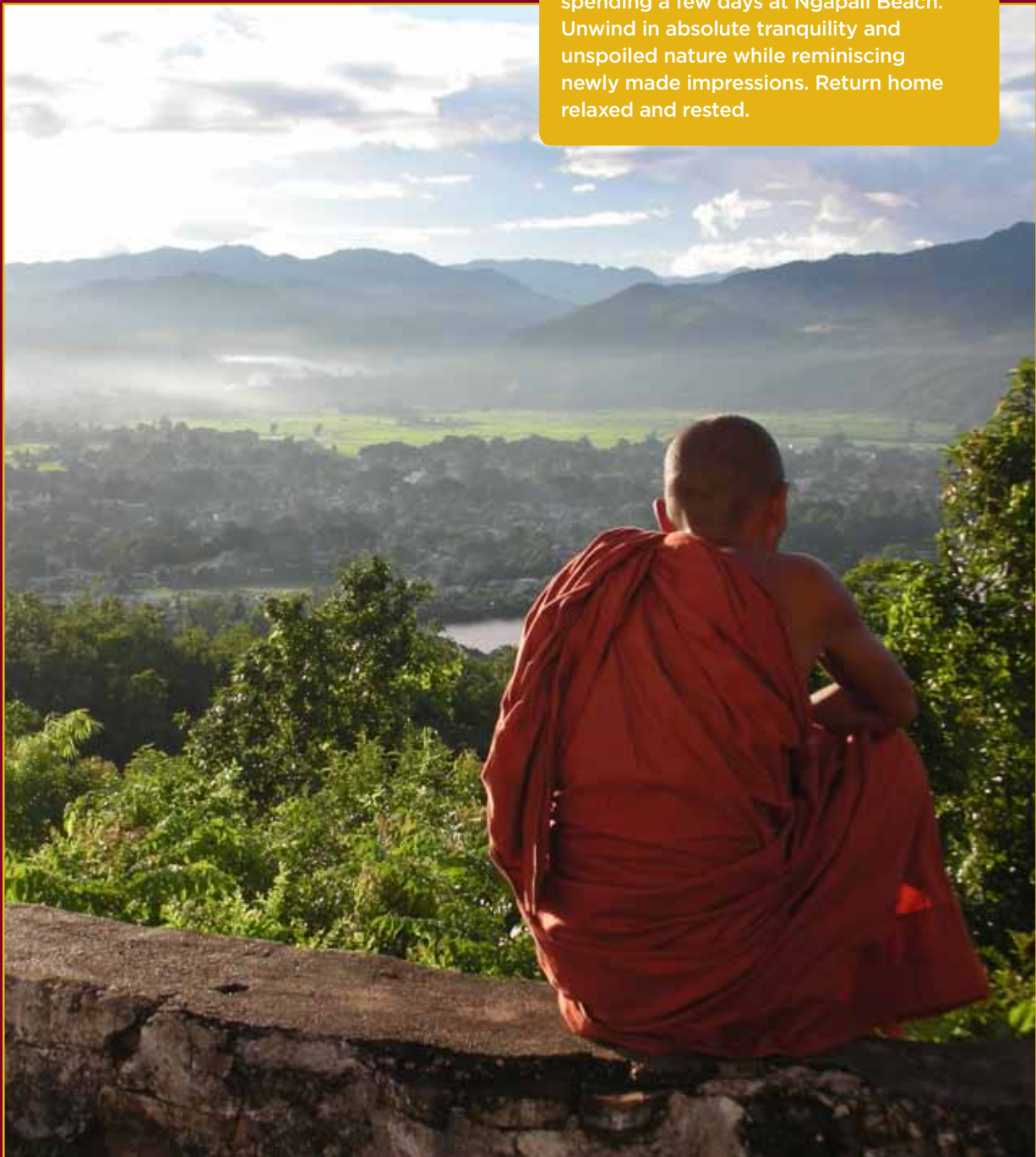
12th Day
BAGAN - YANGON -
DEPARTURE FROM MYANMAR

You'll fly from Bagan's Nyaung U airport back to Yangon and, depending on the departure time of your international flight, we will have a day room at the airport hotel available for you, before we take you to the international airport for departure from Myanmar.

You are sure to return home filled with unforgettable impressions of a truly unique country.



After touring Myanmar we recommend spending a few days at Ngapali Beach. Unwind in absolute tranquility and unspoiled nature while reminiscing newly made impressions. Return home relaxed and rested.



GENERAL TRAVEL INFORMATION

Climate

Myanmar has a tropical climate with only three seasons: The cool season from October to February, is dry, with temperatures between 21° and 28° C (70-82° F). The hot season lasts from March to May with average temperatures above 30° C (86° F), on occasion exceeding 40° C (104° F). The rainy season is from late May to early October, with frequent downpours and high humidity.

Health recommendations

When entering Myanmar from Europe, vaccination is not mandatory but is recommended against hepatitis, polio, diphtheria, tetanus and typhoid. Please consult your doctor or an institute for tropical medicine.

Mosquitoes: After sunset, good protection is provided by long-sleeved clothing and insect repellent (please bring it with you, as it is difficult to obtain locally). Avoid perfume and perfumed soap.

Malaria: The cities on the classical tours are free of malaria, but there is a slight risk at Inle Lake. Normally a sufficient precaution is simply to bring along an antimalarial drug. In the more remote trekking areas, it is essential to use an adequate mosquito repellent.

Drink only bottled water and take caution in eating from small local restaurants.

Visa Requirements

Foreign visitors need a visa for entry into Myanmar. The regular tourist visa is valid for 28 days and may either be applied for in advance from a diplomatic representative of Myanmar or for a fee directly upon arrival at Yangon International Airport. Please contact us for more information!

Entry & Customs Regulations

It is necessary to declare upon arrival all valuables such as cameras, electronic equipment, jewellery etc. For jewellery or diamonds acquired while in the country, you may need an export licence. Proof of purchase is important: Be sure to keep all invoices as they will be requested by customs upon departure.

The immigration procedure is quick, though sometimes it is necessary to wait a bit for your luggage.

Airport Tax

Upon leaving the country, an airport tax (currently US\$10) must be paid in cash.

Domestic Airlines And Flights

Air Mandalay, Yangon Airways or Air Bagan fly to almost all destinations in Myanmar. There is a luggage restriction of 20 kg (44 lb) per person. One smaller piece of carry-on luggage per person is also allowed. It is highly advisable to leave behind in Yangon all luggage not actually required during travel in the country and to collect it on your return.

Currency

The local currency is the kyat ([tʃaʔ]). The import and export of kyats is prohibited.

IMPORTANT: Be aware that traveller's cheques and credit cards are not generally accepted in Myanmar. We recommend taking along sufficient cash in US dollars. Avoid old, dirty or torn dollar bills - they will not be

accepted. The same applies to old bills with "small heads" and US bills whose registration number begins with "CB"! Failing to follow these instructions could result in losses and financial problems during your stay in Myanmar!

In most hotels, shops and department stores with exchange licences, US \$ can be exchanged into kyats, and unused kyats can be changed back again. The tour guides will give you tips and hints.

Visa & Master cards are accepted in both our partner hotels, the Savoy Hotel in Yangon and the Bayview Beach Resort in Ngapali.

Tipping

The Burmese generally are very kind and supportive to foreign tourists without expecting anything in return. But, obviously, someone who has been helpful and friendly would be grateful for a small gratuity or gesture of thanks.

Electricity

The standard electrical current is 220 volt.

Accessibility

Leave your SIM-Cards at home: they will not work in Myanmar. In some large hotels in Yangon, you can buy telephone cards at a reasonable price, and in some hotels you can also rent mobile phones for about US\$50/day or \$300/week plus phone charges and fees. Internet access is available in some hotels and in Internet cafes. Certain e-mail accounts (for example Yahoo and Hotmail) are not available in Myanmar.

You can make international phone calls from the hotel reception desk and most rooms, but they are very expensive (about US\$ 5/min.) and not recommended. Usually the connection is pre-calculated, which means you'll have to pay even if no one at home picks up. In any case, you should check the fees before making a phone call.

Shopping

Typical Myanmar products include exquisite silver items, lacquerware, silk, wood carvings and embroidery. The export of antiques and archaeological finds older than 75 years is forbidden, as is the export of Buddha statues. Bagan has a thriving production of lacquerware. All other souvenirs and articles can be also found in Yangon at Scott Market (now officially called "Bogyoke Aung San Market").

We are committed!

As in many Asian countries there is great poverty in Myanmar and many people are in need. We are committed in particular to the welfare of children – to their healthy diet and education – and support the non-profit organisation Myanmar Development Aid (MDA), especially by helping to raise funds for an orphanage where 150 children will find a new home and a hopeful future.

It should be emphasized that the efficient organisational structure of MDA allows help to reach those in need without lengthy bureaucratic delays. There are no administrative fees whatsoever, as all members of MDA and all helping hands in Myanmar are volunteers. **100% of your donation reaches its destination!** (www.mda-ev.org)

Please visit our website www.uniteam-travel-myanmar.com for news and updates.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Booking procedure:

Reservation must be made directly with UNITEAM Tours & Travel, Ltd. in Yangon, Myanmar via email (info@uniteam-travel-myanmar.com) or fax +95-1-539348. Rates are quoted net in US Dollar and UNITEAM Tours & Travel, Ltd. reserves the right to change with or without prior notice.

Payment:

Advance payment of 30% of the total amount must be made upon confirmation of the programme. Remaining balance must be made by 1 month prior to client's arrival. Payment to be made as per arrangement, and UNITEAM Tours & Travel, Ltd. reserves the right to cancel reservations unless payment of remittance is made prior to the client's arrival.

Validity:

Prices are quoted on net basis and valid according to the date specified on the printed tariffs, quotation, invoice etc. UNITEAM Tours & Travel, Ltd. warrants that the prices or rates quoted are correct at the time of issuance but are subject to change in line with market, tax, or currency fluctuation.

Tour Cancellation:

In the event of cancellation, the client or agent will lose their deposit (as mentioned above)

- 21 to 15 days prior to tour 50% of tour cost
- 15 to 8 days prior to tour 80% of tour cost
- less than 7 days prior to tour 100% of tour cost

For cancellation of confirmed arrangements, a cancellation fee may be charged, as some hotels and airlines have a strict policy on late cancellation. In the case of changes in our suppliers' policies, UNITEAM Tours & Travel, Ltd. reserves the right to alter the cancellation policy accordingly. In the event that all cancellation fees are waived, a US\$200 administrative fee may apply.

Group Policy:

Reservations for groups should be made at least one month ahead of the intended tour start. For group bookings, the client's full details together with rooming list should be provided within two weeks prior to the arrival date in Myanmar.

Insurance:

It is strongly recommended that travel insurance covering health, trip cancellation, lost and damage baggage etc. be purchased.

Responsibility and Liability:

UNITEAM Tours & Travel Ltd. acts as the agent for the person in regard to travel by any means of transportation and assumes no liability for any losses or additional expenses due to accident, delay, sickness, weather, strike or other cause beyond its control.

UNITEAM Tours & Travel Ltd. will do its best to conduct the tour as per agreement. It also reserves the right to modify or reverse the original program in the interest of the clients. It may substitute transportation with any other means of transportation when necessary due to circumstances beyond its control.

UNITEAM Tours & Travel Ltd. will make every reasonable effort to assist in case of any misadventure. Though medical facilities and care are not up to western standards, serious accidents can happen. Therefore UNITEAM Tours & Travel Ltd. urges all travellers and tour operators to ensure that appropriate medical coverage is in place, if medical care and/or evacuation is needed. In the event of any such circumstances, additional costs shall be borne by the tourist. Participation in the tour implies the person's agreement to the above-mentioned.

Refund Policy:

There shall be no refund after commencement of the service included in the tour program but not utilized by the clients. The refund of payments received by UNITEAM Tours & Travel Ltd. from tour participants shall release UNITEAM Tours & Travel Ltd. from any additional liability.

Claims:

All disputes, claims and litigation regarding the services shall first be settled by way of negotiation and mutual understanding. In the event that such efforts fail, disputes, claim or litigation shall be finally settled by arbitration in the Union of Myanmar. All claims must be submitted in writing within 30 days after the end of the services.

Accommodation:

Accommodation is provided as indicated. The condition, services and the facilities of the hotels are as expressed by the hotel. If there should be any dissatisfaction during your stay, the hotel concerned takes full responsibilities for the inconvenience. Daily breakfast, service charges and taxes at hotels are normally included unless otherwise indicated.

Ground Transportation:

Ground transportation will be provided as indicated. UNITEAM Tours & Travel Ltd. utilizes all vehicles equipped with air-conditioning. However, due to poor road conditions and the poor quality of petrol (gasoline) the system may not function properly. In some areas, where facilities do not exist we will provide the best available alternative.

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“ Nowhere do they have such a talent
for laughter as in Burma. ”

Amitav Ghosh, “The Glas Palace”, 2000

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