



Myanmar Explorer

10 day tour to Yangon, Inle Lake, Mandalay & Bagan

Discover the fascinating culture, cuisine and natural heritage of Myanmar. A country with more than 100 ethnic groups, this second largest country of South East Asia beckons you to experience its rich culture, beautiful beaches and natural surroundings. Start your tour with the visit to the capital city of Yangon, which unlike other capitals in the neighbourhood, is a lot less developed and more human. Visit Chaukhtatgyi Pagoda, which houses the largest and most revered of Buddha statue of Myanmar. Next visit Bagan, explore Mount Popa, an extinct volcano giving mesmerizing view of the surroundings. Explore Inle Lake, one of the most beautiful lakes in Myanmar. Explore the rich culture by visiting Indein Village. Also visit the ancient capital of Mandalay.



Day 1 Australia ✈ Yangon

Fly from Australia to Yangon, Myanmar's biggest city. Upon arrival Myanmar International Airport; you are met and transferred to your hotel. Rest of the day is at leisure or for your own activity. Stay overnight in Yangon.

Day 2 Yangon

After breakfast start your sightseeing of Yangon and visit Sule Pagoda in the heart of Yangon city. Botataung Paya, its most original feature is the dazzling zig-zag corridor, gilded from floor to ceiling, that snakes its way around the hollow interior of the 131ft golden zedi (stupa). Also look out for a bronze Buddha that once resided in the royal palace in Mandalay, and a large pond full of hundreds of terrapin turtles. Also visit the Chaukhtatgyi, the colossal reclining Buddha; the Shwedagon Pagoda most revered Buddhist temple in Myanmar. Although the origins of the pagoda are unclear, the local legend states that the original structure was built 2500 years ago then renovated several times until taking its current shape in the 15th century. The 8-sided central stupa is 99 meters tall and gilded with gold leaf and is surrounded by 64 smaller stupas and your guide will show you around the massive complex, explaining why this temple is so revered. Enjoy breath-taking views of the golden stupa from this vantage point and enjoy the sunset from there.

Meal: B/D

Later in the afternoon you visit Bogyoke Aung San Market, half a day could easily be spent wandering around this sprawling covered market, sometimes called by its old British name, Scott Market. (Note: Market is closed on Mondays and public holidays). It has over 2000 shops and the largest selection of Myanmar handicrafts and souvenirs you'll find under several roofs, from lacquerware and Shan shoulder bags to puppets and jewellery. Your highlight for this evening is the dinner in Karaweik Palace, overlooking to the Royal Lake. The dinner is served with fine Burmese food and amazing cultural show. Later return to the hotel with overnight in Yangon.

Day 3 Yangon ✈ Heho / Inle

After breakfast leave Yangon for Heho. Inle Lake, the second largest lake in Myanmar, located 900m above sea level and is home

Meal: B/L/D

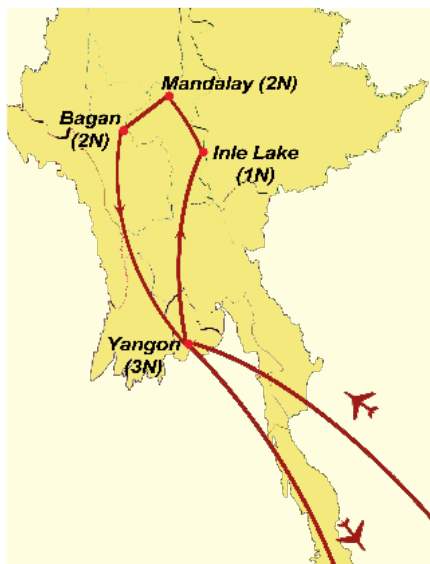
to unique one leg rower Intha people. Pass villages built on stilts over the lake, inhabited by the local Intha people. Observe the leg-rowing fishermen and see their floating gardens built up from strips of water hyacinth and mud and anchored to the bottom with bamboo poles. Visit Phaung Daw Oo Pagoda, the lake's main sanctuary, which contains five sacred Buddha images covered in gold leaf. Explore the local crafts of Inle Lake with a stop at the weaving village of Inpawkhone and a cheroot factory, where the typical Burmese cigars are made by hand. If time permits, there may be time to enjoy a short walk through one of the lakeside villages. Later return to the hotel and stay overnight in Inle Lake.

Day 4 Inle Lake - Indein/Heho ✈ Mandalay

Meal: B/D

After breakfast, visit the lake's morning market. The market rotates its location around the lake's villages in a 5 day rhythm and is visited by lake inhabitants and surrounding hill tribes who come to sell and trade their wares. (Note: market is daily except on dark moon day and full moon day). From the middle of the lake, continue down a small canal leading to the Pa-oh village of Indein. Explore the area on foot, strolling around the village, visiting a local





span. Enjoy a stroll along the bridge and fabulous views of the surrounding farms and streams. Later transfer to the airport for the flight to Bagan (Nyaung Oo). On arrival check into the hotel and stay two nights in Bagan.

Day 7 Bagan **Meal: B/D**
After breakfast visit Nyaung Oo Market where dozens of vendors come to sell their fresh produce and products. The market is at its busiest early in the morning as the locals come to do their shopping. This is a great opportunity to observe the daily lifestyle of the friendly locals. Then continue to the glittering Shwezigon Pagoda, a prototype of later Myanmar stupas.

Next, visit Wetkyi-In Gubyaukgyi, a cave temple with exquisite jatakas mural paintings. Continue to the elegant Htilominlo Temple, noted for its fine plaster carvings and glazed sandstone decorations. This afternoon visit the New Bagan area and one of its many lacquer-ware workshops. Here you can observe the traditional technique of making these handcrafted products from start to finish. The process takes incredible skill and patience and Bagan's craftsmen are well renowned for their fantastic lacquer products. As today comes to a close, travel to the boat jetty and embark on a sunset cruise. Enjoy a cocktail and a stunning view of Bagan as you cruise along the Irrawaddy River. Dinner and overnight in Bagan.

Day 8 Bagan ✈️ Yangon **Meal: B/D**
Optional: Balloon Ride in the early morning (please check with your local guide). After breakfast, start with the exotic horse cart to one of the biggest temple in Bagan: Nan Paya Pagoda and many other interesting sites nearby, continue with sightseeing to Minkaba Gubyaukyi Temple, experience the architectural difference in MyaZedi Pagoda before heading to Manuha Temple. The highlight of today is the panoramic sunset view from the second highest pagoda of Bagan - the ShweSandaw Pagoda. Later check out from hotel for transfer to airport to board flight to Yangon. Upon arrival assistance at airport for transfer and check in at hotel. Stay overnight in Yangon.

Day 9 Yangon ✈️ Australia **Meal: B**
This morning is at leisure. Later in time transfer to the international airport to board your onward flight home.

Day 10 Australia
Arrive in Australia in the morning.

school, and wander through the beautiful Alaung Sitthou area. Here you can climb the covered stairway to the top of a hill which is covered with picturesque ancient stupas and has magnificent views of the lake below. After enjoying your visit to Indein, return to your boat. Later in the afternoon we travel to Heho for Mandalay. Stay two nights in Mandalay.

Day 5 Mandalay **Mingun** **Mandalay**
Meal: B/D
After breakfast visit the Mingun Bell which weighs more than 87 tons and is more than 3.7 metres tall. This is the world's largest uncracked bell. Just south of the bell you'll also visit Mingun Pagoda, a giant brick structure built in the late 1700s and although it was unfinished due to economic troubles it is still an impressive site. Mingun's other highlight is the Hisnbyume Pagoda, a white-washed temple built to resemble Mount Meru. Throughout Mingun there are small neighbourhoods crafting traditional basketry and other artistic items and there is plenty of time to stop and interact with the craftsmen and friendly locals.

In the afternoon, begin with a walk up Mandalay Hill (optional, one can take a truck to reach the top). Rising 240 metres above the city, the hill provides a great viewing platform of the surrounding countryside, Irrawaddy River and city centre. At the base of the hill you'll stop to visit Shwe Nandaw Kyuang - or Golden Palace Monastery - which is noted for its intricate wood carvings and

to Kayuktawgyi Pagoda to view the huge marble Buddha. The marble is from Sagyin quarry and took 10,000 men almost two weeks to transfer the rock from the riverside to its current location. Finally you'll visit Kuthodaw Pagoda, home to 'the world's largest book', a collection of more than 700 marble slabs inscribed with Buddhist teachings. Later return to the hotel for overnight stay.

Day 6 Mandalay **Sagaing** **Amarapura**
Bagan **Meal: B/D**
This morning after breakfast check out of the hotel and travel to Sagaing, a 45-minute drive. Located across the Irrawaddy River, Sagaing is considered by many to be the Buddhist centre of Myanmar. Drive up to Sagaing Hill to Umin Thonzeh. The name translates as '30 Caves Pagoda' but in reality the temple is one long hallway built alongside a hill with thirty recessed entrances giving it the appearance of being filled with caves. Inside the building you will find 45 Buddha images, an auspicious number 45 reflecting the number of years that Gotama Buddha was enlightened as a Buddha. Then proceed to Swan Oo Pon Nya Shin pagoda and enjoy wonderful panoramic view of Sagaing Hill with hundreds of stupas. If you look up at the ceiling at Swan Oo Pon Nya Shin you will find the old paintings describing the 16-scene dream sequence of Kawthala King. Finally continue to Kaung Mu Daw, an unusual hemispherical dome stupa that reaches 46 metres in height. At the bottom of the dome there are 120 niches, each with its own guardian nat.

Before departing Amarapura you go to U Bein Bridge for a walk along this 200 year-old teak bridge. The bridge was constructed of 984 teak posts that were once part of the deserted Inwa Palace and it is 1.2 kilometres in length making it the world's longest teak

Myanmar Explorer Dates & Prices

Tour code	Start Yangon Saturday	End Yangon Sunday	Full package with international airfare departing from Sydney / Melbourne / Brisbane# / Adelaide# / Perth#		
			Thai Airways	Cathay Pacific	Singapore Air
ME170304	04-Mar-17	12-Mar-17	\$3,990	\$4,140	\$4,240
ME170422	22-Apr-17	30-Apr-17	\$3,990	\$4,140	\$4,240
ME170513	13-May-17	21-May-17	\$3,880	\$4,030	\$4,130
ME170610	10-Jun-17	18-Jun-17	\$3,880	\$4,030	\$4,130
ME170909	09-Sep-17	17-Sep-17	\$3,880	\$4,030	\$4,130
ME171014	14-Oct-17	22-Oct-17	\$4,090	\$4,240	\$4,340
ME171118	18-Nov-17	26-Nov-17	\$4,090	\$4,240	\$4,340
ME180120	20-Jan-18	28-Jan-18	\$4,150	\$4,300	\$4,400
ME180217	17-Feb-18	25-Feb-18	\$4,150	\$4,300	\$4,400
ME180310	10-Mar-18	18-Mar-18	\$4,150	\$4,300	\$4,400

* Please refer to Page 7 for **Tour Inclusions** and **Extending Your Holiday** details.

Land only price: Tour starts from **Arrival transfer in Yangon** to **Departure transfer in Yangon**, including domestic air tickets Yangon - Heho - Mandalay - Bagan - Yangon & taxes but excluding any International air tickets.

* Package prices of Thai Airways are for departures from Sydney or Melbourne only.

Package prices of Singapore Airlines and Cathay Pacific are for departures from Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide or Perth. Any cost including hotel or meals incurred due to the connecting flight in Hong Kong or Singapore will be at your own expenses.

* Stopover in Singapore permitted if flying with Singapore Airlines; One stopover in Hong Kong permitted if flying with Cathay Pacific. Extra airport taxes apply. Land arrangement in Singapore or Hong Kong can be arranged at additional cost.

Hotels used for this tour: 4* Yangon Rose Garden Hotel; 4* Inle Resort; 4* Mandalay Sedona Hotel, 4* Bagan Myanmar Treasure Hotel or similar.

Pre / Post Stay Hotel: \$240 (Yangon) - per room per night with breakfast

Land only: \$3,280 Single supplement: \$980
* This tour is a guaranteed departure based on a minimum of 2 people. Full package prices above include airport taxes and fuel surcharges.