

# A GLANCE OF MYANMAR

Yangon – Mandalay – Bagan

06 days / 05 nights



*Discover the extraordinary sights of Myanmar. This journey features Yangon and its stunning Shwedagon Pagoda. Witness the monks rituals in a Mandalay monastery and wonder at its interesting history. Experience Bagan, one of Southeast Asia's architectural wonders and Myanmar's headline attraction with over 2,000 temples.*

## **Day 1/ Yangon arrival**

Arrive in Yangon and transfer to your hotel for check in. Afternoon, visit Chauk Htat Gyi Pagoda with an impressive 216 ft-long reclining Buddha image and the spectacular golden Shwedagon Pagoda, one of the most sacred Buddhist pagodas in Myanmar.

## **Day 2/ Yangon – Mandalay (B,L)**

Early morning, transfer to the airport for flight to Mandalay. Arrive in Mandalay and visit to Mahagandayone Monastery - home to several thousand young monks where you can watch the whole monastery having their meal in silence. Lunch will be served at local restaurant. After lunch transfer to hotel check in. Afternoon, visit Mandalay Hill, known for its abundance of pagodas and monasteries, and has been a major pilgrimage site for Burmese Buddhists for nearly two centuries. Continue on to visit the 200 year old U Bein Bridge built in 1728 at the time when Amarapura was Royal capital. The bridge was constructed of 984 teak posts that were once part of the deserted Inwa Palace and it is 1.2 kilometers in length making it the world's

longest teak span. Enjoy a stroll along the bridge and the fabulous views of the surrounding farms and streams. Overnight in Mandalay.

## **Day 3/ Mandalay – Sagaing – Ava (B,L)**

Early morning drive to cross a bridge over the Ayeyrawaddy River to Sagaing. Covered with 600 white-painted pagodas and monasteries, Sagaing Hill is widely regarded as the religious center of Myanmar. It is home to 3,000 monks and 100 meditation centers and you will visit pagodas such as Swan Oo Pon Nya Shin and U Min Thone Sae. You'll also visit Sagaing's local market, a typical Burmese market that few tourists visit. Here you will find a range of items for sale including locally made pottery, silver and other handicrafts. You will also stop at a small pottery village to see the process of the ubiquitous water pots found throughout Myanmar. Then continue south of the city to Ava, the capital from 14th to 18th centuries, just a short ferry ride will take you across the river to the horse and carriage that is waiting for you. Visit the old wooden Bagaya Monastery and the remains of the Royal Palace and Fort. There are many small villages located amid Ava's ruins and as you travel by horse and cart you'll get a glimpse of local life in the Burmese countryside. We'll stop for lunch in Ava before returning to our car. On your return to the city, stop at a silk-weaving workshop which produces exquisite handmade products.

#### Day 4/ Mandalay – Bagan (B,L)

Today, tour start at Nyaung U colorful Market, then Shwezigon Pagoda built by King Anawrahta in the early 11th century as a religious shrine; Ananda Temple, a whitewashed masterpiece of Mon architecture with four standing Buddhas, and the adjacent brick monastery with the beautiful well-preserved 18th century murals. Continue to visit the Thatbinnyu Temple known as “temples of omniscience” dating from 1144. Visit the Handicraft and Lacquerware Craft Center and Workshop. In the afternoon, visit the Damayangyi Temple (the massive temple in Bagan). Experience a local horse–cart ride (15 mins) to enjoy the sunset. Transfer back to hotel, evening is free at leisure.

#### Day 5/ Bagan (B)

Today we set out to discover Bagan, “city of four million pagodas” and one of the richest archaeological sites in all of Asia. With some 2,000 pagodas, temples, and monasteries (still standing) spread over a 16-square-mile site on the Eastern shores of the Irrawaddy, Bagan distills the very essence of Myanmar’s Buddhist culture. Early morning, enjoy the spectacular panoramic sunrise view from Shwesandaw Pagoda, the second highest pagoda in Bagan. After breakfast, we visit Manuha Temple, built in Mon Style in 1095, the Nanbaya Temple, a unique sandstone monument, said to have been the palace of King Manuha, and Myingaba Gu Byaukgyi Temple, noted for its ancient mural paintings under the protection of UNESCO. Also visit Lawka Nandar Stupa, Sulamani Pagoda meaning "Crowning



Jewel" built in 1181 by King Narapati Sithu. This afternoon we encounter Bagan’s rich artistic heritage as we see artisans craft lacquerware. Then enjoy sunset along the Ayeyarwaddy River. Return to hotel late afternoon. Overnight in Bagan.

#### Day 6/ Bagan – Yangon (B)

In the morning transfer to the airport for departure to Yangon. Arrive Yangon, visit the 2000-year old Sule Pagoda and Bogyoke Market (closed on Monday). Transfer back to the airport for departure flight. Have a safe trip!

#### MEAL CODE

**B: BREAKFAST    L: LUNCH    D: DINNER**



#### Tour cost included:

- Private air-conditioned vehicle
- Local English speaking guide in each city
- Accommodations on Double/Twin share with daily breakfast
- Meals (excluding drinks) as specified
- Sightseeing fee as specified, on a private basis
- Government tax and services charges
- Complimentary drinking water

#### Tour cost excluded:

- Visas
- Personal expenses
- Tips or gratuities
- Airfares
- Insurance and bank fee