

ENCHANTED MYANMAR 7 days

Itinerary:



Day 1 : Arrive Yangon (L)

Upon arrival at Yangon airport transfer to hotel. Alaungapaya, the founder of the last line of Burmese kings, made Yangon his capital in 1753 and it remained until 2005 when the capital was moved to Napyidaw. After refreshing begin a sightseeing tour of this picturesque garden city. Start with the old colonial style centre and gilded Sule Pagoda, dating back over 2,000 years followed by a visit to Chauk Htat Kyi, a huge reclining Buddha image, Bogyoke Market (Scott's Market) and a photo stop at Karaweik Hall royal floating barge. The highlight of every visit, Shwedagon Pagoda, one of the world's most spectacular religious monuments is saved until late afternoon when the light is magical. The golden dome of the Shwedagon Pagoda is 98 meters high and covered with 60 tons of pure gold. It is the heart and soul of Buddhist Myanmar. Spend time here and watch people come to pray and make offerings, it is a unique experience.

Meals: Lunch **Lodging:** Park Royal Hotel

Day 2 : Yangon - Bagan (B / L)

After breakfast early morning transfer to Yangon airport for domestic flight to Bagan. Scattered around a 26 km plain, surrounding the Ayeyarwady River, are the magnificent red brick temples and pagodas with impressive colorful murals and exquisite Buddha statues inside and from the summit, stunning views of the Bagan temples. Start your tour at the busy local market continuing with visits to the most important pagodas and temples in Bagan: Shwezigon Pagoda, a huge gilded zedi built by King Anawrahta in the early 11th century, Gu Byauk Gyi, a 13th century temple with exquisite murals of Jataka scenes, and the immediately recognizable Ananda Temple, one of the largest temples with its 170 ft gold spire and four huge standing-Buddha images. Later visit the lacquer craftsman's workshop in nearby Myingaba village. The sightseeing continues with visits to Manuha Temple, built in Mon style in 1059, Nanbaya Temple, a unique sandstone monument said to have been the palace of King Manuha and Myingaba Gu Byuk Kyi Temple. End the day with sunset in the vicinity of Bagan's ancient monuments.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch **Lodging:** Tharabar Gate Hotel

Day 3 : Bagan (B / L)

After breakfast optional morning program:

Early this morning enjoy a balloon flight over the Bagan temples for about one hour having a spectacular view of the ancient Kingdom of Bagan from the hot air balloon! The tour finishes where ever the wind has brought you. A glass of sparkling wine ends this fantastic event.

This morning explore Min Nan Thu Village area by horse-cart. See the Tayokepyay Temple, Phaya Thone Zu and Nandamanya Temples noted for exquisite 13th century murals and Kyat Kan Cave monastery, a famous meditation center in Bagan. Later visit farming villages around Bagan. In the afternoon enjoy an excursion to the nostalgic Nat Htaung Kyaung, a monastery famous for woodcarvings, built in 1781 by a group of monks. Admire the monastery's collection of ancient Buddha statues and lacquer boxes. This day ends with a river cruise during sunset.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, **Lodging:** Tharabar Gate Hotel

Day 4 : Bagan - Heho - Inle Lake (B / L)

After breakfast transfer to Bagan airport for domestic flight to Heho. Upon arrival transfer to the valley to Nyaungshwe on the edge of Inle Lake to board a private boat to take you to the hotel. Inle Lake is magical, located at 1000 meters, its calm waters are dotted with Intha stilt house villages, floating vegetable gardens and fishing canoes against the backdrop of the beautiful Shan hills. In the afternoon, take a long-tailed boat across the lake to Indaing at the western end of Inle for one of the most scenic trips on the Lake. Passing through the busy village of Yawama enter a canal towards Indaing Jetty with farmers cultivating their land on either side with the backdrop of the Shan Hills. After disembarking walk through Indaing village to reach the 14-18th century pagoda ruins of Nyaung Ohak. A walkway leads up to Shwe Inn Thein Paya, a complex of zedi. The views from the top are stunning.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch **Lodging:** Pristine Lotus Resort

Day 5 : Inle Lake (B / L)

After breakfast explore one of the 5-day markets and get insight into the lifestyle of the ethnic Pa-O, Danu and Intha who came to the markets to sell their goods. During today's excursion by boat on the picturesque Inle Lake you can see the famous leg rowers and the typical floating gardens where fruit and vegetables are grown. A highlight is the visit to the traditional village of Paukpar, with its neat rows of bamboo houses, you might be able to stop by a family for Shan tea. In the afternoon see Phaung Daw Oo Pagoda, the holiest religious site in southern Shan State. Next have a look at a boat construction workshop and traditional handicrafts like silk weaving, a cheroot workshop and a blacksmith. Continue by boat to visit the Nga Phe Kyaung Monastery, one of the oldest monasteries on the lake with its large wooden meditation hall and over 200 year old ancient Buddha statues. On the way back let the beauty of the sunset over Inle Lake enchant you.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch **Lodging:** Pristine Lotus Resort

Day 6 : Inle Lake - Heho - Yangon (B / L)

After breakfast leave by boat to Nyaungshwe and from there by car to Heho airport for return flight to Yangon, upon arrival transfer to your hotel. In the afternoon visit the Bogyoke market which gives you the opportunity to see Myanmar's wide range of handicrafts and a selection of art galleries and antiques shops. There are many talented painters and artists in Myanmar. Their accomplishments can be admired in numerous galleries and showrooms. Continue to the jetty along Strand Road and walk along the Yangon river to see the busy harbour area from where ferries leave for Patheingyi in the Delta and for upcountry towns along the Ayeyarwady River.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch **Lodging:** Park Royal Hotel

Day 7 : Yangon - Singapore (B)

After breakfast transfer to Yangon airport for international departure flight

Meals: Breakfast

