



BURMA BORDER CROSSING CUSTOMIZED 14-DAY TOUR

14 days / 13 nights

Highlights

Tamu border – Kalaymyo – Gangaw – Monywa – Pakkoku – Bagan – Mount Popa – Mandalay – Pindaya – Inle Lake – Kalaw – Naypyidaw – Yangon – Golden Rock – Hpaan – Kawgun Cave – Myawaddy border

CUSTOMER REFERENCE

Group name	██████████	Arrival date	April 05, 2016
Group size	04	Departure date	April 18, 2016
██████	██████████████████	Hotel option	2* hotels
Phone		Tour type	Group Packaged Tour

BRIEF ITINERARY

Day	Date	Itinerary	Hotel and meals
1	April 05, 2016	Tamu – Kalaymyo	Taung Zalat Hotel or similar Not included
2	April 06, 2016	Kalaymyo – Monywa	Monywa Hotel or similar Breakfast
3	April 07, 2016	Monywa – Bagan	Yar Kine Thar Hotel or similar Breakfast
4	April 08, 2016	Bagan Sightseeing and Free Day	Yar Kine Thar Hotel or similar Breakfast
5	April 09, 2016	Drive to Mount Popa – Mandalay	Rich Queen Hotel or similar Breakfast
6	April 10, 2016	Mandalay Sightseeing	Rich Queen Hotel or similar Breakfast
7	April 11, 2016	Mandalay – Pindaya	Golden Cave Hotel or similar Breakfast
8	April 12, 2016	Pindaya – Drive to Inle Lake – Free Day	Inle Apex Hotel or similar Breakfast
9	April 13, 2016	Inle Lake Sightseeing	Inle Apex Hotel or similar Breakfast
10	April 14, 2016	Inle Lake – Naypyidaw	Man Myanmar Hotel or similar Breakfast
11	April 15, 2016	Naypyidaw – Yangon	New Ayeyar Hotel Not included
12	April 16, 2016	Yangon Sightseeing	New Ayeyar Hotel Breakfast
13	April 17, 2016	Yangon – Golden Rock – Hpaan	Angel Land Hotel or similar Breakfast

14	April 18, 2016	Hpaan – Drive to Myawaddy	Not included Not included
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DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 01

April 05, 2016

Tamu – Kalaymyo

Our guide and driver will meet you at **Tamu – Moreh** border check-point to help you with necessary documents as well as represent you the border crossing formalities and procedures at check-point authority's counters. After a few minutes break, you'll head to **Kalaymyo**. Enjoy the landscapes on the way. In the afternoon, we can consider visiting the outskirts of Kalaymyo to see the countryside.

Accommodation: Taung Zalot Hotel or similar

Meal: Not included

Day 02

April 06, 2016

Kalaymyo – Monywa

After breakfast, our guide will escort you to **Kalaymyo** via the picturesque **Gangaw** road. It takes around 9 hour drive to reach the destination. We will have lunch and see the **Hpo Win Daung** on the way. Arrive in Monywa at early evening. Free at leisure.

Monywa introduction

Monywa is a town lies on the bank of Chindwin river, tucked away in the dry zone of Central Burma West of Mandalay. Although the area receives few foreign tourists, the town and surroundings are dotted with a number of unique sites.

The valley surrounding Monywa is full of busy farms, beautiful pagodas and small villages. The rural area is mainly prominently agricultural, with short-month crops as beans, palm sugar and cotton. Further west of the Chindwin river situated a large-scaled copper mine. The local market in town offers locally produced food, fruit, handicrafts and textiles and are ideal places to buy any souvenirs that you need as well as to try some of the local dishes.

Local people here use mainly motorbikes, bicycles and trishaws for daily work and transportation. Monywa can be translated closely into "Miss pancake town". A local legend says that in the past, there was a Prince visiting the village then met a girl selling fried pancakes whom he eventually married.



Array of Buddhas at the Bodhi Tataung Monastery, Monywa

Accommodation: Monywa Hotel or similar

Meal: Breakfast

Day 03

April 07, 2016

Monywa – Bagan

Once in Monywa, visit the colourful **Thanbuddhyi Pagoda** which is home to more than 500,000 images of Buddha and the **Hiaungdawmu Buddha**, the second largest reclining Buddha in Burma. Continue to **Bagan**.

Accommodation: Yar Kine Thar Hotel or similar



Meal: Breakfast

Day 04
April 08, 2016

Bagan Sightseeing and Free Day

This city is no doubt one of the most impressive sites anywhere in Asia. Begin to visit the vibrant **Nyaung Oo Market**, the economic center of Bagan. Local people gather at this bustling market daily, to buy and sell a variety of goods, from fruit and vegetables to clothing, china, and lacquerware.



Continue to the **gold-plated Shwezigon Pagoda**, Bagan's greatest reliquary, built to house relics of the Buddha brought from abroad. From here, drive to the small village of **Wetkyi-in** to see the **Ananda temple**, one of the most reserved monuments in the entire Bagan. After lunch, continue your exploration of the city's treasure trove of Buddhist art and architecture including the **Dhammayangyi**, which houses four Buddha figures on the ground floor and four more on the first floor. Enjoy the sunset on the top of **Taung Guni Pagoda**. Free at leisure.

Accommodation: Yar Kine Thar Hotel or similar

Meal: Breakfast

Day 05
April 09, 2016

Bagan – Mount Popa – Mandalay

We then ride to **Mount Popa**, an extinct volcano with its shrines dedicated to animist spirits known as "Nats". For the energetic, time to climb up the 777 steps to the shrine at the top of the volcanic plug. Continue to **Amarapura** to see the **Ubein bridge**.

Accommodation: Rich Queen Hotel or similar

Meal: Breakfast

Day 06
April 10, 2016

Mandalay Sightseeing

This morning we explore **Mahamuni Image Pagoda** then the **Mahaganayone Monastery** to see the monks have lunch in silence. In the afternoon, continue to visit the **Royal Mandalay vestiges** and relics covering **Imperial Palace**, **Golden Palace Monastery**, well-known for its exquisite wood carvings and **Kuthodaw Pagoda** also known as the world biggest book.



Atumashi (Incomparable) Monastery in Mandalay

Mandalay introduction

Mandalay is a large and sprawling city whose centre is dominated by the enormous Royal Palace, now almost entirely reconstructed after the damage inflicted during the Second World War. Mandalay is a centre for many traditional craftsmen, including marble sculptors who will be proud to tell you that their Buddha images are often made to order and exported to Thailand, Taiwan,



China and the US. Around Mandalay there are the remnants of several former capitals dating from different periods in the region's history.

Accommodation: Rich Queen Hotel or similar

Meal: Breakfast

Day 07
April 11, 2016

Mandalay – Ride to Pindaya

Ride to visit **Pindaya Cave**. See the Shwe U Min Cave and discover the Pindaya town. After that, we come to the hotel then relax.

Accommodation: Golden Cave Hotel or similar

Meal: Breakfast

Day 08
April 12, 2016

Pindaya – Kakku Pagoda Complex – Inle Lake

This day we drive directly to Inle Lake then take a rest.

Accommodation: Inle Apex Hotel or similar

Meal: Breakfast

Day 09
April 13, 2016

Inle Lake Sightseeing

Skimming along the waterways in a long-tail boat, catch a first glimpse of floating gardens, stilt houses, and fishermen propelling their skiffs with one leg wrapped around an oar. Visit the infamous **Phaung Daw U Pagoda**, which enshrines five Buddha images believed to have been carried to this area by the widely-traveled 12th century King Alaungsithu then **Ywama village**.



Buddha images inside the Phaung Daw Oo pagoda, Inle Lake

We then ride our boat to the **Nampan and Innpawkhone villages**. Here we get an ideal chance to see some traditional cigar making and silk weaving, and hopefully some local fishermen practicing their uniquely distinctive rowing technique. Visit the **blacksmith factory** and see the long neck women in their traditional colourful attire.

Inle Lake introduction

The shallow waters of Inle Lake stretch for 35 kilometres, ringed by small fishing villages and majestic rolling hills. The Inth a people live on the lake, building their houses on stilts and travelling across the lake using their bizarre style of leg rowing. The best way to explore is by boat: in a day trip you can visit the various cottage industries such as silk weaving and cheroot rolling, watch blacksmiths and silversmiths at work and see the floating market that moves between the area's villages on a five-day rota.

Accommodation: Inle Apex Hotel or similar

Meal: Breakfast

Day 10
April 14, 2016

Inle Lake – Kalaw – Naypyidaw



This day we drive to **Naypyidaw** via **Meiktila**. Visit **Uppatasanti Pagoda** in the sunset time.



Inside the Uppatasanti Pagoda, Naypyidaw

Accommodation: Man Myanmar Hotel or similar

Meal: Breakfast

Day 11 April 15, 2016

Naypyidaw – Shwedagon At Sunset

Drive to Yangon in the morning. The highlight of the day is a visit to the **magnificent Shwedagon Pagoda**, the most outstanding and revered Buddhist pagoda in Burma, whose golden stupa dominates the skyline of Yangon.



Yangon introduction

Now known as Yangon, Rangoon is the former capital of Burma and still retains much of its colonial character. The grand buildings of the downtown area and the old mansions in the diplomatic quarter are clear testament to the former British presence. The bustling streets and narrow alleys of downtown Rangoon capture the diversity of this intriguing city: tea-houses are layered with the smoke of cheroots, the markets of Chinatown burst with an unfathomable array of goods and the aromas of freshly-milled spices and freshly-cooked snacks are carried on a breeze from the Indian Quarter.

Accommodation: New Ayeyar Hotel or similar

Meal: Breakfast

Day 12 April 16, 2016

Yangon Sightseeing

Enjoy the full day sightseeing in Yangon. Walk on foot towards **Mahabandoola Park** and **Myanmar's Independence Monument**. From this point you can see many grand **Colonial buildings** including the City Hall, the Supreme Court and the Baptist Church.

In the afternoon, we can visit the **Chaukhtatgyi Pagoda** with the huge Reclining Buddha.

Accommodation: New Ayeyar Hotel or similar

Meal: Breakfast

Day 13 April 17, 2016

Yangon – Golden Rock – Hpaan

Head to visit Golden Rock in the morning, one of the most revered pilgrimage sites in Burma. Enjoy the lunch on the way. After that, we drive to stay overnight in Hpaan.

Accommodation: Angel Land Hotel or similar

Meal: Breakfast

Day 14
April 18, 2016

Hpaan – Myawady border

Hpaan is a small city with an eclectic culture and intriguing landscape. Visit the city and **Kawgun Cave**. After that, our guide will transfer you to the **Myawaddy - Maesot** border check-point to leave Burma for Thailand.



Kawgun Cave in Hpaan

Accommodation: Not included
Meal: Not included

Tour price/person

What's included:

- 13 night accommodation.
- Escort English speaking guide.
- Pilot car.
- Meals as mentioned.
- Permission documents.
- Toll fees.
- Zone fees for sightseeing (Inle Lake, Yangon, Bagan, Mandalay, Golden Rock)
- Bottled drinking water.

Not included in the price:

- Travel insurance.
- Boat in Bagan.
- Items of a personal nature such as laundry, drinks, etc.
- Tips for your guide and driver (discretionary).
- Any camera or video fees at any sites.
- International flights.
- Visas.

Key facts about Burma (Myanmar):

- Population: 50.02 million
- Land area: 678.50 thousands square kilometers
- Major languages spoken: Burmese
- Currency: Myanmar Kyat
- Time difference: GMT+6 1/2 hours



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Climate

Most of Burma lies within the Tropic Zone. The hot season extends from March until October, and the cool season, from November through to February. Temperatures during these seasons range from 17 to 40 degrees Celsius (62 to 104 degrees Fahrenheit) in lower Burma. Temperatures in upper Burma are usually less and mountainous regions can at times be cold. The country receives almost all of its yearly rainfall between mid-May and October, the period of the Southwest Monsoon. Winter is from November to February and during these months, daytime temperatures are pleasantly warm, but you will need to bring some warm clothing for late evenings and early mornings.

Health issues

Good medical advice usually recommends vaccinations/prophylactics in advance of travel to Burma. We suggest that you consult with your doctor to discuss health care needs specific to your holiday.

Travel insurance

You must be comprehensively insured as a condition of travelling with Burma Senses Travel & Tours. Insurance should include cover for personal accident and medical expenses, evacuation and repatriation, baggage loss, and cancellation or curtailment of your holiday. Your booking will not be confirmed if you cannot confirm possession of appropriate insurance, and our ground operations have the right to prevent you from travelling in the event that you cannot present your insurance details at the start of the tour.

Recommended reading

- The Glass Palace - Amitav Ghosh
- Burmese Days: A Novel - George Orwell
- Finding George Orwell in Burma - Emma Larkin
- Golden Earth: Travels in Burma - Norman Lewis
- The Piano Tuner' - Daniel Mason
- The Gentleman in the Parlour - W. Somerset Maugham
- The Traveller's History of Burma (Orchid Guides) - Garry Abbott
- Lonely Planet guide to Myanmar (Burma)

Cancellation policy:

Cancellation fees of booking are not levied for us but for all local suppliers as hotel, carrier and other contractors. In these cases, the client shall be liable to pay those fees to Burma Senses Travel & Tours. The cancellation will be charged as follow:

- More than 45 days prior to trip departure: Deposit charge.
- 45 - 30 days before arrival: 25% charge.
- 29 - 15 days before arrival: 50% charge.
- 14 - 7 days before arrival: 75% charge.
- Less than 7 days before arrival: 100% charge.