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2 Week Conducted **Burma (Myanmar)** **Tour**

only **\$4,580** per person twin share
This price includes airport taxes and levies

This wonderful price for a tour to exciting, mysterious Burma (Myanmar) covers all of the following:

- Return air fares from Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane to Rangoon with Thai International and three domestic flights within Burma.
- A 12 day tour of Burma by coach, plane and boat. Although this is one of the world's poorest counties, it is rich in culture, with lovely, friendly people and magnificent scenery.
- A 2 night stopover in Bangkok.
- Nearly all meals.
- All transfers and transport.
- Good accommodation, mainly three to four star.
- Prepaid gratuities to the tour guides and drivers.
- Service of Burmese and Thai tour guides and also an Australian tour escort if there are 14 or more tour participants.



If you don't have a travel partner but wish to travel at twin share rate, we will try and assign you with another person, but this is not guaranteed. If you require a single room, there will be an additional charge of \$1025.

NOTE: Burma is very much a third world country, so not everything always goes to plan. Also some of the roads are quite rough, so road travel can take longer than expected.



Tour departs
6th November and
returns
20th November 2017



We try harder to find you the best travel deal

Itinerary for Burma Tour – November 2017

Included meals are indicated as B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner

06.11.17 Australia - Bangkok

Depart Sydney at 10.00am on TG 476, arriving in Bangkok at 3.25pm.

Depart Melbourne at 3.25pm on TG 466, arriving in Bangkok at 8.35pm.

Depart Brisbane at 2.00pm on TG 474, arriving in Bangkok at 8.10pm.

All flights will be met at Bangkok Airport and transferred to the Narai Hotel, centrally situated and within walking distance of the famous Patpong Night Market and entertainment area.

Accommodation: Narai Hotel

07.11.17 Bangkok

(B/L) Morning tour to see Bangkok's beautiful flower market, followed by a boat tour of Bangkok's Klongs (canals) and the busy Chao Phraya River. See the Royal Barges and the spectacular Temple of Dawn. This is followed by a visit to a jewellery manufacturer. Afterwards we have an included lunch at a restaurant in Siam Square, followed by a short time for shopping in the wonderful Siam Square shopping area. Afterwards we are returned to the hotel.

Accommodation: Narai Hotel

08.11.17 Bangkok - Yangon, Myanmar

(B) This morning we transfer to Bangkok Airport, departing at 1.15pm on TG 301, arriving in Yangon at 2.00pm. We are met at the airport and taken on an afternoon tour of Yangon. We visit the Chauk Htat Gyi Pagoda, a huge reclining Buddha image, followed by a photo stop at the Karaweik Royal Floating Barge. Afterwards we are transferred to the hotel for a two night stay.

Accommodation: Sedona Hotel or similar

09.11.17 Yangon - Bago - Yangon

(B/L) After breakfast we leave the hotel and drive out of Yangon. The journey from Yangon to Bago leads through a picturesque rural landscape of paddy fields and small villages. Bago, formerly called Pegu, was founded in the year 825 by two Mon princes. The town, a former ancient port and capital, is situated about 84km from Yangon. The highlights include the enormous reclining Shwethalyaung Buddha image, one of the country's most revered objects, and the Shwemawdaw Pagoda, which is over a thousand years old. Repaired after an earthquake in the 1930's, the pagoda has an impressive spire, one that is even taller than that of Yangon's Shwedagon Pagoda. At the nearby market, agricultural produce grown locally is on sale. Lunch will be served at a local restaurant. On the way back to the capital, visit Htaukkyan War Cemetery, situated between Bago and Yangon. It houses the graves of more than 27,000 allied soldiers. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission administers this beautifully landscaped cemetery. This is a tour that gives insight into the history and culture of this region. Return to our hotel in the afternoon.

Accommodation: Sedona Hotel or similar

10.11.17 Yangon - Heho - Pindaya**(B/L/D)**

After an early breakfast, we transfer to the airport for a domestic flight to Heho. Upon arrival we have a two hour drive to Pindaya. The road is bumpy but the scenery is interesting, with endless paddy fields in the morning and rolling hills in the afternoon, as the road climbs into the mountains of southern Shan State. En route we visit Aung Ban local market (if open). Upon arrival in Pindaya we visit the magnificent Pindaya Caves, set in the limestone ridge overlooking a picturesque lake, where thousands of different types of Buddha images are on display in the various cave chambers. Lunch today is at a local restaurant. This evening we have an included dinner and an overnight stay in Pindaya.

Accommodation: Conqueror Hotel or similar

11.11.17 Pindaya - Inle Lake**(B/L/D)**

After breakfast we proceed by road to Nyaung Shwe (95km - 2 1/2 hours) and transfer by boat to our hotel for check in. After lunch at a local restaurant, we will commence an excursion by boat on the Inle Lake. En route we will encounter famous leg rowers, typical floating gardens, local methods of fishing, village life and magnificent scenery. Visits are made to Phaungdawoo Pagoda and the weaving village of Inpawkhon. Enjoy dinner and an overnight stay at Inle Lake.

Accommodation: Inle Resort or similar

12.11.17 Inle Lake - Heho - Mandalay**(B/L/D)**

This morning we will travel by boat to the Western shore of Inle Lake, where we will find the beginning of a stair path leading to the hidden and unknown Inn Thein Pagoda complex. Lunch is at a local restaurant. In the late afternoon we transfer by boat and road to Heho airport (25km, 1 hour) for a domestic flight to Mandalay. Upon arrival in Tado Oo Airport we transfer to our hotel in Mandalay. This evening we enjoy dinner at a local restaurant.

Accommodation: Ayarwaddy River View Hotel or similar

13.11.17 Mandalay - Amarapura - Mandalay**(B/L/D)**

After breakfast we drive to Amarapura and visit Mahagandayon, a famous Buddhist monastery, where more than a thousand monks live and study. Continue to the 150 year old U Bein teak bridge, built in 1851 at the time when Amarapura was the royal capital. Visit Bagaya Monastery, where there is a superb collection of Buddha statues. Lunch is served at a local restaurant. Our afternoon sightseeing tour of Mandalay includes Mahamuni Pagoda with its spectacular Buddha images covered with thick layers of gold leaves, a visit to a craftsman's workshop to see Kalaga tapestries being created, Shwenandaw Kyaung (or Golden Palace Monastery) a superb example of a traditional wooden building and Kuthadow Pagoda (known as the world's largest book) consisting of 729 marble slabs engraved with Buddhist scriptures. Enjoy a sunset from Mandalay Hill, followed by dinner at a local restaurant.

Accommodation: Ayarwaddy River View Hotel or similar

14.11.17 Mandalay - Maymyo**(B/L/D)**

Breakfast at the hotel. This morning we leave Mandalay for a scenic drive to the cool hill station of Pyin Oo Lwin (Maymyo) with its lovely lake and waterfalls, botanical garden and colonial era buildings. Explore the town centre by the famous horse

drawn carriages. Lunch is at a local restaurant. Sightseeing continues to the National Kandawgyi Garden, the beautiful botanical gardens of Pyin Oo Lwin. The cooler weather allows many flowers and fruits, commonly found in the temperate climates, to thrive here. We have an opportunity to take pictures at the historical Candacraig Hotel, which was built during the colonial era about one hundred years ago. This evening we enjoy dinner in Maymyo.

Accommodation: Aureum Resort or Hotel Pyin Oo Lwin

15.11.17 Maymyo - Mandalay - Mingun - Mandalay

(B/L/D)

After breakfast at the hotel we return to Mandalay and then have lunch at a local restaurant. After lunch we take an interesting boat trip to Mingun, site of a brick pagoda towering 50 metres above the Irrawaddy River, and home to the world's largest intact bell. During the boat trip we will see various types of wooden boats and bamboo rafts carrying goods up and down the river. Afterwards we return to Mandalay to visit Zegyo Market. This evening we enjoy dinner at a local restaurant.

Accommodation: Ayarwaddy River View Hotel or Yadanarpon Dynasty Hotel

16.11.17 Mandalay - Mt Popa - Bagan

(B/L/D)

After breakfast we drive overland to Mt Popa, an extinct volcano with a shrine dedicated to animist spirits, known as "Nats". For the energetic, there is time to climb 777 steps to the shrine at the top of the volcanic plug. Lunch is served at Popa Mountain Resort. We continue to Bagan, a scenic journey of varied agricultural landscapes and small villages. Later in the afternoon we arrive in Bagan where we will have an included dinner.

Accommodation: Thazin Garden Hotel or Myanmar Treasure Resort

17.11.17 Bagan

(B/L/D)

Today for those who wish there is an optional early morning hot-air balloon ride to have a bird's eye view over the pagoda-studded plain of Bagan. Before daybreak we will be picked up from our hotel and taken on a 30 minute balloon ride, depending on the prevailing weather conditions and wind speed. A glass of champagne is also provided, before being returned to the hotel.

Cost of Optional Hot-Air Balloon Ride - \$430 per person

Please note that there are strict weight limits for the hot-air balloon ride. Any passenger in excess of 125Kg or any passenger who requires space in the basket for two passengers will be required to pay for an additional space at the time of booking. Failure to provide accurate information in advance could lead to the refusal of service at the launch site, whereby no refund will be offered.

If you wish to book on this balloon ride, the amount will need to be paid on or before the final payment date for the tour.

Please also note availability is limited and it may not be possible to accommodate all bookings (in this instance your payment would be refunded to you prior to departing on the tour).

After breakfast we have visits to the most significant pagodas and temples of Bagan including Shwezigon Pagoda, built by King Anawrahta in the early 11th century as a religious shrine. See 12th century frescoes adorning the corridors of Kyansittha Cave Temple. Also see Gu Byauk Gyi, a temple with superb murals of Jataka scenes, as well as Htilominlo, the last Bamar style temple built in Bagan, with old murals and friezes. View Ananda Temple with four standing Buddha images and Thatbyinnyu Temple, known as 'Temple of Omniscience' and dating from 1144. After lunch at a

local restaurant, we learn about one of Myanmar's most treasured handicrafts at a lacquerware craftsman's workshop in nearby Myinkaba Village. Then proceed to Bupaya Pagoda or Shwesandaw Pagoda to watch the sunset over the famous Irrawaddy River. This evening we enjoy dinner at a local restaurant.
Accommodation: Thazin Garden Hotel or Myanmar Treasure Resort

18.11.17 Bagan - Yangon

(B/L) After breakfast we stroll through the colourful local market. This is followed by visits to Tayokepyay Temple in Minn Nan Thu Village, Phaya Thone Zu and Nandamanya Temples (noted for exquisite 13th century murals) and Kyat Kan Cave Monastery, a famous meditation centre in Bagan. We visit farming villages around Bagan and have lunch at a local restaurant. In the late afternoon we transfer to Bagan Airport for our flight to Yangon. Upon arrival we will be transferred to our hotel.
Accommodation: Sedona Hotel or similar

19.11.17 Yangon - Bangkok - Australia

(B) After breakfast, Sydney passengers will be transferred to the airport for their flights home. Sydney passengers depart Yangon at 9.50am on TG 304, arriving in Bangkok at 11.45am. Due to the lengthy wait at Bangkok airport, Sydney passengers will have the use of a three hour lounge pass.

Sydney passengers then depart Bangkok at 5.50pm on TG 475, arriving in Sydney at 7.10am the next morning (20.11.17).

Brisbane and Melbourne passengers will visit Thiri Mingalar fruit, flowers and vegetable market. Then continue to the Bogyoke (Scotts) Market and stroll through a compound of hundreds of food, garment, handicraft and gem stores. Later we are taken around the old colonial style city centre and the gilded Sule Pagoda, dating back over 2,000 years.

This afternoon Brisbane and Melbourne passengers will be transferred to Yangon International Airport, departing at 7.50pm on TG 306, arriving in Bangkok at 9.45pm.

20.11.17 Brisbane passengers depart Bangkok at 00.01am on TG 473, arriving in Brisbane at 12.05pm.

Melbourne passengers depart Bangkok at 00.05am on TG 465, arriving in Melbourne at 1.05pm.



Conditions for Macleay Valley Travel's Burma Tour

Deposits and Payments - A non-refundable deposit of \$200 per person is payable within 7 days of booking. This deposit is not refundable should you later cancel. The balance is payable in full 8 weeks prior to departure.

Refunds and Cancellations - Cancellations after final payment will result in a refund limited to whatever we can recoup from the airline.

Airline Tickets - Please note that any changes made to airline tickets once they have been issued will likely incur high cancellation and/or reissue fees. These fees are typically set by the airline and are outside of our control.

Insurance - Adequate travel insurance is essential. We can arrange this for you if desired. Macleay Valley Travel offers Suresave Travel Insurance. Please note that we can only process your travel insurance when we have received full payment for the insurance and the signed Suresave Travel Insurance application form, located on the last page of the Suresave Travel Insurance information booklet. Until this time the travel insurance cannot be processed and will not be valid. Macleay Valley Travel will bear no responsibility for any consequences that may occur as a result of an incomplete insurance application.

Passports - All travellers require a current passport with at least 6 months left on it at the end of the tour. Non-Australian passport holders require a re-entry visa for Australia. Visas are required for all Australian passport holders to Burma. Visa fee for an Australian passport holder is \$60 and we charge \$30 for processing. Please note: Visa fees are subject to any increases imposed by the Burmese Consulate.

Basic Tour Price and Taxes - Air taxes and Fuel Levies are included in the basic tour price if the tour is paid in full on or before the due date on the final invoice. Macleay Valley Travel reserves the right to charge for any increase in Air taxes and Fuel Levies if the tour is not paid in full by the due date.

Breakaway Fee - All fully inclusive prices are based on group travel and any deviation from the set itinerary will incur a breakaway fee. The breakaway fee for most deviations including a post-tour extension on this tour is \$55 per person. Please inquire with our office for prices on any pre-tour extensions.

Not Included in the Cost - Travel insurance, visas and all items of a personal nature such as telephone calls, drinks, excess baggage, tips, meals (except those specified in the itinerary), etc. are not included in the cost. Similarly, credit card payments can only be accepted if 2% is added to the price to help defray the heavy merchant fees charged to us by the credit card companies. There is a 3% surcharge for Diners Club.

Booking through other Agents - As we keep the cost of our tours as low as possible, there is insufficient margin for us to be able to pay commission to other travel agents, so some bookings can only be accepted if the client pays the other agent's commission.

Accreditation - Macleay Valley Travel is a fully accredited travel agency under the AFTA (Australian Federation of Travel Agents) ATAS - AFTA Travel Accreditation Scheme. As such, you are assured of a consumer focused and quality assured business, ensuring professional conduct and ethical business practices. We are happy for any prospective traveller with us to check us out with your local Consumer Affairs (Fair Trading) department.

Twin Share Bookings - If you do not have a travel partner, but wish to travel at twin share rates, we will try and assign you with another traveller but this is not guaranteed. We assign passengers by their gender, on a first come, first served basis and do not assign twin share passengers according to their age, profession, interests etc. There are risks with sharing a room with a person you do not know, and Macleay Valley Travel accepts no responsibility if you are incompatible with your assigned room mate. Additionally, if you are assigned a travelling companion to share with and they cancel off the tour prior to making the final payment, then you will either be required to pay the single room supplement or we will try our best to assign you with another twin share passenger, if one is available.

Health and Fitness - Macleay Valley Travel recommends that the passenger is reasonably healthy and/or fit to participate in this tour. Persons with a disability requiring special assistance must be accompanied by a companion. Macleay Valley Travel and their representatives cannot provide this service. Macleay Valley Travel reserves the right to accept/decline or terminate a passenger's participation in the tour under certain circumstances. Macleay Valley Travel is legally not permitted to provide medical advice as to vaccinations/injections which you may require for this tour and advise you to consult your local medical practitioner for specific medical advice. There are no compulsory injections required for this tour.

Limitation of Liability - As Macleay Valley Travel acts only as agent for the Airlines, Hotels, Coach Companies etc., providing accommodation, transportation and other services, Macleay Valley Travel shall not be liable or responsible for death or injury to any person or loss or damage to any property including baggage arising out of or connection with any transportation, accommodation or other services, or resulting directly or indirectly from acts of God, fire, breakdown in machinery or equipment, acts of Government or other authorities, de jure or defacto wars, whether declared or not, hostilities, civil disturbances, strikes, riots, thefts, epidemics, quarantines, medical or customs regulations, delays or cancellations caused by changes in schedules or itinerary, or over bookings or defaults or for any causes beyond Macleay Valley Travel's control or any loss or damage resulting from improper or insufficient passports, visas or other documents and neither Macleay Valley Travel, and its servants or employees shall be or become liable or responsible for any additional expenses or liability sustained or incurred by the tour member as a result of the foregoing causes. Additionally you must meet the entry requirements for each country you visit. Macleay Valley Travel will not be liable if you are denied entry to a country for any reason, including a past criminal history. Macleay Valley Travel reserves the right to decline bookings made for any group tour. Any tour booking confirmation is conditional, contingent on our view of the ability of a person to be able to participate in a tour without the likelihood of conflict between members of a tour whether perceived or actual.

Macleay Valley Travel reserves the right to modify the itinerary or the accommodation if circumstances make this necessary, provided that the amended itinerary is of equal value or greater value than that of the original program.

MACLEAY VALLEY TRAVEL - BOOKING FORM

PLEASE PRINT DETAILS CLEARLY IN BLOCK LETTERS AND ALSO

A PHOTOCOPY OF YOUR PASSPORT MUST BE SENT WITH BOOKING FORM

Name of Tour : _____ Departure Date: _____

Passenger 1 (as written in passport) _____

Title: **Mr. Mrs. Ms. Miss. Dr.** _____ Age: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Passenger 2 (as written in passport) _____

Title: **Mr. Mrs. Ms. Miss. Dr.** _____ Age: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Postal Address: _____

_____ **PostCode** _____ **Email** _____

Telephone / Fax Number: _____ **Mobile** _____

Passport Number: _____ Expiry Date: _____

Passport Number: _____ Expiry Date: _____

Passport Nationality: _____

Passport Nationality _____

(Passport must have 6 months validity from the time of tour completion)

Single room / Twin beds / Double bed: (Room type is subject to availability)

Circle which airport you wish to depart from: SYDNEY / MELBOURNE / BRISBANE

Any existing medical conditions? Passenger 1: _____ Passenger 2: _____

Special Dietary Requests – Passenger 1: _____ Passenger 2: _____

Optional Extensions: _____

Would you like to receive details of our travel insurance?: YES / NO (Please Circle)

In case of emergency, please notify :

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Please return this sheet with your non-refundable deposit of \$200 per person.

DECLARATION. I have read and understand fully the booking conditions and I accept them.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

A copy of passport is required to verify spelling of name. If this is not provided and the information we have for the airline is incorrect and ticket is issued, then the airline will charge a reissue fee.