

INDEPENDENT TRIPS

Myanmar Highlights Explorer 17D/16N

Cultural

17 Days / 1 Country

Myanmar

Departure city: Yangon, Myanmar

End city: Yangon, Myanmar



HIGHLIGHTS

- Discover the famous Shwedagon Pagoda
- Gain insight into traditional Danu and Shan village life
- Live the local life as you travel on public transportation
- Capture unique landscapes of fields and unique temples

Discover Myanmar on this 17-Day journey. This will be a full cultural immersion with a variety of tours including: Shwedagon Pagoda, Hsipaw, Mandalay, Bagan and Inle Lake!

MAP



What is included



Independent Trips

Include all of your accommodation, transport and experiences on a pre-set trip that you can customize to perfectly suit your travel needs.



Accommodation: 14

- 14 Nights accommodation in budget hotels and guesthouses



Transport: 9

- Airport Transfers, Overnight and Public Bus, Taxi & Van
Public taxi Pyin Oo Lwin to Mandalay
- Yangon airport pick-up & drop-off
Public bus Mandalay to Bagan
- Overnight bus Yangon to Hsipaw
Public bus Bagan to Kalaw
- Public bus Hsipaw to Kyaukme
Overnight bus Inle Lake to Yangon
- Train Kyaukme to Pyin Oo Lwin
All transportation during tours



Meals: 17

- 14 Breakfast(s), 3 Lunch(es),

What is not included

- *Flights
- *Some transfers to/from bus station
- *Some transfers to/from accommodation
- *Entrance fees
- *Other meals & drinks
- *Optional activities
- *Tips
- *Personal expenses
- *Travel insurance
- *Visa fees

*Prices for optional activities are subject to change at any time without prior notice. Please confirm these prices before departing on your trip.

Itinerary

Day 1: Yangon, Myanmar

Yangon Airport Pick-Up

Upon arrival to the airport you will be met by one of our representatives and your accommodation for check-in. Enjoy the rest of the day exploring Yangon independently. Overnight in Yangon.

Day 2: Yangon - Hsipaw, Myanmar

Spiritual Shwedagon Pagoda Tour & Overnight Bus to Hsipaw (B)

Have breakfast at your accommodation and make your own way to the designated meeting point by 08:00am to begin your tour. Today you will join a Spiritual Shwedagon Pagoda Tour! During this tour you will learn pagoda history and about the life of the people living near the pagoda. This tour is a great way to gain deeper insight into Buddhism and how it has been mixed with the local belief in nats (Myanmar spirits). The tour begins at the bottom of the hill, passes through workshops, markets and monasteries; the perfect introduction to life in Myanmar. During the tour you will witness offerings to monks and even visit a fortune teller. Once the tour comes to an end you will have a free afternoon to enjoy at your leisure until your transfer to the bus station where you will board an overnight bus to Hsipaw.

You will have a guide to help you reserve seats in the air-conditioned night bus that departs around 17:00. Your bus will be making a 30 minute stop for dinner (not included) and you can request toilet stops. Overnight on the bus.

Approximate Driving Time: 12 Hours

Day 3: Hsipaw, Myanmar

Hsipaw Walking Tour

While on your overnight bus to Hsipaw, your bus will be stopping in Kyaukme at around 06:00 for breakfast (not included) and freshening up. At around 07:30 the bus will stop at the main road in Hsipaw by the Catholic Church before continuing on. Upon arrival to Hsipaw you will be met by a representative who will send your luggage to your accommodation while you stretch your legs and walk around. You will witness market practices as you walk to the fresh produce market at the riverside and then the central market where Shan and other tribal people come to in the early morning from nearby villages. Continue on to your accommodation for check-in. You will have free time to rest, walk or bike around (not included).

Day 4: Hsipaw, Myanmar

Hsipaw Free Day (B)

Rise in time for breakfast at your accommodation and spend the day freely exploring Hsipaw as you wish. Engage with the locals, walk through the streets and sample the local meals. Overnight in Hsipaw.

Day 5: Hsipaw - Kyaukme, Myanmar

Public Bus Transfer to Kyaukme & Guided Trek (B/L)

After breakfast you will say goodbye to Hsipaw as today you will be moving to Kyaukme by public bus. Make your own way to the bus departure point (3 minute walk from your accommodation) and hop on board your transport. This will be an authentic bus ride amongst locals. The bus will be stopping in every village to let people or goods in and out so expect to be surrounded by crates of vegetables, rice!

You will be getting off at the final stop, the market, at around 08:30 where your local guide will be waiting for you to take you to your accommodation. After check-in you will embark on a full day of trekking! You will pass through mountains where your guide will introduce you to the life of the Palaung people and you will be stopping for lunch at one of the remote Palaung villages. Throughout the trek you will be in contact with nature and people who live according to century-old traditions. Once the trek ends you will head back to your accommodation to recover. Overnight in Kyaukme.

Day 6: Kyaukme - Pyin Oo Lwin, Myanmar

Train Transfer to Pyin Oo Lwin via Gokteik Viaduct (B)

Have breakfast at your accommodation and then spend some time to exploring the town and marketplace. You can even buy snacks and refreshments for your upcoming train journey. Next, make your own way to the railway station (10 minute walk or a short motorbike taxi ride away from your accommodation). You will depart at around 11:05 for Pyin Oo Lwin. This will be a scenic train ride through the Sha mountains.

You will be passing by the famous Gokteik Viaduct, once the second highest railway bridge in the world, constructed in 1901 by Pennsylvania Steel Company. Throughout the ride vendors will be entering the train selling drinks and local snacks. You will arrive to Pyin Oo Lwin at around 16:00. A representative will be waiting for you at the train station to transfer you to your accommodation. Overnight in Pyin Oo Lwin.

Day 7: Pyin Oo Lwin - Mandalay, Myanmar

Public Taxi Transfer to Mandalay (B)

Spend the morning doing as you wish after breakfast. Later, you will be transferred to the bus station at 11:00 from where we will be taking a public taxi to Mandalay. Upon arrival to Mandalay you will be taken to your accommodation for check-in and then enjoy the rest of the day at your leisure. Overnight in Mandalay.

Day 8: Mandalay, Myanmar

Mandalay Biking Tour (B)

Rise early and load up on fuel with breakfast at your accommodation for your half-day biking tour. You will be picked up from your accommodation at around 07:15 and transferred to the starting point of the biking tour. Ride through the back lanes of town, pass through several markets and then towards the north east of the city. In a few minutes you will be in the countryside where you can observe farmers and villagers going on with their daily rituals and a few locals waving as you pass by. Keep an eye out for water buffalo! Along the way we will be making stops at markets to learn about the different items on sale and observe bamboo weaving. This tour will introduce you to what life in a typical Myanmar village is like. To end the tour we will be stopping by a local tea shop for tea and snacks. Please make your own way back to your accommodation. Overnight in Mandalay.

Note: Please wear comfortable clothing for this activity and sunscreen. Quarter length pants, shorts, t-shirts and comfortable closed shoes are all advisable.

Day 9: Mandalay - Bagan, Myanmar

Public Bus Transfer to Bagan (B)

Have breakfast at your accommodation then take your transfer to the bus station. You will be taking a public bus from Bagan to Mandalay. The bus will depart Mandalay around 08:30 arriving to Bagan around 14:30. Upon arrival make your own way to your accommodation for check-in and enjoy the rest of your day at your leisure. Overnight in Bagan.

Approximate Driving Time: 6 Hours

Day 10: Bagan, Myanmar

Bagan Biking Tour (B)

Get ready for your half-day biking tour as you load up on fuel with breakfast at your accommodation before your guide collects you from your accommodation. Bagan is a traveller's dream, it isn't packed with tourists and it has a stunning landscape of ancient and unique temples that spread around in between the bamboo huts. During your biking tour your guide will show you some of the best sceneries, feel free to stop at any point to capture the beauty with your eyes or camera. At the end of the tour you will be dropped off at your accommodation. Overnight in Bagan.

Day 11: Bagan, Myanmar

Bagan Free Day (B)

Today you have more time to explore Bagan. Have breakfast at your accommodation and then spend the rest of the day discovering Bagan as you wish. Overnight in Bagan.

Day 12: Bagan - Kalaw, Myanmar

Public Bus Transfer to Kalaw (B)

After breakfast make your own way to the bus station where you will be taking a public bus to Kalaw. Your bus will depart Bagan around 09:30 and arrive to Kalaw around 14:30. Upon arrival please make your own way to your accommodation for check-in and then enjoy the rest of the day as you wish. Overnight Kalaw.

Approximate Driving Time: 5 Hours

Day 13: Kalaw - Inle Lake, Myanmar

Trek to Inle Lake (B/L)

Rise early, have breakfast at your accommodation and get ready for your full-day trek to Inle Lake. You will be picked-up from your accommodation and then you're off on your journey! This will be a 3-hour trek and we will be passing through Danu Village where you will encounter the Danu hill tribes, forests, and sesame, tea or rice fields.

We will be arriving at Myin Dike at around 11:00 where we will hop on board a train for a scenic ride through mountains, valleys and a glimpse into the local life in the hills. You will be provided with a simple lunch on the way and arrive at Shwe Nyaung around 17:30. Upon arrival you will be transferred to your accommodation by Inle Lake. Overnight in Inle Lake.

Day 14: Inle Lake, Myanmar

Inle Lake Free Day (B)

Today you can explore the Inle Lake region. Enjoy breakfast at your accommodation and then spend the rest of the day discovering Inle Lake as you wish. Overnight in Inle Lake.

Day 15: Inle Lake, Myanmar

Inle Bike, Boat & Kayak Tour (B/L)

After breakfast you are ready for your full day Inle Lake Tour. You will be exploring Inle by bike, boat and kayak! After breakfast, make your own way to the designated meeting point by 07:45 and hop on board your bike. We will ride by flower fields, monasteries and bamboo forests. Next, jump on a long-tail boat that will take you to secret cycling destinations and a traditional Shan house where we will feast on local cuisine. After lunch, it's time for kayaking! You will paddle along narrow waterways and stilt-house villages. Later, leave your kayak behind and take the boat journey back to Inle Lake. Upon arrival make your own way back to your accommodation to rest. Overnight in Inle Lake.

Day 16: Inle Lake - Yangon, Myanmar

Overnight Bus to Yangon (B)

Enjoy your final morning in Inle Lake. Please make your own way to the bus station around 18:00 for your overnight bus to Yangon. You will arrive to Yangon around 07:00 the following day. Overnight on the bus.

Approximate Driving Time: 13 Hours

Day 17: Yangon, Myanmar

Yangon Airport Drop-Off

Upon arrival Yangon make your own way to the designated meeting point for your transfer to Yangon International Airport. Your journey ends when you arrive to the airport, we wish you safe travels for your onwards journey.

