
Irrawaddy River by Anawrahta Cruise - 12 days

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I. Itinerary Overview

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Day 4	Pyay
Day 5	Thayet and 19C Forts
Day 6	Magwe
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II. Detailed Itinerary

Day 1

Sailing Day

After checking-in and a short Safety Briefing you can enjoy a relaxing day's sailing, an ideal way to unwind after the busy streets of Yangon City. Our spacious Spa facilities (including the Ayeyarwady's only Swedish-style sauna) and our 8 meter, Jacuzzi-style swimming pool await you. For those wanting some mental stimulation there will be the first of our "Burmese-for-Beginners" language lessons during the morning and a lecture on the Irrawaddy Flotilla Company during the afternoon. We will pass through the Twante Canal which was built by the British between 1881 and 1883 to connect the Yangon River with the Irrawaddy River and shorten transit times for the steamers of the IFC; the biggest fleet of river ships ever seen.

Day 2 Danuphyu

Early-morning yoga is available as we sail for Danuphyu. Despite their heroic resistance and the skillful leadership of their great General Maha Bandoola, here, in 1825, the Burmese army suffered a crucial defeat in the First Anglo-Burmese War. General Maha Bandoola himself also fell here and we will visit his memorial, now situated in a Pali Monastic University. We will also visit a small, family-run cheroot producer and take tea with the locals in a tea shop

After lunch on board there will be an explanation and demonstration concerning the ancient habit of betel-chewing. Tasting is optional!

Day 3 Sailing Day

Early-morning yoga is available as we continue northwards. Again, relaxation is the order of the day simply watching the life on the riverbanks slipping by. A second "Burmese-for Beginners" is on offer this morning, followed by a Book Review, looking at classic and current literature available on this fascinating country. Early in the afternoon there will be a demonstration of "Myanmar Traditional Dress" and, to continue the cultural theme, this afternoon's lecture will be entitled "Myanmar Ways of Life". A Cocktail Party before dinner will give you a chance to wear your traditional "longyi".

Day 4 Pyay

Our yoga session can again start your day before disembarking after breakfast for a tour of Pyay. Known as Prome to the Colonial British, in the mid 19C this was the dividing line between British-held "Lower Burma" and the Kingdom of Ava and, as such, was an important trading point. We will also visit the ancient Pyu city of Sri Ksetra which is nearby and was granted World Heritage Status in 2014.

After lunch and afternoon tea there will be a lecture entitled "Myanmar, Past and Present" which will

give an overview of the history of this complicated country, including a look at the present situation.

Day 5 **Thayet and 19C Forts**

This morning there will be the opportunity to stretch your legs in the morning and walk in the colonial-period town of Thayet. Like many Asian countries, the cool of the morning sees small towns and villages at their busiest and there is also an ideal light for photography. After lunch, things will be a little warmer for the first of the two forts we will see this afternoon – Gwechaung Fort – for which you will experience very local transport (ox-drawn carts); while the second, Minhla Fort, is just a short walk along the riverbank from our mooring place for tonight. These forts were built by Italian engineers working for King Mindun to protect the Kingdom of Ava from British invasion.

Day 6 **Magwe**

Another morning tour, this time by tuk-tuk, will show you around Magwe; stopping at the bustling market before enjoying some more peaceful river views from the high vantage point of the Mya Than Lun Pagoda. This pagoda was built in 1929 using solid gold bricks.

Back on the ship there will be a final “Burmese-for-Beginners” lesson where you can learn how to write your own name in beautiful Burmese script.

After lunch our Chefs will have a Burmese Cookery Demonstration and following Afternoon Tea there will be a lecture entitled “History of Bagan”.

Day 7 **Salay**

Today there will be a morning tour of the sleepy riverside town of Salay that will show you the beautiful Youqson Kyaung, a beautifully-carved teak monastery built between 1882 and 1892 and now run by the Department of Archaeology as a museum. A short distance away is the Mann Paya, home to a huge statue of the Buddha, unusually made from lacquer. In Colonial times Salay was home to wealthy oil merchants and still has some fine examples of Colonial houses and you will make a special visit inside one of these.

Enjoy lunch while cruising through the hills of Chuak, birthplace of “British Petroleum” and still producing oil today. In the afternoon we will arrive in Bagan where there will be a Sunset Tour of this incredible area, starting with the mysterious Dhammayangyi, the majestic Ananda and continuing on to see the pretty Sulamani, before finishing at one of the “sunset” pagodas..

Day 8**Homelin**

Homelin is the end of the 400 navigable miles of the Chindwin for us (and indeed all ships of any size) and here we will make a morning tour before starting our downstream voyage; including taking in the view from the high vantage point of the Buddha Lotus Garden. Here your guide will explain the significance of the various statues depicting scenes from the life of the Buddha. On our return to the ship you may appreciate the power of the river as we now sail with the force of the current on our side. During the afternoon we will continue the religious theme of the morning with a lecture entitled "Religion in Myanmar".

Day 9**Sailing**

After the busy touring of the preceding days, today is another chance to simply relax on the Sun Deck, watching the unfolding scenery slip past and returning the waves of the village children on the riverbanks. During the morning there will be the opportunity for a Ship Tour and an afternoon lecture on the "History of Mandalay".

Day 10**Ava and Mingun**

After breakfast, leave the ship for a horse-drawn carriage tour of the ancient capital of Ava, home to the Burmese Kings for many centuries. A coach will then take you across the river to Sagaing using a bridge built by the Colonial British in 1934. Here you will visit a silversmith, seeing techniques unchanged for centuries. Back on board lunch will be served as we sail on to reach Mingun, site of the huge unfinished pagoda of King Bodawpaya and the world's biggest un-cracked bell. Here there will be an early-afternoon walking tour to see these sights and also visit the Myatheindan Pagoda, built in 1816 and painted white as a representation of the mythological Buddhist mountain, Mount Meru.

Day 11**Mandalay**

A short, early-morning sail across the river will see us berthed at Mandalay City at about 08:30am. A morning tour will show you the main sites of this fabled city including the Kuthodaw Pagoda ("the world's biggest book"), the atmospheric Shwenandaw Monastery, which used to be part of King Mindon's living quarters and where he died in 1878, the reconstruction of the Royal Palace and the view from the top of the famous Mandalay Hill.

In the afternoon the tour will continue to show you the highly revered, gold-encrusted Buddha at the Mahamuni Temple. You will also see gold-leaf beating, visit a silk-weaving factory, pass through dusty streets filled with marble-carving workshops and finish the afternoon with sunset at the famous 200 year old, teak, "U Bein's Bridge". Farewell Dinner and evening entertainment on board.

Day 12 Mandalay and Check-out

Mandalay and Check-out.

III. Terms & Conditions

GENERAL BOOKING TERMS & CONDITIONS

BOOKING PROCEDURE

- E-Travel Myanmar required deposit of at least 30% of total tour cost to guarantee the booking. This amount can be paid by credit card (through a secured payment system), bank transfer, Western Union or Paypal.
- Remainder of total tour cost must be paid in cash upon arrival or 2 weeks before departure date if by any other payment methods.
- Transfer fee, if any, must be paid at customer's end. E-Travel Myanmar will recognize the amount received only.

CANCELLATION

At E-Travel Myanmar Co.,Ltd, we do our best to minimize cancellation penalty for our guests but we must abide the cancellation policy of each service provider. Any cancellations should be made in writing.

Cancellation by the customers

Where the Customer cancels the tour, then the effective date of cancellation will be the date the company receives the written notification. The cancellation charge to the customer is listed below:

- More than 30 days before departure :deposit if forfeited
- Between 15 and 29 days before departure :50 % of total tour cost
- Between 7 days and 14 days before departure :70 % of total tour cost
- Between 2 days and 6 days before departure :85 % of total tour cost
- 1 day or less :100 % of total tour cost
- Flight tickets are fixed following the final itinerary, 100% charge for airfare for any cancellation.

Cancellation by E-Travel Myanmar

If tour is not paid by the due date, the company shall have the right to cancel the tour. If we, at the request of the customer, agrees to delay cancellation of the tour then the company still cancels the tour for the customer's non-payment, the cancellation charges set out shall apply and be payable by the customer.

Special conditions

E-Travel Myanmar reserves the right to change these cancellation conditions depending on airlines, hotels and cruises' cancellation policies. We will inform you in writing in case the above conditions need to be modified.

RESPONSIBILITY

Except in situation beyond human control, E-Travel Myanmar will be held responsibility for any additional expense resulting from the change caused by us in itinerary, transportation, accommodation. Except in situation beyond human control, E-Travel Myanmar shall provide compensatory service for participants or refund the difference in payment for service rendered below standard.

The detailed program and schedule flights are subject to change by airline without prior notice and in accordance with the weather conditionals and daily operation of flights. Consequently, itinerary concerned might be adjusted. If this occurs, E-Travel Myanmar will do all in its power to assist participants in boarding flights or finding alternative arrangements. This is done as a courtesy to participants and E-Travel Myanmar can not held the responsibility for denied boarding, or additional charges occurred.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel Insurance is not included. E-Travel Myanmar highly recommend you to have travel insurance when traveling around Asia. /