



BUDDHIST LANDS FESTIVE DAYS

Tour code MYS-06
Route Yangon – Golden Rock - Bago – Bagan - Mandalay – Yangon – BKK – Luang Prabang
Duration 13 days / 12 nights
Features Experience a solemn pilgrimage tour in Myanmar, intermingle with the Burmese people in their peaceful life, and end up with a memorable New Year in Laos during the Water Festival.

Itinerary in brief Services Included

DAY 1. ARRIVAL IN YANGON, VISIT YANGON (D)
 DAY 2: YANGON - KYAIKHTIYO (GOLDEN ROCK) (B/L/-)
 DAY 3: KYAIKHTIYO (GOLDEN ROCK) – BAGO - YANGON (B/L/-)
 DAY 4. YANGON – BAGAN, VISIT BAGAN (B/L/-)
 DAY 5: BAGAN – MANDALAY BY BOAT (B/L/-)
 DAY 6: MANDALAY - AMARAPURA – MANDALAY (B/L/-)
 DAY 7: MANDALAY FREE DAY (B/-/-)
 DAY 8: MANDALAY – YANGON, VISIT (B/L/-)
 DAY 9: YANGON - THANLYIN – YANGON (B/L/-)
 DAY 10: YANGON – BKK – LUANG PRABANG (B/L/-)
 DAY 11: LUANG PRABANG FESTIVE DAYS (B/L/-)
 DAY 12: LUANG PRABANG FESTIVE DAYS (B/L/-)
 DAY 13: LUANG PRABANG – DEPARTURE (B)

English-speaking tourguides (station guides)
 Lunch, with local food, at local clean restaurants
 Twin-shared room with daily breakfast
 Land transfer by private air-con vehicles as per program
 Horse cart tour in Bagan
 Boat trip as stated in the program
 Water during transfer

Services Excluded

Visa
 Domestic flight (quoted separately)
 International flight (quoted separately)
 Other meals and drinks
 Tips
 Personal expenses





Itinerary in details

DAY 1. ARRIVAL IN YANGON - VISIT YANGON (D)

Welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Threeland tour guide and transferred to hotel. After check-in and refreshment, start our orientation tour in Yangon including Sule Pagoda (a land mark in the city centre). Legend said that it is 2,000-year-old and the central stupa is said to enshrine a hair of the Buddha. During the walking tour around Sule Pagoda, we will discover a unique charm of Yangon at every corner with its old colonial architecture buildings such as City Hall, High Court, etc. Enjoy a great sunset at marvellous Shwedagon pagoda and its pagoda bazaar. The massive and magnificent gold-encrusted Shwedagon Pagoda (99m high), is considered of the most remarkable wonders of the world. It was built 2,600 years ago and being a place to meet devoted Buddhists at meditation and prays. Back to hotel late afternoon. O/N Yangon.

DAY 2. YANGON - KYAIKHTIYO – GOLDEN ROCK (B/L/-)

After breakfast at hotel, drive to Kyaikhtiyo (about 5 hours from Yangon), a huge boulder completely covered by gold leaves and delicately balanced on the edge of a cliff. The gold-plated boulder is said to maintain its balance thanks to a single hair of the Buddha being enshrined inside the pagoda and offering one of the most stunning panoramas of the entire Myanmar. Arrive at the Kinpun "base camp" - the starting point of the road going and onward to Kyaikhtiyo. Late we will take a truck ride for about 45 minutes to reach the terminus of the road "Rathedaung", the Golden Rock is only one hour to climb on foot or by sedans (to rent on the spot upon request). Once arrival at the vicinity of the pagoda, we can enjoy a spectacular view, particularly at sunrise or sunset. O/N at Golden Rock.

DAY 3. KYAIKHTIYO - BAGO – YANGON (B/L/-)

Wake up early to visit the Golden rock in marvelous sunrise with numerous pilgrims and Buddhists from all over Myanmar, then back to hotel for breakfast. After the visit we will walk back to the transit place "Rathedaung" and then a truck ride to reach Kinpun base camp. On the way back to Yangon we can stop at Bago including the highlights as the Shwemawdaw Pagoda, stands as a landmark of Bago and it is the highest pagoda in Mon state with the elevation of 114 meter high, built over 2,000 years ago; Shwethalyaung Reclining Buddha which is one of the most elegant reclining Buddha images, stretching 55 meter long and 16 meter high and was built during 9th century; Four giant Buddha images of Kyaikpun Pagoda (28 meter high), built by King Damazedi in 15th century. Arrive in Yangon in the afternoon. O/N Yangon.

DAY 4: YANGON – BAGAN (B/L/-)

Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer to the airport for the early morning flight to Bagan, which was the capital of the first Burmese Empire. It covers more than 49 sq. kilometers containing over 2,000 pagodas and shrines and is one of the richest archaeological sites in Asia. We can start at the Shwezigon Pagoda – built by King Anawrahta, a prototype of later Myanmar stupas, Htilominlo Temple well-known for its old mural, fine plaster carving and glazed sandstone decoration. In the afternoon continue to discover Old Bagan where most beautiful testimonies of the splendors and the richness of this site conceal; Ananda Temple – one of the finest in architecture and most revered temples with its four standing Bagan style Buddha images and huge carved teak doors, Ananda Oakkyang - simply a Monastery built with red bricks, located within the precincts of the Ananda Temple. It was built in 1137 AD and paintings of the 18th century are seen in the walls of the monastery, Thatbyinnyu Temple – 201ft tall, the tallest in Bagan and it is shaped like a cross, but is not symmetrical. The temple has two primary storeys, with the seated Buddha image located on the second storey. Then Dhammayangyi Temple – the widest temple in Bagan, and is built in a plan similar to that of Ananda Temple. O/N Bagan.

Please note!

There are more than 2,000 pagodas and shrines in Bagan so it is difficult to cover all temples within a limited time. The temples named above are our choice of the major temples in order to avoid hectic tourism. Should we wish to discover more, just let our guide and driver know to show us as many places as possible within your stay.

DAY 5: BAGAN - MANDALAY (BY BOAT) (B/L/-)

After breakfast, transfer to the jetty for day cruise to Mandalay, which was founded in 1857-1860 as the capital by King Mindon and remained the capital city of the Konboug, Myanmar's last dynasty. The trip on the Irrawaddy (Ayeyarwaddy) River will bring us a memorable experience. This cruise offers an opportunity to enjoy spectacular view of historic buildings and discover the rural life along the riverfront. Upon arrival in Mandalay, transfer to hotel and check-in. O/N Mandalay.

Please note:

The Boat between Bagan and Mandalay may not be operated in the low season and we can take flight or bus instead, at adjusted cost.



DAY 6: MANDALAY - AMARAPURA (B/L/-)

Breakfast at hotel. In the morning, the tour of Mandalay will take us to its significant sites includes Mahamuni Buddha Image - the most revered Buddha image in Mandalay; the 4m-high seated image is cast in bronze. Transfer to 18th century Amarapura, situated in the South of Mandalay and about 30-minute driving. Visit Mahagandayon Kyaung, one of Amarapura's treasures, is a famous Buddhist monastery where more than thousand monks live and study. The morning meal procession of thousand of monks at 10am is so unique that becomes famous even to the non-Buddhist visitors. Amarapura is also known as a weaving city where silk dresses are woven and silk and cotton weaving workshops can be seen. We can walk the famous 200 years old U-Bein Bridge - the world's longest teakwood Bridge across the Thaungthaman Lake by its 1,208 meters long. After lunch time, you will be exploring more of Mandalay -Shwenandawkyauing or Golden Palace Monastery - a very magnificent building beautifully carved in wood, dating back to 19th century. It is of great interest, not only as a fine example of a traditional Burmese wooden monastery, but also as a fragile reminder of the old Mandalay Palace. Go on to visit Kuthodaw Paya - the world's largest book of 729 marble slabs inscribed the entire Tripitaka. Back to hotel in the afternoon. O/N Mandalay.

DAY 7: MANDALAY (FREE DAY) (B/-/-)

Breakfast at hotel. Free at leisure the whole day so that you relax and choose any activities of your choice. No services provided. O/N Mandalay.

DAY 8: MANDALAY - YANGON, VISIT (B/L/-)

Breakfast at hotel. Morning take a flight back to Yangon. Upon arrival in Yangon transfer to hotel for check in. Start sightseeing Swe Taw Myat Zedi (Buddha's Replica Tooth Relic Pagoda), Kaba Aye Pagoda (World Peace Pagoda), built for memorial of the 1954-56 sixth Buddhist Synod, is located on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, Mayangon Township. And then proceed to Mahapasana Guha, "Great Cave", built close to the Kaba Aye Pagoda. Enjoy evening sunset at Botahtaung Pagoda, which is hollow type, like maize inside decorated with glass mosaic and it means the Pagoda guarded by one Thousand vanguards. It is located by the river bank and close to Harbor, attracted by the pleasant atmosphere of the waterfront. We can visit Nathida Jetty and its surrounding to discover the daily working life of Myanmar People. Back to hotel in the afternoon. O/N Yangon.

DAY 9: YANGON - THANLYIN (B/L/-)

Breakfast at hotel. Drive to Thanlyin, about 45 minutes ride from Yangon by car across Thanlyin Bridge. It was an important trading centre in the 17th century under the Portuguese. Sightseeing in Kyaik Khauk Pagoda and then proceed to Pa Auk Meditation Centre, branch centre of the main monastery in Mawlamyine, the capital of Mon State. The temple itself is a modestly-sized meditation centre that caters mostly for Burmese laypeople who wish to study Pa Auk's teachings. The abbot speaks English, but is often away. Besides him, there is an Irish nun who has been at the temple for many years and can speak fluent Burmese. There are plenty of places for mediators to stay and also small shop that sells white clothes, timers, washing powder and anything else that the mediators might need. The place is quite nice and the laypeople around are very helpful and welcoming. In the evening, drive back to Yangon and transfer to the hotel. O/N Yangon.

DAY 10: DEPARTURE YANGON – BKK – LUANG PRABANG (B/L/D)

Breakfast at the hotel. Go shopping at Bogoyoke Aung San market (formerly Scott Market), where we can find wide range of souvenirs, handicraft shops, gems and jewelry famous for their qualities. Transfer to Yangon International Airport for your departure flight. Boarding and taking off on flight to BKK before going on to Luang Prabang to attend the great Water Festival of the traditional New Year of Mekong nations.

Welcome to Laos! The guide and vehicle of Threeland in Laos will transfer us to the hotel in the center of Luang Prabang to check in and have dinner. Along with him we will come to enjoy the night market of Luang Prabang. Have Welcome dinner in Luang Prabang and O/N Luang Prabang.

DAY 11: LUANG PRABANG FESTIVE DAYS (B/L/-)

We should wake up early in the morning, around 06.00 or 06.30, to catch the scene of alms giving on streets of Luang Prabang, with hundreds of monks walking in long queues to receive the alms from the local Buddhists, a great image of Laos following its thousand-year traditions.)

Breakfast at hotel. This morning we can get familiar with Luang Prabang, the best-preserved traditional city of Southeast Asia in its last day of the traditional New Year – the Water Festival (Bun Pii Mai Lao). Our trip today will be on foot (alternatively by bicycles at own rental cost) to the impressive stupa of Wat Visoun and the shrine of Wat Aham and Wat Mai. Climb up Phousi Mountain to have an excellent green panorama of Luang Prabang before joining the ceremony of "Miss Pii Mai" at That Luang Stadium and traditional show organized for Laos' New Year in the afternoon. O/N Luang Prabang.

DAY 12: LUANG PRABANG FESTIVE DAYS (B/L/-)

After breakfast at hotel we will join the Fair market on the occasion of New Year, holy ceremony of sand stupa building on the Mekong opposite Luang Prabang, Baci ceremony, traditional show and rocket firing. Visit Wat Xieng Thong, the most magnificent Buddhist temple in Luang Prabang with marvelous carving, Buddha statue, and typical "Luang Prabang architectural style", where many festive activities are going on during the New Year in Luang Prabang. O/N Luang Prabang.

DAY 13: LUANG PRABANG DEPARTURE (B)

Breakfast at hotel, at your leisure till our guide come to pickup you to the airport for our departure flight home.