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| Fares | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| One-way, either direction, in kyat | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Upper class  sleeper | | | | | | | Upper class  seat | | | | Ordinary  seat | | |
| Rangoon to Mandalay | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 12,750 ($14) | | | | | | | 9,300 ($10) | | | | 4,600 | | |
| Rangoon to Thazi | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 10,100 ($11) | | | | | | | 7,350 ($8) | | | | 3,700 | | |
| Rangoon to Naypyitaw | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | - | | | | | | | 5,600 ($6) | | | | ? | | |
| Rangoon to Bago | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | - | | | | | | | 1,150 ($1) | | | | 1,000 | | |
| Mandalay to Rangoon | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 12,750 ($14) | | | | | | | 9,300 ($10) | | | | 4,600 | | |
| Mandalay to Thazi | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | - | | | | | | | 2,000 ($2) | | | | 1,000 | | |
| Mandalay to Naypyitaw | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | - | | | | | | | 3,700 ($4) | | | | ? | | |
| Mandalay to Bago | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | ? | | | | | | | 9,300 ($10) | | | | ? | | |
| Yangon ► Mandalay | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| Train number: | | | | | 11 | | 31 | | | | 9/143 | | | 5 | | | 3 | | | | 7 | | | |
| Classes: | | | | | U,O | | U,O | | | | U,O | | | U,O | | | S,U,O,R | | | | U,O | | | |
| Yangon (Rangoon) | depart | | | | 06:00 | | 08:00 | | | | 11:00 | | | 15:00 | | | 17:00 | | | | 20:30 | | | |
| Bago (Pegu) | arrive | | | | 07:45 | | 09:40 | | | | 13:01 | | | 16:41 | | | 18:45 | | | | 22:10 | | | |
| depart | | | | 07:48 | | 09:43 | | | | 13:16 | | | 16:44 | | | 18:48 | | | | 22:13 | | | |
| Taungoo | arrive | | | | 12:21 | | 14:07 | | | | 19:22 | | | 20:49 | | | 23:15 | | | | 02:20 | | | |
| depart | | | | 12:31 | | 14:10 | | | | 19:37 | | | 20:59 | | | 23:25 | | | | 02:23 | | | |
| Naypyitaw | arrive | | | | 15:19 | | 17:00 | | | | 22:50 | | | 23:29 | | | 01:54 | | | | 05:00 | | | |
| depart | | | | 15:22 | | - | | | | 22:55 | | | 23:32 | | | 01:57 | | | | - | | | |
| Thazi | arrive | | | | 18:12 | | - | | | | 03:30 | | | 02:08 | | | 04:55 | | | | - | | | |
| depart | | | | 18:15 | | - | | | | - | | | 02:11 | | | 04:58 | | | | - | | | |
| Mandalay | arrive | | | | 21:00 | | - | | | | - | | | 05:00 | | | 07:45 | | | | - | | | |
| Mandalay ► Yangon | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Train number: | | | | | | 8 | | 144/10 | | | | | 32 | | 12 | | | 6 | | 4 | | | |
| Classes: | | | | | | U,O | | U,O | | | | | U,O | | U,O | | | U,O | | S,U,O,R | | | |
| Mandalay depart: | | depart | | | | - | | - | | | | | - | | 06:00 | | | 15:00 | | 17:00 | | | |
| Thazi | | arrive | | | | - | | - | | | | | - | | 08:51 | | | 17:46 | | 19:46 | | | |
| depart | | | | - | | 22:00 | | | | | - | | 08:54 | | | 17:49 | | 19:49 | | | |
| Naypyitaw | | arrive | | | | - | | 02:04 | | | | | - | | 11:51 | | | 20:33 | | 22:48 | | | |
| depart | | | | 20:00 | | 02:09 | | | | | 08:00 | | 11:54 | | | 20:36 | | 22:51 | | | |
| Taungoo | | arrive | | | | 22:32 | | 05:16 | | | | | 10:56 | | 14:41 | | | 23:08 | | 01:17 | | | |
| depart | | | | 22:35 | | 05:36 | | | | | 10:59 | | 14:51 | | | 23:18 | | 01:27 | | | |
| Bago (Pegu) | | arrive | | | | 02:55 | | 11:59 | | | | | 15:20 | | 18:56 | | | 03:13 | | 05:46 | | | |
| depart | | | | 02:58 | | 12:11 | | | | | 15:23 | | 18:59 | | | 03:16 | | 05:49 | | | |
| Yangon (Rangoon) arrive: | | arrive | | | | 04:35 | | 14:40 | | | | | 17:00 | | 21:00 | | | 05:00 | | 07:45 | | | |
| Yangon ► Bagan | | | | | | | | |  | | | Bagan ► Yangon | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Train number: | | | 61 | | | | | | Train number: | | | | | | | | | | | 62 | | | | |
| Days of running: | | | Daily | | | | | | Days of running: | | | | | | | | | | | Daily | | | | |
| Classes: | | | S,U,2,O | | | | | | Classes: | | | | | | | | | | | S,U,2,O | | | | |
| Rangoon (Yangon) depart: | | | 16:00 day 1 | | | | | | Bagan (Pagan) depart: | | | | | | | | | | | 17:00 day 1 | | | | |
| Shwedagar (for Pyay\*) arr/dep: | | | 22:01 day 1 | | | | | | Shwedagar (for Pyay\*) arr/dep: | | | | | | | | | | | 04:25 day 1 | | | | |
| Bagan (Pagan) arrive: | | | 09:31 day 2 | | | | | | Rangoon (Yangon) arrive: | | | | | | | | | | | 10:30 day 2 | | | | |
| Fares | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| One-way, either direction in kyat | | | | Upper class  sleeper | | | | | | Upper class  seat | | | | | | **Second class**  **seat** | | | Ordinary class  seat | | | | | | | |
| Rangoon to Bagan | | | | 16,500 ($17) | | | | | | 12,000 ($12) | | | | | | 6,000 ($6) | | | 4,500 ($4) | | | | | | | |

**Ananda Temple**

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| **Type of monument** | : Temple based - Indian Style Structure |
| **Location** | : Southeast of Tharabar Gate |
| **Region** | : Old Bagan |
| **Built by** | : King Kyanzittha |
| **Date** | : A.D 1105 |
| **Monument Number** | : |
| **Photo Gallery** | : [View 17 Photos](http://bagan.travelmyanmar.net/bagan-photo/bagan025.htm) |

Ananda temple is considered to be one of most the surviving masterpiece of the Mon architecture. Also known as the finest, largest, best preserved and most revered of the Bagan temples. During the 1975 earthquake, Ananda suffered considerable damage but has been totally restored.

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It is said to have been built around 1105 by King Kyanzittha, this perfectly proportioned temple heralds the stylistic end of the Early Bagan period and the beginning of the Middle period. In 1990, on the 900th anniversary of the temple's construction, the temple spires were gilded. The remainder of the temple exterior is whitewashed from time to time.

**BUDDHA AT FOUR CORNERS:**

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There is a legend saying that there were 8 monks who arrived one day to the palace begging for alms. They told the king that once, they had lived in the Nandamula Cave temple in the Himalayas. The King was fascinated by the tales and invited the monks to return to his palace. The monks with their meditative powers they showed the king the mythical landscape of the place they have been. King Kyanzittha was overwhelmed by the sight and had a desire for building a temple which would be cool inside in the middle of the Bagan plains. After the construction of the temple, the king executed the architects just to make the style of the temple so unique.

**INTERIOR VIEW:**

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The structure of Ananda temple is that of a simple corridor temple. The central square measures 53 metres along each side while the superstructure rises in terraces to a decorative cliff 51 metres above the ground. The entrance ways make the structure into a perfect cross, each entrance is crowned with a stupa finial. The base and the terraces are decorated with 554 glazed tiles showing jataka scenes (life stories of the Buddha) thought to be derived from Mon texts. Huge carved teak doors separate interior halls from cross passages on all four sides.

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Facing outward from the centre of the cube, four 9.5-metre standing Buddhas represent the four Buddhas who have attained nibbana (nirvana). Only the Bagan-style images facing north and south are original; both display the dhammachakka mudra, a hand position symbolising the Buddha's first sermon. The other two images are replacements for figures destroyed by fires. All four have bodies of solid teak, though guides may claim the southern image is made of a bronze alloy. If one stand by the donation box in front of the original southern Buddha his face looks sad; while from a distance he tends to look mirthful. The architecture of the images were so artistic that they happen to make such appearance.

**Exterior view:**

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The eastern and western standing Buddha images are done in the later Konbaung or Mandalay style. A small nutlike sphere held between thumb and middle finger of the east-facing image is said to resemble a herbal pill and may represent the Buddha offering dhamma (Buddhist philosophy) as a cure for suffering. Both arms hang at the image's sides with hands outstretched, a mudra unknown to traditional Buddhist sculpture outside this temple. The west-facing Buddha features the abhaya mudra with the hands outstretched in the gesture of 'no fear'.

**Entrance:**

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At the feet of the standing Buddha, in the western sanctum, sit two life-size lacquer statues said to represent King Kyanzittha and Shin Arahan, the Mon monk who initiated the king into Theravada Buddhism. Inside the western portico are two Buddha footprint symbols on pedestals.  
  
Ananda temple festival falls on the full moon of Pyatho (usually between December and January, according to the Lunar Calendar). The festival attracts thousands of locals from near and far. Up to a thousand monks chant day and night during the three days of the festival.

**Shwesandaw Pagoda**

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| **Type of monument** | : Type II Pagoda (Zedi) |
| **Location** | : Northeast of Old Bagan |
| **Region** | : Old Bagan |
| **Built by** | : King Anawrahta |
| **Date** | : A.D 1057 |
| **Monument Number** | : 1568 |

King Anawrahta built Shwesandaw Pagoda after his conquest of Thaton in 1057. This graceful circular pagoda was constructed at the centre of his newly empowered kingdom. The pagoda was also known as Ganesh or Mahapeine after the elephant-headed Hindu god whose images once stood at the corners of the five successive terraces.  
  
The five terraces once bore terracotta plaques showing scenes from the jalakas, but traces of these, and of other sculptures, were covered by lather heavy-handed renovations.

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The pagoda's bell rises from two octagonal bases which top the five square terraces. This was the first monument in Bagan to feature stairways leading from the square bottom terraces to the round base of the pagoda itself. This pagoda supposedly enshrines a Buddha hair relic brought back from Thaton.   
  
The hti, which was toppled by the earthquake, can still be seen lying on the far side of the pagoda compound. A new one was fitted soon after tie quake.  
  
Before when people were allowed to climb up the terrace of the pagoda, it was a great spot to view the sunset of Bagan. But nowadays, to keep the ancient monuments in good shape, the stairways have been closed down.

**Shwezigon Pagoda**

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| **Type of monument** | : Type II Temple |
| **Location** | : Northwest of Kyanzittha Umin near the bank of   Ayeyarwaddy River |
| **Region** | : Nyaung U & Wetkyi-In |
| **Built by** | : King Anawrahta |
| **Date** | : A.D 1076 |
| **Monument Number** | : 1 |
| **Photo Gallery** | : [View 35 Photos](http://bagan.travelmyanmar.net/bagan-photo/bagan185.htm) |

Shwezigon was built as the most important reliquary shrine in Bagan, a centre of prayer and reflection for the new Theravada faith King Anawarahta had established in Bagan.

The pagoda is standing between the village of Wetkyi-in and Nyaung U. It is a beautiful pagoda and was commenced by King Anawrahta but not completed until the reign of King Kyanzittha (1084-1113). King Kyanzittha was thought to have built his palace nearby.

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It was known that, the Shwezigon was built to enshrine one of the four replicas of the Buddha tooth in Kandy, Sri Lanka, and it was to mark the northern edge of the city. The other three tooth replicas were enshrined in other three more pagodas. The second tooth replica went to Lawkananda Pagoda, a smaller pagoda to the south end of the city. Then the third replica went to Tan Kyi Taung (Tant Kyi Hill) Pagoda, a pagoda on the western bank of the Ayeyarwady River.   
The last one was enshrined into Tu Yuan Taung (Tu Yuan Hill), a pagoda on the summit of a hill 32 km to the east.

Note : Nowadays, there is a legend saying that if one visit those all four tooth replicas in a day, it can bring one prosperity and luck.

**Exterior view:**

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The pagoda's graceful bell shape became a prototype for virtually all later pagodas all over Myanmar. The gilded pagoda sits on three rising terraces. Enameled plaques in panels around the base of the pagoda illustrate scenes from the previous lives of the Buddha, also known as the 550 Jatakas. At the cardinal points, facing the terrace stairways, are four shrines, each of which houses a four-meter-high bronze standing Buddha. These bronze Buddha images are known to be the last survived images of the ancient time. Their left hands exhibit the vitarka or 'exposition' mudra while the right hands are held palm outward, fingers straight up, portraying the gesture of abhaya or 'no fear'.

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A10-cm circular indention in a stone slab near the eastern side of the pagoda was filled with water to allow former Myanmar monarchs to look at the reflection of the hti (or the tope umbrella of the pagoda) without tipping their heads backward (which might have caused them to lose their crowns).   
  
Visitors can view the bejeweled hti through a telescope. Surrounding the pagoda are clusters of zayats (rest houses) and shrines, some of them old, others more modern, though none of them are original.

**Sulamani Temple**

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| **Type of monument** | : Type II Temple (Kundaung Pauk Gu) |
| **Location** | : About a mile east of Bagan |
| **Region** | : Minnanthu |
| **Built by** | : Narapatisithu |
| **Date** | : A.D 1183 |
| **Monument Number** | : 748 |
| **Photo Gallery** | : [View 10 Photos](http://bagan.travelmyanmar.net/bagan-photo/bagan256.htm) |

Sulamani was built in 1181 by Narapatisithu (1174-1211). This temple was known as "crowing jewel" and it stands beyond Dhammayangyi Pagoda. This temple is a more sophisticated temple than the Htilominlo and Gawdawpalin.   
  
Combining the horizontal planes of the early period with the vertical lines of the middle, the temple features two storeys standing on broad terraces assembled to create a pyramid effect. The brickwork throughout is considered some of the best in Bagan. Some part of the temple was damaged during 1975 by the earthquake. Pagodas stand at the corners of each terrace, and a high wall, fitted with elaborate gateways at each cardinal point, encloses the entire complex. The interior face of the wall was once lined with a hundred monastic cells, a feature unique among Bagan's ancient monasteries.

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Sulamani represents some of Bagan's finest ornamental work which are carved stucco on mouldings, pediments and pilasters. These are today in fairly good condition. Glazed plaques around the base and terraces are also still visible.  
  
Buddha images face the four directions from the ground floor; the image at the main eastern entrance sits in a recess built into the wall. The interior passage around the base is painted with fine frescoes from the Konbaung period, and there are traces of earlier frescoes. Stairways lead very close to the top of this temple, from where the views are superb.

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In the north of the compound contains the remains of Sulamani Kyaung, a monastery building that housed Sulamani's senior monk and the Tripitaka (the Buddhist scriptures), which is walled enclosed. It may also have served as an ordination hall. A water tank in the compound is thought to be the only original Bagan reservoir.

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In addition to ranking as one of the oldest pagodas in Bagan, Shwezigon is known as the site where the 37 pre-Buddhist nats (the spirits) were first officially endorsed by the Myanmar monarchy. Images of the 37 nats can be seen in a shed to the southeast of the platform. At the eastern end of the shed stands an original stone statue of Thagyamin (Sakra), king of the nats and a direct appropriation of the Hindu god Indra. This is the oldest known free-standing Thagyamin figure in Myanmar. Flanked by tigers representing her forest home, another small shrine in the south-eastern corner of the grounds is reserved for Mae Wunna, the guardian nat of medicinal roots and herbs, near the region.

**nats**

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Tips : Entry fees are taken at the entrance and also cameras and videocams have to pay to carry around and take pictures.

**Thatbyinnyu Temple**

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| **Type of monument** | : Type II Temple |
| **Location** | : East of Gadawtpalin Temple |
| **Region** | : Nyaung U & Wetkyi-In |
| **Built by** | : King Alaungsithu |
| **Date** | : 11th Century |
| **Monument Number** | : |
| **Photo Gallery** | : [View 16 Photos](http://bagan.travelmyanmar.net/bagan-photo/bagan169.htm) |

Towering above the other monuments of Bagan, the magnificence in white which is the Thatbyinnyu takes its name from the Omniscience of the Buddha. Thatbyinnyutanyan in Myanmar language, Sabbannutanana in Pali, omniscience is given further explanation in contemporary inscriptions as "knowing thoroughly and seeing widely."

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Built by King Alaungsithu (1113-1163), the Thatbyinnyu is a transitional temple, standing between the Early Style of the Ananda, half a mile to the northeast, and the Late Style of the Gawdawpalin, half a mile to the northwest. It is one of the earliest double-storeyed temples, but the arrangement is different from that of later double-storeyed temples, much as if it were still an experiment in the new form.

The plan of the Thatbyinnyu is not unlike that of the Ananda-square, with porticoes on all four sides-but the eastern portico projects further than the others, breaking the symmetry. This plan is followed in such later temples as the Sulamani and the Gawdawpalin.

**interior view:**

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Three receding terraces rise above each storey, ornamented with crenellated parapets and corner stupas. Above the terraces of the upper storey rises a curvilinear spire, surmounted by a slim, tapering stupa which takes the temple up to a height of 201 feet. The great height of the temple and the vertical lines of the ornamental features-the plain pilasters, the flame-like arch pediments, the corner stupas-give a soaring effect to the Thatbyinnyu.

The eastern portico has a central stairway guarded by two standing door-guardians. The stairway leads to an intermediate storey where a corridor runs around the central mass. Two tiers of windows along the walls make the interior bright and airy, but the walls are bare of painting except for some traces in the western portico.

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|  | **door-guardian** |

Two stairs built into the thickness of the walls provide access to the terrace above the eastern portico, from where an external flight of stairs leads to the upper storey. Here, a huge image of the Buddha is seated on a masonry throne. A further flight of narrow stairs built into the thickness of the walls leads to the terraces above the upper storey.

The terraces of the Thatbyinnyu provide a good panoramic view of Bagan- of the green and brown landscape, the innumerable monuments, the broad Ayeyarwaddy river, and the distant hills to the east and west.

To the southwest of the Thatbyinnyu, in a monastery compound, are two tall stone pillars with foliations in an inverted V pattern. They were the supports for a huge bronze bell of which the chronicles say:

"King Alaungsithu offered two great bells, one at the Thatbyinnyu and one at the Shwegugyi. They were cast of pure copper, 10,000 adula in weight, larger by far and nobler than the five great bells offered by his grandfather, King Kyansittha."

To the northeast of the Thatbyinnyu is the small gayocho or "tally" temple. To keep count of the bricks in the building of the Thatbyinnyu, one brick was set aside for every 10,000 used, and this small temple was built with the bricks thus set aside.

**Gubyaukgyi (Myinkaba)**

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| **Type of monument** | : Type III Temple |
| **Location** | : North of Myinkaba Paya |
| **Region** | : Myinkaba |
| **Built by** | : Prince Rajakumar |
| **Date** | : A.D 1113 |
| **Monument Number** | : 1323 |
| **Photo Gallery** | : [View 12 photos](http://bagan.travelmyanmar.net/bagan-photo/bagan121.htm) |

Situated just to the left of the road as you enter Myinkaba, this temple was built in 1113 by Kyanzittha's son Rajakumar, on his father's death. Prince Rajakumar was the son of King Kyanzittha and the niece of a monk. Kyanzittha met the woman while he was a refugee before his time. Rajakumar was the rightful heir to the throne of Bagan. But Kyanzittha had designated his grandson, Alaungsithu, as heir, and Rajakumar relinquished his right.

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The temple is in an Indian style, the monument consists of a large shrine room attached to a smaller antechamber. The fine stuccowork on its exterior walls is in particularly good condition.

**MAGNIFICENT STUCCOS ON THE EXTERIOR OF THE TEMPLE**

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The Early period temple is also of particular interest for the well-preserved paintings inside, which are thought to date from the original construction of the temple and to be the oldest remaining in Bagan. The temple is typical of the Mon style in that the interior is dimly lit by perforated rather than open windows. It is generally kept locked and there are temple keepers from the village and can ask for permission to open it.

# Sunset Boat Cruise in Bagan

*Cruises, sailing & water tours in Myanmar (Burma)*

▲

From

$36

#### Duration

2.5 hours

#### Departure / Return

In front of New Wave Guest House - Concludes at Ayar Jetty

### Tour description provided by Viator

Enjoy a relaxing 90-minute sunset cruise, ride a horse-drawn cart, have a cup of local tea, and a picnic on the water. So much bliss on this 2.5-hour Bagan tour, you’ll be utterly relaxed for the rest of your time in Myanmar.

Your guide will meet you out front of the New Wave Guest House. Together you will ride a horse-drawn cart to a local tea shop. Here, you’ll get to relax, have some tea, and perhaps shop for some beer and snacks (at your own expense) to enjoy as a picnic on board the boat.

Then, head over to Ayar Jetty and hop aboard for a sunset cruise along the Ayeyarwady River (also known as the Irrawaddy River). Float along for approximately 90-minutes. There will be plenty of excellent photo opportunities as you capture a shot of local life along the shore, or of the wildlife around you, or of the sun setting beyond the river’s edge. If snapping photos isn’t your thing, then just sit back and take it all in, soaking up the sights with your own inner camera.

Once our cruise has finished, head back to the jetty and your guide will help you arrange for local transportation back to your hotel.

Despite all the annoyances, it really isn’t such a bad way to get around

I mentioned a few possible reasons in the taxi section why drivers’ attitudes seem to completely change after lunch and in Bagan the answer is simple: greed. The buses from Mandalay arrive in the late afternoon and he was obviously hoping to be at the bus station to try and score another fare, despite us explicitly hiring him for the whole day.

Don’t let our experience stop you from hiring a horse cart, though. Among the three options, it is easily the best, since the hassle with the driver would be the same in a taxi.

The key, and something we didn’t do, is to specify exactly what you plan on seeing during the day and making sure the driver agrees to every point. Also hammer home the fact that you’re hiring him for the whole day. He will try to weasel out of it no matter what, but if you made everything very clear from the start, I imagine he’ll honor the deal. There’s a chance he won’t be very pleasant while doing it, though.

# Day Tour with Horse Cart Riding in Bagan

*Cultural & theme tours in Myanmar (Burma)*

From

$113

#### Departure / Return

From your hotel - To your hotel

### Tour description provided by Viator

The day you can explore the amazing ancient architecture and understanding the rich culture in Myanmar. Tour will take you around the Bagan which is the most famous tourist destination in Myanmar. Not only the beautiful scenery of Bagan also the sunset of it will make you perfect. In addition you will get the riding of local horse cart.

Your full day tour will start with colorful local market and then continue the day with visit to the most significant pagodas and temples of Bagan including Shwezigone Pagoda, a prototype of later Myanmar stupa, Wetkyi Inn Gubyaukgyi Temple with fine mural painting of Jataka scenes ,Htilominlo and Ananda, four standing Buddha images.

After lunch at the local restaurant, visit to the lacquer ware workshop. Then visit to Pyadatgyi, Manuha Temple, Gu Pyauk Gyi Pagoda.

In the evening, travel by horse cart tour passing Thatbyinnyu, the highest temple in Bagan, the massive Dhammayangyi Temple, Sulamani Temple and tour wil be end by viewing the senset at Shwesandaw Pagoda. After that you will transfer back to hotel.

# Dhammayangyi Pahto Temple, Bagan

Extending 225 feet on a side, **Dhammayangyi Pahto** is the largest temple at [Bagan](http://www.sacred-destinations.com/burma/bagan.htm). The pyramidical temple features very fine brickwork and an intriguing history: said to be built by a wicked king, the inner ambulatories may have been filled with rubble by spiteful workers after his death in about 1170 AD.

## History of Dhammayangyi Pahto Temple

The date and builder of the Dhammayangyi Pahto are matters of some scholarly controversy, but it is generally thought to have been built by **King Narathu** (r. c.1167-70).

According to legend, Narathu built the temple to atone for his wicked rule: he smothered his father and brother to death and had one of his wives, an Indian princess, executed for practicing her Hindu rituals.

The bad king's own death is variously attributed to priest-assassins sent by the princess' angry father or to a Ceylonese (Sri Lankan) mission that not only killed the king but sacked the city and brought Ceylonese influence to the area.

It seems that the temple's **construction ceased** upon the king's death and was never finished. Intriguingly, almost all the inner ambulatory passages were filled with rubble around the time of its construction. Some suggest that the workers not only stopped work on the temple when the king died, but filled the ambulatories out of spite.

**Bupaya**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Type of monument** | : Type I Temple (Bibulous dome) |
| **Location** | : On the eastern bank of Ayeyarwaddy River |
| **Region** | : Old Bagan |
| **Built by** | : King Pyusawhti |
| **Date** | : A.D 162 |
| **Monument Number** | : |
| **Photo Gallery** | : [View 13 Photos](http://bagan.travelmyanmar.net/bagan-photo/bagan091.htm) |

Bupaya means the "a gourd shape pagoda". The legend says, the third king of Bagan, Pyusawhti (AD 162-243), got rid of the gourd-like climbing plant "bu" that infested the riverbanks, before becoming the king. He was rewarded by his predecessor, Thamuddarit, the founder of Bagan (AD 108) together with the hand of his daughter and the heir to the throne of Bagan. He then in the commemoration of his good luck built a gourd-shaped pagoda on the bank of the Ayeyarwaddy River. This cylindrical Pyu-style stupa is said to be the oldest in Bagan. Bupaya was completely destroyed when it tumbled into the river in the 1975 earthquake, but has since been totally rebuilt. The distinctively shaped bulbous stupa stands above rows of crenellated terraces. The view from the river is also a breath-taking one.

Mandalay

**Mandalay Hill**

Bottom of Form

Top of Form

Bottom of Form

The Mandalay Hill is situated to the north-east corner of the Mandalay Royal Palace. It lies from north to south, its altitude being 236.5m above sea level and its height going up to 167.64m.

The Mandalay Hill is surrounded by the nine satellite hills called the Shwe Taung ( The Golden Hill), the Ngwe Taung ( the Silver Hill ), the Paddamya Taung ( the Ruby Hill ), the Hse-dan Taung ( the Hill of Arsenious trisulphide), the Myin Thila Taung ( the Hill of Arsenic trisulphide ), the Dokhta Hill ( the Hill of Blue vitriol), the Ye-hle Taung ( the Hill of Whirling Water), the Kye-ni Hill ( the Copper Hill ) and the Baluma Taung ( the Hill of the Ogress ). The third is called the Paddamya Taung since a ruby was some time ago found in that hill lying to the north west; the seventh one, the Ye-hle Taung since, in the rainy season, the rain water whirled first and flowed down like a funnel in the hill to east; and the ninth hill, the Baluma Taung, since it was believed that the Ogress Sanda Mukhi made her abode in the small hill near to the western passageway.

*Two huge guardian lions at the southern stairway.*

One famous Buddha Image on the Mandalay Hill is the Image of Standing Lord Buddha at the top of the hill where Lord Buddha made a prophesy. It was built by king Mindon. Eight years after the king's death, the image was damaged by fire, and a new image was restored. The image of standing Lord Buddha is 8.22m high.

There are two one-way bus roads up to the top of the Mandalay Hill, one to the west of the Great Lions statues winding up the way and the other at the southern passageway going down.

There are four stairways going up the Mandalay Hill, two on the north and on the west, and two on the south

*A stupa at the top of Mandalay Hill*

The southern covered passage with the Two Great Lions on Haungches is the most frequently used by pilgrims. There exists the Museum of the Hermit U Khanti at the head of the passageway, which was built in honour of the benevolent hermit who first pioneered to develop the plans of building religious edifices and memorials on the Mandalay Hill. Near the archway ascending the southern passage is located the Shrine of the Guardian Spirit, known as Mandalay Bo Gyi, where the natives of Mandalay often come and make offerings. The iron statues of the two snakes are well known to the visitors of Mandalay. An elevator and an escalator are also in service for going up the hill.

Like a Tower given by nature, the Mandalay Hill offers a panoramic view over the Golden City of Mandalay. One can take a sweeping view towards the Yan Kin Hill, not far from it, the Sagaing hill and the Min Wun Ranges and the glimmering Ayeyawaddy and the Shan Yoma ranges at a far distance.

It will be a memorable experience for the visitor of Mandalay to enjoy the sunset beauty over the blinking, winding Ayeyawaddy and the blue Sagaing Hill and the Min Wun ranges.

# Shwe In Bin Kyaung

#### Location

89th St, 37/38

A meditative departure from the usual Burmese 'douse-it-all-in-gold-and-pastels' aesthetic, this gorgeously carved teak monastery is beloved by tourists and locals. Commissioned in 1895 by a pair of wealthy Chinese jade merchants, the central building stands on tree-trunk poles and the interior has a soaring dark majesty. Balustrades and roof cornices are covered in detailed engravings, a few of them mildly humorous.

# Mahamuni Paya

Top choice *buddhist temple in Mandalay*

#### Hours

complex 24hr, museum sections 8am-5pm

#### Location

83rd St

Every day, thousands of colourfully dressed faithful venerate Mahamuni's 13ft-tall **seated buddha**, a nationally celebrated image that’s popularly believed to be some 2000 years old. Centuries of votary gold leaf applied by male devotees (women may only watch) has left the figure knobbly with a 6in layer of pure gold…except on his radiantly gleaming face, which is ceremonially polished daily at 4am.

## [Private Transfer: Mandalay to Bagan](https://www.lonelyplanet.com/myanmar-burma/mandalay/activities/private-transfer-mandalay-to-bagan/a/pa-act/v-35660P4/357092)

$72

The statue was already ancient in 1784 when it was seized from Mrauk U by the Burmese army of King Bodawpaya. The epic story of how it was dragged back to Mandalay is retold in a series of 1950s paintings in a **picture gallery** across the pagoda’s inner courtyard to the northeast of the Buddha image. Bodawpaya also nabbed a collection of Hindu-Buddhist **Khmer bronze figures**, which had already been pilfered centuries earlier from Angkor Wat, and reached Mrauk U by a series of other historical thefts. Many figures were reputedly melted down to make cannons for Mandalay’s 1885 defence against the British. But six rather battered figures remain, which have all been rubbed raw by devotees seeking good health. They're housed in a drab concrete building near the giant gong on the north side of the northwest inner courtyard.

Near Mahamuni's outer northeast exit you'll find a merrily kitsch clock tower and the **Maha Buddhavamsa Museum of World Buddhism**, which is effectively a gallery of paintings about the life of the Buddha, and photos of archaeological sites associated with that saga.

From the central shrine with its multi-tiered golden roof, long concrete passageways leading in each cardinal direction are crammed with stalls selling all manner of religio-tourist trinkets. The western passage emerges on 84th St amid fascinating **marble workshops**, where buddha statues are expertly crafted using power tools.

Mahamuni can be conveniently visited en route to Amarapura, Inwa or Sagaing.

# Yankin Hill

[Yankin Hill](http://www.evivatour.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/Yankin-Hill.jpg)

Situated in the East of [Mandalay](http://www.evivatour.com/myanmar/sights-places-in-myanmar/mandalay/), the [Yankin Hill](http://www.evivatour.com/yankin-hill-mandalay-myanmar/) signifies “away from danger”, and also demonstrates the harmony and tranquility of Mandalay. There are numerous engraved figures of fishes on the hill which was placed by Min Shin Saw, child of King Alaung Sithu during the Bagan Era. These figures are believed to be first put in the Royal Palace, yet as people were superstitious about them, he had to move all the figures far from the Royal Palace to the Yankin Hill in the Yadanar Bone Period. Most people consider the figures of fishes as bringing rainfall for them, so whenever there was a drought, they would take the figures around the city. The Mya Kyauk tube well is located close to the Yankin Hill and guests can likewise praise the Atula Maha Mya Kyauk Pagoda.

# Ta Moke Shwe Gu Gyi

# Located west of Kyaukse, this enormous temple complex is one of the finest archaeological sites in the country outside Bagan or Mrauk-U, but its remoteness and on-site lack of English signage make a visit challenging. Still, even without interpretive help this is a fascinating spot, anchored by a two-storey temple marked by sturdy brickwork and magnificent stucco reliefs. Some of the latter include scenes from the life of the Buddha, as well as depictions of animals, plants and mythological beings.

# Jade Market

*Market in Mandalay*

#### Location

87th St, 39/40

Rock dust and cheroot smoke fill the air in this heaving grid of cramped walkways, where you'll find a mass of jade traders haggling, hawking and polishing their wares. There's a K2500 entry fee (not always collected), but you could always sit outside the market and observe craftspeople cutting and polishing jade in the area around 87th St. Be on the lookout for merchants furtively discussing deals over cigarettes and tea at spots such as the [Unison Teahouse](https://www.lonelyplanet.com/pois/1368740).

You don't have to want or even like jade to appreciate the timelessness of the scene; merchants may be using their smartphones, but the fierce haggling and individual branding of the jade trade feel like an echo of another era.

Jade Pagoda

Werawsana Pagoda, located in Mandalay region is entirely built from jade, one of Myanmar’s semi-precious stones. You can find it on a hilltop in Hsin Ywa, Myinmhu Village in Aamarapura Township. It is easily visible and accessible by motor roads, to and from Mandalay International Airport.

“Werawsana” means it was built for all peoples of Myanmar and all peoples of the world who worship and paid homage to it. They all may receive all blessings, all Mingalar and enjoy peace. Therefore, the title-name means giving of peace, progress, prosperity, good fortune, glory, fame, wealth and immunity from all dangers, and wish-fulfilling.

Myinmhu Village is located at the 361 mille pillar on the Yangon-Mandalay Highway Road about 600 feet to the west, and 1,000 feet to the south of Sagaing. The Pagoda platform is a perfect square, measuring 133 feet 6 inches long and 133 feet 6 inches wide.

Before the construction took place, two ceremonies were held with the traditions of building religious monuments. The first was the Maha Mingala One, the cleansing and purification of the site took place on 21 December, 2012. Next the ground breaking ceremony was held on 23 December, 2012.

The Jade Pagoda is 75 feet 6 inches high and 176 feet in circumference; each terrace is 52 feet 6 inches long, 52 feet 6 inches broad and 12 feet high. The Umbrella on the top of the Pagoda is 7 feet high and the decorative Banana Bud is 8 feet 6 inches high. Each of the four entrance caves facing four cardinal directions have a jade Buddha statue in seated position. Thirty thousand jade Buddha statues, each measuring 2 inches in circumference, adorn the entire body of the Pagoda.

The Jade Pagoda can withstand an earthquake of 6.59 Richter scale. To enable it to meet heavy storms they used board pile technology. On the steel frame, iron nets and cement were added. There are no bricks and only jade stones that have been collected by donors for over 25 years are used in the construction. The quality jade stones of A,B,C,D grades of international jade market, totaling over one thousand tons of weight were used to build this Pagoda and 850 tons of quality jade stones are enshrined in the body of the Pagoda. The diamond Bud is also made of quality jade.

For peaceful rest and relaxation of the visitors and pilgrims, a landscape garden is created around the Pagoda. Flowering and fruiting trees are in the park around the Jade Pagoda. The donors selected Myanmar native trees, creepers and plants such as Neem, Padauk, Gantgaw, Ingyin, Ngu, Pauk, Yuzana, Seinpan etc that produce healthy fragrance, pretty hue and medicinal and culinary buds, leaves and blooms, attracting winged creatures-bees, warps, butterflies, birds as well as squirrels and some reptiles.

# Shwenandaw Kyaung Temple

### A grand example of 19th century Burmese teak architecture, and the most significant of Mandalay's historic buildings.

The Shwenandaw Kyaung Temple, or Shwe-Kyaung-pyi as it is known to the Burmese, is the most significant of Mandalay’s historic buildings, due to the fact that it is the sole remaining structure of the former wooden Royal Palace that was built by King Mindon in the mid-19th century.

It was originally part of the royal palace complex in Amarapura, but was subsequently moved to Mandalay, where it became known as Mya Nan San Kyaw. Following its move, it became the northern section of the Glass Palace and also part of the king’s royal apartments. It would also be the final home and resting place of King Mindon, who died in this structure in 1878.

King Mindon’s son Thibaw, who succeeded his father following his death, often used the building as meditation grounds, but became convinced that his father’s spirit still haunted the grounds, so he immediately ordered the building to be dismantled and removed from the Royal City.

Over the course of the next 5 years following its dismantling, the building was reconstructed as a monastery and dedicated as a work of merit to the memory of King Mindon.

During the latter stages of World War II, the rest of the old Royal Palace within the old Royal City burned as a result of allied bombing of the Japanese encamped in the old Royal Palace. Due to King Thibaw’s superstition and relocating of the building, he had preserved a significant remnant of the Royal Palace.

# Mandalay Palace

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Alternative names** | Mya Nan San Kyaw Golden Palace |
| **General information** | |
| **Type** | Royal Resident for Majesty |
| **Location** | [Mandalay](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mandalay) |
| **Country** | https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/8/8c/Flag_of_Myanmar.svg/23px-Flag_of_Myanmar.svg.png [Myanmar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Myanmar) |
| [**Coordinates**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geographic_coordinate_system) | https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/5/55/WMA_button2b.png/17px-WMA_button2b.png[21°59′34.59″N 96°5′45.28″E](https://tools.wmflabs.org/geohack/geohack.php?pagename=Mandalay_Palace&params=21_59_34.59_N_96_5_45.28_E_type:landmark_region:MM) |
| **Construction started** | 1857 |
| **Completed** | 1859 |
| **Owner** | Government of Myanmar |

Palace wall on the moat with Mandalay Hill in the distance.

The **Mandalay Palace** located in [Mandalay](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mandalay), [Myanmar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Myanmar), is the last royal [palace](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Palace) of the [last Burmese monarchy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Konbaung_dynasty). The palace was constructed, between 1857 and 1859 as part of King [Mindon](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mindon_Min)'s founding of the new royal capital city of Mandalay. The plan of Mandalay Palace largely follows the traditional Burmese palace design, inside a walled fort surrounded by a moat. The palace itself is at the centre of the citadel and faces east. All buildings of the palace are of one storey in height. The number of spires above a building indicated the importance of the area below.[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mandalay_Palace#cite_note-falconer-1)

Mandalay Palace was the primary royal residence of King [Mindon](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mindon_Min) and King [Thibaw](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thibaw_Min), the last two kings of the country. The complex ceased to be a royal residence and seat of government on 28 November 1885 when, during the [Third Anglo-Burmese War](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Third_Anglo-Burmese_War), troops of the Burma Field Force entered the palace and captured the royal family. The British turned the palace compound into Fort [Dufferin](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lord_Dufferin), named after the then [viceroy of India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Viceroy_of_India). Throughout the [British colonial era](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_Burma), the palace was seen by the Burmese as the primary symbol sovereignty and identity. Much of the palace compound was destroyed during [World War II](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_War_II) by allied bombing; only the royal mint and the watch tower survived. A replica of the palace was rebuilt in the 1990s with some modern materials.

Today, Mandalay Palace is a primary symbol of Mandalay and a major tourist destination.

The Mandalay Palace's formal name in [Burmese](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Burmese_language) is *Mya Nan San Kyaw* .It is also known as "Great Golden Royal Palace".

## History

British colonial forces in Mandalay Palace, which they subsequently plundered (1887)

A traditional Burmese painting of Mandalay Palace grounds during the Konbaung dynasty.

The Mandalay Palace was constructed as part of King Mindon's founding of Mandalay in February 1857.Large parts of the palace were reconstructed from the [palace](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amarapura_Palace) at Amarapura, which was relocated to Mandalay. The master plan called for a 144-square block grid patterned city, anchored by a 16 square block royal palace compound at the centre by Mandalay Hill.The 413-hectare royal palace compound was surrounded by four 2 km (6666 ft) long walls and a moat 64 m (210 ft) wide, 4.5 m (15 ft) deep. Along the wall were [bastions](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bastion) with gold-tipped spires at intervals of 169 m (555 ft).The walls had three gates on each side, twelve in total, each presenting a zodiac sign.The citadel had five bridges to cross the moat.

In June 1857, the construction of the palace began. After the disastrous [Second Anglo-Burmese War](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Second_Anglo-Burmese_War) of 1852, the shrunken Burmese kingdom had few resources to build a new ostentatious palace. The former royal palace of [Amarapura](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amarapura) was dismantled and moved by elephants to the new location at the foot of Mandalay Hill. The construction of the palace compound was officially completed on Monday, 23 May 1859.

# Mya Kyauk Kyaung

*Buddhist monastery in Mandalay*

From the foot of the Yankin Paya access stairway, backtrack 300yd towards Mandalay then turn north and go another 300yd north to find this modern monastery with its dazzlingly distinctive brassy stupa. Mya Kyauk is famed for its subterranean source of moderately alkaline mineral water, found by faith-led digging in 1998. The water supposedly ‘promotes IQ and ameliorates diabetes, constipation, gout and morning sickness’.

The only way to try it is to first seek an audience with the head monk, Bhaddanta Khaymar Sarya, who may deign to give you a bottle of it. Before opening the bottle, try holding it up to the sunlight and play. If you hit on the right angle, the light projects an image reminiscent of the monastery stupa onto the back of the label. ‘Magic’, claim the locals. Or at least good bottle design.

The [British](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_rule_in_Burma) invaded and ransacked the palace and [burned down](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Destruction_of_libraries) the royal library.The royal regalia of Burma were removed as military booty and displayed in the South Kensington Museum (now the V&A Museum, London). In 1964 they were returned to Burma as a gesture of goodwill The British renamed the palace compound Fort [Dufferin](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lord_Dufferin) and used it to billet troops. During [World War II](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_War_II), the palace citadel was turned into a supply depot by the [Japanese](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Empire_of_Japan) and was carelessly burnt to the ground by Allied bombing. Only the royal [mint](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mint_(coin)) and the watch tower survived.

Reconstruction of the palace began in 1989, initiated by the Department of Archaeology.Because government funds were insufficient, the Mandalay Committee for the palace Reconstruction was formed, with funds coming from the [State Law and Order Restoration Council](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/State_Law_and_Order_Restoration_Council), which patronized this project. The regional governments of [Mandalay](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mandalay_Division), [Magwe](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Magwe_Division) and [Sagaing Divisions](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sagaing_Division) were responsible for drawing up architectural plans and constructing various parts of the palace:

* Mandalay Division: Great Audience Hall, the Lion Throne
* Magwe Division: Watchtower, Lily Throne Room
* Sagaing Division; Goose Throne Room

While the overall design was faithful, the construction process incorporated both traditional and modern building techniques. Corrugated sheet metal was used for the roofing of most buildings, while concrete was extensively used as a building material (the original palace was built using only [teak](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Teak).

One of the halls was dismantled during the rule of King Thibaw and rebuilt as [Shwenandaw Monaster→y](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Shwenandaw_Monaster%E2%86%92y&action=edit&redlink=1). It is the single remaining major structure of the original wooden palace today.

# The Story of U Bein Bridge in Mandalay Myanmar

It is located in the outskirt of Mandalay city, known as the most favorite place for photography in the city. According to the old living here, U Bein is considered the most ancient and longest wooden bridge in the world.

Crossing Tayngthman lake, U Bein Bridge in Mandalay is 1.2 km long, built in 1800 by the Mayor U Bein. The wood sticks to build this bridge had been used for an old palace in the region. This palace was abandoned under the time of Mindon emperor. The huge wooden pillars were used up to build U Bein Bridge. The Bridge was built from 1000 big pillars and thousands of wooden pallets.

In the history, the bridge was made of wood completely. However, some pillars were changed by concrete pillars to strengthen the bridge. Years after years, U Bein Bridge have been busy with many passengers day by day, and become an indispensible part of the locals. Nowadays, U Bein Bridge in Mandalay is a must-see in any Myanmar tours if travelers travel to Mandalay.

The best time of the day to visit U Bein Bridge in Mandalay is sunset. At sunset every day, there are many travelers and monks choose this bridge as a base to enjoy the spectacular sunset over the lake.

Each people have seen the sunset at a different color, some catch a gorgeous orange site, and others are enchanted by the peerless red or violet. The impressive site of U Bein Bridge covered by the magical light of the sun setting over might be the [most magnificent view of Myanmar](https://www.exoticvoyages.com/venture-through-secrets/).

Taungthman Lake reaches the highest water lever during July or August. During this time, there are a lot of visitors going to U Bein Bridge in Mandalay. Walking along the ancient bridge, enjoying the tranquility, watching the monks in silence is likely one of the most memorial experience in the lands of golden stupas.

## Ngapali Beach

With its pristine, palm-tree-fringed white sand, the clear waters of the Bay of Bengal, and a host of sophisticated accommodation, Ngapali – supposedly named years ago by a homesick Italian reminiscing about Napoli – has a justified reputation as Myanmar's premier beach getaway.

coming from the Bay of Bengal apart from its silver sands covering a wide and long stretch of coastal land.  Similar to its older brother Ngapali in the north this unpolluted new beach faces the sea in the west offering a glorious sunset after painting the whole sky and sea with gold every evening.

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### Ngwe Saung (Silver Beach)

South of Ngapali and closer to Yangon, the resorts on this stretch of coast arrived a little more than a decade ago.

The sea is as clear as it is in Ngapali, but the area isn't as developed, making it a seriously laid back spot and a great place to do nothing after exploring the country.

Ngwe Saung Beach on the Myanmar shore of the Bay of Bengal. There are flights from Yangon -- a 35-minute trip -- but it's just as easy to do the six-hour road trip. If you want to savor the journey, you can take a 16-hour boat from Yangon to the gateway town of Pathein.

When you've had enough of lying on the beach, there's scuba diving and snorkeling and an island at the end of the beach that you can walk out to at low tide. You can hire a motorbike if you want to explore the 15-kilometer beach and ride on the hard sand sections and take the road that runs alongside the beach for the rest.

The seafood here is fantastic -- lobster, shrimp, crab, fish -- and if you're on the beach early in the morning you'll probably see fishermen coming in with their catch.

Myanmar will host the 2013 Southeast Asian Games in December -- beach volleyball and sailing events will be held at Ngwe Saung Beach.

"I was there earlier this year," says Barker. "The resorts are spread out and range from $15 to $400 a night, some with very nice pools, but you don't need them because the sea is great.

"We stayed at a place called Shwe Hin Tha. It's a backpacker favorite and costs $25 a night for a beach cabin for two."

### Chuang Tha

Buddhist novices collect morning alms in Chuang Tha, about 240 kilometers west of Yangon.

khin maung win/afp/getty images

​Close to Yangon, this beach is popular with middle-class families from the city.

It's not as beautiful as Ngapali or Ngwe Saung beaches -- the sand isn't as white and the beachfront is a jumble of hotels -- but it's hugely popular, especially on weekends and holidays.

If you're here during the high season and want to escape the crowds, you can hire a boat and explore one of the neighboring islands. You'll have to bring your own snorkel set to get a good look at the tropical fish.

"This is where you go if you want to see the Burmese at play," says Barker. "The beach is very commercial with lots of inflatable things going on. People say the beaches north of Chuang Tha are more attractive."

## Attractions

Chaungtha is renowned for its fresh and reasonably priced seafood. A major attraction is a small [pagoda](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stupa) built on a limestone boulder at the southern end of the beach. Nearby fishing villages and tidal mangrove forests are also popular among the tourists.

Set-Se Beach  
**Area:** Mon State

**Site Description:**

Set-Se is a beach in Mon State. Whilst it can’t boast the white sand and blue waters of nearby Thailand, Set-Se has its own charms – not least being that there are few tourists there.

The waters are warm and there is a large shallow shelf for paddling on. It’s a nice beach to just walk along as it is so large. If you get tired of walking you can ride a horse or hire a motorbike taxi. People even use these to get to the shoreline.

You can hire tubes to float in and a range of food and drinks (alcoholic and non) are available

## ****Maungmagan beach****

12 kilometres west of Dawei is [Maungmagan beach (also spelt Maung Ma Kan)](https://www.google.com/maps/place/14°08'13.2%22N+98°05'39.0%22E/@14.1369922,98.0241392,12z/data=!4m5!3m4!1s0x0:0x0!8m2!3d14.137!4d98.0941667), with its beautiful setting of **hills rising straight up from the shoreline**. There are a host of simple restaurants serving fresh seafood here and a 30 minute walk south will take you to a characterful **fishing village** with small boats nestled in its harbour – and some picture-perfect [beer stations](https://www.go-myanmar.com/drinking-bars-nightlife) where you can relax and take in the views and sea breeze

Maungmagan is quite unlike the more tourist-focused beaches you will find on the [Bay of Bengal coast](https://www.go-myanmar.com/bay-of-bengal). Here, most people are local and bathing practices are somewhat different – you may find the people wading in their jeans and shirts, particularly on [public holidays](https://www.go-myanmar.com/embassies-public-holidays-and-other-useful-info); foreigners in swimwear are not frowned upon, although they may get some friendly attention. One unfortunate side-effect of the lack of tourism development is that refuse is not always cleared; this is not unsafe, but can sometimes be a little unsightly.