

# **Program Overview**

# **Duration 7 Days**

**Highlights:**\_This itinerary offers the finest hotels, enjoy the best restaurants and experience a level of service you could only dream about.

Travel to Myanmar and celebrate your new life together on this luxurious and romantic journey into one of Asia's most fascinatingly mysterious countries & Discover an impressive colonial and spiritual heritage in one of the most fascinating cities in Southeast Asia i.e. Yangon, See the dreamscape temples of Bagan and the picturesque Inle Lake, Take romantic horse carriage tours, experience special sunset cocktails in private romantic settings and exclusive boat rides, Visit a Burmese monastery and receive a special blessing traditionally bestowed upon newly wedded honeymooners to wish you good luck and eternal happiness.

# Day 1 Arrival in Yangon

On arrival at the Yangon airport, you will be welcomed your tour guide, who will assist you through all the immigration procedures.

We'll stop on the way into town for a foot massage at Yangon's best spa. This is the perfect way to relax and unwind after a long international flight.

Check in to your hotel where a special Burmese wedding present is waiting.

Depending on your arrival time, we recommend having lunch at Monsoon restaurant to enjoy freshly prepared Myanmar cuisine.

This afternoon, enjoy a tour of Yangon's colonial city centre, with its many cultural delights. Yangon, formerly known as Rangoon, is a relatively quiet and charming city with an impressive colonial and spiritual heritage. Travel past faded colonial buildings, busy street markets, and glittering temples. If you wish, we can take as short walking tour for a different perspective of the city. The route covers around 2

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kilometres and passes sites such as the Strand Hotel, the old Post Office, other historic buildings as well as parks and markets.

End your tour at the magnificent Shwedagon Pagoda the most revered Buddhist temple in Myanmar. Although the origins of the pagoda are unclear, the local legend states that the original structure was built 2500 years ago then renovated several times until taking its current shape in the 15th century. The 8-sided central stupa is 99 meters tall and gilded with gold leaf and is surrounded by 64 smaller stupas and your guide will show you around the massive complex, explaining why this temple is so revered. Enjoy breathtaking views of the golden stupa from this vantage point.

Return to your hotel where a bottle of champagne and special welcome present awaits you back in your room to toast your arrival to Myanmar.

#### Overnight at The Strand, Yangon

#### Day 2

#### Yangon//Bagan//Visit to an Elevated Temple, Myinkaba village & Gubyaukgyi Temple

This morning, transfer to the airport for your domestic flight to Nyaung Oo. Upon arrival, transfer to your hotel in Bagan. A special wedding present is waiting in your room upon arrival.

After freshening up, the journey begins with a visit to an elevated temple with spectacular views over the surrounding plains. This is the perfect introduction to the grandeur and scope of Bagan's architecture. Next continue to Ananda Temple, one of the most revered temples in Bagan and which is quiet in the morning, before all the tour buses arrive.

Afterwards we will go to Myinkaba Village and visit Gubyaukgyi Temple which is noted for its beautiful mural paintings on its inner walls and well-preserved plaster carvings on its exterior. Nearby is Manuha Temple and Nan Paya Temple, two smaller temples with nice Buddha statues and stone work.

Transfer to hotel for a break to escape the intense afternoon heat of Bagan.

Later this afternoon, resume your journey with a visit to two workshops producing Bagan's most famous products: lacquer ware and wood crafts. Watch as the skilled craftsmen use techniques passed down through generations to create beautiful items.

Then travel by horse carriage among the temples starting at Ananda and passing many of Bagan's famous monuments and traversing the plains.

This evening enjoy dinner at your hotel.

## Overnight at Aureum Palace, Bagan

#### Day 3

#### **Bagan//Visit the Colorful Nyaung Oo Market**

Begin today with a visit to the colorful Nyaung Oo Market where dozens of vendors come to sell their fresh produce and products. The market is at its busiest early in the morning as the locals come to do their shopping. This is a great opportunity to observe the daily lifestyle of the friendly locals.

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Continue to the neighboring villages where you will learn about their traditional livelihood. Learn the interesting process of creating *poneyay gyi* (pea powder paste) and see how local plum jam is made and packed.

Then resume your temple touring with a visit to the glittering Shwezigon Pagoda, a prototype of later Myanmar stupas.

Transfer to the Taungbi Monastery where you will participate in a special traditional Buddhist ceremony. Afterwards you will receive a special blessing from the monks to ensure good luck and happiness. This auspicious occasion is sure to be an unforgettable part of your honeymoon in Myanmar.

Return to your hotel for a break from the midday heat and lunch at leisure.

Late this afternoon, the romance and beauty of Myanmar's Irrawaddy River awaits you. Board a luxurious private boat for a cruise down the River, soaking in the scenery and enjoying sunset cocktails and canapés along the way. Return to shore and dinner is at your leisure.

#### Overnight at Aureum Palace, Bagan

#### Day 4

#### Bagan/Heho/Inle Lake

Transfer to Nyaung Oo Airport in Bagan for your domestic flight to Heho. Here you will enjoy a one-hour scenic drive to Nyaung Shwe, the gateway village to the lovely Inle Lake.

Start with a visit to the Nyaung Shwe morning market where locals gather every morning to buy and sell fresh produce from the lake and its surroundings.

Continue by local trishaw down to the bustling canal which is a hive of activity in the morning as boats from the lake come in to unload tomatoes and other vegetables for distribution to the markets around the country. Watch as baskets laden with produce are transferred from boats to trucks and bikes.

Hop back on the trishaw and wind through quiet streets. Make a stop at the 'tomato house', a warehouse-like structure where the tomatoes are sorted and priced for sale. Then continue past some of the many monasteries and nunneries in the town, stopping for photos as you go.

Then venture on to the lake by your private boat. First we'll stop at a stilted restaurant to enjoy lunch with a view! (Client's account) Then we resume our touring with a visit to Phaung Daw Oo Pagoda, the lake's main sanctuary, which houses five sacred Buddha statues.

Proceed to the village of Inpawkhone to observe the traditional silk weaving techniques of Inthar people. Inpawkhone is also known for its weaving from the stems of lotus flowers, a time consuming process that results in high quality materials famous throughout the country. We also visit a cheroot factory where local Burmese cigars are rolled by hand.

Then continue to your hotel for check-in. A fruit basket and welcome gift will be waiting in your room. Your romantic experience continues with a wine tasting at the Inle Princess Resort, before enjoying a private terrace dinner.

#### Overnight at Inle Princess Resort, Inle Lake

## Day 5

Inle Lake // In Dein// Explore area on Foot & Strolling around the village

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This morning, enjoy a relaxing boat trip along a small canal to the Pa-oh village of Indein. Explore the area on foot, strolling around the village, visiting a local school, and wander through the beautiful Alaung Sitthou area. Alaung Sitthou is filled with picturesque ancient stupas and has magnificent views of the lake below.

On the return journey, stop at a stilted village for a hands-on cooking class with a local family. This is a great way to learn about the local ingredients, traditions and cuisine of the Inthar people. Enjoy a lunch of your creations as you sit on cushions around a round table.

Return by boat to the hotel for a relaxing afternoon before enjoying dinner at the hotel. Should you wish to really indulge, head to the Resort's spa for a luxurious massage or body treatment (client's account).

## Overnight at Inle Princess Resort, Inle Lake

#### DAY 6

#### Inle//Heho//Yangon

This morning, transfer to the airport for your domestic flight back to Yangon.

This afternoon you'll head to Bogyoke Market (also known as Scott Market), known for its colonial architecture and inner cobblestone streets. Browse the aisles of handmade goods, looking for the perfect souvenir of your Myanmar holiday.

<u>OPTION:</u> Before leaving the market, have a chance to hear what the future holds by visiting a famous Myanmar fortune teller. San Zar Ni Bo will read your palm and discuss your future. (Client's account) As your honeymoon in Myanmar comes to a close, enjoy a romantic candle lit dinner at Le Planteur, one of the country's best restaurants.

#### Overnight at The Strand, Yangon

# Day 7 Departure

Your private car and guide will be at your disposal until it's time to transfer to the airport.

Should you wish to extend your stay we have a range of unique insider tours which explore the arts, culture and history of Yangon or excursions to the surrounding local villages of the city.

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