


11 Days / 10 Nights

ROAD TO MANDALAY

Departing ex Perth 29 October 2012



This is one of a developing range of escorted groups which have been prepared for discerning travellers - by an immensely experienced team of experts. In undertaking one of these tours, you will enjoy a leisurely itinerary and the richest of cultural experiences.

Experience: The pleasure of river cruising on the luxurious "Road to Mandalay"
Witness: Ever-changing river life and glorious sunsets along the fabled Ayeyarwady
Celebrate: The magnificent temples, monasteries and stupas of Bagan – the great temple city
Be inspired: By the friendliness of the people of Myanmar, despite their recent travails

Mon 29 October **Perth to Kuala Lumpur** **MH124 1630.2200**
We depart, this afternoon, with Malaysia Airlines. On arrival, we'll make our way to the Pan Pacific KLIA for a stay of 1 night.


Tue 30 October **Kuala Lumpur to Yangon (Rangoon)** **MH740 1005.1115**
After an early breakfast, we return to the airport where we check in for our flight to Yangon. We'll be met and accommodated overnight at The Governor's Residence, Yangon's very best hotel. Sightseeing, this afternoon, will include visits to the 107 metre tall (gold-leaf encrusted) Shwe Dagon Pagoda, the 70 metre long reclining Buddha and views of river-life along the Yangon River. **(B)**



Wed 31 October **Yangon to Mandalay – Board Road to Mandalay** **BY AIR**
We need to be up early this morning in order to take the flight to Mandalay. On arrival, we'll transfer to the beautiful Road to Mandalay which will be berthed on the Ayeyarwady River at Shwe Kyet Yet. After lunch aboard, you will enjoy a guided tour of the key sights of Mandalay, regarded as being the centre of Burmese culture and Buddhist learning. On our return journey, we'll pause to admire the sunset over the river. You can now settle in and enjoy shipboard life before relaxing over dinner. Local entertainment will follow. **(B/L/D)**

Thu 1 November **Road to Mandalay – Our journey begins**
After an early breakfast, we set out on a walking tour to a village where we'll be exposed to farming, handicraft manufacture, spirit houses and tea-shops. Returning to our ship, we cast off mid-morning and head south. We can relax on the deck and enjoy the passing parade, both on the Ayeyarwady and also along the shore. This afternoon, a guest lecturer will explain the way of life in Myanmar, so that we can better understand the situation. **(B/L/D)**

Fri 2 November **Bagan**
Bagan became a centre of power from the 9th Century and, in its heyday, had around 13,000 temples and stupas covering 42 square kms. Its golden age came to an end in 1287AD when it was ransacked by the Mongols. More than 2,000 temples and stupas still remain (in varying stages of repair) and bear testimony to the fact that this was once one of the world's great civilizations. A guide will take us to the most important temples this morning and again this afternoon. Later, we will make our way to a vantage point so that we can witness the sun setting over a field of temples – a glorious experience. **(B/L/D)**



Sat 3 November **Bagan – Mt Popa excursion**
Today we will head out into the countryside to Mount Popa, a national park which is believed to be the sacred home of powerful 'Nats' (spirits). For those who are fit and wish to test themselves, there's the opportunity to climb the rocky outcrop which has, on its peak, a collection of picturesque monasteries, pagodas and shrines. We then repair to the Mount Popa Resort where we can enjoy spectacular views over Mt Popa and the surrounding countryside. Lunch will be provided here before we return to our ship. **(B/L/D)**

Sun 4 November **Cruise up-river**
After breakfast, we join our guide to explore local markets where you'll find wood carvings, fabrics, longis, scarves and rattan goods on sale and can also view the

... itinerary continued overleaf



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... itinerary continued

manufacture of Myanmar's famous lacquerware. Alternatively, you might wish to hire a bicycle or horse-drawn cart and explore this enchanting area on your own. The ship sets sail for Mandalay mid-morning and there will be an opportunity to learn about river life from our guest lecturer. This evening, the Road to Mandalay will anchor mid-river, providing the ideal opportunity to observe the stars. A casual cocktail party will be followed by dinner. **(B/L/D)**

Mon 5 November Sagaing visit

Early this afternoon, we arrive at the tiny village of Shwe Kyet Yet. From here, we enjoy an excursion to Sagaing, considered the living centre of the Buddhist faith in Burma and famous for its silversmiths, who still work in the traditional manner. We then return to the ship for dinner and local entertainment. **(B/L/D)**

Tue 6 November Maymo visit

This morning, we visit Maymyo, a colonial hill station set high in the mountains, where you can soak up the atmosphere with its English-style houses, colourful market and beautiful botanic gardens. A typical Shan lunch is taken at a colonial house before we return to the ship for a final dinner on board. **(B/L/D)**

Wed 7 November Mandalay to Yangon BY AIR

This morning, after a leisurely breakfast, we bid farewell to the ship's crew and make our way back to the airport for our return flight to Yangon. Here, we will be accommodated for a further stay of 1 night at The Governor's Residence. After sharing a wonderful week together, we might wish to gather tonight for a farewell dinner. **(B)**

Thu 8 November Yangon to Kuala Lumpur MH741 1215.1630
Kuala Lumpur to Perth MH127 2010.0130+1

This morning is at leisure then at the appointed time, we're transferred to the airport for our return flights. **(B)**

TOUR COSTS – PER PERSON	SINGLE	DELUXE	STATEROOM
Share twin		\$6,960	\$8,050
Single cabin – limited availability	\$6,200		
Single occupancy of double cabin		\$7,730	\$9,190

Inclusions:

- International and domestic airfares and taxes
- Transfers and transportation
- Accommodation
- Daily breakfasts; and all meals (and soft drinks) whilst cruising
- Extensive sightseeing as indicated in itinerary
- All Entrance fees as applicable
- Services of an English-speaking guide and guest lecturer while cruising
- Tips
- Services of a company appointed escort.

Exclusions:

- Beverages
- Meals other than stated
- Visa fees
- Departure tax ex Yangon - currently US\$10.00pp
- Travel insurance

Trip grading: 2 – requires a reasonable degree of walking fitness.

Weather conditions (November): Yangon 32 / 23 (62) Mandalay 30 / 20 (39) – average maximum / minimum (monthly rainfall in mm).

Maximum number on this tour: 22 persons including the escort.

Escort: This tour will be escorted by a company representative, ex Perth.

Extensions: We will be pleased to co-ordinate extra nights, or to add additional arrangements in Myanmar and / or nearby points of interest. Our top suggestions would be to add a side-trip to India or Malaysia, following conclusion of Myanmar arrangements.

Booking Conditions

Deposit and balance of payment

A deposit of \$1,000.00 per person will be required to secure your reservation and with the balance due by 27 August 2012. The deposit is non-refundable, except if the tour is cancelled due to lack of numbers (in which case it will be refunded in full).

Cancellation fees

Per person cancellation fees are:-

From date of booking to 26 August	\$1,000.00
From 27 August to departure	100% of the tour price

Travel insurance

Integrated Tourism Services will provide insurance proposals for your consideration at time of booking. Comprehensive insurance is mandatory for all participants and the Company will require proof of any insurance purchased indirectly.

Costs

Based on airfares, taxes and exchange rates valid as at 19 March 2012 and are subject to increase.

