

MOMENTS

on the road

A Burmese Journey -
From the Lanna Kingdom to the Bay of Bengal
(17 Days)





ON THE ROAD EXPERIENCES

BACK ROADS | HIDDEN GEMS

We love road journeys. They are by far our favourite way of traveling. We think the world of western China and the countries that border on this region – think Vietnam, Lao, Thailand, Burma, for example.

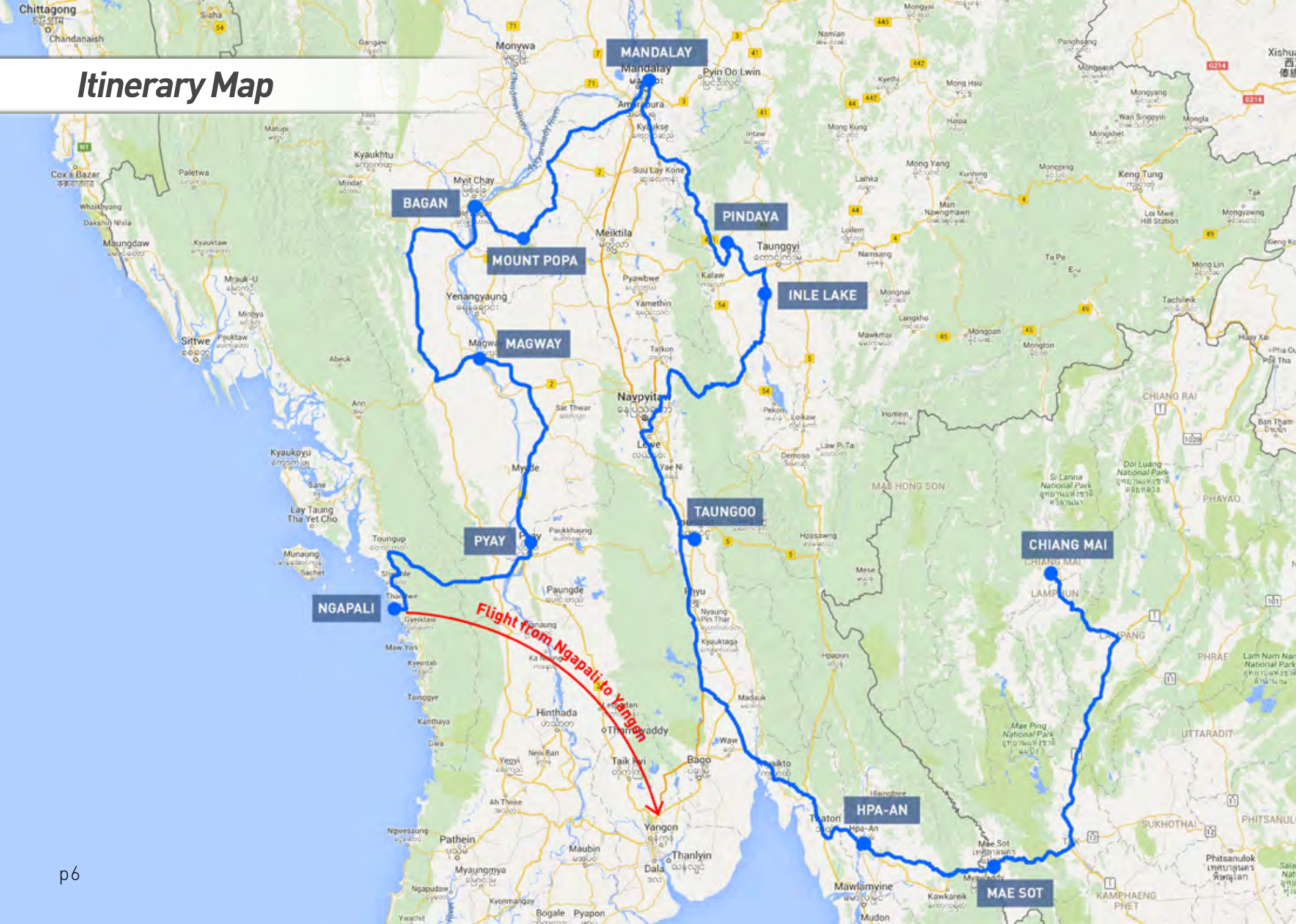
On the Road Experiences is all about sharing with like-minded travelers just how beautiful a road journey in these varied lands can be. Now turn the page to find out what we've come to love so much...





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Itinerary Map

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Ngapali – *Back to real life? Or linger here awhile longer?*

Yes, it is possible...

A driving holiday in this part of the world is indeed possible. We take care of everything. All you need to do is come, drive and enjoy a rare adventure!

A Burmese Journey – From the Lanna Kingdom to the Bay of Bengal is a discovery of the Golden Land's beautiful scenery and traditions. This spectacular itinerary will take you from Chiang Mai, Thailand, former capital of the ancient Lanna Kingdom via the Mae Sot/Myawaddy border to Burma. You will drive through striking mountain scenery in Kayin State, before reaching Taungoo. Swinging east through the Shan mountains to Inle Lake, you will witness the famous leg-rowing technique of the lake's fishermen. From rural Pindaya you will enter the plains of the Mandalay Division, the pilgrimage site of Mount Popa and the magical temple-strewn landscape of Bagan. Join a "hidden temple safari" on your way to Magwe on remote country roads on the west bank of the Irrawaddy – the police might follow you, as not many foreigners have been seen here! After Pyay, an important trading centre during the Bagan era you'll finish your drive though the Rakhine mountains and then unwind on the beach at Ngapali, looking out at the Bay of Bengal, where long, tranquil stretches of white sandy beaches and azure waters await.


Join this spectacular journey and discover a country, which has kept its traditions and welcomes you every day with something different.

On the Road Experiences has paved the way for you to cross borders in your own properly insured SUV, so that you can enjoy the romance of a classic overland journey without any of the logistical headaches that typically accompany such journeys...



Journey of discovery





“A BEAUTIFUL HOTEL
right by Chiang Mai’s
NIGHT MARKET...
a wonderful way to
start the journey...”

“ WELCOME on the
ROAD in BURMA...”



Road from Myawaddy to Hpa An

“HPA An sits on the
eastern bank of the
THANLWIN
also known as
SALWEEN RIVER...”





“Many of the **DRAMATIC KARST MOUNTAINS** surrounding Hpa An contain **LARGE** and **RELIGIOUSLY** significant caves...”

“A LODGE in
the middle of
NOWHERE...”

“The 587km long
EXPRESSWAY
connects **YANGON**
with **MANDALAY...**”



“Your hotel in one of many **FORMER CAPITALS** of Burma...”

“On BACKROADS
along REMOTE
villages and
countryside...”


Through the Shan mountain range to Inle Lake

“PAGODAS are
everywhere in
Burma, sometimes in
UNUSUAL PLACES...”

Winding your way through the Shan mountain range...



“ FARMING
is the main income for
most villagers...”

A photograph showing two people in a small wooden boat on a body of water. The boat is filled with green vegetables, likely corn. The person in the foreground is sitting cross-legged, wearing a dark patterned shirt and purple pants. The person in the background is wearing a red and black plaid shirt. The water is surrounded by dense green vegetation and tall, thin wooden poles that support floating gardens. The sky is clear and blue.

“ In addition to FISHING,
the Intha people GROW
vegetables and fruit in large
gardens that FLOAT on the
surface of the lake...”



“PA-OH people
WASHING their
cloths at the
lake...”

“The villages of the INTHA people across the lake are wooden houses BUILT HIGH on STILTS...”

Typical stilt house at Inle Lake




“BURMESE MARIONETTES
are all string operated and
are a POPULAR ART
in Burma...”

“COWS are a
COMMON SIGHT
on Burma's roads...”

On the way to Pindaya

“The idyllic town of
PINDAYA is situated at
Pone Taloke Lake...”

The small town of Pindaya



“This massive limestone
CAVERN is filled with
OVER 8,000 gilded
BUDDHA STATUES...”



“MONK feeding
is A COMMON
sight...”

Monks rely on offerings from locals

“A BEAUTIFUL
1.2km structure
built from
TEAK PLANKS...”




“MONKS come in
all SHAPES and
SIZES...”



“ OXCARTS are used to carry PASSENGERS, BUNDLES OF HAY, BAMBOO CANES and more...”

“Young PRINCES
before TASTING the
lives of MONKS...”

The novitiation ceremony is one of the most important events in a Buddhist's life in Burma



**“An EXTINCT VOLCANO
regarded as Burma’s
Mount Olympus, in which SPRITS
called NATS reside...”**

The famous Popa Taungkalat monastery

“TEMPLES and
PAGODAS wherever
you LOOK...it takes your
BREATH AWAY...”

Bagan in central Burma is one of the world's greatest archeological sites

“WATER plays an
IMPORTANT ROLE
in peoples life...”

A serene sunset scene over a wide river, likely the Irrawaddy. The sun is a bright, glowing orb in the center of the frame, casting a warm, orange and pink glow across the sky. The river's surface reflects the colors of the sunset. In the foreground, dark, silhouetted branches of a tree with small, oval-shaped leaves hang down from the right side of the frame. A semi-transparent white box is positioned in the upper right corner, containing a quote in white text.

“Enjoy a DRINK
while watching the
SUNSET over the
IRRAWADDY...”



“A GIANT seated Buddha,
sits eye-to-eye with the
Shwesandaw Paya and
WATCHING over it...”

“NARROW LANES...
across the RAKHINE
mountain range...”



“HAPPY children
welcome you at their
SCHOOL ...”

“FERTILE
PLAINS around
Thandwe...”



Area around Thandwe



“A BEACH
PARADISE almost
for yourself...”

“The PERFECT
location to end the
JOURNEY...”

“A SUNSET by the
OCEAN...filled with
MEMORIES of the
JOURNEY...”

Day-by-day



Day 1
Preparing for your journey

Arrive in Chiang Mai according to your own arrangements. We will meet you at the airport and transfer you to your hotel. Chiang Mai's walled city center retains a small-town feel and houses numerous historical temples and attractions within walking distance of each other. Explore the town on foot before enjoying a group dinner in a lovely restaurant and joining our safety briefing.



Details
Driving Distance & Duration
Distance: NA
Duration: NA

Elevation
Highest Daytime: 310m
Overnight: 310m

Hotel
Anantara Chiang Mai Resort
[*****]

Day 2
Cruise along excellent Thai highways and a mountainous road to the Burmese border

Welcome to the road! Today we make the journey to the Burmese border at Mae Sot. The first 280km south from Chiang Mai to Tak will be on excellent Thai highways. From Tak to Mae Sot we continue our journey on Highway 105, which swoops its way through hills and forests that abut the border.

Sitting astride the border itself, Mae Sot has developed into an important trading centre and many ethnic groups visit the town to trade: Thais, Chinese, Burmese, Karen, Hmong and other mountain peoples. The town is also known for its substantial population of Burmese migrants and Kayin refugees.

Once we have checked into our hotel, the hotel is nothing special but really best in town, you will have some time to wonder around the town before dinner in a local restaurant.

Details
Driving Distance & Duration
Distance: 350 km
Duration: 7 hours

Elevation
Highest Daytime: 800m
Overnight: 200m

Hotel
Centara Hill Resort, Mae Sot
[****]



Day 3
Cross the border and
enjoy a scenic drive
to the capital of Kayin
State

Today we will cross the border into Burma. The border post is just a few minutes away from our hotel.

We have prepared such that the border formalities ought to go smoothly, but they will take some time nonetheless: here in South-East Asia, driving across international borders is still an uncommon event, and captures some of the romance of overland travel in days gone by.

Once we have entered Burma we will drive on a very well-paved road from Myawaddy to Karaweik. This new road was financed by the Thai government, hence its good condition.

From Karaweik onwards the road is not as smooth but is

still very pleasant to drive. It will lead us through villages and rubber plantations towards the limestone karst mountains surrounding Hpa-An, Kayin State's laidback capital.

Depending on the ease of our border crossing, we will have our first Burmese meal in Hpa-An before checking into a beautiful lodge in a peaceful location. Spend the afternoon relaxing by the hotel pool

enjoying the view of Mount Zwegabin. In the early evening we will drive to the Kyauk Kalap monastery, standing proud in the middle of a small lake, a tall finger of sheer rock mounted by one of the most unlikely pagodas in Burma. The rock offers great views of the surrounding countryside and is the best place to see the sunset over the Zwegabin mountain.



Details

Driving Distance & Duration
Distance: 140 km
Duration: 5 hours

Elevation
Highest Daytime: 700m
Overnight: 20m

Hotel
Hpa-An Lodge [****]

Day 4

Explore Hpa An's beautiful surroundings

Today is a day to ease into the Burmese lifestyle and to relax before the next two days' long drives.

Enjoy a day at the lodge or start your day with an adventure and climb Mount Zwekabin which has a lot of beautiful sceneries along the way up awaits with spectacular views from the top.

Or join us for a drive across the Salween River to visit Kawgun Cave, the most stunning one out of the many sacred caves

in Hpa An. Buddhist imagery can be seen scaling the walls of the cave, the carvings rising onto the ceiling itself in some sections. The details of Kawgun Cave's origins are hazy, but it is generally believed, the temple cave was commissioned by a Mon Queen in the 7th century, so it is a sacred site for the ethnic Mon to come here and worship.

In the evening we enjoy a local dinner.



Details

Driving Distance & Duration

Depending on your chosen activity

Elevation

Highest Daytime: 20m - 700m

Overnight: 20m

Hotel

Hpa-An Lodge, Hpa-An [****]

Day 5

Back roads through striking mountain scenery, then take the “highway” north

Today we have the first of this journey’s three long drives ahead of us. The first part will be on country roads before we join Burma’s highway, which fortunately also has a rural feel to it.

After breakfast we set out across the Salween River and drive on a beautiful road through striking limestone karst scenery, crossing from Kayin State into Mon State –

Kayin and Mon being just two of Burma’s 135 ethnic groups.

After lunch we will join the highway and head north towards central Burma. A drive of around three hours will bring us to the town of Taungoo, dynastic home of the Taungoo dynasty, which ruled the country between the 16th and 18th centuries. Taungoo itself was capital of Burma in 1510–1539 and 1551–1552.

Our hotel is situated on the western edge of the Royal Lake. Enjoy the sunset and a stroll around the lake before dinner.



Details

Driving Distance & Duration

Distance: 380 km

Duration: 9 hours

Elevation

Highest Daytime: 500m

Overnight: 56m

Hotel

Hotel Royal Kaytumadi,
Taungoo [****]



Day 6

On gorgeous backroad across the Shan Plateau to Inle Lake

Today is the second long driving day. A stretch of highway will take us from Taungoo to Naypyitaw, Burma’s capital since 2005. Past Naypyitaw back roads will take us to Inle Lake.

Once we get on the back road that winds its way through the Shan mountains, we will be passing through a region that sees few other travellers. Until March 2015 this road was only accessible with a special permit. Even now tourist traffic stays on the main road – while the rural scenery is wonderful this also means that the infrastructure is basic and good restaurant are hard to find. We have made friends with a local family running a small restaurant where we will enjoy a simple lunch. The road winds further through the eastern Shan Plateau

and the drive after lunch will take us to the small town of Pinlaung. From here it is another two hours of driving to Inle Lake, where we arrive just in time to see sunset over the lake. Dinner will be at the hotel.

Short Itinerary:

For this itinerary you need to arrive in Yangon not later than 11.30am in order to catch the afternoon flight to Inle Lake (Heho airport). If you are already in Yangon, we can arrange the airport transfer for you. After your flight to Heho, you will be brought to the hotel where you meet the rest of the group for dinner.



Details

Driving Distance & Duration

Distance: 330 km

Duration: 9-10 hours

Elevation

Highest Daytime: 1600m

Overnight: 884m

Hotel

Inle Princess Hotel, Inle Lake
[****]

Day 7

Float across the serene waters of Inle Lake

Today you have time to explore Inle Lake by longtail boat. A wonderful watery world of floating gardens, stilt-top villages and crumbling stupas awaits you. We will suggest a route for you and of course will join you on this tour, but if you prefer to go on your own with your own boat and boatman or relax at the hotel you can do so.

Setting out in the early morning, the boatmen will pick us up from the hotel pier. The day will not only include stops to see Inle's famous leg rowers, stilt villages and magnificent scenery but also at the lake's floating gardens. In addition to fishing, locals grow vegetables and fruit in gardens that float on the surface of the lake. The farmers gather weeds from the deeper parts of the lake and bring them back to make floating flowerbeds



anchored by bamboo poles. These gardens rise and fall with changes in the water level, and so are resistant to flooding.

After a delicious, traditional ethnic Inthar lunch in the middle of the lake, we will visit Inthein village on the lake's western shore, where you will find a staircase leading to the hidden Inthein Pagoda complex.

In the evening we return to the hotel for dinner.



Details

Driving Distance & Duration

Depending on your chosen activity

Elevation

Highest Daytime: 850m
Overnight: 850m

Hotel

Inle Princess Hotel, Inle Lake
(****)

Day 8
Travel to the pleasant
lakeside town of
Pindaya

Today’s drive is relatively short, and we will be able to take it slowly in order to enjoy the region’s spectacular scenery. Before departing for Pindaya, we will visit a colorful local market in Nyaungshwe, where hill tribes come to sell fruit and vegetables, along with a handful of stalls selling Burmese string puppets.

As we leave Nyaungshwe, we will stop at the charming red-painted Shwe Yan Pyay teak monastery, built in the early 19th century. It provides a home for boys from poor families around the region and provides them with education and meals.

After arriving in Pindaya, a small town of ethnic Danu people in a fertile valley bordered by mountains, we check into our rustic but charming inn. Then we can take a leisurely walk around Ponetaloke Lake and visit

Pindaya Cave. Every nook and cranny in the cave is crammed with Buddha images and statues. The floor of the cave is studded with stalagmites and pagodas, with stalactites hanging from the cave roof.

Tonight’s dinner will be at the charming hotel restaurant.



Details

Driving Distance & Duration

Distance: 95 km

Duration: 2-3 hours

Elevation

Highest Daytime: 1200m

Overnight: 1200m

Hotel

Pindaya Inle Inn, Pindaya (***)

Day 9
Leave the Shan
Plateau behind as you
approach Burma’s
last royal capital

Today’s drive from Pindaya to Mandalay is highly scenic. Multi-colored fields, village live, buffalo cowboys, orange orchards, bullock carts loaded with cabbages and rolling pine-clad hills make it an interesting and pleasurable drive.

As we approach Mandalay the scenery changes and flattens as we emerge onto the plains of Mandalay Division.

After a local lunch in the mountains we will come to the small town of Kyaukse, from here it takes only an hour to drive in to Mandalay.

Mandalay is Burma’s second biggest city with a population of roughly one million and the traffic can be dense. Please be aware of the many motorcycles and drive very slow and careful. After a brief stop at our hotel we will drive to Mandalay Hill to see the sunset over Burma’s last royal capital. Our dinner will be in a small restaurant where we enjoy a mix of Western and Burmese fusion cuisine.



Details

Driving Distance & Duration

Distance: 202 km

Duration: 7 hours

Elevation

Highest Daytime: 1500m

Overnight: 21m

Hotel

Mandalay Hill Resort (*****)

Day 10
Explore the many
sights of Mandalay

Today you can explore the many highlights of Mandalay, either heading out on your own (our guides and hosts will be happy to help you plan your day), or joining our programme. We have planned a leisurely breakfast followed by a chauffeured drive to Sagaing or Amarapura, the “City of Immortals”, where we will visit the 150-year old Mahagandayon Monastery and famous Buddhist learning center. It is home to a thousand monks, who will

form a procession as they go to take their noon meal – the last of the day for them. After visiting U-Bein bridge it is worth strolling along the different workshops Mandalay has to offer as it is known as the center for many of Burma’s artisan crafts - working in marble, stone, gold and teak wood or making puppets just to name a few.

End the day with a dinner in one of our favorite local Burmese restaurants.



Details
Driving Distance & Duration
Depending on your chosen
activity

Elevation
Highest Daytime: 100m
Overnight: 21m

Hotel
Mandalay Hill Resort (*****)



Day 11
Drive past small
villages to the most
important Nat
pilgrimage site

Today you will enjoy a beautiful drive through the countryside of Mandalay Division. While the landscape is flat, the rural scenery is never boring, with its ox carts and rice fields. It is a leisurely drive and we will enjoy some interesting stops en route.

Our overnight stop, Mount Popa, was formed in the cone

of an extinct volcano and is an important center for Burma’s nat worship. This distinctive, steep-sided mountain is considered to be the abode of the 37 nats or spirits.

The hotel we have selected tonight is a beautiful lodge at Mount Popa with a perfect sunset view over Taung Kalat monastery.



Details
Driving Distance & Duration
Distance: 200 km
Duration: 6 hours

Elevation
Highest Daytime: 1000m
Overnight: 1000m

Hotel
Mount Popa Resort (*****)

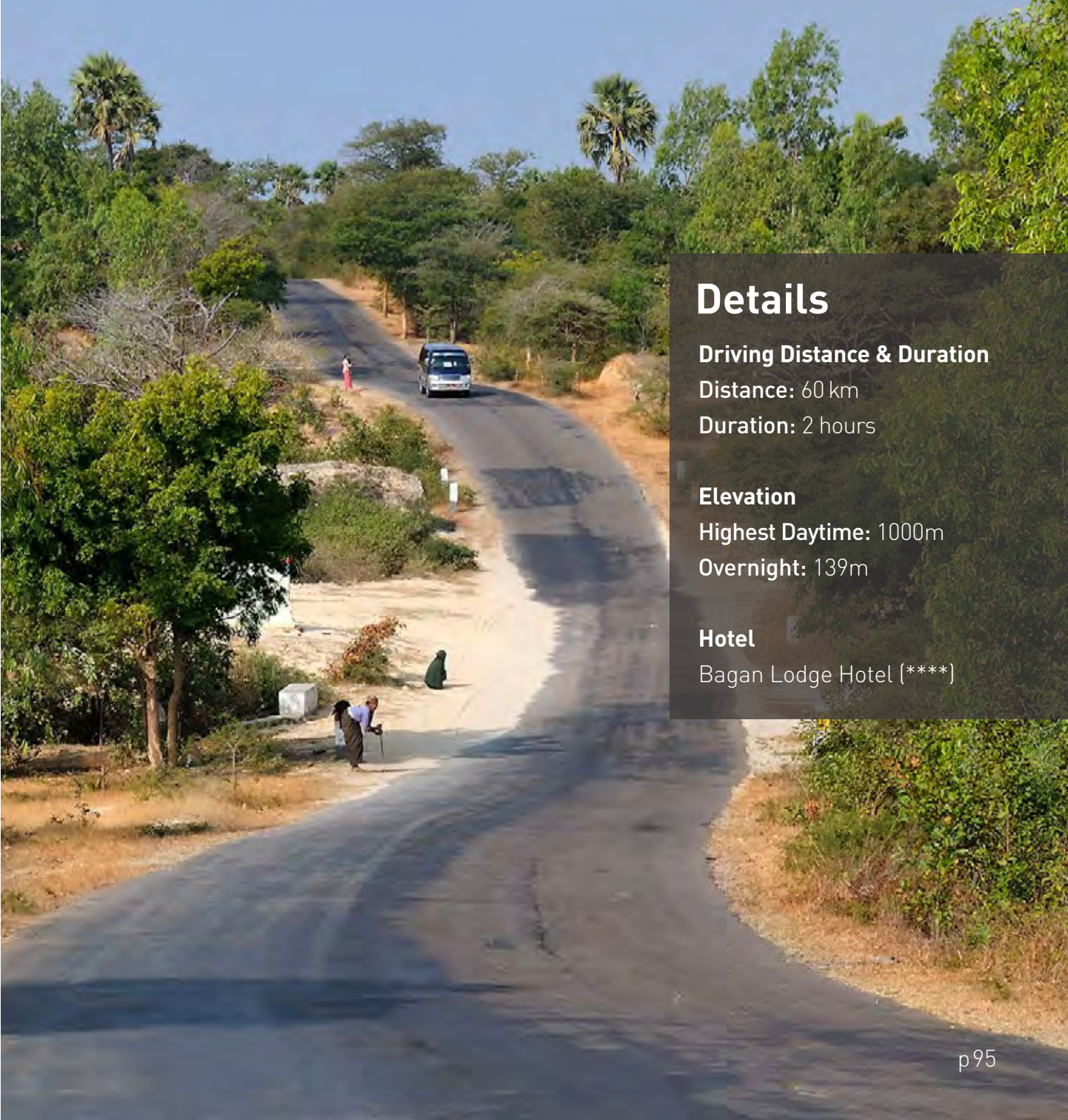
Day 12
Visit a local village
and learn how to
make thanaka on the
way to Bagan

For those who would like to start the day with a bit of exercise, it is possible to make the 20-minute walk from the hotel to Taung Kalat Hill and then up the 777 steps to the hilltop monastery. Make sure you don't take your breakfast with you, as you may end up "donating" it to the troops of macaques that live around the monastery.

After the climb our team will pick you up from the bottom of the mountain and we will return to the hotel for breakfast before departing for Bagan. On the way to Bagan we will visit a village, which offers a fascinating glimpse of local life. Shortly before arriving in Bagan we make another stop at a workshop – while this may be touristy it still makes a fun break from the road. Here, we will learn how sesame and peanut oil are made using a

vintage ox-driven press, and how to apply Burmese thanaka paste. From here it is another half hour drive to Bagan.

After checking into our hotel and eating lunch, you can explore a few of the 2,200 temples and pagodas that litter the region. In the early evening we set off to watch the sunset from Bagan's most picturesque spot. Tonight we have a nice local dinner in Old Bagan.



Details

Driving Distance & Duration

Distance: 60 km

Duration: 2 hours

Elevation

Highest Daytime: 1000m

Overnight: 139m

Hotel

Bagan Lodge Hotel (****)

Day 13

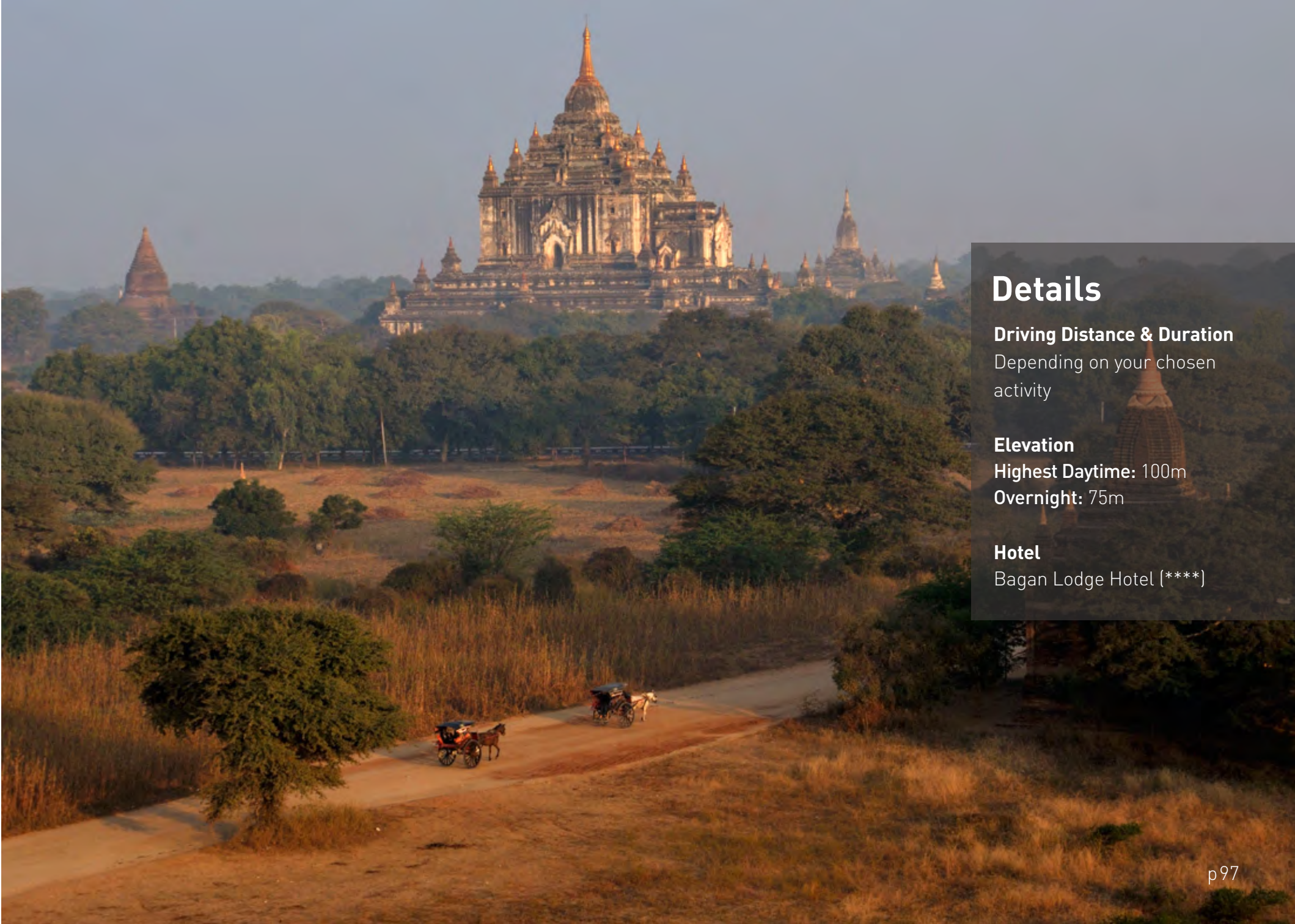
Visit the most significant temples of Bagan

Today we have a whole day to explore Bagan, a vast plain that once sat at the heart of the Kingdom of Pagan, which ruled this region of Burma between the 9th and 13th centuries. At its height, between the 11th and 13th centuries, over ten thousand monasteries, pagodas and temples thrived in the devoutly Buddhist kingdom.

Our day here starts with an optional sunrise drive or you may wish to take the jaw-dropping balloon ride (not included in our package) over Bagan to get a sense of the site's vast scale. Then we will have a shopping stop at Nyaung U's colorful market before returning to the hotel for breakfast.

The rest of the day is very flexible and we recommend you to explore the many temples and pagodas by horse cart.

In the evening we meet for a dinner at a local restaurant. Please note, breakfast and dinner are included in the tour price, lunch is not included today.



Details

Driving Distance & Duration

Depending on your chosen activity

Elevation

Highest Daytime: 100m

Overnight: 75m

Hotel

Bagan Lodge Hotel (****)

Day 14

Cross the Irrawaddy and stop at some of the region's hidden temples

One of our favorite drives on this journey, the route today leads through the rural area along the west bank of the Irrawaddy, a little-visited region of pretty villages and remote temples. We may attract a police entourage at this point of the journey, because so few visitors use this road to Magwe!

From Bagan we drive south towards Chauk. From Chauk we cross the Irrawaddy from the east bank to the west and the road that will lead us on to the small town of Salin. Rice fields, livestock and riverine life can all be watched as you cruise along. After stopping in Salin for lunch, we drive on to Lagaing, with its concealed old wooden teak monastery, and Sagu where we will stop at a school for monks housed in an old monastery.

We will arrive in Magwe in time to see the sunset over the Irrawaddy and you will enjoy a local dinner near the hotel. Tonight's riverside hotel is the most basic on this journey, but it is the best available in this small town.



Details

Driving Distance & Duration

Distance: 188 km

Duration: 6 hours

Elevation

Highest Daytime: 60m

Overnight: 60m

Hotel

Nan Thike Thu Hotel, Magwe
(*)

Day 15

A beautiful drive through rural scenery – past ox carts and cotton plantations

Toady's drive might feel similar to many roads we have driven already on this journey, but eagle-eyed travellers will still be able to find something fresh and new on the roadsides. Cotton grows along the road, for example, the plants looking like little flowers. Closer to Pyay the road gets busier as Pyay is an important transit point for goods between Upper and Lower Burma and due to its location on the Yangon–Bagan highway. Pyay's glory days date from the ancient Pyu capital of Thayekhattaya, the partially excavated remains of which lie 7km east of Pyay's other stellar attraction: the dazzling Shwesandaw pagoda.

The Burmese switch between two pronunciations of the town's name: 'Pyay' and 'Pyi'. In British Burma, the British

colonialists – apparently unable to deal with either name – called it Prome.

Whatever you decide to call it, soak up this town's atmosphere and prepare for the long drive ahead of you tomorrow.

Please note, hotel choices here are also limited. We have again chosen the best available.



Details

Driving Distance & Duration

Distance: 200 km

Duration: 6 hours

Elevation

Highest Daytime: 60m

Overnight: 30m

Hotel

Mingalar Garden Resort, Pyay
(**)

Day 16

Travel on winding roads across the Rakhine mountain range

Our last driving day is also the third of our journey's three longest drives. Almost the whole day will be spent on winding mountain roads across the Arakan Mountains. The road finally flattens out for the last two hours as we finally draw closer to the ocean. The Arakan Mountains separate the coast of Rakhine State from the Central Burma Basin.

This scenic drive leads through small mountain villages and an impoverished primary school, which we can visit on our way. Unfortunately – as in so many other parts of Burma, deforestation has had a considerable impact on this region's scenery, but this drive is still a fantastic one. When we have left the winding roads behind us, we come to the sleepy town of Taungup. Beyond Taungup the scenery changes, the land becomes

flat and very fertile, and our route runs past rice fields, banana trees and cashew nuts as we approach Thandwe and Ngapali Beach.

The hotel you are staying is at one of the best locations along the beach and – with a well-earned cocktail in hand – you can watch the sunset over the Bay of Bengal before we meet for a farewell seafood dinner on the beach.



Details

Driving Distance & Duration

Distance: 235 km

Duration: 9 hours

Elevation

Highest Daytime: 1600m

Overnight: 141m

Hotel

Ngapali Bay Villas & Spa
[*****]



Day 17

Back to real life? Or linger here awhile longer?

Some of you will have to fly home today because, after all, life must go on. We will transfer you to the airport in Thandwe, from where you will fly to Yangon. In Yangon our tour comes to an end, leaving you to continue your journey as per your own arrangements.

On the other hand, if you can spare an extra day or two, why not stay on and explore the area around Ngapali? Whether you choose to go snorkeling, kayaking, visiting fishing villages or prefer relaxing on the pristine sands, an extension is thoroughly worthwhile. We are happy to assist you with an extension of your stay.

Regardless of how your trip ends, we hope that you will leave us refreshed and with many new memories of your exotic journey from the Golden Triangle to the Bay of Bengal.



Choice of Cars

We include in the package price an SUV we procure from Avis or Hertz or another reputable car rental company. Most of the SUVs are Toyotas, but on occasion Mitsubishi's or other brands may also make an appearance.

We wish the car rental markets of South-east Asia would be more developed and we could give you more choice, but this is not so: since we want to provide well-maintained and well insured cars, the choice is rather limited.

But SUVs are in fact the right choice for driving journeys in this part of the world because they are spacious enough to accommodate a lot of luggage, photography equipment, and good-and-bad-weather gear.

Also, they reinforce the feeling of adventure, exploration and discovery...which is, in the end, the mood of journeys in this region, no matter how comfortable or even luxurious the night's hotel may be.

What's more, they offer sufficient clearance when required and thus add a sense of safety and all-round ability.

And so SUVs from reputable brands are our car of choice!

**“ANY car,
as long as
it is an SUV”**

Adventures and Discoveries in Local Cuisines

While this itinerary is not one of our 'Foodie'-themed journeys, we do believe that each one of our journeys should introduce you not only to hidden gems of cultural and scenic beauty, but that sampling local cuisines is also a must.

In Burma this means a mixture of Burmese and Chinese food. While local people rely on noodles and salads for breakfast and snacks, main meals are based around various curries prepared fresh each morning, selected from a buffet and served with side dishes. Thanks to the country's unreliable electricity supply, refrigeration is not yet widespread in Burma, and for this reason many local people prefer to eat curry at lunchtime, rather than in the

evening when it will be less fresh. For evening meals, many Burmese people prefer Chinese food, as it is freshly cooked to order. You will enjoy a combination of these two styles on your journey.

Wine and beer is always included in our meals for you to enjoy. (When we travel into high-altitude, we suggest moderation!)

Finally, if you have special dietary requirements are particularly interested in the culinary aspect of one of our journeys, please let us know.

For private journeys, we can, of course, tailor the meal experience to your taste (and budget).



What's Included / Best Months to Go...

Generally speaking, our journey packages and prices are all-inclusive. Once you've paid and you arrive at the starting point, you really won't have to take out your wallet again.

- **Cars** – a modern SUV is provided for all driving days, expertly maintained and serviced by Avis, Hertz, or other reputable car rental companies, and covered by the best insurance available. The sending of the cars from Ngapali back to Chiang Mai, Thailand is included as well.
- **International Journey Host, Guide and Support Vehicle** – you will be accompanied by a registered Burmese tour guide, an On the Road Experiences host and a fully equipped lead car with a local support driver. In Burma we are also required to have 1 government minder in the lead car.
- **Routes** – A well-researched itinerary and carefully crafted journey experience. You will receive a detailed route book before your departure. We will also supply each car with a pre-programmed GPS and printed maps. (The GPS maps are not yet ideal in Burma, though.)
- **Driving License** – All arrangements, fees and permits for driving in Thailand and Burma are included



- **Fuel & Tolls & Parking** – we provide petrol for the car throughout the journey, pay all tolls and all parking fees
- **Airport Transfers** – all airport transfers are included
- **Flights** – Flight from Thandwe (Ngapali) to Yangon and your flight from Yangon to Inle Lake (12- day journey) are included
- **Permits and logistics** – all entry, border crossing and road permits are included.

- **Hotels** – the best available or five-star accommodation is included in each overnight stop
- **Meals** – breakfast (a choice of Western and Local is provided), and lunch and dinner are included on all driving days, as are drinks Meals on non-driving days as specified above. Prepare for a culinary adventure!
- **Goodies** – you will enjoy an On the Road Home-Away-from-Home Kit containing wet towels,

anti-bacterial gel and basic toiletries, and a daily picnic basket containing fresh fruit, fruit juice, water, and a mixture of sweets and nibbles

- **Other Essentials** – we provide each car with walky-talkies
- **Travel Insurance** – including 24-hour medical assistance, evacuation and repatriation emergency service
- **Tips & Entrance Fees** – basic tips and entrance fees for jointly attended activities are included
- **Activities, Meals, Transport** during 'free times' as indicated in this Journey Dossier
- **Top-up Collision Damage Waiver** insurance

What's Not Included

The only items not included in our prices are your flights to Chiang Mai and back from Yangon, your Thailand and Burma visa and personal purchases (e.g., gifts, souvenirs)



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“A picture is worth a thousand words. True, but when it comes to a road journey, moving images are priceless. Please visit :
<http://www.ontheroadexperiences.com/en/video-gallery>”





ON THE ROAD EXPERIENCES

BACK ROADS | HIDDEN GEMS

“Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.”

Ralph Waldo Emerson

