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Experience the INSIGHT with Myanmar Shalom Tours!

Whether for a short journey or a long in-depth holiday, Myanmar Shalom can create an itinerary suited to fit your needs and is sure to create a lifetime of memories. This itinerary is simply a suggested and can easily be customized to suit your preferences, schedule, budget, and interests.

10 Days/ 9 Nights Myanmar Trip FAM TRIP 15 – 24 May, 2020



Highlight

- Discover the world famous golden Shwedagon Pagoda
- Visit Bagan and get stunning with its spectacular massive ancient temples
- Visit local villages and learn of villagers daily lifestyle
- Capture the mystery and romance of Mandalay
- Explore the tranquil waterways of Inle Lake through floating gardens and villages
- Meet and chat with many different local ethnic groups

We have created this unique FAM TRIP for Travel Agents/Tour Operators/DMC/Tour Leaders and interested travelers. With a focus on the culture, people, arts and sights of Myanmar, you will see fairy-tale pagodas, fascinating architecture, meeting with ethnic tribal groups and lively street life.

Normally this type of trip will cost over \$1600 per person but we have provided the special rate of \$850 per person. This trip is highly recommended for travel agents, tour operator, tour leader/guide and any first time traveler to Myanmar. **We hope you can join us for this amazing FAM trip.** Sammy Samuels Managing Director Myanmar Shalom Travels

Day 1: Yangon (D)

Upon your arrival in Yangon, welcome by our tour guide and transferred to your hotel for check-in. Day at leisure. Welcome dinner.

Day 2: Yangon (B, L)

Enjoy private tour and drive through downtown to explore the city centre and its fabulous mix of architecture and sites. The streets are filled with historical buildings many of which have a faded colonial charm not seen elsewhere in Asia. You'll start at the post office – a lovely historic building, passing by Strand Hotel, Mahabandoola Garden and Independence Monument along the way. Then visit famous Chauk Htat Kyi, home to a 70-meter long reclining Buddha. The feet of the statue carved with traditional symbols and often many locals gathering to pay homage and pray. Photo stop at the Karaweik Hall royal floating barge. Nothing will prepare you for Shwedagon Pagoda, with its glittering gold stupa. At the pagoda observe local pilgrims and monks offering their devotions and enjoy the amazing sunset view at Shwedagon pagoda.

Day 3: Yangon – Bagan (B, L)

Early morning flight to Bagan. Begin our exploration by visiting a busy local market and gain an insight into the bustling market atmosphere in Bagan. You will spend the day exploring the architectural masterpieces of this amazing town by visit to a diverse selection of the most important pagodas and temples. Lunch at local restaurant. In the late afternoon climbing to the top of the Temple for sunset views. Sit back relax and be amazed by the beauty of Bagan as you watch the sun slowly set behind the ancient Pagodas.

Day 4: Bagan & Villages (B, L)

More than just temples, our tour introduces you to provide a great overview of Bagan's history, culture and local lifestyles. Today see the real way of life for most Myanmar people by visiting villages near Bagan to view the local lifestyle. In the late afternoon transfer to jetty where a private wooden river boat is waiting. Sitting under the shade or on the open-deck you'll be treated to fabulous views as you cruise down the Irrawaddy River to Shwezigon Pagoda. A private boat tour on the river during sunset time will hopefully show you a spectacular sunset. Relax and enjoy the scenery.

Day 5: Bagan – Mandalay – Amarapura (B, L)

Transfer to the airport for your flight to legendary Mandalay, a city of great cultural importance. This morning visit the second most sacred image in Myanmar next to the Shwedagon Pagoda is the Mahamuni Pagoda. Visit local artisan's workshops of gold leaf making, woodcarving and marble carving. Next visit Golden palace Monastery famous for its intricate woodcarvings. Continue to the Kuthodaw Pagoda, which is known as the world largest book due to the Buddhist scripture carved on 729 marble slabs. Before sunset visit a 200-year-old teak bridge, the most photographic site in Myanmar.

Day 6: Mandalay – Irrawaddy River – Mingun (B, L)

After breakfast you'll board a private local boat for a trip up the Irrawaddy to Mingun (45 min each way). Visit the Mingun Bell which weighs more than 87 tons and being the world's largest intact bronze bell, the unfinished Mingun Paya (built with the intention of being the world's biggest pagoda). Mingun's other highlight is the Hisnbyume Pagoda, a white-washed temple built to resemble Mount Meru. Throughout Mingun there are small neighborhoods crafting traditional basketry and other artistic items and there is plenty of time to stop and interact with the craftsmen and friendly locals. After returning to Mandalay in the afternoon continues sightseeing and visits the ruined remains of the Royal Palace. This evening, enjoy a commanding overview of the city from the Mandalay Hill.

Day 7: Mandalay – Heho – Inle Lake (B, L)

After breakfast, fly to Heho, gateway to Inle Lake. From Heho drive to NyaungShwe where we pick our boat & transfer to your hotel for check in. Enjoy the full day tour by private boat in Inle lake. Visit the Phaung Daw Oo Pagoda, the most holy religious site in southern Shan State. Be amazed by the local handicrafts, silk weaving, wooden handlooms and traditional blacksmith methods along the way. Visiting Inle Lake is not just about being on the water but also about discovering the Shan and Intha villages on the banks of the river. Pass the endless floating gardens, houses, monasteries built on stilts on the lake. Proceed to Nampan village and see local cheroot factory (where the Burmese cigars are made) and canoe carving.

Day 8: Inle Lake – Indein (B, L)

Begin your day with a visit to the market, which rotates locations every five days and where hill tribe people dressed in colorful, traditional outfits — as they barter for goods and produce. We continue our sightseeing in Inle Lake, maneuvering by boat though long, scenic channels. We will visit the fascinating village of Indein, with its complex of ancient shrines

and stupas and walk though exotic colonnades of stairways and shop stalls. We'll visit the "long neck" tribal women, and weaving and craft villages perched on stilts. See the lake's unique "leg rowers" – the Intha people row standing up with one leg wrapped around an oar. It is a feast for the senses and a photographer's dream.

Day 9: Inle Lake – Heho – Yangon (B, D)

Morning flight back to Yangon. Then enjoy a visit to Scott Market, the sprawling 75-year-old Market. At the market you will find a whole variety of interesting Burmese souvenirs, from lacquer ware to gems & jewelry – bargain at the stores to fully experience the Burmese market atmosphere! Drive through the city and observe the influences of other cultures in the region. Intersperse in the tour are various religious sites such as the St Mary's Cathedral, built in 1899, and the Buddhist landmarks of Sule Paya and over 100 year old beautiful Rangoon Synagogue. In there you will have the opportunity to meet with Trustee of the Synagogue to learn the Jewish Life in the Pagoda Land. Then visit Little India and Chinatown – stop to greet the vendors and let them introduce you to their wares – some familiar, some exotic. Farewell dinner at local Restaurant.

Day 10:Yangon – Departure (B)

After breakfast, day at leisure until transfer to airport for International departure flight.

SPEICAL FAM TRIP COST PER PERSON

\$850 Only (Based on group of 15 pax and above) Single Supplement: \$250

Cost Included

- 9 Nights Stay at 4 Stars Deluxe Hotels
- Travel with Private Airlines for 4 Internal Domestic flights
- All Transfers and sightseeing with Private Air Conditioned Bus
- All entrance fees & all zone fees
- Enjoy gourmet dining: 8 Lunches and 2 Dinners at Fine Restaurants & Hotels
- Explore the tranquil waterways of Inle Lake by private boat
- Travel with Experienced English speaking local tour guides

Cost Not Included

- International flights
- Visa (very easy to apply online: <u>http://evisa.moip.gov.mm/</u> take only 1-2 days)
- Tipping to Guide & Driver (suggested \$3 per day)

4/5 Stars Hotels
Wyndham Hotel or Sedona Hotel or Rose Garden hotel or similar
Thiripyitsayar Resort or Tharabar Gate or Amata Hotel or Heritage Bagan or Ayeindarmar or similar
Hotel Shwe Pyi Tha (Deluxe) or Triumph Hotel or Dynasty Hotel or Bagan King or similar
Amata Resort or Novotel Inle Lake or Inle Lake View or similar