



www.myanmarshalom.com
Yangon: (951)-252-814 -- New York: 646-734-8472
info@myanmarshalom.com

Jewish Heritage Tour of Burma

10 Days/ 9 Nights Myanmar Trip

5th Dec – 14th Dec, 2018

When people consider the Jewish experience, the Middle East and Eastern Europe are the most frequent centers of attention or in Asia perhaps India- --- but Burma..... ?

Do you know Rangoon has the **most beautiful Baghdadi Synagogue** in all of Asia?

Do you know Synagogue used to have **126 Torah Scrolls** (probably highest number in the world)?

Do you know Rangoon had **Jewish Mayor** – street name after the Jewish merchant Judah Ezekiel– beautiful “**Sofaer Building**” still standing today at downtown Rangoon?

Do you know **Coca- Cola** was first brought to Rangoon by Jewish family called Solomon Brothers?

Do you know Burma was **Israel best ally** – first country in all of Asia to recognize Israel and Burmese Prime Minister U Nu was the first ever head of the state to visit Israel in 1955?

Ben Gurion said in 1961 - in all of Asia, there is no more friendly nation to Israel than Burma.

Today there are only a few Jews left in Myanmar. This trip will give you insight of this vibrant community and learn their escape from Japanese occupation in WWII. You will hear the interesting stories of “**Jewish Life in Pagoda Land**”.

Beside Jewish experience – this trip will enable you to explore and experience this beautiful country about which Rudyard Kipling wrote, “***This is Burma and it will be quite unlike any land you know.***”

We hope that through tourism the Jewish community may begin to revive and that beautiful synagogue once again will be filled with joy and song. I do hope you can join us for this amazing trip. Please share with others who might be interested – Very much appreciated.

Sammy Samuels
Managing Director
Myanmar Shalom Travels

Day 1: Yangon – 5th December (D)



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

Day 2: Yangon – 6th December (B, L, D) – SPECIAL Hanukkah Celebration in Yangon

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 over 100 year old beautiful Rangoon Synagogue. In there you will have the opportunity to learn the Jewish Life in the Pagoda Land. Visit Jewish cemetery and Jewish sights. Then visit Little India and Chinatown – stop to greet the vendors and let them introduce you to their wares – some familiar, some exotic.



Special Hanukkah Celebration with Yangon with local/expat Jewish community, diplomats and others.

Day 3: Yangon – Bagan – 7th December (B, L, D)



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. 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.

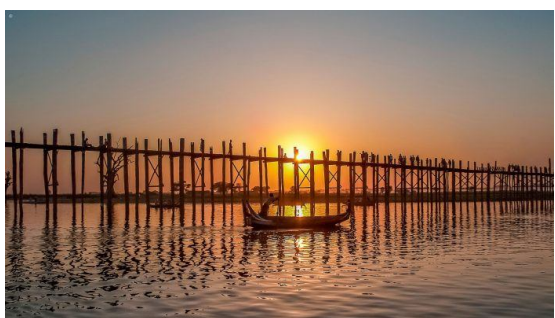
Day 4: Bagan & Villages – 8th December (B, L, D)

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. Then you will explore Bagan from a different perspective as you explore the area by Pony cart. The cart can explore areas that cars are unable to enter giving a different feel of Bagan. 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.

(For Shabbat Observant: we can arrange just walking tour today)



Day 5: Bagan – Mandalay – Amarapura – 9th December (B, L, D)



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 10th December (B, L, D)

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 - 11th December (B, L, D)



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 – 12th December (B, L, D)

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 through 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 -13th December (B, L, 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! Day at leisure to explore around city. Farewell Dinner

Day 10: Yangon – Departure – 14th December (B)

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

(For Shabbat Observant: you can either extend one more day in Yangon or flight out to other country in the morning/afternoon on Friday)

Quotation

TRIP COST PER PERSON: \$1650 (Based on twin or double sharing room)

Single Supplement: \$540

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 9 Dinners at Fine Restaurants & Hotels
- Explore by traditional horse cart through scenic countryside
- Explore the tranquil waterways of Inle Lake by private boat
- Travel with Experienced English speaking local tour guides

Cost Not Included

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

City	Hotels
Yangon	Sule Shangri La or Sedona Hotel or Park Royal Hotel
Bagan	Thiripyitsayar Resort or Myanmar Treasure Hotel or similar
Mandalay	Hotel Shwe Pyi Tar or Triumph Hotel or similar
Inle Lake	Amata Garden or Pristine Lotus Resort or similar