

Tour Program for Mr. I Harris & Mrs. J Wormleighton
(3-13 Nov 1998)

03 Nov BKK/ Yangon

Arrive at Yangon airport by # MH 740(1115). Transfer by the tour guide to your hotel. Dinner and overnight at Inya Lake Hotel.

04 Nov Yangon/Mandalay(flight), Mandalay full day sightseeing

Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer to the airport to take the flight # 6T 407(0645-0900) to Mandalay. Arrive at Mandalay and a quick check in at the hotel. Sightseeing tour of Mandalay includes the famous Mahamuni Pagoda; gold leaf hammering; the Old Palace grounds; Shwenandaw Monastery, noted for its exquisite wood carvings; Atumashi Monastery; Kuthodaw Pagoda, renowned as the world's largest book for its stone slabs of the entire Buddhist scriptures; and Mandalay Hill, a vantage point for a panoramic view of the city. Lunch and dinner at the local restaurants. Overnight at Mandalay Sedona Hotel.

05 Nov Excursion to Amarapura and Inwa

Breakfast at the hotel. In the morning leave for Amarapura. The tour highlights Mahagandayon monastery which is a school for young monks and we will visit the U Bein bridge as well. It is more than two centuries old and at 1.2 km is the longest teakwood span in the world. We will also see silk weaving, bronze casting, wood carving and tapestry making. Lunch at a local restaurant.

Our visit to Inwa features a cross river ferry ride after which we take a pony cart to visit Bagaya Kyaung, one of Myanmar's largest wooden monasteries still in use and with many rare works of art and over 400 Buddha statues. At the village of Inwa we can see local village life and ruins of an old fortress. Back to Mandalay at Sunset. Dinner at a local restaurant. Overnight at Mandalay Sedona Hotel.

06 Nov Mandalay/ Bagan (Boat)

Breakfast at the hotel. Early morning departure for Mandalay Port to take a boat trip to Bagan, a fascinating journey on board the local Mandalay-Bagan ferry boat service. You will travel for a whole day along the Ayeyarwady River -- Kipling's "Road to Mandalay." A picnic lunch will be provided. Many visitors have remarked that this colorful boat trip was the highlight of their experiences in Myanmar. Arrive at Bagan and transfer to the hotel. We may do some sightseeing before dinner if we arrive in time. Dinner at a local restaurant and overnight at Thiripyitsaya Sakura Hotel.

07 Nov Bagan full day sightseeing

Breakfast at the hotel. We are off on our sightseeing tour of Myanmar's most popular archeological destination. Highlights include Shwezigon Pagoda, prototype of later Myanmar stupas; Wetkyiin Gubyaukgyi Pagoda, an early period paya with paintings still preserved inside; Htilominlo Pagoda, in which traces of ancient murals are still visible; Ananda Pagoda, one of the finest, largest and best preserved in Old Bagan; and next to it we visit Ananda Ok Kyaung, one of the few surviving brick monastery buildings from the Early Bagan period. After lunch we return to the hotel for a rest before our afternoon visit to a lacquerware factory. We will also visit the archeological museum in Old Bagan as well as Dhammayangyi Pahto, a massive later period temple with the finest brickwork in Bagan. As the sun goes down we will be at one of the ideal viewing sites selected by our tour guide. Dinner at a local restaurant. Overnight at Thiripyitsaya Sakura Hotel.

08 Nov Bagan/ Kalaw (Car)

Breakfast at the hotel and then a scenic drive, rich with views of native life, to the former British hill station of Kalaw, about seven hours away. On the way we will visit Mt. Popa which rose from the ground in a massive earthquake in 442 BC. Mt. Popa is famous as the abode of the Nats (Spirit Gods) and for its panoramic view of the local tropical region. A friendly wave to curious onlookers along the road will bring warm smiles and waves of appreciation in return. Lunch at Popa Mountain Resort Hotel. Meikhtila. Arrive at Kalaw in time for a "leg stretching" stroll before dinner. Dinner and overnight Pine Hill Resort Hotel.

09 Nov Excursion to Pindaya

Breakfast at the hotel. Morning visit in town. Kalaw sits high on the western edge of the Shan plateau and at 1320 meters elevation is pleasantly cool. Sightseeing in town includes an old historic catholic church. Drive to Pindaya, a small quiet town about 32 kilometers from Kalaw. Lunch will be at a local restaurant and tour highlights include the famous Pindaya Cave, well known for its thousands of Buddha images, and a visit to a Shan umbrella making factory. We can also enjoy the scenic beauty of the country side along the road to and from Pindaya. Transfer to Golden Island Cottages. Dinner and overnight at Golden Island Cottages.

10 Nov Excursion to Inle Lake

After breakfast at the hotel, we will take a boat ride onto Inle Lake. The floating gardens, the markets, the boatman with their unusual one leg rowing style and the 'jumping cats' monastery are only a few of the highlights we will see. This is one of the most enjoyable and relaxing parts of our tour. Lunch at a lakeside restaurant. Dinner and overnight at Golden Island Cottages.

11 Nov Heho/ Yangon(flight), Yangon sightseeing

Breakfast at the hotel. After breakfast at the hotel, we take a boat ride on this enchanting Inle Lake and we are absorbed by it's enchanting beauty and uniqueness. Lunch at a local restaurant. Drive to Heho airport to take the flight # 6T 306(1435-1545) back to Yangon. Arrival at Yangon Airport and transfer to the hotel. Yangon sightseeing featuring the Shwedagon Pagoda, arguably the world's most impressive golden stupa; Chaukhtatkyi, a colossal reclining Buddha; a scenic photo stop on beautiful Kandawgyi Lake. Dinner and overnight at Inya Lake Hotel.

12 Nov Excursion to Bago

After breakfast at the hotel we will take a morning excursion to the ancient capital of Bago, 80 kilometers northeast of Yangon. As we near Bago we will also visit the local pottery making cottages. Tour highlights include the Shwemawdaw Pagoda, which is taller than the Shwedagon, and the Shwetalyaung, the most life-like of all reclining Buddha's. If we have time before lunch we will visit Kha Khat Kyaung monastery to observe monks and novices in their daily activities and later we may visit a cheroot making factory. On our way back to Yangon we will visit Kyaik Pun Paya with it's four 30 meter high Buddha's. Dinner at The Stand Hotel on your own account. overnight at Inya Lake Hotel.

13 Nov Yangon sightseeing & Departure

Breakfast at the hotel. We will make a visit to the National Museum, filled with artifact and cultural exhibits of Myanmar, and we will also visit China town for sightseeing and some shopping. We will go to the famous Scott Market, a sprawling 70 year old complex noted for it's variety of handicrafts and other offerings. Check out from the hotel and transfer to the airport for departure flight # MH 741(1215).

Enjoy yourselves and have a nice trip!!!

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