

Highlights of Myanmar 9 days

Trip overview

Immerse yourself in the "Golden Land" with our meticulously designed **9-day Highlights of Myanmar tour**. This journey offers a profound exploration of a country where ancient traditions remain harmoniously intact. Your adventure begins in the vibrant city of **Yangon**, home to the shimmering Shwedagon Pagoda, before taking you back in time to the majestic plains of **Bagan**, where over 2,000 pagodas dot the horizon.

Continuing to the cultural capital of **Mandalay**, you will witness the world's longest teak bridge and the spiritual devotion of local monks. The tour culminates at the serene **Inle Lake**, famous for its iconic leg-rowing fishermen and floating villages, offering a peaceful retreat into nature's beauty. With a private guide and driver at your side, you will navigate these mystical landscapes in total comfort, gaining deep insights into the history, Buddhism, and warm hospitality that define Myanmar.

- **Durations:** 9 Days
- **Destinations:** Yangon - Bagan - Mandalay - Inle Lake
- **Price from:** \$1536 /Pax
- **Tour inquiry:** <https://asiachinatour.com/highlights-of-myanmar-9-days/>

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival in Yangon & The Golden Glow of Shwedagon

Welcome to the "Golden Land!" Upon your arrival at Yangon International Airport, your dedicated private guide and driver will be waiting to escort you to your hotel for a smooth check-in. Once you've refreshed, your journey into Myanmar's spiritual heart begins.

Our first stop is the **Chaukhtatgyi Reclining Buddha**, home to a breathtaking 66-meter-long statue known for its intricate glass mosaics and peaceful expression. It's a perfect introduction to the grand scale of Burmese artistry.

As the afternoon softens, we make our way to the crown jewel of the country: the **Shwedagon Pagoda**. Standing 99 meters tall and covered in tons of pure gold leaf, this stupa is a sight to

behold. You won't just be watching; you'll join the locals in the timeless tradition of lighting oil lamps, watching the golden spire transform as it catches the last rays of the sun. Seeing Shwedagon glow against the deep indigo of the twilight sky is a truly spiritual experience you'll never forget.

Highlight: Witnessing the magical sunset and oil lamp ceremony at Shwedagon Pagoda.

Meals: Welcome Dinner

Day 2: Yangon to Bagan – Into the Valley of Temples

After an early breakfast, we'll take a short morning flight to **Bagan**, a breathtaking UNESCO World Heritage site that feels like stepping back into the 11th century. Upon landing, we head straight to the **Shwezigon Pagoda**. With its massive gold-leaf structures shimmering in the morning light, it served as the architectural prototype for almost all Burmese stupas that followed.

The afternoon is dedicated to the "heavyweights" of the Bagan plains. You'll explore the elegant **Ananda Temple**, often referred to as the "Westminster Abbey of Burma" for its perfectly symmetrical Greek-cross layout and serene standing Buddhas. Then, we'll visit the colossal **Dhammayangyi Temple**, the largest of all Bagan temples, famous for its mysterious brickwork and haunting history.

As the day cools down, we will escort you to a **handpicked high-ground viewpoint**. From here, you'll witness one of the most iconic sights in all of Asia: thousands of ancient pagodas stretching across the dusty plains to the horizon, all bathed in the warm, golden glow of a Bagan sunset.

Highlight: A panoramic sunset view over the thousands of pagodas on the Bagan archaeological plains.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Day 3: Bagan – Local Life & Hidden Gems

We begin our morning at the bustling **Nyaung-U Market**, where the air is filled with the scent of fresh spices and the vibrant energy of local trade. It's a fantastic spot to see the traditional Burmese lifestyle in action. Following the market, we dive into the intricate world of **Bagan Lacquerware**. This craft has been perfected here since the 11th century, and you'll get a close-up look at how master artisans create these delicate, hand-painted masterpieces.

In the afternoon, we step inside the **Gubyaukgyi Temple** to marvel at its remarkably preserved 13th-century murals—some of the finest examples of early Bagan art. To truly capture the magic of the plains and **escape the usual crowds**, we'll arrange a nostalgic **private horse-cart ride**. Tucked away from the main roads, you'll wind through dusty trails to discover hidden, lesser-known ruins that many travelers miss.

We'll conclude this enchanting day by boarding a **private boat on the Irrawaddy River**. As you cruise along the tranquil waters, enjoy a cold drink and watch the sun dip below the horizon, reflecting off the river and the distant temple spires.

Highlight: A nostalgic horse-cart journey through hidden ruins and a peaceful sunset cruise on the Irrawaddy River.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Day 4: Bagan to Mandalay – The Last Royal Capital

This morning, we take a short flight to **Mandalay**, the cultural and spiritual heart of Myanmar. Our exploration begins at the **Mahamuni Pagoda**, which houses one of the most revered Buddha statues in the world. You'll witness the incredible devotion of local pilgrims as they apply delicate layers of gold leaf to the image—a practice that has continued for centuries, leaving the Buddha with a unique, "knobby" golden texture.

Next, we visit the **Shwenandaw Monastery (Golden Palace)**. This stunning structure is a survivor of the old Royal Palace and stands as a masterpiece of traditional Burmese teak architecture. Every inch of its exterior and interior is covered in intricate wood carvings that tell ancient stories of Buddhist mythology.

To conclude the afternoon, we head to the serene **Kuthodaw Pagoda**. Known as the "**World's Largest Book**," this site features 729 white marble stupas, each housing a slab inscribed with Buddhist scriptures. Walking through these rows of snowy-white shrines as the sun begins to set is a profoundly peaceful experience.

Highlight: Touching history at the Shwenandaw Teak Monastery and exploring the "World's Largest Book."

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Day 5: Ancient Cities & U Bein Bridge

Today is a journey through time as we explore three of Myanmar's former royal capitals surrounding Mandalay. We begin by crossing the Irrawaddy River to **Sagaing Hill**. Known as the spiritual hub of the country, the hillside is dotted with hundreds of gleaming white and gold pagodas and home to thousands of monks and nuns. From the top, you'll enjoy a breathtaking panoramic view of the river and the distant Mandalay skyline.

Next, we venture to **Inwa (Ava)**, a city that served as the capital for nearly 400 years. To truly soak in the atmosphere, we'll take a **horse-drawn carriage** through the rural landscape to reach the **Bagaya Monastery**. This magnificent "teak cathedral" is supported by 267 massive teak pillars and remains an active school for local novices.

We save the most iconic experience for last: **Amarapura** and the legendary **U Bein Bridge**. Stretching 1.2 kilometers across Taungthaman Lake, it is the world's longest and oldest teak bridge. As the sun begins to dip, you'll board a **private rowing boat** to head out onto the water. From this vantage point, you'll capture the perfect silhouette of monks and locals crossing the bridge against a fiery crimson sky—the ultimate Myanmar postcard moment.

Highlight: A private sunset boat ride to capture the iconic silhouettes of U Bein Bridge.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Day 6: Mandalay to Heho (Inle Lake) – Escape to The Shan Plateau

Bid farewell to the dry plains of Mandalay as we take a morning flight to **Heho**, the gateway to the stunning Shan State. As you descend, you'll immediately feel the refreshing, cooler air of the plateau. On our scenic drive to the lake, we make a charming stop at the **Shwe Yan Pyay Monastery**. This 19th-century red-painted teak temple is a photographer's favorite, famous for its unique **oval-shaped windows** that perfectly frame the young monks at study.

The real magic begins as we reach the shores of **Inle Lake**. You'll board a **private long-tail boat**, the iconic local transport, for an exhilarating ride across the calm, mirror-like waters to reach your lakeside resort.

Spend your afternoon soaking in the tranquility. Whether you choose to relax on your private balcony or take a **gentle canoe ride** through the labyrinth of stilt-house villages, you'll witness the world-famous **Intha leg-rowers**. Watching these fishermen navigate their boats with one leg while balancing their conical nets is a display of grace and tradition unlike anything else in the world.

Highlight: A scenic private boat transition to your lakeside resort and meeting the iconic leg-rowers of Inle Lake.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Day 7: Inle Lake – Floating Gardens & The Hidden Pagodas of Indein

Prepare for a full day of immersion in Inle Lake's watery world! We begin by gliding past the **Intha fishermen**, whose incredible balance and one-legged rowing style have become the symbol of the lake. From there, we explore the extraordinary **Floating Gardens**. It is a surreal experience to see rows of tomatoes and flowers thriving on "islands" made of accumulated lake vegetation, anchored to the bottom with bamboo poles.

In the afternoon, our private boat navigates a winding, narrow canal to reach the **Indein Pagoda complex**. This is one of the lake's most atmospheric sites—a "hidden forest" where hundreds of ancient, vine-covered stupas dating back centuries stand in various states of ruin and restoration. Walking through this labyrinth of stone and greenery feels like stepping into another era.

Before returning, we visit a local **weaving village**. Here, you will witness the world's rarest textile process: extracting delicate fibers from **lotus stems** to weave exquisite, shimmering silk. This intricate craft is unique to Inle Lake and represents the pinnacle of Burmese hand-weaving.

Highlight: Navigating the winding canals to the mystical "forest" of ancient stupas at Indein.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Day 8: Inle Lake to Yangon – Colonial Heritage & Gems

After breakfast, we leave the serene Shan mountains behind and fly back to **Yangon** for a final exploration of this multifaceted city. We begin with a walking tour of the **Colonial District**, where you'll be transported to another era. You'll walk past the grand, red-brick **High Court**, the majestic **City Hall**, and various heritage buildings that showcase some of the best-preserved colonial-era architecture in Southeast Asia.

The afternoon is yours to enjoy at the bustling **Bogyoke Aung San Market (Scott Market)**. This historic bazaar is a treasure trove for anyone looking for authentic Burmese souvenirs. Whether you are searching for world-renowned **Burmese jade and rubies**, intricate wood carvings, or

hand-woven textiles, your guide will be on hand to help you navigate the stalls and find the highest-quality pieces.

To celebrate the conclusion of your incredible journey, we have arranged a **Grand Farewell Dinner**. You'll savor the diverse flavors of traditional Myanmar cuisine while enjoying a vibrant **cultural performance**, a perfect sensory finale to your "Golden Land" adventure.

Highlight: A walking tour of Yangon's historic colonial architecture and treasure hunting at the Scott Market.

Meals: Breakfast, Farewell Dinner

Day 9: Yangon Departure – A Fond Farewell

Your final morning in Myanmar begins with a **leisurely breakfast** at your hotel, allowing you some quiet time to reflect on the incredible memories made over the past nine days.

Depending on your international flight schedule, your **private guide and driver will remain at your full disposal**. Whether you wish to return to a favorite spot for one last photo, visit a local café to soak in the city's atmosphere, or simply enjoy the comfort of your hotel's facilities, we ensure your final hours are stress-free and tailored to your pace.

At the appointed time, we will provide a **seamless private transfer** to Yangon International Airport. As you head to your departure gate, we hope you carry with you the warmth of the Burmese people and the timeless beauty of the "Golden Land."

Highlight: Flexible last-minute sightseeing and a smooth, private airport transfer.

Meals: Breakfast

Booking Policy

Cancellation Policy

Cancellation by Customer

- Cancellation received before 60 days: FREE of charge
- Cancellation received from 30 days to 59 days prior arrival date: 20% of total rate
- Cancellation received from 15 days to 29 days prior arrival date: 40% of total rate
- Cancellation received from 7 days to 14 days prior arrival date: 70% of total rate
- Cancellation received less than 7 days prior arrival date or No show: 100% of total rate

Children Policy

The rate for children applicable for one child sharing a twin or double cabin with two adults.

- For infant (<04 years old): Free of Charge
 - 04 - 11 years old without bed: 50% adult rate
 - 04 - 11 years old with extra bed: 75% adult rate
 - Above 11 years old with extra bed: 100% adult rate
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