The time has finally come to scratch this one off of our list!

Join us for an enchanting adventure into this ancient land of natural beauty, extraordinary religious sites, fascinating markets, ethnic diversity and the age-old traditions of her peaceful population. Myanmar, formerly known as Burma, is an exotic destination located deep in Southeast Asia, largely unspoiled by mass tourism, and famed for the gilded pagodas and gentle, friendly, and inquisitive citizens.

Begin your journey in Yangon

Your journey begins in Yangon, where you will be immersed in the hustle and bustle of this old British stronghold; exploring the Indian Quarter, and the stunning Sule and Shwedagon Pagodas, before flying north to Mandalay. In Mandalay, we visit the Royal Palace, the jade market, and Kuthodaw Pagoda which houses the world’s largest book.
See life along the river
From Mandalay we set sail down the Irrawaddy River for a five-night cruise on board a river steamer visiting the villages of Sin Kyun, Mingun and Pakokku before our arrival in the fantastic landscape of Bagan, where the surrounding plains are covered with thousands of temples.

Explore the countryside
Leaving Bagan you will fly to Heho before transferring overland to the Pindaya Caves, Kalaw Hill Station and an elephant camp in the Shan Hills. Departing the highlands you'll ride the train through the mountains down to Nyaung Shwe to catch the coach taking you to the marvelous environs of Inle Lake and the fascinating villages and markets that have thrived in these estuaries for centuries.

This is sure to be a trip unlike any other you have ever taken, to a peaceful land of beauty and mystery whose kind and gentle people will welcome you home to a place you have never been. Join us for this one. You won't be sorry.

~Live and Learn~
Flight to Burma
Yangon (Rangoon)
Known for its amalgamation of British, Burmese, Chinese and Indian influences, and the traditional dress and pleasant demeanor of the population, Yangon’s past is visible everywhere you go: the Indian Quarter, the markets and, of course, the stupendous Shwedagon Pagoda.

Mandalay
The economic and religious hub of northern Myanmar, Mandalay is a relatively new city (1857) with wide roads, vibrant markets and the largest population of monks in the country. As you visit the Royal Palace, the beautiful Shwendandaw Monastery, and Kuthodaw Pagoda at the foot of Mandalay Hill, you will marvel at the gilded religious architecture, decorations, relics and statuary that surround your every step.

Irrawaddy River Cruise
Set sail for Bagan down the Irrawaddy River, the country’s most important commercial waterway, through the pagoda sprinkled hills of the religious center, Sagaing, with stops in Amarapura, Sin Kyun, Mingun, Pakokku and, ultimately, the stunning vistas of Bagan. Along the river you’ll see evidence of the teak industry, visit an orphanage and Monastic school, shop at a local market for ingredients for an on-board cooking class, visit several pagoda complexes and learn about Burmese history from on-board lectures, all the while enjoying the peaceful beauty of the landscape through which you pass.

Bagan
Along the banks of the Irrawaddy, Bagan is home to the largest and densest concentration of Buddhist temples, pagodas, stupas and ruins found anywhere on earth. An absolutely stupendous collection of beautifully decaying temples, flung across the flat plains banking the river, provides a scene of peace and amazement unlike any you will find elsewhere. Your optional hot-air balloon ride above the temple complex and the temples that you will visit up close on foot will amaze you with their attention to detail and subtle beauty.

Itinerary

Nov 26 Flight to Burma
Nov 27-29 Yangon (Rangoon)

Nov 30 Mandalay
- Dec 1

Dec 2-6 Irrawaddy River Cruise

Dec 7-8 Bagan
Pindaya Caves, Kalaw Hill Station

Filled with statues of the Buddha, the caves are an extraordinary demonstration of the hold the religion has upon Burma, and the devotion the people express for the Buddha through their art. From the Kalaw Hill Station you will enjoy a hike through the Shan Hills to an elephant camp where you will help the mahouts wash and feed these amazing animals while learning about the hill tribe’s reforestation project.

Inle Lake

This 22km-long lake in the middle of Burma is home to many different ethnic groups, all living on the lake shore, grass flats and in houses stilted above the water. You’ll visit floating gardens, local markets, a cheroot factory, PhaungDawOo Pagoda and ancient stupas in this truly unique environment.

Dec 9-10 Pindaya Caves, Kalaw Hill Station
Dec 11-13 Inle Lake
Dec 14 Return to Yangon for one night and a farewell dinner.
Dec 15 Late departure from Yangon
Dec 16 Arrive USA

Contact us for more information

Doug Whittle, 608-263-7787
Kim Seymour, 608-262-3731

Please visit our website at: uwtravel.org
Lodging

Yangon - Sule Shangri-La Hotel
www.shangri-la.com/yangon/suleshangrila/

Mandalay - Sedona Hotel Mandalay

River Cruise - Makara Queen
www.facebook.com/pages/MakaraQueen/1597882180472837

Bagan - Bagan Thiripyitsaya Sanctuary Resort
www.thiripyitsaya-resort.com/en

Kalaw Hill Station - Royal Kalaw Hills Resort
www.royalkalawahillsresort.com/

Inle Lake - Villa Inle Resort

General Information

Everyone is welcome to join us, and we assure you of an amazing educational experience. You will enjoy comfortable transportation, beautiful hotels, outstanding religious and cultural sites, lovely landscapes and friendly people throughout your journey with us. We ask you to please understand that this trip will also include the normal amount of walking around in order to visit the country properly. You can expect some uneven ground, stone stairs, bumpy roads, train rides, boat excursions, crowded markets, changing weather, and all of the alluring sights, sounds and aromas of this unique and wonderful country.

Travel director

Doug Whittle is the UW-Madison director of educational travel for Continuing Studies. He served for two years as a Peace Corps volunteer in Zaire and has traveled independently in Asia, Africa, and Europe as well as throughout both Central and North America. Now in his 12th year, Doug has led over 65 trips on five continents for UW-Madison Continuing Studies.

The price of this trip is **$7,399 based upon double occupancy.** This includes your international roundtrip airfare to Burma and all flights within Burma; all lodging, all entry fees, all coach services, train tickets, local guides, and all university staff services. Daily breakfast is included as are the majority of your other meals. Single supplement is $2,559.
Register today to experience Burma
Nov 26-Dec 16, 2016

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Check All That Apply:

❑ Reserve a double-occupancy room. My roommate is: __________________________________________________

❑ Reserve a single room ($2,559 supplement).

❑ I am interested in a roommate. Please let me know if one becomes available.

Payment Information

❑ Enclosed is a check payable to UW-Madison for the trip deposit of $1000/person.

*Note: We accept credit cards for all subsequent payments. Future payment schedule and details will be included in your registration confirmation packet.

Your deposit is nonrefundable. We urge you to purchase trip cancellation insurance to recover your costs if you must cancel your plans to join us. Travel insurance information will be included in your registration confirmation packet.

Return this registration form and deposit to:
Kim Seymour
Educational Travel Program
21 N Park St, 7th floor
Madison, WI 53715

For tour information contact:
Doug Whittle, Director
Phone: 608-263-7787
Email: doug.whittle@wisc.edu

Visit us online at: uwtravel.org

If you have a disability and desire accommodations, please advise us ahead of time. Requests are confidential. This program is offered by UW-Madison in cooperation with UW-Extension. DCS-IMC-11793-1/16
Experience the beauty of Burma (Myanmar) — Nov 26-Dec 16, 2016