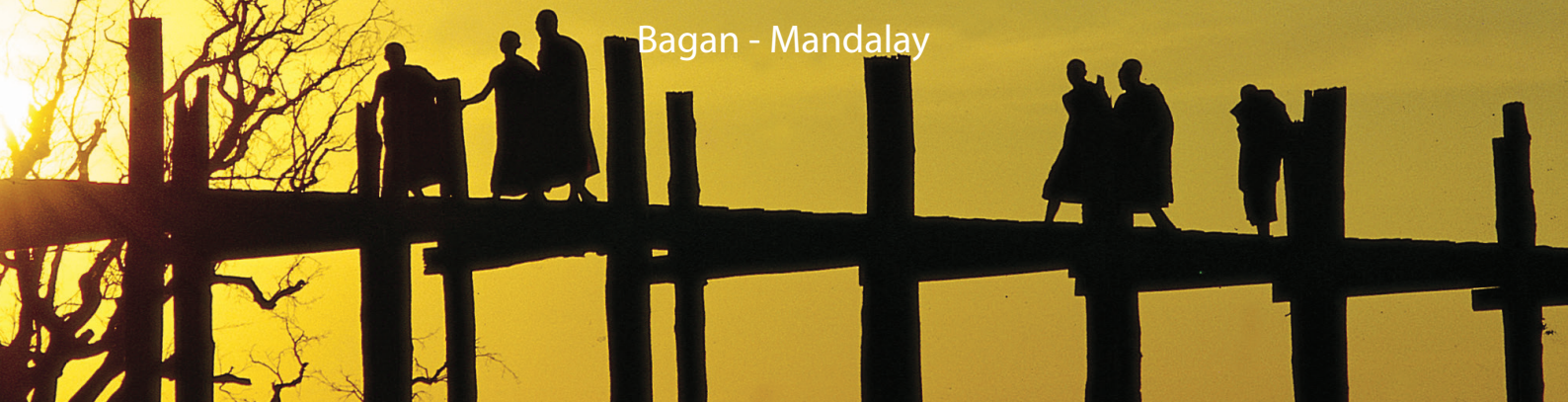




ANCIENT CAPITALS

Former GOLDEN LAND VOYAGE

Bagan - Mandalay



There is an extraordinary timeless quality to Myanmar's Irrawaddy River, also known as the Ayeyarwady. Rising among Himalayan glaciers and flowing freely for almost 2,200 km across the whole country into the Indian Ocean, this river is a witness of contemporary history. The kings of medieval Bagan would almost certainly recognise its riverbank life today with its bullock cart or the tiered pagodas atop rambling teak monasteries.

**Please find below the program of the Golden Land Voyage cruise upstream
from Bagan to Mandalay for 4, 3 or 2-night stays.**

Day One

Bagan - Pakkoku

Around noon you embark the luxurious Anawrahta, berthed at the quay of Bagan. After a warm welcome by our staff offering some refreshments you move into your "home" for the next days.

Enjoy a leisurely lunch as the ship sails towards Pakkoku. Pakkoku is an old trading town on the western riverbank of the Ayeyarwady. Right before the arrival you see the longest bridge of Myanmar, the Pakokku Bridge.

On shore the tour takes us to some of the small industries in this area, such as a cheroot-rolling factory and a producer of 'Burmese slippers' ("flip-flops"). Local handicraft vendors try to make their living selling these. A visit at the thriving market gives us insights into local goods and trading. Pakokku is also well-known for the production of tobacco.

If you are interested in buying Burmese cigars, this is the place.

We continue our tour to the Shwegu Temple. This temple features incredible, intricate carvings made from rare Yamane wood. It also houses a unique Buddha image seated on a lotus throne. Back on board, Anawrahta continues her journey northwards on the Ayeyervady.

As the evening approaches and the Burmese sun immerse everything in a golden light, a special event will take place at the Kipling's Bar. Dress up in style as we send "A toast to the past" at our British club gathering where gents may whiff cigars and ladies sip on tasty gins with tonic. Share some tales of the old (British-Burmese) days. Isn't sometimes the time to lose time.

Dinner is served at the Hinthala Hall. Join our open air cinema under the stars on the sun deck showing classic movies (depending on weather conditions).

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Day Two

Pakkoku - Yandabo

For early morning risers there is a special opportunity to participate at a yoga session on the sun deck. Strengthen your muscles and ease your mind by merging with the Ayeyarwady and its therapeutical slow flow upstream. We leave in the morning from Pakkoku for our next stop, Yandabo. While having breakfast the ship passes the confluence of the Ayeyarwady and it's greatest tributary, Chindwin River.

We arrive at the quiet, small riverside village of Yandabo. A unique and fascinating gem of a village where in 1826 the King of Ava signed the Treaty of Yanderbo, signaling the end of the First Anglo-Burmese War. Nowadays the villagers produce a type of water pot, which is reputed to keep water cooler than pots from anywhere else in the country. Anawrahta's broad-knowledge guides will offer you the explanation to this phenomena.

By foot, we explore the village. You quickly notice that the villagers here are extremely friendly, charming and open for chit-chats. You will definitely take back home some enchanting memories. Their techniques and skills to produce a variety of pots and utensils are perplexing. Try yourself to work on one of these pots.

Back on board a delicate lunch buffet awaits you. The ship continues its journey northwards. Gaze on the river banks of this eternal stream from your bench on the sun deck or alternatively, a spa treatment would have the same recreation effects.

In the afternoon we learn more about some of the long-lasting traditions (Longyi and Thanaka demonstration). A fascinating presentation about the history and culture of Myanmar follows afterwards.

Before dinner you may like to enjoy one of our various treatments in the Thazin Spa. Dinner is served at the Hintha Hall restaurant.

Feel free to join our open-air cinema under the stars on the sun deck showing a classic movie (depending on weather conditions).

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Day Three

Yandabo - Ava - Mandalay

Join our Yoga class in the morning to start your day with a powerful exercise. Then, you can enjoy breakfast as the ship sails northward and eventually we arrive in Ava.

In Ava we disembark for a wonderful discovery of the highlights of this former royal capital. By horse-drawn carriage we explore this area, sprinkled with many kinds of distinguished ancient monasteries and fanes: Bagaya Kyaung, a jaw-dropping teak monastery built in 1834, which nowadays continues to be a monastic school; Maha Aung Mye Bonzan Monastery or the Nanmyint watch tower come both in a different art and creation. It is the peace of Ava which you will then hopefully absorb during a laid-back apéritif at a secret place in the middle of this sacred spot on Earth.

Back on board our lunch buffet is served and Anawrahta continues the cruise northwards, eventually arriving at the utmost highlight of this journey - Mandalay. Take time to observe the beautiful Sagaing Hills when the ships passes by the myriads of scattered pagodas on the hills. We will dock at Mandalay in the early afternoon (approx. 2pm).

At this time we bid farewell to our guests of the 3-day/2-night cruise.

In the afternoon, our tour leads us to the most interesting sights of Mandalay. Observe the incredible process of the gold-leaf beating, visit a silk-weaving manufacturer and finally have a stroll through the amiable streets that host several marble carving workshops. The ultimate highlight of the day is a sunset sailing in a small rowing boat around the famous 200-year-old U-Bein Bridge, a true Kodak moment.

After some refreshing time on board, you are invited to watch a traditional dance and music performance by students and teachers of the Mandalay Art School.

After dinner our nightly open-air cinema will play another classic movie on the sun deck (depending on weather conditions).

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Bagan - Mandalay



Day Four

Mandalay - Mingun - Mandalay

Wake up early in the morning to watch the river life on the Ayeyarwady before breakfast will be served.

After breakfast we say good-bye to our guests of the 4-day/3-night cruise.

Today, we take our guests on a discovery of the most impressive pagodas of Mandalay during our morning tour. First, we visit the Kuthodaw Pagoda, which is known as the “the world’s largest book”. This pagoda comprises a gilded pagoda, hundreds of shrines housing inscribed marble slabs and several pavilions. We continue to the Mahamuni Pagoda, which is one of the most important Buddhist pilgrimage sites in Burma and houses the highly revered Buddha image in the country. Last but not least, the atmospheric Shwenandaw Monastery, which is the finest examples of traditional 19th century wooden monastery buildings. It used to be part of King Mindon’s Mandalay Royal Palace. From this elevated point we can have a fantastic look over the entire city of Mandalay.

We return to the ship and have lunch while Anawrahta sets sail to the site of Mingun. Mingun showcases the monumental, unfinished stupa of King Bodawpaya. It has never been completed, due to an astrologer who stated: once the temple is completed, the king will die. On a relaxed walking tour, we reach the world’s biggest un-cracked bell, weighing 90 tons.

Upon returning to the ship, our cruise manager will invite for High Tea with cocktails, sweets and treats. Anawrahta sails gently back to Mandalay and dinner is served in the restaurant. Afterwards the crew offers some farewell entertainment in the lounge before you can retrieve for your last night on board.

Day Five

Mandalay

After breakfast your stay on your floating home ends. Heritage Line and the Anawrahta crew wish you a wonderful onward journey in the Golden Land - Myanmar.

Mentioned times are approximate. Although it is our intention to operate the proposed itinerary as outlined above, we cannot be held responsible for any last minute changes of the program that might be necessary as a result of weather conditions, alterations to cruise schedules or other operational factors. Detailed embarkation and disembarkation information is available on our website in the download section.

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