



Pandaw River Expeditions

EXPEDITION No 12

MANDALAY TO PAGAN FOUR NIGHT CRUISE

4 NIGHTS

We are pleased to offer a convenient four-night cruise on the irresistible Irrawaddy River from Mandalay to Pagan discovering the ancient Royal capitals, riverside villages, lively local markets and stunning scenery and sunsets.

YOUR SHIP - [RV PANDAW II](#) / [RV KANEE PANDAW](#)

[MORE IMAGES OF THE RV PANDAW II](#)

Cruise Price Includes: Transfers to/from ship on DAY 1 and DAY 5 as described. Entrance fees, guide services (English language), gratuities to crew, main meals, local mineral water, jugged coffee, teas & tisanes. Use of quality mountain bikes for independent exploration.

Cruise Price Excludes: International flights, port dues (if levied), laundry, all visa costs, fuel surcharges (see terms and conditions), all beverages except local mineral water, jugged coffee, teas & tisanes and tips to tour guides, local guides, bus drivers, boat operators and cycle drivers.

UPSTREAM ITINERARY

DAY 1

PAGAN

Embark your ship in Pagan before lunch.

In the afternoon, visit a Lacquerware workshop to explore the process of making lacquer handicrafts which is the specialty craft of Pagan.

Continue to the unique Payathonezu, three inter-connected temples with a narrow passage built in the late 13th century.

End the day with a visit to Dhamayangyi from AD 1170, the widest and largest temple in Pagan.

Watch the sunset from the top of Taung Guni temple before returning to the ship.

Overnight Pagan.

[MORE ABOUT PAGAN](#)

DAY 2

SALAY - AYARDAW - TANT-CHI-TAUNG

Set sail early morning to Salay, a small town which was once a bustling trading port, now a sleepy village filled with colonial architectural treasures and timeless teak monasteries.

Walk to Yoke-Sone Kyaung, the best-known teak carved monastery in Burma, stopping at Salay House on return.

Sail upriver to the Ayardaw charity clinic supported by Pandaw then drive up the winding road of the Tant-Chi-Taung mountain to visit the hill-top stupa.

Late afternoon, watch the traditional paper-mache elephant dance performed by the villagers from Tant-Chi.

Moor overnight near Nyaung U.

DAY 3

PAKOKKU

Explore Pakokku, experiencing the local market and town centre by Tuk Tuk.

Pakkoku is a city of about 100,000 inhabitants located 30 km from Pagan. Main produce are tobacco, cotton, peanuts, Thanatkha (traditional make-up and sun lotion) and textiles. Visit Pakokku's main market by Tuk Tuk.

Stop at a cheroot workshop and discover how traditional cheroot cigars are made.

Moor overnight at Aung Pan Chaung near the Chindwin confluence.

[MORE ABOUT PAKOKKU](#)

DAY 4**YANDABO**

Explore Yandabo village, famous for its production of terracotta pottery from the river bank clay.

This village is well-known as the place where the first Anglo-Burmese war ended by the peace treaty signed in 1826. Morning walking tour and a visit to a pottery workshop to see first-hand the production process. This is a hands-on experience which you are welcome to try.

Visit the Pandaw supported Yandabo School (if no school holidays).

Afternoon sailing and moor overnight at Pauk-taw Pauk-myaing village near Ava.

[MORE ABOUT YANDABO](#)

DAY 5**SAGAING**

By 0900 After breakfast disembark at Sagaing.

STATEROOM

The Pandaw stateroom is the most celebrated feature of our ships.

Finished in brass and teak, the main and upper deck rooms are very spacious at 168 square feet (15.6 sqm). Much loved by all our passengers we have ensured that with each ship we build the stateroom remains the same. Our cabins do not have mini-bars, satellite TV's, internet or phones. Pandaw passengers usually want to escape from the tiresome features found in international business hotels.

Many passengers describe life on board a Pandaw more like being a guest on a private motor yacht than a cruise ship. Where we go and what we see is intrepid in extreme. What you come back to is a floating base of discreet comfort, caring service and all the good things one looks for in life. All our cabins have the same size and Pandaw signature amenities. Choose from Main Deck, Upper Deck or Premium Upper Deck (Mekong only).

Special to Your Stateroom

- Fruit and flowers on arrival
- Kimonos and slippers
- Spa-branded amenities
- Unlimited mineral water

PRE-TOUR EXTENSION

DAY 1

ARRIVAL IN YANGON

Welcome by our representative and transfer to the hotel. Afternoon excursion to Shwedagon Pagoda.

DAY 2

DEPARTURE

After an early breakfast transfer to airport for your domestic flight. Upon arrival welcome by our representative and transfer to the ship.



5 STAR

MPP - Pre Cruise Rangoon (including domestic flight)

Well located in the center of Yangon and yet only 10 minutes drive from Shwedagon Pagoda, the elegant Sule Shangri-La Hotel is the perfect base for your pre or post stay in Yangon.

Rates include:

One night at specified hotel or similar, including breakfast, service and taxes; transfers to / from airport and a guide-led excursion to Shwedagon Pagoda; one domestic flight and transfer to ship.

Rates exclude:

Lunch and dinner which are at your own arrangement in the hotel or in one of the many nearby restaurants.

Public facilities include

2 restaurants, a lounge, bar, pool, free and fast WI-FI and gift shop. The spacious, air-conditioned and comfortable deluxe rooms include private bathroom with bathtub, satellite TV, mini-bar, hair dryer, iron, safe, writing desk and tea/coffee making facilities.

Note

- Please advise arrival flight details in order to arrange the transfer accordingly
- Check in time to hotel at 1400hrs
- Check out time from hotel at 1200hrs
- Early check in and late check out are subject to hotel room availability

* Please note that your hotel will be confirmed after we have received your deposit payment. Prices are subject to change. Hotel subject to availability. We will try to offer you an alternate accommodation if the requested hotel would not be available.

SULE SHANGRI-LA HOTEL, YANGON

223 Sule Pagoda Road

GPO Box 888

Yangon

Myanmar

Tel: +95 1 242 828

[Visit Hotel Website](#)

PRE-TOUR EXTENSION

DAY 1

HEHO - INLE LAKE

Fly from Rangoon, Mandalay or Pagan to Heho - the gateway to Inle Lake. Drive to Nyaung Shwe to board a local motorboat and enjoy the sights & sounds of the lake such as leg-rowing fishermen and plenty of artisan workshops (blacksmiths, goldsmiths silversmiths, cigarette makers etc.). Overnight at Sanctum Inle Resort.

DAY 2

INLE LAKE - INDEIN

Enjoy half a day trip to Indein - a hidden village located in the middle of the Burmese jungle and easiest accessible by boat through narrow channels. Indein is famous for its collection of hundreds years old stupas. Return to the hotel after lunch and relax.

DAY 3

INLE LAKE - HEHO

After breakfast or lunch transfer back to Heho airport for your onward flight and transfer to the ship.



DISCOVER

2 Nights Mystical Inle Lake Pre Tour

Inle is one of the biggest lakes in Burma. It's famous for its stunning location between the hills of Shan State, easy access by air (domestic flights only), relatively easy access by road and an out-standing amount of attractions, which could fill a medium-long holiday. From leg-rowing fishermen through artisans (blacksmiths, goldsmiths, silversmiths etc.) to mysterious pagodas submerged in the water in Sagar/Sankar on the quiet and wild southern part of the lake. No trip to Myanmar would be complete without visiting Inle Lake.

This programme connects well with our Southern Shan State Adventure programme (additional 2 nights) and Ngapali Beach extension as there are direct flights between Heho and Thandwe in high season.

Rates include:

All sightseeing as per itinerary, two nights at Sanctum Inle Resort (Deluxe Room or Hermitage Deluxe) with breakfast or similar, private vehicle with air condition, all sightseeing with English guide by car and boat as per itinerary, entrance fees as per programme, daily complimentary drinking water, return domestic flight to/from Heho.

Rates exclude:

International flights to/from Burma, porter fees for all transfers (airports & jetties), personal travel insurance, visa to Burma, meals (lunch/dinner), any expense of a personal nature including but not limited to drinks, laundry, camera fees, phone calls, gratuities, souvenirs, etc. Others not mentioned in the itinerary.

Public Facilities

The Sanctuary Spa, Workshop Boutique, The Refectory Restaurant, The Cloister Bar.

Note

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SANCTUM INLE RESORT

Maing Thauk Village

Inle Lake

Nyaung Shwe Township

Shan State

Burma

Tel: +95 (0) 1 860 4945 or +95 (0) 1 860 4946

[Visit Hotel Website](#)

PRE-TOUR EXTENSION

DAY 1

HEHO - PINDAYA - KALAW

Fly from Rangoon, Mandalay or Pagan to Heho - the gateway to Inle Lake. Drive through rolling farmlands among the Shan Hills to Pindaya for lunch served in a traditional village house. Explore village life and visit the Pindaya Caves famous for its thousands of Buddha statues. Then proceeding to Kalaw - old British colonial hill station to see the market and old railway.

DAY 2

KALAW - GREEN HILL VALLEY ELEPHANT CAMP - KALAW

After breakfast drive to Green Hill Valley Elephant Camp with Re-Plantation to learn more about how one family created a natural retirement place for the elephants who spend all their life working in teak forests of Burma. The re-plantation part of the projects aims to plant trees in the areas previously destroyed by teakwood logging. After lunch come back to Kalaw and spend the rest of the day at leisure and self exploration of this nice little town. Overnight at Kalaw Hill Lodge.

DAY 3

KALAW - NYAUNG SHWE - INLE LAKE

After breakfast drive to Nyaung Shwe to board a local motorboat and enjoy the sights & sounds of the lake such as leg-rowing fishermen and plenty of artisan workshops (blacksmiths, goldsmiths silversmiths, cigarette makers etc.). Overnight at Sanctum Inle Resort.

DAY 4

INLE LAKE - INDEIN

Enjoy half a day trip to Indein - a hidden village located in the middle of the Burmese jungle and easiest accessible by boat through narrow channels. Indein is famous for its collection of hundreds years old stupas. Return to the hotel after lunch and relax. Overnight at Sanctum Inle Resort.

DAY 5

INLE LAKE - HEHO

After breakfast or lunch transfer back to Heho airport for your domestic flight to Yangon, Mandalay or Bagan (included), followed by transfer to hotel or ship.



DISCOVER

Mystical Inle Lake & Southern Shan State Adventure (4 nights) - Kalaw Hill Lodge

Shan State is one of the most famous regions in Burma. On this trip you

will visit mesmerising Inle Lake, old British colonial hill station (Kalaw), rural Pindaya with its famous caves filled with close to 10,000 Buddha statues and Green Hill Valley Elephant Camp with Re-Plantation - one of a very few responsible and sustainable tourism projects in Burma. This programme connects well with our Ngapali Beach extension as there are direct flights from Heho to Thandwe in high season.

Rates include:

Domestic flights to/from Heho, all sightseeing as per itinerary, two nights at Kalaw Hill Lodge with breakfast or similar, two nights at Sanctum Inle Resort with breakfast or similar, private vehicle with air condition, all sightseeing with English guide by car and boat as per itinerary, entrance fees as per programme, daily complimentary drinking water.

Rates exclude:

International flights to/from Burma, porter fees for all transfers (airports & jetties), personal travel insurance, visa to Burma, meals (lunch/dinner), any expense of a personal nature including but not limited to drinks, laundry, camera fees, phone calls, gratuities, souvenirs, etc. Others not mentioned in the itinerary.

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PRE-TOUR EXTENSION

DAY 1

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DAY 2

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After breakfast drive to Green Hill Valley Elephant Camp with Re-Plantation to learn more about how one family created a natural retirement place for the elephants who spend all their life working in teak forests of Burma. The re-plantation part of the project aims to plant trees in the areas previously destroyed by teakwood logging. After lunch come back to Kalaw and spend the rest of the day at leisure and self exploration of this nice little town. Overnight at the Kalaw Hill Lodge.

DAY 3

KALAW - HEHO

After breakfast or lunch transfer back to Heho airport for your domestic flight to Yangon, Mandalay or Bagan (included), followed by transfer to hotel or ship.



DISCOVER

2 Nights Southern Shan State Adventure - Kalaw Hill Lodge

Shan State is one of the most famous regions in Burma. While it's southern part is most famous for amazing Inle Lake, relatively easy access by road and an outstanding amount of attractions could fill a medium-long holiday. Southern Shan State Adventure will take you to Kalaw, Pindaya and Green Hill Valley Elephant Camp with Re-Plantation. This trip goes very well with our Mystical Inle Lake programme (additional 2 nights) and Ngapali Beach extension as there are direct flights between Heho and Thandwe in high season.

Rates include:

Accommodation including breakfast at the hotel as specified, Green Hill Valley Elephant Camp (Program A) including a lunch, domestic flight tickets to/from Heho including airport tax, sightseeing tour and transfer service with private air conditioned car, english speaking stationed guides service, entrance fees for Pindaya sightseeing, service charges and room tax.

Rates exclude:

Meals not mentioned above, compulsory Gala dinners (X'mas Eve Dinner on 24th Dec & New Year's Eve Dinner on 31st Dec) *To be added separately when the booking is confirmed*, services not mentioned in our itinerary, visa fees, international flight tickets to/from Myanmar, expenditure of personal

nature such as drinks, tips, souvenirs, laundry, etc, travel insurance (cover against all cancellation costs, medical expenses, including repatriation, in the event of accident or illness)

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KALAW HILL LODGE

11 Quarter

Nanthe' Village

Kalaw.

Tel: +81 50865/50866/50867/50868

[Visit Hotel Website](#)

POST-TOUR EXTENSION

DAY 1

ARRIVAL IN YANGON

Transfer from the jetty to the airport. Flight to Rangoon. Welcome by our representative and transfer to the hotel followed by excursion to explore the colonial 'Downtown' area.

DAY 2

DEPARTURE

After breakfast, Transfer to airport for onward flights.



5 STAR

MPP - Post Cruise Rangoon (including domestic flight)

Well located in the center of Yangon and yet only 10 minutes drive from Shwedagon Pagoda, the elegant Sule Shangri-La Hotel is the perfect base for your pre or post stay in Yangon.

Rates include:

One night at specified hotel or similar, including breakfast, service and taxes; transfers to / from airport and a guide-led excursion to Downtown; one domestic flight from Mandalay and transfers from ship.

Rates exclude:

Lunch and dinner which are at your own arrangement in the hotel or in one of the many nearby restaurants. Compulsory gala dinners at hotel 24DEC and 31DEC if any.

Public facilities include

2 restaurants, a lounge, bar, pool, free and fast WI-FI and gift shop. The spacious, air-conditioned and comfortable deluxe rooms include private bathroom with bathtub, satellite TV, mini-bar, hair dryer, iron, safe, writing desk and tea/coffee making facilities.

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DAY 2

KALAW - GREEN HILL VALLEY ELEPHANT CAMP - KALAW

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DAY 5

INLE LAKE - HEHO

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DISCOVER

Mystical Inle Lake & Southern Shan State Adventure (4 nights) - Kalaw Hill Lodge

Shan State is one of the most famous regions in Burma. On this trip you

will visit mesmerising Inle Lake, old British colonial hill station (Kalaw), rural Pindaya with its famous caves filled with close to 10,000 Buddha statues and Green Hill Valley Elephant Camp with Re-Plantation - one of a very few responsible and sustainable tourism projects in Burma. This programme connects well with our Ngapali Beach extension as there are direct flights from Heho to Thandwe in high season.

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Domestic flights to/from Heho, all sightseeing as per itinerary, two nights at Kalaw Hill Lodge with breakfast or similar, two nights at Sanctum Inle Resort with breakfast or similar, private vehicle with air condition, all sightseeing with English guide by car and boat as per itinerary, entrance fees as per programme, daily complimentary drinking water.

Rates exclude:

International flights to/from Burma, porter fees for all transfers (airports & jetties), personal travel insurance, visa to Burma, meals (lunch/dinner), any expense of a personal nature including but not limited to drinks, laundry, camera fees, phone calls, gratuities, souvenirs, etc. Others not mentioned in the itinerary.

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DISCOVER

2 Nights Southern Shan State Adventure - Kalaw Hill Lodge

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Rates include:

Accommodation including breakfast at the hotel as specified, Green Hill Valley Elephant Camp (Program A) including a lunch, domestic flight tickets to/from Heho including airport tax, sightseeing tour and transfer service with private air conditioned car, english speaking stationed guides service, entrance fees for Pindaya sightseeing, service charges and room tax.

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11 Quarter

Nanthe' Village

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[Visit Hotel Website](#)

River Conditions Warning!

The rivers you will sail on are subject to seasonal rises and falls of water level, in some places as much as 30 metres. Water levels can change dramatically overnight and a sudden rise can impede our progress upstream considerably and even prevent us from passing under certain bridges. A sudden fall can result in our being unable to get into certain places or go as far upstream as we would hope. Groundings on sandbars are not infrequent and are part of the excitement of any Pandaw expedition. Published itineraries are indicational only and subject to sudden change. In such events alternative itineraries will be provided and we do our best to ensure that if a stop is missed we make up for it with another stop. Passengers are thus forewarned and expected to be flexible and patient. River cruising in Asia can be a dramatic and adventurous experience - not like cruising the controlled waterways of Europe or America. Note also that we operate in areas with little or no developed infrastructure and subject to the strictures of local officialdom. Be prepared for this and it is all more the fun!

Useful Links

[Terms & Conditions](#)

[General Information & Life on Board](#)

[Visa Information](#)