



SANCTUARY
ANANDA

SANCTUARY ANANDA

MYANMAR

Experience a new level of luxury on the Myanmar Rivers



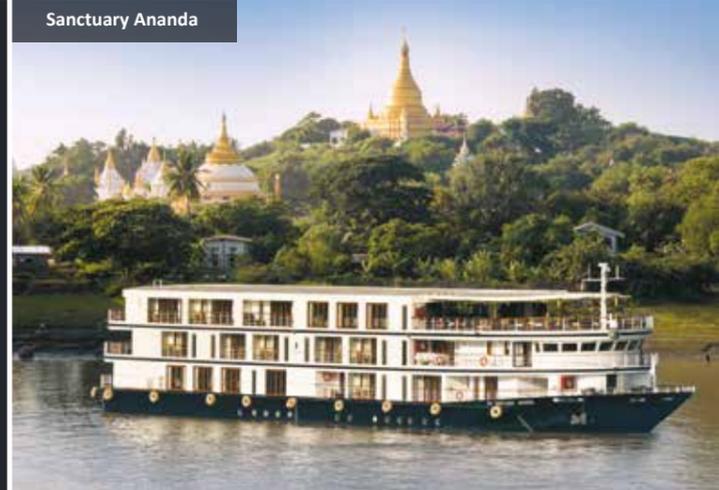
LUXURY, NATURALLY

Extraordinary adventures, authentic experiences and refined yet relaxed elegance. At Sanctuary Retreats we like to whisper secrets about remarkable cultures and steer you to soul-stirring landscapes – all while surrounding you in the warmest hospitality. From autumn 2014, our newest small-scale ship, Sanctuary Ananda, introduces a new level of sophistication to the rivers of Myanmar. Custom-built with just 21 suites, our latest vessel showcases original Burmese design and contemporary chic in an atmosphere of five-star comfort – ‘luxury, naturally’ is the guiding philosophy of all our safari lodges and river cruisers.

Discover the mysteries of Myanmar, care of six enchanting itineraries led by expert guides, as we immerse you in traditional cultures and introduce captivating characters. Cruise the majestic Ayeyarwady from the Yunnan-influenced northern city of Bhamo down to colonial Yangon in the south, visiting bell-shaped temples, Chinese pagodas and Buddhist monasteries. Our fascinating journeys on the Chindwin exclusively open eyes to some of Southeast Asia’s least-seen places. Explore orchid-rich jungles, forgotten villages and ancient towns almost as far as the Indian border, then let refreshing lemongrass-scented cloths welcome you home to Sanctuary Ananda’s on-board paradise, enhanced with every modern luxury.



Sanctuary Ananda



A REMARKABLE RIVER CRUISE...

- 5-Star contemporary luxury combined with authentic Burmese style
- All-suite ship with some of the largest entry level, main category and top level suites in Myanmar
- All-suites have floor-to-ceiling windows plus full balconies with outdoor furniture
- Fascinating itineraries with full choice of excursions included and unique cultural experiences
- Delicious dining options with variety of exquisite settings, offering Asian and international dishes
- Professional staff offering friendly, gracious service



ON-BOARD ESCAPISM

Marvel at lush untouched countryside, gold-spired temples and rare birdlife without straying from Sanctuary Ananda’s peaceful sundeck. Can there be a more soul-uplifting start to the day than early-morning meditation in this tranquil setting? We promise entertainment to match every mood.

Browse coffee-table art and history books in the library or borrow a bestseller to read by the pool; discover up-and-coming Myanmar artists in the gallery and buy pieces to take home; finish your day with a citrus-enhanced Sanctuary Sour in the sociable cocktail bar. We keep you inspired from dawn until dusk and beyond. Sign up for edifying lectures and masterclasses where you can learn about traditional thanaka make-up techniques and how to dress in longyi.

To unwind, try therapies such as a traditional Thai massage or reflexology session in the Thambyadine spa.



Kansi Panorama Lounge



SPA MENU

SIGNATURE TREATMENTS

ANANDA BODY SCRUB

Perfect for... Silky-smooth skin

Our therapist starts by gently applying our Shea Butter Ultra Rich Body Scrub to exfoliate your skin; essential oils are then massaged into your body, leaving you with lasting smooth, soft skin.

ANANDA FACIAL

Perfect for... Turning back the clock

Our signature facial uses only the highest-quality products to cleanse, tone and massage your skin, leaving you looking youthful and feeling relaxed, brightened and full of energy.

“ACHIEVE ANANDA” PACKAGE

Perfect for... Feeling blissed out

The ultimate journey to awaken your senses and balance the mind, it will leave you feeling ‘Ananda’, which is the highest state of happiness. Our therapists begin with an invigorating body scrub, followed by an aromatherapy massage and then a soothing facial – leaving you with a peaceful mind, and a happy body and soul.

All our treatments use L’Occitane products



Talifoo Restaurant

FIRST-CLASS CUISINE

The fragrant flavours of Myanmar, including lemongrass, kaffir lime and sweet chilli, are evoked as our chefs handpick the freshest local ingredients during our village-market visits. Specially crafted menus and inspired dining experiences encompass dishes such as soft-shell crab, red curries, and mango and pomelo salad.

Enjoy dinners à la carte in our Talifoo restaurant, with soft drinks, local beers and selected wines available on the house. Mindoon is the perfect spot to enjoy al fresco breakfast and lunches, with a tempting buffet as well as à la carte options. Relish breath-stealing views through the floor-to-ceiling windows of the air-conditioned Kanshi panorama lounge while you take afternoon tea with traditional treats and organic teas and coffee.

The Burma bar invites you to order mid-morning tropical-fruit smoothies, an expertly mixed Southside Fizz sundowner or a Spiced Burmese Coffee to enjoy under the stars.



Owner's Suite - Private Dining



TALIFOO RESTAURANT

SAMPLE DISHES

Appetizers and salad creations

Grilled prawn with herbed turmeric coconut marinade

Soup

Spicy Tom Yaam soup with chicken, lemongrass and mushroom

Main course

Panaeng thick red curry with chicken breast, basil and lychees accompanied with steamed rice

Dessert

Ginger crème brulee

Mindoon al fresco





Owner's Suite

SOPHISTICATED SUITES

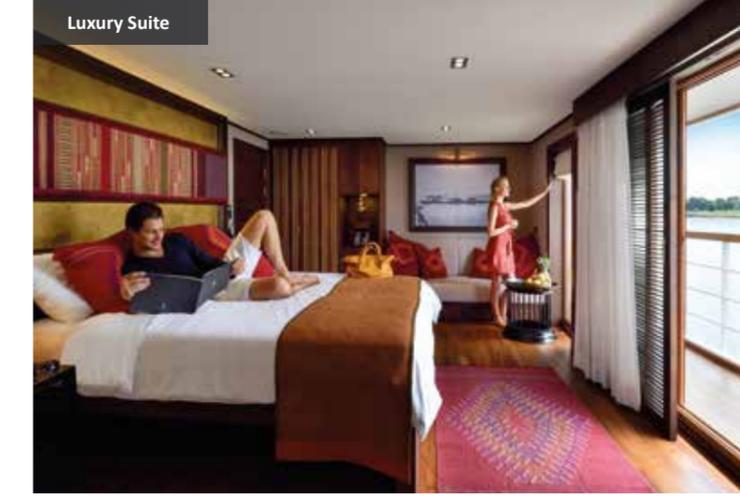
Sanctuary Ananda is a perfect combination of local culture and luxury, because we understand that even when you are immersing yourself in a new experience, there are some things you should never be without, such as a large comfortable bed, the pleasure of a good drink, excellent food, immaculate service, and the company of like-minded people.

Custom-built with just 21 suites, Sanctuary Ananda showcases original Burmese design and contemporary chic in an atmosphere of five-star comfort.

In every suite, lush silks, polished teak and beautiful lacquerware celebrate Myanmar's rich heritage of arts, crafts and textiles and Malaika Egyptian-cotton sheets ensure that we make you as relaxed as can be.

Expect L'Occitane-stocked ensuite bathrooms, individually controlled air-conditioning and, naturally, consummate craftsmanship throughout.

Choose from having a double or twin bed, and look forward to your own relaxing space to lounge in – every suite has its own private balcony.



Luxury Suite



Luxury Suite Bathroom

WHY ANANDA SUITES ARE SO SPECIAL...

- Individually controllable air-conditioning
- Full balconies for every suite
- Some of the largest suites on the river
- Butler service in the Owner's Suite



Owner's Suite Balcony



BHAMO DECK



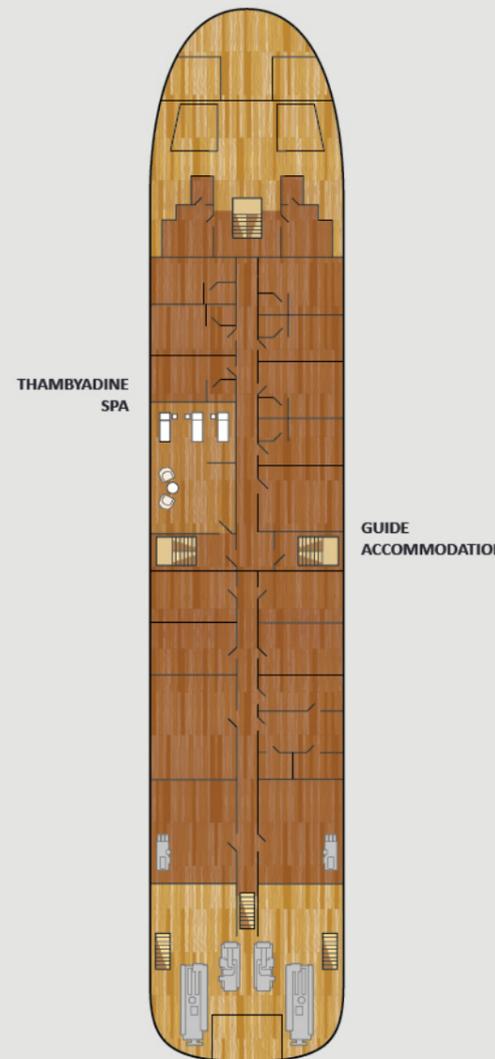
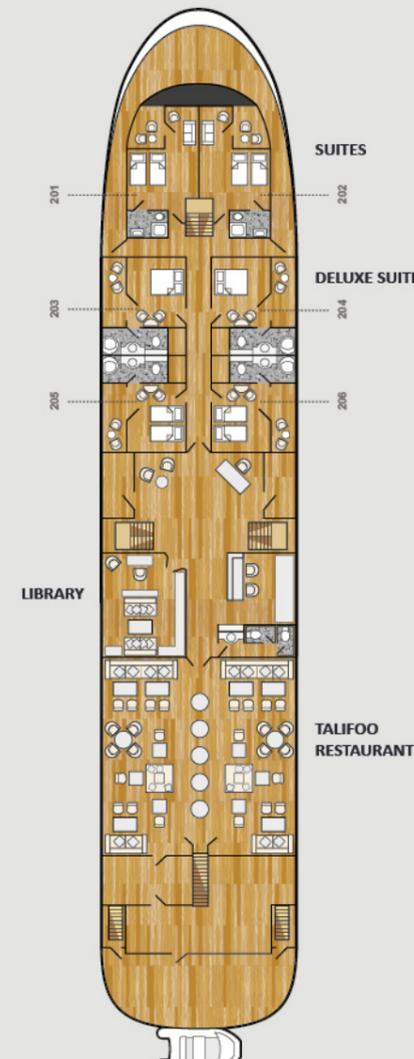
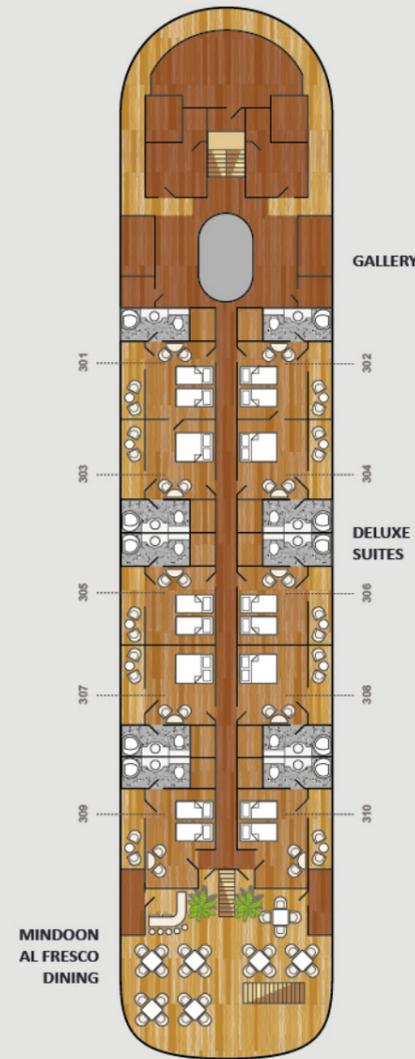
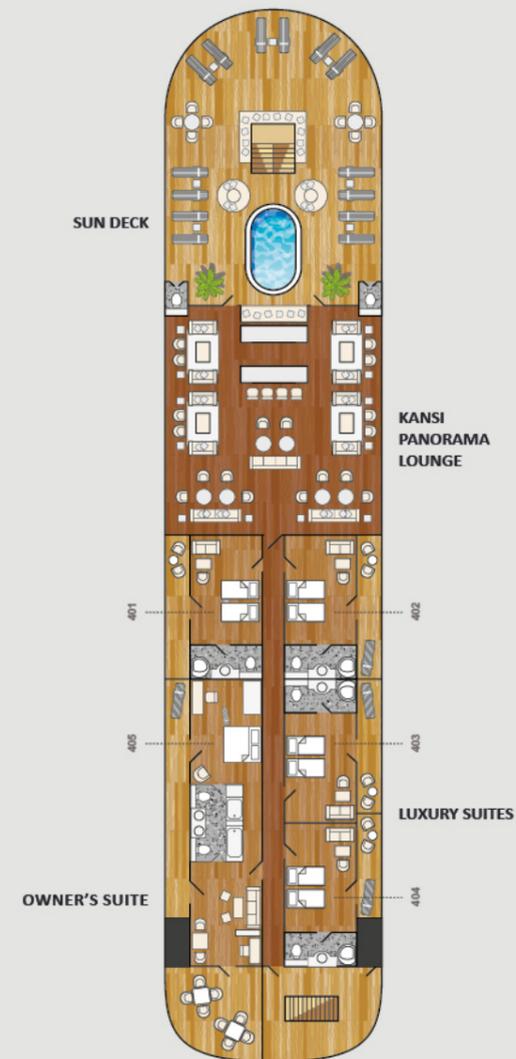
MANDALAY DECK



BAGAN DECK



YANGON DECK



Suites and Deluxe Suites (27 – 28m²/291 – 301ft²)

The fourteen deluxe suites and two suites each have a living area, and the ensuite bathroom features a monsoon shower. All of our suites have private balconies, furnished with a table and chairs



Luxury Suites (31 – 33m²/334 – 356ft²)

These four suites have an indoor seating area with a sofa bed available to accommodate a child. There is a private balcony with table and chairs, and the ensuite bathroom has a monsoon shower. Other perks include early morning tea and coffee, and complimentary laundry.



Owner's Suite (75m²/ 807ft²)

This luxurious suite boasts a king-size bed, separate dressing and living areas, plus a big veranda with sun loungers as well as table and chairs. The spacious bathroom will spoil you with a freestanding tub as well as a monsoon shower and his-and-hers sinks. Other benefits will include a private guide, butler service, early morning tea and coffee, complimentary laundry and exclusive dining experiences.



SUITES & SOCIABLE AREAS

ANANDA



KANSI PANORAMA LOUNGE & SUN DECK

Picture windows with uninterrupted river views in widescreen make this the perfect place to pause for a decadent afternoon tea or a dragonfruit smoothie. Sign up for lectures or demonstrations and you'll be enlightened in pure, air-conditioned comfort. The lounge leads directly out to the sundeck where you can take a dip in the plunge pool or enjoy a sunrise meditation session.

Capacity: Panorama Lounge – 50 seated
Sun Deck – 22 seated



MINDOON AL FRESCO

Fresh air and fine food await – from just-squeezed juices and house-baked pastries at the Continental breakfast buffet to a menu of local and international favourites. Lunchtime brings an irresistible salad buffet and a spread of desserts as well as à la carte options.

Capacity: 38 seated



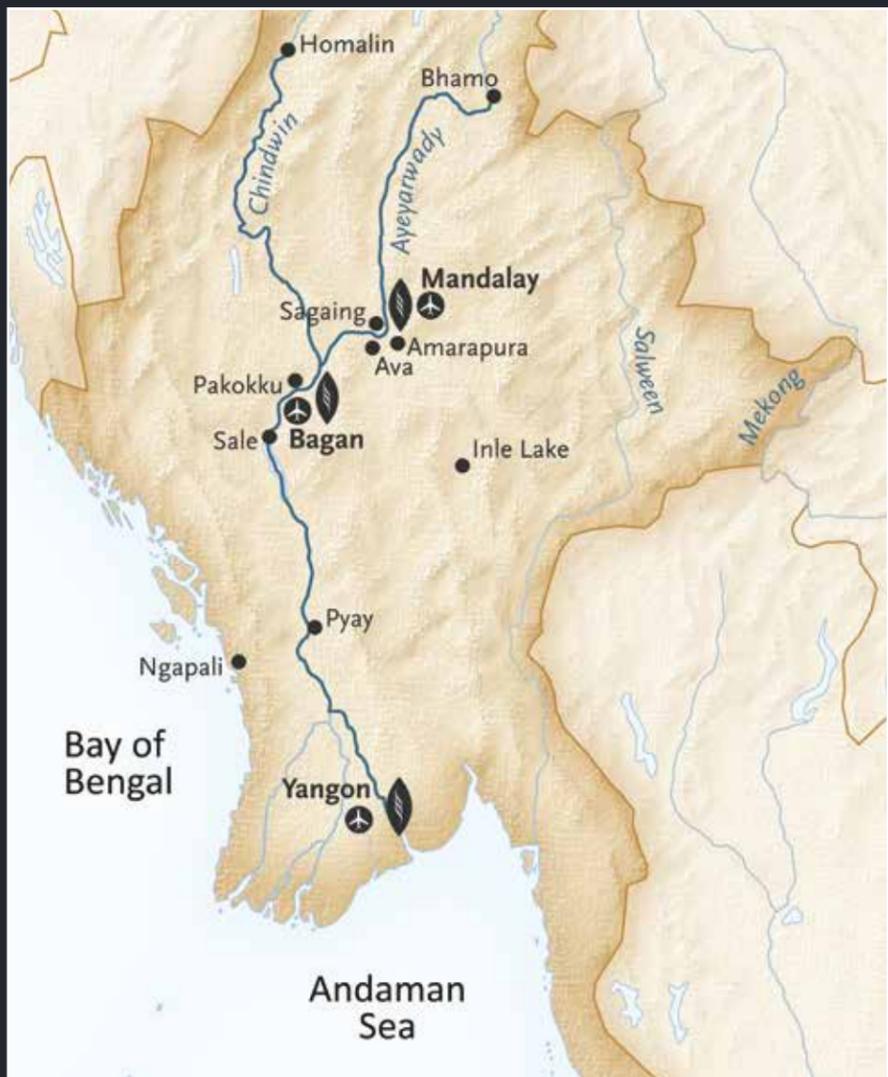
LIBRARY

An intimate and cultured setting that's not only a destination for its literature, and a great place to socialise with new friends, it can be privately reserved for dinners à deux or other special occasions.

Capacity: 8 seated

CRUISE ITINERARIES

ANANDA



3 NIGHT | BAGAN TO MANDALAY

DAY 1 | BAGAN

Discover local life in the Bagan plains, learning about the ancient methods of making lacquerware, a tradition in Bagan since 1050AD. After lunch, visit the great Kayminga and Schwezigon Pagodas.

DAY 2 | SET SAIL FROM BAGAN

Start the day with a hot-air-balloon tour (available for an extra charge, must be booked in advance) or visit the bustling Nyaung U farmers' market. Next on to the Ananda Temple, before sailing to scenic Sagaing.



DAY 3 | MANDALAY

Explore the monasteries and pagodas of the Sagaing Hills, visit a Monastic school and orphanage, and observe the silk weavers in Amarapura. The day ends with a spectacular sunset at U Bein Bridge.

DAY 4 | MANDALAY

Early morning visit to Sin Kyun, a small village sponsored by Sanctuary Retreats Philanthropy. Arrive in Mandalay and, if there's time before your flight, take a tour of the city, including the revered Mahamuni Pagoda, the beautiful teak Shwenandaw Monastery and the Kuthodaw Pagoda, home to 729 marble slabs inscribed with Buddhism's Tripitaka texts.



4 NIGHT | MANDALAY TO BAGAN



DAY 1 | MANDALAY

Begin with a tour of Mandalay including the Mahamuni Pagoda, Shwenandaw Monastery and Kuthodaw Pagoda. Explore the monasteries and pagodas of the Sagaing Hills, visit a Monastic school and orphanage, and observe the silk weavers in Amarapura. The day ends with a spectacular sunset at U Bein Bridge.

DAY 2 | SIN KYUN

Early morning visit to Sin Kyun, a small village sponsored by Sanctuary Retreats Philanthropy. As we sail past



Mingun, enjoy the beautiful sightseeing from the ship, including the unfinished Mingun Pagoda. After lunch, sail south, enjoying talks and demonstrations.

DAY 3 | PAKOKKU

Start with a cooking class with our Executive chef. Visit Pakokku's local vegetable market then, come afternoon, visit the Shwezigon Pagoda before admiring the sunset over the Bagan plains.

DAY 4 | BAGAN

Start the day with a hot-air-balloon tour (available for an extra charge, must be booked in advance). Visit the beautiful Ananda Temple followed by a horse-cart tour of Bagan including Sulamani Pagoda. Lunch will be served with magnificent views of Mount Popa. The day ends with a candlelit sandbank dinner.

DAY 5 | BAGAN

If there's time before your flight, spend the morning discovering the local way life in the Bagan plains, visiting village artisans and learning about the ancient methods of making lacquerware.



7 NIGHT | BAGAN TO MANDALAY AND BACK

(Please note that this itinerary also operates Mandalay to Bagan and back)

DAY 1 | BAGAN

Discover local life in the Bagan plains, learning about the ancient tradition of lacquerware. After lunch, visit Kayminga and Shwezigon pagodas before enjoying the magnificent sunset.

DAY 2 | BAGAN

Start the day with a hot-air-balloon tour (available for an extra charge, must be booked in advance) or visit the bustling Nyaung U farmers' market. Next, enjoy the on board activities as we sail to scenic Sagaing.

DAY 3 | MANDALAY

Relax as the morning is spent sailing or take part in a cooking class with our Executive Chef. Explore the monasteries and pagodas of the Sagaing Hills, and observe the silk weavers in Amarapura. The day ends with a spectacular sunset at U Bein Bridge.

DAY 4 | MANDALAY

Visit Mahamuni Pagoda, Shwenandaw Monastery and Kuthodaw Pagoda. In the afternoon, visit a gold leaf beating workshop followed by the 774-ft (236-m) high Mandalay Hill.

DAY 5 | SIN KYUN

Early morning visit to Sin Kyun, a small village sponsored by Sanctuary Retreats Philanthropy. As we sail past Mingun, enjoy the beautiful sightseeing from the ship, including the unfinished Mingun Pagoda. After lunch, enjoy the on board activities as we sail the Ayeyarwady.

DAY 6 | PAKOKKU

Start with a cooking class with our Executive chef. Visit Pakokku's local vegetable market. Next, visit Kyauk Gu U Min Temple, known as the 'Rock Cave Tunnel', before visiting a local village to discover their traditional way of life.

DAY 7 | BAGAN

Start the day with a hot-air-balloon tour (available for an extra charge, must be booked in advance). Visit Ananda Temple followed by a horse-cart tour of Bagan including Sulamani pagoda. Lunch will be served with magnificent views of Mount Popa. The day ends with a candlelit sandbank dinner.

DAY 8 | BAGAN

If there's time before your flight, spend the morning discovering local life in the Bagan plains, visiting village artisans and learning about the ancient tradition of making lacquerware.



10 NIGHT | MANDALAY TO PAUNG PYIN TO BAGAN

(Please note that this itinerary also operates Bagan to Paung Pyin to Mandalay)

DAY 1 | MANDALAY TO SIN TAE

Sail from Mandalay along the Chindwin and enjoy on-board demonstrations on traditions such as the local dress, thanaka make-up technique, as well as cookery lessons and history talks.

DAY 2 | SIN TAE TO OWN PIN SEIK

At Monywa, visit the market and the great Thanboddhay Pagoda. In the afternoon, explore Bodhi Tataung and admire the two enormous Buddha statues in the magic of the afternoon light.

DAY 3 | OWN PIN SEIK TO NGAR OWN

Arrive at the village of Maukkadaw, once an important teak port. Wander around the village taking in the stunning teak buildings which are surrounded by tropical jungle. Next we will visit the brick monastery.

DAY 4 | NGAR OWN TO MASEIN

Have a look around Kalewa village, situated at the foot of the Western Mountain Ranges that loom over the town. The cruise continues after lunch taking you through lush gorges, past wild jungle and tiny riverside villages.

DAY 5 | MASEIN TO HAE NIN

Once the main hub of Bombay Burma Trading Company, Mawleik is rich in colonial charm. Take tea on the boat as it travels to the thatched homes of our next rural village stop, Hae Nin.

DAY 6 | HAE NIN TO SITTHAUNG

Visit Paung Pyin village, the northernmost point of the cruise. This afternoon sail south to Sitthaung, where we will overnight. See the emerald green paddy fields on your way to the village pagoda.

DAY 7 | SITTHAUNG TO MASEIN

Today we explore Masein where you will find a row of 28 white-washed pagodas line the crest of a sloping hill and file down towards the river.

DAY 8 | MASEIN TO KANI

At Minkin, it's a unique chance to see an extraordinary blend of European and Burmese architecture of the Mahar Minkyaung Monastery. The Shwe Sagar Buddha is especially remarkable – it was carved from a single piece of wood a thousand years ago.

DAY 9 | MONYWA TO YESAGYO

At Monywa, an excursion takes you to see the Po Win Taung caves carved out of the sandstone hills – a highlight of any trip to Myanmar.

DAY 10 | YASAGYO TO BAGAN

Sail from Yesagyo to Pakokku to watch cotton-blanket weavers before sailing on to Bagan. Visit the Ananda, Htilominlo and Pyathatgyi Temple before enjoying a candlelit sandbank dinner.

DAY 11 | DISEMBARK AT BAGAN

11 NIGHT | MANDALAY TO YANGON

(Please note that this itinerary also operates Yangon to Mandalay)

DAY 1 | MANDALAY

Begin with a tour of Mandalay including the Mahamuni Pagoda, Shwenandaw Monastery and Kuthodaw Pagoda, then, after sailing past the monasteries of Sogaing and visiting Amarapura, we will take in the sunset at U Bien Bridge before witnessing traditional village life in Sin Kyun.

DAY 2 | SIN KYUN TO MINGUN

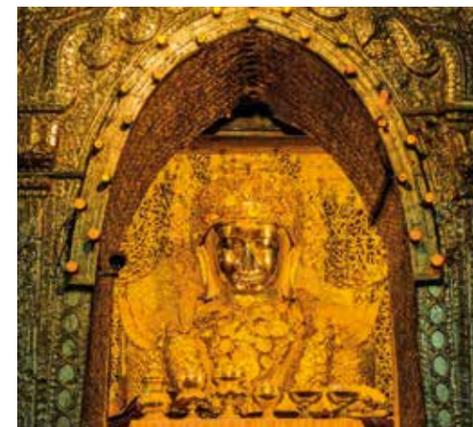
Explore Mingun by ox cart, taking in the unfinished Mingun Pagoda, huge Mingun Bell and Myatheindan Pagoda. After lunch, sail south, enjoying talks, longyi (sarong) and thanaka (make-up) demonstrations, or a cooking class before dinner.

DAY 3 | PAKOKKU TO BAGAN

Take a trishaw to Pakokku's local vegetable market and traditional cigar factory then, come afternoon, visit the great temples of Htilominlo and Ananda where you can admire magnificent artwork before sunset on the terrace of the ancient Pyathatgyi Temple

DAY 4 | BAGAN TO SALE

Start with a sunrise hot-air-balloon tour (available for an extra charge, must be booked in advance), then explore the bustling Nyaung-U market followed by the golden Shwezigon Pagoda. We will then sail downstream to Sale and explore its Yoke Sone Kyaung monastery, and Tha-ta-na Kyaung temple.



DAY 5 | MINBU TO MAGWE TO MINHLA

We'll spend the morning sailing to Magwa, passing Mindu village where you can see Nga Ka Pwe Taung, meaning 'Dragon Lake' – a unique gas-and-mud bubbling pool.

Visit Myat Than Lun Paya, a 1929-built pagoda of solid-gold bricks set on a river-view hilltop. Later this afternoon we will carry on along the river towards Minhla Fort, the dramatic military construction here, which harks back to the Konbaung era.

DAY 6 | MINHLA FORT TO THAWUTTI TO PYAY

Today we will take a walking tour of the Minhla Fort, before visiting the charming village of Thawutti. Next, we'll cruise on to Thayet where we'll dock overnight.

DAY 7 | THAYET TO PYAY

Explore the white pagodas and colonial houses of postcard-perfect Thayet on foot before heading back to the ship to sail to Pyay (pronounced by some as 'pyay' and 'pyi' by others) – a highlight of the cruise. Shwe Daung village and the Shwe Myet Hman pagoda finish the day.

DAY 8 | PYAY TO HTONBO

Before returning to see more of Pyay, we will visit Thayekhittata, an old Pyu Dynasty city. Next up is the amazing Shwesandaw Paya.



DAY 9 | AKAUK TAUNG TO KENAUNG TO ZALUN

This morning, take in the sights of Akauk Taung or 'Tax Mountian'. Pause at Kenaung village and see locals enjoying the traditional team sport of chinlone with its unique balletic moves. After lunch, sail south towards Zalon.

DAY 10 | ZALON TO DANUPHYU

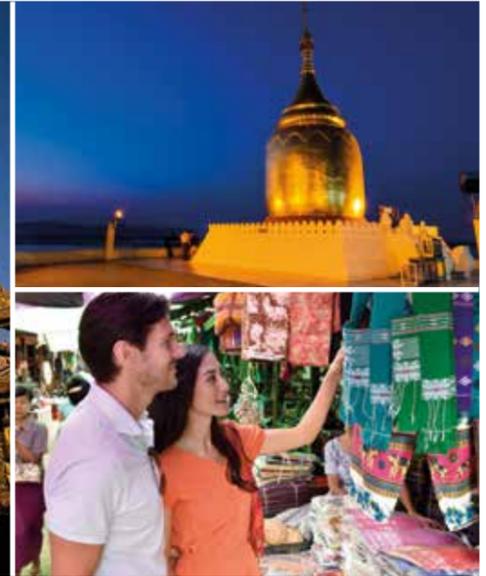
Serene from morning meditation, visit the small port town of Zalon by trishaw – the local tricycle rickshaws – and see the bronze Buddhas in remarkable Pyi Taw Pyan. After sailing south to Danuphyu, visit a monastery at Maha Bandula.

DAY 11 | DANUPHYU TO YANGON

We'll spend today sailing downstream, which means you have ample time to make the most of the many luxuries on board Ananda. Maybe have a spa treatment or relax by the pool with a book from our library? Or just enjoy gliding through the soul-stirring riverscapes which few tourists get to see...

DAY 12 | YANGON

The ship arrives late morning in Yangon, formerly Rangoon, and once the capital of Burma, in time for you to check out.



11 NIGHT | MANDALAY TO BHAMO TO BAGAN

(Please note that this itinerary also operates Bagan to Bhamo to Mandalay)

DAY 1 | MANDALAY TO NWE NYEIN

After lunch on board the ship, we will sail towards the village of Nwe Nyein. As we sail along on the cruise, enjoy talks and demonstrations about local cultural traditions to cookery.

DAY 2 | NWE NYEIN TO KYAR NYET

After breakfast, walk to a pottery factory at the village of Nwe Nyein on the western bank of the Ayeyarwady River and watch the craftsman create beautiful pots as they work their potters' wheels with their legs.

DAY 3 | KYAR NYET TO KANN NI

In the morning, explore ancient Tagaung, which dates back to the Pyu Dynasty. The original city walls are preserved as part of this rich archaeological site. Next we'll sail upstream to Katha.

DAY 4 | KATHA TO SHWE GU

As a nod to Katha being featured in George Orwell's Burmese Days, take a tuk-tuk to the author's former house in what was the British Club. The day ends docked in Shwe Gu with a Tai-Shan dance performance during dinner.

DAY 5 | SHWE GU TO BHAMO

As we sail to Bhamo, admire spectacular riverscapes whilst relaxing aboard the sundeck.

DAY 6 | BHAMO TO MOEDA

Our visit to Bhamo will let you see the market and downtown Bhamo, which includes a trip to Shwe Kyi Na pagoda and historic Catholic churches.. Next we'll set sail for Moeda village, passing a notable parrot-shaped 'spirit rock'. In the afternoon, visit an elephant logging camp to see how humans and animals work together in harmony.

DAY 7 | MOEDA TO KYAR NYAT

Relax during a leisurely cruise to Kya Nyat and take full advantage of the amenities and activities on board the Ananda while soaking up the beauty of the scenery before enjoying a guided walk of Kyar Nyat.

DAY 8 | KYAR NYAT TO SIN KYUN

This morning we will head south. For the next leg of the cruise, gaze at riverside pagodas such as Anya Thi Ha Taw on its island in the Ayeyarwady. Next stop is Sin Kyun, where we will arrive about mid-morning.

DAY 9 | SIN KYUN TO SAGAING

Cruise to Mingun where the monumental temple and 90-tonne Mingun Bell, one of the world's heaviest ringing bells, awaits. In the afternoon, visit Amarapura, once known as 'The City of Immortals', followed by sunset at the U Bein Bridge.

DAY 10 | MANDALAY TO YANDABO

This morning, see Mahamuni Pagoda, Shwenandaw Monastery, and Kuthodaw Pagoda, referred to by some historians as the 'biggest book in the world'. Spend the rest of the day relaxing as we sail downstream to Bagan.

DAY 11 | BAGAN

After breakfast visit bustling Bagan by bus and its Nyaung-U local market and the great golden Shwezigon Pagoda; then travel to the incredible 1091-built Ananda Temple. The day's finale is a quiet moment on the terraces of the Pyathatgyi Temple to admire the sunset. Dinner tonight is extra special thanks to a candlelit sandbank dinner.

DAY 12 | CHECK-OUT



SANCTUARY
ANANDA

Luxury, naturally

Sanctuary Retreats was born in Africa with the launch of our first luxury safari camp, Sanctuary Olonana, in Kenya, in 1999.

Today, the Sanctuary Retreats portfolio of luxury safari lodges and expedition ships brings a much wider choice of our boutique adventure than ever before – but our standards remain the same. We promise adventure, enchantment and ‘Luxury, naturally’, all delivered with a quiet, understated charm and understanding of place.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information and for your next booking, please contact us:

Myanmar enquiries for Americas, Africa & Europe residents:

+44 (0)207 004 2345
reservations.myanmar@sanctuaryretreats.com

Myanmar enquiries for Australia, New Zealand & Asia residents:

+95 99 700 39990
reservations.asia@sanctuaryretreats.com



Cruise Critic 2015 Editors' Picks
Best River Line Cabins



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