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**PINNACLE** established  
since 1996  
**TRAVEL**

五洲旅行社

## \* 5 Days 4 Nights Yangon, Mandalay + Kyaukse Tour \* Kyaukse Elephant Dancing Festival 05 – 09 October (Elephant Package)

### Day 1: Arrival at Yangon (Breakfast)

#### Historical Tour

**Tour Attractions:** Chauk Htat Kyi, British colonial architectural buildings, Scott Market, Shwedagon Pagoda and Karaweik Palace

- Upon arrival at Yangon, you will be welcomed by our tour guide at the airport and brought on your tour



- ✓ First, come face to face with the **Chauk Htat Kyi** reclining Buddha statue. It sits at a length of 70 meters (The height of six stories!) and is the fourth largest reclining Buddha statue in Myanmar. Look out for the 108 intricately inscribed sacred symbols on the soles of the Buddha!
- ✓ Proceed downtown on a private tour; downtown features many **British colonial architectural buildings** built in the 1900s. You will get to see the lovely general post office, Strand Hotel, Mahabandoola Garden and Independence Monument.

- ✓ A Shopping Heaven awaits you at **Scott Market (Bogyoke Aung San Market)**, a shopping market with more than 2000 shops selling all kinds of products. Look out for the beautiful and exotic “Shan Bag’ velvet slipper, lacquer ware and handicraft. If you are a fan of gems, the market contains many gem workshops and galleries featuring Jade, Rubies, Sapphires, and other precious stones from Myanmar.
- ✓ Following, discover the world-famous, gold-encrusted (sheathed in 11 tons of pure gold and 4,350 diamonds weighing 1800 carats) **Shwedagon Pagoda**, boasting a long history of over 2,500 years. Surrounding it is 64 smaller pagodas with four large ones right in the center of the four cardinal points. Don’t miss the glorious sun-set scene right at the Pagoda as well!
- ✓ Finally, a wonderful dinner invitation awaits you at **Karaweik Palace** – a restaurant located on the Royal Lake. It is built in the style of Royal Barge used by Myanmar Kings for official functions and festivities. Experience local Burmese delights over your sumptuous dinner!
- Check-in for a night’s stay in your hotel in Yangon





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### Day 2: Yangon – Mandalay (Breakfast)

#### Cultural Treasures

**Tour Attractions:** U Bein Bridge, Mahamuni Pagoda, Shwe Nan Daw Kyaung and Kuthodaw Pagoda



- Have a good breakfast; proceed to the airport for your flight to Mandalay, a city of great cultural importance to Myanmar.
- ✓ Upon arrival in Mandalay, explore **Mahagandayon Monastery**, one of the biggest teaching monasteries in Myanmar. At 10 in the morning, close to a thousand novice monks line the streets to receive alms from people.
- ✓ Get ready your cameras as you visit the **U Bein Bridge** – a 200-years-old teak bridge. The bridge is definitely one of the icons of Myanmar and is the longest teak bridge in the world!
- ✓ A must to visit is the **Mahamuni Pagoda**, one of the most important Buddhist pilgrimage sites in Burma. The temple houses the Mahamuni Buddha image, one of the five embodiments of the Buddha which was created when he was alive. The Buddha is covered in a thick layer of gold leaves (15cm!) pasted on by devotees.
- ✓ Be awe-struck by the mystical and rich history of the **Shwe Nan Daw Kyaung (Golden Palace Monastery)**; made entirely out of teak wood in the mid-nineteenth century, it is one of the few relics that still maintains the old architectural charm of ancient Myanmar. Its unique blend of part palace part monastery is a result of its long history. Be sure to check out its story!
- ✓ Up for some major reading? You got to see the **Kuthodaw Pagoda**, also known as the “World’s Largest Book”, which features 729 shrines each containing a single marble slab inscribed both sides with Burmese transcript. Each stone slab represents a page in the teachings of the Buddha.
- ✓ Enjoy a bird’s eye view over the entire Mandalay town from the **Mandalay Hill** whilst enjoying the sunset. A picture perfect moment.
- Check-in for a 2 nights’ stay in your hotel in Mandalay



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### Day 3: Mandalay – Kyaukse – Mandalay (Breakfast)

#### Kyaukse Elephant Dancing Festival

- Have an early breakfast at your hotel, following, you will be driven to Kyaukse, 42 km south of Mandalay



- ✓ The **Kyaukse Elephant Dance Festival** is celebrated every year at the end of the Buddhist Lent. Manned by 2 people, these intricate elephant costumes are constructed out of bamboo frames covered with cloth, paper and foil. Costumes are then decorated thoroughly with foil, glitter, latin and glass gems.

First, these costumes will be paraded around, following which, a competition will be held to judge the precision and harmony of the dancing, construction of the elephant and the music/singing involved.

- Return to Mandalay for a good night's rest in your hotel in Mandalay

### Day 4: Mandalay – Yangon (Breakfast)

#### Authentic Yangon

**Tour Attractions:** Kaba Aye (World Peace) Pagoda, National Museum and Chinatown

- Have a good breakfast at your hotel, following transfer to Heho for a domestic flight to Yangon
- Upon arrival in Yangon, you will be welcomed by our tour guide and brought on your tour
- ✓ First, encounter the **Kaba Aye (World Peace) Pagoda** and **Kaba Aye Mahapathana Cave**. Be awe-struck by this man-made cave that spans 139metres in length, which was used to house the sixth synod (Buddhist Council) of Buddhist monks in order to revise the Buddhist scriptures.
- ✓ Know more about the culture and different ethnic groups of Myanmar at the **National Museum**
- ✓ Finally, head right into bustling **Chinatown** and soak into Burmese delights and culture. Be sure to head to 19<sup>th</sup> Street to try their specialty – Burmese BBQ!
- Have a good rest in your hotel in Yangon

### Day 5: Departure from Yangon (Breakfast)

- Free till departure transfer to Yangon airport for homebound flight

Tour Code: PMSTF0031SIG