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since 1996
TRAVEL

五洲旅行社

* 6 Days 5 Nights Yangon, Inle Lake + Taunggyi Tour * Hot Air Balloon Festival 03 – 08 November (Okapi 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

- Arrive at Yangon, you will be welcomed by your tour guide 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



Day 2: Yangon – Heho – Inle Lake (Breakfast)

Town by the Lake

Tour Attractions: Inle Lake, floating market, Ngaphechaung Monastery, Phaung Daw Oo Pagoda and Inpawkhon





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- Have an early breakfast at your hotel, following, you will be transferred to Nyaung Oo Airport for a flight to Heho. On arrival at Heho Airport, you will be welcomed and brought on your tour.
- ✓ Proceed to explore the tranquil **Inle Lake**, a highland lake which is 900 meters above sea level. The Lake is inhabited by the Intha people who are unique for their leg rowing. Keep an eye out for these leg-rowed traditional boats; they are a sight to behold.
- ✓ Explore Inle Lake's **floating market** which features hand-made products such as tools, carvings and textiles amongst others. Trading is completely conducted on the lake itself in small boats!
- ✓ Built at the end of the 1850s, the **Ngaphechaung Monastery**, built entirely on stilts, is famous for their cats who have mastered the ability to jump through hoops. Be amused by their talent!
- ✓ Following, check out the **Phaung Daw Oo Pagoda**, the most sacred shrine in Southern Shan State, located right in the middle of the lake. The main hall houses five small golden Buddha images which are completely covered in gold leaves pasted by devotees.
- ✓ Next, visit the weaving village of **Inpawkhon**, cheroot making and other cottage industries.
- Check-in for a night's stay in your hotel in Inle Lake



Day 3: Inle Lake - Taunggyi (Breakfast)

Hot Air Balloon Festival

- Have a good breakfast at your hotel, following, you will be driven from Inle Lake to Taunggyi
- ✓ Experience the Taunggyi Hot Air Balloon Festival, which is held once a year after the end of the Buddhist Lent. The decorated balloons are "sent up" to pay homage to the Sulamani Pagoda in heaven. Day balloons are usually shaped after pagodas or animals while night balloons usually contain candles that form different designs. As the balloons, usually 15-20 feet tall, ascend, it carries with it a 10-15 feet long tail of fire crackers. Be mesmerized by the dazzling display of light.
- ✓ Check-in for a 2 nights' stay in your hotel in Taunggyi





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Day 4: Taunggyi (Breakfast)

Hot Air Balloon Festival

- Have a good breakfast at your hotel, following, continue on your tour.
- ✓ Check out the busiest place in Taunggyi – The Myoma Market. Regional residents both come to sell and buy local products. You can buy local produce such as Shan's traditional food and hand-made articles. The market also plays another role of bringing together Myanmar's different ethnic groups.
- ✓ After seeing the Balloon Festival yesterday, wouldn't you want to make your own hot air balloon? Get down and dirty and learn how to make your own hot air balloon in the workshop conducted!
- ✓ Continue enjoying day 2 of the Hot Air Balloon Festival
- Have a good night's rest in your hotel at Taunggyi



Day 5: Taunggyi – Heho – 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, 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 19th Street to try their specialty – Burmese BBQ!
- Have a good rest in your hotel in Yangon

Day 6: Departure from Yangon (Breakfast)

- Free till departure transfer to Yangon airport for homebound flight