

EXPLORATION CRUISES

"MYANMAR DAYS" THE BHAMO CRUISE

A River Journey to the upper reaches of the Irrawaddy River

(MANDALAY – KYAUK MYAUNG – TAGAUNG - KATHA – BHAMO – SHWEGU - MINGUN - MANDALAY)

DEPARTURE: TUESDAY (FROM 07 OCT 2008 TO 11 NOV 2008) * **DURATION** 8 DAYS 7 NIGHTS

OPERATED WITH PANDAW 1947

TUESDAY

MANDALAY (GAWEIN) – KYAUK MYAUNG (MILES 52*84 KM – 6.5 HRS)

Embark the ship at 09.30 hrs. We cast off at 10.00 hrs and sail upstream to the spectacular **potteries-making village of Kyauk Myaung**, and see the manufacture stages of the famous **50 Gallons (200 litres) pots** (1.5 hours visit). Moor overnight nearby a river village.

WEDNESDAY

KYAUK MYAUNG – TIGYAING (MILES 99*KM 160 – 12.5 HRS)

Cast off early in the morning (ETD 05.30 hrs). We enter the **Third Defile (Gorge)** and sail upriver all day. Stop at **Tagaung** to explore the **ancient city** archaeological area and the fortifications. Continue sailing North up to Tigyaying village where we stop for the night.

THURSDAY

TIGYAING – KATHA (MILES 42*KM 68 – 5.5 HRS)

Early departure. Before lunch we arrive **Katha**, the setting of the George Orwell's book "Burmese Days" and also the place where hundreds of the Irrawaddy Flotilla Company ships were scuttled in 1942 before the Japanese could seize them. We explore this pleasant colonial town surrounded by hills plenty of hardwood forests and if time permit we will also visit an elephant logging camp and the lake Indaw.

FRIDAY

KATHA – BHAMO (MILES 84*KM 135 – 11 HRS)

We continue sailing upstream and after passing the little town of Shwegu we enter the **dramatic 2nd defile** with its magnificent cliffs reaching down the narrow channel. We arrive at **Bhamo** in the late afternoon (ETA 17.30). Evening walking tour of the town, an important trading post located just 50 miles from the Chinese border.

SATURDAY

BHAMO – SHWEGU (MILES 40*KM 64 / 4 HRS)

Early in the morning we will try to reach the village of **Sinbo** set below the **1st Defile** by local boat. Back to the ship before lunch and cast off (ETD 11.30 hrs) for the downriver return journey to Mandalay. We pass **Kyun Daw**, an island with lot of monasteries and small pagodas and we moor overnight at **Shwegu** pottery village.

AYRAVATA CRUISES

SUNDAY

SHWEGU – KHAN NYAT (MILES 130*KM 210/13 HRS)

Sail downriver all day stopping at **Khan Nyat** Village with its many Buddhist monasteries.

MONDAY

KHAN NYAT - MINGUN (MILES 101*KM 163/10 HRS)

Cruise all day. We arrive at Mingun in the late afternoon (ETA 16.00). Visit the unfinished pagoda, the largest working bell in the world and the “home for the ages”. Moor overnight in a sandbank opposite of Mingun Pagoda.

Dance and Theatre performance on the Sundeck.

TUESDAY

MINGUN – MANDALAY/GAWEIN (MILES 6*KM 10/40 MIN.)

Disembark at Mandalay Gawein Jetty at 08.00 o'clock.

RETAIL RATES

per person in US\$ valid OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2008

“MYANMAR DAYS” THE BHAMO CRUISE (7N / Dep. Tue)

Main Deck Twin US\$2,100 Twin Single use US\$3,150

Upper Deck Twin US\$2,800 Twin Single use: US\$4,200

Price includes Transfer from/to Mandalay or Bagan Hotel-Airport, Full Board, All sightseeing /excursions as per programme, English speaking guide/escort, Entrance Fees

Price excludes drinks, laundry, gratuity, international and domestic flights, all items of a personal nature; health-accident-baggage or travel protection plan, fuel surcharges if applicable (* read the note below).

(*) Within the above rates the fuel cost is calculated on the Myanmar Market average price of the months of August & September 2006 (i.e. USD3 per gallon). Should the fuel price rise by more than 15%, AYRAVATA CRUISES will be entitled to impose a fuel surcharge equivalent to the amount by which the fuel price exceeds the price allowed for in the above rates, provided that the notice of this rise is given to the Passenger and/or his Agent within 30 days prior the cruise departure date.

IMPORTANT NOTE: For All departures should the occupancy be less than 12 PASSENGERS the Company reserves the right to cancel the cruise up to 60 days prior the departure date. A written confirmation notice will be released to all booked clients and/or their agents within and not later than 60 days prior the departure date. In case of cancellation an alternative cruise will be offered and if not acceptable all down payments will be refunded.