

amazing THAILAND

Experiencing southeast ASIA's

Diverse Creativity

Thailand-Myannar
ROUTE

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7 Days 6 Nights

Day 1

Sukhothai

Day 2

Sukhothai

Day 3

Sukhothai-Tak

southeast

ASIA's

Diverse Creativity Day 4

Day 5

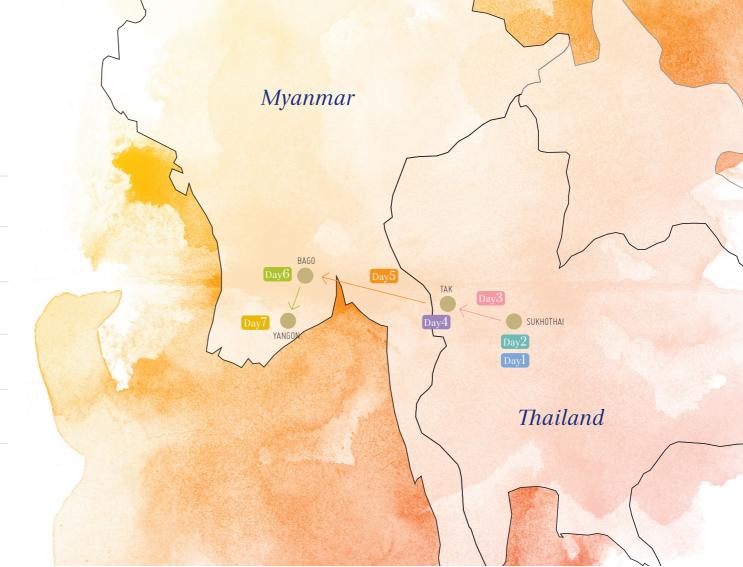
Tak-Bago

Day 6

Bago-Yangon

Day 7

Yangon







TAK

8 TROK BAN CHIN HISTORICAL THAI-CHINESE COMMUNITY

A stroll down Trok Ban Chin, or Chinese Village Lane, can be enchanting. Walking between the very old Sino-European-Thai teak homes and buildings. Some of the best preserved anywhere, their extended roofs help protect pedestrians from the elements while they're given a glimpse of the life of Tak's early settlers. Operating time: 6.00 a.m. - 6.00 p.m



Once the governor of Tak from which he got his name, Taksin rose to become the general who defeated the Burmese who had ransacked Ayutthaya, later becoming king. His life-size statue enshrined in a Thai-style marble mondop is set in a lush garden surrounded by statues of horses left as offerings by Thai pilgrims.

10 DOI MUSER MARKET

Halfway between Tak and Mae Sot, this market was inspired by the nearby Muser Hill Tribe Cultural Development and Welfare Center. Here you'll find local hill tribe, Lisu, Lahu and Maew, venders selling the freshest fruit and vegetables depending on the season. Open: Daily, 8.00 a.m. - 6.00 p.m.



On the outskirts of Mae Sot, near the Friendship Bridge, Talad Rim Moei is considered the official border trade center. This extensive pavilion offers a full as well as items that have made their way south from China.



Day 5 ASIA HIGHWAY 1 TAK - BAGO

After crossing the Moei River border into Myawaddy, an important Thai-Myanmar trading market, particularly for gems, there are a number of ornate temples perched on surrounding peaks. Then, it's on to Kyaiktiyo, the revered, precarious stupa atop the Golden Rock before reaching Bago, once known as the port town of Pegu, with more temples and pagodas than most anywhere else in Myanmar.



Day6 BAGO-YANGON

• Bago

SHWEMAWDAW PAGODA

Myanmar's tallest stupa standing 114 meters tall was first built in the 10th century and is said to hold two strands of hair given to two Mon merchant brothers by the Gautama Buddha. It has been described as rather gaudy, particularly because of the hti, an umbrella affixed to the top of the pagoda. Open: 6.00 a.m. - 9.00 p.m.

(B) KAMBAZATHADI GOLDEN PALACE

Gulf of Martaban

This replica of a 16th-century royal residence features 400-year-old teak pillars carved with as many as 2,000 Buddha images. The great audience hall with its gold-painted ceiling and replica of a throne are also quite impressive as are the private rooms and bed chambers that offer a glimpse of luxurious ancient royal life.

SHWETHALYAUNG BUDDHA

Protected by a mammoth pavilion, this, the world's second largest reclining Buddha is said to have been constructed in 994. As remarkable as it might sound, the image disappeared following the pillage

of Pego in 1757. It was then rediscovered in 1880 by a British engineer while clearing jungle to lay track for a new railway. Open: 6.00 a.m. - 9.00 p.m.

Yangon

15 SHWEDAGON PAGODA

The most revered paya for Myanmar Buddhists, it is mesmerizing standing atop 42-meter high Singattara Hill. The pagoda, built 2500 years ago, is 99 meters tall from base to diamond-studded, gold hti, glittering above smaller golden stupas and shrines dedicated to each day of the week where people pray according to their birth day. Open: 6.00 a.m. - 9.00 p.m.

YANGON

16 YELE PAYA, THE FLOATING PAGODA AT SYRIAM

While it appears to be floating, the temple is actually perched on a small island in the middle of the coffeecolored Yangon River which can be reached by boat. To make merit, many visitors will feed cooked rice balls to many carp, some mammoth in size. Open: 6.00 a.m. - 8.00 p.m.



Set on the Yangon River bank in the city center, this 2500-year old pagoda was destroyed in a bombing during World War II and then rebuilt beginning in 1948. Its name means 1000 military officers for those who are said to have met the entourage carrying eight strands of hair of the Lord Buddha brought from India 2000 years ago.

Open: 6.00 a.m. - 10.00 p.m.

BOGYOKE AUNG SAN MARKET

A beautifully preserved example of colonial architecture, the market was opened in 1926 and still sells virtually everything. Originally named for the British Commissioner of that time, Gavin Scott, its name was changed to Bogyoke, or General, Aung San Market in 1947, to honor Myanmar's liberator from British rule.

Open: 10.30 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.





YANGON

Gulf of Martaban

CREATIVE CRAFTS TO TRY

SUKHOTHAL

1. Painting Sangkhalok Pottery

Many ceramic factories can be found along Sangkhalok Road in Sukhothai City. A number of these offer workshops where visitors can be creative as they paint plain ceramic pottery,

which is then kiln-fired to produce a lasting memory of your visit.

2. Crafting Natural Krathong

After slicing a piece from a banana trunk for the base, fold pieces of banana leaf into small points for the border. Then decorate the krathong with flowers as this will be used to present an offering to the Water Goddess, Phra Mae Khongkha, on the night of the full moon of the 12th lunar month.



3. Sculpting Ceramic Buddha Amulets

At Ban Pra Phim visitors are taught to make Buddha image votive tablets by first carving a mold from a block of wax and then filling it with local clay. This is then fired in a kiln to produce these auspicious keepsakes following the same techniques developed hundreds of years ago.

4. Enameling on Silver

Sukhothai province, particularly Si Satchanalai, is famous for producing silver jewelry according to ancient techniques, which involve weaving silver wire and enameling. Some patterns date back more than 700 years, which will be taught in workshops offered by certain shops to visitors.

5. Weaving Silk Fabric

Villages are still raising silk worms to produce silk thread that they spin, dye and weave following the same methods as their ancestors. Many of the cooperatives along with homestays offer visitors the chance to learn how to use a spinning wheel and loom to produce silk cloth.

6. Weaving Bamboo

After slicing bamboo into wafer-thin strips, they can be woven into baskets of almost any size as well as mats and even colorful reproductions of animals that make wonderful decorations. This can be learned at different coops that produce these products for sale.

YANGON

1. Throwing Pottery

Set along the Twante Canal that links the Ayeyarwady and Yangon rivers, visitors come to Twante after visiting the Shwesandaw Pagoda because of its ceramics to watch and try their hand at forming pots of different shapes and sizes on spinning wheels.



The process can be guite arduous, first cutting strips of bamboo for the frame, then gluing cotton cloth on top, sewing the bamboo base for the parasol and finally painting and lacquering the cloth to protect it from the elements, sun and rain. Joining this activity can be quite fun.





DMC list

SUKHOTHAI Sanokhalok Museum

Pak Khwae, Muang Sukhothai, Sukhothai 64000 Thailand Tel: +66 5 561 4333

Baan Thong Somsamai Gold Shop

343/1 Moo. 5 Thachai, Srisatchananlai, Sukhothai 64190 Thailand Tel: +66 5 567 9095, +66 5 563 1603 Website: www.somsamaigold.com

Baan Na Ton Chan

Moo.5, Ban Tuek, Si Satchanalai. Sukhothai 64130 Thailand Tel: +66 88 495 7738, +66 86 974 5521 220 Moo. 2 Tasailuan, Maesot, Email: Sirikaniar@gmail.com Website:

Baan Ta Wong at Baan Na Ton Chan

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Suthep Sangkhalok

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Krathona House

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Banpraphim Luksamonart

51/7 Moo. 8 Ban Chetuphon, Muang. Sukhothai 64210 Thailand Tel: +66 89 643 6291, +66 81 197 0535 46 km. West of Yangon, an hour

Mai Gold & Silver Shop

340/5 Moo. 10, Tha Chai, Si Satchanalai, Sukhothai 64190 Thailand

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YANGON

Twante Pottery Village

Twante's Pottery Area, by road via Hlaing River Bridge

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