

*Travcoa Independent Journeys* are pre-set and priced independent travel itineraries. Each is locally hosted by carefully selected local guides, and designed to give you an ideal in-depth experience. Independent journeys include luxury accommodations, sightseeing, private transportation, meals as indicated, and more.

## Myanmar Solar Eclipse Journey

10 Days

### DAY 1 – Jan. 9, 2010

#### Arrive Yangon

On arrival, you are met and taken to your hotel in this capital city set at the delta of the Yangon River. Meals: D

**Hotel: Governor's Residence**

### DAY 2 – Jan. 10, 2010

#### Arrive Yangon

Tour Yangon, a city filled with many shaded boulevards, and shimmering stupas that seem to float above the treetops. Visit the **Sule Pagoda**, an octagonal pagoda and gleaming center point of the city. See the 27-foot high **Sihasana Lion Throne**, and visit the **National Museum** for an orientation to the culture of this mystical country. After a break at the colorful **Bogyoke Market**, spend the afternoon exploring some of the historic pagodas, including the **Shwedagon Pagoda**, whose golden stupa towers over the city. Meals: B

**Hotel: Governor's Residence**

### DAY 3 - Jan. 11, 2010

#### Yangon to Heho & Inle Lake

Fly to Heho this morning, then on to Inle Lake by boat. Along the shore of this serene lake are 17 villages set on stilts, most are



The golden stupa of the Shwedagon Pagoda in Yangon

fishing hamlets inhabited by the Intha people. Meals: B

**Hotel: Pristine Lotus Spa Resort**

### DAY 4 - Jan. 12, 2010

#### Inle Lake

Today, travel by boat across the lake to the western shore, and hidden **Indein temple complex**. Climb the stairs to see hundreds of small stupas overgrown by moss and greens. Continue on foot past rice fields to the village of **Sae Ma**, stopping to explore the village and the local school. Next, proceed by boat or canoe down the river to visit the **Paung Daw Oo Pagoda**, and the village of **Tha Lay**, known for lotus and silk weaving. In the afternoon,

meet the enchanting people of the lake villages, and visit a local monastery to observe their monastic activities. You return to your hotel by boat. Meals: B

**Hotel: Pristine Lotus Spa Resort**

### DAY 5 - Jan. 13, 2010

#### Inle Lake to Heho & Mandalay

This morning transfer by boat and vehicle to Heho for your flight to Mandalay. There you board the **Road To Mandalay**, berthed on the Ayeyarwady River. Enjoy lunch on board the ship, then a guided tour of Mandalay, the last capital of royal Burma. One of the largest cities in Myanmar, you visit the key sights of this center of Burmese culture and spiritual Buddhist learning. Tonight enjoy dinner and local entertainment on board the boat. Meals: B,L,D

**Hotel: Road to Mandalay**

While cruising aboard the deluxe **Road to Mandalay**, relax on the top deck and watch the fascinating river life. Listen to the guide lectures on the local history, sites and customs. Each evening enjoy the local entertainment.

**DAY 6 - Jan. 14, 2010**

**Cruise Mandalay to Bagan**

In Mandalay, visit **Sagaing Hill**, considered the living center of the country's Buddhist faith. Each year, thousands of monks and nuns come here to retreat and meditate. Sagaing is also home to traditional silversmiths who work using the methods of their ancestors. This afternoon relax as your ship sails south down the river. Meals: B,L,D

**Hotel: Road to Mandalay**

**DAY 7 - Jan. 15, 2010**

**Cruise Mandalay to Bagan & The Solar Eclipse**

This morning, the ship arrives in Bagan. Take a guided **orientation tour** of this region dotted with thousands of 800-year old temple ruins. Stay on board this afternoon, and at approximately 3:00pm, view the **Solar Eclipse** – the longest annular eclipse of the 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium. Lasting about 8 minutes, watch as the moon obscures the sun – a remarkable sight from the top deck of the ship! Spend the remainder of the day exploring the town by bicycle or by horse-drawn carriage. Meals: B,L,D

**Hotel: Road to Mandalay**

**DAY 8 - Jan 16, 2010**

**Disembark in Bagan**

This morning disembark the ship, and transfer from the jetty to your hotel on the river in Bagan. Enjoy the rest of the day at leisure or explore the city on your own. Meals: B

**Hotel: Bagan Hotel River View**

**DAY 9 - Jan. 17, 2010**

**Bagan & Yangon**

This morning rise early for a spectacular dawn ride in a hot air balloon. Watching the sun rise over the plethora of pagodas' gleaming golden spires is a moving experience. After landing, and a champagne toast, enjoy a sightseeing tour of the most prominent of Bagan's pagodas. Explore the **Shwezigon Paya Pagoda**, built in 1090 - its

stupa's unique bell shape became a prototype for most all stupas over Myanmar. Next, visit the **Gubyaukhyi Temple at Wetkyi-Inn**, built in the early 13<sup>th</sup> century, to see its great colorful painting about the early life of Buddha. Tour the **Ananda Pahto Temple**, the **Shwesandaw Paya Pagoda**, the first monument in Bagan, and the **Gubyaukgyi Temple at Myinkaba**, built in the 12<sup>th</sup> century, and famous for the well-preserved exterior stuccos. Stop at a local lacquer ware workshop to learn about the unique, painstaking process for making and decorating these beautiful ornamental objects. Late this afternoon fly to Yangon. Meals: B

**Hotel: Governor's Residence**

**DAY 10 - Jan. 18, 2010**

**Depart Yangon**

Today bid farewell to this exotic land. You are transferred to the airport for your flight home or on to your next destination.

Meals: B



**Smiling Buddhist boys**

**Departures Scheduled upon request**

**Land Price: \$6,175** per person, double occupancy **Single Supplement: \$2,250**

**Intra Tour Air: included** Call for price for Solo Travelers or parties of 5 or more.

International Airfare not included - Contact Travcoa for the best international flights and all your air reservations.

*Additions, changes or customization to the length or inclusions of your itinerary will incur additional costs.*

# Myanmar Solar Eclipse Journey

## THIS TRAVCOA INDEPENDENT JOURNEY INCLUDES:

- Meals as indicated on itinerary
- All transfers and fully guided daily sightseeing provided
- National English-speaking guide for sightseeing in all cities
- Entrance fees per final scheduled itinerary
- Airport portorage, where available (2 bags per person)
- Local taxes
- TravcoAssist (Medical & Travel Assistance Plan)

## NOT INCLUDED:

- Travcoa Travel Director
- Intra Tour Flights
- Meals, except where noted
- International Airfare
- Airport taxes
- Visas except where noted
- Gratuities
- Travcoassist Gold Travel Protection Plan available at 8.5% of trip cost (cancellation insurance)
- Any item not noted as included

## **DEPOSIT/PAYMENT POLICY:**

At the time of reservation: 25% percent of journey cost (minimum \$1,000 per person)  
120 days before departure: Balance due

## **CANCELLATION POLICY:**

The cancellation policy is applicable to journey price, single supplements, intra-tour air, extensions and other tour related arrangements. Penalties are valid from date of reservation until:

120 days or more before departure	10%
119 to 90 days before departure	20%
89 to 60 days before departure	50%
59 days or less and en route	100%

Travcoa will only reimburse according to our cancellation policy

Ask your Travcoa consultant for full details on journey inclusions as well as reservation requirements and the complete Terms and Conditions. (See full details on [www.Travcoa.com](http://www.Travcoa.com) )

### **An example of a fine hotel used on this itinerary**



The imposing **Governor's Residence Hotel** in Yangon, A two-story mansion built in 1920 as the official home of one of the southern state Governors.

***Contact Travcoa to plan your Independent Journey***