



THINGS TO KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Myanmar

(12/01/2013 updated)

Thank you for choosing RITZ TOURS!!!

PLEASE FIND ENCLOSED THE FOLLOWING TOUR DOCUMENTS:

1. US domestic (if applicable) and international airline e-ticket copies
2. Your Flight Schedule
3. Day-by-Day Itinerary with Hotel Information and Emergency Contact Phone Numbers
4. Vouchers (if applicable)
5. Ritz Tours Badge
6. Luggage Tag
7. A Copy of "Myanmar - Things to Know Before You Go"
8. Travel Insurance Policy (if applicable)

Upon your arrival, please go through Customs and Immigration on your own. After exiting the Customs area, please look for Ritz Tours representative who will be holding a sign with "Ritz Tours". Please make sure that you wear your Ritz Tours badge for easy identification.

AN IMPORTANT NOTE ON TIPPING:

Please note that gratuities are not included in your tour cost. They are customary, and their purpose is to encourage and reward quality service. Our tour conductors, local guide, drivers, hotel porters and other service personnel do their utmost to make your trip smooth and pleasant. Gratuities are a way of showing your appreciation and also constitute a large part of their monthly income. However, tips are NEVER mandatory.

Ritz Tours suggests tipping in the following manner (expressed in US dollars):

- Local guide - \$6 p/p per day given at the end of the stay in each city.
- Local driver - \$4 p/p per day given at the end of the stay in each city.

Tipping is not customary in Myanmar but appreciated

Again, thank you for choosing Ritz Tours as your partner-in-travel. We are confident that your trip will be happy and rewarding. If you need further information, please contact your travel agent or Ritz Tours. And please provide your invaluable comments at www.ritztours.com/feedback after your trip.

We wish you have a very pleasant journey, Bon Voyage!

Travel Documentation

U.S. Passport must be valid for at least 6 months from the return date of your trip. Entry visas are required to Myanmar. You must apply Myanmar visa in advance at the Embassy. Embassy of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar (Tel: 202-332-4352, 202-238-9332, fax: 202-332-4351, <http://www.mewashingtondc.com>, e-mail: info@mewashingtondc.com).

Health & Medical Matter

No vaccinations are required for your trip with the exception of anyone traveling from or via an infected area. Due to the length of the trip and local traveling conditions, it is advised that you consult your doctor for existing medical / dental conditions before departure. If you are taking prescription medicine, please pack (in your hand luggage) a sufficient quantity for the duration of the trip. It may also be useful to bring aspirin, over-the-counter medicine for flu, indigestion, motion sickness, etc. In case of illness during the trip, please immediately notify your tour conductor and local guide for assistance. You can also contact the Center for Disease Control (C.D.C.) 404-639-3534 for updated information.

Electrical Requirement

Electrical outlets are rated at 220 -240volts so a converter is needed to operate a normal 110-volt American appliance. Electrical appliances will also require an adapter that can change the shape of the plug prongs.

Shopping

Although local guides will be happy to assist you with any shopping requirements, Ritz Tours does not assume responsibility for any items purchased at shops while on tour. You are never required to purchase any items while on tour and thus must be responsible for your own purchases. Any after sales correspondence must be between the passenger and the shop in question.

Clothing

Clothes should be light and loose; natural fibers or blends are best. Sunglasses are essential; light hats are advisable. Shorts are taboo for men and women at temples and mosques. Shoes must be removed upon entering temple buildings, so non-laced shoes (but not sandals without back straps) are best.

A sweater will be handy for the cool season in Vietnam. Many visitors save luggage space by buying inexpensive vacation clothes there, leaving them behind when they return home. Be aware that you may encounter some rainfall.

Etiquette

In Burmese culture it is unseemly to show too much emotion so avoid losing your temper over problems and delays.

- You should always take your shoes off when entering a temple or when visiting private houses.
- You should never touch anybody's head intentionally as it is regarded as a particularly holy part of the body.
- Accordingly, the feet are literally the lowest part of the body so do not point your feet at anybody or at a Buddha image.
- Sensitivity to politically related subjects in conversation is advisable.

Baggage

Cathay Pacific Airways (CX) check-in baggage allowance:

First class, Business class

Maximum weight 32kg (70lbs)

Maximum number of checked bags: Two

Maximum Dimensions per bag: 158cm (62in) length + height + width

Premiere Economy class

Maximum weight 25kg (55lbs)

Maximum number of checked bags: Two

Maximum Dimensions per bag: 158cm (62in) length + height + width

Economy class

Maximum weight 23 kg (50lbs)

Maximum number of checked bags: Two

Maximum Dimensions per bag: 158cm (62in) length + height + width

Infant ticket holder maximum number of checked bags is ONE, maximum dimensions per bag: 115cm (45in).

Dragon Air (KA) check-in baggage allowance in Asia

First class max. combined weight 40kg (88lbs)

Business class max combined weight 30kg (66lbs)

Economy class max combined weight 20kg (44lbs)

- No restriction on number of pieces. Depends on weight limit.

DO NOT pack medicine, valuables and other personal necessities in checked luggage. Keep them in your carry on bag.

Carry-on luggage

For all classes, each passenger (except an infant) can bring a free baggage allowance of one cabin bag not exceeding **56x36x23cm (22x14x9 in) in size and 5kg (11lbs) in weight**. These dimensions include wheels, handles and side pockets. For all travel classes, duty-free items are included in your cabin baggage allowance.

In addition to the standard cabin baggage allowance, you may carry onboard one of the following items free: a small handbag or a small backpack or a briefcase or a laptop bag, **AND** an assistive device such as cane, walker, crutch, wheelchair (if cabin stowage is available).

When you are travelling with a child or an infant, you may carry onboard the following item(s) free: an approved [car safety seat](#), a small bag of [food](#) and nappies (for consumption on the flight), an umbrella type collapsible stroller (if cabin stowage is available).

Currency

As of Dec 2013, the following exchange rate applies:

US\$1.00 = 977 MMK (Myanmar Kyat)

Climate & Weather

Myanmar's Climate can be described as tropical monsoon climate. It is characterized by strong monsoon influences, has a considerable amount of sun, a high rate of rainfall, and high humidity that makes it sometimes feel quite uncomfortable. The annual average temperature ranges from 22 degrees Celcius (72° Fahrenheit) to 27 degrees Celcius (81° Fahrenheit) year-round.

There are three distinct seasons in Myanmar:

The cold and dry season, from November to February, with average monthly temperatures of between 20°C (68 Fahrenheit) and 24°C (75 Fahrenheit).

The hot-dry season from March to April with average monthly temperatures between 30°C (86 Fahrenheit) and 35°C (95 Fahrenheit).

The wet season between May and October with average temperature between 25°C (77 Fahrenheit) and 30°C (86 Fahrenheit). Annual rainfall in the delta region is approximately 2,500 millimetres (Yangon 2700 mm), while average annual rainfall in the Dry Zone is less than 1,000 millimetres (Mandalay 840 mm), the coastal regions receiving over 5,000 millimetres of rain annually.

Useful Myanmar Phrases

English

How are you
Good morning
Good afternoon
Good evening
Good night/goodbye
Yes
No
It is alright
Thank you
You are welcome
Sorry
Excuse me
Can I help you
Good luck
How much
Where is the rest room
What time is it
Very expensive
Beautiful
Keep the change

Myanmar

nei kaun: ye. La
mingala nan ne khin: ba
kaun:tho:nei Khin: ba
kaun: tho: nya. nei khin: ba
thwa: bi
in:
hin. in:
ya ba de
kyei: zu: tin ba de
kyo zo ba de:
sel' mashi ba ne.
thi: khan ba
ku nyi ba ya. Zei
kan kaun: ba ze
be lau'le:
ein tha be ma shi. tha le
bel na nar yi shi byi lel
zei: mya:de
h!a. lai' ta
maan: ne. daw