



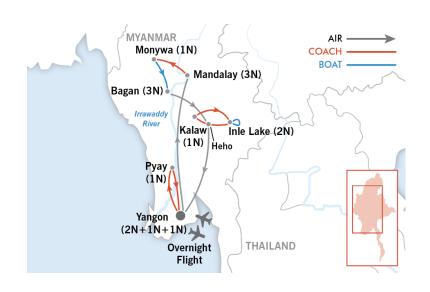
# Hidden Treasures of Myanmar Dossier Classic Tour | 17 Days | Moderate

Yangon - Pyay - Mandalay - Monywa - Bagan - Kalaw - Inle Lake

Myanmar is Southeast Asia's hidden gem, a destination bursting with magnificent monuments, glittering golden stupas and enigmatic ruins. Myanmar cannot help but invoke images of mysterious wonder.

## **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:**

- Explore Shwedagon Pagoda
- Discover Pyay by ox-cart
- Absorb Mandalay's culture
- Discover Bagan's temples
- Ascend Mt Popa
- Watch Inle's Leg Rowers



# Hidden Treasures of Myanmar tour inclusions

- Return international flights, taxes and current fuel surcharges (unless a land only option is selected)
- All accommodation
- All meals
- All sightseeing and entrance fees
- All transportation and transfers
- English-speaking National Escort (If your group is 10 or more travellers)

Personal expenditures e.g. drinks, optional excursions or shows, insurance of any kind, customary tipping, early check in or late checkout and other items not specified on the itinerary are at your own expense.

#### **Classic Tours**

These tours are designed for those who wish to see the iconic sites and magnificent treasures of Myanmar on an excellent value group tour travelling with like-minded people. The tours are on a fully-inclusive basis so you'll travel with the assurance that all your arrangements are taken care of. You will be accompanied by our dedicated and professional National Escorts and Local Guides, whose unparalleled knowledge will turn your holiday into an unforgettable experience.

## **Moderate Tour**

Hidden Treasures of Myanmar is a moderate tour. This means that the itinerary requires a good level of fitness.

- There will be long periods of walking while sightseeing, often on steep or uneven ground.
- At Mt Popa there are more than 750 steps to climb.
- You will be required to get on and off varying sizes of boats often without assistance.

Of course, our National Escort and Local Guides will always endeavour to provide the highest level of service and assistance; however, they cannot be expected to cater for customers who are unfit to complete the itinerary.

# **Country Profile: Myanmar**

Myanmar is a spiritual country, largely unexplored by tourists until recently. It is known as the 'Golden Land' because of the countless number of pagodas and temples that dominate the landscape. In Myanmar, 89% of the population is devoutly Buddhist, which is reflected in their gentle and welcoming nature.

# **Joining Your Tour**

The tour is 17 days in duration including international flights.

Travellers booked on 'Land Only, the price includes visa fees and your arrival/departure airport transfers if arriving/departing on the start and conclusion date of your tour. Please advise your international flight times to reservations. Join the tour on day one in Yangon and end the tour on Day 16 in Yangon. Please refer to your final itinerary for more specific meeting instructions pertaining to your departure.

# **Itinerary Changes**

It is our intention to adhere to the day-to-day itinerary as printed; however, the order of events or sightseeing may change as we look to improve our tours or as local conditions dictate. In these circumstances we will make the best possible arrangements maintaining the integrity of your trip.

# **Changes:**

- Removed Sule Pagoda on day two to relax the tour pace, based on customer feedback. Customers now have more time to visit the city tour and Shwedagon pagoda which is one of the must-see destinations in Yangon
- Removed Kabar Aye pagoda & Nanthida jetty on day 15 to relax the tour pace.

# Important Information Regarding Itinerary Changes and Flight Delays

Due to unforeseen circumstances, flights can be delayed, and therefore connecting flights may be missed. If you find yourself in this situation, please contact our Myanmar office on +95 (0)9 977 11 5310 (24 hours)) to urgently advise your arrival details have changed. Please ensure you have your trip number, tour name (both included in your final documentation) and new arrival details (flight number and arrival time) handy to pass on to our local office in Myanmar.

This will ensure your National Escort/Local Guide can be informed of your most up to date information and ensure someone is at the airport to meet you on arrival.

If we are not advised of late changes and missed connections, Wendy Wu Tours cannot guarantee someone will be able to meet you upon arrival in Myanmar as our local office will have no way of knowing which flight you will be arriving on. Wendy Wu Tours will not be responsible for providing reimbursement of transportation costs from the airport to your hotel in the event that our local office was not advised of changes to arrival time.

# **Hidden Treasures of Myanmar Itinerary**

#### **DAY 1: FLY TO YANGON**

Fly to Myanmar and together with those arriving at a similar time you will be met by your guide or driver in the arrivals hall at Yangon airport to travel to your hotel for check in

# **Destination Information**

Yangon - With a population of over five million, Myanmar's former capital possesses a peaceful atmosphere with colonial boulevards and tranquil lakes. This charming city thrives by night with bustling streets filled with stalls selling everything from locally made handicrafts to fruit and cigars.

## **DAY 2: YANGON**

After breakfast, you will start your walking tour of Yangon at the Central Post Office, and then stroll down Strand Road and observe the locals going about their daily lives. Continue walking up Pansodan Street, famous for some of Yangon's most impressive colonial architecture, before arriving at Mahabandoola Park. Next visit City Hall and the High Court. Later explore Mahabandoola Garden. Visit the National Museum, home to priceless ancient artefacts and Karaweik Hall before watching the sunset at the magnificent Shwedagon Pagoda located on top of Singuttara Hill, where many locals and Buddhists come to worship.

#### **Destination Information**

**Strand Road and Pansodan Street –** Many fine examples of British colonial architecture dating from the mid 1800's are

located downtown. Pansodan Street intersects Strand Road, which runs parallel to Rangoon River and where Pansodan Jetty is located. This is a great opportunity to witness a hive of activity along the riverfront.

**National Museum** – Housing works of art and historic memorabilia. Here you will learn the history and tradition of Myanmar.

**Shwedagon Pagoda** - Located on top of Singuttara Hill, where many locals and Buddhists come to worship. Shwedagon Pagoda is thought to have been built between the 6<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> centuries; however it has been rebuilt many times. It is here that eight strands of Buddha's hair are said to be kept. The pagoda is covered in gold and contains diamonds, rubies and emeralds.

## **DAY 3: YANGON TO PYAY**

Drive six hours to Pyay with a stop for lunch. After a visit to the local museum, travel by ox cart around the old city wall for approximately two hours. Visit Hmawzar village for around 30 minutes on foot to observe the life of the Burmese people and continue to the hotel.

#### **Destination Information**

**Pyay** - Situated near the ancient capital of Sri Ksetra (Thayekhittaya), the town of Pyay flourished between 5<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> century, more recently extensive archaeological excavations have taken place.

#### **DAY 4: PYAY TO YANGON**

Visit Pyay central market, home to several ethnic minority populations. Then continue your visit to Shwe San Taw Pagoda and enjoy the great views of the town and river from the viewing platform of the pagoda. Drive back to Yangon stopping at a local restaurant for lunch.

## **Destination Information**

**Shwe San Taw Pagoda** – Situated on the banks of the Irrawaddy river, the Shwe San Taw pagoda is Pyay's most prominent landmark at 88 metres tall.

#### **DAY 5: YANGON TO MANDALAY**

Transfer to airport for your one hour and 20 minute flight to Mandalay. This morning, visit Amarapura with its working monastery dating back to 1783 and walk along the U Bein Bridge, the longest teakwood bridge in the world. Later travel to Sagaing, a former Shan capital in the 14<sup>th</sup> century with many impressive stupas scattered on its Hill, and on to Inwa with highlights such as the 'leaning tower of Ava' and the Maha Aungmye Bonzan, which is a beautiful brick-and-stucco monastery. Return to Mandalay for your overnight stay.

#### **Destination Information**

Mandalay - Is the second largest city and the last royal capital of the Burmese Kingdom. Located along the Irrawaddy River and centred around the Royal Palace, Mandalay is within easy distance to former colonial hill stations and ancient cities.

**U Bein Bridge** - This teak wood bridge built 200 years ago spans 1.2km across the Taung Thaman Lake and is the longest teak bridge in the world.

## **DAY 6: MANDALAY**

After breakfast experience the sights and sounds of Mandalay including one of the most revered religious monuments in Myanmar, the Mahamuni Pagoda. Visit the Shwe Inbin Monastery and the Golden Palace Monastery, which is a superb example of a traditional wooden building. Stop at Kuthodaw Pagoda, the world's largest book consisting of 729 marble slabs on which the entire Buddhist Canon is inscribed. Visit a traditional handloom silk workshop as well as a Kalaga tapestries craftsmen's shop and continue on to Mandalay Hill.

#### **Destination Information**

**Mahamuni Pagoda** - Enshrining the Mahamuni Buddha - a highly revered image in Myanmar. It is covered in thick layers of gold leaf applied by male devotee. As a result, this has started to distort its shape.

**Kuthodaw Pagoda** - Famous for housing the world's largest book; Separated into 15 volumes each page is inscribed in marble and housed in its own stupa.

#### **DAY 7: MANDALAY**

Take a short drive to the nearby jetty and board your boat trip on the Irrawaddy River; cruise approximately one hour to Mingun where the worlds' largest hanging bell is still on display. Return to Mandalay for an afternoon at leisure.

#### **Destination Information**

**Mingun** – It is in Mingun that a former king started construction on the greatest Stupa in the world in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, however, when an astrologer predicted the king would die upon completion, construction was promptly stopped.

#### **DAY 8: MANDALAY TO MONYWA**

Drive approximately two hours to Monywa, stopping at the Thaboddhay Pagoda en route. Take a walk through the nearby banyan tree grove Bodhi Taung and enjoy the panoramic view from Aung Setkya Pagoda, standing 130 metres high on the Po Khaung hills. Continue to Monywa to check into your hotel.

#### **Destination Information**

**Thaboddhay Pagoda** – A Buddhist temple home to 845 small stupas surrounding and rising up to the richly decorated central stupa.

#### **DAY 9: MONYWA TO BAGAN**

This morning cross the Chindwin river with a short boat ride, and drive to the fascinating Po Win Daung Caves, a large complex of small sandstone caves containing many Buddha images and with decorative wall paintings. Drive three hours to Pakokku, a port city set south of the Chindwin confluence, and visit a lively local market by traditional trishaw bicycle taxis. Continue approximately two hours by boat on the Irrawaddy River to Bagan arriving in time for sunset.

#### **Destination Information**

**Bagan** - It is believed as many as 13,000 temples and stupas once stood in the area around Bagan; however, invasions, war and natural disasters have reduced most of these to rubble. Despite this, Bagan is home to more than 2,200 standing ancient temples and is Myanmar's greatest architectural site.

#### DAY 10: BAGAN

Start your sightseeing tour with a visit to the colourful Nyaung U Markets before exploring the pagodas of Htilominlo and Shwezigon and the Ananda Temple. This

afternoon explore some of the last of the remaining temples and visit a Lacquer workshop in the village of Myinkaba. Watch the sunset over this wondrous landscape from one of the many viewing points.

# **Destination Information**

**Htilominlo Pagoda** –This pagoda built in 1218, marks the spot where King Nantaungmya was chosen to be the crown prince. Today it still has some of the original plaster and carved reliefs on display.

**Shwezigon Pagoda** - This beautiful pagoda was built by King Anawrahta in the 11<sup>th</sup> century to enshrine one of the four replicas of the Buddha's tooth found in Kandy, Sri Lanka. Today it is considered Bagan's main religious site rising from the earth in three separate terraces.

#### **DAY 11: BAGAN**

Today drive two hours to Mt. Popa and climb more than 750 steps to the nearby temple of Taung Kalat, set atop an extinct volcano and said to contain 37 spirits, also known as 'nats'. Return to Bagan and take a horse cart, the local method of transport, to visit some villages, monasteries and temples further afield.

#### **Destination Information**

Mt Popa - Formed by a volcano almost 250,000 years ago and a revered spiritual residence of the 37 'nats,' worshipped in Myanmar in unison with Buddhism. There are a number of statues and shrines that represent these spirits located along the mountain. Once you reach the top, the temple of Taung Kalat affords sweeping views of Myingyan Plain below.

## **DAY 12: BAGAN TO KALAW**

Transfer to the airport for your 50 minute flight to Heho. On arrival, travel a further two hours by road to Pindaya and visit Shwe U Min Caves, a unique site housing thousands of Buddha images placed there by pilgrims over the centuries. Continue the journey by visiting a Shan umbrella and mulberry paper production home before driving two hours to Kalaw for your overnight stay.

#### **Destination Information**

**Shwe U Min Caves** – Is a unique site housing thousands of Buddha images placed there by pilgrims over the centuries.

**Kalaw** - A hilltop town in the Shan State of Myanmar, Kalaw offers a refreshing climate and scenic views.

## **DAY 13: KALAW TO INLE LAKE**

Drive one and a half hours to Inle Lake and transfer by boat to your hotel to check in. Begin your visit on the lake by long tail boat, seeing the floating gardens and Intha fishermen. Later visit Phaungdaw Oo Pagoda, one of Myanmar's most sacred shrines before admiring the collections of ancient Buddhas at Nga Phe Monastery. Finally visit the weaving village of Inpawkhon.

#### **Destination Information**

**Inle Lake** - Located 900m above sea level and approximately 22km long and 11km wide, this water paradise is inhabited by over 200 villages constructed on stilts. The lake is most famous for the extraordinary lives of the people who live on and around it, known as the 'Intha'.

**Phaungdaw Oo Pagoda** – One of the most sacred shrines in Myanmar dating back to the 18<sup>th</sup> Century. Inside the tiered pagoda, devotees await an opportunity to place gold leaf on one of four ancient Buddha statues housed here.

**Nga Phe Monastery** - A beautiful collection of Buddha images depicted in the Shan, Tibetan, Bagan and Inwa styles are displayed inside the expansive wooden meditation hall.

#### **DAY 14: INLE LAKE**

Sightseeing today will be on the western shore of the lake at the Indein Pagoda complex. Take a leisurely walk along a creek, passing through rice fields to the village of Sae Ma and visit the village primary school.

#### **Destination Information**

**Indein Pagoda Complex** – One of the amazing historical sites in Inle Lake, where hundreds of small stupas decorated in sculptures of mythological animals and beings lay overgrown by moss and vegetation.

#### **DAY 15: INLE LAKE TO YANGON**

This morning transfer to Heho airport for your one hour and 10 minute flight to Yangon. On arrival visit the Bogyoke Markets, then continue to Botataung Pagoda to observe the daily life of the local people. In the evening, visit the busy area of Chinatown including a Chinese Temple.

## **Destination Information**

**Botataung Pagoda** – A famous pagoda in downtown Yangon which was destroyed in World War II. Rebuilding of the pagoda began the day the country gained independence.

**Bogyoke Markets** – A vast covered marketplace selling an array of handicrafts, food, jewellery and clothing.

## **DAYS 16-17: YANGON TO AUSTRALIA**

Any time before your flight is free at your leisure today. You will be transferred from the hotel to Yangon Airport for your onward flight.

#### HIDDEN TREASURES OF MYANMAR TRAVEL INFORMATION

#### **Visas**

Entry visas are required by all visitors to Myanmar and Wendy Wu Tours Visa Department can assist you with the process of obtaining a visa. We will supply you with all paperwork and submit the visa application on your behalf. Visas for Myanmar are valid for 90 days from the date of issue and allow you to stay in the country for up to 28 Days. Please be advised that your passport must have at least six months validity left on it when you arrive back into Australia.

Visa application forms and all relevant documentation are **due** in our office 90 days prior to departure; if received after this, urgent visa processing fees will apply. Also, please note we do not accept passports and visa applications within 70 days prior to departure. Passports will be returned with your Final Documentation four weeks prior to your group tour's scheduled departure. If you require your passport to be returned earlier, a \$15AUD courier fee will apply.

#### **Insurance**

We strongly encourage all customers to take a copy of their travel insurance documents (especially relevant international contact numbers) with them while on tour. We advise that you check the inclusions and procedures for lodging claims prior to your departure. These documents should be stored separately from the originals.

## **Eating in South East Asia**

South East Asia is home to an incredibly rich food history. The local cuisine is known for its intense flavours, spices and some of the freshest ingredients you can find. In general, meals include either rice or noodles and are packed full of flavour. Lemongrass, ginger, lime leaves, coriander, fish sauce and soy sauce are used in most local dishes. The food has a reputation for being hot and spicy, each region actually has its own distinct characteristics.

Your itinerary has been carefully crafted to introduce you to a range of local dishes and we hope that you enjoy the culinary adventure ahead. All meals (excluding drinks) are included in our fully inclusive group tours from dinner on the day of your groups' arrival until breakfast on your day of departure. When dining in Myanmar, although some restaurants have adopted a western approach to dining, expect some restaurants to follow the traditional communal style of eating. Typically, this will mean each diner has their own small bowl and may serve themselves from a variety of shared dishes. At some local restaurants, appetisers and main courses might be served when they are ready instead of following a particular order.

Determining when it's appropriate to use chopsticks, forks or spoons can be challenging for some travellers, even other Asians, as each country has different customs. In Myanmar, dishes are normally placed in the centre and people serve food for themselves with their own chopsticks and bowl. In Myanmar and some other countries in South East Asia, A fork and spoon are used for most dishes and chopsticks are typically provided to eat noodles. Usually chopsticks or other utensils are provided to scoop the food into your bowl to prevent your own chopsticks from touching the food that remains on the table. Dining in Myanmar is fairly casual with not too many rules. Leaving food on the plate is not considered rude.

Please refer to your travel guide for more information on Myanmar cuisine, including information for travellers with restricted diets.

#### **Accommodation**

Your accommodation is selected for convenience of location, comfort or character, and can range from a business hotel in one city to a family run guesthouse in a smaller town. In more remote areas, accommodation may be of a lower standard and may not have all western amenities. Hotels are generally rated as local three to four-star standard, but please note that there is no international classification system for hotels and differences in facilities and quality do exist between Australia and Myanmar. All group tour hotels have private western bathroom facilities, air conditioning, TV and telephone. Plumbing and electricity supplies can be erratic and quite often the power in hotel rooms is turned off while guests are out of the room. If you experience any difficulty, please speak to your National Escort/Local Guide.

Rest assured that all hotels used by Wendy Wu Tours are regularly inspected by our staff and our partners to ensure that standards meet your needs.

Please note double bed requests can be made at time of booking but cannot be guaranteed.

# **Transport**

Coaches: Coaches with air conditioning are used on our group tours for city sightseeing, short excursions to the countryside and longer transfers where necessary. Roads in South East Asia have generally improved over recent years, but traffic and/or weather conditions may extend driving times. Road construction work usually covers an enormous section of road - not just one or two kilometres as you may be used to. For this reason, the timings listed in the itinerary are approximations only.

**Seatbelts:** Please note that seatbelts are not compulsory by law in South East Asia and therefore the local people largely choose not to wear them. For this reason, some vehicles may not be fitted with seatbelts or they may be hidden underneath protective seat covers. It is recommended that where seatbelts are available customers must use them and remain seated at all times while the vehicle is moving. If you have any concerns, please notify your National Escort/Local Guides.

**Air:** Internal flights are based on economy class, with reputable airlines. Pre-flight seat allocation is not available on international and internal flight sectors.

## **Development in Myanmar**

Although Myanmar is developing quickly, it still lacks the international standards of civil infrastructure and tourist facilities. Concepts of personal responsibility are also different to those in Australia. Consequently, tourist and public facilities may not uphold the same safety standards as in the Australia; for example, you may see a hole in the road without a warning sign or safety barricade. All of our suppliers meet local safety standards as a minimum. We want you to have an enjoyable holiday so we ask that you take extra care, use your common sense, refer to notices and follow advice from you National Escort or Local Guides.

## **Myanmar Public Holidays**

If you are travelling within the below Myanmar Public Holidays please note that celebrations can last a couple of days and during these times some businesses will be closed and coach, air and train travel may be affected. Tourist attractions will be open, but may be crowded. Water Festival is celebrated between  $12^{th} - 16^{th}$  April. Myanmar New Year Holiday is between 17th - 20th April 2018.

## Souvenirs

We want to be able to give you an opportunity to buy souvenirs so we include some stops at museums or exhibitions which demonstrates a craft or product unique to that region with pieces available to buy. We understand that souvenir hunting is not for everyone so we aim to take you to places, which hold local interest. We trust you will enjoy these opportunities to learn about local arts and crafts and understand their historical and cultural importance

#### **Group Size**

Most of our groups consist of 10 travellers or more and will be accompanied by both a National Escort/Local Guides. There will usually be no more than 29 travellers in each group although you may encounter other Wendy Wu tour groups while you are travelling.

All our departures are guaranteed to operate with a minimum of eight travellers booked (unless cancelled due to factors beyond our control). However, at our discretion we may operate departures with a smaller group size as we try to operate advertised departures wherever it is viable to do so. For groups with fewer than 10 travellers, departures will operate with Local Guides only.

## **Tipping Policy**

Local tipping is customary in Asia. However, this can often lead to awkwardness in knowing when it is appropriate to tip and how much, as well as ensuring you have a suitable amount of change available at the time. For your convenience, with years of experiences in providing the best customer service, Wendy Wu Tours operates a kitty system on our Group Tours so your

National Escort will look after this aspect of your trip for you. It also ensures that the amounts paid are reasonable for you but still fair for the local people. The amount is stated on each Group Tour page and will be advised again on your final documentation. Tipping is paid in US Dollars, as specified. Any additional tipping on any our tours is welcomed at your discretion. Further guidance for tipping contributions will be outlined in your final documentation.

# **Packing List and Climate**

You will find a complete packing list and a helpful climate chart in the 'Suggested Packing List', which will be included in the predeparture information link sent within your deposit documentation. Seasonal weather patterns can be quite unpredictable. Up to the minute information on worldwide weather can be found on <a href="https://www.weather.com">www.weather.com</a>

#### Luggage

All travellers are limited to two items of luggage each; a suitcase with a maximum weight of 20kg and one piece of hand luggage with a maximum weight of five kilograms. It is essential that your luggage is lockable. Please note that authorities will only allow bottles onto the aircraft if they have been checked in as main baggage. Bottles in hand luggage may be confiscated.

## **Exchanging Cash**

The Central Bank of Myanmar has withdrawn all foreign currency exchange license for businesses including Hotels, Restaurants, Airlines and Souvenir Shops. Starting from 1<sup>st</sup> November 2015, institutions such as the ones named will not be allowed to accept payments in US dollars. Tourist can bring US-Dollars and change it into local Kyats or withdraw local currency at any ATM with their credit card.

US Dollars are the preferred currency in Myanmar. ATM's are limited in Myanmar, so we suggest that you bring enough US Dollars in cash to last the duration of your stay. It is highly recommended that extra care and attention is paid when exchanging money when travelling outside major cities in Myanmar. For your convenience, please ensure that US Dollars should be from the new series from the year 2003 onwards and in good condition to avoid any difficulties exchange money during your trip. Old series notes can be difficult to exchange.

We suggest exchanging your money before travelling to remote areas and smaller towns, as exchange facilities can be limited. Your National Escort will remind you to do this before departure.

# **Personal Expenses & Optional Tours**

You will need to take some extra money to cover drinks, laundry and souvenirs, plus any additional sightseeing that may be offered to you. Based on the advice of previous customers an approximate amount of AUD\$250 per person, per week should be sufficient; however for those that cannot resist a bargain, consider allocating a higher amount.

Optional tours may be offered in each city you visit during your tour at an additional cost. These are not included in the standard itinerary and will only be available if time permits. Each option will be arranged locally by your National Escort/Local Guide.

# **Climbing Steps**

Sightseeing at nearly all of the palaces, fortresses and some temples involves climbing quite a number of steps. These palaces were built to provide defense against potential invaders so nearly all of them stand on top of a hill, while the interiors have layers of narrow hallways and steps to slow down the advance of enemies once they were inside. The steps tend to be quite large, not level and sometimes without handrails. Hindu and Buddhist temples or pagodas also tend to be built at an elevation, as this is the most auspicious position according to ancient beliefs. This means you sometimes need to walk from the bus park to the entrance, and/or need to climb some steps inside.

People with knee or hip injuries, who have poor balance or are otherwise unable to complete these activities independently should consider the suitability of this itinerary carefully.

#### **Cultural Differences**

Myanmar is predominantly Buddhist; however, it is a nation with many cultures and histories. Please be considerate of the local beliefs and customs and dress with consideration.

#### **Appropriate Dress**

When visiting temples or mosques, both men and women should dress in conservative, non-revealing clothing. Full-length trousers with a shirt or t-shirt for men; and pants or skirts well below the knee with a top that covers the shoulders and upper arms for women. Women might also consider carrying a 'modesty shawl' in their daypack – this could be a sarong or light scarf – which they can wear over their shoulders and heads to feel more comfortable while sightseeing at mosques.

Religious sites and homes throughout South East Asia – for Hindus, Muslims or Buddhists to name a few – require all visitors to remove their shoes to enter. Even if you then need to walk outdoors, over hot or rough ground, you will not be allowed to wear shoes. You will often find shoe storage rooms near the entrance of a site where it is customary to leave your shoes near the entrance. Occasionally there are 'shoe minders' who will offer to keep your shoes safe for a 'tip' – this is not compulsory so each customer can choose to tip for this service or not. If you do not want to remove your shoes, you will have to remain outside.

We recommend shoes that easily slip on and off, and carry a pair of thick socks in your daypack, which you can wear to protect your feet from any rough or hot surfaces. The following itinerary will indicate when you need to consider this.

#### **Vaccinations and Your Health**

We recommend that you contact either your GP or Travelvax (1300 360 164) for advice on vaccinations and travel health. Travelvax has a comprehensive website that you may also find useful <a href="https://www.travelvax.com.au">www.travelvax.com.au</a>

#### **Before You Leave**

We strongly recommend registering your travel plans with <a href="www.smartraveller.gov.au">www.smartraveller.gov.au</a> as in the event of an emergency, Australian Consular assistance will be more readily available. You can also access the Australian Government's travel advisory service for up to date information about your destination on the same website.

# **After Your Booking**

Once you have booked with Wendy Wu Tours, you will receive a confirmation invoice with deposit documentation via email. This includes important information and links to access the visa application form and instructions sheet online (if applicable). Your final documentation pack will be sent to you approximately four weeks prior to departure.

**Updated: 4th October 2017**