

Destination Himalaya

Tours For The Adventurous Traveler

Photographer's Myanmar With Angkor Wat



A Photo Cultural Journey
With Photographer

Lewis Kemper

16 Days – USA to USA
Easy to Moderate Touring
October 15th – 30th, 2015

Outline itinerary

Day	Date	City / Itinerary	Hotel	Meal Plan
Day 1	Oct. 15	En route to Burma.	On flight	
Day 2	Oct. 16	Arrive Yangon (hotel convenient to airport)	Green Hill Hotel	WD
Days 3, 4	Oct. 17, 18	Bagan	Bagan Thande Hotel	B, L
Day 5, 6	Oct. 19, 20	Mandalay	Tadanarbon Dynasty Hotel	B, L
Day 7 – 9	Oct. 21 – 23	Inle Lake	Pristine Lotus Resort	B, L
Day 10	Oct. 24	Yangon	Green Hill Hotel	B, L, D
Day 11	Oct. 25	Fly Yangon to Siem Reap (via Bangkok)	Borey Angkor Resort	B, L
Days 12, 13	Oct. 26, 27	Siem Reap	Borey Angkor Resort	B, L
Day 14	Oct. 28	Siem Reap	Borey Angkor Resort	B, L, FD
Day 15	Oct. 29	Depart Siem Reap	In transit / on flight	B
Day 16	Oct. 30	Arrive USA	On flight	

DAY - T O - DAY

I T I N E R A R Y

Day 1

Thursday, October 15th

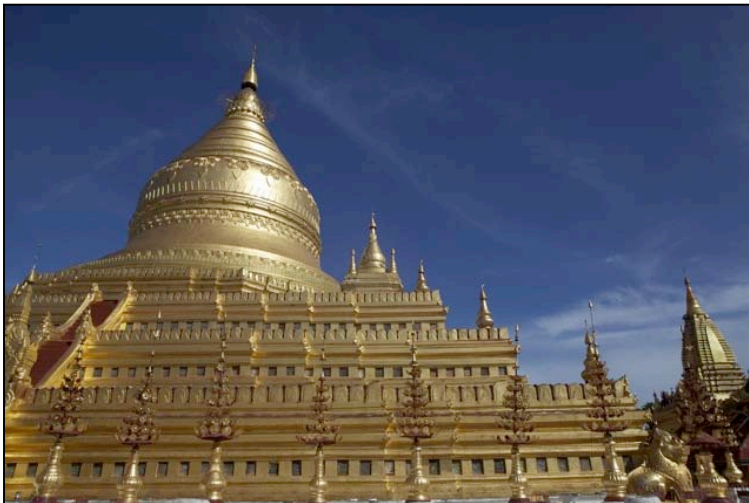
DEPART USA Depart your hometown bound for Yangon, Myanmar.

Note on international flights: There are no direct/non-stop flights from America to Burma. Depending on your choice of airline you will be required to make at least one stop with a change of plane en route to Yangon. Trans-Pacific flights connect in Hong Kong, Singapore or Bangkok. Trans-Atlantic options connect in Dubai or Delhi.

Please inform us if you would like assistance in booking your international air flights. Depending on your choice of international carrier you may be required to depart the USA a day earlier. International airfare is NOT included in the land cost of the tour.

Day 2

Friday, October 16th



EN ROUTE / ARRIVE YANGON Most of the day disappears as you fly east across multiple time zones. Connecting in your transit city you arrive Yangon. Once past immigration, collect your bags and go through customs to the receiving hall, where you will be met by our representative. From here, we will be transferred to the group hotel.

Yangon is the commercial capital of Myanmar, with a population of over five million. Its tree-lined wide avenues, shady green parks, and beautiful lakes make Yangon one of the most charming and lively cities in Asia.

This evening we will meet as a full group for the first time. We will have an orientation meeting, followed by our group “welcome dinner.” An early night as we have a pre-dawn departure to historic Bagan.

Green Hill Hotel (Welcome D)

Day 3
Saturday, October 17th

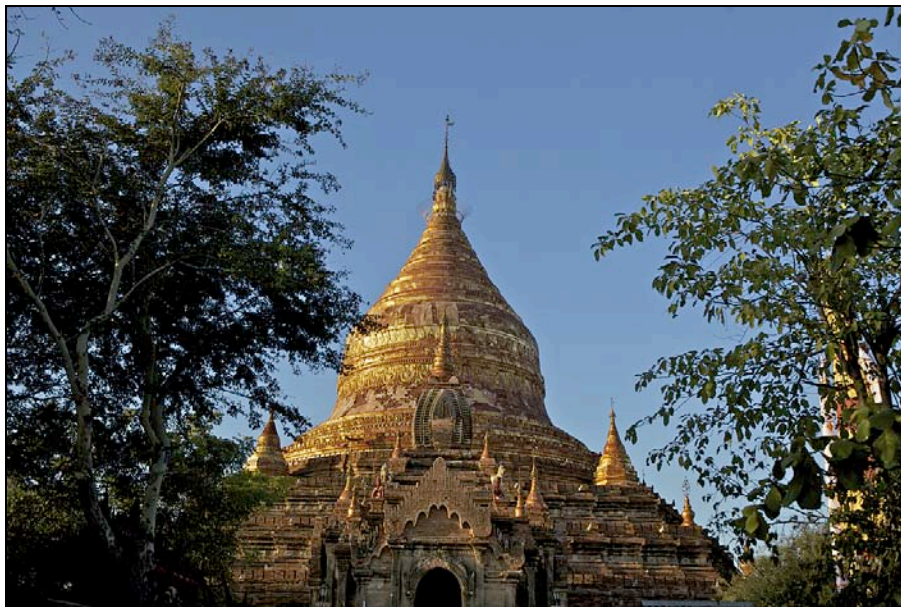
TO BAGAN Early in the morning we transfer to the airport for our flight to Bagan.

Depart Yangon	6:30 AM
Arrive Bagan	7:50 AM



Bagan is one of the richest archaeological sites in Asia, and it is the main tourist attraction in Myanmar. It is considered one of Asia's holiest cities—along with Varanasi—thanks to the great collection of Buddhist sculptures, lavishly decorated mural paintings and plaster carvings from the 11th to 13th centuries. During its golden age in the 12th century, Bagan was known as “the city of four

million pagodas.” While Kublai Khan and several massive earthquakes have reduced that inflated number drastically, what remains is quite incredible.



Explore the principal pagodas and temples of the archeological zone by private vehicle, including Shwezigon Pagoda. The first monument built in Myanmar Style, and the prototype for later pagodas, Shwezigon is one of the oldest and loveliest temples and remains an important place of devotion for the Burmese.

You will also see the Htilominlo Temple, with its delicate plaster carvings and glazed sandstone monuments, and Myingaba Gu Byaukgyi Temple, an Indian-style monument that features exquisite interior murals. Also visit the Ananda Temple, with four huge standing Buddha images, and Ananda Okkyaung, a small red-brick monastery.

After lunch, take a guided walking tour among the ancient temples, then enjoy the sunset at Shwesandaw Pagoda, a graceful 11th-Century temple. Climb the terraces, and enjoy panoramic views of the surrounding temples, including the 14th-century Shwegugyi temple and photograph the waxing moon crescent with the Pagodas.

The Bagan Thande (B, L)

Day 4

Sunday, October 18th

EXCURSION TO POPA We rise early this morning for a sunrise photography of Bagan's "field of Pagodas."

After returning to our hotel for breakfast, we drive approximately 50km southeast to Mt. Popa, an extinct volcano. On the way, we will stop at a palm plantation and palm sugar candy workshop in Kyaukpadaung village to see how toddy palm juice and sugar are produced.

Mt. Popa (visible from several of the temples) draws day-trippers curious about its 37 *Nats*, or spirits. The volcano, last active 250,000 years ago, rises nearly 2,500 feet from the flat Myingyan Plain and is topped with a grand pagoda. After arriving at Mt. Popa, there is an optional climb to the summit for an amazing panoramic view and a visit to the Nat worship shrine and monasteries.



Back in Bagan this afternoon, we will stop at a local lacquerware workshop to watch the skilled artisans at work on their famous pieces, which typically take six months to create.

The Bagan Thande (B, L)



Day 5
Monday, October 19th

TO MANDALAY This morning we return to the airport for our flight to Mandalay.

Depart Bagan	8:05 AM
Arrive Mandalay	8:40 AM

We will be given a warm welcome on arrival in Mandalay, the country's second largest city and its bustling cultural center. Mandalay provides visitors with a wonderful glimpse into the imperial era in 19th-century British Burma. On arrival in Mandalay, our sightseeing tour will include a visit to the Mahamuni Image, covered with a very thick layer of pure gold leaves weighing between 3-5 tons, followed by visits to a wood carving, tapestry and gold-leaf workshops. We then visit Maha Aung Mye Bonzan Oak Kyaung, a brick and stucco monastery.

After lunch, we will take a short break and then continue our tour by visiting the Mandalay Palace & Fort, which best portrays the golden days of the Mandalay Kingdom. Later, we will visit Shwenandaw Kyaung, a traditional wooden monastery with carved panels telling the past-life stories of the Buddha. The friendly monks in the monastery will make our visit even more memorable.

Yadanarbon Dynasty Hotel (B, L)

Day 6
Tuesday, October 20th

EXPLORING MANDALAY This morning we explore and photograph the former capitals of Amarapura and Sagaing. In Amarapura, observe the long procession of monks lining up for lunch in silence. Continue to visit the City Harbor Bridge. In the afternoon, we visit a special place where hundreds of nuns live and study Buddhist scripture, before continuing to the temple-filled Sagaing Hill. The perfect end to today's trip awaits with sunset photography at the world's longest teak bridge, the U Bein Bridge.

Yadanarbon Dynasty Hotel (B, L)



Day 7

Wednesday, October 21st

TO INLE LAKE This morning we transfer back to the airport in Mandalay for our flight to Heho and Inle Lake, the heart of the Hill tribes region of Burma.

Depart Mandalay 8:55 AM

Arrive Heho 9:25 AM

We will be met on arrival in Heho and then proceed on the drive to Inle Lake, famous for its scenic beauty and the unique leg-rowing of the Inthas—the native lake-dwellers. We have the rest of the day to explore the lake by long-tailed boat. We will float past dwellings and floating gardens of the Inthas, as well as the venerable Phaung Daw U Kyaung pagoda, one of the famous principal shrines in Myanmar. This pagoda houses five small Buddha images. This evening we will have our first session with the ‘leg-rowers’ (pictured above) of Inle lake.

Pristine Lotus Hotel (B, L)

Day 8

Thursday, October 22nd

EXPLORING INLE LAKE After breakfast, your boat takes you through a long channel where you watch the farmers cultivate their products. This ride is one of the most scenic boat tours on Lake Inle. Motoring past floating gardens and houses on stilts you wend your way to the far side of the lake. Over the past 100 years the local people have developed a successful hydroponics agricultural system and sell their produce across the country. So successful has been their gardens that the Government had to impose restrictions or the entire lake would have been covered by these floating vegetable gardens.



We then visit the old Nga Phe Chaung Monastery. If time allows, we will stop to see and photograph the “lotus-silk” weaving on wooden handlooms, as well as, visit the local blacksmiths’ workshops.

Pristine Lotus Hotel (B, L)

Day 9 Friday, October 23rd

EXPLORING INLE LAKE After breakfast, we will visit the local market, which rotates between five different villages; sometimes it is on land, sometimes it is a floating market on the water.

Then we will enjoy a relaxing boat trip along a small canal leading to the Pa-O village of Indein on the western bank of the lake, where locals can be seen fishing from the banks and farmers often bathe their water buffalo.

You will stroll through the village and explore the first group of ruined stupas behind the village. Known as Nyaung Ohak (under the shade of banyan trees), the crumbling stupas are choked in greenery, but you can still discern some ornate stucco carvings of animals. From Nyaung Ohak, walk up a hill to Shwe Indein Pagoda, an impressive collection of weathered stupas dating back to the 13th Century. Walk back along the bamboo forest to the jetty to take the boat back to Inle Lake. Next stop is the Phaung Daw Oo pagoda, which houses five ancient Buddha images that have been transformed into amorphous blobs by the complete volume of gold leaf applied by devotees. From here you will venture into the Nampan floating village, which hosts a wide variety of local artisans, from knife makers and weavers to cheroot rollers and parasol makers.

Pristine Lotus Hotel (B, L)



Day 10
Saturday, October 24th

TO YANGON After breakfast, we will be transferred back to the airport in Heho for our flight to Yangon.

Depart Heho	9:55 AM
Arrive Yangon	10:50 AM

In the afternoon we visit the Chaukhtatkyi Pagoda to challenge our wide angle lens and work with depth of field as we photograph the enormous 68 mt reclining Buddha. Our final sunset in Burma, will find us at the marvelous Shwedagon Pagoda (pictured above), a glistening golden stupa that towers over the ancient capital. Truly one of the wonders of the world, this pagoda is the spiritual center of the country. Hundreds of pilgrims come here daily from all over the country.

Enjoy a 'traditional Burmese' meal for our farewell dinner.

Green Hill Hotel (B, L, D)

Day 11
Sunday, October 25th

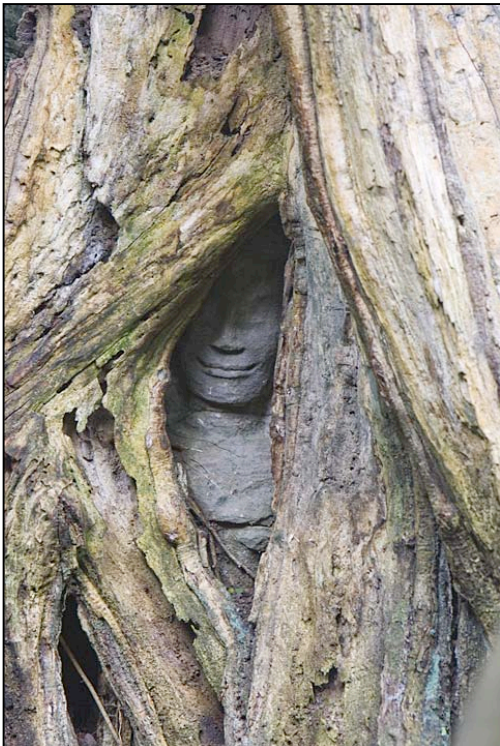
TO SIEM REAP VIA YANGON After breakfast, we will be transferred back to the airport for our flight to Siem Reap, Cambodia.

Depart Yangon	10:35 AM	Bangkok Air 702
Arrive Siem Reap	3:15 PM	(change planes in Bangkok)



After clearing immigration, collecting our bags, we step into the receiving area, where we will be met by our Siem Reap based guide and escorted to our hotel. After checking-in and dropping off our bags, we head off for our sunset shoot to Prasat Phnom Krom, a temple site that sits atop a small hill offering expansive views of the region. After photographing the last light on the countryside we head back to our hotel.

Borey Angkor Resort (B, L)



Day 12

Monday, October 26th

EXPLORING TA PROM & ANGKOR THOM After an early breakfast we start our explorations of Siem Reap's World Heritage sites. Our first visit is to the most photogenic of all the temple sites – Ta Prohm.

This complex has been abandoned to the elements, a reminder that while empires rise and fall, the riotous power of nature marches on, oblivious to the dramas of human history. Left as it was 'discovered' by French explorer Henri Mouhot in 1860, the tentacle-like tree roots here are slowly strangling the surviving stones, man first conquering nature to create, nature later conquering man to destroy.



Explore along the narrow and secret passages to eventually reach a big famous ficus tree strangling the stonewall, while framing the doorway to the temple (*pictured above*). The local tourism department estimates that a million pictures are taken here each day. We will leave this complex by the peacefully quite northern gate, which leads us to TA NEI, another smaller temple site in the jungle.

After lunch we visit the immense walled city Angkor Thom, the masterpiece of King Jayavarman VII. Following the occupation of Angkor by the Chams from 1177 to 1181, the new king decided to build an impregnable fortress at the heart of his empire. The scale is simply staggering and we are immediately overwhelmed by the audacity of Jayavarman on arrival at the city's gates. The causeway is lined by an intricate bridge

depicting the Churning of the Ocean of Milk from Hindu mythology in which the devas (gods) and asuras (devils) play tug of war with a naga (seven-headed serpent) to obtain the elixir of immortality (*a Thai depiction of this tale is the centerpiece artwork at Bangkok airport*).



We begin our visit at the Terrace of the Leper King. This intricately carved platform was the royal crematorium and the statue that was originally thought to be the leper king is now believed to be Yama, the god of death. We continue along the Terrace of Elephants, originally used as a viewing gallery for the king to preside over parades, performances and traditional sports.



At the southern end lies the Baphuon, one of the most beautiful temples at Angkor, dating from the reign of Uditayavarman 1 in the 11th Century. It has undergone a massive renovation by the French and is now once again open for viewing.

Our climax is the enigmatic and enchanting temple of the Bayon. At the exact center of Angkor Thom, this is an eccentric expression of the creative genius and inflated ego of Cambodia's most celebrated king. Its 54 towers are each topped off with the four faces of Avalokiteshvara (Buddha of Compassion), which bear more than a passing resemblance to the king himself. These colossal heads stare down from every side, exuding power and control with a hint of compassion, just the mix required to keep a hold on such a vast empire. Before clambering upwards, we unravel the mysteries of the bas-reliefs, with their intricate scenes of ancient battles against the Chams and their snapshot of daily life during the Angkor period.

Then, we journey to the mountain temple of Phnom Bakheng, an excellent place to see the sunset cast its soft light over Angkor Wat.

Borey Angkor Resort (B, L)

Day 13

Tuesday, October 27th

EXPLORING VILLAGE LIFE - TONLE SAP LAKE Our day starts off with a focus on portraits as we walk about the colorful bazaar at Psa Rolous. Hundreds of locals come to this market each morning to shop for their day-to-day needs.

Continue to the fishing community Kompong Phluk. The village along the banks of the Tonle Sap Lake has houses afloat on the lake, as well as, built on stilts. From here we take boats to the next village at Chong Kneas. Today we will also have the unique experience and opportunity to photograph (a private) water blessing for our group by a Buddhist monk at the village monastery.

For sunset we will photograph Angkor Wat with its reflecting pool (we will be exploring the interior tomorrow.) Tonight is also ideal for Full Moon photography – full moon is at 5:05 am tomorrow morning.

Borey Angkor Resort (B, L)

Day 14

Wednesday, October 28th



EXPLORING BENG MEALEA, BANTEAY SREI, BANTEAY SREI & ANGKOR WAT

Enjoy breakfast at our hotel before leaving the crowds behind and heading to Beng Mealea (considered by many as the prototype of Angkor Wat), a temple only recently opened to the public, located about one and a half hours' drive from the town center. After an hour we will leave the paved road and get onto a dirt track running through rice fields and villages of rural Cambodia.

At the temple our guide will help

us imagine how it once was as we pick our way through the rubble now surrounded by jungle. In the early afternoon head to Banteay Srei, an intricately carved temple known as the Lady Temple or Citadel of women.

We will have lunch at a nearby local restaurant before heading back to explore and photograph Angkor Wat. Believed to be the world's largest religious building, this temple is the perfect fusion of symbolism and symmetry, and a source of pride and strength to all Khmers. Built in the 12th Century by King Suryavarman II, this is most famous temple at Angkor. We begin by unraveling the mysteries of the bas-reliefs that tell of tales from Hindu mythology and of the glories of the Khmer Empire. Stretching for almost one kilometer, these intricate carvings are a candidate for the world's longest unbroken piece of art.

Continue to the upper levels of the inner sanctuary. The final steps to the upper terrace of Angkor are the steepest of all, as pilgrims of old were to stoop on their pilgrimage to encounter the Gods. Finally the pinnacle, the sacred heart of Angkor Wat, a blend of spirituality and symmetry so perfect that few moments will measure up

Being the last night of our tour we will convene in the evening for our “farewell dinner.”
Borey Angkor Resort (B, L, FD)

Day 15
Thursday, October 29th

SUNRISE ON ANGKOR WAT / DEPART CAMBODIA We rise before dawn and approach Angkor Wat by its ‘backdoor’ to avoid the hundreds of camera flashes and crowds on the southern water pool (which view-point we photographed at sunset). We will continue through the temple to the southern and have another opportunity to photograph the reflection of this World Heritage site on the pools before heading back to the hotel for a late breakfast/brunch.

Balance of the morning is at your leisure for final packing before we are transferred back to the airport for our return journey home. Connecting in Bangkok/Hong Kong, you arrive your hometown the following day.

On flight (B)

Day 16
Friday, October 30th

ARRIVE USA Connecting in Bangkok/Hong Kong, you arrive your hometown.



LAND COST: \$5885 per person
(based on twin share)
(minimum 7 participants; maximum 14 participants)

Single Supplement: \$1200
(if you require single accommodation on tour)

Internal Asia Airfare: \$680 per person
Economy Class (subject to change by airline)
(Yangon–Bagan–Mandalay–Heho–Yangon: \$380
Yangon – Siem Reap: \$300)

INCLUDED IN LAND COST

- All accommodations in hotels as listed above, based on double occupancy, inclusive of all taxes and service charges
- All transportation in private air-conditioned vehicles
- All arrival/departure airport/hotel transfers
- All entry fees at all temples, museums and monuments on sight seeing excursions
- Breakfast every day
- Lunches and dinners as listed in the above itinerary
- Bottled drinking water during meals and also during the day as needed by clients
- Full time services of licensed Burmese National Guide/Interpreter in Myanmar
- Services of a licensed local guide in Siem Reap
- Services of photography expert Mr. Lewis Kemper for the entire trip
- Govt. Service Taxes as applicable
- Destination Himalaya Group Medical (\$25,000) and Evacuation (\$500,000) Insurance per traveler

NOT INCLUDED IN LAND COST

- International airfare, departure taxes and en route stopovers to and from Asia
- Internal Asia Airfare (listed separately)
- Dinners not listed in the above itinerary
- Gratuity to local guides, drivers, bellboys, waiters etc.
- Gratuities to Trip Leader
- Items of a personal nature, such as alcoholic beverages, laundry, phone calls, etc.
- Movie, video and still camera fees
- Trip cancellation, travel delay or baggage insurance
- Charges incurred as a result of delays beyond Destination Himalaya's control

A Word About Your Tour Leader



Lewis Kemper has been photographing the natural beauty of North America, and its park lands for over 29 years specializing in nature and outdoor photography. His work has been exhibited and published in magazines, books, and calendars worldwide.

Lewis teaches photography for many organizations including Palm Beach Photographic Centre, Santa Fe Workshops, Lepp Institute and BetterPhoto.com. He is the author of *The Yosemite Photographer's Handbook*, and *The Yellowstone Photographer's Handbook*. His work has been published in numerous books including publications by The Sierra Club, The National Geographic Society, Little Brown, APA Insight Guides, Sequoia Communications, Prentice Hall, Hyperion Books, Companion Press, Cachuma Press. Currently

Lewis is a contributing editor to *Outdoor Photographer* and *PC Photo* magazines. He has been named to Canon USA's elite group of photographers, The Explorers of Light. Canon USA has selected 62 photographers to represent Canon and its photographic products.

An excellent photographer, Lewis is a skilled teacher, and will assist you in every way, enabling you to bring home wonderful memories, suitable for framing.

Trip Grading: Easy to Moderate Touring

This is a moderate touring trip, staying in 3-5 Star hotels with facilities to match their star rating. All accommodations on this tour are safe, clean, and comfortable, with private en-suite facilities. Please note that road conditions in Cambodia and Myanmar leave a lot to be desired and the traffic can appear to be wild and unregulated and horns are used more often than brakes. Photography and sightseeing excursions can be exhausting and long (5-6 hours) thus giving the tour a "moderate" rating. Bathroom facilities during excursions and long drives are frequently nonexistent and limited to the facilities at a local restaurant or shop. Inter Asia flights can be delayed without "reason," or much advance notice.

Flexibility and a sense of humor are essential ingredients for travel in Asia.

Trip Preparation Information

Immediately after sign-up:

Confirmation letter, Medical Questionnaire, Insurance Policy. Customized “Pre-Departure Book” containing information on the region you are visiting, health matters, immunization requirement, Visa instructions, clothing list, baggage, Country overview, suggested reading list and maps.

Three months before departure:

Air itinerary (if DH is assisting you with International Air), invoice and reminder for final payment.

One month before departure:

Last-minute information on the trip, final itinerary, emergency contact information, air tickets (if Destination Himalaya is issuing your tickets), rendezvous instructions.

Visas

Myanmar: Visas are required for foreigners traveling to Myanmar. Visa can be procured on arrival in Yangon BUT pre-authorization is required. Alternately Visa may be procured prior to departure from the U.S. Detailed visa information will be forthcoming in the “Pre-departure” information packet.

Cambodia: Visas are granted on arrival for most nationals. USD20 cash and one passport size photograph are required to obtain your “visa on arrival.” Detailed visa information will be forthcoming in the “Pre-departure” information packet.

Immunizations And Health Matters

No immunizations are required for Cambodia or Myanmar, unless you have been to a country with Yellow Fever in the last six-months. Immunizations are recommended by the US Center for Disease Control. A copy of the CDC recommended immunization list and additional health information is included in our “Pre-Departure” packet.

Refunds for Unused Portions of Trip

All our pricing is based on pre-contracted group rates, no refunds can be made for any accommodations, services, or features not taken. Please see our “Terms & Conditions” for detailed cancellation and refund policy.

*****Important Note*****

Destination Himalaya and its representatives in Asia will attempt to adhere to this itinerary as far as possible. Because of the nature of adventure travel, it may be necessary to make changes due to weather, road conditions, government restrictions and other variables beyond our control. Destination Himalaya and its representatives in Asia reserve the right to alter this itinerary as necessary. We will attempt to inform all participants of changes as far in advance as possible. No refund will be given for changes in the field due to the above conditions. Costs incurred by such changes will be the responsibility of the participant. **Please review all Terms of Booking and Details in our current application packet.**

WHY TRAVEL WITH DESTINATION HIMALAYA?

Commitment To Intelligent Travel

At Destination Himalaya, our primary mission is to successfully fulfill our “Commitment To Intelligent Travel.” We are committed to ensuring travel that is both ecologically responsible and culturally sensitive. Out of respect for the natural environment and the people of the regions in which we operate, we uphold the highest standards of low-impact and sustainable tourism. Our goal is to ensure a mutually beneficial encounter between our clients and the proud people of Asia, and to help preserve the pristine beauty of this special land by continually striving to exceed “industry-best standards.” Our “Commitment to Intelligent Travel” stresses education and understanding. We do our utmost to educate our clients about the destinations they will visit prior to their departure, during their time in Asia, and after they return home. Our goal is to integrate the best parts of travel - exposure to culture, art, geography, history and recreation - with the best part of human nature - the desire to connect and improve each other’s lives.

Satisfied past clients include the National Geographic Expeditions, National Geographic Committee for Research & Exploration, American Museum of Natural History, Grace Family Foundation, Wharton Business School, Goldie Hawn, to name a few.

Commitment To Giving Back

From our inception and initial involvement with the SOS Tibetan orphanage in Chuglamsar, Ladakh in 1989, Destination Himalaya, along with our clients and partners in Asia, has made “giving back” to local communities paramount. Dealing exclusively with small, local organizations, our goal is to be highly involved in our chosen projects. This hands-on approach amounts to much more than just giving money. We become actively involved in each project and maintain that involvement over time. Every year our staff and our Asian partners visit the communities and institutions we sponsor, to monitor the status of our projects. This creates an invaluable atmosphere of trust and understanding as a long-term relationship develops between Destination Himalaya and our beneficiaries. For details on the specific projects we support, please visit our website, destinationhimalaya.com/GivingBack.

We employ only locals in all of our oversee operations and when required we have invested time and finances to educate and train locals to become valued members of our field staff e.g.: in Tibet, from drivers to management we only employ Tibetans; similarly in Nepal our entire staff is Nepalese.

In February 2014, Destination Himalaya CEO, Sanjay Saxena was one of the 51 Honorees at the “Unsung Heroes of Compassion,” honored by His Holiness the Dalai Lama. Sanjay was selected as one of the 2014 Honoree for his longtime commitment to involving, empowering local communities in all of our travel destinations, and for the “giving back” projects that he and Destination Himalaya have started and continue to oversee in South Asia.

Commitment To Safety

Not only do we do everything in our power to see that our trips operate safely, but we try and stack the deck in our favor. All of our trip leaders have First Aid training and majority of them are WFR (Wilderness first Responder) certified. DH staff actively monitors the political situation of our destinations on a daily basis. In addition, every client who travels with Destination Himalaya is automatically covered by our medical and evacuation insurance.

This coverage includes \$25,000 for medical expenses, \$500,000 for emergency medical transportation, \$750 for a trip delay, and \$300 for a baggage delay.

Commitment To Sustainable Tourism

Long before the global notion of “sustainable tourism” arose, Destination Himalaya understood the sometimes-fragile qualities of the landscapes and cultures of South Asia. For this reason, we are dedicated to travel that is both ecologically responsible and culturally sensitive. Destination Himalaya feels that the tenets of Sustainable Tourism necessitate interaction with the people and traditions of our host countries. We never disturb prayer or rituals, yet we are always open to communicating. We enter each situation with a willingness to learn and a desire to share our own ways in a respectful manner. Our clients taste indigenous cuisine, experience traditional dance and music, and revel in the glorious art and architecture that permeates the South Asian lands. As travelers, we are in a position to share what we have witnessed - be it the deteriorating condition of a monument, the disappearance of traditional life due to harmful incursions of modernity, or the endangerment of an ecosystem. Our clients become empowered through our trips, and we encourage them to communicate what they have seen and learned to others at home.

Additionally, Destination Himalaya’s Bay Area office and all of its Asia ground operations are now carbon-neutral. We worked with Stone Valley Partners to calculate our carbon impact and are offsetting it by supporting carbon reduction projects in India (Thar Desert Wind Farm, Jaisalmer and Panchpatta Wind Power, Maharashtra). We carefully choose hotels with environmentally sensitive policies; in the backwaters of Kerala, our clients enjoy the Sauvar Nagam, the region’s first eco-friendly houseboat as it is outfitted with solar panels for power and hot water and a state-of-the-art septic system to prevent wastewater leakage.

DH’s commitment to sustainable practices continues at home, as the company brings these sensibilities to its US operations. All our marketing (including color brochure) and other company materials are printed locally on 100% recycled paper using soy-based ink. DH hires and buys only in the local arena, and strives to exceed environmental standards at home, as well as abroad.

CONTACT INFORMATION

<p>Destination Himalaya 807 Grant Avenue, Suite A Novato, CA 94945</p> <p>Telephone: 1.415.895.5283 1-800 MY INDIA (1.800.694.6342)</p> <p>Email: info@DestinationHimalaya.net www.DestinationHimalaya.net</p>	
<p>DH – India 66 LGF Charmwood Plaza, Eros Garden Faridabad, 121009 India Email: info@DHIndia.com</p>	<p>DH – Tibet Room 102, 4/5 Lhayun Xiao Qu, Quzhi Qongwei Lu, Lhasa, Tibet 850000 PR of China Email: info@DHTibet.com</p>

Recent Accolades



India, Tibet, Nepal & Sri Lanka



Itinerary – August 10, 2014