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SRI KESTRA AND MIDDLE BURMA (IRRAWADDY EXPLORER)

Sri Kestra and Middle Burma 4 day Small Ship Cruise aboard Irrawaddy Explorer.



ITINERARY

DAY 1 : YANGON - PROME (EMBARKATION)

Guests will enjoy a scenic drive from Yangon to Prome. Pick up point is at Sule Shangrila Hotel Yangon. **TRANSFER:** Transfer from hotel in Yangon to Prome will be provided. Pls take note that it takes approximately 7 hrs drive from Yangon to Prome (7:00 AM - 2:00 PM). **AFTERNOON EXCURSION:** Prome and Sri Ksetra Once controlled by the Mon tribe during the Bagan Era, and then conquered by the Burmese King Alaungpaya in 1754, Prome (known as Pyaw to the locals) boomed along with the Irrawaddy Flotilla Company in the 1890s and is now an important trading post for goods traveling between northern and

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southern Myanmar. This afternoon we drive to Thayekhittaya (also known as Sri Ksetra, the “Fabulous City” in the Pali language), an ancient Pyu city that ruled in this area between the 5th and the 9th centuries. We visit the well-documented Sri Ksetra Museum, full of excellent maps and artifacts including Hindu deities, Buddha images from as far back as the 6th century, Pyu beads, and silver coins. ENTERTAINMENT: Welcome Reception and Safety Briefing (6:30PM-7:30PM)

DAY 2 : THAYET MYO

MORNING: Enjoy sailing the whole morning with BBC Documentary “The Life of the Buddha” AFTERNOON EXCURSION: Thayet Myo This afternoon we put you on Tuk-Tuk to visit the charming town of Thayet Myo, stopping at the oldest golf course of Myanmar with a fascinating history (guests may hit from the first tee). We then visit the local market, passing colonial homes constructed during the British colonization of Burma before returning to the ship for an afternoon of scenic cruising. ENTERTAINMENT: BBC Documentary “The Life of the Buddha” (10:00AM-11:00AM)

DAY 3 : MAGWE

MORNING: Enjoy sailing the whole morning with Longi and Thanakha Demonstration. AFTERNOON EXCURSION: Magwe by Trishaw This afternoon we venture out into the district capital city of Magwe aboard Trishaws (three wheeled bicycle where one person sits alongside the driver). A short walk takes us to the local market. After some time to explore and shop at the market we board our trishaws for a ride through the city to visit Mya Tha Lun pagoda. Mya Tha Lun is a beautifully gilded stupa set atop Naguttama Hill which offers a wonderful view of the river and surrounding area. ENTERTAINMENT: Longyi and Thanaka Demonstration (10:00AM-11:00AM)

DAY 4 : SALAY (DISEMBARKATION) - BAGAN

After your breakfast, enjoy sailing until late morning and disembarkation at Salay. (11:30AM – 12:00NOON). Transfer to Salay House for Lunch. AFTERNOON EXCURSION: Salay Walking Tour This afternoon we walk ashore at Salay, a small town founded in the 13th century with Bagan-era shrines, beautiful 19th century teak monasteries and preserved British colonial buildings. We explore the Salay House, a restored 1906 colonial trading company warehouse on the bank of the Irrawaddy. Our walk takes us along the town’s main Strand Street towards the local market before turning away from the river to visit the beautiful Yoke Soun Kyaung Taw Gyi wooden monastery. This ornately carved teak monastery was designed as a copy of the Crown Prince House of Mandalay, and is now a museum boasting remarkable wood carvings and artifacts. We pass some interesting Bagan-era monuments on our way to visit Mann Paya, a pagoda with a beautiful lacquerware Buddha, before returning to our ship with a stroll past some of Salay’s many beautiful colonial buildings. TRANSFER: Client will be transferred to Bagan Hotel by coach around 4:00PM. Pls take note that it takes approximately 2 hrs drive for transfer from Salay to hotel in Bagan.

Please Note:

Itineraries are subject to change.

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YOUR SHIP: IRRAWADDY EXPLORER

YOUR SHIP: Irrawaddy Explorer

VESSEL TYPE: River Cruise

LENGTH: 57.3 metres

PASSENGER CAPACITY: 56

BUILT/REFURBISHED:

The sleek Irrawaddy Explorer plies the great Irrawaddy River of Burma and even before it leaves the dock it takes you into another world: the elegant, stylish era of the colonial period. As soon as you are in the reception area, you have stepped into the past, created with its decor of a beautiful art nouveau stairway, old-style furniture, the gleaming hardwood floors, potted plants and classic light fixtures. The theme is carried into the whole interior of the ship including the 28 luxurious suites, the Writers' Lounge, the 'Custom House' dining room and even the Spa room and Fitness Center. The twenty-eight luxury suites are named Mandalay, Kipling, Orwell and Maugham, all with floor-to-ceiling glass doors to enjoy the magnificent views of the Irrawaddy River. Each suite comes with its own unique artwork where for the duration of the cruise you are living in another time and place but with modern conveniences. The sun deck is where you are cooled by the breeze sweeping over the river, where you can sunbathe, read or just enjoy the light on the water and the sun on its journey turning the sky into a painter's palette of gold and crimson. The Writers' Lounge, spacious as it is, has the ambience of the private study of a writer of the past. Strategically-placed comfortable sofas give enough privacy to

enable you to imagine Somerset Maugham thoughtfully smoking his pipe in one corner or Rudyard Kipling amiably telling his tales to a few enraptured guests or George Orwell trying to hide behind a newspaper. Meals in the old-world charm of the dining room with its lazily-turning ceiling fans are not in the old colonial traditions of broiled beef and rice pudding, but of modern western haute cuisine, the best of Asian food with the freshest ingredients it demands, as well as the most delicious of popular standards. The menu is created by a talented foreign who has years of experience on the best cruise liners of the world and prepared by local Chefs. Best of all, the Kitchen often takes passengers for a stroll through local bazaars selling fresh and luscious fruits and vegetables. Other stops take you to see the marvels of the country ranging from the famous temples and images to less-known 17th century wall paintings of Hpwindang Caves, to a potters' village, a town with the first ever golf course in the country, old wooden monasteries, craftsmen's workshops etc. On board, there is a Fitness Center with State-of-the-art equipment and also a spa for massages with creams made from healing and fragrant barks. There are also other events presented for your amusement, such as a lesson on how to cook some local dishes, how to securely tie the longyi waist garment, how to grind the traditional Thanakha bark paste, and how to 'play' the cane ball game of grace and balance. On longer cruises there are lectures on culture and traditions and performances of classical dance and marionette shows. Any cruise on Irrawaddy Explorer is not only about discovering the essence of the country but to do it in luxurious comfort while living the dream in the elegance of a past era.

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Suites Accommodations aboard the Irrawaddy Explorer embody the grace and style of the British colonial era, incorporating modern conveniences and luxuries that rival the finest hotels of Asia. Spacious, wellappointed suites provide individual climate control, flat-screen television with on-demand movie system, spa quality robes, slippers and bath amenities, daily housekeeping with turndown service, fine bed linens, premium mattresses, duvets, your choice of pillows, and daily, international news. Dining room · Expertly trained culinary staff providing buffet breakfast, buffet lunch and seated dinner in one single seating · Complimentary coffee, water, tea, soft drinks, local beer and free flow house wine (wine with dinner only) · Series of cultural performances, educational talks, cooking classes, and ship tour · In-room breakfast (Mandalay Suite) · Welcome reception · Farewell Reception · Theme dinners · Spacious air conditioned lounge with nightly



entertainment

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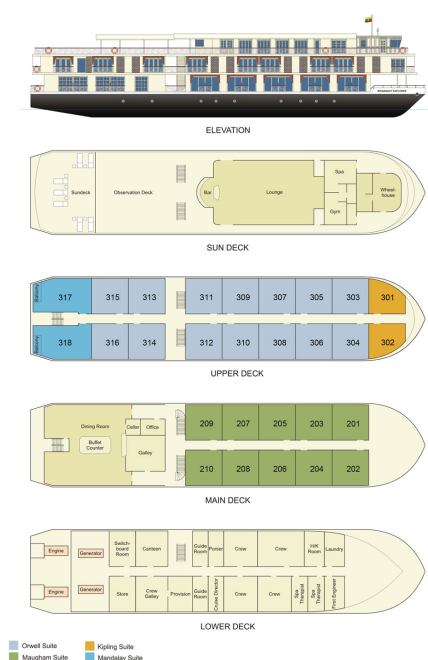
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INSIDE YOUR SHIP



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PRICING



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