

Bagan, Mandalay Region, Myanmar

An ancient plain studded with more than 2,000 brick temples and pagodas built between the 9th and 13th centuries. Arriving by river at dawn, with mist drifting over the spires, is one of Southeast Asia's great travel moments.

River jetty — small craft dock

Typical call: full day or overnight

Myanmar Kyat (MMK); USD accepted

Burmese; English at tour operations

UNESCO World Heritage Site

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: Arrive: All aboard:

Excursion: Notes:

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: River jetties near Nyaung-U; river cruise ships dock or moor along the Ayeyarwady riverbank

Best For: Temple explorers, history buffs, photographers, hot air balloon experiences

Getting around: **Taxi** \$7–\$20 USD

Walk to center: Nyaung-U town ~10 min walk; Old Bagan archaeological zone requires transport (e-bike, horse cart, taxi)

Don't Miss: Ananda Temple, sunrise over the plains, a hot air balloon flight, lacquerware workshops in Myinkaba

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Bagan Temple Plain by E-Bike** — Rent an electric bike and self-navigate the dusty tracks between Ananda Temple, Thatbyinnyu, Sulamani, and Dhammayangyi at your own pace.
- Hot Air Balloon over Bagan** — Rise at dawn for a 45-minute balloon flight over 2,000+ temples glowing in morning light.
- Ananda Temple & Shwezigon Pagoda** — Visit Ananda Temple — Bagan's most elegant Mon-style pagoda with four giant standing Buddhas — then Shwezigon, believed to enshrine a bone and tooth...
- Myinkaba Lacquerware Village** — Walk through Myinkaba village to watch artisans apply layer upon layer of lacquer — a traditional craft passed down for centuries.
- Day Trip to Mount Popa** — Drive ~50 km southeast to Mount Popa, a sacred dormant volcano, where the Taung Kalat monastery perches atop a volcanic plug rising 225 m (737 ft)...

BEST WALKS

- Nyaung-U Market Stroll** Easy · ~1 hr · Flat — From the Nyaung-U jetty, walk into Nyaung-U town to the local market.
- Old Bagan Temple Walk** Easy · 2-3 hrs · Mostly flat sandy tracks — From Old Bagan village, walk or take a short tuk-tuk to Ananda Temple, then continue on foot to Thatbyinnyu and Gawdawpalin temples.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)

	Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr		100°	78°	2d
Jun		93°	80°	14d
Aug		90°	79°	19d
Sep		90°	78°	20d
Oct		88°	76°	18d

DAYLIGHT & MONEY

Apr 5:51AM–6:29PM · Jun 5:28AM–6:53PM · Aug 5:49AM–6:40PM · Sep 5:57AM–6:13PM · Oct 6:06AM–5:46PM

Myanmar Kyat (MMK); USD accepted

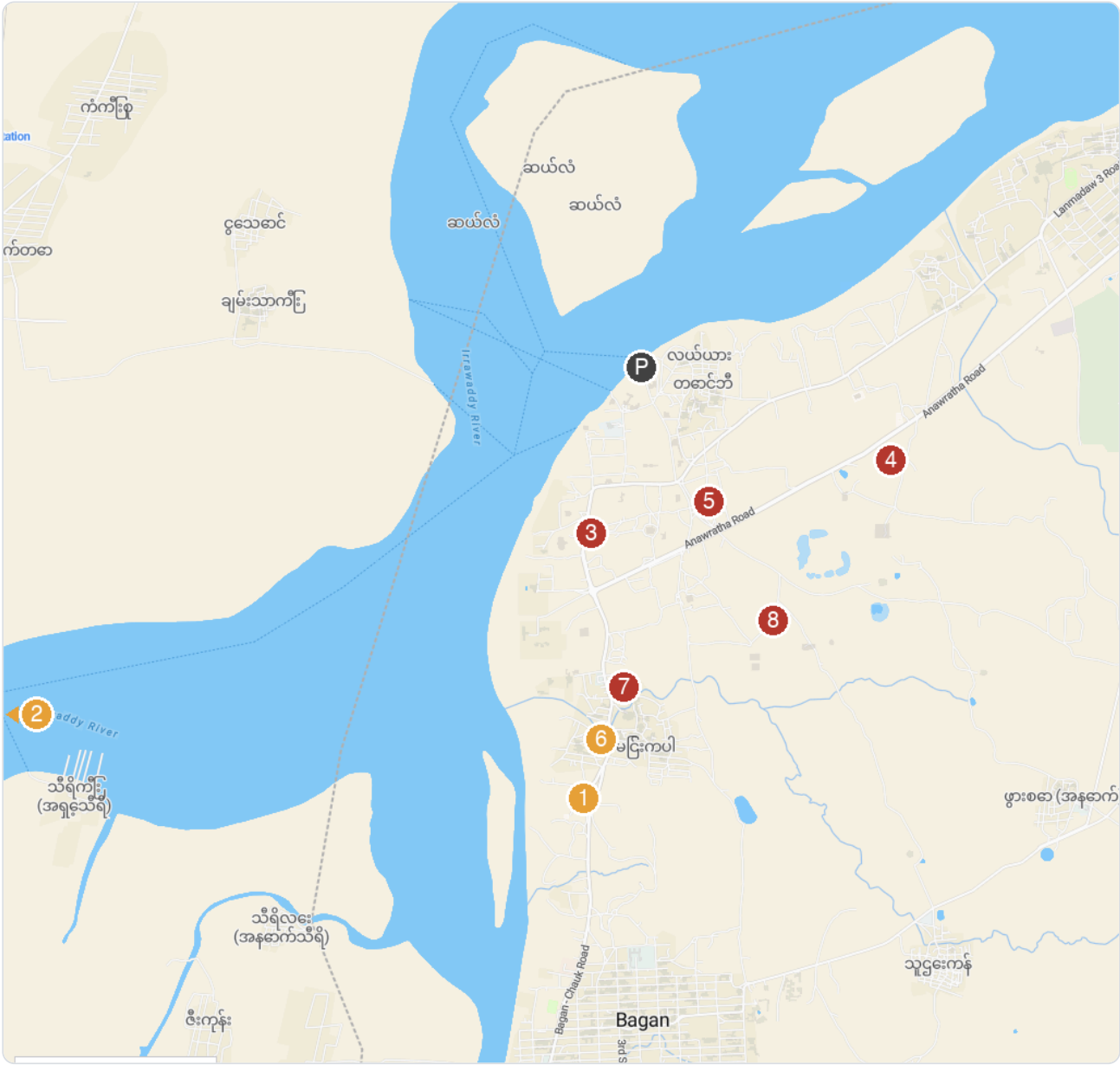
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Heat is intense — Bagan averages 35°C+ from March to May. Visit temples in early morning. Carry water, sunscreen, and a hat.
- Wear slip-on shoes — you'll remove footwear at every pagoda and temple. Sandals are far easier than laces.
- Carry USD or Kyat cash — ATMs exist in Nyaung-U but can be unreliable. USD bills must be pristine (no tears, folds, or marks) to be accepted.
- Book balloons early — hot air balloon flights (Oct–Mar only) sell out weeks in advance. Book before your cruise departs.
- Climbing pagodas is restricted — climbing on most temple structures is now prohibited to protect UNESCO heritage. Use designated viewing areas.
- Zone entry fee required — buy your 30,000 MMK archaeological zone pass (valid 3 days) at the checkpoint. Keep the receipt; wardens check at sites.

Bagan, Mandalay Region, Myanmar — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



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|---|--------------------------------|--|---|----------------------------|---|
| 1 | Apalyadana Temple | Apalyadana Temple is a 13th-century temple known for its murals. | 2 | Tant Kyi Swel Taw | Tant Kyi Swel Taw is a pagoda housing a Buddha tooth relic. |
| 3 | Meemalaung Kyaung | Meemalaung Kyaung is a historic wooden monastery in Bagan. | 4 | Bulethi Pagoda | Bulethi Pagoda offers panoramic views of Bagan's temples at sunset. |
| 5 | Ananda Temple | Ananda Temple is a magnificent 11th-century temple with four standing Buddhas. | 6 | Manuha Temple | Manuha Temple houses large, confined Buddha images built by a captive king. |
| 7 | Gu Byauk Gyi Myin Kabar | Gu Byauk Gyi Myin Kabar is a temple with well-preserved 13th-century frescoes. | 8 | Dhammayangyi Temple | Dhammayangyi Temple is Bagan's largest temple, known for its massive brickwork. |
| P | Cruise port / terminal | | | | |