

Bhamo, Kachin State, Myanmar

The Irrawaddy's northern terminus: a town where ancient Shan kingdoms, gilded pagodas, and Chinese trade routes converge on the riverbank.

🚢 River dock (gangway to bank)

🕒 Typical call: 6–8 hrs

🏠 Myanmar Kyat (MMK); USD exchangeable

🗺️ Burmese, Kachin

📅 MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____ Arrive: _____ All aboard: _____
Excursion: _____ Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Vessels tie alongside the riverbank or use a floating pontoon; no formal cruise terminal

Best For: Pagoda history, Sampanago ruins, local market life, bamboo bridge

Walk to center: ~5 min stroll from the waterfront to the market and town center

Don't Miss: Sunset over the Irrawaddy from Bhamo Harbour

🚗 Getting around:

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Sampanago Ruins** — A few kilometers east of town lie the crumbling earthen walls of Sampanago, capital of an ancient Shan kingdom.
- **Theindawgyi Pagoda** — Roughly 4 miles from town, this revered pagoda is said to enshrine a Buddha tooth relic and features Thai-influenced architecture, ancient monk...
- **Bamboo Bridge at Wa Thatar Village** — Villagers rebuild this remarkable ~470-metre bamboo bridge each year after the monsoon.
- **Tain Pha Hill Bike Ride** — Hire a bicycle in town and pedal out to Tain Pha Hill, a Buddhist hilltop complex with meditation halls, a stupa, and panoramic views over the...
- **Bhamo Morning Market** — The riverside market is the beating heart of Bhamo, blending Burmese and Chinese trade goods, fresh produce, and street food.

BEST WALKS

- **Bhamo Waterfront & Town Stroll** 1–2 km · Easy · 30–45 min — Start at the riverbank landing and walk north along the embankment, taking in fishing boats and river life.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

🌦️ CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)

	Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr		94°	72°	6d
Jun		88°	77°	29d
Aug		87°	77°	30d
Sep		87°	76°	25d
Oct		86°	73°	16d

🌅 DAYLIGHT & 💰 MONEY

Apr 5:39AM–6:22PM · Jun 5:12AM–6:50PM · Aug 5:36AM–6:34PM ·
Sep 5:47AM–6:04PM · Oct 5:58AM–5:34PM

🏠 Myanmar Kyat (MMK); USD exchangeable

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Bring crisp USD. Exchange to Myanmar Kyat at the market or local shops — ATMs in Bhamo are unreliable and may be out of service.
- Check the latest advisory. Kachin State has experienced security disruptions; your cruise line will brief you. Follow their guidance and stay within sanctioned tour areas.
- Start early. The morning market is most vibrant before 8 AM and the heat becomes intense by midday.
- Dress modestly at pagodas. Cover shoulders and knees, and remove shoes before entering temple grounds.
- Hire a tuk-tuk for outlying sites. Sampanago ruins, Theindawgyi Pagoda, and the bamboo bridge are all beyond comfortable walking distance — negotiate a half-day rate with a driver.
- Don't miss the Irrawaddy sunset. The harbour viewing area offers stunning evening light over the river — time your return to ship accordingly.

Bhamo, Kachin State, Myanmar — Port Map

cruiseports.org

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



- | | | | |
|---------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1 Shwe Kyina Pagoda | Historic gold-topped stupas roughly 6km north of Bhamo marking the site of the ancient Shan city of Sampanago. | 2 Bhamo Morning Market | Riverside daily market where locals trade fresh produce, handicrafts, and Chinese border goods. |
| 3 Sampanago Ruins | Crumbling earthen city walls, the remnants of the ancient Shan capital near Bhamo. | 4 Irrawaddy River waterfront | The riverbank harbor area where boats dock and fishing activity continues through the day. |
| P Cruise port / terminal | | | |