

**BELMOND**  
**ROAD TO MANDALAY**  
MYANMAR

ADDITIONAL  
TRAVEL INFORMATION

## **BEFORE YOU TRAVEL**

### PASSPORTS/VISAS

Please seek advice on up-to-date requirements from the consulate office in your country of residence, or from your travel agent. For general guidance please note the following: (i) Your passport must have at least six months' remaining validity at time of travel; ensure it also has sufficient pages remaining for visa stamps; (ii) A visa must be obtained before entering Myanmar. Online E-visas are available for certain nationalities at the official government website: <https://evisa.moip.gov.mm/>

Alternatively, your reservations office/travel agent will issue you with a package-tour letter prior to you contacting your local Myanmar embassy or consulate for a package-tour visa.

Please note that Visa on Arrival for tourists is no longer permitted.

Each passenger is responsible for ensuring that they are in possession of any necessary and valid documentation. The Company assumes no responsibility for the consequences of any failure to comply. Any passenger without a valid visa will not be allowed to board their flight to Myanmar.

### INSURANCE

We strongly advise you to take out travel and luggage insurance as soon as your holiday is booked.

#### CURRENCY

Myanmar Kyat (MMK) is the local currency. Some businesses may only accept local currency and others accept both local currency and US Dollars. It is best to have a mixture of both on hand. Visitors can exchange their foreign currency at an official currency exchange centre, which are located at airports and locations around the city centre. US Dollar notes should be new and in pristine condition or they may not be accepted (no rips, folds or marks). In addition to exchange centres, visitors can also obtain Myanmar Kyat at ATM machines, which are becoming more common in Myanmar's larger cities. In addition to accepting Myanmar Kyat, Belmond Road to Mandalay also accepts payment by Visa and MasterCard.

#### WHEELCHAIR ACCESS AND MOBILITY

We are able to accommodate passengers with slight walking difficulties but recommend that they are escorted by an able-bodied passenger. Please advise your travel agent or reservations office at time of booking. We regret, the sites visited and facilities on location and on board are not suitable for wheelchair-bound passengers or those with severe walking difficulties.

#### DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

We endeavour to cater for special dietary requirements, such as vegetarian, vegan, gluten-free, etc, and will be pleased to note your personal requirements in advance. However, we regret that we are unable to provide meals requiring strict religious observance in their preparation.

#### LUGGAGE

Due to airline restrictions, luggage is limited to a weight of 20kg per person. Your passport, travel documents, jewellery, money, camera, fragile items and any medication should be carried in hand luggage and not checked in.

#### HAND LUGGAGE (AIR TRAVEL)

On domestic flights, each passenger is allowed one small piece of hand luggage. Larger items of luggage will need to be checked in before the flight. When packing, please bear in mind that all luggage must be stored in your cabin. Please note that there are no facilities available for storage of luggage not required during your cruise. We suggest that passengers make arrangements to store any excess baggage at their Bangkok or Yangon hotel.

#### HEALTH

Conditions in Yangon, Mandalay and Bagan are comparable to those in other parts of Southeast Asia. We recommend you contact your medical practitioner or travel specialist for advice on health preparations and requirements. For information on medical facilities on board, please see paragraph entitled "Medical Facilities".

#### PORTERS

For help with luggage, you'll find our porters in corporate uniforms by the ship during embarkation and disembarkation.

#### TRANSPORT

Some road conditions in Myanmar are poor and travelling by car or bus isn't always smooth. Most available vehicles are old and not in perfect condition. However, please be assured that we'll always source the best available cars or coaches for your local transfers and tours.

#### AIRPORT TAX

This is included in the cost of your holiday if you are travelling on a Belmond Road to Mandalay/Yangon or Bangkok/Bangkok programme.

#### LOST PROPERTY

If, after leaving us, you discover you've left personal possessions on the ship, please either contact your Reservations Office, or:

Belmond Myanmar Operations  
39-C Taw Win Road  
(next to Belmond Governor's Residence)  
Dagon Township, Yangon  
T: +95 (0)1 230 2101 or 230 2102 or 230 2103  
(Mon-Fri, 09.00-18.00; Sat 09.00-12.30)  
After hours, please call: +95 (0)9 502 7304

#### **PASSENGERS ORGANISING THEIR OWN ENTRY INTO MYANMAR AND THEIR OWN HOTEL ARRANGEMENTS WHILE IN YANGON**

Please advise our Reservations Office, in advance, of your arrival date and accommodation in Myanmar so that our local Operations Team may contact you with any last-minute changes to jetty locations or boarding times. We also request that you contact our Belmond Myanmar Operations office, at the details directly above, on your arrival into the country.

#### **PASSENGERS ON BELMOND ROAD TO MANDALAY WITH PRE/POST-CRUISE SERVICES IN MYANMAR**

If your Myanmar travel arrangements include hotel accommodation, domestic flights or transfer/touring services arranged by Belmond, you will receive a welcome letter and finalised operational itinerary at your hotel upon arrival. This will include pick-up times, reconfirmed flight times and any last-minute updates. For domestic flights, your letter will indicate where you will receive your flight tickets or boarding passes – either at your hotel, at the airport check-in counter or aboard the ship. Please note that airport transfers in Yangon are not included in our cruise package and must be requested in advance. If making independent accommodation arrangements, please advise our Reservations Office in advance so we may deliver your documents accordingly.

#### **PASSENGERS ON BELMOND ROAD TO MANDALAY WITH OTHER SOUTHEAST ASIA SERVICES**

Guests with international flight services arranged by Belmond should check in at the airport two hours prior to their international flight. We recommend you check with your hotel to ensure you allow sufficient transit time between the hotel and the airport.

#### CUSTOMS

Customs regulations are in line with most other countries of the world. All passengers are responsible for claiming and clearing their own luggage on arrival in Myanmar.

## LIFE ON BOARD

**BELMOND ROAD TO MANDALAY IS AIR-CONDITIONED THROUGHOUT AND HAS FOUR DECKS**

**Observation Deck:** Top deck with Pool and Bar.

**Main Deck:** Public rooms with Restaurant, Bar, Observation Lounge (with a library offering a range of books in various languages and games) and Boutique.

**State Deck:** Governor's Suite, State Cabins, Superior Cabins and Reception.

**Deluxe Deck:** Deluxe and Single Cabins, Wellbeing Areas (two areas, which include a Fitness Room and Hair/Beauty Treatment area) and Medical Room.

### EMBARKATION

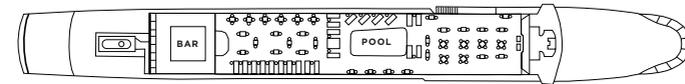
On joining the ship, you'll be greeted and shown to your cabin.

### ACCOMMODATION

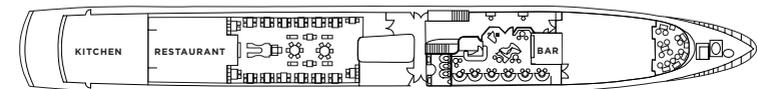
All cabins have individual-control air-conditioning and feature an en-suite shower, hairdryer, WC facilities, wardrobe, electronic safe, telephone, iPod docking station and Satellite TV with two DVD movie channels and a selection of live news, sports and general interest channels. Sockets in cabins are two- and three-pin plugs (220 volts, American and UK socket style available). Complimentary bottled water is replenished daily and we offer a complimentary shoe-cleaning service following excursions.

## DECK PLANS

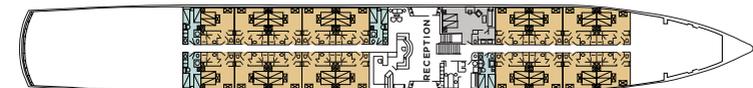
OBSERVATION DECK



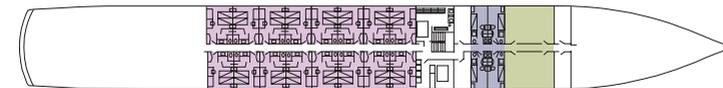
MAIN DECK



STATE DECK



DELUXE DECK



*Illustrations not to scale*

## BOUTIQUE

Browse an enticing array of lacquerware, traditional Myanmar clothing, books, exclusive gifts and essentials in our Boutique on the Main Deck. Items can be gift-wrapped and brought to your cabin on request.

## WELLBEING AREAS

On the Deluxe Deck, discover our 33sq m fitness room with a treadmill, bicycle and Kinesis workout station and stretch/crunch area.

Relax and enjoy a range of beauty treatments, including aromatherapy massages, facials and manicures and a hairwash and blow-dry service.

## LAUNDRY SERVICE

Take advantage of our laundry service to keep your garments in pristine condition. We regret, no dry-cleaning service is available.

## COMMUNICATIONS

The state of mobile and internet capabilities in Myanmar is constantly improving with the introduction of new networks. Mobile phones are permitted into Myanmar, however international roaming and foreign SIM cards currently work from a few providers only. We recommend you check with your provider prior to travel.

It is now possible to purchase a local SIM card and top-up cards at the airport and throughout the city centres for a reasonable cost (equivalent of US \$1-2 per card plus top-up card). Belmond offers complimentary WiFi at our hotel, Belmond Governor's Residence, and aboard Belmond Road to Mandalay, where it is available in the Observation Lounge and Governor's Suite only.

WiFi and 3G service work well in major cities but may function slowly in other areas (Inle Lake, rural or remote areas along the river) and cannot be relied upon. At our hotel, WiFi functions are available throughout the property, including the rooms. Aboard the ship, WiFi is suitable for light internet usage only (emails, surfing websites) and not for large downloads or streaming.

## DRESS

While on board, we request that you wear smart-casual clothing for dinner and evening entertainment. For example, open-neck collars and trousers for men. During the day, relaxed resort wear is suitable.

Between September and February, it's advisable to pack a light sweater for the mornings and evenings. Light cotton clothes are most practical for sightseeing and a sun hat is recommended.

When visiting temples and pagodas, both men and women should wear clothing that covers the shoulders and knees. Please respect the local culture, which dictates conservative dress. "Short" shorts/skirts are not suitable (long shorts covering the knees are acceptable). In addition, please note that feet must be bare when entering places of worship (no shoes or socks). A pair of sturdy slip-on shoes that can be easily removed may be useful.

#### FOOD AND DRINK

We'll be delighted to serve early morning tea and coffee in your cabin on request. Breakfast, lunch (buffet-style only) and dinner are served in the Restaurant or on the Observation Deck (weather permitting) on an open sitting basis. We offer a selection of European and world wines. Afternoon tea is usually served in the Lounge & Bar area on the Observation Deck, subject to weather conditions. Tea, coffee, soft drinks, bottled juices, local beer and bottled still water are included in your fare on board. House wines are included during lunch and dinner.

#### GRATUITIES

These are at passengers' discretion and are not included in your fare.

#### MEDICAL FACILITIES

We have a medical doctor on board. Please contact Reception if you need any assistance.

#### ONBOARD ENTERTAINMENT

Throughout your cruise we offer a variety of activities and shows, including talks on Burmese life and customs, engaging cultural performances and presentations on our ongoing Community Projects in Myanmar. Tailored onboard family activities and cooking classes with live demonstrations are available. Early morning yoga and meditation sessions take place on deck.

#### ONBOARD PAYMENTS

The currency on board is Myanmar Kyat (MMK). We also accept payment by Visa and Mastercard. Due to the length of time taken for off-shore settlements to be processed when using credit cards, please ensure ahead of your travels that your credit card is within more than two months of its expiry date. Traveller's cheques are not accepted on board or anywhere in Myanmar.

#### SAFETY AND SECURITY

Belmond Road to Mandalay meets international safety requirements for river vessels of her classification. Safety procedures are advised prior to the ship's sailing. For the safety of all passengers, a discreet security presence is part of our operation. Visitors are not permitted on board.

#### SHORE EXCURSIONS

Our tours are fully escorted throughout by qualified guides. Please give onboard staff at least 24 hours' notice if you want to arrange a private tour (subject to availability), or request arrangements in advance at time of booking. For details of what to wear, please see section on "Dress".

#### SMOKING

Passengers may smoke in the Bar area on the Observation Deck, except when food is being served. The remaining parts of the ship, including gangways, are non-smoking areas.

#### OUR TEAM

We have a team of multilingual staff on board, each there to make your cruise as memorable as possible. If you have a question or problem, no matter how small, please do not hesitate to contact Reception.

## LOCAL INFORMATION

### CLIMATE

Myanmar has three seasons. From September to February, the daytime temperature is about 28°C (80°F) with cool evenings. March to May is hot but dry. From June to September, it's the rainy season. The areas we visit are in the "dry zone" and largely protected from the monsoon.

The rivers of Myanmar vary from season to season, with as much as a 30ft variance in water level. During the months of January through June, the water levels of the Ayeyarwady may drop for a period of a few weeks to a few months, creating a narrower channel for navigation. To accommodate for changes in water levels, our ship may operate on an adjusted itinerary during these periods and our mooring locations may be amended.

### ELECTRICITY

Myanmar uses a 220/230 voltage system.

### FESTIVALS

Myanmar's calendar is filled with vibrant festivals. One of the merriest is Thingyan, the Water Festival, which takes place in mid-April. During this religious celebration, water is thrown everywhere and no passer-by is spared. The October Full Moon Festival, Tadingyut, celebrates the end of Buddhist Lent and is also the festival of lights. Pagodas, houses and streets are brilliantly illuminated. It is a time of joy and of thanksgiving, with homage paid to teachers, parents and elders.

### PHOTOGRAPHY

Please observe local notices – some pagodas and temples do not allow photography at all, while others ask for a small payment. Treat Buddhist images with respect and seek permission from monks before photographing them. Photography of airports, railway stations, police stations, military installations and government offices may result in film or memory cards being confiscated.

### RELIGION

The people of Myanmar are devout and have a high regard for spiritual customs and traditions. Dress and conduct should be appropriate when visiting religious sites. When entering the grounds of a pagoda or monastery it's important to remove all footwear (including socks and stockings). This is both polite and a mark of respect. The knees and shoulders should also be covered. See "Dress" section for details.

### SHOPPING

Local markets offer excellent lacquerware, silver, jewellery and fabrics. Prices are negotiable. Be aware that not all gemstones offered on the streets are genuine. Please also note it is prohibited to export antiques out of Myanmar, and the export of gemstones, jewellery and silver requires an official certificate from the seller.

### TIME ZONES

Local time is GMT +6.5 hours. For example, at midnight on Monday in Yangon, it will be:

New York (Eastern Standard) 12.30 Monday

London (GMT) 17.30 Monday

Bangkok 00.30 Tuesday

