

# INTRODUCTION OF BAGAN

The ancient monuments of different periods cover Bagan, the most important historical site in Myanmar. Bagan is situated in the bend made by the Ayeyarwaddy River. The monuments stand on the land stretching from the river bank up to Turintaung Range.

Panoramic view of Bagan can be seen from the top terrace of Bagan viewing tower. A finger pointed in any direction will not miss a monument. At present, there are over two thousands ancient monuments in the Bagan area, according to the list of the Archaeology Department. Although there are many monuments in Bagan, they are different in plan, elevation, decoration and architectural elements. The number of the same types of monuments is very few, perhaps three or four. Some are one-storied buildings, and others are three or four-storied buildings.

Some are surmounted with bell shaped section or sikhara section. In those days they built their buildings according to their own ideas like the construction of houses nowadays. They created their buildings to be as beautiful as possible. They created their buildings to be more elaborated according to their wish to boast about their power and wealth.

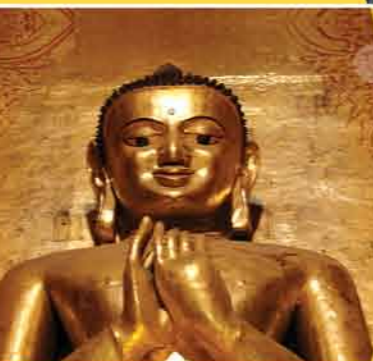


Bagan Region Tourist Destination

# HISTORICAL BACKGROUND IN BREIF

## ALAUNGDAW KASSAPA

Alaungdaw Kassapa National Park is situated in Sagaing Division and in the list of Asean Heritage Park. The park is 1608 km square wide and preserve elephants, tigers, and golden deer and endanger species of bird and butterfly. Alongdaw Kassapa Park was established in 1941 and announced as a national park in 1984.



## ANANDA GUPHAYA

It is situated to the south-east of Tharapa gate of the city-wall. It is one of the finest and most venerated guphayas in Bagan. It was built by King Kyansittha in 1091 A.D.

## BUPHAYA PAGODA

It is situated on the bluff on the curve of the Ayeyarwaddy. It provides one view point across the river. It is a landmark for the navigators travelling along the river. Tradition says that Pyusawhti, the third king of Bagan dynasty, built this pagoda.



## COTTON WEAVING

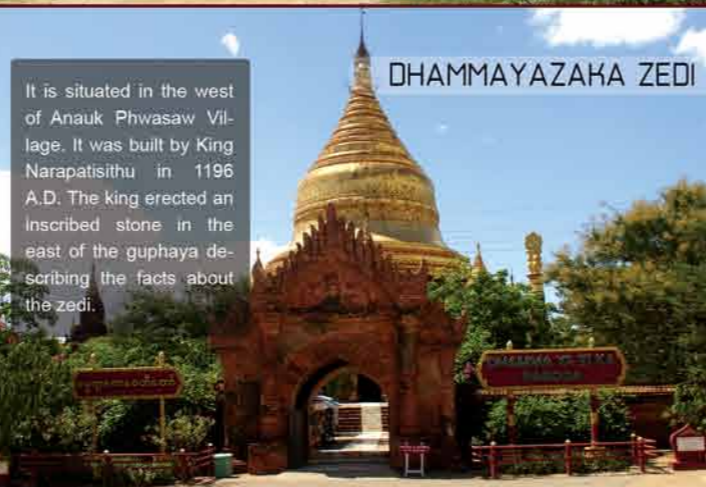
The cotton is mostly grown in central Myanmar. Among the villages in Bagan, Pwa Saw (east) and Minnantthu Village are still making cotton thread and weaving. First, they make the cotton thread from raw cotton by using machine which is manipulated by hand and weave on the traditional wooden loom.

Bagan Region Tourist Destination

# HISTORICAL BACKGROUND IN BREIF

## DHAMAYANGYI GUPHAYA

It is the largest guphaya in Bagan and situated in the south-east of the old city-wall. It can be reached by the road on the south of Ananda Guphaya. It was built in 1163-1165 A.D King Barathu (Kalagyamin) who was killed by eight Indian assassins sent by King of Pateikkaya from India.

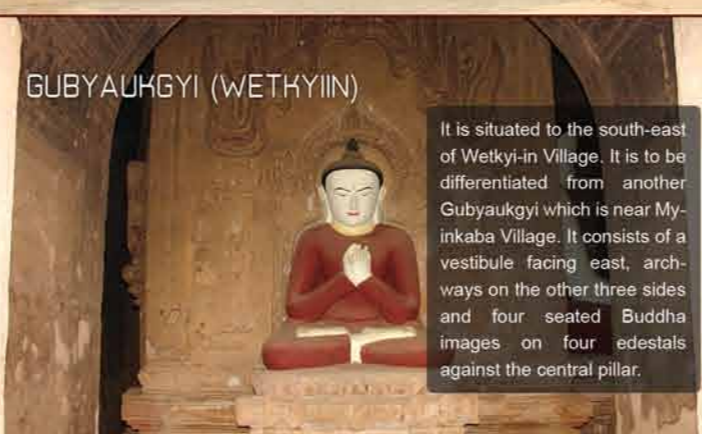


## DHAMMAYAZAKA ZEDI

It is situated in the west of Anauk Phwasaw Village. It was built by King Narapatisithu in 1196 A.D. The king erected an inscribed stone in the east of the guphaya describing the facts about the zedi.

## GUBYAUKGYI (WETHYIIN)

It is situated to the south-east of Wetkyi-in Village. It is to be differentiated from another Gubyaukgyi which is near Myinkaba Village. It consists of a vestibule facing east, archways on the other three sides and four seated Buddha images on four edestals against the central pillar.

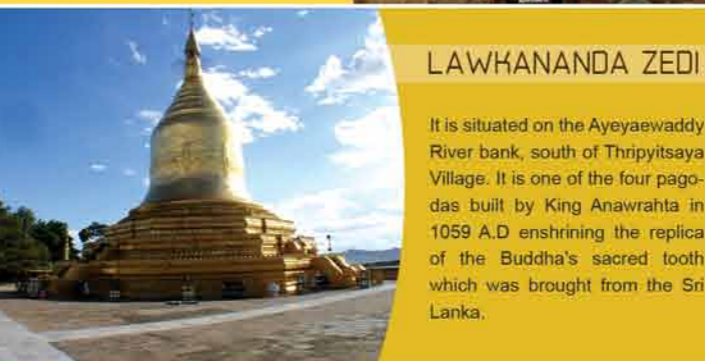
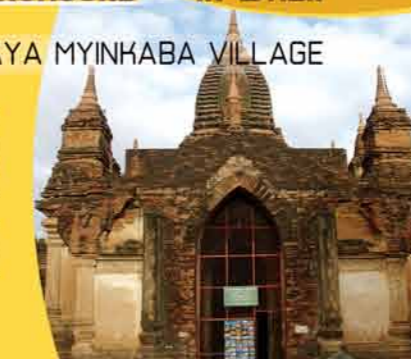


Bagan Region Tourist Destination

# HISTORICAL BACKGROUND IN BREIF

## GUBYAUKGYI GUPHAYA MYINKABA VILLAGE

It is situated close to Myazedi Pagoda, near Myinkaba village. This guphaya was built in 1113 A.D by Rajakumar, son of Kyan-sittha, as mentioned on the famous inscribed stone popularly known as Myazedi stone inscription.

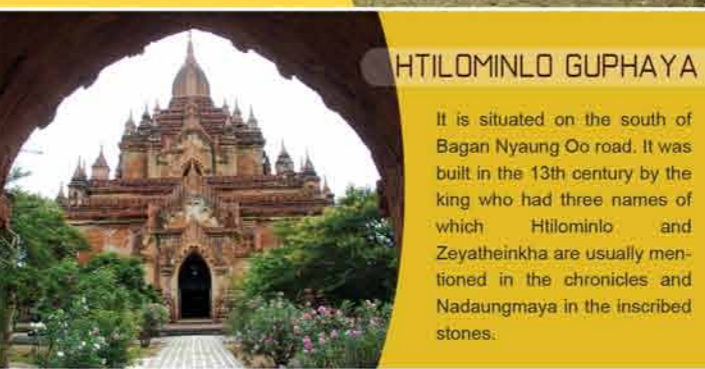


## LAWKANANDA ZEDI

It is situated on the Ayeyawaddy River bank, south of Thripysaya Village. It is one of the four pagodas built by King Anawrahta in 1059 A.D enshrining the replica of the Buddha's sacred tooth which was brought from the Sri Lanka.

## KANPETLET

It is located in the southern Chin state and about 6 hour drive from Bagan. There you can hike on Nat Ma Taung (Mt. Victoria), also you can visit to the Chin typical villages and see the Chin women with the tattoo on the face and traditional costumes.



## HTILOMINLO GUPHAYA

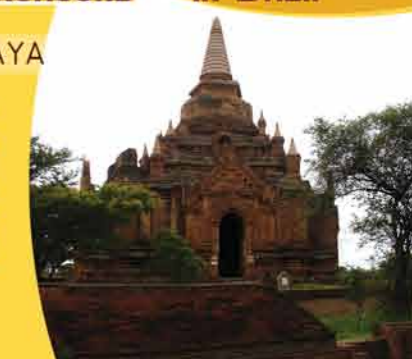
It is situated on the south of Bagan Nyaung Oo road. It was built in the 13th century by the king who had three names of which Htilominlo and Zeyatheinkha are usually mentioned in the chronicles and Nadaungmaya in the inscribed stones.

Bagan Region Tourist Destination

# HISTORICAL BACKGROUND IN BREIF

## MAHABODDHI GUPHAYA

It is situated almost in the centre of the walled city. It was built by King Nadaungmya(1211-1234) in the 13th century A.D. It is a replica of the Mahabodhi Temple at Boddhagaya in India where the Gotama Buddha gained enlightenment.

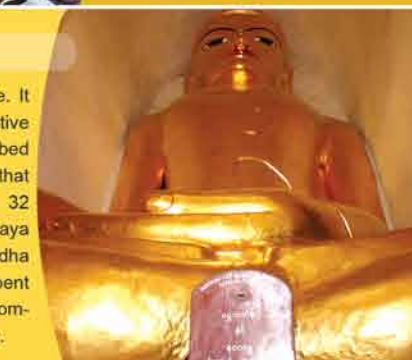


## MANISITHU MARKET (NYAUNG OO MARKET)

Manisithu market is situated at the centre of Nyaung U. It is the only main market in Bagan region. This market is one of the most interesting tourist spot to stop and visit for tourists.

## MANUHA GUPHAYA

It is situated in Myinkaba Village. It was built by Manuha, the captive Mon king in 1059 A.D. The inscribed stone NO.9 in Mandalay, says that King Manuha, who owned the 32 white elephants, built this guphaya with three colossal seated Buddha images, 14m high and a recumbent Buddha image, 17.6 m long, completed in six months and six days.



## MINDAT

It is also located in the southern Chin state and about 8 hour drive from Bagan. It is the main place in the southern Chin state because it is a gate way to the mainland and shopping place of the region. So that, it is always crowded with local Chin people in their traditional costumes. Also you can visit to the chin typical villages around Mindat.

Bagan Region Tourist Destination



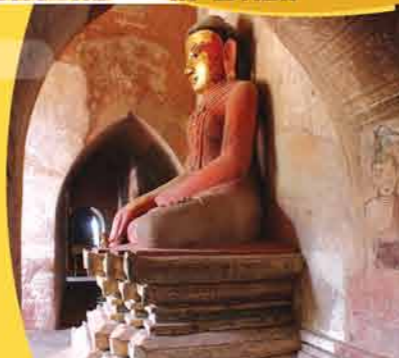
### MINISTRY OF HOTELS & TOURISM

Building No.(33), Nay Pyi Taw  
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.  
Tel: +95-67-406454, 406130  
Fax: +95-67-406061, 406060, 406057  
Email: mo.moht@mptmail.net.mm,  
dg.dht@mptmail.net.mm  
Website: www.myanmar-tourism.org  
www.tourism-myanmar.org

## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND IN BREIF

### SULAMANI GUPHAYA

It is situated about one mile to the south-east of Bagan and it can be reached beyond the Dhammayangyi Guphaya. One inscribed stone was erected in the north porch mentioning that King Narapatisithu built it in 1183 A.D.



### THETBYINNYU GUPHAYA

It is situated in the south-east corner of the city-wall. This great guphaya was built in 1144 A.D by King Alaungsithu, the grandson of King Kyansittha. This is the tallest guphaya of all monuments of Bagan and rises to a height of 61m above the ground level.

### ZEE O VILLAGE

It is located in the south east of Bagan and driving hour is about 30 mins. You can see the enormous thousand years aged tamarind tree, the place of remains of pre-historical blacksmith workshop sites, plenty and spreading of wood fossils. The local people believed that Zee O village area is protected by the guardian spirits (Nats) of the brother and sister. In the morning time, you can see the palm suger production and the traditional way of cooking oil procession in the Zee O village.



### MURAL PAINTING

A mural is a painting on a wall, ceiling, or other large permanent surface. Murals of sorts date to prehistoric times such as the paintings inside the caves, temples and pagodas. There are many techniques.

### BAGAN'S FAVOURITE

#### LACQUERWARE

The lacquer takes its roots in China it there has a few three thousand years, and then developed in all the Southeast Asia. In Myanmar the tree which one takes the resin is it Thit-si. These trees push naturally in whole forests almost in all Myanmar in light altitude.

## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND IN BREIF

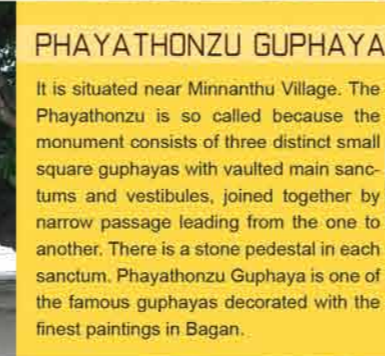
### PALM SUGER PRODUCTION

A lot of toddy palm trees are grown in central Myanmar. From the toddy palm trees, we get the sweet sap. To get the sweet sap, the man have to climb the palm tree by using very long ladder and collect the sap. Then, we cook the sap for about 2 hours until the sap settle down and becomes paste. Before the paste cooldown, we make them into small balls or square shape and dry in the open air. And then we get the palm suger.



### SALE TOWN

A small town, Sale is situated on the eastern bank of Ayarwaddy river and (55) miles far away from Bagan. Yoke Sone monastery, built in late Konebaung dynasty, antique Buddha statue is made of bamboo and colonial buildings in Sale are the most tourist attractive points. Tourists can observe the antique Lacquer ware, wood carving statues in Sale Yoke Sone monetary.



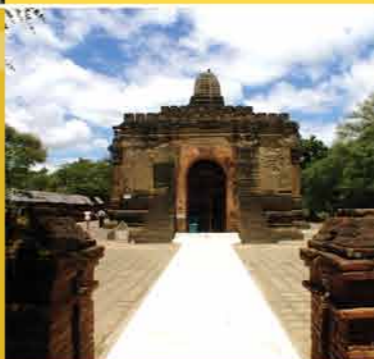
### SHWEZIGON ZEDI

It is situated near Nyaung Oo. Actually it is a double encased pagoda; the inner one was built by King Anawrahta in the early 11th century A.D and the outer one was built as a cover by his son, King Kyansittha.

## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND IN BREIF

### MT. POPA

Mt.Popa is about 50km to the south-east of Bagan and driving hour is one hour and twenty minutes. It is an extinct volcano, cover with a forest and it is like OASIS of the dry zone. You can visit the Nats (spirits) shrine and observe the lovely panoramic view from the top of the rocky cliff (Taungkalat). You can also make the tracking on Mt.Popa (Taungmagyi).



### NANPHAYA GUPHAYA

It is situated close to the south of Manuha Guphaya. Nanphaya is one of the four stone buildings in Bagan. It was built by Nagathaman, the grandson of King Manuha in about 11th century A.D in commemoration of his grandfather King Manuha.



### OIL PROCESSING

A lot of peanut and sesame seeds plants are grown in Central Myanmar, First they fill the peanuts or sesame seeds in the wooden molar in which is a paddle that is turned around by an Ox. Then, the oil comes out from the small hole at the bottom of the wooden molar.



## BAGAN REGION TOURIST DESTINATIONS

### Itinerary & Tariffs



### MINISTRY OF HOTELS & TOURISM

Building No.(33), Nay Pyi Taw  
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.  
Tel: +95-67-406454, 406130  
Fax: +95-67-406061, 406060, 406057  
Email: mo.moht@mptmail.net.mm,  
dg.dht@mptmail.net.mm  
Website: www.myanmar-tourism.org  
www.tourism-myanmar.org

