



Join Partners Asia and an expert team of guides on an unforgettable trip through the border regions shared by Myanmar and Thailand.

Let us know your preference of either of two trips, which weave Thailand and Myanmar perspectives together in unique ways.

Option #1 - 10 days (Bangkok - Mae Sot - Hpa-an - Mawlamyine - Yangon - Bangkok)

Option #2 - 12 days (Bangkok - Sangklaburi - Dawei - Yangon - Hpa-an - Mae Sot - Bangkok)

### **Bangkok, Thailand**

In an ancient city dating back to 1792, take time to relax, shop, and enjoy the local cuisine. Visit a non-formal weekend school reaching over 850 migrant youth, beginning our urban and rural exploration of migrant education and life.

### **Mae Sot, Thailand**

A hub of trade and collaboration, Mae Sot is the home of many non-profit organizations. Here we will explore the history of the border, giving context to the situations unfolding today and learning about the work being done to address these complex issues.

### **Hpa-an, Myanmar**

This mystical place is soon to be the largest destination along the Thai-Myanmar border! With the opening of the Asian highway, this incredibly beautiful area is bustling with activity. Previously isolated by government policy and conflict, local communities are now learning to adapt to rapidly changing dynamics.

You may also drive or cycle to remote rural areas surrounding Hpa-an, inhabited predominantly by ethnic Karen. There, we will have opportunities to visit community organizations, partners and leaders.

### **Yangon, Myanmar**

Visit with civil society leaders and community based organizations in the country's capital. Enjoy meals with key analysts and decision makers.

### **Mawlamyine, Myanmar (10 Day Trip only)**

Meet with ethnic Mon leaders and communities in a richly historical area first settled around 300 B.C.. Splendid Colonial architecture peppers the landscape, as this was the administrative center of British India in the 1800's. Enjoy sublime sunsets along the riverfront esplanade and majestic hilltop views from atop the pagoda complex.

There is also a great day trip south of the city to a popular beach, a seaside pagoda that becomes fully encased by water at high tide, and the terminus of the notorious Burma Railway of WWII. Bike rides are also an option in Mawlamyine.

### **Sangklaburi & Samutsakorn, Thailand (12 Day Trip only)**

Take a short day trip to Samutsakorn, 40 km south of Bangkok, an industrial processing hub where migrant workers outnumber Thai residents. Thailand depends on the exploited labor of these workers; see their realities first-hand and hear their aspirations for the future.

Continue to Sangklaburi and spend the next 2 days in this small city west of Bangkok. Meet our partners and learn about the 5,000+ young, eager and vulnerable Burmese workers who travel daily across Three Pagoda Pass into Thailand, fleeing conflict and pursuing employment opportunities that do not exist at home. Speak with community leaders to discuss the dynamics of opening borders, increased trade, and migration.

### **Dawei, Myanmar (12 Day Trip only)**

Travel across the border through ethnic Mon and Karen villages to Dawei, Myanmar (600 kms south of Yangon), currently the focus of large investment, tourism and industrial growth. The "Dawei Deep Sea Port and Industrial Zone" is looking to create increased economic production at the cost of tremendous local impact. Explore the challenges and opportunities of community life by bike or transport.





# 10 Day Journey Beyond Borders

**Bangkok – Mae Sot – Hpa-an – Mawlamyine – Yangon – Bangkok**

**January 30th – February 9th, 2018**

## Day 1

Arrive in Bangkok, Thailand, an ancient city dating back to 1792, take time to relax, shop, and enjoy the local cuisine. Visit a non-formal weekend school reaching over 850 migrant youth, beginning our urban and rural exploration of migrant education and life.

## Day 2-3

1 hour flight to Mae Sot, Thailand, a hub of trade and collaboration and home to many non-profit organizations. Here we will explore the history of the border, giving context to the situations unfolding today and learning about the work being done to address these complex issues.

## Day 4

Cross the border at Myawaddy and drive to Hpa-an, the mystical place that is soon to be the largest destination along the Thai-Myanmar border! With the opening of the Asian highway, this incredibly beautiful area is bustling with activity. Previously isolated by government policy and conflict, local communities are now learning to adapt to rapidly changing dynamics.

## Day 5-6

Drive or cycle to remote rural areas surrounding Hpa-an, inhabited predominantly by ethnic Karen. There, we will have opportunities to visit community organizations, partners and leaders.

## Day 7-8

Travel to Mawlamyine, approximately 3 hours. Meet with ethnic Mon leaders and communities in a richly historical area first settled around 300 B.C.. Splendid Colonial architecture peppers the landscape, as this was the administrative center of British India in the 1800's. Enjoy sublime sunsets along the riverfront esplanade and majestic hilltop views from atop the pagoda complex.

There is also a great day trip south of the city to a popular beach, a seaside pagoda that becomes fully encased by water at high tide, and the terminus of the notorious Burma Railway of WWII. Bike rides are also an option in Mawlamyine.

## Day 9-10

Fly to Yangon and visit with civil society leaders and community based organizations. Enjoy meals with key analysts and decision makers.

## Day 11

Return to Bangkok for flights home.



# 12 Day Journey Beyond Borders

**Bangkok – Sangklaburi – Dawei – Yangon – Hpa-an – Mae Sot – Bangkok**

## Day 1

Arrive in Bangkok, Thailand, an ancient city dating back to 1792, take time to relax, shop, and enjoy the local cuisine. Visit a non-formal weekend school reaching over 850 migrant youth, beginning our urban and rural exploration of migrant education and life.

## Day 2-4

Take a short day trip to Samutsakorn, 40 km south of Bangkok, an industrial processing hub where migrant workers outnumber Thai residents. Thailand depends on the exploited labor of these workers; see their realities first-hand and hear their aspirations for the future.

Continue to Sangklaburi and spend the next 2 days in this small city west of Bangkok. Meet our partners and learn about the 5,000+ young, eager and vulnerable Burmese workers who travel daily across Three Pagoda Pass into Thailand, fleeing conflict and pursuing employment opportunities that do not exist at home. Speak with community leaders to discuss the dynamics of opening borders, increased trade, and migration.

## Day 5-6

Travel across the border through ethnic Mon and Karen villages to Dawei, Myanmar (600 kms south of Yangon), currently the focus of large investment, tourism and industrial growth. The “Dawei Deep Sea Port and Industrial Zone” is looking to create increased economic production at the cost of tremendous local impact. Explore the challenges and opportunities of community life by bike or transport.

## Day 7

Fly to Yangon and visit with civil society leaders and community based organizations. Enjoy meals with key analysts and decision makers.

## Day 8-9

Drive 6 hours to Hpa-an, the mystical place that is soon to be the largest destination along the Thai-Myanmar border! With the opening of the Asian highway, this incredibly beautiful area is bustling with activity. Previously isolated by government policy and conflict, local communities are now learning to adapt to rapidly changing dynamics.

You may also drive or cycle to remote rural areas surrounding Hpa-an, inhabited predominantly by ethnic Karen. There, we will have opportunities to visit community organizations, partners and leaders.

## Day 10-11

Drive 3 hours to Mae Sot, Thailand, a hub of trade and collaboration and home to many non-profit organizations. Here we will explore the history of the border, giving context to the situations unfolding today and learning about the work being done to address these complex issues.

## Day 12

Return to Bangkok for flights home.