



Burmese

PHRASEBOOK & DICTIONARY

acknowledgments

the authors

This phrasebook was updated and expanded by Vicky Bowman. Vicky studied Burmese at the School of Oriental and African Studies in London and lived in Myanmar for three years from 1990 to 1993. In her spare time, she translates modern Burmese writing. Thanks to Aung Maw Zin and Moe Moe Hnin for assisting in checking proofs. Thanks also to David Bradley, who, with Vicky Bowman and San San Hnin Tun, updated and expanded previous editions. San San Hnin Tun also provided the Sustainable Travel section.

make the most of this phrasebook ...

Anyone can speak another language! It's all about confidence. Don't worry if you can't remember your school language lessons or if you've never learnt a language before. Even if you learn the very basics (on the inside covers of this book), your travel experience will be the better for it. You have nothing to lose and everything to gain when the locals hear you making an effort.

finding things in this book

For easy navigation, this book is in sections. The Pronunciation and Grammar chapters are the ones you'll thumb through time and again. The Getting Around and Accommodation chapters cover basic travel situations like catching transport and finding a bed. The Meeting People chapter gives you conversational phrases – so you can get to know people. Food has a section all of its own: gourmets and vegetarians are covered and local dishes feature. The Health and Emergencies chapters equip you with health and police phrases, just in case. Sustainable Travel, finally, completes this book. Use the comprehensive Index to find everything easily. Otherwise, check the traveller's Dictionary for the word you need.

being understood

Throughout this book you'll see coloured phrases on each page. They're phonetic guides to help you pronounce the language. Start with them to get a feel for how the language sounds. The Pronunciation chapter will explain more, but you can be confident that if you read the coloured phrase, you'll be understood.

communication tips

Body language, ways of doing things, sense of humour – all have a role to play in every culture. The boxes included throughout this phrasebook give you useful cultural and linguistic information that will help you communicate with the locals and enrich your travel experience.

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