



Southeastern Myanmar

Includes »

Mon State	93
Mt Kyaiktiyo (Golden Rock)	93
Mawlamyine (Moulmein)	96
Around Mawlamyine ..	101
Kayin State	104
Hpa-an	105
Around Hpa-an	108
Tanintharyi (Tenasserim) Region. .	110

Best Places to Eat

- » San Ma Tau Myanmar Restaurant (p107)
- » Beer Garden 2 (p100)
- » Mi Cho Restaurant (p100)

Best Places to Stay

- » Cinderella Hotel (p99)
- » Golden Sunrise Hotel (p95)
- » Hotel Zwegabin (p106)
- » Soe Brothers Guesthouse (p106)
- » Mountain Top Hotel (p95)
- » Breeze Guest House (p99)

Why Go?

Although virtually unknown to the outside world, the pleasures of southeastern Myanmar are diverse and wonderful, and exist on a variety of levels.

The caves around sleepy Hpa-an will escort visitors to unparalleled depths and darkness, while the ascent to the sacred golden boulder at Mt Kyaiktiyo might have you believing that you've gone to heaven. And somewhere in the middle, the romantic ferry ride from Hpa-an to Mawlamyine (Moulmein) features some of the best of what Middle Earth has to offer.

Yet another inspiring intersection of land and water is Tanintharyi (Tessarim) Division, Myanmar's Deep South and home to some of the most gorgeous coastline in Southeast Asia. Unfortunately, access to this area is strictly limited to a trio of towns or by pre-arranged government-sanctioned luxury package tours, which essentially makes it out of bounds for all but the most determined.

When to Go

The weather in the southeast is largely similar to that of the rest of Myanmar. Temperatures can reach as high as 86°F (30°C) during the summer (from March to May), and the days are relatively cool during the winter (from November to January), with an annual high temperature of around 90°F (32°C). The region sees more rain than elsewhere in the country during the wet season (from approximately June to October), and annual rainfall in Mawlamyine can reach 190in.

Southeastern Myanmar Highlights

- 1 Reach for enlightenment at the golden, gravity-defying **Mt Kyauktiyo** (Golden Rock; p93)
- 2 Discover seemingly hidden lakes, hanging Buddhist art and a sparkling spring in the **caves** (p108) around Hpa-an
- 3 Taking what could very well be one of the last trips along the Thanwin River (Salween River) on the double-decker **Mawlamyine to Hpa-an ferry** (p107)
- 4 Compose prose to rival Kipling's 'By the old Moulmein Pagoda, lookin' lazy at the sea' in go-slow **Mawlamyine** (p96)
- 5 Exploring the **remote ruins, sacred temples** and unknown **beaches** around Mawlamyine (p101)
- 6 Scale Hpa-an's **Hpan Pu Mountain** (p108) for one of the best views in Myanmar.
- 7 Give back to the community with a volunteer teaching stint at Kinpun's **Seik Phu Taung Youth Development Centre** (p94)

