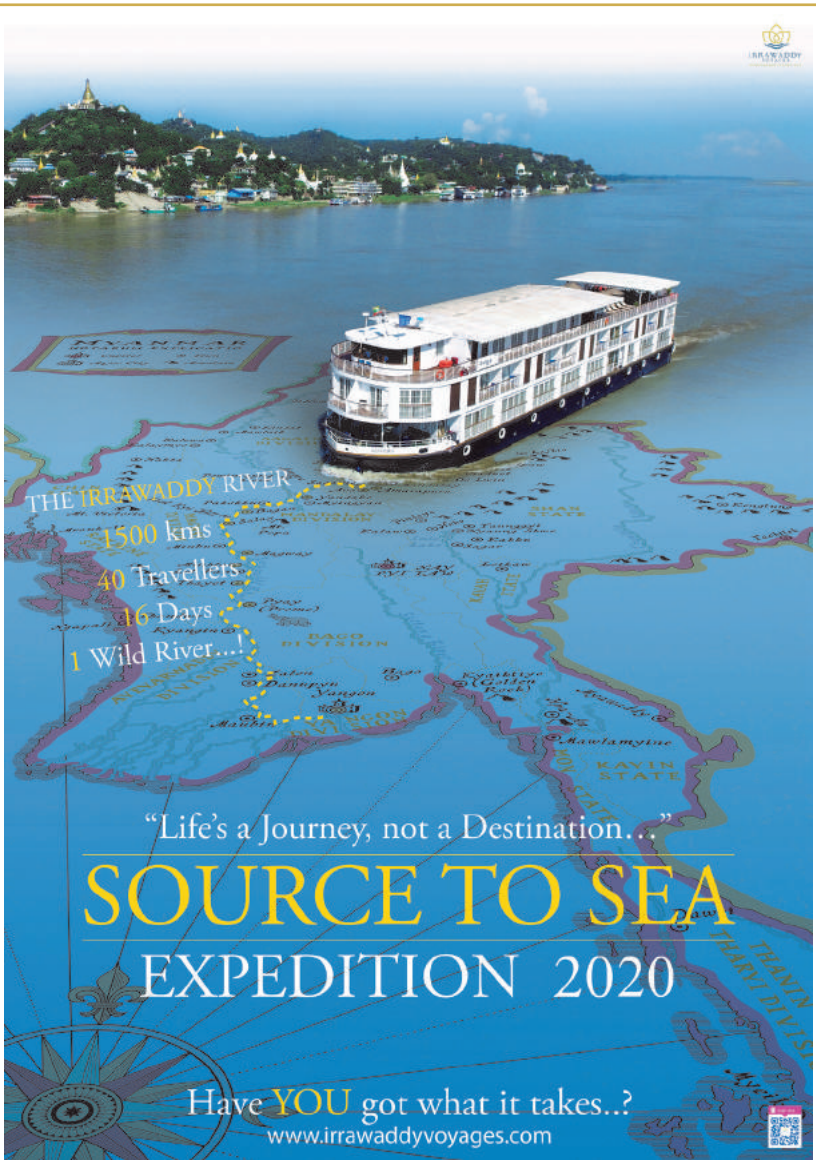


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Launching the first-ever Irrawaddy River SOURCE TO SEA EXPEDITION 2020/2021 – Myanmar (Burma)



“Life's a Journey, not a Destination...”

**SOURCE TO SEA
EXPEDITION 2020**

Have **YOU** got what it takes...?
www.irrawaddyvoyages.com

For the first time pioneer river cruise operation **Irrawaddy Voyages** attended the international prestigious travel trade show PURE Events, held in Morocco each year. It was here that Director Mr Khin Soe formally announced plans for the first-ever SOURCE TO SEA EXPEDITION of the fabled Irrawaddy River.

“We are delighted and excited to be the first river cruise operation to plan and implement such an epic expedition. It is always satisfying to be the first, which means detailed and meticulous planning from our operations team and Ships Officers.” Said Khin Soe.

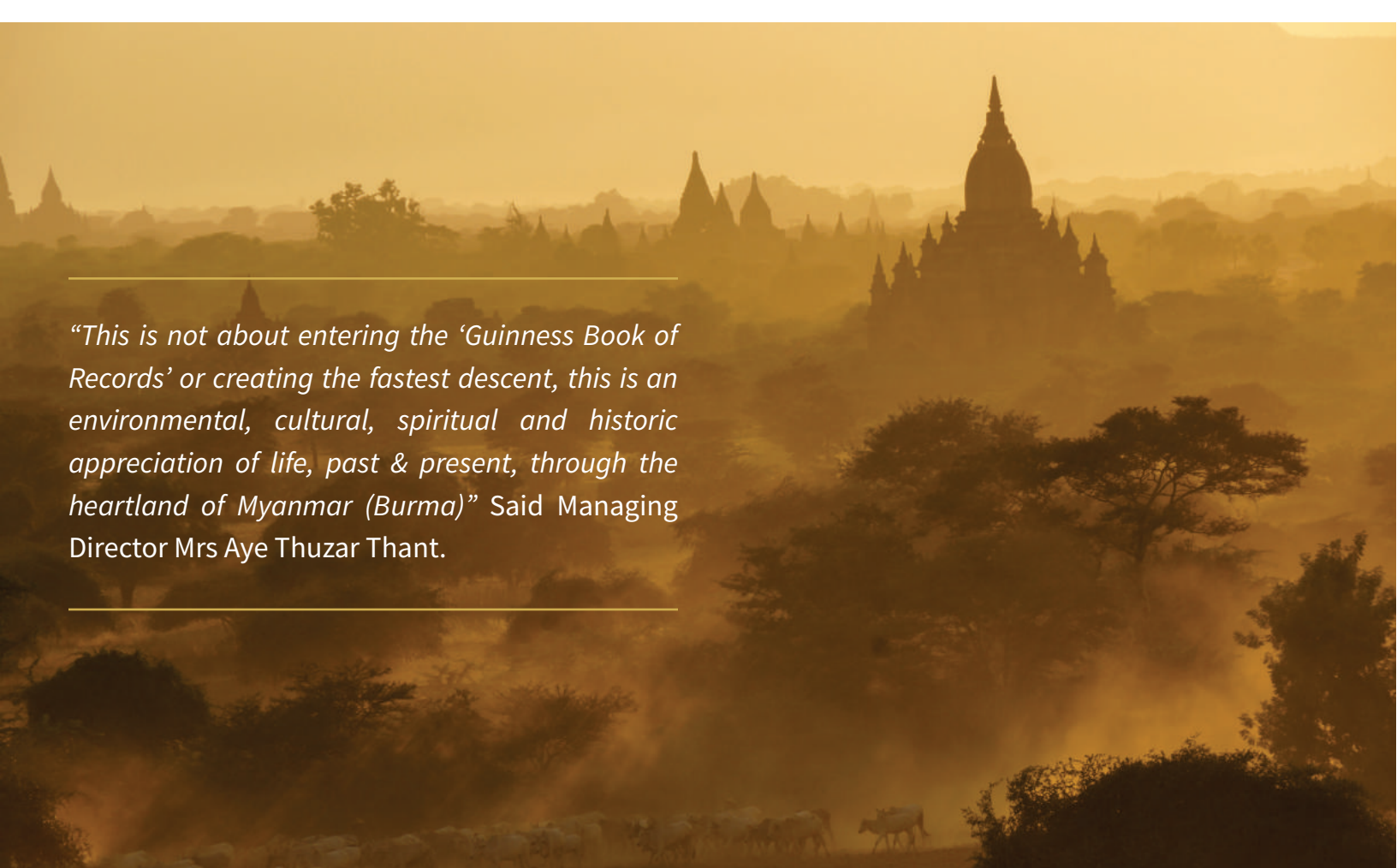
The Irrawaddy River has its literal geographic source in the Himalayan Mountains of Tibet, along Myanmar's northern borders. However, the official source starts at the confluence of the Malika and Maihka Rivers in Kachin State. These two rivers converge near the district capital of Myitkyina which lies at an elevation of 147m (483ft) above sea-level.

Myanmar's monsoon season typically starts in June and ends in September. The highest river water levels are in September - the proposed month for the SOURCE TO SEA EXPEDITION 2020/21. As monsoonal rainfall levels are unpredictable, the designated start to this epic downstream journey will be at the most navigable point, between Myitkyina and the river port of Bhamo, further downstream.

This inaugural expedition will cover approximately 1500kms (930miles) from north to south concluding at the safest most navigable point at Yangon Port. Of the twenty-eight (x28) luxurious suites onboard the cruise vessel *RV Irrawaddy Voyager II*, twenty-two (x22) suites will occupy paying guests, with six (x6) available for expert guest lecturers and a documentary film-crew. The duration of this voyage will be fifteen (x16) nights and sixteen (x17) days.

This *Once in a Lifetime* adventure has never been attempted for various reasons. Since Irrawaddy River cruising commenced several years ago, the two main itineraries of choice have been long range cruising, specifically Yangon to Mandalay and short range cruises between Bagan & Mandalay. For logistical reasons the entire length of navigable waters has not been feasible – until now.





“This is not about entering the ‘Guinness Book of Records’ or creating the fastest descent, this is an environmental, cultural, spiritual and historic appreciation of life, past & present, through the heartland of Myanmar (Burma)” Said Managing Director Mrs Aye Thuzar Thant.

Highlights along the way;

- The Official Start Time & D-Day Ceremony on the observation deck.
 - Daily Guest Lectures – expert marine biologists, botanists, historians, environmentalists and insights with Theravada Buddhist Monks & Nuns.
 - Possible sightings & interaction with the rare Irrawaddy Dolphins.
 - Cruising through the remote & spectacular river gorges (defiles).
 - Overnight stopover - Mandalay for two days of exploration.
 - Possible sightings & interaction with the working elephants of the forest.
 - Overnight stopover – Ancient Bagan for two days of discovery.
 - Sunrise Hot Air Balloon flight over the pagodas of Bagan.
 - Unlimited treatments from **The Lotus Spa by Irrawaddy Voyages** therapists.
 - A daily array of organic, natural & traditional Burmese recipes.
 - Shore excursions to remote villages for cultural interaction & education.
 - Interaction with Irrawaddy Voyage’s environmental Eco+ projects.
 - Very typically British ‘High-Tea’ daily..
 - An Official Finish Time & D-Day Ceremony – Yangon Port.
 - Visit Shwedagon Pagoda / Farewell function / Certificate of achievement.
-

During this year's PURE Event, discussions were held with 'high-end' incentive companies who specialize in unique once in a lifetime experiences. The SOURCE TO SEA EXPEDITION is expected to attract highly discerning well-traveled couples, either from the corporate sector or the retired 'jet-set'.

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