



# Experience & Itineraries

Private Cruises and Yacht Charters  
in Myanmar and Beyond



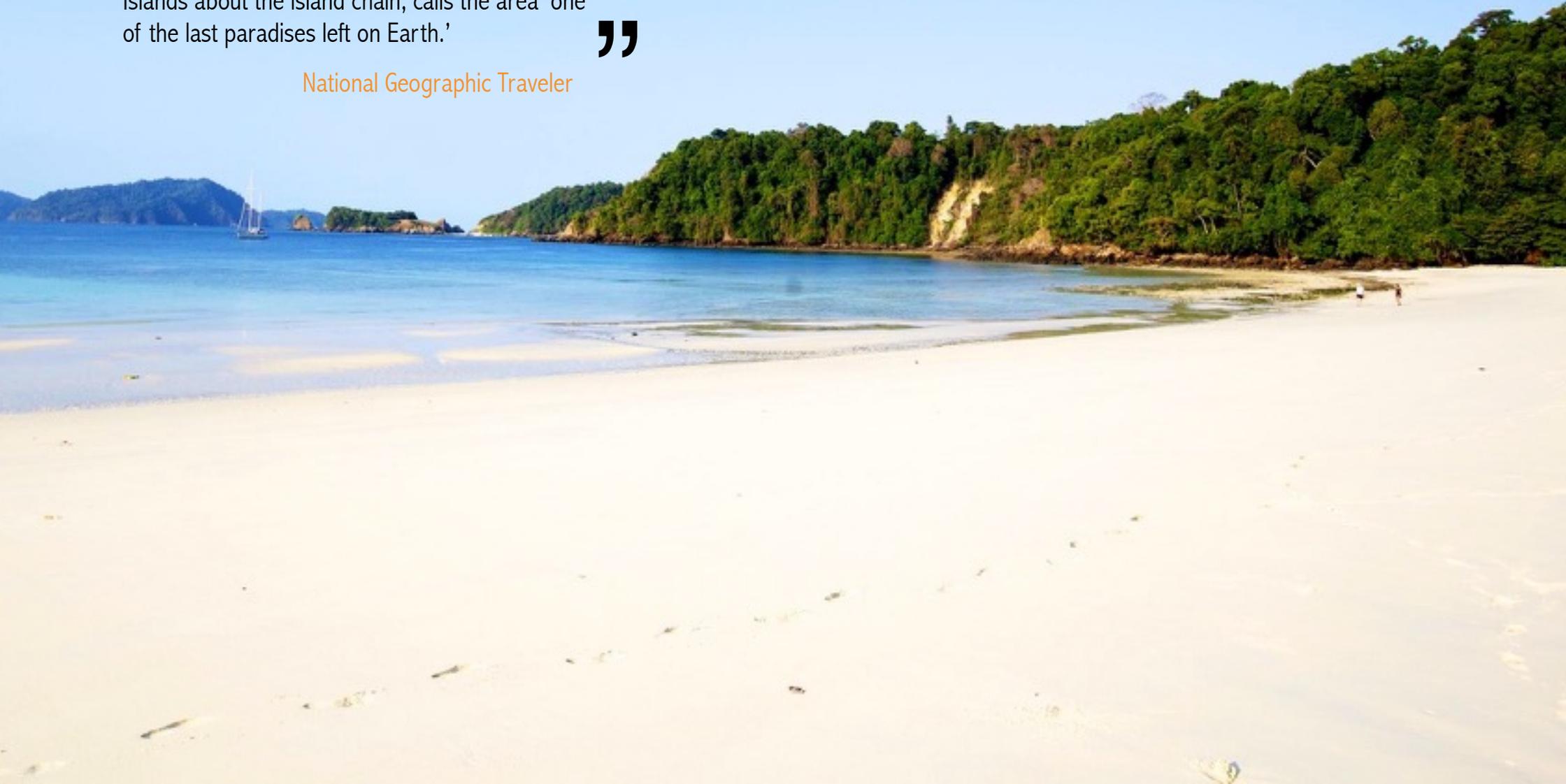
“ It was a dreamy voyage that took us beyond internet connectivity, from green coastal waters to the kind of blue inked in by 100ft depths, past piratical-looking fishing boats and islands with the outlines of rusty blades. Scampering macaques foraged for crabs on the islands’ rocky shores, white-bellied sea eagles wheeled. ”

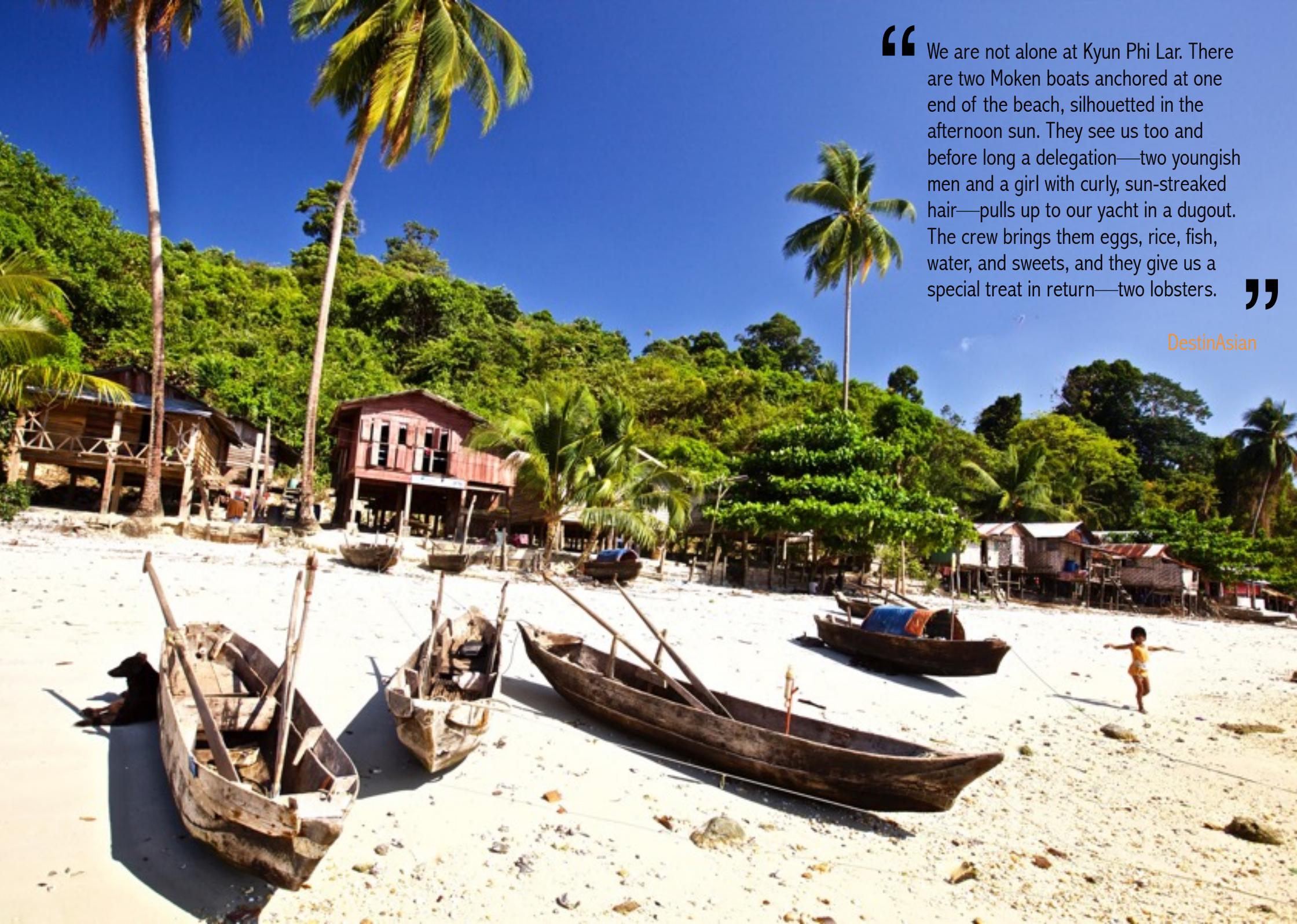
The Sunday Telegraph



“ ‘Forbidden Islands’ sounds like something from a fairy tale, and stories about Myanmar’s Mergui Archipelago do seem like a fantasy: hundreds of undiscovered white-sand beaches, dense unexplored jungles, and clans of the mysterious Moken sea gypsies. Klaus Reisinger, who co-directed a documentary titled Burma’s Forbidden Islands about the island chain, calls the area ‘one of the last paradises left on Earth.’ ”

National Geographic Traveler





“ We are not alone at Kyun Phi Lar. There are two Moken boats anchored at one end of the beach, silhouetted in the afternoon sun. They see us too and before long a delegation—two youngish men and a girl with curly, sun-streaked hair—pulls up to our yacht in a dugout. The crew brings them eggs, rice, fish, water, and sweets, and they give us a special treat in return—two lobsters. ”

DestinAsian



### The Mergui Archipelago in Myanmar's South

## Be One of the First to Explore an Untouched World

Think white beaches lined with palm trees and dense jungle. Think swimming in azure water amongst colourful reef fish, spotting coral, and collecting seashells. Now picture eagles circling above, gibbons and monitor lizards eyeing you from the thickets, while a sundowner is being mixed for you on board the yacht. Best of all: you have this entire experience to yourself. You can sail for days on end and not see a soul except the odd fisherman in a dugout canoe.

The traditional inhabitants of the Mergui Archipelago are the Moken, a people who live off, and on, the sea. Sometimes called “sea-gypsies”, this ethnic minority group leads a traditional, semi-nomadic lifestyle, dominated by diving for sea cucumbers, fishing and bartering.

Over the generations, they have adapted to their environment and developed incredible skills useful for a life lived partly underwater. Moken divers often decent to depths of more than 20 meters without oxygen tanks. Studies of Moken children have shown that they have incredible underwater vision—twice as good as that of European children of the same age.

The Moken used to roam the archipelago in their traditional sailing boats, called Kabangs. In recent years, some families have settled on the islands and fish the surrounding waters from their dugout canoes.

Located just across from the Thai border, the archipelago only opened up to foreigners as recently as the late 1990s. With only a few of the 800 islands home to a sparse population, and a scarce amount of visitors to the entire region each month, the Mergui Archipelago remains one of the planet's most unspoilt destinations.

# Experience

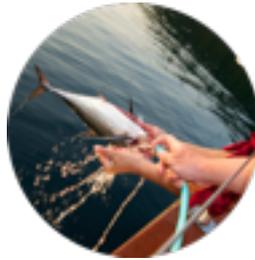
Barefoot  
Luxury



Discover &  
Explore



Daily Fresh  
Catch



Be  
Alone



Paradise  
Beaches



Guided  
Adventures



Adrenalin  
Rush



Personal  
Chefs



Underwater  
Encounters



Learn &  
Relax



Photography  
Safaris



Private Massages  
Therapist





### Sample Itinerary: 5 nights / 6 days

## The Quick Island Escape

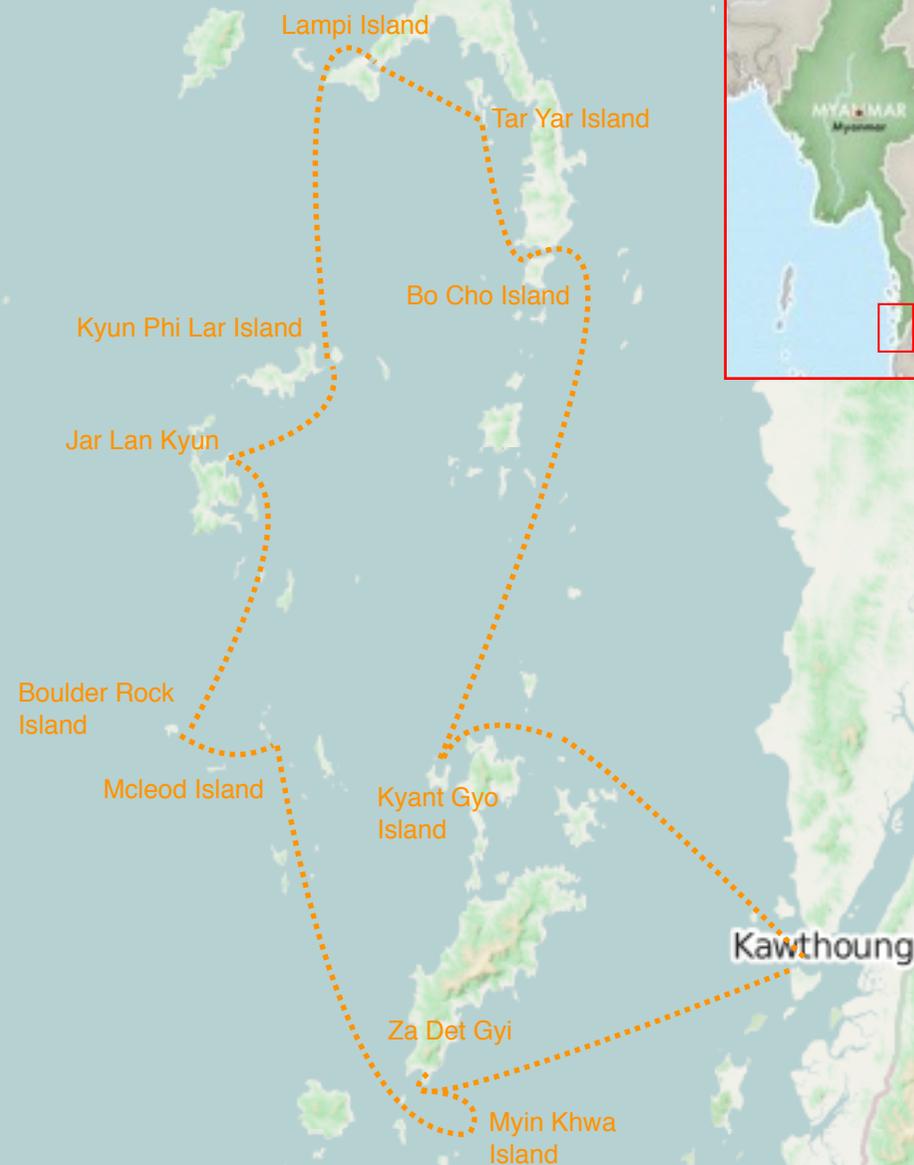
**Day 1** After the welcome aboard your yacht we will set sail to **Barwell Island** and spend evening on the beach and swim before dinner and drinks. // **Day 2** Leisurely breakfast on board. After a refreshing swim we start our passage to **Island No. 115**, a place often frequented by Moken sea gypsies. In the afternoon we will reach the group of small islands called Mid Group. If time permits, we go for a dinghy excursion into a nearby mangrove forest on **Island No. 88**. After the evening swim we have dinner in this beautiful covered area. // **Day 3** In the morning we slowly sail towards the little village on **Nyaung Wee Island** and visit the local tribes. After lunch we sail west to **Great Swinton Island**. Jungle walk along the creek and collecting seashells on the huge beach. For all interested in Buddhism, a short visit in a local monastery. Snorkelling, then sundowners on deck. Watching the bioluminescent plankton at night. // **Day 4** Early-morning sail to tiny **Ohway Island** for the best snorkelling (and great fishing) in the region. Observe the colourful life of the reef, full of soft and hard corals and plentiful of tropical fish. After lunch we set sails for **Jar Lann Kyun** and anchor in its large fjord, one of the most spectacular bays in the archipelago. In the mangrove forest we watch the hornbills at dusk. Fine dining on board. Relaxation time under the starry sky. // **Day 5** Long, leisurely sail towards **Za Det Nge Island** with its beautiful bays and beaches. Visit **Rhino Island** on the way. It's stunning beach and calm turquoise waters are perfect for enjoying the sun. Later we move towards **Za Det Nge's** for last night's dinner party on the beach. // **Day 6** Early morning final passage towards **Kawthoung**. Casual brunch on board before we reach the pier and say goodbye to the Mergui.



Sample Itinerary: 7 nights / 8 days

## National Park & Local Culture

**Day 1** We meet you at the airport in the morning. While you enjoy your welcome drink on board, the crew takes care of immigration formalities before we set sail towards South Bay on **Za Det Gyi Island**. For the first night's dinner, the chef surprises with fresh catch served under the clear evening sky. // **Day 2** In the morning we head to the beach for snorkelling and swimming. We have lunch under passage while we sail to **Myin Khwa Island**. We explore the beautiful limestone caves, which lead into a hidden lagoon, only accessible by dinghy boat and kayak. In the evening we drop anchor at **Macleod Island**. On its peaceful beach, we light a bonfire and sip sundowners while counting the stars. // **Day 3** Right after breakfast, we head to **Boulder Rock**. With its gorgeous white beaches and long reefs, this is the perfect spot to explore the underwater life. After lunch on the beach, the yacht sails to **Jar Lan Kyun**, where we visit the Moken sea gypsies and the island temple. We spend the afternoon in their village and learn about Moken culture. // **Day 4** We decide it's time for a relaxed beach day and find our paradise on **Kyun Phi Lar Island**. The crew spoils us with cocktails. // **Day 5** In the early morning we set sails for the Lampi National Park. We spend the night in a gorgeous secluded bay and watch monkeys playing at the beach. After a long hike in the jungle, our yacht sails to **Tar Yar Island**. At night, the gibbons' song from the beach lulls us to sleep. We take the tender boats to explore the mangrove forest. // **Day 6** Our destination for the day is **Bo Cho Island** with the largest village in the region. We have an appointment with a local island ranger who teaches us the region's wildlife and plants. // **Day 7** We're curious to learn diving and the crew gives us a great beginner's lesson at **Kyant Gyo Island**. In the evening we have our farewell party at the beach. // **Day 8** One last time we jump into the crystal water for a swim before enjoying a long brunch on deck while our yacht makes her way back to **Kawthaung**. Arrival is at noon.





**Sample Itinerary: 12 nights / 13 days**

## Explore Thailand and Myanmar

**Day 1-3** We'll meet you and the airport in Phuket, close the Haven Marina. From there we set sails into the Phang Nga Bay. We spent the first few days cruising the beautiful bays of Koh Hong and beaches of Chicken Island and Koh Phi Phi. // **Day 4-5** After a quick lunch stop in Chalong Bay we set sails for the **Similan Islands**, a national park and with one of the nicest diving spots in Southeast Asia. We spend as much time as possible under water. // **Day 6** Our longest passage on this trip brings us into Myanmar waters which we reach after a romantic night sail. // **Day 7** We have a quick lunch in the village and explore the market and the temples in **Kawthaung** while the crew takes care of immigration procedures for us. We head straight to the **Mid Group** and end the day with a bonfire and cocktails served at the beach of **Island 115**. // **Day 8** We get up early in the morning and our guide brings us to the Moken "Sea Gypsy" village on **Nyaung Wee Island**. We spend nearly the whole day in the village, the proud local fishermen show us their temple and the tell us about their culture. At the end the villagers invoice us for dinner. // **Day 9-10** We set sails for the **Lampi National Park** and decide to sail around the whole island. There are hundreds of untouched beaches and we decide to explore the mangrove forest and discover the wildlife with some jungle hikes. We spend the last night in a secluded bay with a few local fishing boats. We buy some fresh catch from the fisher men and chat for a bit. They tell us we are the first foreigners they have ever seen. **Day 11** We head south and spend the evening in **Kyun Phi Lar Island**. The beaches are some of the most beautiful in the whole archipelago and we gaze at the stars while the crew papers us. // **Day 12** Visit **Rhino Island** on the way. It's stunning beach and calm turquoise waters are perfect for enjoying the sun. Later we move towards **Za Det Nge's** for last night's dinner party on the beach. // **Day 13** In the early we set sail and head back to **Kawthaung**. The eagles circle the see while we leave the archipelago. We arrive back at noon.



“ A yacht like a floating boutique hotel. ”

Der Spiegel



## Quick Facts

**What's included?** All on-board meals, all non-alcoholic drinks, all activities, local airport transfers, fuel, etc. Not included are visa fees, and the visitor fee the government of Myanmar asks foreigners to pay.

**Do I need to know how to sail?** No. Our experienced crew can do all the sailing for you while you relax. If you like, you can get involved and learn sailing during your trip.

**Will I need a visa for Myanmar?** Yes. Most travellers will get a visa-on-arrival in Myanmar and we will take care of the procedure when you enter the country while you relax or explore.

**Is it safe to travel in Myanmar's Mergui Archipelago?** Yes, it is! There are no conflicts in our sailing area, nor are there any pirates. There is a mid-level malaria risk in southern Myanmar and you should take precautions by using mosquito-repellent and wearing long sleeves

and trousers if onshore at night (which you are unlikely to be much).

**Is it ethically OK to travel to Myanmar?** We think so. Since a few years things have fundamentally changed in Myanmar and Aung San Suu Kyi has been released. She and her party now embrace individual and ethical tourism by travellers whose money does not go straight into the pockets of the generals. We are here to support just that.

**What else should I bring?** You don't need much. Bring your bathers, sunscreen, a hat, sunglasses, your camera and you're pretty much set! It's also best to bring mosquito repellent and you may want to consider anti-malarial tablets. Remember to buy travel insurance before joining the cruise. On board, you won't need shoes but you can bring flip-flops or reef shoes for beach outings if you want. We provide full lodging, including

bedding, towels, all meals, water and soft drinks. We also provide fishing and snorkelling equipment and first-aid, if necessary.

**What's the best season to go?** The best time for sailing is between late October and end of April. The rainy season starts in May.

**What temperature to expect?** During daytime about 28-32°C. The water temperature will be about 26-29°C.

**Is there on-board power, fresh water, internet?** Every cabin has power points (plus fans and air-cons). There is fresh water for showering and in the kitchen. Internet is not available on-board.

**What kind of food do you serve?** Our chefs specialise in Asian cuisine but also serve Western dishes. Six weeks prior to departure we ask all our guests about their preferences. We serve lots of fresh seafood.

## Getting There is Easy

Most of our trips depart from Kawthoung in Myanmar's south, just across the border from Thailand. Getting there is easy and you have several travel options.

**Flying to Kawthoung**  
If you are arriving from within Myanmar, you can book online and fly directly to Kawthoung Airport. We'd be more than happy to help you organise transportation and meet you at the airport.

**Flying to Ranong**  
Another option is to fly to Ranong Airport. There are daily flights from Bangkok by Nok Air. The airport is well served by local taxi drivers but we can also pick you up from Ranong Airport, of course.

Once you are in Ranong, you will take a longtail boat across the Pakchan River to Kawthoung on the Myanmar side, which takes about 30 minutes. We will help you with the immigration procedures before boarding the yacht.

**Arriving via Phuket**  
Phuket International Airport is a convenient and well-connected place to fly to. From there, it's a scenic 3 - 4-hour car ride to Ranong, the Thai border town. Here, too, we are happy to assist you.

  
BURMA BOATING



Recommended by

**FT**  
FINANCIAL TIMES

**GOURMET**  
TRAVELLER

***Yacht***

Condé Nast  
**Traveller**

**TRAVEL+**  
**LEISURE**

NATIONAL  
GEOGRAPHIC  
**TRAVELER**

[www.burmaboating.com](http://www.burmaboating.com)