



Children are NOT Tourist Attractions

Myanmar offers many beautiful, exotic and interesting sites to visit. An orphanage is not one of them.

During your visit in Myanmar, you may be invited to visit or volunteer at an orphanage or “children’s home”. You may be asked for a small donation to assist with the running costs. Orphanages can be dangerous and damaging for children. Children are best raised in a family environment.

Do you know that 73 percent of the children living in orphanages still have parents?

These children should grow up in a family. By visiting orphanages, you support systems that often separate children from families. If you want children to have a better life, then help families to care for their children.



How do you harm children by visiting an orphanage?

Many orphanages rely almost entirely on donations from visitors to operate. Poor living conditions for children may be purposefully maintained to encourage you to donate. By visiting orphanages and making a donation you may be fuelling a system that separates children from families, and may put them at greater risk of abuse and exploitation.

Make a difference in the lives of children in Myanmar

Most tourists would never consider going to an orphanage in their own country. An orphanage is a child's home and children have the right to privacy in this space. If you would like to learn more about child-safe tourism and how you can play a role in protecting children, please visit www.thinkchildsafe.org and www.unicef.org/myanmar/protection.html



Children in Myanmar are no different from children in your country.

They should be afforded the same basic rights and protection.

Please think twice before visiting an orphanage.